



# BNA TOPICS

Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

## *Spring*

Spring is many things to many people. We all know what thoughts it conjures up for many young people (those under 60) — "In spring a young man's fancy turns to thoughts . . ." With many others, young and old, it is also a time to houseclean the stamp room, to get some of those oddments you have accumulated sorted out, and the items that belong in the collection mounted.

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# BNA TOPICS



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### THE COIL STAMPS OF CANADA

Second in a series of reprints  
by Edward J. Whiting ..... 118

### CPR POSTAL STATIONERY

Part four of a series  
by Horace W. Harrison ..... 122

## COLUMNS

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Canadian Air Flights .....         | 125 |
| Tagging Along .....                | 126 |
| Constant Plate Varieties .....     | 127 |
| Rounding Up Squared Circles .....  | 128 |
| Topics: The Newsfront .....        | 131 |
| Further Sketches of BNAPSers ..... | 136 |
| Mail from Our Members .....        | 137 |

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## TOPICS: THE BUSINESS SIDE

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| From the Secretary .....        | 133 |
| Notes from the Librarian .....  | 135 |
| BNAPS Regional Groups .....     | 140 |
| Classified Advertisements ..... | 138 |

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# The Coil Stamps of Canada

A BNAPS REPRINT

From November 1953 Topics

Part Two

By EDWARD J. WHITING

## KING GEORGE V: THE ADMIRALS — (continued)

### 1c yellow and 2c green

Rolls of 500

Perf 8 vertical

The third set of coils consisted of the 1c and 2c stamps perf 8 vertical and printed in the new changed colors: yellow and green respectively. They appeared in 1923.

Of the 1c yellow about 25,700,000 were issued in rolls of 500 with paste-ups occurring as in previous issues (every 20 stamps). Printed at first by the wet process, they were later printed on dry pre-gummed paper having an embossed appearance from the reverse. Plates 11 and 12, approved June 24, 1919 and plates 13 and 14, approved November 15, 1924 (all of Die I), were used for the wet printings while plates 15, 16, and 17, approved July 21, 1925, made from Die II, were used for the dry printings. The color of the wet printings varies from deep chrome yellow to chrome yellow, while the dry printings show less variation from the deep chrome yellow.

The 1c yellow was the first coil stamp to be issued precancelled (other than the experimental Edward VII coils).



For the 1c yellow, Die I may be identified by diagonal and stubby serifs on the

numerals and the "ONE" separated from the oval by a full line. The junction lines at top and both sides are weak. Die II has the serifs clearer and horizontal, the line separating "ONE" from the oval is very thin, and the junction lines at the top and sides are strong and clear.

The 2c green, of which 158,000,000 were issued, first appeared in August 1922 and, like the 1c yellow, was first printed by the wet process and later by the dry process.

The first plates used for this stamp were plates 11 and 12 laid down for the 2c carmine, approved June 6, 1918, and made from the retouched die (type 1). These plates were used only with the wet process. Plates 13 and 14, approved June 5, 1924, were laid down from the "re-retouched" die (type 2) and were used with both wet and dry printings, as were plates 15, 16, and 17 which were laid down from the re-engraved die (type 3) and approved July 25, 1925.

The wet process printings are generally 17½ mm wide while the dry process printings are 18 mm wide. The difference is due to the shrinkage of the paper in drying.

Paste-ups occur in the 2c coils as in the 1c coils of this issue.

The three types of the 2c are distinguished as follows:

Type 1: The vertical lines of the numeral boxes are clear. Junction lines are faint, and a short horizontal line appears immediately to the right of the lower right corner.

Type 2: The vertical line in the upper right spandrel and the junction lines and vertical lines of the numeral boxes are all strong.

Type 3: There is a light dot opposite the left numeral box in the margin, a spur from the lower right corner and a dot in the upper right corner.

### 2c green 1922

*Rolls of 500*

*Perf 12 horizontal*

The next issue is a single stamp, the 2c green perf 12 horizontal, first appearing in 1922.

It was printed by the wet process only and can be distinguished from fakes by its width (17½ mm) while booklet and straight-edged stamps are all 18 mm wide — because of the difference in the printing method used. Paste-up pairs occur every 20 stamps as before. This issue was printed from plates of type 2.

### 3c carmine 1924

*Rolls of 500*

*Perf 8 vertical*

The next is the 3c carmine perf 8 vertical first appearing on April 9, 1924; 47,585,000 were issued, printed from plates 11 and 12 (approved January 26, 1924) and plates 13, 14 and 15 (approved July 21, 1925).

As in the case of the 1c and 2c values of 1922, the 3c was printed both wet and dry. Plates 11 and 12 (used for the wet printings) were laid down from Die I and plates 13, 14 and 15 (used for the dry printings) were laid down from Die II. Again, because of the different methods of printing, the color of the wet printings is generally darker than the dry printings. The difference between the two dies is as follows:

*Die I* has fine vertical lines of the spandrels: two scars in the lower part of the "S" of "POSTAGE"; long middle bar of numerals and top of "S" of "CENTS"; thick lines between the arms of the "EE" of "THREE" and between "THREE" and the white band around the portrait; narrow maple leaf stems.

*Die II* has thicker and heavier vertical lines of spandrels; the scars in "S" of

"POSTAGE" removed; short middle bars of the numerals and top of "S" of "CENTS"; thin lines between the arms of the "E" of "THREE" and between "THREE" and the white band around the portrait; wide maple leaf stems.

### 1923-1924 uncut sheets

*Sheets of 100*

*Perf 8 vertical*

The last coils of the Admiral issues first appeared under questionable circumstances. The 1c yellow, 2c green and 3c carmine, perf 8 vertical, were printed in full sheets of 100 late in 1923 (22 of each value). Two sheets each were given (to quote Boggs) "as a favor to a gentleman of considerable influence in Ottawa." The remaining 20 sheets of each were later sold to another



collector (no doubt also one with influence). Considerable objections were raised and the collector with the large lot, says Boggs, sold most of them through a Montreal dealer.

Because of the representations made to Ottawa, the 1c and 2c values were "re-issued" in 1925. The 3c was not reissued in this form, officially because the plates had been destroyed. The second printing consisted of 1,000 sheets of each of the two denominations.

Imperforate 3c stamps have been faked into these part-perforates. But the 3c imperfs were printed by the dry process while the 3c part-perfs were all printed by the wet; thus the fakes are 18 mm wide while the true part-perfs are 17½ mm.



(Curiously enough most catalogues continue to list the 1c and 2c First printings at half the value of the 3c — when in fact all three are equally rare.) There are also 10 known blocks of the First printing, with a

wide gutter between. See *Auction News* in this issue.

The differences between the two printings are many, though minute. They are:

## FIRST AND SECOND PRINTINGS

|                                    | ORIGINAL         | RE-ISSUE         |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Scroll work in bottom margin ..... | yes              | no               |
| Width of design .....              | 17½ mm           | 18 mm            |
| Paper .....                        | med. thick white | creamy & thicker |
| Printing process .....             | wet              | dry              |
| Gum appearance .....               | pebbly           | smooth           |
| Color: 1c .....                    | dark yellow      | yellow           |
| 2c .....                           | dark green       | green            |
| 1c die .....                       | 1                | II               |
| 2c Type .....                      | 2                | 3                |
| Plates: 1c .....                   | A179 & A180      | ?                |
| 2c .....                           | A188 & A189      | ?                |

## THE WAR TAX COILS



The financial demands of World War II were met in part by a war tax of one cent on each item of first class mail. The tax was authorized by a "Special War Tax Revenue Act" (February 1916) which, in part III is the paragraph:

*On every letter and post card for transmission by post for any distance within Canada and on every letter and post card not intended for transmission through the mails, but for posting and delivery at the same post office, there shall be levied a tax of one cent to be affixed thereto, at or before the time of posting the letter or post card.*

Following two stamps with the words WAR TAX in white over the regular Admiral issue (MR 1 and 2) a second type was introduced which combined the regular letter rate of two cents with one cent war tax. This was the 2c Admiral design

with "1Tc" superimposed in outlined white figures; two dies exist. The first 2+1c issues were in shades of red and first appeared in January 1916. In August the color was changed to brown. Shortly after the red sheet stamps were issued, coil stamps were also placed on sale. They were printed in the same manner as the regular coil stamps of the Admiral issue.

