

BNA Topics

Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society

Your BNAPEX-55 Committee



FRONT ROW (left to right): Ed. Karpinski, Chairman of Signs; Leon W. Banks, Chairman of Convention; Harris Hunt, Chairman of the Mystery Ride for Thursday evening, Sept. 29. **SECOND ROW** (left to right): Henry Francis, Chairman of Entertainment; Charles Schubert, Chairman of Door Prizes; Don Mower, Chairman of Exhibition, and Oren B. Maxim, Chairman of the Bourse—all Connecticut "Nutmeggers" and members of BNAPS.



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The 1890-94 lithographed issue shows picked copies mint, used, on covers and imperforate, also some forgeries.

There is a beautiful lot of the interesting 1891 and 1895 (Feb.) provisionals including two unused, and eight examples of the "½ Anna" on 3 as. (S.G. 24) used together on one cover, and two other covers. The 1895 (July and November) "British East Africa" overprints are highly specialised, with many blocks and covers, most of the listed overprint varieties and errors (some included in blocks) and some unlisted. There are two fine series of colour proofs for the 1896 engraved set, one series with value tablets blank, the others with the value painted in by hand. The 1897 Zanzibar overprinted and 2½a. provisionals are well represented and include two fine stamps and three covers. The 1897 engraved high values are complete to 50r. overprinted "SPECIMEN", to 20r. mint and to 50r. in superb used condition.

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The 1895 (Mar.) wide stamps in black include the 20c. uncanceled on cover, 40c. unused (2), 50c., an unused pair, a used strip of four and three singles, 60c., an unused strip of three and a single showing the error "UA"; there is also a 30c. with additional violet 50c. overprint of the 1896 (June) type, probably a proof.

The 1895 (April) narrow stamps in black include examples of all but two values, and two show manuscript "Parcels Post" with name of office. The 1895 (May) narrow letters, narrow stamps in black include a remarkable unused vertical strip made up of the 10c., 20c., 40c., 50c., 60c., and 20c. (2) in that order; the same stamps in violet include the 20c. uncanceled on a letter written by the Rev. Ernest Miller on the same typewriter and the same paper used for making the stamps. There are also two examples of the 20c. "GU" error used together on large piece and other scarce items. The 1896 (June) violet stamps include many fine pieces with a strip of four 20c. on cover addressed to Rev. E. Miller. The 1896 typographed issues are highly specialised and include many large blocks, a wonderful lot of type varieties, cancellations and covers, eleven of which show additional B.E.A. stamps franking to England.

The 1898 engraved Queens include die proofs of the small anna and large rupee types, plate proofs, "SPECIMEN" overprints, blocks, and covers; there is an example of the 1902 2½a. with faint double overprint and the collection ends with a few items of postal stationery and revenue stamps.

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Fourteen-page article by Victor Gaudet, K.C., Postmaster of Montreal at the time, entitled "A Sketch of Postal Organization Through the Ages—With an Outline of the Development of the Postal Service in Canada"; "The Specialist" by Fred Jarrett, "The 15 Cents, 1868-1900 (Big Cents Issues)" and "The 11½ Perforation in Canadian Stamps" by Dr. Lewis L. Reford, "Rowland Hill" by J. Powell Davies. An interesting feature in connection with this article lies in the fact that the author is a grand-niece of Sir Rowland, Mrs. Powell-Davies is a resident of Westmount, Que. "The Revenue Stamps of Canada" by Edward E. Goodchild, "Air Mail in Canada" by T. M. Barrington, "The Relative Values of Early Canadian Stamps", Based on numbers printed; by Charles J. Phillips, "Philatelic Bibliography of Canada" by Edward E. Goodchild, "Canada Precancelled Postage Stamps" by Frank S. Thompson.

Fifty pages listing Jury of Awards; Donations; List of Special Trophies; List of Exhibitors; List of Entries; Survey of the Exhibition; Auction Catalogue of 172 interesting items; plus 33 pages of interesting ads. on B.N.A. offerings.

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LT.-COL. L. W. SHARPE, Q.C. (BNAPS 395)

“A MAN’S CASTLE . . . ”

YOU NO DOUBT have heard the saying, “A man’s home is his castle”. To few men, however, does this apply literally in fact. To Sir Allan Napier McNab it did—his home, Dundurn Castle, on the shores of Burlington Bay (Hamilton, Canada) is now a public museum surrounded by spacious parks.

Allan Napier McNab, later Sir Allan Napier McNab, Bart., Laird of Dundurn, a Canadian by birth, was born near what is now known as Niagara-on-the-Lake. He died at the age of 65 on August 8, 1862.

McNab was about 14 years of age when the Americans attacked York (Toronto), and he at once volunteered for service. Throughout all the years of his life he was always a staunch patriot on the side of the British Crown. As he grew older, he studied law, and taking a keen interest in politics, he became a well-known figure in the life of his day. Many and varied are the stories told about him, not all by any means to his credit.

A Dynamic Figure

When he turned to the practice of law and politics he moved to Hamilton in the early 1830’s. Always a dynamic figure, he was a fluent but invective speaker. Towards his opponents he was a bitter foe, and was not always too good a friend to his friends. Impressive in appearance, there is little doubt his personal ambitions left him little in the way of scruples. Like most well-known public and political figures, stories about him differ. Some describe him as being wealthy, but an idol of the people—others describe him as a hard, harsh man with little sympathy towards any person. Still others say he never paid for anything and was always hard pressed by his creditors. There is little doubt that he was a domineering man to friend and foe alike.

That he must have prospered at some time is evident. The huge home he built for himself in the 1830’s must have cost a considerable sum even in those days.

Life was a lusty business in his time and Allan McNab was a lusty man. Politics were a serious matter in his day—the time was not yet ripe for the secret ballot. His were the days of the Family Compact, Clergy Reserves, Rebellion Losses Bill, and many other very contentious political issues. There were political riots in Toronto in 1832 and the parliament buildings were burned in Montreal. In this turbulent period McNab became Speaker of the House, and later was Premier of Canada.

Active in Militia

He held the rank of Colonel in the Militia and at one period commanded the First Incorporated Battalion of Militia.

• **AUTHOR’S NOTE:** *This article might well have been called “The Patriot”, for above everything else McNab was a patriot, staunch in his loyalty to the British Crown.*

As I have said on many occasions, and I repeat, the contents of a cover is often of more interest than the cover itself. As a philatelic item it may be of little value. Historically it, especially the contents, may be of considerable value. May I repeat in different words. I would say, if we do not look “behind” the stamp or cover, learn its story, we miss the best part of our hobby. In fact, if we do not “read” their story, tell it, we neglect one of the duties put upon us as philatelists. We speak of philatelic history—the line between philatelic history and just history is very thin. I doubt if we can draw a line fine enough to separate them.

As an afterthought, I might add that I have been informed that perhaps the more correct spelling of McNab is MacNab, but it is quite often seen in various spellings.



When the McKenzie Rebellion broke out, he was placed in command of the forces in the Niagara area. They concentrated opposite Navy Island, where the rebels and their sympathizers had established their headquarters.

By this time William IV (1830-37) had died, leaving no issue, and had been succeeded by Queen Victoria. She bestowed upon him a baronetcy—Sir Allan Napier McNab—for his many services and loyalty to the Crown.

In spite of the unsettled state of politics, the cholera epidemics of 1832 and 1834, business was good. The Niagara district was an important and thriving place. Great undertakings had been started, some completed—the Welland Canal had been opened in 1829; the Burlington Canal had been started and the Desjardines Canal came into use. Business on the lakes was increasing and by 1837-38 Hamilton was described as a thriving town. The Great Western Railway, whose charter McNab had been instrumental in obtaining, became a reality in 1832.

The cover illustrated here would perhaps (as far as the outside is concerned) attract little attention. Its interest would be largely local to someone living near the scene of McNab's activities. From a purely philatelic standpoint, it will add little, if anything, to present knowledge. It is a military letter and appears to have been carried free. The writer has seen many of the same period, so

designated "O.H.M.S.", with postal charges evident. This cover could, of course, have been carried by service personnel, hence no postal charge. The letter deals with military matters and the "Entered Page 44" I take to refer to a reference in records of the sender.

Contents Interesting

But let us examine the contents—not only do they recall the story of McNab, the Mackenzie Rebellion and many other interesting stories of the young nation, but open up an interesting story of Negro slaves, escaped from across the border. In fact, it discloses an historical fact not previously known.

The letter, dated April 2, 1839, is really a District Order issued at Brantford, Ontario, concerning the results of a court martial held at Simcoe on March 29, 1839. It gives the finding (conviction and sentence) of Pte. John Vanpater for assaulting a sergeant of his company—a breach of the Articles of War. The interesting point is they are both Negroes, soldiers in the "Coloured Company" attached to the Brantford Light Infantry.

It was previously known colored soldiers had formed part of the force used to quell the riot at the building of the Welland Canal. It had, until this letter turned up, not been known that colored troops had ever formed part of or been attached to the Brantford Light Infantry. In fact, it is to be concluded, little (almost it can be said, nothing)

ing) had come to light before concerning that particular unit in the Militia of that date.

Professor Fred Landon, a noted authority on such subjects, and others, could give me no information about it. Professor Landon was, however, able to tell me these Negroes

were largely fugitives from Southern slavery. He says they were mustered during the McKenzie Rebellion, and likely continued to be subject to call for some years after that, the same as any other male, and made good soldiers, quite willing to serve the country that gave them their freedom. ★

DR. ALFRED WHITEHEAD (BNAPS 192)

Normal and Abnormal Indicia On Certain Squared Circles

TIME MARKS may be found above the date on certain squared circles, while clerks' numbers or letters are found on others. They fall under two categories, normal and abnormal. It is with some of these that the following brief notes are concerned.

TIME MARKS. Many towns used time marks. A M, P M, are common, while Nt. (Night) was in use at Sherbrooke, Que. (rare on its squared circle) and Victoria, B.C.

At Toronto, and at York Street, Toronto, we find, besides A M and P M, frequent use of such marks as 9.45, 12 Noon, 3.30, 5 pm, and 7.30. Interesting varied groups of these may be formed when sufficient material is available.

CLERKS' NUMBERS have a far greater interest and, too, are not so often seen, as only a few of the larger offices used them. Probably the best groups are the following:

Halifax, N.S.: 1, 2, 3, 4.

Belleville, Ont.: 2, 3, 4 ("1" not reported).

Hamilton, Ont.: 9 to 24 inclusive.

Kingston, Ont.: 2, 3, 4 ("1" not reported).

Ottawa, Ont.: 1-8 up to 1900; later, 15-22.

Winnipeg: 1-10.

(For information on the above and on other towns using clerks' numbers, readers are referred to the Squared Circle Handbook.)

The hunt for complete groups of clerks' numbers is keen and promises to become more so. Some collectors are already seeking for groups of two, three, or more **used on the same day**. Two such groups of three different numbers, one used at Halifax, Ja 30/99 (all on Map stamps), and another used at Ottawa, Ju 16/94, are illustrated in the Handbook.

ABNORMAL INDICIA. It is of these that I wish to write at this time. Like most things abnormal, they are rare and of great interest. The short list is as follows:

St. John, N.B.: 1, 2.

Charlottetown, P.E.I.: 3, 5, also 5 inverted.



HALIFAX, N.S., JA. 30/99—with numbers 1, 2, 3. The hunt for complete groups of these "clerks' numbers" is keen. This illustration, mentioned in the article, is from the Squared Circle Handbook.

Arnprior, Ont.: JU ("JU" is not a date as used here).

St. JOHN, N.B. The normal indicia above the date on all three hammers in use at this city are A M and P M, but I have also found two clerks' numbers: "1" (very rare), and "2" (rare).

No. 1: First Hammer—Ju 27/96 only.
Second Hammer—Sp 9, 14, 17, 20, 22, 24, all 2897.
Third Hammer—None reported.

No. 2: While this is somewhat more frequently seen it is still rare, and is known only on the second hammer. The following are the known dates:

June, 1897: 24, 25, 26, 28, 30
(Ju 27/97 fell on a Sunday).
July, 1897: 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13
(Jy 4 and 11 were Sundays).

