



BNA TOPICS

Official Journal
of the
British North America
Philatelic Society

Volume 25, No. 9, Whole No. 271-2

October-November, 1968

Printed November 27th

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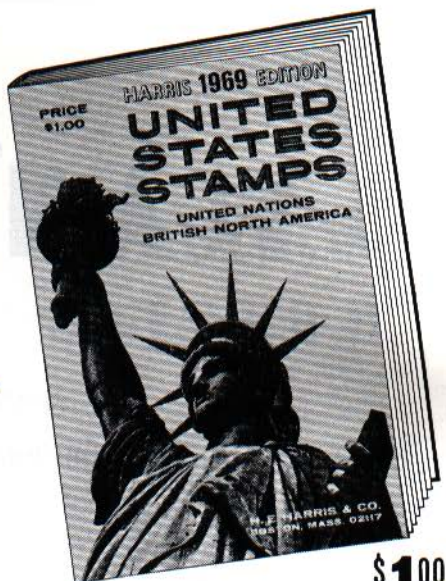
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BNA TOPICS



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
VOLUME 25 / NUMBER 9 / WHOLE NUMBER 271 / OCT-NOV., 1968

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Published at Toronto, Canada, by the British North America Philatelic Society. Subscription: \$5.00 per year; single copies, from the Circulation Editor, 50 cents. Opinions expressed are those of the writers. Printed by Mission Press, 53 Dundas St. E., Toronto.

Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa, for payment of postage in cash. COPY DEADLINES: Display advertising copy must be received by the Advertising Manager one month prior to the month of publication. For membership details write to the Secretary.

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September 1, 1968

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2378 Dowsett, John, 54 Maple Drive, St. Hubert, Quebec
2379 Edwards, Peter B., 113-2175 Avenue Road, Toronto 12, Ontario
2380 Haigh, Ken, 283 Lee Avenue, Toronto 13, Ontario
2381 L'Ecuyer, Reynald G., Box 13, Lazo, British Columbia
2382 Mullen, John G., 2604 South Park Drive, Bellingham, Washington 98225
2383 Nalon, John, 330 King Street, Gananoque, Ontario
2384 Paige, Larry R., 1069 Shillelagh Road, Chesapeake, Virginia 23323
2385 Sisman, John E., 29 Harriman Road, Aurora, Ontario

APPLICATION FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

- 2301 Cattermole, W. H., 334 McEwen Drive, Kingston, Ontario

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- McCleave, J. Graham, M.D., 221 Fulton Avenue, Nashwaaksis, New Brunswick
Pitschke, Richard E., P.O. Box 6093, Cleveland, Ohio 44101
Rogers, George J., Rm. 1134, Tudor Hotel, 304 East 42nd Street, New York, New York 10017

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

- DRATCH, Benjamin George, 5218 Newfield Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45237 (C-CX) CAN—19th & 20th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. Mint booklet panes. Mint and used Airmails. Literature. Varieties. Proposed by C. A. Westhaver, No. 1442. Seconded by K. Bileski, No. 122.
RICHARDSON, Mrs. Mickey, 114 Royal Drive (P.O. Box 939), League City, Texas 77573 (C) CAN—Patriotic covers of Anglo-Boer War 1899-1901. Proposed by E. A. Richardson, No. 168. Seconded by A. P. Cook, No. 320.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

(Notice of change MUST be sent to the Secretary)

- 1431 Chappell, Charles D., P.O. Box 135, Seattle, Washington 98111
1647 DeSantis, Ricardo, 1511 O'Brien Street, North Bay, Ontario
1875 Dunnhaupt, P. B., Gerard, P.O. Box 7031, Graduate Residence Halls, Brown Univ., Providence, R.I. 02912
1737 Kaminer, Barney H., 10915 Peach Grove, No. 2, North Hollywood, California 91601
1049 Kitchen, CWO Ronald, 5 Pearl Street, Gloucester, Ontario
2350 McFarland, David T., P.O. Box 543, Locust Grove, Oklahoma 74352
1691 Pollard, Stanley, 126 Coronation Crescent, Campbell River, B.C.
1450 Traquair, Robert S., No. 6 Weybourne Crescent, London, Ontario
2363 Webber, Gary E., 922 Riverside Drive, Nanaimo, British Columbia
1495 Wright, Gerald B., General Delivery, Queensville, Ontario

RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED

- 2 Odell, Fay H., 33 Grove Street, Pleasantville, N.Y. 10570
701 Spier, Jack, 1817 St. Catherine St. West, Montreal 25, Quebec

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

Berest, Joseph

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, August 1, 1968	1038
NEW MEMBERS, September 1, 1968	11
RESIGNATION, September 1, 1968	1
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, September 1, 1968	1048

THE *Editor's* MAILBAG

EDITOR'S NOTE

Lack of articles and columns and lack of time unfortunately reduced the size of the September issue and have forced this reduced issue to be a double issue — October/November. The Yearbook reports arrived November 10 so the December issue will be the Yearbook.

