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

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# BNA TOPICS



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# The French River District Post Office

A little-known post office with a well-known name

BY ROBERT BOUDIGNON

Though the Indians who roamed Ontario several hundreds of years ago no doubt had a name for the waterway that led them to and from the Georgian Bay, it was not till Champlain travelled the river in 1615 that it became known to the white man and was given the name of 'la riviere des français'.

After Champlain's discovery of this waterway to the West, there followed in his steps between 1629 and 1649 the many Recollet and Jesuit Fathers who went to live amongst the Huron Indians. Fathers Breboeuf and Lallemand were two of the Martyrs of Fort Ste. Marie, who met their death at the hands of the Iroquois Indians, deadly enemies of the French and the Hurons. The Iroquois at the time controlled most of the lands surrounding the lower Great Lakes.

Then came the explorers. Some were men of the cloth, such as Jean-Louis Hennepin, Dollier de Casson, Renee de Galinee and Jacques Marquette. Others were the 'cours de bois' or traders: Jean Nicolet, Pierre Raddison, des Groseilliers, la Verendrye and his sons, to name a few—all with great courage and determination, travelled the French River, to explore 'le pays d'en haut'.

There followed too, the English explorers: Simon Fraser, David Thompson, Alexander MacKenzie, Alexander Henry and many others—some on their own, and others in the employ of the great fur trading companies—the Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company.

Of the fur traders and the brigades of canoes which travelled back and forth on the river for many years, much could be and has been written.

## The portages

This river, some 60 miles long, full of grandiose beauty and treacherous rapids, was for many years the only route to and from the West which could be travelled safely by these early voyageurs. After many days of hard paddling and difficult portaging up the Ottawa River from La Chine (Montreal) to the height of land near Mattawa, it was with little effort that they

crossed Lake Nipissing and travelled down the French River to 'la mere douce'. On the return trip, the portages on the river were taken lightly in the knowledge that the Ottawa River and the long stretch home was all down stream.

What stories could be told of these early travellers—the correspondences and messages they carried back and forth, telling of their trials and tribulations, of their discoveries and defeats. . . .

Leaving early Canadian history behind, we come to a period of greater interest in terms of postal history. In 1872, the Hon. Thomas Foster, minister of crown lands in Ontario, opened up the district in which the French River is located, for lumbering.

With this legislation, nearly every large river flowing into the northern part of the Georgian Bay acquired importance in the development of the industry. This development was encouraged by the post Civil War reconstruction boom in the United States.

The French River was no different from the others. People began to settle at the mouth of the river. With the survey in 1875 of the Town plot, known then as Copananing, by Thomas Bolger of Belleville, there followed the opening of the first Post Office in the same year. It was to be known as French River and was oper-

ated by a Duncan E. MacDonald. The mail traffic must have been light; the lumbering industry was to develop first in the lower part of the Georgian Bay where timber limits were closer to the existing saw mills. The post office at French River closed in the same year it had opened.

## Paddle-wheel boats

By 1882 things were beginning to happen. Hiram H. Cook of Toronto organized the Ontario Lumber Company and bought out the Walkerton Lumber Company which had been operating in the area. The Ontario Lumber Company was to remain active till around 1910. Men and supplies began to arrive in large numbers at French River village by paddle-wheel boat. In small boats, they proceeded up the French and Pickerel rivers to the end of navigable water. They were the men who went into the woods for the winter to cut logs and drive them downstream in the spring to French River village. There many of them were sawed into timbers, while others were formed into booms to be towed across the Georgian Bay to the mill towns of Midland, Collingwood, Owen Sound and to the United States ports on Lake Huron.

Among those who did not complete the trip to the village were the passengers of the steamer ASIA belonging to the Great Northern Transit Company. She had sailed out of Collingwood on September 13, 1882, heavily loaded with people, provisions, horses, equipment and mail for the north shore communities and lumber camps. She ran into a violent gale and in the morning of the 14th turned and headed for the French River, a port of call. She never made it — all hands save two were lost.

It was not till July 1, 1885 that the French River post office was re-opened under J. M. Dollar, an old lumberman himself and owner of one of the sawmills that operated there. Hiram Cook owned and operated the other one. Dollar remained postmaster till October 31, 1888.

By 1895 a community of considerable size had grown up on the east bank of the river some two miles up from the Georgian Bay. Immense docks and facilities existed to handle the men and material required for the lumbering industry. The population was then about 300. Apart from shops and hotels, other businesses operated there which were somewhat unique to the lumber-

ing industry. Irwin and Company were 'log jobbers' and the French River Tug Company did 'towing and booming'. Later it was to become known as the French River Boom and Rafting Company.

