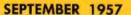
BNA Topics

 Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society



In This Issue: Articles on Postal Markings and Cancellations





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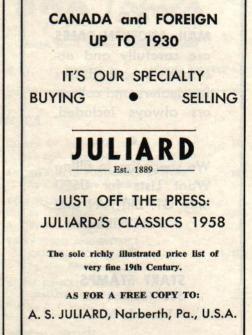
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B	NA	Top	hics

Official Journal of the **British North America Philatelic Society**

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OFFICIAL SECTION

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DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

THE EDITOR'S MAILBAG

121/2c '59 IN USED BLOCKS

Noticing a most interesting "Philately and Historical Research" article by P. J. Hurst in a recent issue of BNA TOPICS, it occurred to me that our readers may be interested to learn of this cover (see photo) which bears a block of eight together with a lone Beaver (to make the registered overweight rate). It is dated very clearly GUELPH, CW, 22 Nov 1861 and is addressed to Mr. James Beck, Nanaimo, VAN-COUVER ISLAND.

When demolishing an old house in Nanaimo in the summer of 1930, this cover (which contained a deed to property in Guelph), bricked up in a secret chamber in the chimney, came to light.

It naturally caused quite a sensation at the time, those who thought they knew, those who placed fantastic values on it and yet again those who sought to acquire it as reasonably as possible, sent the owner's hopes and asperations sky high, resulting in his refusal, for several months, to consider its sale at any price.

However, after several "special trips" to Nanaimo the writer succeeded in acquiring it, making the finder, an Italian demolition contractor, and yours truly feel mighty satisfied with life. Incidentally, I often wonder from which of the two—the illusive chase or the ultimate acquisition—one derives the greater "kick"!

G. P. Bainbridge (BNAPS 809)

\$1 GOVT. PLATE BLOCKS LOST

In early April of 1957 a lot of about \$300 mostly in matched sets of plate blocks, all plate 1, Scott 032, Totem "G" Official stamp, were stolen from the mails while being sent insured to a Hamilton, Ont., dealer, Mr. J. L. Schwarz. These were all the obsolete plates and were prior to the reprinting of this plate by the government—the overprint "G" is thus the original, which is finer and thinner than the one used at present on plate 1 of these stamps.

Should anyone have been offered or have purchased any of these stamps in the past six months with original overprint, we would appreciate it if you would contact us or the Postal Investigations, GPO, Toronto, Ont., Canada. All replies will be kept in strict confidence and be held without obligation should you have purchased some of these stamps. The important thing is to try and trace who stole the stamps so this will not happen again to other collectors and dealers. It is only with the whole-hearted co-operation of others that we can eliminate this sort of thing. Please help if you have any knowledge, however small, of this matter.

W. Jackson.

For: Canada Stamp Co., 33 Pheasant Rd., Willowdale, Ont.

ENJOYED ARTICLE

I enjoyed very much the article in TOPICS for July-August on the British-American Bank Note Company, and the illustrations were most attractive.

J. Millar Allan (BNAPS 996).



SPECIALISTS SOCIETY EXHIBIT

The Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada has been invited to put on a philatelic exhibition at the Royal Ontario Museum (Toronto) on November 9 to 17. As you probably know, the P.S.S. is the youngest of our national societies but already includes many of the most advanced collectors in this country. As only two members are included who have the same specialty, you can readily see that an exhibition put on by this group will be well diversified. Many of the exhibits are already in the hands of the committee and I can assure you that the quality of material shown will be the finest to be seen in this city since CAPEX in 1951.

As many of our BNAPS members should be interested in seeing this show, it might be worth noting the date in an early issue of TOPICS.

G. S. Wegg (BNAPS 308)

VARIETIES ON 2c REGISTRATION

Members who specialize in 19th century postage will be pleased to hear of two varieties I have on the 2c Registration stamp.

The first stamp is orange on THIN PAPER, and is perf. $12\times12^{1/2}$. It has the rather common variety of complete doubling of the right outer frame line, and intermittent doubling of the lower outer frame line. The stamp has a black cork cancel, and is centered to the upper left. There is a guide dot in the lower centre selvedge.

The second stamp is orange on THIN PAPER, and is perf. 12x12. It has the rather common variety of complete doubling of the right outer frame line, and intermittent doubling of the lower outer frame line. The stamp has a blue cork cancel, and is centered to top centre. There is a horizontal perforation guide in the lower left selvedge and a guide dot in the lower centre selvedge.

I would be very pleased to hear from any members who might have additional information on these varieties.

P. D. van Oudenol (BNAPS 684)

SOUARED CIRCLE 'FORERUNNERS'

I should like to confirm from a copy in my collection the observation of Mr. J. Millar Allan in the March issue of TOPICS, that the wording ONT. appears at the base instead of the usual '92' on the Seaforth postmark.

Allan F. Judd (BNAPS 751)

SEPTEMBER 1957 B·N·A TOPICS

E. A. SMYTHIES, F.R.P.S.L. (BNAPS 1440)

DUPLEX OF MONTREAL

M ONTREAL, like its great rival Toronto, during the 40 years 1860-1900 went in for large numbers of duplex hammers but, unlike Toronto, it stuck chiefly to standard types, and eschewed the bizarre and fancy varieties for which Toronto is distinguished. Despite this, a detailed study of the various duplex hammers of Montreal, if not so spectacular as for Toronto, is still full of philatelic interest, as I will endeavor to show in this article.

The first order for duplex hammers from Berri of London—No. 38 of 23 Feby 1860—included four hammers for Montreal, two with 'AM' and two with 'PM'. This order makes it clear that these indicia were not moveable or transferable, as is customary with indicia generally, but part of the original design of the hammers, and as fixed as the name 'Montreal'. Furthermore, a careful study of impressions of these hammers suggests that each was cut separately by hand, so each differs somewhat and can be distinguished from the others. An accurate tracing of any one superimposed on any of the others shows this clearly; it is a misfit and the details cannot be made to coincide adequately all over. One 'AM' hammer, in fact, is obviously different since it has 12 bars in the killer instead of 13 (vide figs. 1, 2). Presumably such trifles did not worry Berri, nor the postal authorities for that matter! An examination of large numbers of these early Montreal duplex suggests that the 'AM' variety is much rarer than 'PM'. They all show the letters 'CE' at base of daters, and were in continuous use until 1868 or later.

