

# *BNA Topics*



Last May, our good friend Clarence Kemp, asked in "Topix" about a Hamilton cancellation with a wide "squatty" letter R above the date. We submit a cover with such a cancellation.

N. Pelletier

*Official Journal*

*Of The*

*British North America*

*Philatelic Society*

*Volume 22    Number 5    Whole Number 233    May 1965*

Published May 10

# OUR NEW REVIEW

provides a colourful record of

## AN UNFORGETTABLE SEASON

1963 ————— 1964

*\* The total realisations for the season were \$4,970,644.*

*The three great rarities of the season (Mauritius 1847 cover bearing both One Penny orange-red and Two Pence deep blue realised \$78,400; British Guiana entire bearing a magnificent horizontal pair of the 2c. rose "cotton reel" realised \$71,400 and the mint block of six 1843 Swiss Double Geneva which realised \$121,800 — the highest price ever paid for a single philatelic item) are illustrated in colour.*

*\* THE REVIEW abounds in interesting facts and features, also 44 pages entirely in colour — send for your copy to-day.*

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# BNA Topics

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
VOLUME 22 / NUMBER 5 / WHOLE NUMBER 233 / MAY 1965

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# Official Section



## Monthly Report from the Secretary . . .

JACK LEVINE, 203 Tranquil Drive, Oxford, North Carolina, 27565

### NEW MEMBERS

April 1, 1965

- 2111 Anweiler, Alf. H. C., 228-7th West, Melville, Saskatchewan  
2112 Brown, David E., 10818-123 Street, Edmonton, Alberta  
2112 Carlson, Fred W., 3314 Lawrence Avenue, Chicago Heights, Illinois 60414  
2114 Cleaver, Ivan H., 2162 Deyncourt Drive, Burlington, Ontario  
2115 Dicketts, M. B., 1280 St. Mark Street, No. 504, Montreal 25, Quebec  
2116 Hendershott, Norman R., 11 Temple Street, London, Ontario  
2117 Howe, John E., 143 Elberta Avenue, Niagara Falls, Ontario  
2118 Jamieson, Robert H., 21 Kirk Drive, Thornhill, Ontario  
2119 Laurence, Kenneth R., 980 N.E. 132nd Street, North Miami, Florida 33161  
2120 Rodriguez S., Abelardo, Paseo de la Reforma 1635, Mexico 10, D.F. Mexico  
2121 Wentz, C. F. Rupert, 308 Porlar Crescent, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

### APPLICATIONS PENDING

- Berry, James D. Jr., 29 Lawrence Street, Wakefield, Massachusetts 01880  
Feuring, Herbert F., 2929 Francis Street, Regina, Saskatchewan  
Guile, Clifford R., 465 Venne Street, St. Lambert, Quebec  
Guskin, Leo, 1211 West 52nd Avenue, Vancouver 14, British Columbia  
Ichida, Dr. Soichi, No. 13 Shiba Park, Minato-Ku, Tokyo, Japan  
Pink, Lester, Box 100, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia  
Roberts, Dr. Norman H., 1013 N.E. 40th Street, Seattle, Washington 98105  
Scott, Dr. P. A., 354 Codrington Street, Barrie, Ontario  
Shelson, Norman, 72 Castlewood Road, Toronto 12, Ontario

### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- ALMOND, John Lewis, 139 Kenwood Ave., Toronto 10, Ont. (C-CX) CAN, NFD—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp, stampless & 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. O.H.M.S.-G. Mint & used booklet panes and complete booklets. Precancels. Seals. All revenues. Mint used & semi-official airmails and on cover. Postal stationery entires. All cancellations. SPECIALTY—Pre-cancels. Slogan & Flag cancellations. Proposed by F. H. Endean, No. 2011.
- ARMSON, Louis, Box 8, Sarah St., Gravenhurst, Ont. (C) CAN—1st Flight covers. O.H.M.S.-G. Precancels. Literature. R.P.O., Territorial, Flag, Squared-Circle & Duplex cancellations. Proposed by G. Johnston, No. 721.
- LUTZ, Edward J., 4 Timberlane Rd., Upper Saddle River, N.J. 07458 (DC-CX) CAN, NFD., PROV—Mint postage and blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. O.H.M.S.-G. Mint booklet panes. Mint Airmails. SPECIALTY—Plate Blocks Proposed by J. N. Sissons, No. L17.
- PARSONS, H. H., 17 Blackdown Crescent, Islington, Toronto, Ont. (C) CAN—19th century mint postage and blocks. SPECIALTY—'51-'14. Proposed by J. N. Sissons, No. L17.
- STONE, Robert L., 9351-83 Street, Edmonton, Alta. (C-CX) CAN—Mint & used postage. Pre-stamp covers. Plate Blocks. Postal stationery entires. M.O.O.N. cancellations. Alberta postmarks. Proposed by S. Kenyon, No. 1676. Seconded by E. J. Christensen, No. 1093
- ZAP, David J., 5706 McMurray, Cote St. Luc, Montreal 29, Que. (C-CX) CAN, NFD, B.C., N.B., N.S.—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp, 1st Day & 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. O.H.M.S.-G. Federal & provincial Revenues. Mint & used airmails. Proposed by J. Spier, No. 701.

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 1666 Hayes, Harry, 48 Trafalgar St., Healey, Batley, Yorkshire, England  
1149 Lundberg, John P., 7403-105 A Street, Edmonton, Alberta

### RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED

Davie Henry

D'Souza, B.B.J.

### RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED

- 1838 Barnes, Hubert L., Box 46, Buchans, Nfld.  
326 Calder, Stanley C., 188 Longhurst Lane, Mellor, Cheshire, England  
1960 Mueller, Mrs. Bodil K., Box 124, Gillies Bay, Texada Island, B.C.

### MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, March 1, 1965 .....	960
NEW MEMBERS, April 1, 1965 .....	11
	<hr/>
RESIGNATIONS, April 1, 1965 .....	2
	971
	<hr/>
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, April 1, 1965 .....	969

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

ARTICLE IV, Section 3, ELECTIONS: Three (3) members to the Board of Governors shall be so elected each year for a term of three (3) years.

Nominations for the officers to be elected may be filed with the Secretary by any Regional Group of the Society or by any five (5) members in good standing in time, at least, for publication in the issue of BNA TOPICS scheduled for release ninety (90) days before the opening of the Convention and Annual Meeting of such election year. At least one hundred fifty (150) days before the opening date of such election year Convention and Annual Meeting, the President shall appoint five (5) members of the Society to serve and function as a Nominating Committee whose prime purpose shall be to prepare and present a slate of candidates for the elective offices to be voted, which slate shall be published in the issue of BNA TOPICS scheduled for release one hundred and twenty (120) days before the opening date of the Convention and Annual Meeting of such election year. No member shall be nominated unless he shall have first assented to his nomination to his proponent, and his proponent, in nominating him, shall state such assent has already been received. Each nomination made shall be published in BNA TOPICS at least ninety (90) days prior to the election date.

### NOMINATIONS

All candidates placed in nominations have assented to such nomination and agreed to serve if so elected.

FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Cook, Al (Ithaca, N.Y.); deVolpi, Charles (Montreal, Que.); Llewellyn, George (Philadelphia, Pa.); Nickle, Sam (Calgary, Alta.); Pelletier, Nels (Toronto, Ont.); Peters, Ray (Phoenix, Ariz.)

Respectfully submitted: Nominating Committee — E. Richardson, Chairman, D. Crawford, A. McIntyre, L. Davenport, Dr. E. Walck, H. Lussey and W. Rockett.

## OFFICIAL NOTICES

### ANNUAL MEETING

ARTICLE VI, Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held at such time and at such place as the preceding Annual Meeting shall determine, but in any event, some time within the next calendar year. Notice thereof shall be published in BNA TOPICS no later than the issue preceding the date for such Annual Meeting, together with the Order of Business and Agenda for that Annual Meeting:

The Order of Business at each Annual Meeting shall proceed as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Reading and approval of the Minutes of the preceding Annual Meeting
3. Communications
4. President's Address
5. Reports of Officers
6. Report of Appointed Officers and Permanent Committee
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business
9. Report of Committee on Elections
10. Introduction of New Officers
11. Adjournment

The 17th Annual Meeting & Convention (BNAPEX '65) shall be held on September 16-19, 1965 at Chatham Bars Inn, Cape Cod, Chatham, Mass.