The following are of interest, and suggest that clerk 2 had afternoon and evening duties:

Jy 3/97, A M } Jy 7/97, A M }
Jy 3/97, 2 } Jy 7/97, 2 }

August, 1897: A M, P M, only.
"2" above the date unknown.

September, 1897: 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25 (the Sundays were 5, 12, 19, 26).

October, 1897: 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22 (October 17 fell on Sunday).

I have sufficient material and information to form the following chronology for September '97, in which "1" appears six times and "2" twelve times.

Sp 1: P M	Sp 11:	Sp 21: 2
2: P M	(12: Sunday)	22: 1, 2
3: 2	13:	23: 2
4: 2	14: 1	24: 1
(5: Sunday)	15:	25: 2
6:	16: 2	(26: Sunday)
7: 2	17: 1	27:
8: 2	18: 2	28: P M
9: 1	(19: Sunday)	29: P M
10: 2	20: 1, 2	30:

Most of the above have been found on the Jubilee issue. I shall be glad if readers would kindly look over their September/97 dates (any stamps) and see if the gaps in the above chronology can be filled. I wish to page Frank W. Campbell, or in fact, any informed collector, for his explanation of this frequent change from time marks to clerks' numbers. Would the numbers be used for temporary clerks due to sickness or vacation? I might say that, in a large accumulation of St. John markings before and after the squared circle period, time marks (A M, P M) are general; 1, 2, may be found, but are very rare indeed.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I. We have here a most interesting field of study, rather more varied than that of St. John. There are long periods of A M and P M, other periods of 1, 2, normally used, together with very rare abnormal use of 3, 5. Few squared circle collectors have seen the latter.

The earliest reported date for Charlottetown squared circles is Sp 4/93. From that date to Jy 29/95, numbers 1, 2, were normal. On Jy 31/95 began a long stretch of A M, P M, lasting until May/97, my last date being My 18/97. Then 1, 2, were resumed (my earliest being Ju 9/97), with rare freak appearances of time marks during this time.

Then there are the abnormal and extremely rare "3" and "5", for which I have no explanation. My dates are:

"3" above the date—Ap 29/95; My 17/95; Ju 21/97; Jy 22/97; Sp 3/97; No 22/97.

"5" above the date—Au 2/97.

"5" inverted—Au 11/97; No 6/97.

ARNPRIOR, ONT. Usually there was a blank above the date, as was commonly the case with small towns at this time. However, I have found the mysterious "JU" above the date in 1906. I have Ju 15/06; Au 4/06; Au 7/06, so "JU" cannot mean June. What is the explanation?

POSTSCRIPT: Since this article was written, letters have appeared in TOPICS above the signatures of Edward J. McGrath (March, p. 68) and Duncan McLellan (May, p. 132), supporting my opinion expressed in TOPICS for January, p. 18: that what have been regarded hitherto as clerks' numbers may represent various (and varying) systems of time marks. I incline more and more to this belief, despite doubtful features in certain cases which I shall not touch upon at this moment. Will readers kindly bear this in mind when reading above comments on "clerks' numbers", a term which might usefully be retained pending further proof. ★

\$1,700 for "Hawker"

• An "o.g." copy of Newfoundland's first airmail stamp, the "Hawker", sold for \$1,700 in the auction of the airport collection of William B. Hurst Jr., of Baltimore, Md., held by Harmer, Rooke, New York, on May 17. The entire collection, divided into 388 lots, realized a total of \$15,000. ★

Trail of the Caribou

By DAN MEYERSON (BNAPS 13)



IN GOING THROUGH the various auction catalogues that have recently been coming across our desk, we are impressed with one thing—the quality of the B.N.A. material offered for sale seems to be improving. It may be with the advent of the 1956 International to be held in New York that the auctioneers are making greater efforts to get better collections as the prices realized are usually better since collectors are looking for those two or three items to raise their exhibit from a bronze to a silver or a silver to a gilt. The sale at Harmer, Rooke & Co. held on April 14, contained a complete set of the die proofs of the 1931 Airmail set (C9-C11). This set broken up into three lots is on watermarked gummed paper and the die number on C9 is "919" reversed, on C10 "920" reversed, and on C11 "918" reversed. These die proofs realized \$150 in toto.

W. Dennis Way, in his column "The Auctions Tell You", published periodically in "Stamp Collecting", reports that a marginal pair of the 7c Queen Mary, Scott 248, with one stamp of the pair with watermark missing, realized £13 at a recent Robson Lowe auction. The "with and without watermark" varieties have not captured the interest of collectors over here to the extent that they have on the Continent and we daresay that the price realized in the Lowe sale is at least twice what it would have realized at a U.S. auction.

A letter of inquiry from Jim Culhane (BNAPS 280) of Norristown, Pa., reminded us of the fact that there is an error in Boggs' book, "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Newfoundland". On page 65, while discussing the new values and color changes (Scott Nos. 56-59) Boggs writes that the four stamps in question were printed by the British American Bank Note Company, Montreal, in sheets of one hundred (10 x 10). The mistake here is that the 10c value (Scott No. 59) was printed in

sheets of 50 (5 x 10). The change is important as it gives us the full picture when we report that the line through the "CE" in "CENTS" is found in positions 18, 23, 28, 33, 38 and 43. All of the lines are slightly different so that the variety can be plated.

Narl J. Scales (BNAPS 1058), Evansville, Ind., has come up with a very nice cover that he has submitted for inspection and examination. It is a registered cover from Sandy Point to Fort Clayton, Panama Canal Zone, and it is franked with the 3c Scott No. 83, the 1c Caribou, Scott No. 115, and the 5c Caribou, Scott No. 119. The cover was mailed sometime late in May (the date is indistinct) and it was received at Fort Clayton on June 6, 1923. The interesting thing about the cover is the 5c Caribou as it is the variety discussed in TOPICS back in May 1953. At that time two copies were submitted by T. D. L. White (BNAPS 717), of Vancouver, and the principal characteristics of the variety in question are a duplication in the form of a single line paralleling the bottom of the lower left numeral "5" and the distinct flow to the right and parallel to the upright stroke of the "L" in the word "NEWFOUNDLAND". We would be interested in finding the position of this variety, which seems to be constant. Thank you, Mr. Scales, for a very interesting cover, indeed.

W. E. Fyndem, in his column in the May 13 issue of "Stamp Collecting", discusses the 3c S.G. No. 269 and Scott No. 246, in the line perf. 14.1 x 14.1. Mr. Fyndem says that when the stamp was first listed it could be bought for £5 and that it is now quoted at £16. He further goes on to state that he feels that the price will continue to rise as there are no stocks held anywhere to his knowledge. It should be added that the above remarks apply only to the stamp in mint condition, as the Commonwealth catalogue lists the used copies of this same variety at a far more reasonable figure. ★

THE EDITOR'S MAILBAG

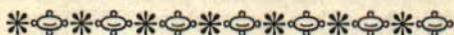
Suggestion re Letters

As some thought is being given to the question of indexing of articles in TOPICS, I make the following suggestion for the further improvement of the usefulness of our magazine.

Most issues carry Letters to the Editor which include queries. Sometimes these are never answered, sometimes they are—but months later. I, therefore, suggest that all letters be given a number and that answers refer to the serial number of the query letter. This would be an easy tie-up.

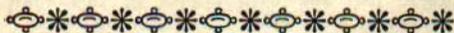
Duncan McLellan (No. 906).

• We will answer this letter at once, anyway! There seems no particular point in starting a numbering scheme, as suggested by Mr. McLellan, until the new volume starts next January, but if readers would find this of help in tying up queries and answers, we would be glad to undertake it at that time.—Ed.



Articles Wanted

• For the fall and winter season, commencing in September, we are in need of articles for publication in BNA TOPICS. It is some time since we last made an appeal of this type but our reserve of material for the magazine is somewhat depleted, and to keep up the standards of variety we have maintained in the past we must have more articles of all kinds—anything from a short "filler" to an article covering several pages. We will also welcome photos and drawings for illustrating these articles, where they will add to the value of the writing. If you have anything you think should be in print, get in touch with the Editor as soon as possible.



Map Stamps, 1898

In my study of this most interesting stamp which is appearing as a serial in the British publication "Maple Leaves", I am finding it difficult to bring my work to a reasonable conclusion. The reason for this is that I am not able to locate a sufficiency of Plate 5 material, in particular the lower left quarter of Plate 5.

Now there are difficulties in sending stamps from Canada or U.S.A. to Britain and no one over there should try immediately to send me, for inspection and return, material of this kind.

But if you have members who would be prepared to help me in this matter, and they would be good enough to get in touch with me first, arrangements can be made so that I can borrow the necessary material for a brief period and return it safely, without breaking the law or risking confiscation in the Customs. Should the material be for disposal, this too can be discussed.

All I really need is to see it. I shall appreciate any help that members of BNAPS can give, and shall be glad to hear from any having Plate 5 material.

Fred Tomlinson, F.R.P.S.L.,

Editor "Maple Leaves" (BNAPS 442)

Coombe Leigh, Chestfield Rd.,
Whitstable, Kent, England.

Re-entry on 6c Large Queen

Some time ago I picked up a very fine re-entry on the six cent value Large Queen, plate 1, in the yellow brown shade.

This stamp shows the re-entry at the top frame, vertical lines top left, also slightly on the top oval holding the Queen's head. At that time I also noticed a large dot over the top frame just touching over the "T" of POSTAGE. Since this stamp had ample margins at top, I took this as a position dot.

Lately, while looking over a selection of early stamps sent to me on approval, I noted the same dot on the six cent value plate 1, in a dark brown shade, thick paper. Knowing that this variety had a re-entry on the previous copy, I took out my good glass and sure enough there was the same re-entry as noted earlier. So, come on, BNAPSers, look over your albums and see how many more copies of this interesting variety turn up.

S. Lukow (No. 1012).

What's in a Name?

The Editor, BNA Topics:

Are we irrevocably committed to "TOPICS" as the title for our journal? As month succeeds month and the journal becomes better and better (both as to content and format) the title seems less and less apt. Put loosely it savours rather of "bits and pieces" rather than of anything of really solid and lasting worth—well enough for the title of a feature or a "chatty" column, but hardly good enough for that of the journal itself. One refers to such and such as being of "topical interest" and by that one implies that its interest is evanescent—of transitory or momentary interest only. Would you say that of the contents of "TOPICS"? The title, I suggest might with advantage convey some idea of what its contents represent; what the journal's aims and objects are. "Topics", even when preceded by "B.N.A." might as easily serve the interests of hunters of caterpillars or centipedes; or conchologists or coleopterists for all that its title conveys! We who receive it KNOW what it's all about but its title is not good publicity for the philistine—the uninitiated, the poor benighted heathen! Such a one may happen to see it lying on our table and be moved by curiosity to take it up and examine it (replacing it, in due course, we trust!).

"All right, all right. let's have your suggested alternative!" One or two come to mind. Why not "CANADIAN PHILATELY" or, taking a tip from our Australian cousins, "PHILATELY IN CANADA"? I prefer the former as being (unlike this letter) more brief and to the point. It would in time undoubtedly come to be referred to as "C.P." Well, it would be none the worse off for that. Whoever speaks of the "Canadian Pacific Railway"?

The one great disadvantage a change would bring about would be in the break with continuity—but that is only nominal; in more senses of the word than one. After all there ARE precedents; we should be keeping good company—the London "Times" was not always known by that title.

Yes, I think the "house" journal of the BNAPS deserves and should get a better name-plate for its front door.

EVAN R. GILL (No. 208)

THE above letter is of great interest to the editor, as we have long felt that the name of our magazine was inadequate in light of its increased prestige in the philatelic world. To the minds of some persons outside the Society, the name "Topics" seems to be tied in with "topical collecting" which has increased in popularity to such a great extent in recent years.

Of course, the question of an alternative name is a problem. The name "Canadian Philately" suggested by Mr. Gill, although good in itself, would cause confusion with "The Canadian Philatelist", published by the Canadian Philatelic Society. Mr. Gill's second suggestion has possibilities, although, as he states, it is not quite as much to the point as the first name. Perhaps we could have some discussion through the columns of this magazine on the advisability of making a change of name, and if advisable, some suggested changes.