There followed in rapid succession a number of postmasters who held a variety of positions in the village. Nathaniel Irvine was postmaster from March 1889 to March 1893. George Bruce held the job for the short period from July 1893 to April 1894. F. W. Jeffery followed him from July 1894 to May 1898. During this period the cancelling device was the circular one in general use throughout the Province.

The postmasters had amongst their duties to handle mail to and from the logging camps, which was brought in by boat, during the summer months. During the winter months the mail was packed in by couriers from Parry Sound along the north shore of the Georgian Bay. Their office was also authorized to issue money orders.

Of the various steamship companies, operating on the bay and authorized to carry mail, there was the North Shore Navigation Company. It operated the steamer FAVOURITE which in 1892 travelled Mondays and Thursdays from Collingwood to Killarney with stops at Parry Sound, Byng Inlet, French River, Killarney and return. The navigation season at best averaged 225 days per year.

## Some postmasters

From June 1898 to July 1899 H. Hancock filled the position of postmaster, to be followed by James H. Gillis. He was appointed on January 1, 1900, and retained the position till September 1902. The cancelling device in 1898 had become the split-circle variety, common in Ontario during the late nineteenth century.

One wonders, knowing the circumstances of the situation and the times, when the postmaster might have started to use the map stamp of 1898 or if he ever received a supply. No copies have come to light.

In 1908 there was completed a report called *The Georgian Bay Ship Canal*. This report made French River village the western terminus of a canal to be developed from Montreal to Georgian Bay. It would have a minimum draft of 20 feet for the whole distance. Though the idea never went beyond the report stage it was the

(continued on page 160)

# Postal usage of an Admiral coil



Scott 123

by Michael Dicketts

For some time the writer has been puzzled by his inability to acquire early dated copies of Scott 123, the 1c green coil perf 8 x imperf for his collection. Over a six-year period I have secured exactly four copies, including one on cover, three of which are dated 1920 and the other 1917.

According to Reiche's Handbook, Plate 1, used to produce this coil, was approved on October 18, 1912, and, while the Philatelic Agency are unable to provide the exact date of issue, they believe it to be November, 1912. Reiche, in a letter published in *Topics*, October, 1963, reported that a copy of this coil had been found dated October 18, 1912. This appears to be suspect in view of the official approval date, but regardless we are led to believe that the coil made its appearance some time late in 1912.

These vertical coils were designed for vending machines, as distinct from stamp affixing machines, (described in Boggs *Canada*, Vol. II, pp. 42-B) and were presumably located in post office buildings in selected cities so that they were available on a limited basis to the public. These cities could, perhaps, be determined by collectors reporting strikes. My own copies originate from Montreal, Guelph and Trois Rivieres.

I have always concluded the absence of dated copies covering the period 1912 and 1916 was due to either a general shortage of material or pure bad luck on my part. However I recently had the opportunity to examine two covers which might suggest another reason for the shortage of early dated material. Both are postcards mailed from Montreal to New York and originally bore a 1c green sheet stamp (Scott 104) and dated July 23 and July 24, 1917, respectively. In F. W. L. Keane's article on postal rates, published in *Topics*, April,

1954, he reported that with the passing of the War Tax Act in 1915 postcards to the U.S.A. required 2c postage to cover the additional tax. While the MRI issue served this requirement, it was acceptable to use Scott 104 or any of the 1c coils then available.

The two postcards in question were caught by an official for underpayment, and, bearing no return address, were sent to the Montreal dead letter office after a purple handstamp "RETURNED FOR WAR TAX" was applied. At the dead letter office a receiving mark in purple dated July 25, 1917 was added. Here the matter could have ended and the postcards left to gather dust. However someone took it upon himself to apply a copy of the 1c green coil (Scott 123) to each card and return them to the mail stream where they were again cancelled (July 26, 1917) and forwarded to New York.

The presence of these added coils suggests reasons for the elusiveness of early dated copies. As already stated, distribution of these coils was limited to selected locations only, thus reducing their usage by the public when compared with other coil forms. But more important to my theory is the unusual use of coils by postal officials, as exemplified by the examined covers. It is feasible to state that these coils were withheld for 'official' use rather than being made available in machines to the public and that they saw only limited use between 1912 and 1917 in circumstances similar to those above.