### BNAPS REGIONAL GROUPS

*Philadelphia*—Meets the first Thursday of each month at 7934 Pickering Stret, Philadelphia, Pa. *Temagami*—Meet every summer. Alfred P. Cook, Coy Glen Road, Ithaca New York. *Vancouver*—Meets every Friday night at the Y.W.C.A., corner of Burrard and Dunsmuir, at 8 p.m. *Winnipeg*—Meets on a Monday in each month to be decided upon at previous meeting. Harold Wilding 135 Traill Ave., Winnipeg 12, Man. *Edmonton*—Meets twice a year in May and October in a public place, time and date to be announced. Out of town visitors to communicate with Secretary F. N. Harris, 11013-129 Street *Twin City*—Meets at members' homes on second Thursday of each month. J. C. Corneliuss, 2309 Irving Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. *Calgary*—Meets second and fourth Tuesday at 8 p.m., Murray Devlin, 1030—12th Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alberta. *Pacific*—Meets twice a year at the call of the Secretary, Brian F. Milne, 14500 San Jose Street, San Fernando, California.



Dear Sir:

Mr. R. J. Woolley in his note on OK Cancellation of Black Brook refers to Black Brook, Pictou changing its name to East River, St. Mary's.

It would be interesting to know when the name Black Brook started. No such place is mentioned in the Postal History of N.S. & N.B. just published, but there was a East River, St. Mary's (Way Office) Pictou in existence from 1855-67 (67 is the last date of separate postal history of N.S. & N.B.) and I have an entire from East River, St. Mary's dated June 21st, 1855 with a New Glasgow circular paid stamp. The entire is a money letter sent to Halifax. Incidentally there was another East River, St. Mary's in Guysborough Co. did this also become Black Brook.

Yours truly,

Sir George Williamson

Dear Mr. Young:

## BOOK REVIEW

The excellent review by Horace Harrison of the new Registered Letter Stamp handbook, published in February Topics, shows the masterly knowledge and deep study which Mr. Harrison has devoted to the subject. There are one or two points raised in the review on which we should like to comment, and which we think might interest your readers.

(1) The 8c "misplaced guide-line" or plate scratch as Mr. Harrison calls it — The flaw described by Mr. Harrison has two parallel scratches, the stamp illustrated on page 19 of the handbook has only one scratch and shows no trace of wear — indeed the 8c plate was so little used that it shows no signs of wear. It is therefore evident that there must have been two stamps on this plate showing these scratches, and the stamp with one scratch is presumably no. 50 of the plate recorded by Jarrett in 1934.

(2) Referring to the late use of the perf. 12 x 11½, Mr. Harrison writes: "There is an error of quite some significance in the final paragraph", and records a cover in his collection with this perf. dated July, 1890.

In correspondence with Mr. Harrison, we suggested he might have to check ten thousand covers to find another example, to which he replied "more like a million". If we ignore odds of a million to one, it can scarcely be described as "an error of some significance".

(3) Referring to dated town cancels, Mr. Harrison writes: "There is one serious erroneous conclusion drawn in Chapter X" and argues that the 14% of dated town cancels shown on page 46 should be more like 4 or 8%. Possibly Mr. Harrison has misunderstood the matter. We were not attempting to calculate correct percentages of each type of cancel, but the numbers **actually recorded by us** in a few big collections including dated copies. Since we were always looking out for them, and we are quite willing to compromise and agree that the % of dated copies is probably between the 4 or 8% advocated by Mr. Harrison and the 14% of the table in the handbook.

We feel most gratified at Mr. Harrison's very complimentary remarks, and would emphatically endorse his conclusion urging the co-operation of all Canadian collectors to help fill in the gaps of knowledge by correspondence with us.

A. F. Smith,  
5690 Woodill Street,  
Halifax, N.S.

E. A. Smythies  
Castle Morris,  
Tralee, Ireland

Dear Mr. Young:

I recently had occasion to receive some mail from a merchant in Forfar, and naturally being a student of Canadian cancellations, promptly noticed the old type cds and killer being used.

My brother also being a collector, and in the line of our business calls on the postmaster, who also is a general store operator in the village of Forfar.



On checking my Holmes catalogue I found that the hammer used yet, is type 7. issued from 1855 onwards. Enclosed herewith on a card are strikes from both hammers of the cds and barred circle killer, which were given to us by the postmaster Mr. Vernon Baker. He says that he has been in this position for over 30 years and each stamp and canceller are separate and were given to him by previous postmasters. As far as he is aware these have been passed down from postmaster to postmaster to the present time.

He was quite interested in talking about his duties, and I believe if any collectors wanted cancellations from the post office where time has stood still for over 100 years, (cancellation wise) he would be willing to co-operate.

Trusting that this information may be of some value to members of the BNAPS, I remain,

Yours very truly,

A. J. Quattrocchi

### NOTICE FROM THE EDITOR

During the past six months there have been numerous delays in publishing BNA Topics. During November/December all the Convention Reports went astray and necessitated a combined issue of the Yearbook/December. In January our engraver's workshop was flooded with oil and caused us to delay publication. During February and March we were attempting to get back on schedule. Unfortunately, one of the most important reports for April was delayed because of illness and thus we were unable to get started on the April issue until April 13th. We are now attempting to get back on time. We ask for your indulgence.

Sincerely

The Editor

## Report from the Library

EDGAR C. BLACK, 1726 WESTERN PKWY., VANCOUVER 8, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Wanted for the library: Post office guides and supplements; Collectors' lists of post offices; Sissons' auction catalogues; **Canada's Postage Stamps** by Douglas and Mary Patrick; **Stamp Collector's Exchange Club Journal**.

V. G. Greene  
Chairman, Library Committee

Following donations acknowledged:

Denton T. Doll — Cash gift, \$1.50.  
V. G. Greene — **Jarrett's B.N.A. Record** for November, 1930, and January and May, 1931; **Postage Stamps of Canada** by Fred Jarrett, 1923 Ed.; **Maple Leaves** etc.  
Ted. L. Kilish — Cash gift, \$1.50.  
Edward S. Mercantini — 12 issues of current philatelic journals.  
H. G. Walburn — Price lists of Davenport, Sissons and Stanley Stamp Company.



# Sales Circuit Comments

JAMES C. LEHR, 2818 Cheshire Rd., Devon, Wilmington 3, Delaware

Will try to cover a lot of little things which tend to make the Sales Managers job better or worse, as the case may be. By the same token, would appreciate comments from you on problems from your end which we might be able to improve.

- (1) All purchases must be paid in U.S. funds. Thus be sure to add exchange rate if you send Canadian bills (not recommended) or a check. Best way for Canadian members to pay is by money order, since check must be cleared & usually requires some service charge which ends up being paid by the society.
- (2) Postage charges to Canadian members (first class plus 60c registration) are 3-4 times the charge to U.S. members (3rd class plus 20c insured), so be sure to pay postage in full if less than \$10 are purchased. Since \$10 sales results in only 80c commission, it may be necessary to increase minimum purchase requirement. One way to help this would be for Canadian members in the same area to get together, request a large circuit, and circulate it among the

group. This would decrease cost to you and to Sales Dept.

- (3) If there are stamp clubs or other groups that meet regularly, and would like a circuit for all or some meetings, let me know and we will try and send something suitable.
- (4) I try to use commemoratives and blocks of the rarer regular stamps for postage. Please do the same when returning circuits. If you don't want the used postage, return it and I'll see it gets to some group interested in U.S. postage. The used Canadian postage which doesn't go into my collection will eventually be put into our circuit sales.
- (5) I love to get comments, suggestions, requests, etc. from members, but please keep the questions short and to a minimum. Correspondence is getting heavier all the time — there are lots of you and only one of me.

Circuit sales are over \$800 through the middle of March and would be higher if we had more books to circulate. Lets get those duplicates out of the closet and into circulation.

## H. R. HARMER, INC. BRITISH COMMONWEALTH SALE TOPS \$100,000 Many over-catalogue prices realized in four session 2500 lot sale.

On March 8-11, 1965 at their Galleries, 6 West 48th Street, New York City. A few interesting prices mostly at catalogue or over were:

British Columbia: 1869 Perf. 12½, 5c on 3p red o.g., fine \$130 (Cat. \$110).

The second session began with a fine range of Canada. An extremely fine 3p on ribbed paper used brought \$220, over 3 times cat. of \$65.00, and another very fine copy on wove paper went for \$105, almost 4 times cat. of \$28.50. Other Canadian prices were: 1897 Jubilee \$1 blk. of 4, brilliant o.g., \$180 (Cat. \$200), Official, opt. "G", 1949-50 10c black brown, T L Sheet of 50, one stamp without "G", fresh fine \$260 (Cat. \$240.80).