Dear sir:

During the time that the "Admiral" issue was current I commend making a side-line collection of "Straight edges" and have during the ensuing years built up an interesting display of these items. I have, as a matter of course, included the various booklets, coils, etc., that have been issued.

When the "Nonsuch" stamps appeared I addressed an enquiry to Ottawa regarding the new method of production, but did not make myself clear, apparently, as I was furnished with a supply of "Gray Jay" with imprint blocks. I returned these, with a fuller explanation of my request, and in reply I received a letter of which I enclose a copy herewith.

What I am desirous of ascertaining is how many distinct varieties are available, and this letter does not answer this enquiry fully. You will see on the second page of the enclosure a pair of the "Lacrosse" stamp depicted, with a margin on the TOP, and the margin is not perforated to its edge. This suggests to me that stamps have been issued with the bottom edge straight edged, and I would be glad if I could be told just how this item is produced.

The Post Office circular dealing with the "George Brown" stamp has the following notation—"panes of this stamp will appear with one straight edge." Whereas the pane I purchased from the local post office has three straight edges, with a margin along the bottom only.

I attended a meeting of our local Study group recently and told them about my enquiry and the reply I received, and it was suggested to me, considering the remarks made in the penultimate paragraph of the letter that it would be a good idea to send a copy to you.

Yours fraternally,

E. C. POWELL, No. 1351

CANADA POST OFFICE

Postage Stamp Division
Confederation Heights, Ottawa 8, Ont.
25 July 1968

Mr. E. C. Powell
10340 Wadhurst Road
EDMONTON, Alberta

Dear Mr. Powell:

I refer to your letter of 4th July in which you returned 40 postage stamps in the 5c Gray Jay issue requesting that they be exchanged for the 5c Voyage of the Nonsuch stamp issue.

These Nonsuch stamps are enclosed. Please note that the straight margin appears only at the top of the sheet. I regret to inform you that the straight edges are not available in any other position on the sheet in this issue due to the manufacturing process. When the stamp is of a vertical format such as the 5c Lacrosse issue of 3rd July, the straight margin will appear on the right hand side of the sheet.

The Nonsuch stamp is the first stamp produced on a new printing press recently acquired by the manufacturer, the British American Bank Note Company. This equipment offers a number of advantages in the manufacture of postage supplies. It provides the ability to produce stamps in multi-colour by employing either steel engraving or photogravure or a combination of these two processes. The printing is done from a cylinder rather than from the curved plate used to print stamps in sheets. One important feature is the machine's platen perforating device which provides perfect perforations without any overlapping of perforations on the corners of a stamp.

The new equipment prints stamps from a continuous web of paper. The width of the web is equivalent to the width of two panes of 50 large size stamps. After print-

ing the machine automatically cuts and trims the printed webb into stamp panes which are mechanically fed from the machine and stacked in bundles of 50.

For optimum machine performance the cylinders are prepared to print panes of stamps so that a limited margin of paper appears every horizontal row of two panes. This paper margin is not sufficiently wide to provide full margins on the bottom and top of a row of panes after slitting. The slitting between each row provides a straight edge at the top of two panes in one row with a full selvedge at the bottom of the preceding two pane row. The wider selvedge at the bottom of each pane is needed to secure the panes in bundles of 50.

Stamps with a straight edge are a manufacturing requirement and since all panes of stamps produced on the new equipment will bear a straight edge, such panes represent original, unaltered production. To endeavour to manufacture panes for philatelic purposes with a full top margin rather than a straight edge could be classified as a form of artificial production. It is our understanding that true philately consists of the study and collection of postage stamps produced for the purpose of prepaying postage. In this regard, one of the great stamp collectors of this continent, the late Alfred F. Lichtenstein once said, "Governments should issue stamps and collectors should collect them and there should be practically no close personal relationship between those issuing stamps and the ones who collect or deal in them".

If the enclosed 5c Nonsuch stamps are not satisfactory, they may be returned here for exchange or a refund.