As "BNA Topics" is mentioned by name in the Constitution of the Society, a change in that instrument would be necessary—so in the final analysis, the members of the Society would have the final say in this matter. In the meantime, let's hear from as many members as possible on this subject, so that a representative group of letters can be published in the September issue of BNA TOPICS.

THE EDITOR.



PERFIN

SECRETARY: R. J. Woolley,
359 Ellis Pk. Rd., Toronto 3

STUDY GROUP

IN one of our early articles and again in the Handbook will be found reference to the need for protection of postage stamp accounts against pilferage, and the methods adopted by companies and other organizations to protect their stocks of stamps.

Mention was made of the Oxford Union Society and the fact that they had overprinted the penny red of Great Britain (Scott #20) with two narrow lines and the initials "O.U.S." It has been the writer's good

fortune to acquire a very neat cover which we illustrate this month. As the overprint is in red on a red background, it will not reproduce too clearly, but the overprint appears vertically on the stamp, at the centre. The cancellation reads "Oxford No. 28, '63" and the barred killer is numbered "603". The flap of the envelope has the embossed crest of the Oxford Union Society—a very nice item for the introductory pages of our collection.



MOUNTING A PERFIN COLLECTION

The method used by the perfin collector for mounting and display will depend on the range of the collection, and the ideas and tastes of the individual collector. There are two major ways of collecting perfins: (a) a collection of one only of each listed die and code hole type; (b) a collection of each stamp perforated by each company.

The writer's collection is an example of the first method and it may be of interest to readers to have a description of it. The first pages have a condensed history of the background to the use and development of perfins. The material is exactly the material which appears in the Handbook and which has appeared through TOPICS columns. This introduction occupies six pages of typewritten script, suitably illus-

trated with examples of the material described. The items used to illustrate these introductory pages are: (1) the cover illustrated and described above; (2) a few copies of penny reds of G.B. (Scott #33) printed on the back with companies' names; (3) some examples of punched penny reds (Scott #33); (4) the punched stamps of G.B. used by government departments in Great Britain; (5) a pair of 1c yellow Canada #35 with a rubber stamped imprint of a company's name; (6) one of each of the three Canadian companies who punched the Small Queen issue; (7) a pair from a Cummins 5-unit machine showing normal and reversed punches due to the folding of a sheet; (8) an advertising cut of the Cummins perforating machine, which had the widest dis-

tribution of perforating devices in Canada.

It will be seen that the above arrangement follows the text of the Handbook. The main portion of the collection then follows, and while at the moment it is in the process of being re-mounted, it will occupy some eight pages for the major listings and three or four pages for the code hole types which will appear as an addenda.

Each page has twenty-five boxes. The stamp is mounted face down on a black mount slightly larger than the stamp; a box is drawn around the mount and the bottom of the box has a panel in which appears the catalogue number and the identification of the user. In setting up an album for this type of collection it would be as well to lay out the pages for the entire 200 designs as listed in the Handbook, mounting them in the album as found. The

pages for the code hole types should be laid out and filled in the same manner.

The writer's collection has an extra page to display some of the curiosities of perfin collecting—such items as the progressive changing of JMT (J7 in the Handbook) to JMI and finally to JM, which originally appeared as a major design in the "Collectors Club Philatelist" article, but is now described as a damaged die. There are some other similar items mostly due to damaged pins.

As mentioned previously, the ideas and tastes of the individual collector will determine how much of the above will be included in a collection of one of each design or die. The particular collection described has been arranged for display and to use as illustration material when addressing clubs on the fun of collecting Canadian perfins. ★

SALES TOPICS:

Resumption of Activities

THE SALES DEPARTMENT, after a prolonged period of inactivity resulting from change in managership, has been operating with increased momentum since the middle of February. By the end of May, 35 regular circuits had been despatched, and almost 200 members will have received one or more circuits before summer.

Present plans are to send out no further circuits during the summer months. With the return of cooler weather and the end of most vacation periods, in September, circuits will once again be normally despatched.

In taking over the reins of the Sales Department, your Sales Manager has encountered many new problems, and has also become the oracle to which numerous questions have been posed. Insofar as they may be of general interest, they will be the subject of this and succeeding discussions.

Observe the Rules

The rules of the Sales Department are few and simple, and are printed in part on the covers of the official sales books and in part on the individual report blanks which

accompany each circuit. The rules are designed to enable the Department to operate at utmost efficiency. Since the management of the Sales Department, like the roles of all other officers and officials of BNAPS, is a voluntary and unpaid activity, the time devoted to it must necessarily be limited. Those few members who fail to forward the circuit on time, who fail to make reports on time, who omit some information required in the report, or who make arithmetical errors in their reports, thereby necessitating repeated re-checkings and long hours of correspondence, reduce the time available for more constructive activity out of all proportion to their number. Their carelessness and negligence is grossly unfair to the vast majority of co-operative members, and even to themselves, since the immediate general effect is to reduce the number of circuits that can be handled by the manager—and that stamp you are looking for may be in that book you can't get, because of that.

So, here it is:

1. Forward the circuit within 5 days of receipt.

Communications may be addressed to: Alexander Hyde, Sales Manager,
337 Stagg Street, Brooklyn 6, New York

2. Fill in your report blank carefully, fully and accurately, and forward to the Sales Manager the same day you mail the circuit. (This report is required even in those cases where no purchase is made.)

That Report Blank

The report blank is a double-columned sheet of paper, about 6 inches by 5 inches in size. It is the informational artery of each circuit. The left-hand column is the route sheet, and indicates the circuit number, the number of books in the circuit, the order of receipt for each member, and instructions for forwarding the circuit. The only thing to be filled out by the circuit recipient on this side is the date he forwarded the circuit to the next in order.

The right hand side is headed "Record of Purchases", and here the recipient should list each book in the circuit (preferably in numerical order), the number of items he removes from each book, and the value of the items he removes from each book, and finally the total value of all the items he has removed from all the books in the particular circuit. This procedure should be followed even if no purchase is made from a given book, or even all the books in a given circuit.

Does the Sales Dept. Sell?

We are happy to report that while the Sales Department is not operating entirely smoothly, the efforts of the Sales Manager to make up for lost time have not been without fruit. In the 3½ months of active circulation till the early part of June, sales of over \$1700 have been recorded, or a rate of sales of close to \$500 a month.

These figures seem to indicate clearly enough that the Sales Department is amply able to fulfill its function.

Purpose of the Sales Dept.

The Sales Department has been designed as a medium whereby members with stamps to dispose of may have them brought to the attention of other members who may desire to acquire them. It is a means whereby as a seller you may dispose of your duplicates or of material no longer of interest to you, and where as a buyer you may find material you want for your collection.

The Sales Department does not aspire to replace the dealer, nor does it intend to furnish a market place for sale at a profit. It is not a dumping ground for culls, da-

maged or questionable material. It is a means of transmitting desirable philatelic material among fellow collectors as men of good-will, with the Golden Rule, as always, the guiding spirit.

As such, the services of the Sales Department are open to all members in good standing in both the Society and in the Sales Department, whether for buying or for selling.

Entry and Charges

To be entered in the Sales Department, material must be of British North America, and properly mounted in an official sales book of BNAPS. These books consist of 10 pages bound within a cover, are ruled for 12 stamps to a page, and are priced at 10 cents each, 3 for 25 cents, postpaid. The Sales Manager will promptly forward as many as may be required to any member upon receipt of his order and remittance.

Upon entry into the Sales Department, each book is assessed 2% of its total value for insurance costs. In addition, 8% commission is charged on actual sales made, in order to cover costs and disbursements incidental to the operation of the Department. Upon retirement, return postage and registry is charged to the owner, and the fee for insurance costs and the earned commission are deducted in settlement. No payment is therefore to be made with any book upon sending for entry.

This schedule of charges is probably the lowest of any society with a well-organized and large-scale sales department.

A specific example: Suppose you enter a book valued at \$100, of which \$70 is sold upon retirement. The charges would be—

Fee for insurance costs.....	\$2.00
Commission on sales.....	5.60
Return postage and registry....	.43

for a total of \$8.03, and \$61.97 would be paid in settlement, upon return of the unsold portion.

Because of limitations placed upon us by our insurance, no book should be sent for entry if its total net value exceeds \$500 without first communicating with the Sales Manager. For the same reason also, it is suggested that members preparing new books for entry make a special effort to keep the total net value below \$150.

Pricing

Since the purpose of the Sales Department is to afford a ready and economical means of transfer of philatelic material

among members, and since the costs to the member are far below those experienced by the professional trader, from both the economic and moral point of view it would seem that stamps placed in the Sales Department should be priced substantially below the level of most dealers' price lists. The experience of the Department amply indicates that nice material, fairly and reasonably priced, usually moves rapidly; overpriced material slowly, if at all.

When entering a new book, price with a heart—it will pay off.

Material in Demand

Perhaps the question most frequently asked of the Sales Manager has been whether this or that specialized field is in demand. While he is not yet able to answer these questions fully, nonetheless certain trends do seem vaguely defined.

Of all the specialized fields, probably none is represented in greater quantity in the sales books than plate blocks. Yet no field has been a greater source of disappointment relatively with respect to actual sales. Whether this is because many members who have indicated an interest in plate blocks have it in so mild a form as to limit it to one of an issue, or perhaps only to what happens to come along without premium, or whether the interest is more vociferous than widespread, or whether much of the material now in the sales books is of too recent vintage to have a wide market yet, unless priced very close to face, your Sales Manager is not yet able to say. However, he definitely does not recommend that you enter recent plate blocks at present.

Fine cancellation material, reasonably priced, is the subject of considerable demand, as are also minor varieties. Nice covers, properly priced, move very well, and our supply seems entirely insufficient for the potential demand. There seems to be an increasing demand for revenues, both federal and provincial, although tax-pays seem largely neglected by most revenue collectors. Precancels move spottily, and not at all as well as the number of collectors professing interest in that field would seem to prognosticate.

Reviewing Sales Books on Hand

As the sales books are returned with the completion of the outstanding circuits, the Sales Manager intends to review the status and performance of each. As may be indicated, some will be retired, most will be held over, and some will bear recommen-

dations subject to owners' instructions. In any case, all owners will be notified as to the status of any of their books in the Sales Department.

What Have You to Enter?

The demand for nice material in the Sales Department is continuous, and if you have anything desirable you no longer require, we will be happy to receive it for sale in the Department.

The Sales Manager is always at your disposal for information or advice.

What Do You Want to Buy?

Circuits are made up and sent to buyers on the basis of their professed interests. Information as to these is derived from cards at one time sent in by many members, and from the membership applications filed by recent members. These are modified from time to time as more current information may be sent in by individual members.

If you have not been getting what you are looking for, a note to the Sales Manager may help re-direct his efforts in the proper channels for you. He wants to help you, and can do so better if you help him. ★

Two Colors For Scout Stamp To Honor World Jamboree



• **Hon. J. W. Pickersgill**, Acting Postmaster General, has announced the details of a 5c postage stamp that will be first sold to the public on August 20.

The new postage stamp is being issued as a tribute to the International Boy Scout Movement which is making a splendid contribution to world understanding. The postage stamp will commemorate the 8th World Boy Scout Jamboree that will be formally opened by His Excellency, the Governor-General, at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, on August 20.

The new stamp will be printed in two colours, green and gold, by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Ottawa. The stamp was designed by Laurence Hyde of Ottawa. ★



A used copy of this 1851 3d in orange vermilion, with full target cancel, and large margins, sold in a recent J. N. Sissons sale for \$35.00. (Catalogued at \$40.00 by Scott.)

● "Every stamp is most valuable in its country of origin, but Canadian stamps are among the select few highly regarded in all countries," says a big Canadian dealer. But the experts agree that unless you have the know-how, stamp collecting is as hazardous a business as placing a bet with the neighborhood bookie. In "Canadian Business", published by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the author describes some of Canada's stamp issues and outlines their history; and discusses the pros and cons of stamps as an investment.

Reprinted with permission from "Canadian Business" for April 1955.