I have discussed this matter with Hans Reiche and Daniel G. Rosenblat, neither of whom have dated material earlier than 1917, who feel that there is an element of mystery surrounding the early years of this



coil. I am particularly indebted to Rosenblat for suggesting that the coarse perforation was found to be a failure as it would not separate easily, leading to torn stamps and frustration on the public's part, who then refused to buy coils until Scott 131, with its perf 12 improvement, made its appearance.

With surplus stocks of Scott 123 on their hands, postal officials would seize on any opportunity to use up stocks; hence the curious usage described above. Probably around 1920 the Canada Post Office directed that remaining stocks be sold over

the counter so that increased usage occurred and dated copies can still be found in reasonable numbers.

It is recognized that what has been said is conjecture. It is unlikely that an official directive can be found to deny or substantiate my theory. It would be of considerable interest if any former postal employees could confirm the practice I have suggested. A survey of dated material, on or off cover, would go far towards unraveling this mystery and I invite either comments or information pertaining to this question.

## SOME TOTAL QUANTITIES ISSUED

We're indebted to Ed Burley of Keswick, Ontario, for supplying the following list of quantities issued on a group of coil stamps. Normally such quantities are not listed in catalogues and philatelic books:

### Scroll Issue (1928)

*1c yellow* (Scott 160)

10,000,000

Of these, 8,515,000 were precancelled, leaving only 1,485,000 without cancels.

### Medallion (1933)

*1c dark green* (Scott 205), issued November 3, 1933:

13,573,000

An additional 10,500,000 were precancelled (November 22).

*2c black-brown* (Scott 206), issued August 15, 1933:

19,265,000

*3c deep red* (Scott 207), issued August 16, 1933:

28,310,000

### King George VI (1937)

*1c green* (Scott 238)

23,021,500

An additional 12,005,000 were precancelled.

*3c carmine* (Scott 240)

57,827,000

### War Issue (1942)

*1c green* (Scott 263):

26,000,000

An additional 26,500,000 were precancelled.

*2c brown* (Scott 264):

8,465,000

*3c rose-violet* (Scott 266):

45,990,000

*4c dark carmine* (Scott 267):

47,590,000

### Unrevised George VI (1950)

*1c green* (Scott 295):

2,660,000

An additional 1,540,000 were precancelled.

*3c rose-violet* (Scott 296):

3,085,000

### Revised George VI (1950)

*1c green* (Scott 297):

8,675,000

An additional 6,960,000 were precancelled.

*2c sepia* (Scott 298):

3,195,000

An additional 3,030,000 were precancelled.

*3c rose-violet* (Scott 299):

26,625,000

*4c dark carmine* (Scott 300):

10,980,000

### Color Change (1951)

*2c olive green* (Scott 309):

7,331,500

An additional 6,665,000 were precancelled.

*4c orange vermilion* (Scott 310):

9,645,000



## A BNAPS REPRINT

*From the Essay Proof Journal  
issue number 31*

By **GEORGE C. MARLER**

# Proofs of the 1911-25 Issue

Having for some years been interested in the stamps of this issue, and particularly in the various dies used during its life, I was much intrigued, if I may use this much over-worked word, by the information to be found in the Society Catalog in *Essay Proof Journal* Numbers 8 and 28, regarding the die proofs of these stamps. Though the data as to the measurements of the various proofs and the colors in which they were printed were of much interest, the reported existence of two or more dies for several of these stamps aroused my curiosity.

Up to that time my attention had been focused principally upon the stamps themselves, upon plate-number blocks, re-entries, retouches, and the like, and my knowledge of the die proofs was distinctly limited. In fact, until recently my collection contained a single set of die proofs of the seven values first issued (1c, 2c, 5c, 7c, 10c, 20c and 50c), three proofs of the 2 cents, and some similar material for the 3 cents in brown and the 10 cents in bistre-brown.

Then I was fortunate enough to acquire a set of die proofs in black for each of eleven values issued, and one die essay of the 6 cents which was not issued. This and other material provoked so many questions needing to be answered that, after having made a thorough study of the data to be found in the Catalog in various numbers of the *Journal*, I concluded that I would have to investigate further.

The most important and disquieting fact revealed by the *Journal* catalog was that in some instances there were die proofs extant of two and even three dies for some of the values of the issue, which, of course, implied the use of more dies than those with which I have been familiar in my studies of the 1911-25 issue, of which I have written somewhat extensively in *The American Philatelist*. I

was well aware of the fact that two dies were used for the one cent denomination.

Die I in green (Scott No. 104), and die II and die III for the yellow (No. 105), and likewise for the three cents, die I in brown, and die I and die II in carmine; but I had always understood that for the other values only one die had been used, though in some instances it was retouched or re-engraved. The *Journal* catalog data showed die proofs with different dimensions for the die sinkage, with a die number and imprint in some cases, and with no die number but with the imprint in others.