The die differences are illustrated in many catalogues; on die 1 is a straight horizontal line beneath the 1Tc, and on die II the line runs only across the left portion, the right portion having diagonal shading.

### 2c + 1c carmine, February 1916

*Sheet\$ of 500, uncut*

*Perf 8 vertical*

Boggs, Jarrett and others, plus POD records, give August 2, 1916 as the date issued; the War Tax Study Group in its 1959 handbook (Billigs volume 9) states "that this is incorrect was obvious from the beginning" and suggests an earlier date — sometime in February of that year.

The quantity issued of this stamp, Scott MR6, was 15,315,000 and all are from die I. Two transfer rolls were used to make four plates; plates 1 and 2 (approved January 6, 1916) and plates 3 and 4 (February 18, 1916). Plate numbers cannot be found



as they were cut off in processing.

Shades on the first two plates vary from rose-red to almost red-orange, according to the Study Group (which doesn't use the term "carmine") and those from plates 3 and 4 go from red to deep red. Pasteups occur every 20 stamps.

Differences between the four plates are small. The first two have no break in the upper left spandrel line, though wear can sometimes be detected near the upper left junction line. The last two plates have a small break just above the first shading line, where the junction line meets the spandrel line. The first can be noted as coming from plates 1 and 2, and the second type from plates three and four. There is a slight thickening of the upper portion of the right frame line near the top frame line corner; here the right frame line is slightly bent outwards. This appears on almost all stamps and must be characteristic of the die used. A number of other minor differences have been noted.

## **2c + 1c brown, August 1916**

*Rolls of 500*

*Perf 8 vertical*

On August 26, 1916 the Deputy Postmaster General notified all post offices that "In future these stamps will be issued in (brown) so as to overcome the difficulty experienced owing to the similarity in color to the ordinary two cent stamp."

In printing the brown 2+1c coils (MR7a, b and MR7) both dies were used. December 1916 is generally accepted as the date of issue. The POD gives a total of 35,185,000 stamps issued from both dies, and the Study Group breaks this down (based on ratios of both dies after examining over 1,000 copies) to 7,500,000 from die I and 27,685,000 from die II. Pasteups occur every 20 stamps.

*Die I:* The Study Group has determined that the last two plates (3 and 4) from the red coil were used for printing the die 1 stamps (MR7a, b) after a study of the types and characteristics of the various plates. Two shades are found; the common is brown, generally called yellow-brown in catalogues (MR7a) to distinguish it from the deep brown (MR7b), which the Study Group considers to be three to four times as scarce.

*Die II:* The Study Group believes that the die II coils (MR7) were issued at the

same time as the 2+1c brown sheet stamps — July 1916. The four plates known to have been issued are 5 and 6 (approved May 17, 1916) and 7 and 8 (December 20, 1916).

"Here a question arises," says the Study Group's handbook, "whether or not other plates were used, or plates of the regular issue perforated and cut for the use of brown coils, or a larger quantity were printed from the four plates." The book adds,

*All quantities of the coils are distributed in such a manner that the Group deducted from the figures 3,750,000 stamps, as stated, of the red die 1 and brown die 11 coil stamps. If the quantity of 27,685,000 is approximately the correct number issued for die 11, then about 7,000,000 stamps must have been printed from each plate. This is unlikely, especially since coil plates take much greater wear. This leaves two other possibilities for the large quantity printed. The one of additional coil plates must be ruled out, since no records exist that this is the case. The only possibility remaining is that regular plates used for sheet stamps of die 11 were used for the coils. This deduction was made from the fact that certain types and characteristics found on coil stamps corresponded to a certain group of regular (sheet) plates; the group of plates referred to here is 43 to 47, approved around of June of 1916 at a time when no plates were approved for coil stamps.*

The usual color for the brown die 11 is a deep brown, and only minor variations occur.

The group classified two types; the first was without any break in the left numeral box line and are believed to come from plates 5 to 8. The second type has a break in this box and are identical to regular sheet stamps coming from plates 43 to 47. Dated copies of type 11 are cancelled between July and September of 1916.

When the regular postage rate became three cents the war tax stamps were discontinued.

*(In compiling this section on the War Tax Coils, which was not part of the original work by Edward Whiting in 1953, the editor liberally gleaned information from two sources: the War Tax Study Group (Billig, volume 9—1959) with Hans Reiche as chairman, and Boggs' Canada.*

# Postal Stationery and the CPR

## CHAPTER 4

## King George V Sepia Colored Views



World War I (August 1914 to November 1918) had brought a halt to the imports of German ink dyes, so that when supplies of the inks used to produce the multi-colored views were exhausted, CPR commenced the printing of its views in sepia. New plates of 15 scenes were prepared. These Sepia views first appeared in the summer of 1917 and, with very minor changes, continued in use until the railway ceased to print View Cards in 1933.

The Sepia Views first appeared on the 2c red Business Card with a horizontal line as the address separation. The earliest recorded use known to me bears a printing date, on the message side, of August 30, 1917. By November 28, 1917 the Statement of Earnings and Expenses, which passed at the printed-matter-only rate, was being printed on the similar 1c green card.

Despite its previous reticence about the location of Lake Louise, the railway decided that it was in its best interests to support British Columbia in its boundary

---

by Horace W. Harrison

---

dispute with Alberta. Three of these Sepia Views included scenes in the disputed area, all clearly labeled "B.C." These were: 1) *Chateau Lake Louise, B.C./on/Canadian Pacific Railway*; 2) *Giant Steps/Paradise Valley/Lake Louise, B.C.*; and 3) *Lakes in the Clouds/Lake Louise, B.C.* (figures 22, 23, 24).

With the advent of mimeograph-stock paper, the company, perhaps inadvertently, adopted it for use with its View Cards. Both the 1c green and the 2c red Admiral die Business Cards were issued on mimeo stock as well as regular-stock paper, and both paper types were used in the printing of the Views. There is also a red-brown shade of ink which occurs on nearly all, if not all, Views for every King George V card. The paper difference and the shade difference may be of interest to the super-specialist and they are mentioned here so that those who may wish to pursue the matter can have a starting point. I decline to list them separately for the quite subjective reason that I often require examples of each paper and/or of each ink shade in order to be quite sure which is which. The gradation of difference between the early mimeo stock and the regular stock appears to me to be marginal at best. The same applies to the gradation of ink-shade dif-

ference between sepia and red-brown, only extreme examples of each shade being easily distinguished.

There is no readily apparent pattern of use to indicate which of these 15 Views were the more frequently printed. Views that appear to be quite scarce on one type of card are not difficult to find on another, and vice versa.