New Brunswick 3p dark red unused, fine \$190 (Cat. \$200), Newfoundland 1857 6½p

scarlet vermilion o.g., very fine \$380 (Cat. \$325), 1929 Provisionals 3c on 6c gray black inverted surch. o.g., very fine \$180 (Cat. \$200), 3c on 6c black surch. (5mm), o.g., very fine \$320 (Cat. \$200), 1933 Balbo Flight, \$4.50 on 75c bistre tied on legal size flown cover \$300.

## 1966 INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

The Board of Directors of the Association for Stamp Exhibitions at its meeting of March 17, voted to sponsor the Sixth International Stamp Exhibition in 1966 at Washington, D.C., under the auspices of the National Stamp Exhibitions, which in years past has presented the NASPEX shows. This is the show originally entitled USIPEX 1966, which had been planned for New York, plans for which have been abandoned pending reorganization of the Association for Stamp Exhibitions.



# NOVA SCOTIA THREE PENCE

## An Old Stamp - A New Variety

by J. J. MacDonald, Ph.D. #1181

The first issue of Nova Scotia has long found favor with serious collectors the world over. They are excellent examples of the engraver's art and the clear classic style of the one pence red-brown, showing the young Victoria, is matched in the three higher values. These portray the heraldic and native flowers, so closely associated with this province and the ethnic origins of its people, grouped around the ancient symbol of empire, the crown. The intricate detail of the background, the flowers and the crown has foiled the forgers and no first-class imitation of these stamps exist, with one possible exception, to darken the collector's horizon. He should of course be prepared to invest a modest amount of time in study before he invests a not so modest amount of money to complete this set.

Excellent descriptions of the stamps and their history have been written beginning with King in the Gibbons monthly of 1894. The papers, shades, dates of issue, quantities ordered, usage, etc. have all been studied and the many articles culminated with the scholarly work of Nicholas Argenti in 1962. In the past year a most comprehensive postal history and record of postal markings has been excellently presented by Jephcott, Greene and Young.

The most numerous of the four values was the three pence blue with a total of 2,410,080 delivered to the postal authorities. It is today still the most common and not difficult to obtain. Unfortunately, no complete sheet of 160 stamps appears to have survived. The largest blocks are 15, 12 and 13 plus two bisects. The last item in the Nova Scotia Archive collection has a colorful history, having been stolen and returned within the past two years. Fortunately, a complete sheet of the reprints of 1890 was given to the Royal Philatelic Society by Senator Calder and Alfred Lichenstein in 1938 and was available for study by Argenti. He faithfully recorded and plated

from it the minor varieties and the one re-entry, stamp number 9.

For a number of years the author had noted the variety, shown in Figure 1, on a stamped cover, but when Argenti's book was published no mention of it could be found. After having dismissed it as a "freak" interest returned and grew when three more copies were obtained with the identical variety and, finally, that shyster\* Collins Baugild obtained a very fine unused copy where the "dot and line", characteristic of the variety, could be clearly seen.

Though this is by no means a major variety it is at least unusual to find it on a 115 year old issue so thoroughly studied previously. All of the copies examined appear to be identical with no progression or regression of state. There is a distinct color dot on the white upright of the P of POSTAGE with a line of color extending to the right across the letter P, through the 0 and ending in the letter S. The line is 4.7mm long.

Two questions, of course, arise immediately; what caused it or what is it? and why does it not occur on the reprint sheet examined by Argenti. To the former it is obvious that it is a character of the plate and not the result of a bit of foreign matter adhering to it. This would, in general, give a colorless line which only with the greatest coincidence would be exactly parallel with the design border. The same argument can be used to dismiss an accidental scratch. Alternative explanations appear to be: (1) That it is a re-entry, which is most unlikely considering its position and nature in relation to the design around it; (2) That it is a position dot and guide line used to aid the sideographer in setting up the plate from the transfer roll containing the die. This second is the most plausible especially when one remembers that the plate for this value shows a peculiarity in layout — namely

FIGURE 1

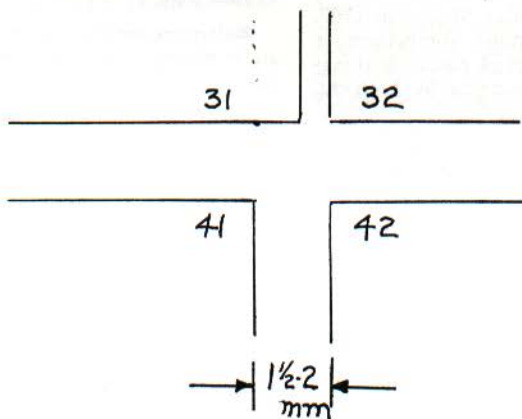
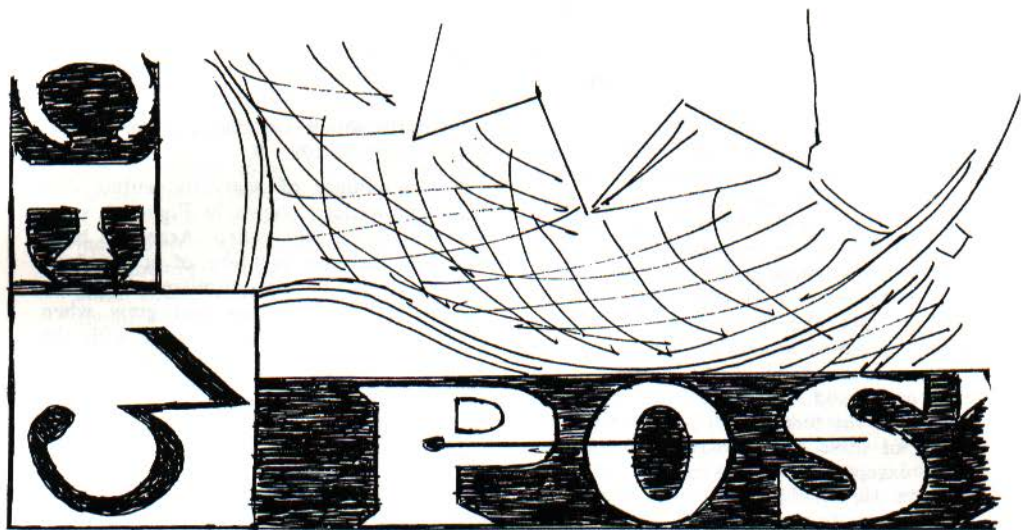


FIGURE 2



the first four stamps on the top left of the sheet are but 0.5 mm from their neighbour on the right. Figure 2 shows this narrow spacing that occurs between the stamps 1-2, 11-12, 21-22 and 31-32. All of the remaining spacings both horizontal and vertical are 1.5 to 2.0mm. It is tempting to conclude then, that the guide dot and line were on the plate and that the siderographer entered the first four impressions a little over 1mm too far to the right (to the right on the sheet but to the left on the plate). The variety should then be found on some or all of numbers 1, 11, 21 and 31. Unfortunately, a careful examination of the five copies does not support such a nice pat explanation. The righthand margins of three of the copies are over 1mm and show no neighbouring stamp and, also, stamp 21 of the sheet, owned by the author, does not show the variety under discussion.

\*Definition: Shyster — one who obtains a stamp you want before you do.

On two of the variety copies, however, there are, fortunately, other identifying characteristics which at least seem to locate the place position but shed no light on why it should be there. Argenti gives the details of the spurs extending from the top border into the margin above the C of SCOTIA and from these it is possible to say that Mr. Baugild's copy is number 135 and that another is number 25. It is likely then that the variety occurs on a number of stamps in the fifth vertical column of the plate and may be a position dot and guide line.

Having partially answered the first question posed by this variety, the second still remains. Undoubtedly, the reprint sheet did not contain such a dot and line as Argenti was most thorough in chronicling the minutest varieties and, as the Perkins Records show that there were not two plates made, the only conclusion possible is that they were removed sometime during the printing history. The records show that three orders for the three pence were filled; the first but for 10,080 stamps on 6th August, 1851, the second for 800,000 on

22nd October, 1851 and the third for 1,600,000 on 21st July, 1857.

A further examination of the five variety copies shows that four are dark or deep blue in shade and occur on a distinctly blue paper. The fifth copy is dark blue but is on a whiter paper with a yellow tint and has flecks of blue throughout. Presumably, the paper was de-blued on removal from its cover. The three copies on cover were used on 3rd August, 1855, 18th May and 15th June, 1857. These dates, the color of the stamps and the shade of their paper all point to copies from the second printing, less likely the first and definitely not the third. Such evidence therefore suggests that the variety was noticed in the inspection of the plate prior to the 1857 printing and was then removed. Copies of the re-entry as described by Argenti, stamp number 9, that the author has seen are of the third printing and it may well be that the re-entering was done at this time also.

