

BNA Topics

FEBRUARY 1958

▲ Official Journal
of the
British North America
Philatelic Society



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In this issue:

Postmaster General reports that Plate Blocks will still be on sale at Philatelic Agency

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 2
Whole Number 154

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1. 11. 57

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13. 11. 57

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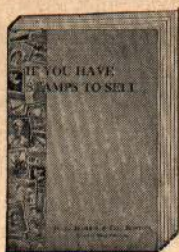
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BNA Topics

Official Journal of the
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NUMBER 2

WHOLE NUMBER 154

Articles

THE GREAT PLATE BLOCK MYSTERY	33
TIME MARKS IN CANADIAN CANCELS	37
By E. A. Smythies	
POST-WAR RCAF STATIONS IN CANADA	44
By Jack Willson	
THE STELLARTON DUPLEX STAR POSTMARK	48
By F. W. Campbell	

Regular Features

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED COVERS	35
TRAIL OF THE CARIBOU	36
THE MAILBAG	38-46
ROUNDING UP SQUARED CIRCLES	39
REVENUE GROUP NEWS	42
NOTES ON CANADIAN AIRMAILS	43
THUMBNAILED SKETCHES OF CANADIAN PRIME MINISTERS (Sir Charles Tupper)	47
FROM THE SECRETARY	49
THE LAST WORD	52
CENTRE INSERT: INDEX TO VOLUME 14	

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The Great Plate Block Mystery

WE ARE INDEBTED to Mr. Gordon Waldie (BNAPS 521) of Toronto for sending us the following extracts from the Debates of the Canadian House of Commons, which help to cast some light on the action of the government in deciding to remove the plate numbers from sheets of future stamp issues. The decision that plate numbers would no longer appear on sheets of Canadian stamps caused much concern among philatelists throughout the country.

EXTRACT FROM HOUSE OF COMMONS

(Hansard of December 4, 1957)

Stamp Issue — The Queen and Prince Philip

Question No. 240—**Mr. L'Heureux:**

What is the total number of stamps comprised in the issue bearing the picture of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Philip?

Answer by **Hon. W. M. Hamilton** (Postmaster-General):
51,260.00.

EXTRACT FROM HOUSE OF COMMONS

(Hansard of December 10, 1957)

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Postage Stamps—Inquiry as to Elimination of Plate Blocks

On the Orders of the day:

Hon. George C. Marler¹ (St. Antoine-Westmount):

Mr. Speaker, I sent to the Postmaster-General a dispatch which appeared in the Ottawa Citizen of Saturday, December 7, concerning the elimination of plate number blocks from postage stamps, or sheets of postage stamps. I should like to ask him whether the reason given in the press for the discontinuance of the rather popular practice of printing the plate number is well founded? In order to make the question clear I should like to read just a very short paragraph.

Reason given for the Post Office Department action was that some postmasters were selling "plate blocks" at over face value to dealers and collectors.

I should like to ask the Postmaster General if that is a correct statement of the attitude adopted by his department with regard to this matter.

Hon. W. M. Hamilton (Postmaster General):

I thank the hon. member for sending me a copy of this clipping. The house will remember that the particular stamp issue in question was discussed here about 10 days ago, at which time I pointed out that arrangements for this stamp issue [5c Free Press] had been made by the preceding administration. Having said that, may I say that the motivation of the previous administration in dropping the plate blocks is not completely clear to me. However, in discussing the matter with my departmental officials I find that while no direct

¹ Former Transport Minister, noted philatelic writer, and member of BNAPS (No. 109).

charge of selling plate blocks at over face value to dealers and collectors was made, the department has certainly had considerable experience in post offices with difficulty arising from collectors who attempted to obtain these plate blocks over the counter.

Perhaps I should say that departmental instructions do not allow the clerk at the wicket to extract a special plate block from other than the top sheet. However, collectors would come up to clerks and press them to do so. They would engage in discussion with them, and very often people who were there for the regular purpose of purchasing stamps were caused delay and annoyance by these tactics. Basically the departmental practice of handling issues of stamps has changed somewhat, and that has led to an elimination of the plate blocks.

Mr. Marler: I wonder whether the Postmaster General realizes not only that this practice is very popular with collectors, but is universal in countries other than Canada, and that the elimination of these plate numbers would account for a substantial drop in revenue of his philatelic agency?

Mr. Hamilton (Notre Dame de Grace):

I have always had tremendous respect for the hon. member for St. Antoine-Westmount as a philatelic expert. He is renowned in that field and has written books on the subject. Therefore I am surprised to find him referring to the practice of including plate block numbers as being universal, because I think if he will search further he will find it is not universal and that certain other countries have abolished the practice of including plate block numbers. As I say, I am surprised at that lapse.

I feel regret, and I know the officials of the department do also, that we cannot continue this practice, which has provided considerable interest to a small group of collectors. I do want to tell the house that I am very grateful to other important collectors in Canada and officials of some organizations who have gone to the trouble of getting in touch with the department and commending the officials on the action that has been taken.

Mr. G. K. Fraser (Peterborough):

I should like to address a question to the Postmaster General, inasmuch as the subject of stamps has been brought up today. Can he say when the department started to use Roman numerals to indicate the month of the year in marking cancellation of stamps instead of a letter abbreviation for the month. For example, they are using "X-11" in making cancellations. I have not sent notice of the question to the Postmaster General.

Mr. Hamilton (Notre Dame de Grace):

The hon. member did not give me any notice of his question, but I will be delighted to get him this vitally important and interesting information as quickly as possible.

EXTRACT FROM HOUSE OF COMMONS

(Hansard of December 10, 1957)

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Use of Roman Numerals in Cancellation Stamp

On the orders of the day:

Hon W. M. Hamilton (Postmaster General):

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Peterborough—

Mr. Martin (Essex East):

Those are bright Liberal colours you are wearing. [Mr. Hamilton was wearing a bright red vest.]

Mr. Hamilton (Notre Dame de Grace):

I am sorry, Mr. Speaker; this is the hide of one of the Liberals we skinned at the last election.

Yesterday the hon. member for Peterborough inquired regarding the cancellation stamp which appears on letters, and asked when the department began using Roman numerals to indicate the month of the year in marking cancellation of stamps instead of a written abbreviation for the month.

I wish to inform the hon. member that we have been in the process of doing this since 1948, at which time an announcement was made; and as stamps went out of use the new designation was introduced. I may say that the reason for introducing Roman numerals is that with international mail service many countries would find it difficult to read our letter abbreviations, whereas the Roman numerals are much more generally understood.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Postage Stamps—Statement on Elimination of Corner Blocks

Hon. W. M. Hamilton (Postmaster General):

Mr. Speaker, I have a brief announcement in connection with stamps. The previous administration decided early this year to eliminate certain identifying marks known as plate numbers on the corner of each sheet of postage stamps sold. While this action was designed to avoid confusion and delays in the public sale of stamps by those collectors who desired special selections to be made by post office clerks, it had the unfortunate effect of denying to those same people the opportunity of pursuing their hobby of collecting corner plate blocks of stamps.

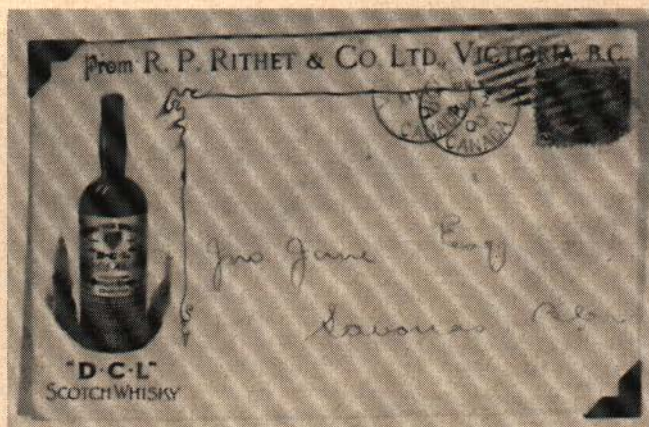
I have been impressed by the representation from these collectors and others, and in accordance with the government's policy of operating as efficiently as possible while still giving due weight to the interests of those who are affected by government action, I have decided on an amendment to the decision of the previous government in this matter.