The Views in use, in addition to the three in the disputed area previously illustrated, were: *Algonquin Hotel/St. Andrews, N.B.*; *Banff/Springs Hotel/Bow River Valley/Banff Springs, Alta.*; *Chateau Frontenac/Quebec, P.Q.*; *Emerald Lake from/verandah of/Emerald Lake Chalet/The/Empress Hotel/Victoria, B.C.*; *The Gap/Entrance to Canadian Rockies/Alberta; Canadian Rockies/Mt. Assiniboine/near/Banff, Alta.*; *Mt. Sir Donald/Glacier, B.C.*; *Mt. Stephen/Field, B.C.*; *Place Viger/Hotel/Montreal, P.Q.*; *Vancouver Hotel/Vancouver, B.C.*; and *Windsor Station/C.P.R. Head-Offices/Montreal, P.Q.*

The View of *Lakes in the Clouds* was twice cropped at the right so as to leave more clearance for the stamp impression. The original view was 4 1/4 inches wide (fig. 24); the intermediate view was 4 inches wide (fig. 25); and the final view was 3 15/16 inches wide (fig. 26).

28

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|                      | 1919         |          | 1918         |          | ASSEMBLEMENT | DIMINUTION |
|----------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|--------------|------------|
|                      | RECETTES     | DEPENSES | RECETTES     | DEPENSES |              |            |
| Recettes brutes      | \$17,366,849 | 62       | \$15,023,058 | 29       | \$2,343,791  | 42         |
| Frais d'exploitation | \$14,517,080 | 66       | \$11,624,615 | 91       | \$2,892,464  | 33         |
| Profits nets         | \$2,849,769  | 96       | \$3,398,442  | 29       |              | \$48,673   |

POUR LES CINQ MOIS FINISSANT LE 30 NOVEMBRE

|                      | 1919          |          | 1918          |          | ASSEMBLEMENT | DIMINUTION |
|----------------------|---------------|----------|---------------|----------|--------------|------------|
|                      | RECETTES      | DEPENSES | RECETTES      | DEPENSES |              |            |
| Recettes brutes      | \$159,903,476 | 40       | \$141,790,543 | 62       | \$18,112,933 | 37         |
| Frais d'exploitation | \$128,632,618 | 33       | \$110,093,647 | 74       | \$18,537,971 | 39         |
| Profits nets         | \$31,270,858  | 07       | \$31,696,895  | 89       |              | \$410,513  |

MONTREAL, 10 DECEMBRE 1919

ERNEST ALEXANDER,  
SECRETAIN.



The Supreme Court of Canada rendered its decision in the boundary dispute in 1922, finding in favor of Alberta, so the printed legend on the three cards of the disputed area was changed to read "Alta." in place of "B.C.". (fig. 27) The 1c green and the 1c orange cards exist with both *Chateau Lake Louise, B.C.* and *Chateau Lake Louise, Alta.* A remainder lot of the 1c green cards were printed with the "Alta." legend and a very few of the first run of the 1c orange card were printed with the "B.C." legend. The 1c green "Alta." card is rare, and the 1c orange "B.C." card is very scarce. To date (Oct. 1970) no overlapping of the *Giant Steps* is known. *Lakes in the Clouds* cards are known on the 1c orange with the B.C. legend. And there is a possibility that the "Alta." legend could exist on the 1c green and the "B.C." legend on the 1c orange. No overlapping of the legend is known on the 2c red and the 2c green cards at all.

On October 2, 1921 the printed matter post card rate to other than domestic and

U.S. addresses was increased to 2c. The resulting confusion which this caused the CPR is evidenced by the "Statement of Earnings and Expenses" being sent to U.S. shareholders on the 2c card, an overpayment of 1c (fig. 28). On the statements for November 1921 and June 1922 respectively, the former used the 2c red, the later the 2c green.) The confusion was so severe that the statement for May 1922 was mailed to the U.S. on both 1c and 2c cards, even to the same household (figures 29 and 30, 1c orange and 2c green respectively).

Although the 2c green card had been placed in use by the CPR as early as June of 1922, the remainders of the 2c red card were used to mail the Statement for August 1922 to stockholders abroad. The statement for February 1923, dated March 28, and mailed on or about April 4, was printed entirely on the 2c green card, irrespective of the destination. This was an overpayment of 1c for Statements sent to residents of Canada and the U.S. The statement for the following month saw the return to postal economy with Canadian and U.S. shareholders receiving it at the 1c rate.

In 1924, the company sent out statements to its European shareholders printed in French (Figures 31 and 32). However this practice was soon terminated, for by November of 1924 the statement was printed in English as usual. In 1925 the company ceased to send each shareholder a monthly statement, relying thereafter on release of the figures to the press. With the removal of the printed-matter-only usage, the company discontinued printing its Views on the 1c value cards.

Also in 1925, the blank Business Card was placed in use by the company, although this type card had been issued to the public by the POD in 1924. (fig. 33). The first blank card used by the Company was the 2c green Die B or II and this was superseded in 1927 by the Die C or III stamp impression. The Scroll Issue card, (fig. 34) appeared in May of 1929 and the 2c green Arch Issue card (fig. 35) in September of 1930, followed by the 2c red in April of 1931 and the 2c brown in May of 1932. The last recorded View Card printed by the CPR is a 2c red Arch Issue card printed on April 22, 1933. Probably due to the worldwide depression, the company economized by discontinuing these View Cards, bringing a colorful postal history to an end.



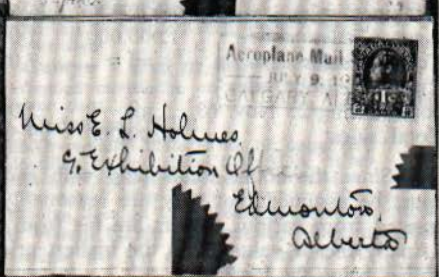
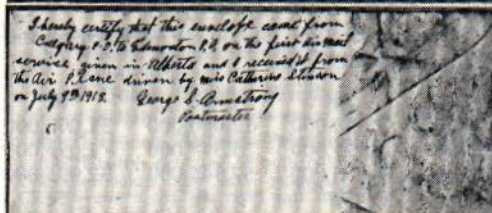
# Airmail Postal History

Maj. Richard K. Malott, 16 Hardwick Crescent, Ottawa 6, Ontario

One of the many pleasant rewards of stamp collecting is locating a hard-to-come-by item. In the past year, as a result of articles written in various philatelic magazines and local newspapers, three interesting Canadian pioneer flight covers were located. All three items have been held by the original recipient or the next of kin for over 50 years.

The first cover was located in Truro, Nova Scotia, by a Halifax stamp dealer in a shoebox full of post cards and envelopes.

The flight cover was flown from Charlottetown, P.E.I. to Truro, N.S. on September 29, 1919. (AAMS 21a). This cover, one of 30 reported flown on the return trip was postmarked at Charlottetown SEP 29, 3 PM 1919 addressed to a Mr. J. R. G. Armstrong, Esq., Truro, N.S., "Via Airplane", and backstamped TRURO, N.S. 4:30 PM SEP 29, 1919. The envelope contained a note reading "Dear Jack: This is my first letter VIA Air Service from P.E.I. I trust it will reach you and find your family O.K."



(signed J.D.E.) P.S. Please keep this message. J." The return flight was flown by Captain L. E. D. Stevens and Lt. James M. Stevenson of the Devere Aviation Company, Ltd., with head office in Truro. Captain Stevens was the General Manager and Lt. Stevenson the Manager for P.E.I. This envelope also contained a photograph of the pilots, the postmaster and mail clerk from Charlottetown. This was the first civilian-sent envelope from this flight I have seen in 12 years of collecting Canadian flight covers. An official envelope and letter from the postmaster of Charlottetown to the Postmaster of Truro has been located from this flight also. A full account of this flight appeared in *Stamps* dated 13 December, 1969 (page 662).