The author admits that most of the foregoing is pure speculation and would most gratefully welcome additional information and alternative explanations from fellow philatelist. In conclusion, one further speculation may be permitted. Approximately 65% of the total face value of all of the four stamps was destroyed when the decimal currency was adopted in 1860. This fact plus the complaint of the Postmaster General, A. Woodgate, to the printers about the waste of many sheets of the second printing due to the faulty packing, leads to an estimate of 900,000, three pence stamps actually having been used of the 2,410,080 printed. If 2 in 1000 today survive there should be about 1800 used available. These would include those in active collections, those in the limbo of albums in executors vaults and, also, those in that dreamland of as yet unearthed original material. As there were ten columns in the plate only about 180 stamps from the fifth column should still exist and further, if but half of the sixteen positions of the column contained the variety then, if the speculation is correct, 85 to 90 more can be found. How many can you report?

## SUPPORT "TOPICS" WITH ARTICLES

# The Proof Corner

ROBERT H. PRATT, 3097 W. Mill Road, Milwaukee, Wis. 53209

On page 174 of his fine book "The Postage Stamp and Postal History of Canada" Winthrop Boggs describes a different "SPECIMEN" overprint. He states as follows:

"In 1879 the National Bank Note Co. of the Continental Bank Note Co. and the American Bank Note Co., all of New York, merged to become an enlarged American Bank Note Co. At that time or shortly after, proof impressions were taken from various plates, among them the 6d Canada. These prints were overprinted SPECIMEN in sans serif capitals 11mm long by 2½mm high (in red)."

I have never seen the Canada stamp but I have seen a block of 4 of the 2c New Brunswick in red with one stamp overprinted and also a single of the 12½c blue overprinted the same way.

Both of these seem to be very scarce items. My question is — Does anyone else have any of these items or other values overprinted the same way?

It should be interesting to find out just how many of the American Bank Note plates were so overprinted. Theoretically some Nova Scotia and Newfoundland proofs should show up with the same overprint.

It would also be interesting to know how

many of the hand stamped SPECIMEN overprints occur on a sheet.

On the same page Boggs comments about the orange yellow proofs from the Canada ½d, 3d, 6d, 7½d and 10d plates. These same colors show up on the Nova Scotia 1c, 2c, 5c, 8½, 10c and 12½c. Also on the N.B. 1c, 2c, 5c (Connell) 5c (Queen) 10c, 12½c and 17c, and finally on the Newfoundland 1c and 6c. The 5c "seal" and 13c "ship" are a darker shade and the 1c (National) and 12c are a shade lighter. As the 1c and 6c (American) were not issued until 1871 and 1870 respectively, this would seem to indicate that the orange yellow proofs were not made until after 1871 and therefore the 1864 date of Boggs would not seem to be correct. Does anyone have any more factual knowledge of these proofs?

Were they made at the same time as the Goodalls?

There is another variety of the plate proofs of New Brunswick, the 12½c blue on vertically ribbed card. The only reference I have seen to this paper is in the Queen's Collection. Do any more exist? If so, what values and colors, and where did they come from?

Any help anyone can give is welcome. Do search your collection — you may have a rare variety.

—More around the corner—

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## NEW CANADA PLATE NUMBERS COME TO LIGHT AFTER 60 YEARS

2c Edward Imperf found in three unknown plates

Three full sheets of 200 subjects each of the 1903 2c Edward imperforate of Canada (Scott #90a) have been discovered with plate numbers that have hitherto been unknown. The plate block catalogue lists plate numbers 13 and 14 as the only known plates for the 2c imperf and Jarrett's catalogue also mentions plates 1 and 2, but these sheets are inscribed with plate num-

bers 31, 32, and 43 respectively in both upper left and upper right positions. The lot is believed to be part of an old Post Office stock that has been hidden away for many years. There is some speculation that this lot may have been of an experimental nature since all the stamps have been neatly defaced with pen and ink in horizontal lines through the centre of each stamp, although



OTTAWA—No—31



these lines do not cross the centre gutter of the sheets. These lines are in blue on the sheets of plates 31 and 32 while on plate 43 they are in red. The photo shows part of sheet plate 31 with the defacing lines. A pencil notation in the upper left corner of plate 43 reads "regular" while a similar notation on plates 31 and 32 states "2nd lot of printing". The sheets are with full original gum and have been folded two ways making a crease down the centre gutter and a crease across the sheet. There are also a few other creases, mainly at the edges,

but they are in remarkably good condition considering their age. Gutter blocks of this stamp are quite rare these days and full sheets even more so. With these unknown plate numbers they constitute a major find and a new rarity in the field of Canadian philately. The owner of these sheets wishes to remain anonymous and has authorized Jim F. Webb, 22 Mackay Dr., Thornhill, Ont. Canada to dispose of them by unreserved auction and they will be included in his 124th sale to be held on July 12th.

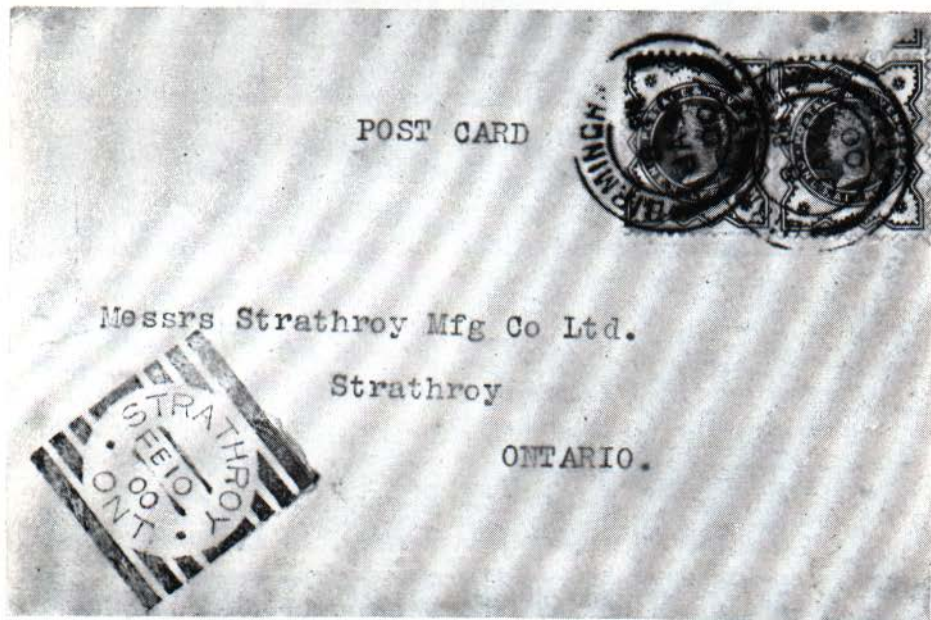
## *Rounding Up Squared Circles*

**Editor: DR. A. WHITEHEAD, 52 HAVELOCK ST., AMHERST, NOVA SCOTIA**

Squared Circle Happenings in 1964  
by C. A. Kemp

By far the most important development for squared circle collectors in 1964 was the completion of the revised edition of the

Handbook. The manuscript for this new edition was completed in 1963 but the making of many new illustrations, setting up the many chapters in type, together with all the necessary correcting and proof-reading occupied most of the year 1964, so that



The postcard illustrated above is of special interest for two reasons:—

- it is the latest recorded date for the use of the Strathroy squared circle hammer.
- It is cancelled in Birmingham at 8 p.m. on JA 30 1900 and is received in Strathroy on FE 10, 1900. At that time with no planes, high speed liners or streamlined trains it seems almost incredible that such fast mail service could exist. How long would it take for a letter to reach Birmingham, England from Strathroy, Ontario today by surface mail?