By 1871 (or perhaps earlier) two new 'PM' hammers were in use, with the letters 'CE' and 'MONTREAL' visibly larger (vide fig. 3). Whether these were made to replace hammers that were worn out, or to cope with increasing work, is not known. Nor is it known if similar 'AM' hammers were made at the same time; they have not been observed to date, but this does not prove they don't exist.

About the same time another important change was made. It is evident that the simple time marks 'AM' and 'PM' were becoming inadequate to cope with the increased work and increasing number of clearances daily. And so a new set of hammers was made, the 'AM' and 'PM' being replaced by numbers. To date, five of these numbers have been found on Montreal duplex up to 1876, Nos. 1, 5, 7, 8 and 10, and the tracing method has indicated that there were two (possibly more) hammers of some of them. One of the No. 10 hammers shows an interesting variety with distinct strong traces of a double circle (vide fig. 4). Colonel Duncan McLellan has shown that these numbers were **not** 'clerks' numbers', as they were considered originally, but time marks in a more









Fog 1. 1. A. 13. PM.

Fig 2. I.A.12. AM.

Fig. 3. I.A. 13 PM.

Fig. 4. I.A. 13. No. 10



Fig 5. I.A. 11. No.1



Fig. 6. I.A.H. 5 PM.





Fug 8. T. A. 13



Fig. 9. E.A. 10

detailed form. The fact that there were at least **two** of several, and none (apparently) of other numbers, 2 or 3 or 4, etc., strongly supports this view, and taken in conjunction with the scarcity of the original 'AM', we may take it they probably show clearances at 1PM, 7PM and 10PM, etc. The letters 'CE' in the dater still occur.

The next change which occurred, in 1876, was the alteration of the letters 'CE' to 'QUE'. It is difficult to understand why this change was delayed so long, since standing instructions were given to Berri to make the change in 1867, immediately after Confederation. In 1876 also occurred a change in the killer, which had hitherto had 13 thin bars (in one case 12 bars as previously mentioned) and now appeared with 11 thicker bars (vide fig. 5). This is the first Montreal duplex hammer recorded in the large proof book in the Philatelic Foundation, New York.

Further changes occurred in 1879. The first of these shows an interesting departure in the indicia—instead of a bare number '7' or '10' etc., we find for the first time an exact '5 P.M.', i.e. '5' above the date and 'PM' below, so that the year now disappears (vide fig. 6). This was to be the standard method for the next 12 years. The other innovation, which also became standard, was a change in the dater from Type I (partial outer circle) to Type II (complete outer circle) (vide fig. 7).

Although the manufacturers of postal cancellation instruments who compiled the proof book in the Philadelic Foundation—the P.F. book, for short were kept busy, there is a curious hiatus in the record of Montreal duplex impressions until 1888, but a large number of new duplex hammers were brought into service between 1881 and 1888, which are not recorded in the P.F. book. In 1881, the letters 'QUE' in the dater were altered to 'CANADA', and there are two sizes, large and small, while the bars in the killer were altered from 11 thick to 13 thin or medium bars (vide fig. 8). The time marks increased considerably, most hours between '1PM' and '10PM' being recorded, and the tracing test shows there were two or more hammers for several of them. How many hammers in all were made during the hiatus, and where they were made, is not known at present.

The P.F. book records a number of new hammers in 1888, which include killers with 12 and 13 thin bars, and also with 9 and 10 thick bars (vide fig. 9).

The final change occurred in 1891-96 when instead of time marks of '5PM', '10PM', etc., these became high numbers from 10 to 24 above the date, and the year below (vide fig. 10). These so-called 'clerks' numbers' were evidently exact hours on the 24-hour clock. The numbers 1 to 5 are either extremely rare or non-existent. These high number duplex hammers continued in use until 1896 (or longer) on an extensive scale, which no doubt explains why the squared circle hammers are so scarce for Montreal—as Dr. Whitehead has recorded.

An interesting point was established by tracing tests. In this early (1870-75) period different numbers had different hammers and were **not** found on the same hammer. This suggests that the numbers were fixtures (as with the 'AM' and 'PM' of the original Berri hammers of 1860-70), a wasteful method limiting the use of a hammer to a short period in the day. In the later (1891-96) period, on the other hand, more than one high number is found on the same hammer, and also the same high number is found on more than one hammer. This clearly suggests both that the numbers were changeable in the usual indicia fashion (and so not limiting the use of a hammer to a particular hour) and also that

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there were several of these hammers. It is only reasonable that for such a busy and important centre as Montreal in the 1890's, there must have been a number of hammers with changeable numbers that could be moved along with the 24-hour clock, and tracing tests prove this.

While the squared circles to a great extent replaced duplex during much of the 1890's, the duplex generally staged a come-back in or around 1900 when the squared circles were given up; for some reason Montreal did not share in this come-back, and no new types of duplex have been recorded for Montreal at the turn of the century, although quite a number came later.

I mentioned in the opening of this article that Montreal "stuck chiefly to the standard types", of which a comprehensive survey has now been made. But there are two exceptions, as two abnormal types are recorded in the P.F. book. One of these has a circular killer with 8 thick bars enclosing the word 'MONT-REAL' (vide fig. 11). Similar duplex killers were made at the same time (1880) for Toronto and Quebec, which however are not recorded in the P.F. book (see Jarrett, page 439). The other had an oval killer with 16 thin horizontal bars enclosing No. 2 in a diamond (vide fig. 12). A very similar hammer was made also for Toronto, but with 14 bars and No. 1, and both had the unusual indicia No. 12. The purpose of these picturesque cancels is not known, but they are undoubtedly rare. The illustration may not be strictly accurate, being made from a written description of the P.F. book impression, but should give as fair an idea of its appearance as an artist's drawing of a Pterodactyl.

Jarrett (page 578) gives a list of seven "street" and sub-offices for Montreal in 1900, but to date only one of them—St. Catherines Street Centre—has been recorded with a duplex hammer of the standard pattern for the period, with nine thick horizontal bars in the circular killer. In this—as in so many other ways—Montreal forms a striking contrast to Toronto, which had dozens of duplex cancels for its numerous street and sub-offices.