Therefore, while plate numbers will no longer appear on those sheets of stamps sold at post offices throughout the country, thus eliminating a cause of annoyance and delay to those purchasing stamps for ordinary use, sheets bearing such a designation will be available for sale to any interested collector at the face value of the stamps, through the philatelic section of the Post Office Department at Ottawa.

Since stamps are designed and printed a considerable time in advance of their issue, it will not be possible to apply this new treatment to certain issues designed by the previous administration which were too far advanced in production for it to be applied. However, the new system will enable all collectors who are interested in this branch of the philatelic hobby to continue their collections as in the past and is yet another indication of the desire of the Post Office Department to offer satisfactory service to every Canadian. ★

Canadian Illustrated Covers

E. L. PIGGOTT (BNAPS 629)



No. 18

Not being a connoisseur of Scotch whisky, which this cover advertised in 1900, or familiar with the many brands now sold,

I do not know the popularity of this brand, nor what 'D.C.L.' stands for. Could it be that this product was 'Distinguished Collectors' Liquor'? ★

Trail of the Caribou

By DAN MEYERSON (BNAPS L3)



KENNETH D. HART, BNAPS 770, Dumont, N.J., has just asked us a question about postal stationery that we covered back in March 1948 in TOPICS. While idly leafing through that issue of TOPICS we noticed that we only had less than 500 members at that time so Ken Hart and hundreds of new members would not know what had been printed previously in their magazine. We have always replied to the individual in question, but from now on any query that has not been answered within the past three years will also be answered in this column. Mr. Hart wanted to know if there was any way of differentiating between the 1 cent card of 1915 and the emission of 1930. Well, there certainly is, and it has nothing to do with the color of the card. The 1930 card is either a new die or a re-worked die. In the 1915 card all of the lines on the forehead, ear and neck are complete, while they are broken on the 1930 card. In addition the words "ONE CENT" in the value tablet of the first card are much thinner than those of the second card. For the records the 1915 card is Bond No. NCM1 and the 1930 card is Bond No. NCN1.

Alec MacMaster, BNAPS 484, Vancouver, B.C., made an almost immediate reply to our request for information in the November issue of TRAIL. In fact, he went a step further and submitted a presentation sheet for the Guy Issue for our examination. As in the case of the previous one described in November, this one too is more of a presentation card than a presentation sheet. The entire issue, Scott Nos. 87-97 with the 6c value with 'Z' normal and not reversed. The 1c, 2c and 5c values are all in the perf. 12. The size of the cards is 11 3/4 by 9 11/16 inches. The top of the card is inscribed "NEWFOUNDLAND" and the second line has the dates "1610" and "1910" separated by a crown. The stamps are shown in four rows with the 1c and 2c values on the first row, the 4c, 5c, 15c, 8c and 9c values on

the second row, the 3c, 10c and 6c values on the third row, and the 12c value occupying all of the fourth and last row. Beneath the stamps are the two following lines: "Issue of Newfoundland Stamps to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the earliest / settlement of the British Empire made in Conception Bay Newfoundland in June 1610." Directly beneath these two lines is the line "With the Compliments of the Government of Newfoundland." This is followed by the signature of the Colonial Secretary. Finally in the lower left corner is the line "Whitehead Morris & Co. Ltd. London E.C." The two cards are almost identical in appearance and only differ ever so slightly in the margins around the card. Thanks, Alec, for answering our appeal for help.

We've just had the privilege of examining an outstanding Newfoundland cover that was sent to us by Bill Lea, BNAPS 687, of London, England. It is a cover from St. John's to Australia (which certainly would make it scarce enough); it was posted at St. John's on Mar. 9, 1860, received in London on Mar. 29, 1860, and finally postmarked at Sydney, Australia, on Aug. 15, 1860. The letter is franked with a very nice copy of the 1/- scarlet, Scott No. 9. Shillings scarlet are scarce enough—on cover they are even scarcer—but on cover to Australia may possibly make it unique. The cover is certainly genuine as it has just been given a certificate by the Philatelic Foundation. Thanks for letting us see this showpiece of Newfoundland philately.

W. E. Fyndem, in his excellent column in the November 29 issue of 'Stamp Collecting' gives his opinion that the 48c stamp, Scott No. 266, is steadily rising in value. He cites its increase in price in the new Commonwealth catalogue. His closing statement is: "A good stamp at best—mint or used. It has a long way to go yet." ★

Time Marks in Canadian Cancels

IN THE EARLY DAYS of Canadian postal history (i.e. before the use of adhesive stamps in 1851 for prepayment of charges) post office practice was concerned chiefly in cancelling mail to show the place and date of despatch and what had been prepaid or was due to pay. Evidence of this is provided by the numerous illustrations of such cancels in Jarrett (pages 415-427) which are well known to students and collectors of early postal history material. In those early days as a general rule, no consideration and no indication was given as to **time** of posting, probably because there was only one despatch of post a day, and a time mark would have been superfluous.

With the adoption of adhesive stamps in 1851, the objects in cancelling mail altered slightly. It was still necessary to show the place and date of despatch, but instead of showing prepayment or payment due, it now became important to 'kill' the adhesive to prevent re-use, from which developed the numerous types of killers illustrated by Jarrett, i.e. circular (pages 379-402), bars and grids (500, 506, etc.), dots (531, 532) and other early designs. The daters of the early adhesive (pence issues) period 1851-59 still show no regard to **time** of posting, the need would not arise until the increasing postal material to be handled necessitated more than one daily despatch.

The first indication of a time mark appears to have been in 1859. Col. Duncan McLellan, in a comprehensive article on Canadian indicia published in *Maple Leaves* June 1957, quoting Boggs Part II, records an order to Berri of London dated 3rd Sept. 1859 for three date stamps for Quebec "Introducing in these stamps the letters PM which are intended to indicate such letters as are stamped in the afternoon."

A few months later, in Feb. 1860, when the introduction of duplex cancels was first decided upon, the order to Berri for 56 duplex hammers, for 19 larger towns in Ontario and three in Quebec, laid down that these hammers should be supplied in

pairs with AM and PM for each town. That six of the towns required two pairs each gives further clear indication of rapidly increasing postal activity, and a good reason for adopting the labor-saving device of duplex.

By the 1870s these two simple time marks were becoming inadequate, with the larger post offices increasing to several despatches per day. As McLellan has pointed out: "From 1859 experiments were progressively carried out in the larger offices to indicate on mail when it was stamped and despatched, and that where more than two mails were despatched in a day and AM/PM no longer sufficed, recourse was had to letters and numbers as time indicia."

These time indicia or time marks varied considerably between different places. The size of town was one important factor. Small towns and village post offices did not have to bother with any time marks (nor do they today!), medium-sized towns kept to AM and PM. The clearest evidence of this is available in Dr. Alfred Whitehead's handbook of squared circles, an analysis of which shows:

Of the larger towns (population 10,000+ in 1902) 44 per cent had numbers, 28 per cent had AM/PM. Of the medium towns (population 1,500 to 10,000) 3 per cent only had numbers, 29 per cent had AM/PM, 68 per cent had blank. Of the small towns (not above 1,500) none had numbers, only 4 per cent had AM/PM, and 96 per cent had blank. There is also supporting evidence of this from duplex cancels.