# SQUARED CIRCLE HANDBOOK

## ERRATA AND ADDENDA

### THE SQUARED CIRCLE POSTMARKS OF CANADA (Third Edition)

#### Page

#### ERRATA

- 12 Line 4 should read . . . during the period 1951-58.
- 18 Paragraph 5, Line 1, Delete Notre Dame St. West
- 18 Paragraph 3 should read Three line dates are of three types, one uncommon.
- 19 Paragraph 6, Line 2, Add (after Charlottetown) Lindsay.
- 19 Paragraph 10, Line 6 should read . . . in chapters 14, 16 and 17.
- 21 First word should read Brockville.
- 21 Last line of Halifax; — Insert as 2nd date 3/OC 21, 96.
- 21 Last line of Sydney, first word should be short-sighted.
- 22 Last line of Smiths Falls JY/24/0/0 should read July 24 8.
- 22 Last line of page; —add; I refer to corrected indicia.
- 35 Halifax, First Hammer RF: 2.5 (for dates of normal use)
- 35 Halifax 5th line from bottom should read . . . from JU 13 97 to NO 30, 97.
- 40 Sherbrooke NT above the date is also known.
- 40 Sutton, Insert above RF; sub-type 2 (excellent example).
- 41 Acton First Hammer DE 11-(94), Dr. Hollingsworth. RF: 250.
- 43 Cornwall, The last two lines "above the date; AM, PM" and "Latest; DE 21,00" belong to Dundas.
- 44 Guelph Add Note. See page 20 for Error Year Dates.
- 51 Toronto-Parliament Street. RF is 80. Printing is indistinct and looks like 30.
- 51 Toronto, York Street. "Note" line 10; In 1900 7 PM was in common use, but 700 and 7 are known (very rare). 12 Noon is very scarce in 1900.
- 54 Winnipeg, in chronology: (4) Third Hammer: Sole period of use, JA 28, 95-OC 28, 97.
- 56 Victoria, Second Hammer, 2nd and 3rd line should read lettering larger (3½ mm).

The information in the Addenda was furnished by a number of collectors including C. F. Southey, Dr. A. Tonelli, C. A. Kemp, H. Reiche, R. M. Doull, Gaston Lamarre, A. W. Wolff, Dr. Edna Walck and H. E. Wilding.

Additional copies of these two pages available from the Handbook committee: R. J. Woolley, 1520 Bathurst St. (Apt. 206), Toronto 10. Please include 10c for postage and packing.

## ADDENDA

Many new earliest and latest dates of use, and also several new time marks were reported after the handbook went to press. These are reported below.

Page		
32	<b>Beaverton</b> .....	1 above the date FE 27, 94
32	<b>Cumberland</b> .....	Earliest JU 9, 93
32	<b>London</b> .....	Blank above the date MY 1, 97,
32	<b>London</b> .....	Latest (Type 1) SP 21, 99
33	<b>London East</b> .....	Earliest JU 6, 93
33	<b>Rat Portage</b> .....	Earliest MY 10, 93
33	<b>Rat Portage</b> .....	Latest MY 21, 97
33	<b>Terrebonne</b> .....	Earliest MY 6, 93
35	<b>Noel</b> .....	Latest MY 25, 95
36	<b>Baie Verte</b> .....	Latest OC 18, 11
37	<b>Newcastle Creek</b> .....	Latest MY 12, 06
38	<b>Charlottetown</b> .....	Blank above the date AP 4, 95
38	<b>Danville</b> .....	Latest FE 5, 14
39	<b>Hull</b> .....	Second Hammer Above the date a tiny cross AP 10, 97
39	<b>Lotbiniere</b> .....	Latest MR 7, 01
39	<b>Montreal, Belle Rive</b> .....	Earliest AU 1-, 93
40	<b>St. Gregoire</b> .....	Latest JA 29, 00
40	<b>St. Polycarpe</b> .....	PM above the date JU 29, 94.
41	<b>Almonte</b> .....	Latest —30, 98
42	<b>Beamsville</b> .....	Blank above the date JY 18, 96
42	<b>Bowmanville</b> .....	PM above the date DE 19, 93
43	<b>Cheltenham</b> .....	Latest MY 21, 25
44	<b>Goderich</b> .....	Latest OC 17, 05
46	<b>Lindsay</b> .....	3 above the date JY 22, 97
46	<b>London</b> .....	PM above the date JA 11, 98
46	<b>London</b> .....	9 above the date FE 7, 00
46	<b>London</b> .....	18 above the date JY 18, 96
47	<b>Markdale</b> .....	Third Hammer Earliest AU 18, 94
47	<b>North Bay</b> .....	7 above the date AP 16, 97
47	<b>North Bay</b> .....	8 above the date JY 13, 96
47	<b>Orillia</b> .....	AM and PM above the date also occur in 1896
48	<b>Paris Station</b> .....	Latest JU 11, 96
48	<b>Petrolia</b> .....	Earliest FE 22, 94
49	<b>Port Hope</b> .....	Earliest MR 17, 95
49	<b>Rockton</b> .....	Latest JU 7, 11
50	<b>Sault St. Marie</b> .....	Blank above the date DE 2, 96
50	<b>Schreiber</b> .....	Second State Latest DE 29, 04
50	<b>Seelys Bay</b> .....	10 Above the date NO 18, 93
50	<b>Sudbury</b> .....	Earliest AP 15, 95
51	<b>Toronto-Strachan Ave.</b> .....	Latest DE 23, 98
51	<b>Toronto-York Street</b> .....	Blank above the date FE 22, 96
51	<b>Toronto-Queen St. East</b> .....	AM & PM above the date early in 1900.
52	<b>Waterloo</b> .....	Latest AP —, 16
52	<b>Wellington</b> .....	Earliest DE 2,—, 94
52	<b>Windsor</b> .....	Earliest SP 27, 93
53	<b>Birtle</b> .....	Latest JY 2, 02
53	<b>Deloraine</b> .....	Earliest JU 12, 95
54	<b>Winnipeg</b> .....	Third Hammer Blank above the date MR 31, 95
54	<b>Winnipeg</b> .....	Third Hammer 11 above the date FE 24, 96
55	<b>Red Deer</b> .....	Latest JY 4, 02
55	<b>Kaslo</b> .....	Earliest MY 14, 95
55	<b>Nanaimo</b> .....	Second State 2 above the date (full date does not show)
56	<b>Vernon</b> .....	Earliest MR 3, 95



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the handbook was not ready for distribution until December last. As no changes were made in the manuscript during the year 1964 there are many new items to report—such as earliest and latest dates of use, new time marks which had not been previously recorded, further discoveries which included some of the great rarities and other information of real interest to both the novice and the expert.

Even a superficial examination of the revised edition shows that squared circle "Finds" are being made every few months. I will mention a few examples of this fact;—**Mill Brook** which was a real rarity when the 2nd Edition was published is now known to be in about twenty-five collections. **St. Johns (Que.)** previously unrecorded. Four strikes were found in one lot of correspondence. R. Doull of Beaconsfield found these and while they are all faint and partial strikes, they are unmistakably St. Johns.

**Noel** is no longer a great rarity but most strikes are very poor. Alden Johnson (an alert Toronto Dealer) found a strike on 3 cent small queens which was the clearest strike I have yet seen.

**Mission City** is one of the very scarce towns. A dealer in California found a beautiful strike which is now mounted in the album of a Canadian Collector.

These discoveries are one of the reasons that squared circles are so popular. Collecting would get very dull if one could never add any new items to his or her collection, but with squared circles it seems almost certain that some fortunate collectors will run across a copy or two of such great rarities as Coleman, Fonthill, Revelstoke, Palmerston, Maitland, Kingsville or Water-down.

The errata and addenda list applying to the new handbook is printed on the middle page of this issue of TOPICS so that it can be removed and inserted in your handbook.

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## PUZZLEMENTS

Wilsdon & Kilish

1908 was a big year for the city of Quebec where there were numerous festivities to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the first permanent settlement in Canada. The occasion, as expected, called for a fair and a historic pageant with portrayals of Champlain, his soldiers and indians.

The Canada Post Office participated, too, issuing a commemorative set of eight attractive stamps. Philatelically speaking, Champlain has done quite well in Canada, rating next to the royal family. In addition to the above, there is the 1935 dollar stamp with his monument at Dufferin Terrace and a 1958 commemorative showing his profile in Levis with modern Quebec across the St. Lawrence.

It was inevitable that the historical event be commercialized. The fair was in full swing and the railroads had special excursions for visitors. For them "official" Quebec Tercentenary Souvenir Post Cards were sold everywhere. Ed Richardson describes them in TOPICS Oct. 1956.

The cards were a necessary adjunct because "going to the fair" was comparable to a jet trip to Europe. Post cards were

expected by relatives and friends and to take care of the added mail, there was usually a post office on the fair grounds — if the fair was large enough.

No postal markings of the Quebec fair have come to light so it could have been too small. In fact, there were no souvenir cards illustrating the fair itself.

After a check through Hamilton Spector files for information on the establishment of the first military post office at Niagara in 1909, I believe there was a Quebec fair post office. Capt. W. R. Ecclestone was in charge of the Niagara postal facilities and the Spector, relating his past exploits, mentioned the Boer War and "at the Tercentenary celebration at Quebec last year, he had charge of all the mail deliveries".