In a short Appendix to this article, the different Montreal duplex are summarised in a table for ready reference. It is not possible at present to fix the total number of duplex hammers used during the 40 years of this survey, but it is evident there must have been more than 30. (See page 202).

This Appendix brings out clearly the sequence of changes as the years roll on, e.g., the letters 'CE' (1860-76) to 'QUE' (1876-1880) to 'CANADA' (from 1881), or again indicia AM/PM (1860-1872) to low numbers (1870-78) to 2PM, 7PM etc. (1879-1890) to high numbers (1891 on). The number and thickness of bars in the killer follow no sequence, but vary irregularly, suggesting that the authorities could not make up their minds whether a larger number of thin bars or a smaller number of thick bars was the more efficient killer.

* * *

POSTSCRIPT . . .

Since this article on "Duplex of Montreal" was written, yet another intriguing duplex, used in Montreal and elsewhere, has been established. It is evident that the labor-saving device of duplex was appreciated by some postmasters, and that in some of the larger post offices there were insufficient duplex hammers available. So, apparently, supplementary duplex were improvised, rather ingeniously, from separate daters and killers which were available.

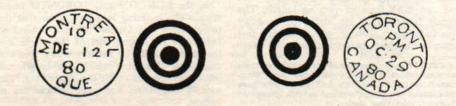
Every student of Canadian cancellations knows the common 2-ring target killer which was in widespread use in the 1880's, and also the universal circular dater, used both for despatching mail and receiving mail. Both are, of course, frequently found on different parts of a cover or card, i.e. used indepentantly, not as duplex.

Member J. J. Bonar (No. 892) first drew attention to two identical strikes on one cover of a 2-ring target and a dater (Toronto 1880) spaced 4 mm. apart, and asked if this could possibly be a duplex. C. M. Chandler (No. 1374) then discovered a very similar cover with two identical strikes of Toronto. James P. Macaskie (No. 638) then reported similar strikes on blue postcards from Toronto and possibly Winnipeg, Montreal and Hamilton. Finally—or at least finally to date— W. M. Willcock (No. 995) sent a whole bunch of blue postcards with this interesting duplex cancel from Toronto, Winnipeg and Montreal.

This evidence suffices to establish that this 2-ring target cancel was in fact used as a duplex in these three cities (and possibly elsewhere) but they differ from all other known duplex in one peculiarity. In duplex hammers, the killer was permanently fixed relative to the dater, normally at 3 o'clock. Even duplex with a very long life, such at the common Ottawa 'I' in 19 thin bars, or the freak 'House of Assembly' duplex (with killer at 6 o'clock)—both of which were used for at least 19 years—in all that long period showed no displacement of the two parts. **But these 2-ring target duplex show continual shifting!** Thus the Toronto strikes show the killer at 12, 3, 6 and 8 o'clock, and the Winnipeg strikes show all positions between 2 and 5 o'clock (but the distance apart remained constant). Mr. Bonar has suggested that "the dater was screwed into position, and might end up at any angle to the killer".

There is no record of these curious duplex in the P.F. book, and the evidence suggests that they were made locally by enterprising postmasters from separate daters and killers available, to supplement their supply of duplex hammers, but the method of attachment was clearly different to the regular hammers. All copies so far recorded are dated between 1880 and 1882, which suggests that these improvised duplex were not in use very long. Two examples, from Montreal and Toronto, are illustrated below.

I hope the publication of this note will encourage others members to search for and record (if found) further examples of this intriguing duplex, which rather surprisingly—has never been recorded before!



Serial No.	Approx. Dates	Type of Dater and Letters	Indicia	Number and Type of Bars in Killer	Illus. No.	Remarks
1 a and b 2 a and b	1860-68	I CE	PM AM	13 thin (12 "	12	2 hammers 2 hammers
3 4 a, b, etc.	1870-72 1872-76	"	1, 5, 7, 10 etc.	(12 " (13 " 13 " 13 "	3 4	Larger letters Several hammers
5 a, b, etc. 6 7	1876-77 (1879-86)	I QUE "	7, 10, etc. 5 PM etc.	13 medium 11 thick 11 thick	56	Several hammers In PF Book No year in dater
8 9	1879 (1880)	II QUE	7 PM etc.	11 thick	7	In PF Book No year in dater
10 a, b, c etc. 11 12 13 14	(1881-91) (1883-91) (1888) (1888) 1888	II CANADA " "	8 AM 5 PM etc. 12, 8 PM 3	13 thin or medium 12 " 10 thick 9 "	8	(Several hammers (Small size Large size In PF Book """
15) 16)	1891-96	"	12 to 24	12 thin 13 "	10	(Several hammers
17 18	1880 1881	II QUE II CANADA	10 12	8 thick with MONTREAL 16 thin with '2' in diamond	11 12	In PF Book ""

APPENDIX Duplex of Montreal. 1860-1900.

Dater Type I—Partial outer circle; II—Complete outer circle. Dates in parentheses do not appear in the dater.

PF Book-Proof book in the Philatelic Foundation, New York.

COL. DUNCAN McLELLAN (BNAPS 906)

BARRED CIRCLE POSTMARKS OF 1892

THE 'barred circle' postmark is well known in general and the following details will help to bring the story up to date. The handstamps were all made individually and the circles vary from 26 to 271/2 mm. in diameter. The bars also vary in length and there are two main types of set-up. HALIFAX, N.S., HAMILTON, MONT-REAL, OTTAWA, ST. JOHN, N.B., and WINNIPEG all have the town name followed by CANADA round the upper part of the circle and the year as '92' at the bottom. The centre is occupied by four thin and two thick lines of varying length. The month letters and day date followed by time indicia are centrally placed on one line between the thick, innermost bars.



In the LONDON and TORONTO handstamps the lettering is narrower so that the town name and Canada do not extend so far round the upper part of the circle and the space is filled by the lower two thin and one thick line bars which are lengthened until they almost reach the outer ring. The month, day, time and year indicia are as before.

¹ Col. McLennan has coined a new title for these markings which is perhaps more apt than "Forerunners to the Squared Circles" which they have been called by other writers in this magazine. However, take your choice!



SEAFORTH differs from the general run in having the town name round the upper part of the circle and ONT at the bottom in place of the year. The month, day and year indicia are all placed on one central line and there is no time indicium.