Turning to the larger towns, the main types of time marks can be classified as follows:

- I. The simple AM/PM to indicate two mails in the day.
- II. The low numbers, 1 and 2 (e.g. Winnipeg 1881); 1, 2, 3 (Vancouver); 1, 2, 3, 4 (Halifax, Kingston, Peterboro and others, also many squared circles), to indicate 3 or 4 mails.

THE MAILBAG

Geographical Listing of Members

We note it was back in 1954 that the last geographical listing of members was published. Possibly in a future Yearbook it would be a good idea to publish an up-to-date listing—could be by number only or by name and number.

It also seems that in some areas there are sufficient members (like Toronto) to form additional regional groups.

My wife saw the pictures of the Alpine Inn in the Yearbook so guess I am hooked—providing we find a place to store the kid(s)—any volunteers? Will look forward to meeting many members personally.

BNAPS 235

(Canada Stamp Co.)

A 'Sputnik' Invades the Squared Circle

The strip of three 1c Small Queens shown on next page has been lying undetected for many years as a pair and a single. The pair was mounted as a nice illustration of a street cancellation, Dundas St., Toronto. I often wondered what the cancellation on the margin of the left stamp might represent. The stamp to the right was separated from the adjoining pair and lay quietly in an envelope marked "Odds and Ends for Future Study."

As a neophyte collector of squared circles I have recently spent considerable time and study hunting for these cancellations among my accumulations. Upon examining my odds and ends recently the cancellation on one stamp struck a familiar chord. I found that it matched perfectly with the aforementioned pair and made a true strip of three. This strip illustrates a new type of squared circle cancellation, somewhat reminiscent of the Ottawa squared circle of 1880. However, in this case, the obliterating border around the postmark actually consists of a series of circles which have been squared off. It well might be called the queen of squared circles.

The cover or parcel bearing these stamps was undoubtedly mailed from the Dundas St. office, Apr. 6, '95, and the Chatham postmark represents a receiving or transit cancellation of April 7, although a dash or stroke in front of the '7' gives the appearance of 'April 17'. I have never seen this type of cancellation before, nor any illustration of it. Perhaps some of our members have similar items or the same type of cancellation from other towns. Any information would be welcomed.

K. M. Day (L12)

III. Letters, A, B, C (e.g. Quebec, Owen Sound); A, B, C, D (Paris), to indicate 3 or 4 mails.

IV. Numbers 1 to 12 with AM or PM (Montreal, Toronto) showing exact hours. Some Toronto Street P.O.s showed very exact time, e.g., 9.45 etc.

V. High numbers 10 to 24, showing exact hours by the 24-hour clock. In general use from 1901, and earlier for some P.O.s.

VI. The 1892 'Forerunner' (Jarrett No. 374) showed the 24 hours by A 1 - A 12, P 1 - P 12, or 1 A to 12 P.

VII. The letters NT or NOON were also used occasionally in Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton.

These seven categories cover the main types of time marks in 19th century Canadian cancels. The low numbers of category II, frequently found in squared circles, were often called 'clerk's numbers', an expression that probably originated in the study of R.T.O. cancels (where similar numbers do in fact refer to clerks) and was adopted for squared circles on a false analogy. The P.O.s were concerned in showing time of despatch **not** who despatched it, as is clearly shown by the changes in many of the larger towns from AM/PM to low numbers and then to high numbers as mail and despatches constantly increased.

It may surprise some specialists that indicia numbers in most Canadian cancels (except R.T.O.s) are really time marks and not 'clerk's numbers', a statement which is supported by such leading authorities as Dr. Whitehead and Col. McLellan.

The period 1899-1901 was one of rapid changes, when the squared circles were being given up, and other cancels, frequently duplex, were being adopted. A good example of such changes is provided by Quebec, and I have duplex strikes on Queen Victoria 2c Numeral stamps with dates as follows:

- i. 1900. Low numbers 2, 3 (category II)
- ii. May 1901. Letters B, C, D (category III)
- iii. Nov. 1901. High numbers 7, 12, 17 (category V).

I have no evidence of overlap, and presumably before one category was adopted the earlier category was scrapped, but further evidence on this point would be welcome. It is surprising that three different categories of time marks should have been used in Quebec within the space of 12 to 15 months! ★



Rounding Up SQUARED CIRCLES

EDITOR: DR. A. WHITEHEAD, 52 Havelock St., Amherst, N.S.

ANOTHER SQUARED CIRCLE

DR. KENNETH DAY, the well known Small Queens specialist of Pittsburgh (he greatly assisted L. Shoemaker in the famous Three Cent Small Queen article a few years back), has sent for inspection a partial strike of ST. GABRIEL DE MONTREAL, which is undoubtedly right. Congratulations, Dr. Day, the latest addict to the squared circle fever.

I hope it won't be immodest on my part to quote a sentence from his letter: "To you goes the credit for bringing me out of philatelic retirement. My albums and boxes have been gathering mold and dust for nearly 15 years, with only a short-lived flurry of activity now and then." This is another case of the great interest being taken in squared circles, a group which is fast becoming "the most closely documented postmarks in Canadian philately," to quote another correspondence.

These newcomers with their finds enlarge our horizons, but they also add to the number who are eagerly bidding for the 'hard ones' and the near-rarities. Very soon such handbook listings as Great Village, Clifton, Lennoxville, Bluevale (rarer by far than the 12d Black!) will be jockeyed out of sight, let alone the lonely greats—Mission City, Revelstoke, Lambton Mills, and the above St. Gabriel de Montreal—each unique at this writing.

MR. WINTHROP S. BOGGS MAKES A BOW TO SQUARED CIRCLES

Squared circle collectors will have a feast day if they secure 'Maple Leaves' (journal

of the C.P.S. of Great Britain) for December 1957. They will find there a long article by the redoubtable Mr. Boggs entitled "Notes on the Squared Circle Postmarks of Canada" which will be warmly welcomed. They will especially welcome a list therein, which may be regarded as official, of the squared circle towns. The towns of Type One (with thin lines) had already appeared in his great book, Vol. I, p. 625; but as he now explains, if he had listed the much larger group of Type Two (with thick bars) it "would have made an already large book even more unwieldy."

His complete lists are taken from a book of proof impressions kept by the makers of the squared circle and other hammers (devices, as they are termed by them), Messrs. Pritchard & Andrews, Ottawa, Ont. "In this proof book, now in the archives of The Philatelic Foundation, each marking is clearly struck, and the date is that when it was finished and ready for delivery. . . . Thus with the possible exception of Ottawa, it is unlikely that a device could be placed in use until a day later, and in the case of distant offices it would probably be a week later before use was possible. . . ." A close study of these dates is revealing. I shall make frequent use of them in this column in future notes.

"The devices were all hand cut." (I have often been struck by the excellence, indeed the beauty, of their workmanship.—A.W.) "The proof impressions show all the devices to be sharp right angled squares, none of them having rounded corners such as those

◀ A strip of three 1c Small Queens bearing an unrecorded new type of 'squared circle' from Chatham, Ont. See Dr. Day's letter on the previous page.



A beautiful patriotic in color from Ed Richardson's collection, bearing the Georgetown, Ont., squared circle dated Sp 20, 02.



on FORMOSA, Ont., or any other alteration." The 'states' which we now know in ALMA, WINGHAM, SCHREIBER, NAINAIMO, and the unrivalled series in QUE & CAMP M.C. LOCAL, No. 20, all of which are so eagerly sought for, will not be found in his list.