Yours sincerely,

M. WHITE
for M. Lysack
Director of Accounting

Dear sir:

I was curious as to the percentage of usable stamps which will remain from Canada's new commemoratives, due to the thicker paper, and the larger perfs. Being fortunate in being able to sort a reasonably large volume of commercial mail, I set my-

self the task of sorting and grading 1,000 of the current Geo. Brown commem. The results are accurate, and correspond almost exactly to two rough previous tests on the Nonsuch, and the Lacrosse. I thought the results might be interesting to a few readers, and I apologise here and now to the few straight-edge enthusiasts.

Perf 4 sides, damaged by user before being affixed to cover—ranging all the way from pulled perfs to unbelievable destruction	450 stamps	45%
Straight edge copies — conditions as above	420 stamps	42%
Perf 4 sides, damaged by various factors after being affixed to cover, by such things as the cancelling machine, or the automatic letter opener	15 stamps	1½%
Straight edge copies — condition as above	15 stamps	1½%
Perf 4 sides — suitable from a collector's' point of view	40 stamps	4%
Straight edge copies — condition as above	60 stamps	6%
	<hr/>	
	1,000	100%

Of the 40 copies suitable for collectors, the breakdown is as follows:

Superb copies	4 or	.4% of total
Very fine copies, with heavier than desirable hand cancels, and very slightly off-centre	16 or	1.6% of total
Good copies, but with the usual wavy killer bars, and all grades of centering	20 or	2% of total
	—	
	40 or	4% of total

I realize that all 24 million will not be postally used, but applying this .4% figure to the total printing, 96,000 superb copies is still very small, even if they were all saved. A superb copy should command quite a premium in years to come. Imagine if the Winnipeg supplies had been tagged!

K. G. ROSE

BNA TOPICS
YES, WE NEED ARTICLES AGAIN
— DESPERATELY —

More Sketches of BNAPSers

DR. ROBERT V. C. CARR, 117 Robin Hood Way, Sherwood Forest, Youngstown, Ohio

Well, it is about time that a lady philatelist joins the ranks of our Sketches and who would be more appropriate than your editor's fellow Ohioian but Susan McDonald of Canton, Ohio. A constant medal winner at BNAPS conventions and who beat me out for the Grand Award at the RPSC in 1966 (but revenge came in 1967 when things were reversed!), Susan is an BNA student with her constant research on the mails in and out of Canada.

Susan and your editor are the same age but we will never tell. She is a Vassar graduate with studies at the University of Edinburgh plus her Masters at Radcliffe. Her husband is a practicing physician and they have six children with three in college (which does slow down one's collecting!). They enjoy sailing, photography, horses, and their own arts and crafts besides both being philatelists.

She got into Canada collecting early in the 50's and soon narrowed it to 19th century postal history, U.S. and Canada postal relations, trans-Atlantic mail, and cross-border history with covers being her delight.

As to publications, she won 2 gold medals for her writings in the Postal History Journal on BNA. Next year will bring another article and for the Classics Society. A note to John Young: a comprehensive research project on early U.S.-Canada mails with emphasis on exchange markings is in the making but needs BNAPSers help. Think we might get this in our TOPICS?

Besides BNAPS, she is a member of the



SUSAN M. McDONALD
No. 122 No. 1200

RPSC and the CPS of Gr. B. In the U.S., she belongs to her local club, the Collectors Club of New York, the Postal History Society, the APS, and the Philatelic Classics group.

Susan is a part time Canadian with a summer home on the Bruce Peninsula and says, "I am, at last, as much enamored of Canada's land and people as I am of her stamps and postal history". What a pleasant way to close this biography of another interesting and interested BNAPSer. (The McDonalds plan to be down Texas way next October along with many others of us—HOW ABOUT YOU?)

BNAPS REGIONAL GROUPS

Philadelphia—Meets the first Thursday of each month at 7934 Pickering Street, Philadelphia, Pa. *Temagami*—Meet every summer. Alfred P. Cook, Coy Glen Road, Ithaca, New York. *Vancouver*—Fourth Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m.; Dickinson Room, Stry Credit Union Bldg., 144 E. 7th Ave., Vancouver. *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. Cornelius, 2407 Lake Place, Minneapolis, Minn. *Calgary*—Meets fourth Tuesday at 8 p.m., Sec., Mrs. Jack Benning, 157 Wildwood Dr., Calgary 5, Alta.