The following list gives the earliest and latest recorded dates of use and the known time marks, which are not complete. Information about other time markings will be appreciated.

Halifax. Ja 22-Oc 31, 92. A10, A12, 1A, P1, P2, P3, 5P, P6, 6P, P11, P12.

Hamilton. Ja 22-Jy —, 92. 11A, 4P, P4, 5P, 6P, P6.

London. Ap 18-My 27, 92. P2.

Montreal. (See below).

Ottawa. Ja 27-De 25, 92. A1, A2, A9, A11, A12, 2P, P3, P4, P5, P6, P8, 8P, P9, P10, 10P.

Mr 8-18, or 20, 93. P3.

St. John. Fe 4-Oc 23, 92. A12, 1P, 2P, P2, P3, P5, P6, P8, and 6N.

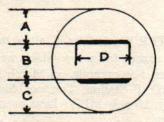
Seaforth. My 19-De 14, 92.

Toronto: Ja 29-Sp 16, 92. 5A, 7A, 10A, 1P, 2P, 3P, 4P, 5P, 6P, 7P, 8P.

Winnipeg. Ja 26-No 3, 92. 10A, 1P, 2P, 5P, 6P and ::A.

It will be seen that most of the handstamps were brought into use during January 1892 and it may be that they all were. Judging by the extensive use of time marks the handstamps appear to have been in use throughout the day at their respective offices but as strikes are not at all common they were probably reserved for some particular postal duty.

MONTREAL presents a pretty problem. It is reasonable to consider that Montreal might have been issued with a barred circle handstamp in 1892, yet the earliest strike so far recorded is of FE 17, 94. From then until March of 1901 barred circle strikes are to be found on registered matter emanating from or passing through Montreal but only rarely as a cancellation on postage stamps. The writer has three 2c Numerals so cancelled and does not know of any other examples. A more surprising fact, however, is that at least six different barred circle handstamps were in use at Montreal during the period of use of this type. The handstamps differ in several respects but the easiest method of separating them is by measurement and the skeleton example shows how this may be done.



Owing to the comparative scarcity of strikes of the different handstamps it has not been possible to compile a proper chronology of their periods of use and the following listing, with time indicia, is merely presented as a starting-off list. The numbering of the handstamps is for present identification and may be revised as, it is hoped, information is forthcoming. Measurements are in millimeters and, as they are from strikes, may be disputed.

H'stamp

N	0.	A	B	C	D	
1	FE 17 94	9	91/2	9	13	P2
	NO 29 94- MR 8 99	81/2	91/2	9	15	A8, A9, A11
	JL 23 97	91/2	81/2	9	16	P1
4	MR 25 99	7	14	61/2	11	11A
5	FE 14 00	9	81/2	91/2	16	P12
6	MR 13 01	91/2	81/2	91/2	161/2	A10

It will be noticed that the time marks so far recorded cover the middle hours of the day, from A8 to P2, except for P12, and it may be that a different handstamp was kept for each hour's mail, to avoid changing the time indicia hourly, but not enough material has been available to substantiate this theory.

Some of the dates given above have been taken from the list already published by Dr. Whitehead. \star

SQUARED CIRCLE ROSTER

An improved Form of Application for the Roster appears in this issue. Those eligible to apply (see TOPICS for May and June) and who have not already done so, are asked to complete this form and forward to Dr. A. Whitehead not later than the end of September. It is time that the project was proceeded with, so please attend to this. Be sure to include your list of missing towns, and list the towns in the order of the handbook; this will help greatly. \star

POST-WAR MILITARY POST OFFICES IN CANADA

A FTER World War II, all of the Military Post Offices in Canada were closed, except for a few which were reclassified as RCAF Stations or as Army Camps. For example, on March 23, 1951, Trenton MPO 303 was redesignated as 'RCAF Station, Trenton'. Since the armed services' adoption of this new policy, 10 new MPO's have been established in Canada. Here is a list of these offices:

- 100 Saint John, New Brunswick
- 200 Valcartier, Quebec
- 201 RCAF Station, Lachine Quebec
- 300 North Bay, Ontario
- 333 Ottawa, Ontario
- 400 Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 500 Wainwright, Alberta
- 501 White Horse, Y.T.
- 502 Claresholm, Alberta
- 503 Grand Centre, Alberta

For convenience, I am dividing these 10 post-war offices into four groups: A, B, C and D.

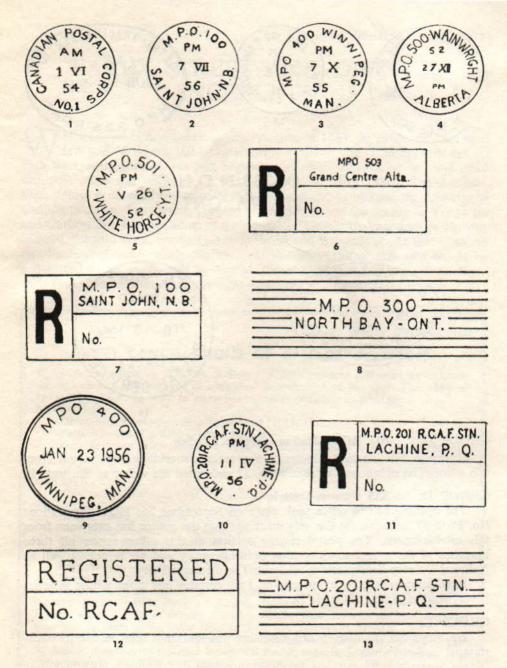
GROUP A: 100. Saint John, New Brunswick

This military office is perhaps better known as Camp Gagetown, Canada's huge new army training ground in central New Brunswick. Ideally suited for large-scale operations, this camp provides an unusually varied assortment of terrain. During the summer of 1954, the cancel illustrated by figure No. 1 was in use. The following two summers saw the use of illustration No. 2 from June 1 to September 6, 1955, and from May 7 to August 17, 1956, during which time troop training was carried out.