There's

A NEWSPAPER reported, a few months ago, the discovery of four complete sheets of King Edward VII 50 cent postage stamps of the 1903-08 series. Finds like this are rare—so rare that when J. N. Sissons of Toronto, one of Canada's foremost dealers, was offered the stamps, he almost had to pinch himself to see if he was dreaming.

The existence of these stamps had not been even suspected, as they had been held by one family for 40-odd years. They are the only known full sheets extant and today, says Mr. Sissons, only one complete sheet remains. The other three have been broken up and distributed. According to the "Specialized Catalogue of Canada and British North America", published by Dr. L. Seale Holmes of London, Ont., a single superb mint copy of this stamp is worth \$40.

Investment Possibilities

Can money be made by investing in Canadian stamps? The answer, from a survey of dealers and collectors, appears to be a qualified "yes".

Jack Spier, head of Spier Bros. of Montreal, one of the country's major stamp dealers, says: "Every stamp is most valuable in its country of origin but Canadian stamps are among the select few highly regarded in all countries."

Spier Bros., on Montreal's Craig Street, numbers among its clientele members of some of the country's leading brokerage firms, investment houses and banks.

"They don't all collect Canadian stamps," admits Mr. Spier, "but the majority do and

BULL MARKET in CANADIAN STAMPS

take toward stamps the same attitude that they have toward stocks and bonds. They look upon them as blue chip investments."

Dr. L. Seale Holmes, from whose catalogue we quoted previously, made the following comments:

"It is largely a question of supply and demand. Popular appeal has a strong influence on values, too. Just now it's the stamps showing our present Queen when she was Princess Elizabeth . . .

"Over the years one can sort of sense that certain stamps may prove more valuable than others. Take today, for example. The 2, 4 and 5-centers are used for various classes of mail but there is no place for the 3 cent, so it will be issued or used only in small quantities. It will demand a better price than the other values. The same can be said of the 6-cent value.

"The Post Office has called in all the 3 cent coil stamps and, I believe, burned them, so they should jump in value fast. One must watch and study all these things and, using good judgment, draw your own conclusions as to what will enhance in value. The passage of time adds value to stamps; in other words they add or earn their own interest."

Cautious Viewpoint

A more cautious viewpoint is taken by two other dealers. A spokesman for Stanley Stamp Co. Ltd. of Vancouver says, "it would be literally impossible to give any clear, concise rule of thumb on this subject that would apply to collectors or investors generally. Some few collectors do well, but

the great majority lack the ability to make money from stamps by investment."

Mr. J. N. Sissons points out that in periods of inflation stamps are an excellent hedge against inflation. In periods of deflation stamps probably hold their value a little better than other forms of speculation.

"However, there is some evidence that buying of sheets by uninformed people without any idea of where they will dispose of them has got out of hand and I am not at all sure that we can expect this in future. Frankly, with the exception of some of the scarcer Officials, I consider it unlikely that any of the Canadian stamps of the last few years will turn out to be a good investment, as too many of them have been put away."

As an example of what he called "unbalanced buying" Mr. Sissons reports that recently he has been trying to dispose of a collection of mint sheets of various odd denominations which the buyer had believed would turn out to be a good investment. This particular lot included stamps listed at up to 13 times face. But despite his best efforts over a six-month period he couldn't move them at face less 7½%. In other words, if they were worth \$1,000 at face, he couldn't realize \$825. He points out that a "balanced collection, reasonably complete and in fine condition is always saleable".

Mr. Sissons admits to being bearish, but says, optimistically, "I think all stamps issued prior to 1927 are sound and will tend to increase gradually in value over a long period. Certainly, as the population increases there will be more collectors and a greater

demand for our stamps. I consider Canada as sound as any country as until the last few years there has been comparatively little speculation."

Like many another dealer, Mr. Sissons has seen far too many people disappointed when they offered collections for sale. There was no rhyme nor reason in the buying; the collections were little more than a hodge-podge and many of them didn't even realize their initial investment. In one case a Montreal man over the years spent around \$13,000 on stamps. He paid no attention to condition but just picked up stamps as they were offered. At his death his wife catalogued the stamps and found they had a catalogue value of close to \$40,000. Yet the condition of most of them was so poor that when they were ultimately sold—after being refused by some prominent dealers—the widow only realized \$7,000.

Mentally Confused?

The uninitiated may, by this time, be feeling understandable mental confusion. Why should a stamp like, for instance, our first example, which came out less than half a century ago and was sold by the Post Office for 50 cents, today be worth 80 times that figure? Why should a 10-cent stamp current from 1912-1925 fetch 25 times that price now? Or a 5-cent stamp issued as lately as 1950 have a retail price of almost double its face value?

First let's look briefly at the historical background. As everyone knows, postage stamps as we know them today were a British invention. The first stamps appeared in that country in 1840 and 11 years later the first Canadian stamps came on sale. These were offered in post offices in what was then Upper and Lower Canada. The Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia brought out stamps in 1851 also; the first Newfoundland stamps appeared in 1857; British Columbia and Prince Edward Island followed four years later.

No. 1 in the Canada section of "Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue" is the threepenny beaver, which was designed by Sandford Fleming. The pence issues were current until 1859 when a new series was prepared to conform to the currency change-over to our present decimal system.

In 1868, the year following Confederation, a new series was issued and as those provinces which did not join the Union in 1867 came in later, their stamps were replaced by the Dominion issues. The last

such province was, of course, Newfoundland. Incidentally, no Canadian stamp has ever been demonetized and presumably, although we haven't a ruling from the Post Office, any provincially-issued stamps with one exception, can still be used for postage. The exception is Prince Edward Island, whose stamps were demonetized because the remainders were sold to a private dealer.

Some Actual Figures

This is the background. Let's take a look at some actual stamps. According to Dr. Holmes' catalogue—an invaluable work and a must for every collector of Canadian stamps and other postal material—there was a total of 3,528,200 of the threepenny beavers issued; 3,100,000 imperforate and 428,200 perforate. Standards of paper and control over ink were not as rigid as they are today and prices for this stamp vary due to varieties created in this way. Holmes shows a price range for the imperforate of \$20 for a good unused copy on standard wove paper to \$1,000 for a superb copy of the laid paper variety, and from \$3.50 to \$50 for used copies. The perforate issues range from \$50 to \$125 for unused copies and from \$12 to \$50 for used. Varieties of cancellations add to the prices for used stamps.

R. S. Mason in "100 Years of Canadian Stamps" (Ryerson Press, Toronto), points out that this stamp on wove paper was valued in 1905 by Scott (Holmes' first catalogue did not appear until 1943) at \$2.50 unused and 30 cents used; on laid paper it had a value of \$7.50 unused and \$2 used. In that year it was within reach of even the youngest collector. Today there are many collections with a blank where this stamp should be.

Let's move up a few years. In 1897, to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign, the Post Office issued 16 stamps ranging in value from a half-cent to \$5. They were none too popular and until the 1920's the dollar values of the Jubilees sold at or below face. However, as collectors began to realize that their collections would not be complete without this set, demand increased. There was a growing shortage as stamps disappeared into collections, deteriorated, were destroyed or lost. Some of the values were also issued in small quantities. Only 13,500 copies of the \$3 were printed, reports the Philatelic Section of the Post Office. The 3-cent was the most plentiful, 20 million being printed, but even today this retails for 20 cents.

A complete set, with a face value of \$16.21—disregarding the half-cent—today is being offered in Sissons' "British North America Catalogue" for \$225. If your grandfather had been prescient enough to buy a single sheet of each value in 1897 he would have paid out \$810.25. On the basis of recent auction prices you would have received approximately \$25,000 for only the dollar values alone. Needless to say, many collections today lack a complete set of this series.

One more example, of even more recent date. In January 1950 the Post Office issued a new series of stamps depicting the late King George VI, from one to five cents. However, the words "Postes-Postage" were omitted. The series was left on sale while revised plates were produced. Of the unrevised set today, the 1-cent is selling for 4 cents; the 2 for 7; the 3 for 6; the 4 for 7, and the 5 for 9. In quantities, this set was comparatively small and was on public sale for a very short while. In sheets, the set is already selling at more than double face value and the chances are that it will advance still further.

Major collectors, however, though not unaware of the value of their stamps, emphasize that their chief motive is the pleasure they get from their hobby.

"Happy is the man with a hobby as he has two worlds to live in," quoted A. H. Christensen of Montreal, long-term mem-

ber of the Westmount Stamp Club. He also said that one of the best sources for stamps is the wastepaper basket of any office.

". . . You would do well to emphasize that the great value of stamp collecting is that it is a pleasant relaxation," states the Hon. George Marler, Minister of Transport, a recognized authority on the King George V 1911-25 issues. "It can be profitable, though personally I think this ought to be considered a secondary consequence of intelligent buying."

"Intelligent Buying" Important

It has been largely due to this "intelligent buying" that many Canadian collections have commanded high prices when they were sold. One of the finest was that of the late Dr. Lewis Reford of Montreal, which realized close to \$250,000. The Alfred F. Lichtenstein Collection of Canada comprising issues from 1897 on, sold by H. R. Harmer, Inc., of New York, took two days to dispose of last November with \$47,547 realized. Many of the lots brought better than catalogue prices. Other Canadian collections of importance were the Lee-Jones in Great Britain and the Gerald Firth in the United States.

And while it might be added here that while these collections were built by men with ample funds at their disposal and able to buy items beyond the reach of the

VALUES CHANGE AS THE YEARS GO BY . . .

This table was compiled through the courtesy of Charles P. deVolpi of Montreal

†Scott Nos.	Year Issued	Face \$	1905 \$	1915 \$	1925 \$	1930 \$	1935 \$	1940 \$	1945 \$	1950 \$	1955 \$	*Sissons \$
50-65	1897	16.20½	24.45	28.67	41.75	63.30	70.35	98.52	227.30	248.65	264.35	225.00
66-73	1897	.35½	.91	1.34	3.18	3.83	4.94	6.12	6.87	9.75	12.30	11.20
74-84	1898-02	.64½	1.43	2.32	6.63	8.14	10.07	15.41	18.21	25.21	30.73	27.50
89-95	1903-08	.95		1.73	4.38	10.83	16.01	23.05	32.77	49.77	58.85	53.13
96-103	1908	.60½		1.76	3.13	5.09	5.49	10.00	12.55	19.43	21.53	18.13
141-148	1927	.60					.92	.98	1.44	1.59	2.03	1.43
149-159	1929	2.15					3.24	3.93	6.50	19.68	22.32	17.05
162-177	1930-32	2.33						3.82	4.77	17.09	19.19	15.40
190-204	1931-33	.97						1.79	2.26	5.02	7.05	5.34
208-210	1934	.15						.57	.65	1.25	2.10	1.43
211-216	1935	.34						1.20	1.50	2.05	2.64	1.71
217-227	1935	2.16						3.26	4.32	4.61	5.89	4.24
231-245	1937	2.19						3.32	4.38	4.72	5.75	4.73
246-262	1939-43	2.43							3.79	5.62	7.02	5.15

* These prices, taken from the latest available catalogue issued by J. N. Sissons of Toronto, are for fine copies.

† Numbers and prices are from "Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue". The 1911-25 George V issue has been omitted because of the many changes and varieties in this series.

collector operating on a moderate budget, the latter can do as well proportionately by careful buying.

Both dealers and collectors strongly emphasize two points: Don't buy a couple of hundred dollars worth of stamps today and expect to retire five years from now to Florida; and if you buy stamps without acquiring the fundamentals of stamp collecting you might as well bet your money haphazardly with the neighboring bookie.

Stamp investment is a long-time haul. Joseph E. Granville, in "Everybody's Guide to Stamp Investment" (Hermitage House), states that "there is much evidence that there exists a nine-year cycle in the stamp market . . . This consists of four to five years of sharply rising prices and then four to five years of slightly declining or stationary prices."