Mr. Boggs' excellent opening remarks are followed by the lists. They are full of confirmations of the handbook, together with some new features. It is interesting to see how, piece by tiny piece, the information in the BNAPS handbook has patiently been built up from scratch, at first by those named in paragraph one, later by an ever-increasing army of enthusiasts. So fully has this been done as almost to duplicate the official information now happily given us by Mr. Boggs.

A Few Remarks

TYPE ONE:

London, Ont.—Two hammers of this type were issued (the only town of this type with two hammers issued): (1) Ap 28, 93; (2) Ap 9, 94 (a curiously late date for a Type One hammer—I wonder what the explanation is.) Collectors with sufficient material will hunt for (2). I have not found it.

Three of the Type One towns have not yet been found: COLEMAN, MONTREAL, SPRINGHILL MINES.

TYPE TWO:

Mr. Boggs' source book went only to the end of April 1895. He gives the date of all devices issued before the book closes. Other towns, which he took from the handbook, are listed with no date. Of these, the following are now considered doubtful or re-

ported to me in error: SPA SPRINGS, LONGUEUIL, COLDWATER, METCALF(E), WARINA. One other, WIKWEMIKONG, is a 'possible'—its status is still to be considered.

Fourteen offices in the Boggs list had not been found when the handbook appeared: *FREEPORT, N.S.; MAITLAND, N.S.; NOEL, N.S.; *ST. GABRIEL DE MONTREAL, Que.; ST. JOHNS, Que.; FONTHILL, Ont.; *FORT WILLIAM WEST, Ont.; KINGSVILLE, Ont.; *LAMBTON MILLS, Ont.; PALMERSTON, Ont. *SIMCOE, Ont.; *WATERDOWN, Ont.; *MISSION CITY, B.C., and *REVELSTOKE, B.C. Eight of these, marked with an asterisk, have since been found, four of them quite recently. The remaining towns may be expected to turn up at some time or another. Some of the latter resemble town names already known, and great care should be taken in the case of partial strikes. The following similarities occur to me: MAITLAND, N.S. (Port Maitland, N.S.); ST. JOHNS, Que. (St. Johns, N.B., Canada, 3 hammers); FONTHILL, Ont. (Springhill, N.S.); KINGSVILLE, Ont. (Kingston, Canada, 2 hammers, and Beamsville, Ont.); PALMERSTON, Ont. (Humberstone, Ont.)

Mr. Boggs' listing of towns using two or more hammers differs somewhat from the conclusions given in the handbook, and suggests that further discoveries are possible. Here is his listing of those of Type Two with the handbook listing shown in (): HALIFAX, 3 (2, both common); SYDNEY, 2 (1); ST. JOHN, N.B., 1 (3, undoubtedly, all common); HULL, 2 (2); MONTREAL, 2 (2, see TOPICS, March 1957); SHERBROOKE, 2 (1); ACTON, 2 (1); BELLEVILLE, 2 (3, undoubtedly, although II and III

are sometimes difficult to separate in partial strikes. In complete strikes the position of the final 'L' makes the task mere child's play); KINGSTON, 2 (2); MARKDALE, 2 (2); see TOPICS, March 1957); WINNIPEG, 4 (4); VICTORIA, 1 (4, three undoubted, the fourth something of a mystery).

Collectors, then, should look for the TWO hammers of Sydney, Sherbrooke and Acton, and for the extra hammer for Halifax: In the case of Sydney and Sherbrooke, the handbook dates make it clear that the First Hammer is known.

Several towns in the Boggs list are shown with no dates. These are taken from the handbook and are "offices supplied with a squared circle sometime after the month of April '95." I give them here with the earliest known date: SPRINGHILL (My 6, 95); FARNHAM (Sp 5, 95); GRANBY (Ap 7, 94; obviously an error in reporting); QUEBEC (Jy 5, 95); FOREST (Ja 14, 98); GORE BAY (Ap 7, 95); LUCKNOW (Jy 30, 95); POWASSAM (Ju 21, 95); SARNIA (Ja 5, 97); STOUFFVILLE (My 17, 95); DELORAIN (Ju 5, 95); INNISFAIL (Fe 4, 96); ROSSLAND (Ap 24, 95!); SANDON (Sp 15, 97); VERNON (Mr 23, 95!)).

Mr. Boggs, our best thanks! The numerous squared circle collectors are greatly in your debt.

THE ROSTER

Owing to my indisposition, work on this project has for many weeks been at a standstill. During this time so many new lists have come in and so many changes have been requested by earlier applicants, that my papers are in a state of complete confusion. It would be a long time before I am able to handle such a big and exacting job. Thomas Braden Elliott is coming valiantly to my assistance and will in future look after the roster. Please address all roster communications to him, and please, when your new application has been sent in, do not ask for any change in standing to be made until six months have elapsed.

Mr. Elliott knows his squared circles like an expert, and furthermore is an accountant by profession. The latter skill will help tremendously in making a complete analysis of the 'lists of missing towns' sent in, with all they will tell us of rarity, etc.

The editor has kindly consented to print a new Roster Application Form, much improved. Look for it, fill it in, attach your list of missing towns (in duplicate), carefully signed and dated. Then wait for six months before sending further information.

NOTES

The column editor's painful illness, which still continues, has made it impossible to prepare the next batch of revised dates. It is hoped to resume this series very soon.

* * *

I wonder how many squared circle collectors saw the excellent article by Ed. Richardson in 'Weekly Philatelic Gossip' for Oct. 5, 1957. Practical in every way, well written and excellently illustrated. This man Richardson is a wonder. How does he find time for it all?

* * *

A talk on squared circles was recently given before the North Toronto Stamp Club by BNAPSer T. Braden Elliott. This was later repeated for the benefit of the Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club. The good work is going on. Thanks, Max Rosenthal, for this news item.

* * *

Several other letters which I wished to quote here, notably one from J. J. Bonar of Edinburgh, on "Clerk's Numbers, Yes or No," have been misplaced during the weeks I have been incapacitated. Sorry! I might say that Mr. Bonar has shown reluctance to abandon the term 'Clerk's Numbers' in some cases, whilst admitting them to be 'Time Marks' in other towns. My research compels me to agree with him. More about this later.

* * *

A Gold Medal for a Novice at S.C.

At the 13th annual ESCAL, sponsored by the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California in November 1957, an exhibit by Brian F. Milne of squared circle postmarks of Canada took a first place gold medal in British Empire in the novice class.

Besides covering Type One and Two, the exhibit also covered the 1892 postmarks. Also included were sub-types of Type Two, and hammer differences. The most striking piece in the exhibit was a cover showing Hammer I of Halifax, dated Oct. 19, '98, Clerk No. 4, the latest date known and the only one on cover known at present.

(He adds a postscript to his letter to the editor of this column: "I hope that I am not misleading you, but I consider my collection to be a begging one. I have approximately 90 different cancellations, which is a little under 50 per cent of the way to attaining a place on your 200 roster, but I'll get there." He will! Hoping to boost his collection to the 100-mark, I have sent him 20 uncommon squared circles, a joint contribution by C. A. Kemp and myself.) ★



REVENUE GROUP

News

EDITOR: E. A. RICHARDSON, 303 Pin Oak Drive, La Marque, Texas

A PERFORATION variety in the 4c brown **Third Issue Bill Stamps** has always intrigued me. For a long time I have had in my collection a vertical pair from the



left sheet margin with the left vertical row of perforations MISSING (illustrated). Not long ago I picked up a number of mint blocks of this issue and among them was a 4c block of nine, again from the left sheet margin, with the left vertical perforations missing. Is this a common variety in this value? Do other members possess this variety in this value or in any other values of this issue?