The second flight cover is one flown from Victoria, B.C. to Nanaimo, B.C. on August 16, 1919 by pilot Captain James Gray and observer Captain Gordon Cameron (AAMS 19). The envelope, addressed to a Mrs. R. Beaumont, 503 Third Street, Nanaimo, is postmarked VICTORIA, B.C. 16 AUGUST, 1919 1:30 PM, marked "Via Aeroplane" and backstamped NANAIMO, B.C. 16 AUGUST, 1919 3 PM. The envelope has been in the family of Mrs. Beaumont since 1919. A full account of the

flight appeared in *Stamps*, August 23, 1969 (page 378).

The third cover, and possibly the most rare is one carried outside the mailbag flown by Miss Catherine Stinson, American aviatrix, (AAMS) from Calgary to Edmonton on 9 July, 1918. A special mail of 259 envelopes was reported flown on the flight and all received a special rectangular purple cachet reading "Aeroplane Mail Service—July 9, 1918—Calgary, Alberta". Envelopes with 3c postage received the cachet on the front as a postmark and a back cancellation of Edmonton, Alberta, July 9, 9 p.m. The special envelope located in Victoria did not have postage but did have the special cachet on an official "Calgary Industrial" envelope. On the reverse, in lieu of a date cancellation at Edmonton, was written a statement—I hereby certify that this envelope came from Calgary P.O. to Edmonton P.O. on the first Air Mail service given in Alberta and I received it from the Air Plane driven by Miss Catherine Stinson on July 9th, 1918. (signed) George S. Armstrong, Postmaster (Calgary, Alberta).

This envelope was received by the owner's father and passed on to her later. She held it among other mementos and forgot all about it until a story about the flight reminded her of the cover.



## Tagging Along

**Kenneth G. Rose, Box 7086, Station E, Calgary 5, Alberta**

Belated information received from the Philatelic Section late in 1970 revealed the following figures regarding the first phosphor tagged issue:

|                                               | 1c        | 2c         | 3c         | 4c         | 5c         |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Original order .....                          | 5,000,000 | 29,000,000 | 2,500,000  | 12,000,000 | 31,000,000 |
| Subsequent orders .....                       | 3,200,000 | 595,000    | 9,195,000  | 25,345,000 | 1,095,000  |
| Total printing .....                          | 8,200,000 | 29,595,000 | 11,695,000 | 37,345,000 | 32,095,000 |
|                                               | 1c        | 2c         | 3c         | 4c         | 5c         |
| Winnipeg sales .....                          | 7,200,000 | 16,500,000 | 10,500,000 | 36,345,000 | 22,000,000 |
| Agency sales .....                            | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000  | 1,000,000  | 1,000,000  | 1,000,000  |
| Toronto sales .....                           | nil       | 7,095,000  | 195,000    | nil        | 9,095,000  |
| Rural Manitoba sales<br>commencing 25 Nov. 63 | nil       | 5,000,000  | nil        | nil        | nil        |
| Total sales .....                             | 8,200,000 | 29,595,000 | 11,695,000 | 37,345,000 | 32,095,000 |

Since the above totals tally with each other, and with previous figures received, it must be assumed that they are reasonably accurate. It should also be noted that prices quoted from various dealers are far from consistent with the rarity of the various values. Usually the 4c value bears the highest price, with the 5c and 2c next, and the 3c and 1c values being the lowest.



# Constant Plate Varieties

by Hans Reiche, 22 Chapleau Avenue, Apt. 3, Ottawa 2, Ontario

Billig's specialized catalogue, *Canada Constant Plate Varieties*, prepared by the writer 20 years ago has been out of print for many years. *Constant Plate Varieties of the Canada Small Queens*, also by the writer and published by BNAPS, is now 10 years old. Time did not allow this correspondent to bring these books up to date but continuous demands from collectors indicate that there is a need for an updated listing. This request is only partially answered by this paper, and it is hoped that at least the *best known and most popular* constant plate varieties are herewith updated.

The prices are suggested retail for single copies, used or mint. Many of these varieties are extremely difficult to find. It must be pointed out that plate varieties refer only to such stamps which show flaws due to a plate fault; therefore imperforated errors, shades, papers and other varieties not directly attributable to the printing plate are not listed.

## 3d Beaver (laid paper—1851)

major re-entry, pane A no. 47 .....\$175.00

## 3d Beaver (wove paper)

major re-entry pane A no. 47 ..... 150.00

## 5c Beaver (1859)

major re-entry on pane A no. 47, as above

—doubling of left and right frame lines, left and right oval lines, bottom of letters CANAD, top of letters TAGE and FIVE CENTS, and both bottom numerals ..... 100.00

"Log in Waterfall": no. 50, line below front foot of beaver to top of letter "F" .... 75.00

"Rock in Waterfall": large dot above letter "T" ..... 75.00

"Leaping Fish": oblong flaw below mouth of beaver ..... 75.00

## 10c Prince Consort (1859)

major re-entry on no. 29, doubling of letters "TE", CENTS, CA and all four numerals ..... 75.00

## 17c Cartier (1868)

"Burr on Shoulder": no. 7, large oblong flaw above right shoulder ..... 75.00

major re-entry on no. 100 ..... 75.00

## 2c Large Queen

major re-entry: doubling in CANADA and left "2" on no. 7 ..... 100.00

## 1c Small Queen (Ottawa Printing)

"Strand of Hair" extra line in Queen's hair ..... 30.00

## 2c Small Queen (Ottawa Printing)

major re-entry: doubling of both numerals, CENTS, below the left numeral and CENTS and along the right side opposite the right numeral ..... 30.00

## 6c Small Queen (Montreal Printing)

major re-entry: doubling in CANADA POSTAGE ..... 75.00

## 6c Small Queen (Ottawa Printing)

5c stamp entered on top of 6c ..... 150.00

## 6c Maple Leaf (1897)

retouched bottom frame line with engraving slip on plate 1, no. 14; heavy line from frame into bottom margin ..... 25.00

## 2c carmine Numeral (1898)

major re-entry, doubling of all bottom lines including both numerals and in the letters TWO CENTS ..... 10.00

## 5c Edward VII (1903)

major re-entry with doubling in all letters above top shading lines, in oval above and below FIVE CENTS and below right numeral box ..... 15.00

## 1/2c Quebec Tercentenary (1908)

re-entry and engraving slip on no. 44; doubling in 1608 and CANA, above left numerals and line extending from bottom frame line into margin ..... 6.00

## 1c green Admiral

major re-entry on plate 12—lower right of no. 35: doubling of the entire bottom design with a shift to the right, especially in both numeral boxes and bottom right frame ..... 50.00

## 2c green Admiral

major re-entry, similar to the 1c above .... 50.00

## 2c on 3c Admiral (one-line overprint)

pair, one without overprint ..... 75.00

double overprint ..... 100.00

## 2c on 3c Admiral (two line overprint)

double overprint ..... 75.00

triple overprint ..... 75.00

## 50c Bluenose (1928)

"Man in Mast": plate 2, no. 58; blue line on top of front sailing mast ..... 35.00

## 1c George V (orange or green—1930)

major re-entry on plate 2, upper left no. 96; doubling of both numerals and letters CENT on top ..... 6.00

## 2c George V (red, brown or green coils—1930)

"Cockeyed King" in pairs ..... each 10.00

## 3c Ottawa Conference

"Broken E" in POSTAGE: plate 2, no. 87, lower right ..... 5.00

## 2c George V (red or brown—1930)

extended moustache on plate 8, no. 64, lower right ..... each 6.00

## 5c Medallion (1932)

major re-entry: plate 1, no. 10; upper left: doubling of oval above CANADA, in letters CAN, and in oval below CANADA .. 10.00