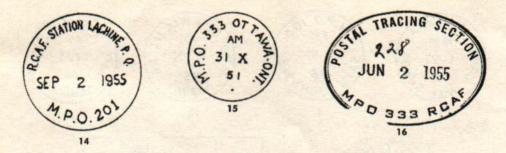
GI	SOI	JP	B:	2
				_

- 200. Valcartier, Quebec 300 North Bay, Ontario
- 400 Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 500 Wainwright, Alberta
- 500 wanwright, Alberta
- 501 White Horse, Y.T.
- 502 Claresholm, Alberta
- 503 Grand Centre, Alberta

Offices 200 and 501 are no longer active. The office at Valcartier, Quebec, was opened on July 3, 1951, and was closed out on April 19, 1953, while that at Whitehorse, Y.T., had a much shorter life—from January 1, 1952, to May 22 of the same year. MPO 200 was used for the 27th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group which concentrated at Camp Valcartier. The purpose of MPO 501 was for mail facilities supplied to the troops engaged in 'Exercise Beaver'.



A cancellation similar to figure No. 3 is, or has been, used by the seven above MPO's, except MPO's 500 and 501, whose cancels are illustrated in figures No. 4 and 5. All of the styles of lettering in most of the registration markings are different, and the two extremes are illustrated in figures No. 6 and 7. Illustration No. 8 shows a typical roller cancel. An unusual postmark is shown by figure No. 9, the only one of its type that the author has seen.



M. P. O. 333 N. D. H. Q. OTTAWA, ONT.

17



GROUP C: 201 RCAF Station, Lachine, Quebec

Drawings No. 10 to 14 inclusive are various markings seen in use from this office. The uniqueness of figure No. 12 prompted the writer to illustrate it.

GROUP D: 333 Ottawa, Ontario

The opening of this office took place on September 26, 1951. Illustrations No. 15 to 17 inclusive are the only markings that the author has ever seen from this establishment. The postal tracing section at this office serves all three branches of the armed services (that is, army, navy and air force) as well as National Defence headquarters, all located in the capital city.

In addition to the above four groups, I am creating one more, whose material is very similar to that of Group D.

GROUP E:

Drawings No. 18 and 19 are miscellaneous markings seen in use as backstamps.

Acknowledgements:

A great debt of gratitude is owed to Lt.-Col. R. H. Webb for his invaluable assistance, both in supplying illustrations and information, and to many others who have contributed whole-heartedly. At this time I would like to pay special tribute to a fellow BNAPSer, Flying Officer Robert J. Bentley (No. 1229), who only recently was killed while serving in the defence of Canada. *

206 • BNA TOPICS

MAX ROSENTHAL (BNAPS 1104)

EARLY STREET AND DISTRICT CANCELLATIONS

W HEN Canada first began to issue stamps, in 1851, its cities were not only few and far apart, but comparatively small in size. Literacy was not so high then, and business was just beginning to really expand, so in most cities one post office was sufficient. It was not until the early 1880's that Toronto, Ont., found it necessary to open branch post offices, to become the first city in Canada to do so. They were: Toronto North, located at the corner of Yonge St. and Carlton St.; Toronto East, at the corner of Queen St. East and Parliament St., and Toronto West, corner Queen St. West and Bathurst St. At that time the city limits enclosed a much smaller area. Nowadays, all of this area would be considered to be pretty well in central Toronto. The cancellations from these early branches are found in the straight-line type.

C. F. WAITE (BNAPS 602)

STREET CANCELLATIONS OF CANADA-ADDITIONS

S INCE the article in TOPICS of February 1956, several collectors have kindly written and informed me of additional cancellations of this type. The additions are published here in order to make the record as complete as possible. MONTREAL

Dorchester Street-Standard Type dated JY 15, 1892.

Fullum Street-On King Edward 2c value.

Ontario Street East-Standard Type on Small Queens. (This I inadvertently omitted previously; also noted by several correspondents.)

St. Cath. St. W. Montreal with LCD as bottom of circle-Standard Type. **OTTAWA**

King Street-Standard Type without outer circle; dated Nov. 22, 1894. TORONTO

Bleeker Street-Standard Type dated Feb. 7, 1890, on 1c postcard; also on rose carmine dated Nov. 17, 1888.

Carlton Street-Jarrett Type 368, on 2c Numeral.

Clinton Street-Standard Type dated MR 21, 1946, on 14c Tank.

Pape Avenue-Jarrett Type 368.

Queen Street East—Jarrett Type 368. In addition to the "Streets" proper, there have been several other sub-post offices reported From Toronto there are Leaside Junction dated AP 23, 1897; Riverside Branch, which I erred in naming Riverside Beach; West Toronto Junction, standard type with no outer circle, dated Dec. 3, 1891; and Toronto P Depot.

From Vancouver there are East End Branch and West End Branch. Union St. Stn. of Toronto, as reported by several correspondents, is fairly common. It is more properly classified with railway cancellations and was for this reason not listed with the "street" cancellations. I would like to know the signifiance of the Toronto cancellations, P Depot, S Depot and Y Depot, if anyone has this information.

I wish to thank the following philatelists for the information detailed above: J. J. Bonar, No. 892; J. Catterick, No. 647; C. M. Chandler, No. 1374; L. D. Howard, No. 1129; C. A. Kemp, No. 1393; M. Rosenthal, No. 1164; E. M. Smythies, No. 1440; A. Whitehead, No. 192. *



In 1886, the number of branch post offices in Toronto was expanded, and the directional names discarded in favor of street names. They were designated as the Bathurst Street, Bleeker Street, Carleton Street, Dundas Street, Queen Street East, and Spadina Avenue post offices, and used the regular circular cancellations. The next year the James Street post office was opened in Hamilton.

During the 1880's Toronto annexed the neighboring incorporated municipalities of Parkdale in the west, and Yorkville on the north, as well as unincorporated portions of surrounding York Township. At the end of this decade it was found necessary to set up four main branch post offices, each being given a number as well as a name. These are the numbers which appear in the wellknown duplex cancellations of the time, with the large circular town postmark at the left, and an enlongated oval of vertical bars enclosing the number in a circle, at the right.

No. 1 was the main or general post office for Toronto; No. 2, Parkdale; No. 3, Spadina Avenue; No. 4, Yorkville, and No. 5, Riverside Branch. This last branch seems to be the one that causes confusion among collectors. On the duplex cancellation it simply says 'Riverside'. However, all these branches also used the smaller regular-type circular postmarks, without the numbers at the side. On some of these can be seen 'Riverside B'ch', the second word being abbreviated to save space. Many collectors mistake it for 'Beach'. Again, when the final part of the name is missing, or obscure, some have thought it to be 'River Street', but there was no such post office in Toronto. The Riverside Branch took care of that part of the city east of the Don River, which up to then had been served by the rural Leslieville post office.