★ ★

In the **Supreme Court Issues**, we reported in this column back in October 1956 that there were at least two distinct printings and color varieties of the \$1 Geo. V of 1939, the first printing being the dark blue shade on paper having a slightly yellowish tint, and the second printing being a distinct bright blue (much lighter) on a very white wove paper.

As was to be expected this same thing occurs in the 1939 George VI issue. In at least the \$5 value of this issue both printings and shade and paper varieties exist. We suspect they also exist in the 10c and 50c denominations.

★ ★

H. W. Walker (BNAPS 1380), in the December 1956 TOPICS, gave a fine listing of the **Federal Unemployment Issues**. In this he listed the 72c brown of the 1950 issue. Revenuers will recognize this as being the issue WITHOUT the class numbers above the square central denomination panels.

However, in spite of this being listed, it had long been believed by most collectors and dealers that this value DID NOT EXIST!

There were very good reasons for doubting the existence. Roy Wrigley (BNAPS 1065) was informed by an official of the department that both the 72c and \$1.56 values were never issued with the 1950 issue, but that sufficient supplies of the 1948 issue existed and were used. This seems to be confirmed by the sets of 'CANCELLED' overprinted stamps distributed to the various offices. The 1950 set contained the old 1948 72c and \$1.56 stamps as part of the 1950 samples.

However, somewhere along the line supplies of the 72c value must have been exhausted and a new stamp IN THE DESIGN of the 1950 issue appeared. We can definitely report that Walker is correct in listing this value—IT DOES EXIST. Copies are in the collections of both the writer and Bill Rockett.

Now the question is—does the \$1.56 value also exist in the 1950 series—was it also issued at a later date? It would also be interesting to know when the 72c value was issued. Sometime after the original set in 1950, and before the appearance of the fourth issue in 1955. Who can help us on this?

★ ★

Weights and Measures 'Jump' Controls. Last month we commented on the 'jump' controls found on the \$10 blue Gas Inspection Stamp of 1897 (Holmes No. FG19). We neglected at that time to also report that the \$10 Weights and Measures stamp of 1906, the King Edward issue with the purple control numbers, also comes with 'jump' numbering in horizontal strips.

★ ★

Thrift Stamp of 1918. Looking over a number of these scarce 25c orange thrift

stamps we found one with some interesting 'fly-speck' varieties which makes us wonder if they are constant.

Beginning in the lower edge of the central vignette panel and extending downwards to the right, ending in the 'Y' of TWENTY is a large thick inverted 'P'. Also on this same

stamp in the lower left margin appears another flaw shaped something like a small arrow. The tail of the 'arrow' points downwards, but the head points in the direction of the lower white dot above 'TW' of TWENTY. Can others report this as a constant variety? ★

Notes on Canadian Airmails

By N. PELLETIER (BNAPS 1268)

ON OCTOBER 22, 1930, Arthur D. Sullivan and Douglas C. Fraser of Newfoundland Airways Ltd., received a contract from the Newfoundland Minister of Posts and Telegraphs to fly mail to some of the northern settlements during the winter.

Having this contract, the two airmen journeyed to Ontario, purchased a 85 h.p. 'Gypsy Moth' plane and on Tuesday, November 4, flew from Toronto with some uncancelled mail for St. John's, Newfoundland. According to a letter in the above illustrated envelope, the pilots made a stop in Montreal and this letter was given to Sullivan for delivery to a friend in St. John's. It also states that Art Sullivan planned to leave Montreal on the 6th. Bad flying weather must have prevailed, since this mail was later postmarked "Sydney Nov. 11, 30." At Sydney a further mail was placed in the aircraft. The following day the pilots flew over the Gulf of St. Lawrence and to Stephenville Crossing, on the west coast of Newfoundland, where



a blue enclosed postmark was applied to the face of the covers.

The airmen had planned to fly directly to St. John's but severe weather grounded them. On the 18th they continued the flight but were forced down near Grand Falls. On the 19th, and after some difficulty, they managed to complete this flight by landing at Mount Pearl, near St. John's, at 2:45 p.m. This mail was later back-stampel "St. John's N'fd. Nov. 3 p.m. 1930." There was also included a slogan cancellation with words "Shop and Mail Early—Insure Parcels." ★

H. R. HARMER'S PASS HALF-MILLION MARK IN THREE WEEKS

Three auctions held by H. R. Harmer Inc., New York, in the weeks commencing November 18, 25 and December 2, totalled more than half a million dollars, and yet another world record was attained in a season of records.

On November 18-21, the eleventh Caspary Sale took place and a record \$391,916 obtained. The following week, the first part of the Caroline Prentice Cromwell collection of British Commonwealth reached \$67,045 in three days. Finally, in a six-session, four-day sale held December 2-5, the Landon Pearse collection brought \$59,042, to make a grand total of \$518,003.

This brought the total for the eight auctions held by Harmers in the 1957-58 season to \$809,765, with approximately 18 more to be held before next September. ★

Post-War RCAF Stations in Canada

SINCE the turn of the half-century, thirty-three stations of the Royal Canadian Air Force have had, at some time or another, full postal facilities. The following is a list of these post offices.

RCAF STATION	OPENING DATE OF POST OFFICE	CLOSING DATE WHERE APPLICABLE
Aylmer West, Ont.	January 9, 1953	
Bagotville, P.Q.	August 18, 1953	
Beaver Bank, N.S.	December 10, 1956	
Borden, Ont.	May 23, 1952	
Calgary, Alta.	March 23, 1951	February 22, 1953 ¹
Centralia, Ont.	September 17, 1952	
Chatham, N.B.	July 29, 1952	
Clinton, Ont.	August 23, 1952	
Comox, B.C.	April 28, 1954	
Edgar, Ont.	May 11, 1954	
Edmonton, Alta.	March 23, 1951	May 15, 1955 ¹
Falconbridge, Ont.	April 5, 1955	
Foymount, Ont.	April 22, 1954	
Gimli, Man.	December 1, 1952	
Greenwood, N.S.	May 4, 1953	
Holberg, B.C.	May 25, 1955	
Lac St. Denis, P.Q.	July 2, 1954	
London, Ont.	November 1, 1954	
Macdonald, Man.	April 23, 1953	
Mont Apica, P.Q.	June 28, 1954	
Moose Jaw, Sask.	March 15, 1954	
Parent, P.Q.	February 16, 1954	
Penhold, Alta.	October 25, 1954	
Rockcliffe, Ont.	March 23, 1951	August 31, 1951 ²
Rockcliffe-Ottawa, Ont.	September 1, 1951	
Ste. Marie, P.Q.	November 2, 1954	August 17, 1955 ²
St. Hubert, P.Q.	May 5, 1953	
St. Jean, P.Q.	October 26, 1953	
St. Sylvestre, P.Q.	August 18, 1955	
Saskatoon, Sask.	December 30, 1952	
Senneterre, P.Q.	April 23, 1954	
Summerside, P.E.I.	November 10, 1952	
Trenton, Ont.	March 23, 1951	
Uplands, Ont.	December 15, 1952	November 30, 1955 ²
Uplands-Ottawa, Ont.	December 1, 1955	
White Horse, Y.T.	August 9, 1954	

NOTES:

¹ Complete shutdown of post offices. The military post offices (that is, military rather than civilian; do not confuse with the MPOs of a previous article) at RCAF Stations Calgary and Edmonton were closed on the dates shown. All mail at Calgary's air station is now handled by the civilian post office at Lincoln Park. On May 15, 1955 the military post office at RCAF Station Edmonton was closed and the postal requirements were looked after by the civilian post office at Guthrie Park. This arrangement was used until February 16, 1956 when Guthrie Park was changed to Lancaster Park and hence all mail for the Air Force Station at Edmonton is now handled through Lancaster Park.