Prices Ease Off

Whether this cyclical theory holds water is a matter of opinion. To bolster his argument Mr. Granville points out that 1929 was a bullish year for stamps; for the next four years prices were steady. In 1934-35 they moved upward and weakened slightly in 1937. They held firm until 1941 when they began moving upward and before the market broke in 1946-47 stamps were selling from three to four times ahead of 1937. It might be noted, however, that those years saw full employment, plenty of money and a scarcity of consumer goods. It's logical to expect that during those years more money went into stamps than might otherwise have been the case. It is perhaps also significant that prices broke when more consumer goods were available, and not unreasonable to expect that stamps were sold in order to buy durable products.

From 1947 to 1951 prices eased off, although certain old standbys such as Canada, the United States and most British Commonwealth issues generally held firm with many issues advancing. Then the market began to edge upward and, says Mr. Granville, "when the next bull market reaches its crest one can be sure that prices generally will be far in excess of those reached in 1946". Mr. Granville made this statement in 1952 and a comparison of catalogues for that year and 1955 certainly record price advances. His book, incidentally, while concerned primarily with American commemorative issues, does contain a lot of valuable information for collectors.

A word of warning: prices in Scott's

Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue must not be confused with the actual cash value of the stamps. Actual cash prices run from 50 to 75 per cent of Scott's but it is not unusual for scarce stamps to sell at Scott or better.

Here are a couple of examples: Scott prices the threepenny beaver of 1851 at \$35 used while Holmes prices it at \$50 for a superb copy. (Scott's prices are for fine copies.) In unused condition Scott shows the price at \$600 in talics, which indicates the last known price. Holmes quotes it at \$1,000. The sixpenny Prince Albert is priced at \$65 by Scott and \$100 by Holmes.

As well as through stamp dealers and auctioneers, stamps may be bought through the Philatelic Section of the Post Office in Ottawa. This bureau was set up a number of years ago to cater to philatelists both in Canada and abroad. A major criticism of the agency is that stamps may only be obtained by mail—unless you happen to live in or visit Ottawa—and many collectors have urged that the Post Office should follow the United States practice of opening philatelic counters in major cities.

Says L. J. Mills, director of Financial Services, Post Office Department:

" . . . The Canadian Post Office Department has resisted the temptation to issue new design postage stamps for the purpose of obtaining revenue from their sale to collectors. This, in our opinion, would be exploitation. Postage stamps are issued primarily for the purpose of prepaying the postage on mail matter."

He reveals that the Philatelic Section netted \$282,431 for the 1952-53 fiscal year from the sale of stamps to collectors.

"It is the policy of the Philatelic Section," adds Mr. Mills, "to estimate the requirements of the philatelic trade for two years from the date that a postal item is replaced or discontinued. Such a supply is set aside for philatelic sales."

Incidentally, Mr. Granville notes that American experience has been that 85 per cent of a commemorative issue in the United States is used postally and the remaining 15 per cent goes to collectors and dealers. Presumably the same ratio would hold good in Canada.

How Much . . . and What?

How much money should be invested in stamps and what stamps should be good for the long haul?

The answer to the first half of that ques-

tion lies with the individual. Some people can afford only a couple of dollars a week; others may be able to spend ten times that amount. But no matter how little the sum, look out for the following points:

- (a) Freedom from any defects such as tears, creases or missing perforations.
- (b) The centering of the stamp—that is evenness of the margins on all sides.
- (c) Extent to which the stamp, if used, is obliterated by the cancellation.
- (d) General freshness in the color and appearance of the stamp.

Emphasis, it will be noted, is placed on condition. However, in the case of the very early issues, some collectors will acquire imperfect copies merely for the sake of having the stamp, realizing that it has little value, in most cases, as an investment.

What you buy will depend on how much money you have available. Older issues will have to be acquired from a dealer, auction or other collector. Current stamps, that is anything issued within the last two years, may still be found in some post offices and certainly at the Philatelic Agency. An example is the 15-cent beaver of 1951, one of the series issued to commemorate the centenary of British North America postal administration. This stamp can be had at post offices for its face value. Dealers are asking 20 cents for it. Used, it is being offered for nine cents with a block of four going as high as 60 cents. This stamp is widely used for overseas mail and is on postal items which will probably be more plentiful outside Canada.

Buy in Quantity

If you're buying current stamps there is no advantage in buying only one copy. The current 6 cent, previously mentioned, should be bought in at least sheets of 100. If it triples in value in 10 years, obviously you aren't going to be ahead financially if you have only a single copy. But a sheet of 100, which costs \$6 today at a post office, would net the holder a profit if the stamp advances.

Booklet panes are usually good buys, both used and unused. In 1946 the Post Office issued a combination booklet of several values, which was sold for \$1. Demand was very small and postmasters were instructed to tear off covers and sell the stamps singly. One of the values was the 7 cent Goose airmail, four stamps with a face value of 28 cents. A booklet pane today is selling for about 50 cents, both used and unused, and the chances are that it will go even higher. One important point:

buy booklet panes only with selva, that is the margin on the left through which the staple passes.

Cancellations add to the value of stamps, particularly older issues. These include bullseyes or targets, numerals, stars, corks in quadrille patterns, crosses, tree leaves, sun bursts, initials, fraternal society emblems, flags, hearts, dated town cancellations and others. There are also railway cancellations (these are still being used today and a few years ago a collection of common current 3 cent stamps bearing railway cancellations was offered for \$100) and cancellations in various colors.

Obviously the best stamps to buy as an investment are those used least. Surcharges, as a rule, are a good example—although care must be taken that the surcharge is genuine. They are a short issue and are put out when there is a change in the postal rates or, rarely, as a commemorative.

Commemoratives are short issues, being issued for a specific purpose and are very often gone within a year. Many of these have gone quietly ahead. In 1934 a stamp was issued to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the emigration of the United Empire Loyalists to Canada. Only three million copies were printed and today it is selling for around 40 cents used and 90 cents unused. Not bad for a 10-cent stamp!

Dealers and collectors are inclined to be cautious. They have seen too many people invest money in stamps in the belief that they are going to reap a fortune in a few years. Buying stamps haphazardly will only lead to trouble. But by carefully following a few simple rules there is little doubt that, over the years, one can do quite well financially and also enjoy a hobby that rightly deserves to be called the "hobby of kings and the king of hobbies". ★

1956 CONVENTION

• The Convention Committee of BNAPS requests that any member, or group, desiring to extend an invitation to the Society to hold its 1956 Convention and Exhibition in their city, kindly forward to the Chairman, A. H. Kessler, 7934 Pickering St., Philadelphia 19, Pa., their offer, prior to September 1, 1955.

All invitations will be considered in the order in which received at the executive meeting held prior to the regular business meeting of the Society, in convention at Hartford, on Saturday, October 1, 1955. The membership will decide at that meeting where BNAPEX-56 is to be held.

What about 1957, 1958, etc.? . . . The more the merrier—let's have them! ★

Sketches of BNAPSers . . .

By V. G. GREENE (BNAPS L40)

No. 69: John S. Siverts (59)

BNAPSer John S. Siverts was born in Minneapolis, Minn., on June 30, 1922, and is a junior security analyst for an investment research group in Wilmington, Delaware, where he has recently moved. He served for three years as a naval aviator in Asia area, stationed in the Philippines and patrolling the China Sea and Formosa.

John started collecting stamps in 1935 and in 1940 to concentrate on the United States and Canada. In 1944 he regretfully sold his U.S. collection and since then has specialized in British North America with emphasis on the 19th century. He has exhibited some of his stamps at CAPEX and one or two of our BNAPS shows, and has written several short articles for TOPICS.

A regional representative of BNAPS (Minneapolis and Bismarck), he has brought in ten new members. John is also a member of the Collectors Club, N.Y.; American Philatelic Society, Society of Philatelic Americans, Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, and the Wilmington Stamp Club. Since arriving in Wilmington, he has spent several pleasant evenings with that outstanding B.N.A. philatelist and fellow member of BNAPS, Walter Chadbourne.

The writer asked John if he had any other



JOHN S. SIVERTS

hobbies and he replied: "No, and how can you when that one is stamps?"

One of our early members (No. 59), he has a great affection for our Society, and his final remark was that "he would like to congratulate and thank members such as Jack Levine, Dan Meyerson, Gordon Lewis, etc., for the fine job they have done in making BNAPS and TOPICS the success and influence it has been for years."

Thanks, John—we'll see you at Hartford. ★

Spectacular Prices for Early Canada 6d

• **Sensational prices** were paid for three 6d stamps of Canada in the April 13-14 sale of Harmer, Rooke & Co., New York. A private collector bid \$625, which is more than three and a half times catalogue, for a superb, used 6d gray violet on thick hard paper—No. 5d, cataloguing \$175. This is probably the highest price ever paid for this stamp, according to Auctioneer Gordon Harmer, and this particular copy is better than any found in the Pack, Green or Reford collections. The auction catalogue described it in these terms:

"Magnificent copy. Four enormous margins; shows three adjoining stamps. Beautiful fresh color and light cancel. Absolutely superb and undoubtedly one of the finest existing copies."

J. N. Sissons of Toronto paid \$525 for a

used 6d reddish purple on very thick soft wove paper—No. 10, cataloguing \$225. When a dealer pays considerably more than double catalogue for a stamp, it invariably lives up to the auctioneer's description, which read in this instance:

"Magnificent copy. Brilliant color. Four enormous margins. Light cancel. Superb in every respect. A gem."

Another handsome used copy of No. 10 realized \$425 (nearly double catalogue), and another very fine used copy of No. 5d brought \$180.

A 3d Beaver, unused and on thin soft wove paper (No. 4c, cataloguing \$150) sold for \$125 despite a tiny thin spot.

Large die proofs in original colors of three Newfoundland airmails of 1931—Nos. C9-C11—realized a total of \$150. ★

Bringing News About People and Stamps

By REV. JOHN S. BAIN (BNAPS 19)

A LETTER from my good friend and BNAPSer, Ed. Richardson, brings a report that he "picked up a beauty of a forgery of the Canadian Pioneer Air Stamp (Sanabria #501) the 1918 Aero Club of Canada 'no flame' variety with numerals of value. This just doesn't exist of course, but the fake is a dandy." Back in 1947 in the April 21 issue of "Philately", you will find a treatment of this forgery. I picked up this copy in a dealer's stock in Chicago. It was the first mention of this forgery (to my knowledge) and BNAPSer Richardson's copy is the second that has come to my attention.

BNAPS

BNAPSer W. Bileski recently sent out a circular letter listing certain Canadian stamps that he needed to fill an overseas barter transaction order of 1000 packets of 300 different. It is interesting to note that nearly all the stamps required on his list are at a premium in wholesale quantity. Check this list if you received one, and you will note the stamps that are in demand. It is surprising the number of dealers in the United States when asked for Canadian stamps can show hardly any stock of many of these numbers. Some of these numbers are bound to rise in price. A favorite of mine is #151. Perhaps BNAPSer Bileski will let us know how the collectors responded to his letter?

BNAPS

This **perfin chase** seems to be continuing along unabated. Now that a picture of the scarce items is being brought into view, the prize items are covers showing corner cards with perfins. An odd item in this connection came to my attention while going through a batch of covers. It was a cover dated February 6, 1918, Hamilton, Ontario, bearing perfin copies (GTR) of Canada, Scott #106, and #MR1, and addressed to William S. Hart, the famous cowboy of the silent screen days. The cover was personal stationery and addressed by hand. Somebody using perfins in those days for personal mail?

BNAPS

The story behind **outstanding varieties** and pieces is always interesting. On page 374 in Boggs "Canada" you see illustrated the remarkable re-entry of the 1c green Canada

Admiral Issue, George V. This illustration is taken from a mint block of four owned by BNAPSer Frank Campbell. It came to him in a lot of approvals from one of the oldest stamp dealers in Canada. The price of just 10c for the block asked! They had not noticed the re-entry!! To-day that block is worth about \$100.00.

BNAPS

I believe that Canada has scored again with a unique and outstanding design with the issuance of the 5c blue for the "International Civil Aviation Organization". My thanks to BNAPSer Ken Vizzard for a first day cover together with a mint imprint block enclosed. Sometimes I cannot always acknowledge covers, etc., as they arrive after the column material has been mailed. However I do appreciate the thoughtfulness of all who send in such items from time to time.