The other street post offices in Toronto became in effect sub-post offices, although not so called. In the 1890's, many more street and district post offices came into being in this city in addition to those listed above. They were: Bloor Street, Broadview Avenue, Brockton, Clinton Street, Gerrard Street, North Toronto, Pape Avenue, Parliament Street, Peter Steet, Rusholme Road, St. Joseph





Street, Strachan Avenue, and York Street. There was also Lee Avenue post office, which had no money order service. One can deduce that post offices not selling money orders were smaller than others, so their cancellations should be scarcer. However, Parkdale branch had none, either, to prove the unreliability of this deduction. It is a fact, though, that the Pape Avenue and Lee Avenue cancellations are among the rarest from Toronto, these post offices serving the eastern section of the city, which was as yet only thinly populated.

Other large cities in Canada were also blossoming out with street and district post offices in the 1890's. Hamilton, for instance, added the Pearl Street and Steven Street post offices.

Montreal, which previously had none, came out with no less than 14 post offices. They were: Chaboillez Square, Cherrier Street, Mount Royal Avenue, Notre Dame Street West, Ontario Street East, Peel Street, Point St. Charles, Prince Arthur Street, St. Catherine St. Centre, St. Catherine Street West, St. Dennis Street, and St. Lawrence St. Cen. Also included were Bellerive and Boulevard St. Denis, which sold no money orders. An unusual feature is that some offices used the older style small broken-ring cancellation, such as Chaboillez Square and St. Denis Street.

In Halifax, N.S., we find the Morris Street and Gottingen Street post offices. The former did not sell money orders, but it is the commoner of the two, nevertheless. Ottawa, Ont., had Bank Street and King Street post offices, but they are very rarely seen on cancellations.

Away out on the west coast, Vancouver, B.C., was already large enough to have an East End Branch and a West End Branch. West End did not sell money orders and it is much scarcer, to confirm the rule, in this case.

Coming back to the Toronto post offices, in 1894 the Gerrard Street office was changed to the Elm Street post office. Around this time the Carleton Street post office was abandoned, but only temporarily. In 1899 it was re-opened, but the 'e' had been dropped from the name, and it had become 'Carlton' Street. The former spelling was not an error, however, as it was the original spelling for the name of this street.

On the other hand, the spelling of the name of the 'Bleeker' Street post office was an error. It took until early in 1895 to correct the spelling by adding a 'c', to make it 'Bleecker' Street, as has been shown by means of dates on its famous squared circles.

The street and district squared circle postmarks of Toronto and Montreal are admirably covered in Dr. Alfred Whitehead's handbook, so they need not be listed here.

In the early 1900's more post offices were added, and more cities acquired them. Halifax opened the Dutch Village post office. It did not sell money orders,



but by this time Morris Street did. St. John, N.B., opened the Garden Street, Haymarket Square, St. John North, St. John West, and Union Street offices. Quebec City came out with the Candiac, Limoilar and Sans Bruit post offices. Toronto added Queen Street Centre and Balmy Beach.

Montreal really added to its list of post offices to include City Councillor Street, De Lorimier, Fuller Street, Leduc, Ontario Street Centre, Parc Lafontaine, Parc Avenue, Roy Street, St. Gabriel de Montreal, St. Henri de Montreal, St. Jean Baptiste de Montreal, St. Jean de la Croix, and Villeroy. There was also Beaudoin Street, Bleury Street, St. Catherine St. East, St. Cunegarde, Vittoria Avenue, and Villeneuve, none of which sold money orders. Cherrier Street post office was changed to St. Louis Square, and the Bellerive, Notre Dame Street W. and Peel Street post offices disappeared.

In those same early 1900's, Ottawa added Bank Street South, Le Breton Flats, Mount Sherwood, New Edinburgh and Stenarton. On the other hand, Hamilton dropped its post offices with street names, although it did acquire the Crown Point office. Winnipeg branched out into a few post offices: Fort Rouge, Inkster, Main Street North, Main Street South and Portage Avenue Centre. Vancouver lost its West End Branch, but gained the West Fairview post office. Not all the post offices in these cities were actually new, some having been in existence indepently, before the municipalities they served were annexed.

After 1900 a new policy was adopted by the Post Office Department of Canada. The five numbers of the Toronto offices were dropped and the four branches lost their names. From then on, all main branch post offices in Toronto and elsewhere were given letters of the alphabet as their designations, and were called 'stations'. The York Street post office in Toronto disappeared shortly after this. After a few years, new sub-post offices which were established usually got numbers rather than street or district names, although this rule has not been consistently followed, even in recent years. Those which already had names, kept them, and some still exist although not necessarily at exactly the same locations.

Until this time, it would seem, all mail was cancelled at the office at which it was received, so it is not too hard to build up a collection of street and district



cancellations on stamps used up to that time. However, since then only registered mail has been cancelled at the sub-post offices, normally. Other mail was usually cancelled only at the branch post offices and, more recently, only at the main post office in each city. Originally, only street and district offices within the limits of each city were considered branches or sub-post offices, and included the name of the city in the cancellation. In the 1920's postal districts began to be set up around the larger cities, to include their suburbs within the local mailing areas. It was only then that the names of the cities were included in the postmarks of suburban post offices outside the cities. *



OFFICIAL SECTION

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

MONTHLY REPORT ... From the Secretary

JACK LEVINE, 325 LINK AVE., SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

August 15, 1957.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1485 Carter, Fred, 2055 East 34th Avenue, Vancouver 16, British Columbia
- 1486 Clem, Lt. Col. Wesley A., 19882 Times Avenue, Hayward, California Dozier, R. L., 1102-20th Street, Huntingdon, West Virginia
- 1487
- Eley, John Henry, 365 Howard Avenue, Nanaimo, British Columbia Kalinowski, Victor W., Route 3, Box 701, Albany Oregon 1488
- 1489
- Moore, Ralph R., 180 Prospect Street, East Orange, New Jersey 1490
- Shave, Alec A., 6466 Sterling, Detroit 2, Michigan 1491
- Stanway, G. Edward, 11 Shelley Avenue, Valhalla, New York 1492
- 1493 Veale, Kenneth B., Box 206, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- Weeks, Spencer, 407 University Avenue S.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota Wright, G. B., E 2 Norris Crescent, Toronto 14, Ontario 1494
- 1495

Sherrin, Samuel C., P.O. Box 743, Petrolia, Ontario 1483

(We are very sorry, but Mr. Sherrin's name and membership number were inadvertently omitted in the July-August listing of "New Members".)