"Bluenose": plate 2, no. 79; upper left—shading lines on top of nose re-entered .... 10.00

## 20c World Grain Conference—Regina 1933

broken "X" on right-upper leg of "X" short plate 1, No. 19 right ..... 25.00

|                                                                                                                                                                                                            |         |                                                                                                                                  |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <b>1c Silver Jubilee (1935)</b><br>"Weeping Princess:" dot below right eye on plate 1, no. 21; upper right .....                                                                                           | 30.00   | <b>1c Overprinted OHMS (1942/3)</b><br>narrow spacing 8 mm. instead of 9.5 mm. between overprints: strip of 3 .....              | 5.00   |
| <b>13c Yacht (1935)</b><br>"Shilling Mark" on plate 1 no. 78 upper; a white line above left "13" .....                                                                                                     | 25.00   | <b>2c Overprinted OHMS (1942/3)</b><br>narrow spacing, strip of 3 .....                                                          | 15.00  |
| <b>2c George V (1935)</b><br>"Mole on Forehead:" plate 2, no. 21; upper left: brown dot above ear .....                                                                                                    | 5.00    | missing period after "S" .....                                                                                                   | 25.00  |
| <b>10c Mounted Police (1935)</b><br>"Broken Leg:" white slash across upper part of rider's leg .....                                                                                                       | 150.00  | <b>3c Overprinted OHMS (1942/3)</b><br>narrow spacing, strip of 3 .....                                                          | 5.00   |
| <b>50c Parliament (1935)</b><br>major re-entry on plate 1, no. 25; lower right — doubling above CANADA, at bottom of letters ANAD and below "Parliament Buildings, Victoria" .....                         | 20.00   | missing period after "S" .....                                                                                                   | 25.00  |
| <b>1c George V (Coil — 1935)</b><br>narrow and wide spacing between stamps and narrow "1". (Wide spacing 4 mm; narrow spacing 3.25 mm.) Narrow "1" is to the right of the narrow spacing. Strip of 4 ..... | 15.00   | <b>10c Overprinted OHMS (1946)</b><br>missing period after "S" .....                                                             | 30.00  |
| <b>2c George V (Coil — 1935)</b><br>narrow and wide spacing between stamps, as above. Strip of 4 .....                                                                                                     | 15.00   | <b>14c Overprinted OHMS (1946)</b><br>missing period after "S" .....                                                             | 40.00  |
| <b>3c George VI (1937)</b><br>"Creased Collar:" plate 2, no. 85; upper right — line through right side of collar ..                                                                                        | 5.00    | <b>20c Overprinted OHMS (1946)</b><br>missing period after "S" .....                                                             | 50.00  |
| <b>5c St. Lawrence Seaway (1959)</b><br>inverted center .....                                                                                                                                              | 2500.00 | <b>50c Overprinted OHMS (1946)</b><br>missing period after "S" .....                                                             | 150.00 |
| offset printing (sometimes called double printing) on portion of the word "Canada" appears normal or inverted inside the blue design .....                                                                 | 25.00   | <b>\$1 Overprinted OHMS (1946)</b><br>missing period after "S" .....                                                             | 500.00 |
| <b>6c Christmas (1969)</b><br>black printing missing .....                                                                                                                                                 | 2500.00 | <b>1c Overprinted OHMS (1949)</b><br>narrow spacing, strip of 3 .....                                                            | 5.00   |
| <b>6c Airmail (1935)</b><br>"Moulting Wing:" line through wing .....                                                                                                                                       | 15.00   | <b>4c Overprinted OHMS (1949)</b><br>narrow spacing, strip of 3 .....                                                            | 5.00   |
| <b>6c on 5c Airmail (1932)</b><br>inverted surcharge .....                                                                                                                                                 | 100.00  | <b>5c Overprinted OHMS (1949)</b><br>narrow spacing, strip of 3 .....                                                            | 15.00  |
| double surcharge .....                                                                                                                                                                                     | 100.00  | missing period after "S" .....                                                                                                   | 25.00  |
| triple surcharge .....                                                                                                                                                                                     | 100.00  | <b>7c Overprinted OHMS: Goose — (1943)</b><br>missing period after "S" .....                                                     | 50.00  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            |         | <b>1c Overprinted G Queen Elizabeth (1953)</b><br>wide spacing (normal spacing 17.5 mm.; wide spacing 20.5 mm.) strip of 3 ..... | 10.00  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            |         | <b>2c Overprinted G Queen Elizabeth (1953)</b><br>wide spacing, strip of 3 .....                                                 | 10.00  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            |         | missing overprint, pair with one normal .....                                                                                    | 100.00 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            |         | <b>5c Overprinted G Queen Elizabeth (1953)</b><br>wide spacing, strip of 3 .....                                                 | 10.00  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            |         | <b>10c Overprinted G (1950)</b><br>missing overprint, pair .....                                                                 | 300.00 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            |         | misplaced "G.G" above "c" of "cents" ..                                                                                          | 100.00 |



## Roundup Squared Circles

Dr. W. G. Moffatt, Hickory Hollow, RR-3, Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019

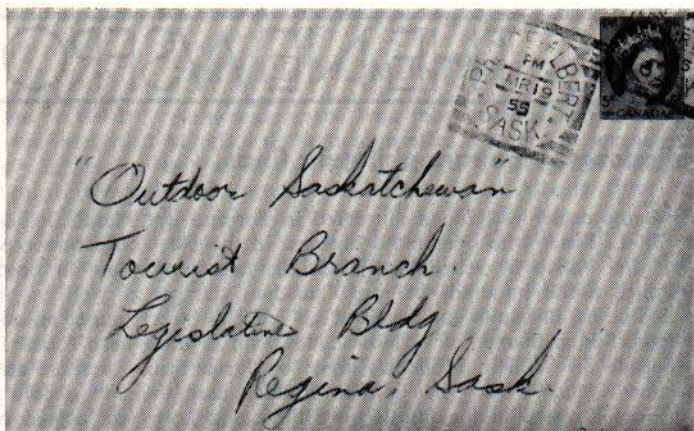
A few more Rosters have been returned, but there are yet too many still out to begin the final tabulations. A number of them will not be returned, several because of illness or business pressures, and one, because of death. But there are a number of substantial collections which I have every reason to expect will be reported on shortly. I hope that I will be able to start listing the data in next month's column.

\* \* \*

Tom Southey sent me the above cover last year. Because of the note in the Hand-

book that Prince Albert strikes of 1950 and later are suspect, I have postponed reporting the item until more information was at hand. I am told that it came through the mail in perfectly normal fashion, and was salvaged by a secretary who saved unusual-looking postmarks and stamps for her brother, who has several other Prince Albert covers of the same period. I have seen a photostat of one of these, dated AM/DE 15/55; another is dated MY 5/55. These latter are perhaps more suspect than the illustrated cover; the DE 15/55 cover car-





ries two strikes, one placed squarely on the stamp and the second, equally squarely to the left of the stamp. I am told that it is "believed that the hammer was returned to Ottawa"; however I was recently informed that there are only two squared circle hammers at Ottawa, these being NASSAGAWEYA and SUTTON WEST. So there perhaps is something suspect about late strikes after all, although I am somewhat persuaded that the suspect strikes probably date from early 1955, not 1950.

\* \* \*

Dr. Warren Bosch has informed me of a previously unrecorded year error for TORONTO: 5 PM/AP 24/66; this is evidently a case of inverted indicia in the year slot, and the correct year date is '99.

From Mr. G. B. Wright I have report of two new early dates: HULL II, FE 2/95 and FLESHERTON, AP 30/94.