Street Number Addressed Covers

• **Some investigation** into the penny postage usage in Canada has led me to odd paths. One is—what is the earliest purely Canadian cover addressed to a street and number? I have one from Montreal to Detroit in 1841 addressed to 33 Plumb Street, Detroit, but that is not all Canadian.

As early as 1764 in Quebec it was advertised that letters not called for by 2 o'clock the day mail arrived would be "given to" the penny post carrier. He generally charged a fee of one pence, which often accounts for the manuscript figure "1" seen on letters.

In connection with this was my thought of how did the carrier know everyone who might have a letter due, and where did he live.

An interesting paragraph from a letter from an English friend is a remark he made about the nine pages of philately in full color in Life Magazine last summer. He says: "However, I wonder whether I would be any happier if I had all the copies and had to guard them day and night with a gun and a couple of police dogs."—Frank W. Campbell (BNAPS 143). ★



Revenue Group News

SECRETARY: PROF. R. DeL. FRENCH,
7481 Upper Lachine Road, Montreal 28, Canada

THERE were a few revenue lots in Sissons' 101st sale (April 13) and we report the prices realized. Auction realizations seem to give the best idea of the real value of our revenues, which is the main reason why we report them. (Catalogue values in parentheses).

Lot	BILL STAMPS	Price
391	1864 7c blue block of 99 with imprint SEVEN CENTS well centered, o.g., VF	(\$24.85) \$ 1.25
392	8c blue sheet of 100 with imprint EIGHT CENTS, 1 row creased, well cent., F, mint	(\$15.00) 1.50
393	\$2, \$3, blocks, o.f., F	(\$14.00) 1.50
394	\$3 blue, block of 12, o.g., F	(\$24.00) 2.00
395	1865 7c red, sheet of 100 with imprint SEVEN CENTS, o.g., F	(\$14.00) 1.50
396	1868 40c blue, sheet of 100 with imprint FORTY CENTS, o.g., F	(\$12.00) 1.75
397	SUPREME COURT , 1897 \$1 blue, 2 copies, one with red and one with purple control number, used	(E\$5-10) 5.00
398	1915 10c rouletted, blue control, scarce and VF, used	(\$8.00+) 6.00
399	As above, purple control, VF and scarce	9.00
400	ALBERTA , 1906-7 75c complete, reconstructed sheet of 12 with all vars., VF, used	(\$12.00+) 6.50
401	\$1 red and green complete, reconstructed sheet of 12 with all vars., all unpunched, VF, used	(\$13.80+) 7.50
402	One Dollar complete, reconstructed sheet with all vars., VF, used	(\$18.00+) 10.50
403	BRITISH COLUMBIA , 1897-1933 collection, 31 different, including all 7 types law stamps, very good to very fine, used	(\$35.75) 1.75
404	1913-23 5th issue \$5 horiz. pair, centered and F, used	(\$15.00) 1.00
405	1926 7th issue \$1 vert. strip of 3, imperf. horiz., superb, mint	(\$60.00) 12.50
406	MANITOBA , 1877-1901 collection, 34 diff., V to VF, used	(\$35.30) 1.50
407	1886 BF on LS 25c, \$1, on CF 6 scallops, 20c, 25c, 50c, \$1, on 9 scallops, 10c, 25c, on ordinary, 10c, F to VF, used	(\$20.50) 1.25
408	ONTARIO , 1864 FF 5c rouletted, o.g., VF	(\$10.00) 3.50
409	LS, 10c rouletted, o.g., F	(\$10.00) 3.75
410	1871 50c vert. pair, imperf. horiz., F, used	(E\$5-15) 1.50

The prices realized for much of this material were ridiculous. Granted that Canadian revenues are never in great demand, they are certainly worth more than ten per cent of their listed values. Generally, prices in these auctions have been much higher than these were. Wonder what happened at this sale?

On the values of Canadian revenues, the following quotation from a recent personal letter is of interest:

"There are number of . . . Canadian revenues . . . cataloguing \$2 (to) \$25, which are much rarer than the \$2 invert, of which I have sold seven copies at prices ranging from \$200 (to) \$350. . . I think there are at least fifteen major varieties . . . which

. . . would catalogue at \$500 or more."

Someday, I must try to get my correspondent to list these fifteen varieties. There will be some surprises, I am sure.

P. D. vanOudenol (No. 684) writes me to say that he has copies of the second issue Ontario law stamps cancelled January 8,

• Continued on next page

E. K. ALLEN (BNAPS 126) of Halifax, N.S., submits this item with the following comment: "The photostat I am enclosing was taken from a much larger sheet evidently to be posted in an office. J. Howe is Joseph Howe, born in 1804, who became the most famous and beloved figure in Nova Scotia history. Printer, poet, politician and statesman, he died in 1873 while Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia. His father, John Howe, was Postmaster-General of Nova Scotia until he died in 1835. Joseph was deputy and apparently carried on until 1843, when he accepted the Collectorship of Colonial Revenues. I thought collectors of early Canada and Nova Scotia might be interested in this method of stating the postage, and delivery of the mails."

1870, May 12, 1870, and August 5, 1870. The January cancellation is stamped, the other two are in manuscript. The old Canadian Revenue Society catalogue (1942) lists 1870 as the date of issue of these stamps, which is undoubtedly correct, no matter what more recent catalogues may say.

Mr. vanOudenol is also the owner of a copy of the 25c on 10c Yukon law stamp, referred to here in February last. His copy has full gum with a punched "L" cancellation. He has seen three other copies. Has anybody an idea when this stamp was issued?

Our catalogue of federal issues is selling fairly well. I think we are going to get our money back and perhaps to make a modest profit. The next project after we finish the current tax-paid catalogue should be to catalogue our provincial issues. For that we shall need some help, province by province. I can think of certain members who are competent to do certain provinces, if they wish, but who would like to tackle Ontario, Saskatchewan, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories? Don't embarrass me by all volunteering!

I still haven't heard from some of the members of our group whom I know have copies of the \$2 inverted head and of the scarce Newfoundland revenues in their collections. I wish they would tell me what they own and what they paid for them, in confidence, of course.

The backgrounds of some of our members sometimes hold more romance than they are willing to admit, vide this clipping from the Montreal "Gazette" of April 30 last:

"Twelve members of an expedition headed by a veteran Arctic explorer and former Mountie took off from Montreal Airport yesterday afternoon confident they will turn the clock back 46 years by camping at the North Pole.

"The American Polar Basin Expedition headed by Lt.-Col. John F. Stanwell-Fletcher, English-born world traveller, hopes to repeat the feat accomplished by Admiral Robert A. Peary on April 6, 1909. At the same time it will conduct studies it considers vital to the defence of North America. . . .

"In the party is Dr. Wilson A. Swanker, New York physician, plastic surgeon and explorer, who is second-in-command. Dr. Swanker, who spent a number of years with the Grenfell Missions in Labrador, made the headlines some years ago when he para-

chuted from an aircraft at River Clyde and saved the life of an Eskimo by performing an emergency appendectomy. . . ."

Dr. Swanker is our No. 1209, with a major interest in United States revenues and a minor one in our own.

I have been writing the odd note for some months about our revenues postally used, and now comes R. J. Woolley (No. 359) with something close to, but not quite in, this category. It is a piece cut from the corner of an envelope received in his office—no postage due—bearing copies of the 3c red George VI wartime postage stamp (Scott's No. 251) and of the then current 25c orange postal note stamp, postmarked "London 24, Ont., Jan 3, '44".

This is something new to me. Our postal note stamps are really neither postage stamps nor revenues; they correspond to paper money and are used in a limited way as such. I wonder if the post office would accept a parcel with a dollar bill pasted on it in lieu of stamps? I imagine the answer to that question is a definite "No!"

Revenues postally used have always appealed to me, though I have never collected them—if I put by every interesting item I get, I would soon have all collections and no stamps. But these postally used revenues are still in my stock books. They are mostly from the Commonwealth. Anybody want them? Maybe we could strike a bargain.

I am still learning about the provincial liquor seals and beer stamps, but I find information rather hard to come by. The liquor control boards just can't believe that these are of any interest. It took four letters from me to one board to get an answer to a simple question and the tone of the board's replies was brusque, to say the least. However, I am still working at the task and should be in a position before long to present the group with a check list.

Stamps come from wherever you can find them. The dealer is the great source, but he is not of much help to the revenue collector and of still less to those of us who collect tax paid. We are too few to make it worth his while to cater to us, so we must look elsewhere.

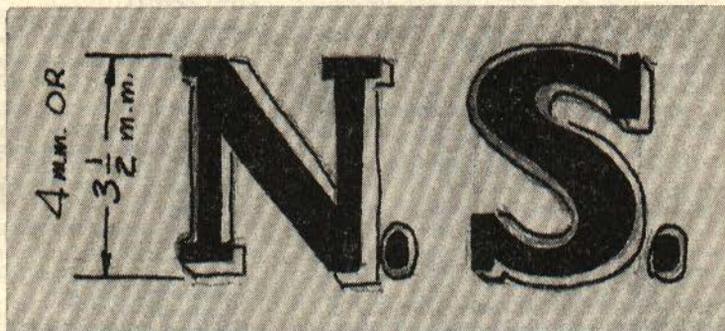
There are several ways in which a tax-paid collector can try to keep up to date. Since in Canada tax-paid are at the moment almost synonymous with tobacco, it pays to keep on friendly terms with the largest dealer in your area, who will carry

the widest variety of brands and hence may see stamps that the little fellow will not. My experience has been that any tobacco dealer will lay aside for a good customer anything that strikes him as new or odd. When I was actively collecting tax-pays, especially during the war when new varieties appeared overnight, I found this excellent tactic.

I was more fortunate than most collectors in that I had good friends in two of our leading tobacco companies, whom I persuaded to keep me supplied with packages of tobacco, snuff, cigars and cigarettes bearing anything new in the way of stamps. Although the arrangement was that I should pay retail prices for anything they might send me, I was never able to get either of them to accept a cent, so I had to try to repay them for their kindness in other ways.

Without arrangements of the kind described I would never have been able to keep up with flow of wartime provisionals. Even they missed some. I well remember a correspondent in Winnipeg sending me a new surcharged 100-cigarette stamp at a time when no cigarettes had been packed in that size for many months. I had to show the stamp to my manufacturer friend to convince him that his company ever used it.

Nova Scotia Bill Stamps



• **Having a few unlisted varieties** of the July 1868 Federal Third Issue overprinted N.S. bill stamps as itemized below, I am asking help from others who may have noted these irregularities.

NSB 3(a)—A 2c brown, a variety not listed in any handbook or catalogue with which I am familiar. This stamp is definitely not a color changeling. However, inasmuch as the regular Federal Third Issue lists a 2c brown as an error, it is entirely possible that a sheet or so of these stamps could have been overprinted N.S.

NSB 9—An 8c brown with the overprint $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high. The usual N.S. overprint is

Investigation showed that when the government dropped the 100-cigarette package, this company was left with a few hundred tins on hand and as a special favor were permitted to fill and sell them. Not having any proper stamps, the company created some in its own printing plant under government supervision. All these packages went to a Winnipeg jobber. My correspondent there succeeded in running down and buying most of them. He did the leg work and I supplied the capital, which I considered fair, and we divided the stamps, but I got all the cigarettes which kept me supplied for a long time. I believe every copy of this stamp in existence, not many, came from our hoard.

Generally I have found it fairly easy to prepare these notes, but with the appearance of summer, a good many of my correspondents have gone on strike and I myself have fewer ideas than usual. Perhaps it is fortunate that this will be the last issue of TOPICS until September, for I have a feeling that I will be joining the strikers, too, and resting from my labors, with the best intentions of beginning an active season next fall. ★

4 mm. high. This height includes the shaded outline. Possibly this $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. overprint exists on the other stamps of the issue.

NSB 16—A \$1.00 blue and black centre overprinted by a rubber stamp in red ink, having no outline as the regular issue does. The overprinted is located at the top of the medallion as on the regular stamps.

NSB 17—A \$2.00 red and black centre overprinted by a rubber stamp in red exactly as the \$1.00 bill stamp listed above.