² Changes in the names of the following RCAF establishments: Rockcliffe, Ont. was changed to Rockcliffe-Ottawa, Ont.; Ste. Marie, P.Q., to St. Sylvestre, P.Q.; and Uplands, Ont. to Uplands-Ottawa, Ont. Note that the cancels of RCAF Station Rockcliffe were in use for only a little over five months. The reason for the change in name of the two stations near Ottawa is interesting. As long as they were excluded from the Ottawa postal district, all first class mail from these two stations destined for Ottawa required five cents postage. But when they were included in the Ottawa postal district, the first class rate to Ottawa became four cents.



1



2



3



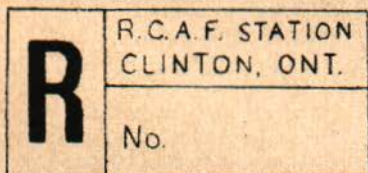
4



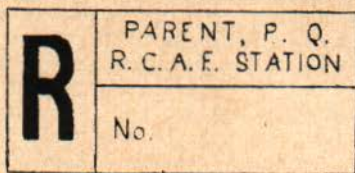
5



6



7



8

Remarks on the Cancellations Illustrated

- A. Two typical postal markings from the two RCAF Stations in the Ottawa postal district.
 No. 1—Cancel from Rockcliffe-Ottawa, Ont.
 No. 2—Cancel from Uplands-Ottawa, Ont.
- B. Drawings of various postal markings from the remaining RCAF Stations.
 No. 3—Cancellation in use by most offices.
 No. 4—Very few stations use a cancel of this type.
 No. 5—Very seldom seen (killer bars added on).
 No. 6—Only machine cancellation in use.
 No. 7—Registration marking in use by most offices
 No. 8—Less common marking, "RCAF Station" and location interchanged).

(Continued on next page)



9



10



11

No. 9—Smaller registration marking, very few of this type in use.

No. 10—Unusual cancellation from Trenton, Ont.

No. 11—Typical roller cancel. ★

THE EDITOR'S MAILBAG

Interested in Small Queens?

Listed under Study Groups in TOPICS you will find my name as chairman of the Small Queens Group. That is the only office of this group at present, and in some of my ads. in TOPICS I have stated, "Pleased to hear from collectors interested in the Small Cents issue." The letters I have received in the past year have totalled 79, and they came from as far south as California, from Vancouver in the West, and Halifax in the East, and from England and Ireland. About 90 per cent of the correspondents enclosed stamps for identification, and it certainly shows the interest in the 1870-97 issue.

From this correspondence I have not only learned plenty but have had the privilege of seeing some beautiful copies and cancellations, and some exceptional covers. Then again, in attending the BNAPS convention as well as local clubs and meeting different collectors, much has been learned about this issue, and above all many new friends made.

The rare one in the Small Queen 3c is still the copper red 1870, perf. 12½x12½, and at recent sales prices of over \$100 have been

realized for fine copies, with a higher price for fine to superb copies, and where a fine copy on cover is concerned, it is hard to guess what it would bring.

One of the earliest dated covers I have seen is Feb. 4, 1870, and I would like to hear from anyone who is lucky enough to have one dated earlier, on or off cover, as I believe this to be the earliest date known.

In closing these few remarks, remember I am always pleased to correspond with collectors of this issue.

Walter P. Carter (No. 591).

'Blackout' Cancellations From Small Towns

At top of page 304 in December TOPICS the 'why' of 'blackout' cancellations from small towns is noted.

During wartime, the correspondence of J. D. Cox, then postmaster at Upper Stewiacke, N.S., had this blackout and I asked him about it. He said: "All mail is to be sent to Halifax, uncanceled, and they fix it there."

A censor later told me business-like letters as indicated by corner cards, likely

were okay, but they spot-checked handwritten covers if near port cities.

This would account for small places near Quebec being blacked out. And it would be an immense job to quickly supply new devices to innumerable post offices, and it would be a scratchy job for each postmaster to obliterate the steel lettering from his own cancelling instrument.

F. W. Campbell (No. 143).

BNAPS Membership

Referring to the membership list as contained in the 1957 Yearbook, the following percentages may be of interest: Total membership Oct. 1, 1951; Canada 494 (52%); United States 394 (41.5%); United Kingdom 53 (5.5%); others 10 (1%).

Gene M. Johnstone (No. 1505).

1892 Forerunners . . .

I was interested in Mr. Max Rosenthal's letter in November TOPICS and to learn of his early dates for Seaforth. With regard to his remarks on the missing '92' in the London cancel, I have been able to check that

the year is missing on the following dates: April 23, 26, 28 and 29. I have a clear strike of the last date on a card and am indebted for the first two dates to R. T. Tonkin of New South Wales. I should be glad to hear of other dates, with or without the year.

I agree that St. John is not too common, but I have it on card and on stamps.

Having now seen Mr. Vizzard's 'Seaforth' cover, I feel that subject has closed in a blaze of glory! I sadly close my page of four part-strikes.

. . . and Union Steamships Ltd.

Your notes on the above gave me some much-needed information. I have the S.S. Cardena on cover of the British Columbia Packers Ltd., of Vancouver, dated Sep. 10, 1932. I have also photographs of strikes of the S.S. Lady Pam of Jul. 6, 1936, and S.S. Coquillan dated Apr. 27, 1947. The Coquillan strike is a complete rectangle without the cut corners.

J. Millar Allen (No. 996).

THUMBNAIL SKETCHES OF

Canadian Prime Ministers

AS SHOWN ON CANADIAN STAMPS

By T. C. BERKELEY (BNAPS 767)¹

No. 6—SIR CHARLES TUPPER

Charles Tupper was born in Amherst, N.S., in 1821. His parents were of British-American stock, emigrating to Nova Scotia before the American War of Independence. He was educated for the medical profession in his native province and at Edinburgh University, and started practice as a doctor in Amherst, N.S. After building up a lucrative practice, at the end of 12 years he turned to politics, being elected to the legislature in 1855 by defeating the great Joseph Howe.

While in England helping to promote the Inter-colonial Railway from Quebec to Halifax, he became interested in the proposed Confederation, and in 1864 he became

Premier of Nova Scotia. The same year he arranged the first meeting at Charlottetown to promote federation of the colonies, and he is really entitled to the name 'Father of Confederation'.

At Quebec in 1867 he gave MacDonald his full support, but Nova Scotia did not join at this time. With great diplomacy, Tupper converted Howe to his thinking and Nova Scotia joined Confederation 1869.

Being offered a seat in the Dominion Cabinet, Tupper stood aside until 1870, supporting the national policy with great vigor, and did much to help arrange financing of the vital Canadian Pacific Railway.

He remained in Parliament until 1900, when he was defeated at the polls for the first time in 40 years. Passing away in 1915 at the age of 94, he has been justly called Nova Scotia's greatest son. ★

¹ Mr. Berkeley died recently before it was possible for us to finish publishing this interesting group of 'sketches'. The material on hand in this series will be published in our columns as space permits.—Ed.



The Stellarton Duplex Star Postmark



LATELY there has been considerable interest in Canadian 'duplex' postmarks—two devices on the same instrument, one to cancel the stamp, the other to place the office name on the envelope proper.

Before me is a series of postcards from Stellarton, N.S., Dec. 7, 1888, to Oct. 12, 1889, with the ordinary '7' style postmark of Stellarton, N.S., and to the right a very heavy five-pointed star to cancel the stamp.