H. A. Paterson reports a new late date for MILLTOWN: AM/JY 20/04.

Budd Soughton reports a new late date for STANSTEAD, NO 4/94, and several examples of most unusual indicia. These include NORTH BAY, 18/JY 6/97 and MANITOWANING, FE/1 AM/98. For MANITOWANING, the Handbook states: "... in 1900, a curious three-line date, 19/JA 10/00 (for JA 10, 1900) is the standard." If the "19" is really a part of the year date, then what are we to think of Budd's further report of MANITOWANING, 19/AP 17/98?

\* \* \*

Mr. Conrad Hofman sent me two examples of a "broken square" for ST. HYACINTHE, PM/JY 23/97 on 3c Jubilee and

NT/AP 24/94 on a pair of 1c Small Queens. As it turns out, the PM/JY 23/97 is a first-rate example of damage to the left side of the hammer, referred to in Alex McMullan's ST. HYACINTHE column in the December 1967 *Topics*. There is no doubt that a ridge was thrown up along the left side, because the left end of the bars embosses the stamp very heavily — almost perforating it — while the adjacent area does not show at all, and gradually begins to appear as the inner circle is approached. The overall effect is that the left side of the strike seems to be a heavy broken line, and the left end of the bottom of the strike also appears to be a broken line.

The strike on a pair of 1c Small Queens looks identical to the above strike; the left edge appears to be a broken frame line, and in almost all respects seems so near identical to the first strike that I just assumed it was from the same hammer. Now the strike on the Jubilee is definitely ST. HYACINTHE; the lettering is faint, but readable. The lettering of the other strike is extremely faint — in spite of the bold, dark, broken frame at the left — and, in truth, has to be considered unreadable at first glance. But I just assumed it, too, was ST. HYACINTHE since the two strikes seem so identical in appearance when seen side by side. But the NT time mark was a bothersome thing since I had not heard of this mark for St. Hyacinthe. I have now positively identified this as VICTORIA, hammer I. Quite remarkably, the Victoria I hammer seems to have suffered nearly identical damage to that of the St. Hyacinthe hammer!

# TOPICS: THE NEWSFRONT

## A murder discloses some rare philatelic finds

A former stamp dealer was found murdered in Toronto last March in his downtown home; he was M. L. Ritter who operated a business in the old Yonge Street Arcade until the mid-1940s, after which he retired and lived his remaining years in obscurity, with few friends. Police found hundreds of rare Canadian stamps, as well as highly-prized paper money and coins, in vaults and boxes at his Isabella Street house; among them are the sheets of imperf Map Stamps in various shades, said to have been found in the trash one morning outside Sir William Mullock's home on Jarvis Street, a short distance from Isabella. The now-legendary story has it that Mullock used them to decorate a screen. A suspect has been arrested in the murder; we'll try and keep you posted on how the collection is disposed.

Last month we mentioned Doug Patrick and his CBC radio show; it's now reported that CBC has cancelled the long-running stamp program, which is regrettable since it introduced a great many younger people into the world of collecting. But it must have been a burden for Patrick also; in any event it leaves him more time for his books and his stamp columns, which will be going on as strong as ever.

The British Columbia Philatelic Society informs us that its meetings are no longer devoted exclusively to BNA subjects, and that it no longer qualifies for a listing under our regional group meetings.

Exhibitors of Canadian stamps will be interested in knowing that Exfilima '71, the third InterAmerican Philatelic Exhibition, will be held this year in Lima, Peru on November 6 to 14. It is sponsored by the InterAmerican Federation of Philately. The Canadian Commissioner is Mrs. G. M. Geldert, who also holds the post of honorable secretary of the RPS of C, who will accept custody of exhibits from Canada and take them personally to Lima. Her address is Apt. 1510, 195 Clearview Ave., Ottawa 3, Canada.

Major R. K. Malott, who opens a new column this month on aerial postal history, is very active in arranging commemorative flight covers of historical events in Canadian aviation history; last year he arranged 24 special covers, and for 1971 he plans 27 envelopes commemorating events that took place in 1921. Write him for details; his address appears under his new column. He is also active in promoting the Hall of Canadian Aviation History, to be

built on a 35-acre site at Trenton, Ontario on land donated by the Department of National Defence; it's a safe bet that aero-philately will be one of the features of the proposed museum.

## Corrections . . .

Correction 1: On the postal stationery article by Hans Reiche in the February issue, an item was omitted in the listing of envelopes—the "5c" heading applies only to the first eight envelopes; after that (beginning with "size 8 orange with printing inside envelope") the heading "6c" should have been inserted to cover the last 10 envelopes in that group.

Correction 2: Omitted from our annual directory issue was the name of Mr. Lorne D. McIsaac (2523), of Mt. Pleasant, RR 1, Stickney, N.B. His name should have appeared in the membership roster, but was left out through a clerical error somewhere down the line.

## The Free Press survey

Each year the *London Free Press* (Ontario) takes a survey among collectors and the general public to find out the most popular, and least popular, postage stamp issued by Canada in the previous year.

The survey is run by the newspaper's stamp columnist Stan Shantz and this year (the thirteenth poll) 497 ballots were received.

The Group of Seven stamp showing the Lismor painting *Isles of Spruce* was acclaimed the best out of the 28 stamps issued; both readers of the *Free Press* and members of stamp clubs across Canada

## ARTHUR W. McINTYRE

One of BNAPS' earliest members, who most recently served as its publicity chairman, died March 6 in Edmonton after a career in journalism that spanned 52 years. He was Arthur W. McIntyre, a recognized specialist in agricultural reporting and regarded as the dean of Alberta farm writers. He gave up active writing when he turned 75, eight years ago — but continued to write his stamp column for the *Edmonton Journal* until early this year.

Art McIntyre was born at Middleville, Ontario and went to Edmonton in 1914, where he graduated from the University of Alberta with an arts degree. It was here his interest in journalism began; after a two-year delay spent recovering from a respiratory disease picked up while at officers' training school he became a reporter for an Alberta weekly and in 1926 joined the *Journal*. Meanwhile in 1924 he married the former Agnes Blackburn from his Ontario home town. She died in 1964. During his long career with the *Journal* he served as reporter, night editor, provincial editor, market editor, librarian, radio, stamp, and photography editor. He wrote an estimated 1,000 columns on stamps.

Edmonton *Journal* columnist Art Evans wrote, in a tribute to Art McIntyre a few days after his death, "He was a true 'gentleman of the press'. Arthur was the kinliest of men, a gentle-souled character of unflinching courtesy. His quiet nature was as far removed from the traditional image of a boisterous hard-bitten newspaperman as one can imagine. He remained serenely unaffected by the daily editorial turmoil around him . . ."

took part in the voting. The Lismer painting received 328 votes; the others were far behind with the Kesley stamp (55 votes), Expo Canada (36), Expo Ontario (22), N.W.T. (10), Manitoba Centennial (9), Expo B.C. (8), Biology (7), Mackenzie (6), Mowat and 10c U.N. (both 5), Strath-

con, 6c regular issue black (33), N.W.T. (25), 6c Christmas child (22), Mackenzie (15), U.N. (11), 5c Christmas clown (9), Mowat (5), 10c U.N. (4), Strathcona (3), 5c Christmas skiers, sleigh and star and the 6c Christmas church (all 1 each).

A separate poll was conducted to rate the Christmas issue. The 5c sleigh and the 15c showing a snowmobile bringing home a Christmas tree placed close together at the top, with the 6c showing the Christ child in a crib (which many claimed looked more like a coffin) at the bottom of the list.



con, 6c regular issue black, Christmas sleigh and Christmas 15c (all 2 each), and the remainders one each.