Early Post Offices of the Leamington-Tilbury District

by Max Rosenthal

Gosfield Township, the area around Kingsville in Essex County, would not have been chosen for settlement as early as 1787 if it had been for the existence of previous French settlements from L'Assomption (later Sandwich) south along the Detroit River to the River Canard. At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, in 1776, the Indians granted lands to British officers from Amherstburg south and east almost to Big Creek. So, when the British planned to settle soldiers in Essex County, they selected the area east of Big Creek Marsh, consisting of Colchester and Gosfield Townships. Described as "the New Settlement", they were the first townships laid out on Lake Erie west of Long Point.

One of the Hessian mercenaries who fought for the British, Leonard Kratz, whose surname was anglicized to Scratch, as his United Empire Loyalist right, got lot 9 of Gosfield South, on the lake, afterwards lot 2 also, both just southwest of Kingsville's site. On the front of lot 2 he put up a log house, and began to clear his land. His son Peter stayed on the land, and in 1831 became postmaster when Gosfield post office was established. A letter to P. Robinson, York, is postmarked with a large double circle broken by GOSFIELD, U.C. in large red lettering, with "Feby 20th, 1832" written in.

In 1793 Peter Ulch had petitioned for land on Mill Creek, the site of Kingsville, to erect a grist mill, and apparently had it running by 1797. However, the beginnings of Kingsville as distinct from Gosfield cannot be seen until the 1840s. Once a week Indians and whites had trading day at the Trading Post or Exchange, on one of the present Four Corners. By 1844 a village was planned by James King, and in 1846 Lewis Jasperson opened a general store. Colonel King had taken up residence in 1834 close to the Four Corners. In 1849 Jasperson sold his store to Felix Lafferty. Lafferty opened Kingsville post office in 1852.

Around 1850 Gosfield post office had moved to the southwest corner of lot 7, concession 1, with Joseph Coatsworth as

postmaster. Despite its nearness to Kingsville, it continued until 1870, when it closed.

After the 1812-14 War, Colonel Talbot began the colonization of the Talbot Road, now Highway 3. In Mersea, the south-easternmost township of Essex, and Romney, the southwesternmost one of Kent County, the shore of Lake Erie is paralleled by the "Ridge", on which the first settlements were made. Some were made in Romney on the Talbot Road in 1817, while the next year through Mersea was surveyed by Colonel Burwell a continuation of that road, being laid out to the site of Leamington, then jogging to the centre of Gosfield, and on to Sandwich. One of the settlers that year on the Talbot Road in Mersea was Alexander Wilkinson, on the site of Leamington.

The nearest trading post and post office for the settlers on the Ridge was at Fort Malden (Amherstburg). The nearest mills were at McGregor's Creek (Chatham), and the one in Gosfield. They journeyed to the mill at Gosfield and the post office at Amherstburg in canoes along the shore.

In 1818 Robert Coatsworth, from Durham, England, took up lot 200 of Romney Township on the Talbot Road. Romney post office was opened there in 1831, with Thomas Renwick as postmaster. A letter from him to John A. MacDonald, Commissioner of Crown Lands, Montreal, written on March 4, 1848, is postmarked with a large double circle broken by ROMNEY, in red, with the date written in. In 1865 Caleb Coatsworth became postmaster.

The first store in Mersea Township was opened about 1824 by William Ambridge on the Talbot Road about two miles east of Leamington. In 1835 Mersea post office was opened there, with Ambridge as postmaster. A letter from him written December 6, 1837 to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, Toronto, is postmarked with a large double circle enclosing MERSEA, U.C., with the date written in. A letter from Joseph Otter, Council Office, Mersea to the same destination, written on March 1, 1850, is postmarked with a large double circle broken by MERSEA, U.C., with "5 March, 1850" written in.

Alexander Wilkinson was the only resident of Leamington until 1835, when John McGaw located on both sides of the present Erie Street, and south of Talbot. Wilkinson laid out his northwest corner in village lots, McGaw his corner similarly. Stores were erected, industries established and houses built, until the vicinity took on the air of a prosperous village.

According to Eugene Barna, Warren Kimball had urged the opening of a post office in Leamington under the name of Gainesville. However, as this name was objected to by the Government because there was another office of similar name, the name Leamington was selected. In 1854, Kimball was appointed the first Post Master in Leamington with the post office situated next to his shoe store somewhere north and west of the Queens Ave.-Talbot St. West intersection. (The name Leamington originally was Wilkinson's Corners.)

Nearby Mersea post office, however, continued. Around 1850, Jonathan Wigfield had become its postmaster, in lot 228, on the south side of the Talbot Road. It closed in 1869.