These irregularities are interesting but need some explanation. Can anyone add light on any one or all of the above listed stamps?—**Victor E. Howes (No. 771).** ★

PROGRESSIVE INDEX FOR VOLUME 12

TO JUNE 1955

Compiled by H. M. DAGGETT JR. (BNAPS 50)

● **NOTE:** The page on which the article appears is given first, followed by the month of the issue.

AIR MAIL SERVICES

Canada's First Flight (by Kite, 1848)—176 Jun.
TCA Flights—(1939-51 History) 15 Jan; (1937-39)
44 Feb; (1939-42) 83 Mar; (1942-48) 103 Apl;
(1948-54) 145 May; (1938) 68 Mar.

BIOGRAPHY

Goodale, Edward (Necrology)—106 Apl.
Jamieson, R. A.—24 Jan.
Meyerson, William S. (Necrology)—106, 114 Apl.
Moll, Arthur S.—125 Apl.
Pitblado, Isaac—155 May.
Rockett, W. C.—57 Feb.
Rowan, Wm. (des. of Whooping Crane)—160 May.
Woodhead, Cyril—89 Mar.
Woolley, Robert J.—185 Jan.

CACHETS

Ross House Centennial (1955)—57 Feb.
Roval Train (1939 in N.Y.)—14 Jan.
TCA Flights—See Air Mail Services.

CANCELLATIONS

Squared Circles—18 Jan; 42 Feb; 68, 68, 92, 92
Mar; 115 Apl; 132, 132, 151 May.
Use of Money Order Stamps—107 Apl; 175 Jun.
R.P.O.—Train #, 70 Mar; Clerk #13, 168 Jun.

CAPE BRETON

Laws—New issue 1954, 118 Apl.

CHARITY STAMPS

1955 Easter Seals—47 Feb.

COUNTERFEITS, FAKES AND FORGERIES

1897 Jubilee—10c and 20c, 40 Feb; dollar values,
182 Jun.
Revenues—\$2 Inverted Head Bill, 86 Mar.

COVERS

(See also: Air Mail Services, Military Mail)
1856, Early Corner Card—148 May.
1884, Canadians at Nile Expedition—101 Apl.
1900, Canadian Illustrated (Halifax Herald)—
183 Jun.
1918, Polish Forces in Canada—128 Apl.
1925-26, Dog Team Mail Labrador—87 Mar.
1939, Royal Train (in N.Y.)—14 Jan.
1945, Bomber Mail in Canada—128 Apl.
1955, Ross House Centennial—47 Feb.
Revenues Used for Postage—120 Apl; 179 Jun.

ESSAYS AND PROOFS

1866, United States of B.N.A.—107 Apl.
(1869) Louis Riel—175 Jun.

EXHIBITIONS

BNAPLEX-55 at Hartford—7 Jan.

LITERATURE

Progressive Index to Topics Proposed—60 Feb.
Indexing and Abstract Proposal—99 Apl; 187 Jun.
Holmes Catalogue Review—69 Mar.
Squared Circle Postmarks of Canada Review—
92 Mar.
Catalogue of Officials in Preparation—156 May.
List of Publications in BNAPS Library—55 Feb;
152 May.
Misc. Reviews—52 Feb; 124 Apl.
Netherlands Fiscal Stamps—117 Apl.

MANITOBA

1877 Provisional Counterfeit—86 Mar.

MILITARY MAIL, WAR COVERS, POW MAIL

1884, Canadians at Nile Expedition—101 Apl.
1918, Polish Forces in Canada—128 Apl.
1941, CAPO and Canadian Postal Corps in Nfld.
—170 Jun.
1945, Bomber Mail in Canada—128 Apl.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Need for the 2c Value—100 Apl.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Air Mail Services—Cover, Herring Neck to Fogo
(1922), 13 Jan, 170 Jun.
Cancellations—"St. Johns Paid" faked on 1857
1/-, 88 Mar; TPO's early use, 88 Mar; Cana-
dian Postal Corps and CAPO's (1941+), 170
Jun; Avre & Sons revenue, 13 Jan.
Covers—Stampless (1865) 88 Mar; Dog Team
Mail Labrador (1925)—87 Mar.
Essays and Proofs—5c Prince Consort, 56 Feb;
Nfld. Dog (1887) 14 Jan; Die Proofs 1931 Air,
88 Mar.
Perfins—13 Jan; 56 Feb.
Postage Stamps—1938 7c no wmk., 88 Mar.
Presentation Sheet (1928)—170 Jun.
Trail of the Caribou—13 Jan; 56 Feb; 88 Mar;
114 Apl; 170 Jun.

NOVA SCOTIA

Reprints (1890)—151 May.
Stampless Cover to N.S. (1839)—41 Feb.
Bill Stamp Forgeries—86 Mar.
Liquor Seals, Tete Beche—179 Jun.

OFFICIALS

OHMS perf.—48 Feb.
OHMS opt.—5c revised, missing period, 186 Jun.
OHMS stationery—11 Jan.
Catalogue in prep.—156 May.

ONTARIO

1871 Laws—dated 1870, 54 Feb.

PERFINS

1898 Map, 14 Jan; T & NO Rlwy, 36 Feb; misc.
new types, 184 Jun.
Handbook—History, perf. devices, permits, sta-
tionery (OHMS), 9-12 Jan; OHMS perfins,
revenues, code hole types, 48-51 Feb; code
hole types, listing A-F, 73-81 Mar; listing M-W,
108-113 Apl; addenda, cataloguing methods,
Canadian stamps perf. in US, 153-4 May.

PLATE BLOCKS

1937 3c miscut—82 Mar.
A Collector's Reminiscences—171 Jun.

POSTAGE STAMPS (CANADA)

Small Queens—2c imperf, 120 Apl; 3c re-entry,
123, 128 Apl; 6c major re-entry, 137 May.
1897 Jubilee—Quantities, 167 Jun; forgeries, 10c
and 20c, 40 Feb; forgeries, dollar values, 182
Jun.
1898 Map—Perfin, 14 Jan.
1899 Port Hood—82 Mar.
Edward VII—Hairlines, 135 May; 1c and 2c
hairlines, 102 Apl.
Quebec Tercentenary—Hairlines, 135 May; 1c
and 2c hairlines, 102 Apl.

Continued on next page

POSTAGE STAMPS (CANADA)—Cont'd.

Admirals—Hairlines, 135 May; 1c and 2c hairlines, 102 Apl; opts. on 2c, 27 Feb; 7c brown varieties, 140 May.
 1930 Arch—10c library var., 119 Apl.
 1935 Jubilee—3c double paper, 22 Jan.
 1937 Coronation—Thin paper, 36 Feb.
 1937—3c miscut plate block, 82 Mar.
 War Issue—1c scratch, 100 Apl; 4c shade, 100 Apl.
 1946 Reconstruction—Gum, paper and shade var., 181 Jun.
 1952 Goose—Hairlines, 57 Feb; 186 Jun.
 1953 Queen—4c plate cracks, 82 Mar.
 1954 Queen—Plates issued for 1c-6c, 46 Feb; 5c plate crack, 82 Mar.
 1955 Eskimo—Announcement, cover and 54 Feb.
 1955 Wild Life—Announcement, cover and 86 Mar.
 1955 ICAO—Announcement, 136 May.
 Registration—5c perf. vars., 100 Apl.
 War Tax—Specialized study started, 156 May.

POSTAL HISTORY

1839 Stampless—41 Feb.
 Ross House Centennial—47 Feb.

PRECANCELS

New Type on Admirals—37 Feb.
 Stationery—100 Apl; 187 Jun.

QUEBEC

Bankruptcy Law—Types, 53 Feb.
 Honoraires Fees, 1924 Laws—Types, 53 Feb.
 Liquor Cancellation Code, 1934—178 Jun.
 Punched Cancels on Revenues—118 Apl.

REVENUES

Bill—\$2 inverted head, fake, 86 Mar.
 Cigar—Provisional (1952), 21 Jan.
 Tobaccos—Surcharge (1955), 150 May, 180 Jun.
 Unemployment Ins.—Specimen 1941-2 book with stamps and meters, 149 May.
 War Savings—1919 \$5 in French, 178 Jun.
 Associated Societies Savings Stamps—179 Jun.
 Auction Prices—117 Apl.
 Paying Postage—43 Feb; 120 Apl; 179 Jun.
 Perfins—49 Feb; 74 Mar; 108 Apl.
 US Private Proprietary—21 Jan.

SASKATCHEWAN

Electrical Inspection (1941)—23 Jan.

STATIONERY

Precancelled—100 Apl; 187 Jun.
 OHMS Perfins—11 Jan.
 COD Business Reply Envelopes—38 Feb.

TRANSPORTATION

(See also Air Mail Services)
 Dog Team Mail Labrador (1925-26)—87 Mar.
 Bomber Mail in Canada, 1945—128 Apl.

YUKON

Territorial Court—25 on 10c surcharge, 53 Feb.

THE EDITOR'S MAILBAG

Canadian Official Stamps

From where we sit it appears that there is a large demand from many BNAPSers for a listing and pricing of the officials of Canada—particularly the 5-hole perfs, 5- and 4-hole in various positions, plate blocks on everything including all positions, and the various errors that have occurred, like double perfs, one without perf, narrow spacing, missing period, etc.

Mr. Roy Wrigley has been working for some time on a listing—two years ago we had started such a listing. A few months ago we suggested we would mock up this ready for a booklet similar to Dr. Whitehead's "Squared Circles"—did not hear anything on it. Let's hear from you BNAPSers, as to whether you feel such a listing with background historical data would be useful to you. Write the editor or myself or Mr. Wrigley. If you want it and the demand is large enough, I propose a "History and Catalogue of the Official Stamps of Canada", to be done under the auspices of BNAPS and to form one of a series of handbooks of the society which eventually we may get all into one volume on Canada. Any profits accruing from its sale should be put in the BNAPS kitty to finance other like ventures. Maybe we could talk Mr. Lewis into publishing the booklet—he did a nice

job on the Squared Circle book. Come on, fellows, let's hear from you if you would be interested. We must have 100-200 members enquiring for such a catalogue when they are asking us to supply them with some of the stamps.

We know Scott is thinking of publishing a specialized Canada catalogue possibly in the next two years, but even this would probably not be anywhere as specialized as I would see the proposed handbook.

One last note re the perf. officials—let's hear from anyone having any on cover (ex. R. Visits) in 1935-37, and any particulars on stationery items. Come on, Nelson Bond, let's hear the story on official stationery items.
W. Jackson.

Unique Discovery

The 1930-31 issue of Canada (King Geo. V., 163b) has been found with a definite white stripe through a strip of ten stamps—a vertical line, wider and much more pronounced than that discovered on the Coronation 4 cent. This item is probably unique as until now no report of finding anything like it has been announced. It shows the selvage of the outer edge, the top and bottom edges, and is marked plate 5 in UL.

Rev. W. H. Daw (No. 1126)



OFFICIAL SECTION

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

MONTHLY REPORT . . .

FROM THE SECRETARY

JACK LEVINE, 2000 HOPEDALE AVE., CHARLOTTE 7, N.C., U.S.A.

June 15, 1955.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1313 Hooghkirk, Robert C., Box 510, Milford, Connecticut.
1314 Kenyon, Stewart S., 10943 - 118 Street, Edmonton, Alberta.
1315 McCallum, Reside, 3 Lansdowne Gardens, Pointe Claire, Montreal 33, Quebec.
1316 Nairne, Reginald, 642 Battery Street, Victoria, British Columbia.
1317 Russo, Joseph, 1174 - 59th Street, Brooklyn 19, New York.
1318 Winch, Harry C., 495 Keith Road, West Vancouver, British Columbia.
1319 Wortman, Edgar C., Jr., 2212 Upas Street, San Diego 4, California.

LIFE MEMBER

- L997 Anderson, A G., Cape Mudge Lighthouse, Quathiaski Cove, British Columbia.