The next problem concerns the date hubs of the flag machine cancellations. It seems strange that at the advent of the new century, only type 8 remained in use and it, too, would disappear by spring 1902. By contrast, American flag cancellations, starting 1894 were still going strong in 1935.

After the turn of the century, the year date was not written in full but appeared as 00 or "00". Ed Goodale thought that the latter was removable and interchangeable and not a part of the die. There are no American types with these abbreviated year dates.

The time, of course, is based on the 24-hour clock. As may be expected, the commonest time markings are 18 to 20, the post office rush period. Ottawa is the exception with 7 and 8 common, leading one to believe that its post office used "civilian" time.

Now to the puzzle. The hour in the hub

is followed by one or two dashes and usually the letter O, assumed to be the abbreviation for o'clock. This may well be but will someone please explain what S, of identical use, represents?

Did I hear "Sunday"? A check of covers with tables for determining the day of cancellations contributed by J. J. Charron in April 1958 TOPICS (a bit too razzle dazzle) and a simpler system by H. M. Daggett, Jr. in May 1961 TOPICS, show every day of the week but Sunday.

The S must represent some post office term (maybe O doesn't mean o'clock) but for the life of me, I can't think of anything applicable. It first appears on type 3 flag of Hamilton in 1897, then, type 8 Hamilton 1899 and Toronto 1900 and 1901. The Toronto Canada Exposition is last to show it before it disappears forever. Do I have to check the S section of Webster, word by word? Help!

## Canada's Semi-Official Airmails

by DANIEL G. ROSENBLAT (BNAPS 1445) 660 W. Hillsdale Blvd., San Mateo, Calif.

In the September, 1963 Topics I discussed the flown covers of Laurentide Air Service and pointed out the very confusing conflict of dates which the major references gave in regard to the Three Rivers-Rouyn flight of January, 1925. The dates given vary from January 12th to January 22nd and I was for a while of the opinion that the flight had been made over a period of some days with one or more stopovers.

I have now received from Ivan Deacon of Winnipeg information which he credits to E. Lorenson of Victoria which appears to clear up this confusion very nicely. It is known that the covers postmarked Three Rivers show an original dating of January 3rd which was then crossed out and a subsequent postmark imprinted on January 12th indicating a delay in the planned date of take-off. It is this dating that has caused some catalogues to date the flight January 12th but Mr. Lorenson is able to state positively that the take-off was actually further delayed until the 22nd, although no subsequent postmark was used after the January 12th dating.

Although the flight destination was Rouyn the routing was via the Laurentide

base at Larder Lake, then back eastward the short distance to Rouyn. On arrival at Larder Lake on the 22nd the flight picked up mail for Rouyn which had been postmarked Larder Lake, January 21st, and it is this marking that has caused other catalogues to designate the date of the flight as January 21st. After a brief stopover at Larder Lake the plane went on to Rouyn, again stayed over only briefly, picked up outgoing mail postmarked Rouyn, January 22nd and returned to Larder Lake. Thus the entire flight Three Rivers-Larder Lake-Rouyn-Larder Lake was accomplished in one day, January 22nd, but the various mails carried show three different datings depending on the point of origin. Mr. Lorenson also states that H. L. Le Pot was the pilot for the entire flight but the reference to Wilshire in this connection are so frequent that I wonder if he may not have flown the last leg from Rouyn back to Larder Lake.

If any reader has a cover from this flight whose postal markings in any way contradict this theory of the entire flight having been made on the 22nd I would very much

*(Continued on page 129)*



# THE TAGGED STAMPS OF CANADA

by

Dr. Edward S. Mercantini

Ottawa, Ontario, BNAPS #1636

In my last article on the tagged stamps of Canada, I described the new varieties of tagging which recently appeared on the current 4c denomination. Concerning the variety with the tag appearing either on the left or right vertical edges of the stamp, Major C. R. Purser of Ottawa brought to my attention that panes of 100 of these occurred in which there were either five or six 8mm. wide bands of phosphor running vertically over the panes, although the individual stamps still were properly tagged with an approximately 4mm. wide band at either left or right edge. We could not understand this, and thought it perhaps came about due to haphazard overprinting of the phosphor material by the printers. I could not get an explanation through the mail, so obtained the information firsthand at the philatelic agency in conversation with several employees there. To fully understand how the five or six bands on panes of 100 came about, the following must be known. For all sheets of stamps which require a single bar at the present time, an 8mm. wide band of phosphor centrally located in every second vertical gutter between stamps or between stamps and selvedge is required, so that when a stamp is separated from adjoining stamps, there is a tag with a 4mm. width along the full length of one of the vertical edges of the stamp. The 4c stamps are printed in sheets of 600 so that when cut produce six panes of 100 (10 by 10). These six panes are laid out on the sheet with three panes running horizontally over three others having two selvages running vertically to separate the three panes vertically, and one selvedge running horizontal separating upper and lower panes, as well as selvedge all around the sheet. Now for how the panes get either five or six 8mm. wide bands:

Since the phosphor is overprinted before the sheets are cut into panes and perforated, the printing is laid out so that the first 8mm.

bar (going from left to right on the sheet) is printed on the extreme left side of the sheet so that the first stamp and left side selvedge is tagged. Then each alternate gutter is printed so that when the tenth vertical row of stamps is reached, the tag is printed on the right edge of the stamp and right selvedge. This has produced six vertical bands of 8 mm. width on the two left vertical panes of 100 stamps. Now on the center two vertical panes the first tag is printed in the gutter between the first and second stamp, and then alternately placed so that the last tag on these panes is in the gutter between the ninth and tenth stamp, thereby producing five rows in the center two panes. The two right vertical panes are tagged similar to the two left vertical panes thereby again producing six rows. Hence the entire sheet has seventeen bands running vertically, each 8mm. in width. This entire process still gives each single 4c stamp a 4mm. tag along either one of the vertical edges of the stamp, whether in a pane of five or six bands.

The four panes of 100 stamps comprising the left and right side of the sheet, having extra-wide outside selvages are stocked at the philatelic agency in Ottawa since the blank matched corner blocks of four stamps are requested by collectors, while the two panes of 100 comprising the center of the sheet are sent to Winnipeg for use there where the Sefacan machinery is located. Hence sheets with the six tagged bands are available in Ottawa's philatelic agency or at Winnipeg, while the sheets with five tagged bands are available only in Winnipeg. We can see from this that there are twice as many panes of 100 with six bands as there are panes with five bands.

For all other tagged stamps, an 8mm. wide band of phosphor centrally located in every gutter between stamps or between stamps and selvedge is required so that when a stamp is separated from adjoining



stamps there is a tag with a width of 4mm. along the full length of both vertical edges of stamps.

Mr. Cecil Mullen of the Postage Stamp Division of the Canada Post Office informed me that the use of electronic equipment for the sorting of mail is still continuing in experimental stages. Nothing has been finalized. The Canada P.O. is constantly on the watch for any techniques to improve the efficiency of operation in tagging stamps. For this reason changes have occurred in the past for the pattern of tagging. For example, if the rates of postage were to change, the pattern of tagging would also have to be changed.

Recent dealers' lists of the stamps of Canada show an increase in the price of tagged stamps with the first issue commanding \$1.00 per set, mint or used, and the current issue being priced substantially higher than the same issues untagged. I have seen several ads even listing the 4c tagged varieties of the current issue with prices of \$2.00 for certain single varieties. A British philatelic publication, the Philatelic Magazine, has a commentator who writes on philatelic values under the byline "Philatelia". A recent issue had a column entitled, "Canadian Phosphors Could Hit The Jackpot", in which he states, "Tipping Canada doesn't require much brain exercise by any philatelic columnist. Canada is gold-plated as a philatelic investment, but getting around as I do, I'm amazed to see how many chaps are permitting some ugly gaps in a range of cheap stamps. I refer to the phosphor-banded stamps which appeared in 1962 and which some of my friends have totally ignored. I suppose they are just waiting for the price to go up so that they can pay more for them!" I agree with this writer as I know several collectors myself who have not purchased the tagged stamps as yet, and I'm sure they will get a surprise when they do attempt to buy them and find that the first 1962 issues especially is very hard to find in good condition, if at all.

Specialists in U.S. stamps are collecting their own tagged stamps as well as fluorescent paper varieties with such gusto that several dealers are now limiting their trade to the tagged and fluorescent paper stamps exclusively. Incidentally Canada's tagged issue of 1962 was the first in the Western Hemisphere, preceding the U.S. tagged issues by 1½ years. Many collectors are

apparently ignoring the tagged stamps of Canada because the Scott catalog does not list them. A Canadian stamp dealer states regarding this, 'Here we have officially issued stamps that were issued in the millions but they don't exist until a catalog says they do! Well a general catalog does have a reasonable excuse, it can't list everything due to lack of space, but rest assured no specialist catalog dealing with Canadian stamps will ever dare omit the tagged stamps. If it did, it would be sadly incomplete and a futile sort of guide to buy and follow'.