In 1818, the narrow strip of Tilbury East Township,, Kent County, bordering on Lake Erie east of Romney Township, and traversed by the Talbot Road, received a few settlers. The Middle Road, the present Highway 98, received its first settlers in Tilbury East and West in 1832, although it was not actually cut through until close to 1840. The original pioneers of Tilbury East Township were Thomas Smith and his sons. One of them, James Smith, in 1851 opened Tilbury East post office at the corner of the Middle Road and sideroad 9.

Tilbury West Township was later divided into Tilbury West and North Townships, both in Essex County. At the corner of the Middle Road and sideroad 6, the first store in Tilbury West was opened in 1846 by Henry Reichenbach. When James Gracey opened a post office there, in 1851, he named it Comber, after his native place in Scotland. Reichenbach later took over the post office.

In Tilbury East Township, on the south side of the Middle Road, in lot 26, Edgeworth post office was opened in 1857, and closed in 1890. At the 8th concession road and Leamington Road of Mersea Township, Blytheswood was established in 1858. Its earliest settlers came from Scotland. The name was given by one of them, Donald Cameron, after a town on the Scottish

border. He built the first store and post office.

North Ridge appeared in 1860 on the Talbot Road, in lot 274 of Gosfield North Township. The same year in Gosfield came into being Olinda, in concession 4, lot 21. The Postmaster-General, at the request of settler around its vicinity, had decided to open it. Michael Wigle is said to have found the name in a book, and selected it.

Ruthven post office was opened that year in Gosfield South, where Highway 3 turns north, by Hugh Ruthven, who had built a mill there, and founded the village. The year before Dealtown had been opened in lot 167, Talbot Road, just west of the eastern boundary of Tilbury East, but about 1870 it moved four miles east into Raleigh Township.

Wheatley was called Pegtown when the first few settlers colonized the vicinity where the Talbot Road crossed the boundary between Romney and Mersea Townships, a couple of miles from the shores of Lake Erie. Richard Wheatley, a farmer, was highly respected in the settlement. It was suggested that Pegtown be changed to Wheatley. In 1864 a post office was established, for many years spelled wheatly.

Two more post offices were opened in 1864. Old Montrose, on the western boundary road of Romney Township, in lot 11, concession 4, lasted until 1889. First settled by Angus Grant in 1833, Valetta opened on the Middle Road west of sideroad 14, in Tilbury East. John Kerr had kept the first store, on the Middle Road west of Valetta, in the township. Victor Lauriston, in his book "Romantic Kent", quotes the recollections as an old man of John Richardson of the early days in the Valetta settlement.

"About 1862 I bought out the firm of John and D. Kerr in the hope of acquiring the post office for Valetta, and for that purpose circulated a petition which was signed by almost all the ratepayers interested. Others also had an eye on the post office plum, however, and having got a few Chatham signers of the same political persuasion as the government then in power, they succeeded in moving the post office about four miles farther west."

"About the year 1865 my brother Henry and I opened another general store about seven miles west, in the township of Tilbury West, with a post office in connection known as Trudell."

Among the first to locate in the vicinity of Stoney Point was Peter Trudell. Trudell

post office existed from 1862 to 1888 at the Middle Road and sideroad 18. Stoney Point post office was opened in 1865 at the railway crossing of the Tecumseh Road, in Tilbury North Township. In the 1870's, its spelling was shortened to Stony Point. Less than a mile west, on the same road, at its corner with the 6th sideroad, Chevalier post office was opened in 1876. Eli Chevalier ran a general store there. It closed in 1905.

Tilbury Village came into existence on the boundary between Tilbury East and North Townships with the building of the Canada Southern Railway in 1872. The first general store and post office, called Henderson, were kept by David Henderson in a brick house just north of the railway crossing, on what later became Queen Street. The railway station at Henderson was called Tilbury, and the place referred to as Tilbury Village. In 1883 the post office was renamed Tilbury Centre. To avoid confusion, in 1885 Tilbury East post office became Stewart. In 1895 Tilbury Centre became simply Tilbury.

Two post offices were established in Mersea Township in 1877. Cottam, Talbot Road and sideroad 267, was named by its first postmaster, Major Wagstaff, who had lived in Cottam, Yorkshire. The majority of settlers around Goldsmith, lot 15, 8th concession road, had come from Quebec before 1860. About 1870 a Grange lodge was organized there, which necessitated considerable correspondence. A petition was sent the government to open a post office. This was granted, and John Ogle named it after the famous writer.