Two odd things about this star are worth mentioning. The face of the heavy star is checkered with coarse squares, each about 1 mm. across. The star seems to be on a swivel, as it is always exactly the same distance to the centre of the star from the edge of the city mark, but the points of the star can be in any direction. A third oddity is that the city mark seems to be permanently attached to the instrument containing the star, because all strikes are weak at the bottom left of the city mark, while the star is superbly blackened. This ingenious home-made instrument is quite out of the ordinary, indeed.

Stellarton is in Pictou County, and in my 1881 Directory is listed as having a population of 2,500. It is in a coal mining district, and the name Stellar would indicate a star, which may be a good reason for the name. The locally-mined coal is very oily, of a type called 'stellar', because in burning it sputters out starry sparks.

Stellarton changed from Albion Mines in post office name in 1871. Albion Mines operated 1842-1871, the same postmaster, H. McKenzie, officiating during the change-over of names. So often when a name change occurred, a change of postmasteters was also made, but not in this instance.

A mystery post office ties in with this Albion Mines, and some reader may have the solution. If so, please notify the writer. In 1867 only is listed in Nova Scotia post offices: "Albion Mills, N.S." No county or postmaster's name is mentioned. I suspect this is a typographical error for Albion Mines. If someone has printed lists showing the county or the postmaster's name of Albion Mills, it would help locate the short-time place. Or if the list had the "Mines" office missing that year, with "Mills" substituted, it would be a clue to a mistake.



A Moncton, N.B., duplex postmark is illustrated in order to show a late usage of the two-part-circles style of mark. The only known usages of this style as a duplex are Saint John, Moncton and Dorchester, all in New Brunswick.

Incidentally, Dorchester, N.B., which was established as a post office in 1825, had on its first postmark made about 1833 "N.S." as a locality designation, with a star at the bottom of the circle. The boundary line between the two provinces was not definitely settled until the 1850's, hence the "N.S." in the "N.B." postmark. ★

From the Secretary

SECRETARY: JACK LEVINE, 209 PINE TREE ROAD, OXFORD, N.C.

January 1, 1958.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1524 Beck, Allen C., 3932 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville 7, Kentucky.
 1525 Charron, F/L J. J., 298 Blake Blvd., Apt. 3, Eastview, Ottawa 2, Ontario.
 1526 Dorian, Miss Ann, 57 Teignmouth Road, London N.W.2, England.
 1527 Kenyon, Alonzo F., 2505 Hollywood Drive, Pittsburgh 35, Pennsylvania.
 1528 Needoba, Lesly, R.R. 3, Armstrong, British Columbia.
 1529 Roth, J. F., 6733 River Road, Harahan, Louisiana.
 1530 Smolinske, Jack D., R.R. #1, Albion, Indiana.
 1531 Woods, James Edward, 2 Hengrave Road, Honor Oak Park, London S.E. 23, England.

APPLICATIONS PENDING

- Carmichael, John A., 288 Bernard Street, Kelowna, British Columbia.
 Schiewick Smith, Ernest F., P.O. Box 123, Hudson Heights, Quebec.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

- LEFFERTS, Jacob R. V. M., Monmouth Hills, Highlands, N.J. (C) CAN—Mint and used postage and mint blocks. Mint and used booklet panes and complete booklets. Literature. R.R. cancellations. Proposed by J. S. Siverts, No. 59.
 ROBERTSON, K. M., 307 Murray St., Port Arthur, Ont. (D-CX) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Plate blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint and used booklet panes and complete booklets. Mint, used and semi-official airmails. Proposed by S. I. Know, No. 1196; seconded by B. A. Foster, No. 1324.
 TUNNA, Norman C., 720 Poplar Rd., Calgary, Alberta (CX) CAN, NS—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Plate blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint and used booklet panes. Precancels. Federal, provincial and tax-paid revenues. Mint, used and semi-official airmails. Proofs and Essays. "Locals". Proposed by G. M. Hill, No. 1095; seconded by R. S. Traquair, No. 1450.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS RECEIVED

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

- L33 Baraclough, J. R., 3495 Vendome Ave., Montreal 28, Quebec.
 1308 Berkelheimer, Irwin, Rt. 8 - Box 189CC, Charlotte, N.C.
 292 Denton, Bert K., Monsanto-Kasei Chemical Co., C.P.O. Box 879, Tokyo, Japan (from St. Louis, Mo.)
 981 Cooke, Dr. Lorna, "Westhay", Mount Ave., Hutton, Brentwood, Essex, England.
 729 Harris, E. A., 7516 - 80th Street, Edmonton, Alberta.
 723 Lethaby, Hubert, Box 592, Victoria, British Columbia.
 384 Llewellyn, George B., 137 Clearview Avenue, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.
 1337 Plun, George M., Cima Apts., Pluckemin Road, R.D. #2, Somerville, N.J.

RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED

- 1144 Barker, Arthur B., P.O. Box 726, Waterbury, Conn.
 428 Barron, Edward C., 12741 Washburn Avenue, Detroit 38, Mich.
 289 Sykes, Frank L., 14156 Washburn Avenue, Detroit 38, Mich.

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED

- Tucker, George E. Wener, Henry

DECEASED

- 126 Allen, E. K., 240 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
 804 Aiken, Major Wm., Ancaster P.O., Ontario.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, December 1, 1957	956
NEW MEMBERS, January 1, 1958	8
	964
RESIGNED, January 1, 1958	2
DECEASED, January 1, 1958	2
	4
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, January 1, 1958	960

JACK LEVINE, Secretary.

Classified Topics

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COPY for Classified Topics should be sent to Gordon P. Lewis, 37 Eldomar Ave., Brampton, Ont., to arrive before the 1st of the month previous to publication date.

FOR SALE

CANADIAN HOTEL COVERS (Modern), 180 diff. \$40. Jack's Stamp Farm, Route 6, Woodstock, Ont. 154-11

FINE USED CANADA collections. 30 diff. overprinted Officials, \$1.50; 30 diff. Coils (Geo. V. Eliz. II) \$1.50; 65 diff. Commems. and Pictorials, \$1.50. (Any two at \$2.75 or all three at \$4.00). W. C. McClammy, Rocky Point, N.C., U.S.A. 149-1f

BETTER CANADA. Sets, singles, mint blocks. Send want lists (with references). H. G. Saxton, 139 Twelfth Ave. N.E., Calgary, Alta., Canada. (981f)

O27 PLATE BLOCK, LR, \$90. Jack's Stamp Farm, Rte. 6, Woodstock, Ontario, Canada. 154-11

CANADA OFFICIALS collection of 79 varieties with one on cover, and four rare 5-hole perf. OHMS, \$10.00. Canada Officials Checklist, listing 729 varieties, \$1.50. Canada Officials Catalogue, pricing all major varieties, \$1.50. Selections of Canada Officials or Canada Revenues sent on request, or send want list. Roy Wrigley (APS, BNAPS, CPS, etc.), 2288 Bellevue Ave., West Vancouver, B.C. 151-1f

HAVE A NICE SELECTION of 19th century Canada used, 20th Century mint and used, 4 Ring Numeral on 5c Beavers, 2 Ring Numeral on Large and Small 3c, Squared Circles on postcards, entires, Railroad, Flag and Duplex cancellations on postcards; and new issues. Correspondence a pleasure. Send me a list of what you need, Walter P. Carter, 47 Risebrough Ave., Willowdale, Ont. 154-3t

DISPOSING of my accumulation of Canada mint plate blocks at bargain prices, 1947 to date. Also very fine used commemoratives, some by tens, others by hundreds. Would trade above for early Canadian covers of all types. C. A. Anderson, 1120-12th St. East, Saskatoon, Sask. 154-11