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

(Objetions must be filed with the Secretary within 15 days after month of publication)

- BILDEN, William O., 200 Kasota Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn. (D) CAN, NFD, PROV-19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp, stampless and territorial covers. Literature. SPECIALTY: Pembina Teritorial covers. Proposed by J. C. Cornelius, No. 1401; seconded by J. L. Norbeck, No. 71.
- BLACK, Eugene Charlton, 16 Ivy Rd., Belmont 78, Mass. (CX) CAN-19th and 20th century mint and used postage. O.H.M.S. Mint Airmails. SPECIALTY: Admirals. Proposed by W. H. Russell, No. 587; seconded by W. T. Pollitz, No. 763.
- CLARK, Emerson A., 2957 No. Brighton St., Burbank, Calif. (CC) CAN, NFD-19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Squared circle covers. Coils. OHMS. Mint and used booklet panes and complete booklets. Mint, used and semi-official airmails and on cover. Postal stationery entires.
- Squared circle cancellations. Proposed by B. F. Milne, No. 1476. DEAN, Neville Byron, Electric AF/D Lighting, USAF, Goose Bay, Labrador (CX) CAN—20th century mint postage and blocks. Plate blocks. Coils. Mint booklet panes. Mint airmails. Literature. Flag, 2- and 4-ring numeral cancellations. SPECIALTY: Admirals. Postmarks on 3c Small Queen. Proposed by H. Reiche, No. 783.
- HARRIS, Sidney J., The Brows, Liss, Hants, England (C) NFD-19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp, stampless, 1st day, 1st flight and other covers. Plate blocks. Mint and used booklet panes and complete booklets. Federal revenues. Mint, used and semi-official air mails and on cover. Postal stationery entires. Proofs and essays. Proposed by R. Willan, No. 568.
- HARRISON, Horace W., Box 5780, Pikesville, Md. (CX) CAN, N.S. (on cover only)-Used postage. Coils. OHMS. Used airmails and on cover. 2-ring and fancy cork cancellations. SPECIALTY: Large and Small Queens; Registration. Proposed by H. E. Reinhard, No. 298.

- HETHERINGTON, Robert Bruce, Beedings Cottage, Gay St., Pulborough, Essex, England (CX) CAN-Precancels. Postal stationery entires and cut-squares. Literature. SPECIALTY: Canadian precancels and precancelled stationery. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
- JENKINS, G. Maynard, 610 Dwight Bldg., Kansas City 5, Mo. (CX) CAN, NFD, N.S., P.E.I.-19th and 20th century mint postage. Mint booklet panes. Federal and provincial revenues Mint airmails. Postal stationery entires, Proposed by L. S. Holmes, No. 177. JENNINGS, H. I., 1937 Clermont, Denver, Colo. (C) CAN—General. Proposed by C. J. Jennings, No. 654.
- JOHNSTONE, Gene H., Box 618, Highland, N.Y. (C) CAN-20th century used postage. Used airmails. Literature. Proposed by E. A. Richardson, No. 168.
- KLEIN, Fred B., 835 N. Wild Olive Ave., Daytona Beach, Fla. (CX) CAN, NFD-19th and 20th century mint postage and blocks. 1st flight covers. Pre-stamp and stampless covers. Plate blocks. OHMS-G. Mint airmails and on cover. Postal stationery entires. RPO cancellations. Proposed by G. P. Lewis, No. 506.
- MILLS, George R., M.D., 535 Greenwood S.E., Grand Rapids 6, Mich. (CX) CAN, NFD, PROV-Mint and used postage. Stampless covers. Plate blocks. Coils. OHMS. Mint booklet panes. Precancels. Mint and used airmails, Postal stationery entires, Proofs, RPO and flag cancellations, SPECIALTY: Postal stationery. Proposed by E. Doner, No. 420.
- PEDERSON, Arvid P., 25 DesJardins Ave., Dundas, Ont. (CX) CAN-20th century mint and used postage. Plate blocks. SPECIALTY: Plate blocks. Proposed by C. R. McNeil, No. 649; seconded by J. W. Gardner, No. 1283.
- POLLOCK, John, 11142-70 Street, Edmonton, Alta. (CC) CAN-19th and 20th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. 1st day covers. Plate blocks. Mint and used air mails. 2- and 4-ring numeral cancellations. Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484.
- RADFORD, W. R., 8300 Riverview Lane, Vancouver, Wash. (C) CAN-All phases, especially Large and Small Queens and pioneer air mails. Proposed by B. C. Binks, No. 74; seconded by H. A. Mac-Master, No. 484.
- RORKE, Willard, H.Q. Western Command, Edmonton, Alta. (CX) CAN-19th century mint and used postage. 19th century covers. OHMS. Mint booklet panes and complete booklets. Precancels. RPO, territorial, flag, slogan, 2- and 4-ring numeral and cork cancellations. SPECIALTY: Small Queens. Proposed by E. A. Harris, No. 729; seconded by F. N. Harris, No. 1147.
- SMITH, Aubrey F., 16 Woodill St., Halifax, N.S. (CC) CAN, N.S., P.E.I.—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp, stampless and other covers. Coils. OHMS. Mint booklet panes. Mint airmails. Literature. Proofs and essays. RPO, 2- and 4-ring numeral cancellations. Proposed by G. C. Baugild, No. 759; seconded by E. M. Blois, No. 673.
- WARNER, Donald R., 219 Hillcrest Blvd., Millbrae, Calif. (CX) CAN, NFD, N.S.—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. Squared circle covers. Plate blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Mint airmails. Squared circle cancellations. Proposed by L. M. Ludlow Jr., No. 1465; seconded by D. G. Rosenblat, No. 1445.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

(Changes of address should be sent directly to the Secretary)