William McCormick moved to Pelee Island, lying 15 miles south of the main shore of Mersea Township in 1834, and built a homestead at the north end. The survey of the island was not completed until 1867. It was still isolated in that decade. There was no regular boat service, and no post office. Mail was brought from Kingsville by whoever happened to be making the trip to the mainland.

Gradually grape growing and wine making became a flourishing industry. Arthur M. McCormick purchased and remodeled the old Vin Villa wine house as a store, and opened Pelee Island post office there in 1879, near the dock on the west side of the island, the most southerly inhabited land in Canada. A steamboat line was established to the island from Kingsville, Leamington and Windsor. It sailed twice a week.

In the very northeast corner of Mersea Township, Windfall post office was opened in 1879, named after a wood flattened by a tornado in 1860. At the 11th concession road and 18th sideroad of the same township Strangfield was established in 1882, with Thomas Strangford as postmaster. The same year appeared St. Clair Siding, in concession 1, lot I of Tilbury North. It was closed in 1906.

On the 9th concession road of Tilbury East, at the east edge of lot 18, Quinn was opened in 1883. In 1884 was established Arner, at the western boundary of Gosfield South, on the present Highway 18. The Arnors were the earliest settlers in that township. The same year came into being Albuna, 9th concession road at east edge of lot 1; Hillman, 3rd concession road and 18th sideroad, the location of the Hillman shingle mill, both in Mersea.

In 1885 opened Port Alma, on the Talbot Road at the eastern boundary of Romney Township. It owed its inception largely to Joseph Cusack, of Buffalo, who in the 1880's built a dock and large frame boarding house there, and named it after Mrs. Cusack. The same year appeared Dolsen, in Tilbury East, at the corner of the road along the Thames River and the 3rd sideroad. John M. Dolsen was a grocer there. Its post office closed in 1897.

Pelee Island East and Pelee Island South post offices were opened in 1886. Staples post office opened at the railway crossing in the southwest corner of Tilbury West in 1889. Its nucleus was formed when a man of that name came there in 1874, and erected a saw mill. The Mettawas summer post office was established in 1890 at the Mettawas Hotel, on Lake Erie, in Kingsville, for the use of its guests. It closed in 1896. In 1891 was opened, in Tilbury East, Jeannette's Creek post office, at the 2nd concession road and 10th sideroad. The village had formerly been called Baptiste Creek, the name of the stream flowing into the Thames at that place.

In the 1880's was built the Lake Erie, Essex and Detroit River Railway, reaching Leamington in 1889. On it, Coatsworth Station post office was opened in 1893 in Romney, at sideroad 193, and, at the next station west, at sideroad 202, Renwick post office. The next year, on the same railway, where it crossed the 9th sideroad of Tilbury East, Glenwood Station post office came into being. In the same township, in 1897,

(Continued on page 231)

The Canadian Stamp Collector

GLENN F. HANSEN, No. 2203, 375 Jefferson Ave., Winnipeg 17, Manitoba

Newfoundland was the oldest colony in the British Empire. It was first discovered in 1497 by John Cabot and in 1583 Sir Humphrey Gilbert made the first attempt at settlement. In 1713 the colony was recognized as such and in 1832 representative government was set up. Responsible government was established in 1855 and a Governor together with an Executive and Legislative Council ruled the island. A degeneration in the political affairs of the colony led to the establishment of government by Commission in 1934. This Commission consisted of the Governor-General and six members, three from England and three from Newfoundland, appointed by the British government. In 1949 (March 31st) Newfoundland joined Confederation and became Canada's tenth province.

Besides the island itself Newfoundland consists of a very large portion of mainland Canada known as Labrador. This had been given to Newfoundland in 1809 but it was not until 1927 that the present boundaries of the area were set out. Quebec is now trying to lay claim to some of this area which is rich in mineral deposits.

In "West Viking" Farley Mowat strengthens beliefs that have been held by some for many years that Newfoundland was the "Vinland" of the old Norsemen, Leif Erikson and Eric the Red.

Although correspondence between people in Newfoundland and friends and relatives in the old country was being conducted as early as the mid 17th century it was not until 1809 that any semblance of a postal system was established. In 1851, in common with the rest of British North America, Newfoundland was given control of its own postal operations. Newfoundland was relatively slow to issue stamps and it wasn't until 1857 that the first issue of Newfoundland postage stamps was introduced. This was a long set consisting of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6½ and 8d values plus a 1 shilling stamp as well.