O15A MINT BLOCK showing Missing Period variety, \$25. Jack's stamp Farm, Route 6, Woodstock, Ontario, Canada. 154-11

FOR SALE

PHILATELIC LITERATURE CANADA—Calder's Canada 1859 Issue; Hamilton's Canadian Stamps; Harris Standard Index of Philatelic Literature; Holmes Canada 1943 and 1949; Lowe's Catalogue of B.N.A.; Lovell's Directory 1858 (Canada's first National Directory). Also other books available. Correspondence invited. Make offers. L. H. Dodd, 1111 Burlingame Ave., Detroit 2, Michigan. 154-11

Q.E. II (G.B.) Visit to Canada and U.S.A., 2 covers for \$1. Also Naphthadag 1st day cover (6 vals.) \$1; and mint N.D.'s. Rare Inter-Parliamentary 12/8/57 London covers \$1 (also ditto on Air Letter Sheets); and other interesting material (G.B.). Price lists sent. Prompt delivery by air mail. Send orders plus postage to G. L. Barron, Bellemore Road, Southampton, Eng. 154-3t

EXCHANGE

CANADA—Early singles. 1922 to date mint or used blocks, including booklets. Will exchange for U.S. mint or used, also FDC world. General first flight covers including fine Zeppelin mail. Almost anything of Austria, including rare postal stationery mint or FD cancelled. Stamps of the world mounted by country. Joseph Bush, 61 W. 74 St., New York 23. 1461f

CANADA OFFICIALS AND REVENUES wanted in exchange for Canada Postage or Plate Blocks. Roy Wrigley, 2288 Bellevue Ave., West Vancouver, B.C. 1f

WANTED

WANTED FOR CASH—Squared circle, two-ring numeral and fancy cancels on or off cover, Small Queens only; also illustrated and corner card covers. George Hicks, Listowel, Ont. 142-1f

MANITOBA LAWS, especially the orange and white provisionals, inverts, double overprints, imperfs., etc. Write or send registered to H. T. Spicer, 272 Roseberry St., St. James, Winnipeg 2, Canada. 152-3t

TWO RING NUMERALS on 3c Small Queen: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16 to 20, 22 to 26, 29, 31 to 39, 42, 43, 44, 46, 48, 49 to 55, 60. Will pay any reasonable price. Grant Showers, 9 Sarnia Rd., C Block, Apt. 17, London, Ont. 154-11

SQUARED CIRCLES WANTED—Will buy or exchange Beeton, Byng Inlet, St. Hilarion, Freeport, Great Village, Northport, Wolfville, Butternut Ridge, Newcastle Creek, Matane, Pointe A Pic, St. Polycarpe, Stanstead, Sutton, Alma 1st, Angus, Blue Vale, Blyth, Forest, Fort William, Millbrook, Nassagaweya, Pontypool, Simcoe, Bleeker, Waterdown, Watford, Estevan, Ashcroft Station, Revelstoke, Lambton Mills. L. M. Ludlow, Box No. 64, Grosse Ile, Michigan. 151-1f

WANTED

WANTED—The following Halifax squared circles, any stamp, on or off cover. The complete date and the number above the date (given first here in each case) most essential. Generous exchange or will purchase. August 1893: any date, any number above; 3-De 14, 93; 4-Au 29, 94; 3-Ja 9, 96; 4-Sp 28, 96; 4-Oc 6, 96; Dec 20, 21, 22, 96, any number above date; 3-Jy 3, 97; 4-Jy 14, 07; 1-Jy 27, 97; 4-Au 14, 97; 4-Au 24, 97; 1-Au 27, 97; 4-Sp 7, 97; 1-Sp 16, 97; 3-Sp 28, 97; 1-Oc 23, 97; 1-Oc 26, 97; 4-Ja 30, 99; 3-Fe 9, 99; also Nov 3, 97, any number above the date; 1, 3, 4 (three stamps, of course) Nov. 30, 97. Dr. Alfred Whitehead, 52 Havelock St., Amherst, N.S. x-ff

NEWFOUNDLAND 5 cent Caribou, Scotts 190, 191 and 257, mint and used, including Perfins, TPO's, army cancellations, slogans, on or off cover, wanted for cash. Wood, 1 Dorset St., Grey Lynn, Auckland, New Zealand. 154*

COPY OF SHAW'S Catalogue of Canadian Railroad Cancellations with 1954 Supplement. R. W. Grimble, 122 Wynnwood Dr., Windybush, Wilmington 3, Del. 154-1t

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If you can help, write G. P. Lewis, Editor.

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THE LAST WORD

By THE EDITOR

• **MORE ON PLATE BLOCKS . . .** As a follow-up to the information garnered from 'Hansard' which is published on pages 33-35 of this issue, as we go to press we have received an official communiqué from the Deputy Postmaster General, **G. A. Boyle**, Ottawa, which reads as follows:

"The following policy for the sale of plate blocks of postage stamps has been authorized by the Postmaster General. When new printing plates are required and present stocks of stamps have been sold, plate numbers will no longer appear on panes of stamps sold at post offices throughout the country, thus eliminating a cause of annoyance and delay to those purchasing stamps at post office wickets for ordinary use.

"Panes of stamps with plate numbers will be offered for sale to collectors through the **Philatelic Section, Post Office Department, Ottawa, Canada**. This service also will overcome the difficulty which some collectors have had in obtaining a full set of all plate numbers issued.

"The Philatelic Section in Ottawa will maintain a stock of plate numbers in the usual four positions of regular and special issues.

"Plate blocks may be purchased from the Philatelic Section when ordered in the usual numbers of each denomination required to obtain each plate block.

"To be certain of obtaining all four positions of every plate number in each denomination of postage stamps, collectors are invited to open a deposit account and place a standing order for their requirements. A minimum deposit of \$50.00 is required. This service will overcome the difficulty which many collectors have had in obtaining a full set of all plate numbers issued."

☆ ☆

• **THE OLD WAY BEST? . . .** We aren't taking sides as to whether plate blocks should be sold through post offices or not, but are glad to publish the following plea from **H. E. Canham, BNAPS 77**:

"Just a thought, which others have prob-

ably written you about, since the short announcement that there will be no more plate blocks through the regular old fashioned channels—our local post offices—but only from Ottawa, and then in sheets and half sheets to get the corner blocks. How about a note suggesting that all members of BNAPS and collectors everywhere write to their representative in Parliament, to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State and the Postmaster General, asking for a continuation of the old sales method, and that all Canadian stamps continue to have plate information on the sheets.

"I have already had some correspondence with the officials of the government re this matter, and I feel that if enough pressure is brought to bear on them that they will see that Mr. Hamilton will have the sheets of stamps printed and sold in the good old manner."

☆ ☆

• **PERHAPS WE ARE WRONG! . . .** We notice that 'Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly' of London, England, terms the 5c Free Press stamp issued January 22 "an inspired design." We are afraid it holds little inspiration for us, but everyone to his own opinion! . . . We also noticed in an old issue of 'Canadian Printer and Publisher' which we were glancing through recently a rather adverse criticism of the 5c Loon stamp, which we liked and which was selected as one of the best designs of the year by the 'Stamp Collector's Annual'. It's all in the eyes of the beholder, it seems!

☆ ☆

• **J. HEDLEY HOLLANDS (BNAPS 1402)**, formerly secretary of the C.P.S. of G.B., who moved to Canada last spring and now lives in Hamilton, Ontario, seems to be making himself at home in his new surroundings according to an item in a recent issue of our contemporary, 'The Canadian Philatelist'. Hedley works for the Bank of Nova Scotia, and during last summer he played with the bank baseball team, as well as with the Toronto Cricket Club. ★

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