According to the Canada Post Office, no tagged stamps have been used for booklet panes, coil stamps or packaged postage "Cello-packs" with the exception of the Christmas issue in the 3c denomination which was sold tagged in Cello-packs. Statistics are available for quantities of tagged stamps in the 4c 1962 Queen Elizabeth issue (second, current issue) up to the 10th September, 1964 as follows:

- (a) One line 4mm. wide down the center of the stamp — 15,000,000 have been delivered.
- (b) One line 8mm. wide down alternate vertical margins thereby producing stamps with bands 4mm. wide down either the left or right edge of the stamps — 8,000,000 of these have been delivered.

For tagged stamp and fluorescent paper "aficionados" a good tip was given by William Bayless who writes on these U.S. issues regularly in the Bureau Specialist. In the November, 1964 issue he mentions that many envelopes are manufactured from paper containing chemical whiteners which are water-soluble and will transmit fluorescence to the stamp during the soaking process. Therefore a used fluorescent stamp cannot be certified as such unless it is tied to its original cover. Used stamps on fluorescent paper should not be removed from the original cover, it being best to preserve the portion that includes the stamp and the cancellation. This is another good reason why contemporary specialists should own and operate an ultra-violet lamp as part of the tools of their hobby. Our own Canadian tagged stamps contain phosphor which can be damaged by water, so used stamps should be collected on cover or on piece.

*(Continued on page 130)*



# Newfoundland News

SIDNEY T. HARRIS, 10 Walsingham, St. Johns Wood Park, London N.W. 8, England  
BNAPS 1500

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Dan Meyerson's particular style of writing and the wonderful information he has accumulated in his articles in B.N.A. Topics for so many years will make a successors task extremely difficult. The information he has so willingly given over the years will be most invaluable to us and to all those future generations who will be interested in the stamps of this fascinating country.

It has been decided that the name "The Trail of the Caribou" should now be changed, and I personally think this is essential as of necessity the new column will assume a different character. You will therefore see the first of what I hope will be a new series under the heading of the title "Newfoundland News". In commencing this new series I feel that it is necessary to start with a completely new approach and possibly to start with going over some of the ground which has already been done before, but I feel that it is necessary to do some recapitulation on the stamps of Newfoundland in general, in order if possible to get more B.N.A. collectors interested in what is after all now a part of Canada, and an important part at that.

Scott Catalogue lists 270 stamps excluding "a" numbers and all the air post stamps and postage dues. The Stanley Gibbons catalogue lists 294 stamps, but this includes airmails but excludes postage dues. There is plenty of the most fascinating material for collectors of all kinds.

In this first article I should like to draw the attention to Newfoundland not only to those who already collect the country, but to those who have not considered Newfoundland as part of their collecting effort, even although many of them are members of B.N.A.P.S. Newfoundland as a stamp issuing country was severely criticized for the issue of commemoratives which were considered by philatelists in general to be unnecessary, and it must be said they were used as a means of attracting additional revenue from stamp collectors to the Newfoundland Post Office. All this however is over now, since Newfoundland joined Canada in 1949 and no longer issues any stamps

of its own. One could refer for instance to the long set of the Coronation issued in 1937 as a good example of what I mean.

Today, however, all this is in the past and we are left with a field of study in which a great deal remains to be done, particularly as so many of the issues contain varieties of all kinds, such as perforations, imperfs, and many other aspects too numerous to quote in this first article.

This field is such a wide one and consists not only of most attractive commemorative sets but the permanent issues mainly printed by the American Bank Note Co. and following on by Messrs. De La Rue but chiefly in the main printing by Messrs Perkins Bacon & Co. of London. Today only small quantities exist of a great many of both the permanent and commemorative issue, and I do not think it is generally realised how scarce a lot of these issues are, as one of the printings were comparatively small and a great many of today's catalogue prices underestimate the real scarcity of some or a lot of these stamps.

Newfoundland is a country asking for still more research by philatelists, and not only on account of their scarcity. It is true of course that the first "Pence" issues, and I refer here to the scarlet-vermilions and the second issue of the orange-vermillion, are beyond the means of many collectors. Even so a great many of these are still under-catalogued in comparison with their scarcity. It is interesting to note the 1/- orange, Scott No. 15, S.C. number the same, is equally rare with the 12d Canada, where the prices as you probably know are considerably higher. Why this should be I really do not know, except that to us in England the quaint use of the term 12d somehow makes it an attractive collectors item, if their purses can stretch as long as that.

Do not however let the prices of the first two issues dismay you. The "Pence" issues were printed in 1861-62 and are called rose in the Scott catalogue, and rose-lake in the Gibbons catalogue. Fortunately for us many of these rose-lake issues were remainders and are still obtainable in

fair quantities from all sources, but of course used specimens are scarce, particularly those with genuine postmarks.

In general terms Newfoundland offers a vast variety of proof-material right the way through from beginning to end, and there are very few difficult overprints to contend with. Newfoundland is of course famous for its rare and now classic airmail issues from 1919 onwards, but here again although some of these classics may be out of reach of the average collector there is still a vast quantity of interesting material, as Newfoundland became the centre for first flights of all kinds during this period,

and there is still a lot of very interesting material to be obtained at what are today comparatively low prices. So if you are a member of B.N.A.P.S. and reading this article and you do not collect Newfoundland, do have a look at the catalogue and see whether it would not add greatly to your pleasure to collect the stamps of this country.

I have no doubt that I shall be going over familiar ground to a lot of B.N.A. collectors, but I hope that future articles will be of help even to those specialists who do collect the stamps of this country.

## FANCY CANCELLATIONS

Day & Smythies

Supplementary Plate I — Chapter II — Leaves and Flowers

Serial No.	Description	P.O. of Origin	Date	Remarks
8a	Feathery type maple leaf central dark vein	?	1870	
9a	Feathery type leaf, central dark vein	?	about 1872	
11a	Leaf with hollow center	?	?	In blue
18a	Solid type leaf. Intaglio veins	?	about 1895	
19a	Solid type leaf. Central dark vein	?	about 1875	15 cent large Queen
34a	Fern type—12 fronds	Welland, Ont.	1875	
40a	Small fern—11 fronds	?	?	
41a	Fern type. Probably 12 fronds	T.G. & B. Ry.	1880	
54a	Five petal flower	?	?	
54b	Five petal flower. Intaglio veins make 5-point start	?	?	
55a	Eight petal flower	Ayton, Ont.	1875	
55b	Eight petal flower	Cottom, Ont.	1898	In purple
58a	Four petal flower	?	?	
62a	Flower with long irregular petals	Blythe, Ont.	1882	
61a	Many petal flower—Bunch of stamens in center	Notre Dame St. West	1896	Duplex, See Topics., Dec. 1963
61b	Similar to 61a but no stamens in center	Notre Dame St. West	?	
65a	Moss or coral	?	?	On map stamp
69a	Dandelion in circle	Londesborough, Ont.	1884	
69b	Flowering spray in circle	Vancouver, B.C.	1903	
70a	Intaglio small spray in black oval	?	1902	



PLATE I



8A



9A



11A



18A



19A



34A



40A



41A



54A



54B



55A



55B



58A



62A



61A



61B



65A



69A



69B



70A

# HISTORICAL MEMORANDUM OF THE CANADIAN POSTAL SERVICE WITH THE ARMIES IN FRANCE, BELGIUM AND GERMANY 1914-1919

## PART 10

### ACCOUNTS & CURRENCY

The general instructions with regard to this subject are to be found at Pages 1-10 of Consolidated Orders for the Army Postal Service (Appendix), and these instructions call for no special explanation. Particulars of the amount of financial business transacted at Canadian Field Post Offices are given under the heading 'Statistics'.

This Branch of postal activity called for the exercise of considerable care on the part of the staff and the difficulties of carrying out monetary transactions with the currency of different countries and with the rates of exchange fluctuating according to the state of the money market will be readily appreciated.

At certain periods of the war a real difficulty existed owing to the scarcity of small change. At a time when the amount of small coins and notes in circulation was limited, the food restrictions in England and elsewhere resulted in a considerable reduction in the parcel traffic to the troops and a corresponding increase in the number of postal orders sent them to enable them to buy comforts at the canteens. In July 1917 the Army Postal Service in France required a weekly supply of 200,000 francs of small money with which to carry on business but the sources of supply could not produce more than 15,000 francs. After a time, however, increased supplies were forthcoming and an arrangement was made whereby Field Post Offices could requisition supplies of small money through the Base Post Office at Boulogne.