The first printings were on a thick white wove paper followed by a medium thin wove and finally a thin, hard, semi-transparent wove. A watermark, "Stacey Wise, 1858" is found on this last paper. The 1 sh. is known on laid paper as well. Shades exist to help separate each printing and in most values run from a Scarlet vermilion in the first printing to an Orange and finally to a Rose shade in the third printing. Quantities printed were small and present day valuations for some of these early issues can exceed \$1,000. The 1d value is similar in design to the early issues of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick while the 3d value is British North America's only triangle.

NEW 1969 HARRIS US/BNA CATALOG

H. E. Harris & Co., Boston, has just released a brand new 1969 edition of the famous US/BNA Catalog, America's most widely-used price list and market guide for stamps of the United States, U.S. Possessions, United Nations, and British North America.

The new 1969 US/BNA Catalog—with 3,298 important up-to-the-minute price changes—is an accurate reflection of today's market. Its acceptance as an authoritative price guide and reference book is based on the fact that the editors are experts of the World's Largest Stamp Firm. Priced at \$1.00, the 1969 US/BNA Catalog is an outstanding value. It has 192 pages, over 2,000 clear identifying illustrations,

and a treasury of philatelic information which adds to the enjoyment of the hobby.

FOR THE RECORD

This is a record of issues received by Scott Publications during the last several years, which issues have not as yet been listed in the Scott Catalogues.

The items are recorded in chronological order accompanied by brief descriptions and face values shown both in local currency and U.S. dollars as of mid 1968, except for those areas for which there is no official rate of exchange.

This list does not claim to be complete. It will be updated from time to time as new information and additional material become available.

Canadian Official Stampless Covers

PART III

by William Pekonen, RPSC 7526

BNAPS 2091

A letter from the Post Office Department lays down the ground rules for current official stampless covers.

"It is a requirement that mailing envelopes used by federal government departments be imprinted on the face with the phrase 'ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE' and 'SERVICE DE SA MAJESTE' to indicate that they contain official correspondence. With the introduction of the bulk payment arrangements it was also required that government mailing envelopes bear the endorsement 'CANADA — POSTAGE PAID—PORT PAYE' to indicate to the Postal Service that any postage or postal fees that should be paid were included in the mailing department's bulk payment to the Post Office.

"As an economy measure it was further decided that all government mailing envelopes should bear the above endorsements whether intended for the mailing of correspondence acceptable free of postage or for government agencies outside of Ottawa."

Naturally, some confusion resulted as the ruling came abruptly near the end of 1963. Since very few (if any) printed envelopes existed which would conform to the new requirements, many interesting varieties were produced as various government departments adjusted to the change.

Many envelopes were mailed bearing no date, no rubber stamp, and no indication as to postage paid, (see No. 1.) and some of these passed through the post office cancellation machines. Even though the Post Office department instituted bulk-mailing to save time and expense of handling, the appearance of the cancellation is not admitted as being in error by the Post Office department. The following quote establishes the attitude of the Department on postal cancellations:

"Under the new bulk payments it is no longer necessary for Post Offices to postmark or apply a date cancellation on any mail posted by a Federal Government Department, Commission, Board or Agency. It must be realized,

of course, that at times Government mail may become mixed with ordinary mail and inadvertently passed through a Post Office cancelling machine but no significance should be attached to the appearance of a Post Office cancellation on Federal Government mail. If any Government Department desires to have their mail dated they arrange to do so with a printing head, as mentioned above, or a dater stamp."

In spite of that viewpoint, it is interesting to see slogan and slug cancellations on the stampless covers. These are very scarce as very few covers are cancelled by this method. Scarcer than the machine cancellation is the roller cancellation — these are quite rare and are obviously the result of a slip-up. It is easy to understand an envelope being fed into a cancellation machine, but it is harder to understand the application of a roller cancel.

Prior to December 31st, 1963, it was common for "free" mail to be sent under the Ottawa postmark and a Minister's "franking" signature. Very few such covers exist dated after January 1, 1964—only one bearing the date of March 5, 1964 (Department of Public Works) has been noted so far in my study. (see No. 2).

One exception to Postage rules, of course, is the envelope with a square box enclosing the words "NO POSTAGE REQUIRED". This is explained by other wording on the envelope." (This envelope is entitled to pass through the mails free of postage under section 17 (8) of the CANADA ELECTIONS ACT)."

Since January 1, 1964, postage meter impression on envelopes were discontinued. This step was taken as an economy measure. However, some departments continued to use them—one being the postal department as late as April 22, 1965 with a "O" denomination overprinting the regular boxed endorsement.