- Billings, F. L. c/o Hoffmann-LaRoche Ltd., 159 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. (from Vancouver) Davis, George H., Media Lane RFD No. 3, Ridgefield, Conn. 645
- 1414
- Guess, Arthur L., 94 Natal Ave., Toronto 13, Ont. 322
- LaFrance, Leo J., 27 Underhill Rd., Ossining, N.Y. (from Knoxville, Tenn.) 1369
- McDonald, F. Beattie, 2785 Huggins St., Sub P.O. No. 2, Niagara Falls, Ont. McKay, Walter G., 1932-27th Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alta. 795
- 1286
- Nicholson, Eric, Junior-Senior High School, Armstrong, B.C. (from Singapore, Malaya) 1481
- Watrous, John H., 6 Boxwood Court, Trenton 8, N.J. 1027
- Willcock, W. M. C., 5020 MacDonald Ave., Apt. 304, Montreal 29, Que. 995

DECEASED

1294 Meehan, Edward J., 708-19th St. N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

RETURNED MAIL

(To be dropped from rolls unless information received of present address) Dolbec, Paul H., Box 505, Quebec, Que. Jackes, Dr. H. L., 1826 W. King Edward, Vancouver, B.C. Lett, W. Ralph, 141 Coldstream Ave., Toronto, Ont. Sharreff, Colin, 221 West 23rd Street, No. Vancouver, B.C.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, June 15, 1957 NEW MEMBERS, August 15, 1957	
DECEASED, August 15, 1957	

957 TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, August 15, 1957

OFFICIAL NOTICE FINAL NOMINATIONS

For Board of Governors: 1958-1960) James T. Culhane, Norristown, Pennsylvania Leslie A. Davenport, Toronto, Ontario Clifford R. Schuman, New York, New York

JACK LEVINE, Secretary.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS ACCOUNT — January 1, 1956 to December 31, 1956 BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1955

BALAITCE AS OF DECEMBER 31,	1735	
Dues in Advance, 1956	\$ 213.35	
Dues in Advance, 1957	11.50	
Dues in Advance, Beyond 1957	9.50	
Life Membership Fund	604.00	
Reserve for Bills Payable	239.91	
General Funds on Deposit	1275.34	
Total Funds on Deposit	\$2360.72	
Topics Petty Cash Fund	26.56	\$2387.28
RECEIPTS		
Membership Dues, 1957	\$ 122.80	
Membership Dues, 1958	2.25	\$ 125.05
Membership Dues, 1955 (Paid in 1956)	6.00	
Membership Dues, 1956 (Renewal)	2381.87	
Membership Dues, 1956 (New Members)	147.30	
Membership Fees, 1956 (New Members)	71.00	2606.17
Topics:	2116 Ser.	
Advertising, 1954	18.50	
Advertising, 1955	171.15	189.65
Advertising, 1957 (In Advance)	26.53	26.53
Advertising, 1956	470.48	
Sale of Back Issues	31.58	502.06
Yearbook 1955, Advertising	29.00	29.00
Yearbook 1956, Advertising	348.64	348.64
Perfin Handbook, Sales	103.79	103.79
BNAPEX-55: Excess of Income over Expense	75.90	75.90
FIPEX: Excess of Income over Expenses	3.56	3.56
Cuts for Advertiser's Account	11.54	11.54

1955 Balance plus 1956 Receipts

\$64.09.17

DISBURSEMENTS

Printing, December 1955 issue	\$ 220.91	
Postage, December 1955 issue	19.00	\$ 239.91
Printing, Ten issues of 1956	2071.98	
Cuts	460.04	
Addressing and Mailing	98.44	
Postage	250.46	
Miscellaneous	13.06	
Stencils	68.21	
Envelopes	107.80	
Stationery	36.52	3106.51
Yearbook:	Contraction of the second	
Printing	365.56	
Cuts	32.15	
Postage and Mailing	34.19	431.90
General Expenses:		
Postage	204.45	
Stationery	46.37	
Membership Cards	27.24	
Statement Forms	14.04	
Brochures of the Society	48.40	
Premium on Fidelity Bonds	45.00	
Advertising	10.00	
Typing	12.00	
Repair of Typewriter	15.00	
Miscellaneous	13.08	435.58

\$4113.90

(Continued on next page)

Topics:

DISBURSEMENTS-Continued

Brought Forward		\$4113.90
Library Membership Cards and Statements for 1957 (Advance) Forms for Sales Circuit (Treasury to be reimbursed)	100.00 84.17 23.25	100.00 84.17 23.25
BNAPEX-57 Cacheted Env. (Treas. to be reimbursed)	8.85	8.85
Total Disbursements Funds on Deposit Topics Petty Cash Fund		\$4430.17 1882.21 96.79
Total		\$6409.17

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS — Year 1956 INCOME

Membership Dues, 1955 (Paid in 1956) Membership Dues, 1956 (Renewal)	\$ 6.00 2598.22	
Membership Dues, 1956 (New Members)	147.30	
Membership Dues, from Life Membership Fund	57.00	
Membership Fees (New Members)	71.00	\$2879.52
Topics:	1 X der	
Advertising	477.60	
Sale of Back Issues	31.58	509.18
Yearbook, Advertising	348.64	348.64
Perfin Handbooks, sale of books	81.51	81.51
Accounts Receivable:		
Topics Advertising	141.56	
Yearbook Advertising	50.00	
Dues in Abeyance	3.00	194.56
FIPEX, Excess of Income over Expenses	3.56	3.56
Total Income		\$4016.97
Deficit in 1956		110.87
Total		\$4127.84

EXPENSES

Topics, as per Receipts and Expenses Account	\$3106.51
Yearbook, as per Receipts and Disbursements Account	431.90
General Expenses, as per Receipts and Disbursements Account	435.58
Library, as per Receipts and Disbursements Account	100.00
Typewriters (2), Final Amortization	38.75
Bills Payable:	
Topics-Address and Mail December 1955 issue	15.10

\$4127.84

BALANCE SHEET (As of 12/31/56)

	LIABILITIES	
\$1882.21	Dues in Advance, 1957	\$ 135.80
96.79	Dues in Advance, 1958	8.75
10.96		
4.00		15.10
141.56		547.00
3.50	Surplus:	
50.00	As of 12/31/55 \$1687.48	
7.50	Less 1956 Deficit 110.87	
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(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

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