Voters were also asked to name their choices for the worst stamp. The results: Riel (272), Biology (5), Manitoba (38),

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## Auction News

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H. R. Harmer of New York, in its two-day 777-lot auction of Canada brought in \$77,385; the sale took place on March 9 and 10. Outstanding prices and strong bidding were primarily the results of a Canadian contingent comprising L. A. Davenport, F. E. Eaton, J. Hennock, A. G. Holtz, R. M. Lamb, S. W. MacLeod, J. A. Milli-

kan, Dr. P. M. Philmus and George Wegg, who attended the sale.

Examples of prices for some of the finer pieces are: 1857 issue 6p reddish-purple, used, cataloguing \$450 and selling for \$525; 1859 decimal-currency 1c rose unused, imperf pair, listed at \$850 went at catalogue; a 5c olive-green of the 1868-69 Large Cents made 150% of catalogue at \$825; of the same issue the 15c gray with script watermark and unused, was knocked down at \$900. The \$5 Jubilee in a cancelled corner block of four, exceeded catalogue at \$700. And a set of blocks of the uncut coils (first printing) of the Admiral issue (1c yellow, 2c green and 3c carmine) with *wide horizontal gutters*, of which only 10 are known to exist, sold for \$1650.

The J. N. Sissons 1971 Spring Sale in Toronto on March 31, attracted a record number of floor buyers. Among the Jubilee dollars values sold were: a \$1 NG VF mint (lot 169) at \$190, a NG VF \$3 (lot 181) at \$250, and a new record price was realized on a mint brilliant NH superb \$4 with margin which fetched \$600. A NH \$5 VF sold at \$280 (lots 184 and 187).

Backstamped Admiral coils, with "No. 1" inside the circle, went for \$60 and \$57.50 (lots 221 and 222).

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## Post Office Department **NEW ISSUES**

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Twenty-four million stamps honoring Sir Ernest Rutherford, a pioneer of modern atomic research, will be issued on March 24. The 6c commemorative stamps are orange, red and black in colour and measure 40 mm x 24 mm. They are being printed by three-color lithography by the British American Bank Note Company of Ottawa.

Ernest Rutherford was a native of New Zealand where he was born on August 30, 1871. Following his graduation from university there Rutherford studied at Cambridge University in England where his work with the celebrated physicist J. J. Thomson led to his initial study of radiation.

In 1898 Rutherford came to Canada to accept an appointment as professor of

physics at the Macdonald Laboratory of McGill University. There he continued his



research in radiation and conducted a series of experiments from which he developed his theory of the spontaneous disintegration of atoms. His findings made McGill University the world centre at that time of atomic research and established Rutherford as a leading authority on radioactivity. So thorough was Rutherford's work in atomic research that it became the basis for later 20th century developments in nuclear physics.

The design for the Rutherford stamp was created by Ray Webber of Toronto. Commenting on this latest design, the Design Advisory Committee said, "Although none of us can see atoms, most of us have an image of them as a sort of miniature planet circling around a nucleus. Mr. Webber has caught this image with great skill and has added to it the sense of energy which is contained in the burst of light. It symbolizes the great energy that the harnessing of the atom has given to us and which, unseen, affects so much of all our lives."

Collectors may order their stamps at face value through the philatelic service.

On March 23 the Post Office Department announced some changes in its 1971 schedule of new stamp releases. The issue of the stamp commemorating the 100th anniversary of the death of artist Paul Kane moves up from August 18 to August 11. The autumn issue in the series "Maple Leaf in Four Seasons" will be issued on September 3 instead of September 15; the winter stamp of that series will be late this year, coming out on November 19 instead of November 12.

The next issues take place on May 7 — one honoring Louis Joseph Papineau, the other Samuel Hearne. Twelve million of each will go on sale; details will be given in the next issue.

# TOPICS: THE BUSINESS SIDE

## BNAPS: ELECTED OFFICERS

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PRESIDENT          | Sam C. Nickle, 1208 Belavista Cr., Calgary, Alberta                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| VICE-PRESIDENT     | Alfred P. Cook, Coy Glen Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| SECRETARY          | Jack Levine, 2121-G North Hills Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27610                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| TREASURER          | Leo J. LaFrance, Box 229, Ossining, N.Y. 10562                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| BOARD OF GOVERNORS | Nine sitting; three elected every year for a three-year term.<br>1969-1971 — G. B. Llewellyn (chairman), C. R. McNeil, D. G. Rosenblat.<br>1970-1972 — Dr. R. A. Chaplin, S. S. Kenyon, Wilmer C. Rockett.<br>1971-1973 — James C. Lehr, James A. Pike, Robert H. Pratt. |

## *From the Secretary*

JACK LEVINE  
Raleigh, North Carolina

### New Members

- 2608 Ballantyne, T. G., Ste. 201—66 Hillside Drive, Toronto 355, Ontario  
2609 Ferguson, Donald Ryrle, 3041 Cedar Avenue, Montreal 109, Quebec  
2610 Fyffe, Dr. Gordon J., 107 Queens Avenue, New Westminster, B.C.  
2611 Guilmin, R. M. G., Box 60, Bushell Park, Saskatchewan  
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|                                          |       |      |
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| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, February 1, 1971 ..... | 1099  |      |
| NEW MEMBERS, March 1, 1971 .....         | 10    |      |
|                                          | <hr/> | 1109 |
| RESIGNATIONS, March 1, 1971 .....        | 5     |      |
| DECEASED, March 1, 1971 .....            | 2     |      |
|                                          | <hr/> | 7    |
| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, March 1, 1971 .....    |       | 1102 |

## Notes from the Librarian

MICHAEL SQUIRELL  
 Lively, Ontario

I am a bit disappointed about the number of requests from members to borrow material from our very extensive library; I have had only 34 requests to borrow books and files since being appointed. It may be due to a lack of complete listing of the library's books being available but this will be corrected next year. In the meantime just give me an idea of what you would like to see; I know the Canadian postal rates are high and that there is no possibility of them coming down, but like everything else in North America they are probably going to go up even further. I will endeavor to send requests by the safest and cheapest way possible. The library is one of the privileges of being a member of BNAPS; it's yours, so use it!

The library has a large number of the

more significant BNA auction catalogues which are missing the prices realized. It is important that these are included with the catalogues for future reference. The library needs realizations from the following auctions; copies of the lists will suffice:

The "Chas. A. Shierson" Canada & Newfoundland—Harmer October 1961.

The "Geo. Ludlow Lee" Canada—Harmer December 1963.

The "Norman C. Crombie" British America—Harmer April, 1962.

The Alfred H. Caspary Coll. BNA—Harmer, October 1956.

The William C. Hinde Canada—Robson Lowe—March, 1958.

The Gordon C. Liersch Coll. BNA—Harmer October 1961.

*Donations:* From A. G. Anderson, numerous auction catalogues and price lists; from Alfred Cook, RPSC convention book for May, 1966.

Hope to hear from more members!

## BNAPLEX 1971: AUGUST 26-29, 1971

*The Nova Scotian, Halifax, N.S.*



## MEL LOGAN

**For this Admiral specialist and his densitometer, shades have meaning**

*Mel  
Logan  
No. 2473*

A relatively new member to BNAPS but one who has been collecting without a break since the 1920s is Toronto's Mel Logan. While he doesn't think his collection amounts to much in terms of dollars, being mostly in used material, it is here that he has found his greatest source of material for the study of ink and printing shades.

Because collectors have generally not supported this area of collecting with research and scientific data, Logan has built up a system based on densitometry readings by which color values can be rated.

Back in the 1920s, during a chat with Les Davenport, he was advised to "develop it yourself and you'll be breaking new ground." It was to be prophetic.