A curious oddity among usage of the Postage Meter is by the Undeliverable Mail Office, (Vancouver) Meter Number 143967, use on June 24, 1966 overprinting the regular endorsement with "00" and the envelope



being marked with a curious irregular oval enclosing the words "Postage Due" and the figure "5" in red ink.

Other envelopes of the early transitional Period have the typewritten words "Postage Paid" (see No. 3). Others then show the wording "Canada Postage Paid" in several arrangements. One cover in my collection has the word "Paid" in script (Ball-point) with a post office cancellation dated January 21, 1966. (see No. 4). From my collection the earliest dated impression which shows conformity to the new rules is January 6, 1964 by the Queen's Printer (see No. 5).

In the early days, and until only recently April 1st, 1968, at which date all tempo-

rary measures came to an end, many departments used a departmental rubber stamp to indicate "I-don't-know-what". Among these are:

MOON cancels.

Customs and Excise (Oval about 2" long and 1¼" in width).

District Director of Postal Services (A circle approximately 1½" in diameter).

Sales Tax Department (A double circle approximately 1½" in diameter).

United Nations Emergency Force (A circle approximately 1½" in diameter).

CFPO (1" circle).

Taxation Office (see Nos. 6 and 7).

R.C.M.P. (1¼" x 1½" Rectangle).

Another combination found being used with the regular endorsement ("Canada-Postage Paid-Port Paye") is the wording "Diplomatic Mail-Free"—a curious anomaly indeed.

A number of early attempts at conformity to regulation via: rubber stamps are shown on the attached photograph.

Regarding the usage of date cancellations, one department uses the date very regularly. Without going into all of the gory details, the only protection a taxpayer has against an unfair income tax assessment is a very rigid set of appeal procedures. One of the requirements of the procedure is that an appeal must be made within 90 days of the assessment date. Section 136 (12b) of the Income Tax Act states:

"Where any notice of an assessment has been sent by the Minister as required by this Act, the assessment shall be deemed to

have been made on the day of mailing of the notice of the assessment".

For this reason you will find a date on most mailings from the income tax department. There is a distinct difference in the procedure involving refund cheques. One has a date and another may not. The difference arises in that if an assessment notice has been mailed separately, no date will appear on the envelope containing the refund cheque. If, on the other hand, you receive a cheque and a slip of paper advising you that "This is your notice of assessment — make a note of the cheque amount, date, and number" then the envelope will also bear a date in conformity to Section 136 (12b).

Since my first article in this series, two additional ways of designating "OHMS" have come to light raising the total to 22 different positions. More about this later.

TORONTO BUYER

1851 Canada Stamps Are Sold for \$39,000

From the Globe and Mail
by Douglas Patrick

A record price of \$39,000 was paid last night for a pair of 12-pence black stamps issued by the Province of Canada in 1851.

The buyer was J. N. Sissons of Toronto, major Canadian dealer in rare postage stamps.

The mint horizontal pair of stamps came from the Louise Boyd Dale and Alfred F. Lichtenstein collection being sold by the New York auctioneers H. R. Harmer Inc.

The 12-pence black are among the great rarities of the stamp world, but possibly the easiest to buy. They were issued in the penny denomination because the shilling had different values within British North America.

A mint stamp is one never used and with its gum intact, but in this same sale Harmer is hoping to sell used examples of the Canadian rarity.



EARLY POST OFFICES

(Continued from page 226)

Stevenson was opened, where the railway crossed its boundary with Romney.

In 1897 Pelee Island East post office closed and Pelee Island North was opened, changing its name to Scudder in 1904, and

another post office on the east shore of the island, Grove Avenue, was opened in 1908. Chalmers post office was opened in 1909, named after its postmaster on the road in Mersea Township along the east shore of Point Pelee, at the north line of concession D.

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AVAILABLE OCT. 15th—Check list of Canadian Official Stampless Covers Since 1963. Contains Essential up-to-date information about this new, interesting sideline. Identifies eight main groups, 35 types, and lists over 450 different. Valuation guide for pricing. Illustrated. Guess which department has broken the most number of rules! For your copy send \$2.00 (post-paid) to: Wm. Pekonen, P.O. Box 246, Cloverdale, B.C. 270

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GIVE AWAY—Don't give away your accumulations of Canadian airmail flight covers, military cover cancellations or semi-official and pioneer flight covers. I'm anxious to buy them. Major R. K. Malott, 16 Harwick Crescent, Ottawa 6, Ontario.

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116	3.50		J10	4.50	.85
130	1.80	.15	O-25	13.00	12.00
158	6.00	2.00	O-27	11.00	10.00
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