### MONEY ORDERS, POSTAL ORDERS & TELEGRAMS

Money Orders business was not transacted at British or Canadian Field Post Offices, the normal means of transmitting money to and from the troops in the Field being by Postal Orders. If anyone desired to send money to a Canadian soldier by means of a money Order the remitter was given a receipt for the money and the amount was advised to the Money Order Office in London with full particulars of the payee's name and regiment. On receipt of the Advice List in London a Money Order was issued, shewing the amount payable in French currency, and forwarded to the payee who, under an arrangement made with the French Government, could obtain payment at any French Civil Post Office.

Imperial Postal Orders were issued and paid at all Canadian Field Post Offices and from figures taken in the second half of 1918 it is estimated that the value of Postal Orders issued and paid at Field Post Offices with the Canadian Corps in France during the period of the war amounted to—

Postal Orders issued — £210,000 = \$1,050,000

Postal Orders paid — 90,000 = 450,000

In February 1916 arrangements were made to cash Canadian Postal Notes at Canadian Field Post Offices and the facility was extended to all Imperial Field Post Offices in June 1918.

Arrangements were made at Canadian Field Post Offices, in common with all other Field Post Offices, to accept telegrams —

(a) to addresses in the United Kingdom at the ordinary inland rate. These telegrams were despatched by post to Folkestone whence they secured onward transmission by telegraph to destination; and

(b) 'Week End' letter telegrams of a domestic character for transmission to the British Empire generally and the United States of America. These telegrams were despatched by post to the Central Telegraph Office in London for onward transmission by cable.

Private telegrams addressed to members of the Canadian Forces in France were handed over to the Base Post Office at Boulogne and were forwarded to destination by post.



like to hear from him — until then I will be inclined to accept this as an excellent explanation of the contradiction that has surrounded this flight. Still unsolved is the question of whether or not there was a return portion of the Larder Lake-Three Rivers leg — I much doubt it but will appreciate any comments.

Incidentally, I have — many thanks to Lloyd Banner — a photostat of a most interesting brochure put out by Laurentide in 1924 which indicates that their daily flight schedule left Haileybury at 8.00 a.m., arrived at Osisko at 9.15, left Osisko at 9.45 and arrived at Lake Fortune (Rouyn) at 10.15. The return flight departed Lake Fortune at 10.45, bypassed Osisko and arrived at Haileybury at noon. The fare one way was a rather stiff \$60.00 which included only 25 pounds of free baggage. The freight rate ran from 20c per pound down to 10c per pound depending on the amount, and was limited to items not exceeding 36 inches by 15 inches by 15 inches. If any of you have any other Laur-

entide advertising material (or indeed advertising of any of the other companies) I would certainly appreciate a photostat or the loan of the original long enough to have it copied.

I have recently received a copy of a price list issued by W. R. Patton in Winnipeg, dated 1935, covering semi-official stamps. Needless to say, the prices are very attractive by present day standards — \$10.50 for a tete-beche pair of the 1918 Aero Club stamp with numerals and \$35.00 for a strip of five of the Moose Jaw Flying Club stamp — but the most interesting item is described as "Northern Air Service 25c blue and white, very rare booklet block of four." This seems to definitely confirm the existence of booklet panes of four of this stamp as listed by Jarrett's B.N.A. Edition of 1929 but which seem to have completely disappeared, for I have never heard of one offered for sale in recent times, and although Holmes states that such panes are reported to exist, he makes no effort to price them. I would much like to know if any reader has further information in regard to these elusive panes.

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## Canadian Post Office Names or Postal History Topical Collecting

by Clarence Kemp

I have never ceased to wonder at the names of many of our Canadian Post Offices and when I was looking through a 19th century list of these offices it struck me that there are some great possibilities in this collection of unusual names that has not been fully exploited.

How interesting it would be to know the origin of some of these names! Naturally a great many of them took their names from the old Indian names that existed when the white man arrived on the scene. I would think that this would be true of such Western towns as Medicine Hat, Moose Jaw, Indian Head, Red Deer and many others.

There have been a great many "TOPICAL" collections put together showing Birds, Bridges, Ships, Locomotives and other items. I suggest that there is an opportunity for some of the many collectors of town cancellations to put together a series of "Topical Towns". I will illustrate my thoughts by listing a few of the categories that occur to me;—

**ANIMALS**—Cow Bay, Doe Lake, Dog Creek, Bear Island, Beaver River, Elkhorn, Fawn, Fox Bay, Lions Head, Moose Jaw, Otter Lake, Oxbow, Red Deer, Sable, Sea Cow Head, Sea Dog Cove, Seal Cove, Wolf Lake.

**BIRDS** — Duck Creek, Eagle, Goose Creek, Gull Creek, Loon Creek, Osprey, Partridge Island, Petrel, Pheasant Forks, Pigeon Bluff, Raven Lake, Sea Gull, Swan Lake, Sparrow Lake.

**COLORS** — Blackstock, Bluevale, Orange Valley, Golden, Silver Creek, Village Green, Greenwood, White Church, Violet.

**TREES & PLANTS** — Cedars, Elm, Green Bush, Hazel Grove, Holly, Iris, Hemlock, Iris, Ivy, Juniper Island, Lily Lake, Lotus, Maple, Oak Bay, Pine tree, Poplar, Rose, Rush Point, Shamrock, Shrubland, Spruce Lake, Willow Creek, Vine.

**FISH, ETC.** — Carp, Frogmore, Maskinonge, Perch Station, Pike River, Salmon Arm, Shad Bay, Snake Creek, Eel River, Sturgeon, Trout Lake, Whitefish.

**DESCRIPTIVE NAMES** — Block House, Burnt Church, Cape Bald, Cape Negro, Clay, Crystal City, Crown Hill, Dead Creek, Dry River, Fair Ground, Friar's Head, Gravel Hill, High Bank, Iron Bridge, Lands End, Ledge, Mile End, Monks Head, Pavilion, Ragged Head, Rock Forest, Round Hill, Sea Side, Spires, Star Lake, Stone House, Temple, Tower Hill, The Barony.

**UNUSUAL NAMES**—Neol, Farewell, Welcome, Hope, Garden of Eden, Learned

Plain, Newbliss, Paradise Lane, Pioneer, Playfair, Pleasant Vale, Sailor's Hope, Temperance Vale, The Long Stretch, Travelers Rest, Utopia, Van Winkle, Chance Harbour, Folly Village.

I have a cover with a perfect circular town cancel of Horsefly, B.C. who could have thought of a name such as this? Take villages such as Chemical Road, Chimney Corner, Coffins Croft, Church Over, Half Island Cove, Mermaid Farm, Pirate Harbour, Steam Mill Village, Still Water, Winding Ledges etc., etc. Would it not be interesting to see a display of these cancellations with a write up telling of the origin of the name?

For the new collector these town cancels make a most interesting side study and the cost of getting together is not high as circular town cancels on the small queens issue are plentiful and not high in price. For the collector who has most of the rarities in his collection and who is more or less at a standstill as far as new material is concerned—here is a chance to get a lot of action at a modest outlay.

Possibly with my Horsefly cover as a starter I should look for towns with names including such insects and vermin as Locust Hill, Rat Portage, etc.

*(Continued from page 124)*

B.N.A.P. Ser Ted Kilish of Detroit who keeps on the lookout for philatelic literature concerning tagged stamps for me, recently sent me an article from Linn's Weekly Stamp News on February 17, 1958 written by George Saint in his column "United Kingdom Comment". The article must be regarded as a pioneer in the writing of electronic sorting and cancelling equipment used by post offices as he mentions not only the proposed British system but also Canada's and the U.S.A.'s interest in these experiments. It is a "must" for all those collecting philatelic literature pertaining to tagged stamps.

Mrs. William Seifert, chairman of this

year's Dayton, Ohio, Philatelic Society exhibition "DAYPEX 65", has announced the theme for the show as "Luminescent Stamps". Displays will include both the phosphor-tagged stamps for use in the Dayton automatic equipment and the fluorescent kind which are on paper to which whiteners have been added during the manufacturing process. Mrs. Seifert in correspondence with me kindly sent me details as to the method they plan to use in displaying the tagged stamps. Also Alfred Boerger of Toledo, Ohio, who has been very interested in the U.S. tagged issues, has sent me an outline for his method of exhibiting tagged stamps. Anyone interested in these methods could contact the above or myself for details.

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