APPLICATIONS PENDING

- Affleck, W. N., 163 Alexandra St., Oshawa, Ontario.
Banno, Edward C., 435 Victoria Street, Kamloops, British Columbia.
Bond, Cpt. A. K., 1220 Pine St., Kamloops, British Columbia.
Cassar-Torreggiani, F., 437 Alexander Ave., North Kamloops, British Columbia.
Foster, Bertrand A., 358 Mark St., Port Arthur, Ontario.
Jarnick, Jerome, P.O. Box 124, Almond, Wisconsin.
King, Melville V. R., 330 Alexander Ave., Kamloops, British Columbia
Kirkwood, A. L. H., 34 Willowbank Blvd., Toronto 12, Ontario.
Linton, Humphrey C., RCAF Station, Cold Lake, Alberta.
Rex, Harry O., 161 W Main St., Plainville, Connecticut.
Sandulak, Dan, 132 - 42nd Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta.
Showers, J. Grant, 309 Vansittart Ave., Woodstock, Ontario.
Veale, E. W., P.O. Box 86, Kamloops, British Columbia

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- DAVIDSON, John G., 207 Harrison Ave, Christiana, Pa. (CX) CAN, NFD—Mint and used postage and mint blocks. Coils. Complete booklets. Mint and used airmails. Literature. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
EVANS, Frank S., Box 202, Sedro-Woolley, Wash. (C) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Pre-stamp covers. OHMS. Literature. Proofs. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
HALL, W. E. G., 1511-12th St. West, Calgary, Alta. (C) Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484. Seconded by F. B. Eaton, No. 608.
KIRK, Amy (Mrs. J. A. C.), 4063 West 34th Avenue, Vancouver 13, B.C. (C) CAN—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Plate blocks. Coils. 2-ring numeral, crown and town cancels. Dated copies "Large" and "Small" Queens. Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484. Seconded by M. H. Harris, No. 1010.
PLUM, George H., 199 Main St., Flemington, N.J. (C) CAN, NFD—19th and 20th century mint and used postage Coils. Mint booklet panes and complete booklets. Mint and used airmails. Postal stationery entires. Proposed by I. Miterman, No. 1267.
WILSON, Leonard F., 7621 Saskatchewan Drive, Edmonton, Alta. (CX) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century used postage and used blocks. Coils. Used airmails. Literature. Territorial, flag, sogan, 2- and 4-ring numeral cancellations. Shades. Proposed by E. A. Harris, No. 729. Seconded by J. M. H. McLeod, No. 1099.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- Billings, F. L., 2044 Quilchená Place, Vancouver 13, British Columbia.
Lyon, William, 322 Indian Rd. Crescent, Toronto 9, Ontario.
McIntyre, Eugene, 2607 Grant Avenue, St. Albans, W. Virginia.
Noxon, R. C., 3663 Shepherd St., South Burnaby, British Columbia (from Vancouver).
Siverts, John S, 200 West 9th Street, Wilmington, Delaware (from Bismarck, N.D.)
Stockton, James E., 107-7th Street, Riverton, New Jersey (from Philadelphia, Pa.)
Stockton, Mrs. James E., 107-7th Street, Riverton, New Jersey (from Philadelphia, Pa.)
Warner, W. A. C., Brooklands Hotel, 8 Keewatin St., Winnipeg 3, Manitoba (Zone No. added).
Wheeler, Donald C., Smith Road, Binghamton, New York.
Wiley, Gerald, 822 Academy St., Watertown, New York.

RESIGNATION RECEIVED

1162 McMahon, J. S., R.R. No. 1, Headingly, Manitoba.

DECEASED

456 Miller, Thomas J., 215 Thompson Drive, St. James, Manitoba.

ANNUAL REPORT . . . FROM THE TREASURER

WILLIAM C. PETERMAN, BOX 348, CALDWELL, N.J., U.S.A.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS ACCOUNT

January 1, 1954 to December 31, 1954

BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1953

Dues in Advance — 1954	\$ 147.00	
Dues in Advance — 1955	17.70	
Dues in Advance — 1956	5.50	
Topics — Advertising in Advance	4.25	
Life Membership Fund	621.00	
Incorporating Expense Reserve	125.00	
Funds in Custody of BNAPEX-53 Chairman	202.45	
Funds in Custody of Editor	55.00	
General Funds on Deposit	270.18	
Total Funds on Deposit	\$1448.06	\$1448.06
Topics Petty Cash Fund	13.47	13.47

RECEIPTS

Membership Dues — 1953 (In Abeyance)	6.00	6.00
Membership Dues — 1955	171.30	
Membership Dues — 1956	18.25	
Membership Dues — Beyond 1956	7.45	197.00
Membership Dues and Fees — 1953 (Paid in 1954)	10.50	
Membership Dues — 1953 (Replaced on Rolls)	6.01	
Membership Dues — 1954 Renewals	2088.60	
Membership Dues — 1954 New Members	271.60	
Membership Fees — New Members	127.00	2503.71
Topics:		
Advertising — 1953	142.33	142.33
Advertising — 1954	492.22	
Subscriptions and Back Issues	9.60	501.82
Advertising — 1955 In Advance	4.90	4.90
Yearbook:		
Advertising — 1953	31.00	31.00
Advertising — 1954	432.00	432.00
Life Membership Fee	50.00	50.00
Circuit — Sale of Books	37.30	37.30
Miscellaneous Income	3.97	3.97
		\$5371.56

DISBURSEMENTS

Topics:		
Printing of Ten Issues and Index	\$1726.86	
Cuts	253.82	
Plates and Mailing	82.37	
Postage	260.68	
Envelopes	141.41	
Miscellaneous	26.75	\$2491.89
Yearbook:		
Printing 1000 Copies	355.86	
Cuts	6.59	
Postage and Mailing	31.22	
Miscellaneous	11.73	405.40
General Expenses:		
Postage	95.50	
Ballots and Envelopes	34.75	
Premium on Fidelity Bonds	45.00	
Stationery	44.71	

DISBURSEMENTS (Continued)

General Expenses (Continued)			
Extra Copies of Yearbook for Promotion	.....	48.87	
Advertising	.....	39.25	
Miscellaneous	.....	9.01	317.09
<hr/>			
Library	.....	50.00	50.00
BNAPEX-53 Medals	.....	54.23	54.23
<hr/>			
	Total Disbursements	.....	\$3318.61
	Funds on Deposit	.....	2043.15
	Topics Petty Cash Fund	.....	9.80
<hr/>			
			\$5371.56

BALANCE SHEET
As of December 31, 1954

LIABILITIES			ASSETS	
Dues in Advance—1955	.....	\$ 189.00	Funds on Deposit	.....
Dues in Advance—1956	.....	23.75	Typewriters (2) Depreciated Value	.....
Dues in Advance—Beyond 1956	.....	7.45	Topics Petty Cash Fund	.....
Topics—Advertising in Advance	.....	4.90	Circuit Books in Stock	.....
Life Membership Fund	.....	614.00	Accounts Receivable:	
Incorporating Expense Reserve	.....	125.00	Topics—Advertising in 1954	.....
Bills Payable	.....	224.32	Yearbook—Advertising in 1953	.....
Surplus:			Yearbook—Advertising in 1954	.....
As of 12/31/53	.....	\$ 895.62	Dues in Abeyance	.....
For year 1954	.....	387.03		
As of 12/31/54	.....	\$1282.65		
		1282.65		
		<hr/>		
		\$2471.07		\$2471.07

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
For the Year 1954

INCOME			
Membership Dues and Fees—1953 (Paid in 1954)	.....	\$ 10.50	
Membership Dues—Replaced on Rolls	.....	6.01	
Membership Dues—1954—Regular	.....	2507.20	
Membership Dues—From Life Membership Fund	.....	57.00	
Membership Fees—New Members	.....	127.00	\$2707.71
<hr/>			
Topics:			
Advertising	.....	535.72	
Subscriptions and Sale of Back Issues	.....	9.60	545.32
<hr/>			
Yearbook—Advertising	.....	392.75	392.75
Circuit—Sale of Books	.....	37.30	37.30
Miscellaneous Income	.....	3.97	3.97
Accounts Receivable:			
Topics—Advertising	.....	277.83	
Yearbook—Advertising	.....	33.00	
Dues in Abeyance	.....	6.00	316.83
<hr/>			
			\$4003.88
EXPENSES			
Topics—As per Receipts and Disbursements Account	.....		\$2491.89
Yearbook—As per Receipts and Disbursements Account	.....		405.40
Library—As per Receipts and Disbursements Account	.....		50.00
General Expenses—As per Receipts and Disbursements Account	.....		277.84
Circuit—Cost of Books Sold	.....		28.92
Topics—1953 Advertising Written Off	.....		5.00
Advertising	.....		39.25
Typewriters (2)—Amortization	.....		40.00
BNAPEX-54 Medals	.....		54.23
Bills Payable:			
Topics—Printing December Issue	.....	\$ 200.48	
—Postage and Mailing December Issue	.....	23.84	224.32
<hr/>			
	Total Expenses	.....	\$3616.85
	Surplus for 1954	.....	387.03
<hr/>			
			\$4003.88

W. C. PETERMAN, Treasurer.

The Society's books were audited through the courtesy of Arthur J. Dean (BNAPS 119) and the above report is in accordance with this audit.

Classified Topics

Reserved for Members of BNAPS

RATES—2 cents per word per insertion; 500 words to be used as desired, \$8 00.

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The Last Word . . .

By THE EDITOR

• **OX, GOAT OR JUDGE IN WIG . . .** The musk-ox which glowers from the recently-issued 4 cent Wildlife stamp was dragged horns and all into the Canadian House of Commons during a recent debate, when the House listened to a light-hearted discussion of whether the stamp really portrays a musk-ox.



"Pre-natal influence?"

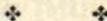
was a Supreme Court justice wearing a wig.

Acting Postmaster-General Pickersgill gave a personal explanation: "I am advised the animal was really the acting postmaster-general listening to the speech of the honorable member for Notre-Dame-de-Grace."

He was referring to William Hamilton, who had made a strongly critical speech earlier.

Mr. Nowlan said the animal "has that lonely and rather sinister glare associated with the musk-ox. . . ."

"I don't want to go into pre-natal influence, but I hate to think what that ferocious glare could do to the mothers of this country if they looked at that stamp for too long."



• **SOLDIERS' LETTERS . . .** Librarian **Bob Duncan** has passed on a problem posed to him by **F. W. L. Keane** (BNAPS 565), of Vancouver. In a letter to Bob, Mr. Keane says, in part: ". . . Thank you also for the covers with postal markings. . . ."

"I have run up against a little problem in this connection . . . It is in connection with the postage on letters from soldiers on active service with the C.E.F. in France during World War I. Of course, we know that such letters were transmitted to Canada

free of postage so far as the soldier was concerned. (This did not apply to troops stationed in England, vide Boggs, Vol. I, page 645.) But my problem arises in connection with the stamps which were affixed to the letters after arrival in Canada. It would seem that normally a 2c stamp was affixed and canceled at one of the larger cities (Montreal, Ottawa, Victoria, etc.) before the letter was forwarded to the addressee. At this time the Canadian domestic letter rate was, of course, 3c (as from April 15, 1915). Now the curious thing is that I have a few covers on which a 3c stamp has been added instead of a 2c stamp. The points on which I would like to get information are:

"1. What department added the 2c stamps and who paid for them?"

"2. Why was a 3c stamp sometimes used? If the army paid for the stamps, as a method of accounting, which seems reasonable, it does NOT seem reasonable that they would sometimes make an error and use the wrong denomination."

If any member can furnish any additional information on this subject, as outlined above, a letter to the editor or direct to Mr. Keane would be welcome.



• **YEARBOOK IN OCTOBER . . .** May the Editor add his appeal to that of the Advertising Manager contained in the enclosure in this and the previous issue of TOPICS. The Society budget only allows for the publication of ten issues of BNA TOPICS, which makes it necessary that the eleventh issue, or Yearbook number, be wholly supported by advertising revenue. We have not always achieved this ideal goal, but with assistance from the membership in the use of advertising space, we hope to do so this year. The publication date has been moved on to October instead of the earlier September date of previous years, in the hope that it will be possible to reach many members who were away on holiday at the time previous advertising campaigns have been conducted. Bert Llewellyn would still like to have your ad. order and copy in as early as possible, so use the enclosed coupon as soon as you can. ★



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