He started with the then-current Admiral issue and has abandoned many methods of evaluation until the densitometer came to his attention.

This highly-sophisticated method, used extensively throughout the fine-printing industry, may not be the last word, but to Logan it provides great excitement. It also, he points out, can be made to demonstrate to friends just how colorblind they are in certain hues.

His interest in densitometry is no accident; he has been with the Toronto Star over 40 years and with rotogravure printing much of that time. While he is now the general manager of its rotogravure plant and therefore in an executive position, he still keeps a densitometer in his desk.

"I wouldn't say I'm a fanatic or anything about shades. I've learned a lot from some books on other aspects of the Admirals and about Canada as a whole. Because I'm fascinated with any early history of the community applied to government, post offices, rates and routes, I've never really become a specialist in the real sense."

"I never tire of travel in our country," Logan adds, "and whenever business has taken me I discover something new to see. Later I have often gone back to such places with my wife Helen on a vacation, so we could spend some time and absorb the new find. My daughter Janet, though now married, shows every sign of maintaining her early interest as a collector too . . ."

## ...and some doodles by The Editor

The venerable Fred Jarrett may be retired, but he's far from idle. Several months ago, after he had recited one of his many philatelic anecdotes, I told him he should write a book on his life as a collector and dealer. "Oh I am, I'm writing one," he replied. Assuming that he has made a few preliminary notes on a warm summer evening back in 1938 and never touched the project again, I didn't bring the matter up for some time. But two weeks ago, after he had recited another of his anecdotes, I again told him he should get down and finish that book. "Oh I have," he replied. "I just finished it last night, in fact." It seems he has been working away on it steadily for the past year.



# MAIL FROM OUR MEMBERS

## One happy new member

It is a rather interesting coincidence that in the first copy of *Topics* that I have ever read, the January 1971 issue, your editorial should be devoted to the one big reason I have not considered joining the Society before: the fact that most articles have progressed to the stage where they are technically beyond the comprehension of novices, or collectors less steeped in things like "13 lines to the 20 mm."

So your article suggests that I am joining at both an opportune and an educational time. Comprehensive new (or re-run) articles on the officially sealed stamps, the Small Queen perf 11½ x 12 varieties, and the Toronto experimental coils, would be appreciated.

— Eugene Francis

*The experimental coils were covered in the last issue; many members have asked for a comprehensive article on the Small Queens, which is being worked on now, along with a similar story on the Jubilee issue. We would be pleased to hear from other members with suggestions for "basic" BNA articles. — editor.*

## Toronto Street Post Offices — again

I would like to bring to the attention of your readers certain inaccuracies that exist in an article by E. A. Smythies in the October, 1970 issue of *Topics*. The main error, which all but invalidates the article, pertains to the classification of the various types of Toronto post offices from 1895 to 1930. If Mr. Smythies had grown up in the area, had available to him the postal guides and city directories of the time or even had access to a current Toronto telephone book, the story may have been different. He would have realized that the Toronto postal system developed as a result of an evolutionary process and what was one thing at a certain time was not necessarily the same thing a few years later although the name remained unchanged.

The first stage of development of the

postal system at Toronto came with the setting up of *branch offices* in 1881 and continued until the turn of the century. These are often, in error, called "Street Post Offices" because they were found in stores of various merchants and often, but not always, bore the name of the street upon which the business was located. However, some offices that had existed previously as suburban post offices and became part of the Toronto Branch System as the city expanded into their area, retained their original name. Also, a few Branch Offices were newly opened that did not have "street" names but, nevertheless, must be considered in this group. Generally, all functioned fully as any other post office in Canada at that time with the added responsibility of integrating with other members of the system.

Things worked efficiently under this structure until 1898 at which time the *depot system* (not mentioned by Mr. Smythies) was established. Three of these Depots were opened and although their function is not completely known (they were gradually phased out) it is felt that they acted as centres for receiving mail posted in the corner mail boxes before being taken to the Main Post Office to be cancelled by machines which had been brought to Toronto a year earlier. There is also evidence that the Depots served as places from which the letter carriers could service their particular area. These Depots were the first indication that the Branch System was in need of modification.

The first step came in 1900 with the opening of the first *postal station*. Ensuing years saw Postal Stations opened in various districts of the city so that today there are 21 in Greater (not Metropolitan) Toronto. Then, as today, the postmaster was a fulltime employee of the Post Office Department and he managed an establishment devoted exclusively to post office business. This included full customer service and, in most cases, letter carrier depots. From this it becomes obvious that with "postal centres" being set up in Toronto according to area and most of the regular mail handled at one central establishment hous-

(Continued on page 138)

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## LETTERS —

ing the necessary equipment, the Branch System was dying as a system.

Most of the Branch Offices and a few additional ones entered the 20th century with diminished powers as the nucleus for the *sub post office system*. As Mr. Smythies states these post offices were identified by number. However what he did not mention is that not *all* Sub Post Offices were so designated. Actually, this group had many former Branch Offices with the name unchanged (some were given numbers later), most suburban post offices that found themselves within Toronto as the city continued to expand — also with their names unchanged, as well as the newly established numbered Sub Post Offices. For the most part, all operated (and still do) as secondary to a merchant's normal business.

The *postal terminals* of Toronto, or to be more accurate — Postal Terminal "A"

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(there is only one), is where all mail to and from Toronto is processed. This building houses all the cancelling machines and contains the sorting areas, the registration and parcel post divisions and other departments concerned with the handling of mail. As stated, it is an extension of the main Toronto Post Office.

If we are to discuss, as Mr. Smythies does, the various "Street" Post Offices of Toronto we must be more explicit and incidentally, more complete. We must consider all Branch Offices irrespective of name (street or otherwise) that fulfilled the same purpose. We must acknowledge the role of the Depots and the Stations. We must recognize that former Branch Offices and former suburban post offices were actually Sub Post Offices even though they retained their former names. Since all of these developed a certain complexion especially pertaining to cancelling devices, they must be treated as a mosaic rather than thrown into a melting pot.

Even if we assume that Mr. Smythies' treatment of the "Street" Post Offices is valid, certain basic errors exist. There were considerably more than 29 during the roller period to 1930: the Carleton Street P.O. did not exist after 1892 and Colemas never existed; Yorkville and Riverside are among those not listed for which rollers are known and lastly, Lee Avenue and Clinton Street are shown as not having rollers but evidence shows that this was not the case.

In addition to this, he states that the Toronto Junction Post Office was a railway station post office. Actually this post office was formerly the West Toronto Junction P.O. — a suburban office — that changed its name when it became part of Toronto in 1892. It was located at one of the main intersections of that part of the city and not in the railway station.

There are other errors in the article but enumerating them will serve no further purpose. I, personally, find it difficult to believe that Mr. Smythies, whose contributions to the study of many aspects of the Postal History of Canada have been monumental, could produce this article. However, I suppose that even the best can be allowed a lapse once in a while.

— Dr. F. G. Stulberg

*Mr. Smythies explains: "The classification of the various types of Toronto post offices, which Dr. Stulberg calls the main error, was not my classification at all, but was received three or four years ago from the director of public relations for the Ottawa Post Office, and published verbatim in the first edition of the Roller Handbook."*

*He adds that Dr. Stulberg deals, in his letter above, with the evolution and de-*

*velopment of Toronto branch offices from 1881 onwards, a subject about which Mr. Smythies claims no knowledge. "My article gave a list of post offices (from a printed official list) that existed at one particular period of time, i.e. March 1930. If this is incorrect, the fault is not mine and I should not be blamed for it. Nor do I deserve blame for something I never did — tracing the evolution of Toronto post offices from 1881, or any other date."*

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