Moreover, though it seemed to me, in my ignorance, quite unimportant, some dies had a 2.5 mm hole at the top, while others had none. And besides I noticed that the imprints were of two types: the first of well formed letters which was 23.5 mm long; the

## de SPERATI

*Jean de Sperati*, who lived and operated in Aix-les-Bains, France, was the supreme artist of all the forgers — whose proud boast was that he could deceive even the experts!

I don't know when he started his operations but his career as a forger ended in 1953, after Robson Lowe had studied and described his products in a book, *Sperati and his Works*, published by the British Philatelic Association, who also bought up his stock of forgeries in 1953 and put him out of business.

Sperati's method of production was ingenious. He limited his BNA forgeries to a mere handful — less than a dozen in fact — of Newfoundland Pence, values 2d to 1/- inclusive, in scarlet-vermilion and 4d, 6d, 1/- in orange-vermilion, and two Vancouver imperfs. He made very accurate and beautiful dies of each value, from which he built up his forgeries (in the rare shades) by photo-lithography.

While he was operating, mint sheets of the Newfoundland Pence (in the common lake shade) were still available at cheap prices, and Sperati took those on heavy paper, faded out the lake shade with chemicals, and overprinted in orange-vermilion — thus obtaining forgeries *on the genuine paper!*

As his designs and shades were also very good, it is not surprising that he puzzled even the experts! Robson Lowe has suggested he also used the blank marginal paper from genuine sheets.

The few copies of Sperati's BNA forgeries that I have seen were free of cancellations, but, like the other forgers, Sperati also made a number of cancelling instruments which he used on forgeries of other countries, a number of which are illustrated in the BPA book and four or five examples are reproduced in the *Forgeries Handbook*, soon to be published by BNAPS.

I have mentioned earlier the school of thought that considers it a crime to publish anything anywhere about any forgers, the reason given being that the publication would lead to a crowd of collectors trying to get samples and "new groups" of forgers would get busy meeting the demand! I do not know a single case where in consequence of such publicity any "new group" has started to repeat an old forgery. If it is a crime to publish details of forgery, then I share this responsibility with many distinguished names in philately — Earee and the Geneva Philatelic Convention, Boggs and the late George Kemp, Robson Lowe and the BPA, Argenti and Ragatz and others.

second of rougher, larger letters which was 25 mm long. The first was to be found only with the die number; the second was always without it. These distinctions permitted the above tabulation.

The table (p. 146) shows that the die proofs with no die number and the 25mm imprint (all listed in Group B) are of the seven values originally issued in 1911 and 1912, that is, the 1c, 2c, 5c, 7c, 10c, 20c and 50c, and that no die proofs without die number are listed of the values issued later,

to wit: the 3c in 1918, the 4c in 1922, etc. Though the fact is not indicated in the table, none of the proofs in group B shows the hole at the top of the die.

Another point of interest is that the proofs in group B show the original state of the die. This statement needs a little elaboration and explanation. In the die for the 2c (the master die of the issue), the vertical line in the upper right spandrel closing the horizontal lines of shading was very light and did not touch to the top hori-

## TABULATION OF ADMIRAL PROOFS

Denomination	GROUP A			GROUP B		
	Size of Die Sinkage	Die Number	Imprint	Size of Die Sinkage	Die No.	Imprint
One Cent	62 x 62 mm	F-212	23.5 mm	60 x 73 mm	—	25.0 mm
	74 x 76 mm (1)	X-G-86	—		—	—
Two Cents	62 x 62 mm	F-211	23.5 mm	59 x 73 mm	—	25.0 mm
Three Cents	59 x 73 mm (2)	O-G-266	—			
	75 x 73 mm (1)	X-G-87	—			
Four Cents	76.5 x 76 mm (2)	O-G-426	—			
Five Cents	63 x 63 mm	F-213	23.5 mm	61 x 73 mm	—	25.0 mm
Six Cents	61.5 x 61 mm (2)	O-G-421	—			
Seven Cents	64 x 63 mm	F-214	23.5 mm	61 x 73 mm	—	25.0 mm
Eight Cents	76 x 77 mm	X-G-91	—			
Ten Cents	63 x 63 mm	F-218	23.5 mm	60 x 72.5 mm	—	25.0 mm
Twenty Cents		F-217	23.5 mm	59 x 73 mm	—	25.0 mm
Fifty Cents	63 x 74 mm	F-219	23.5 mm	60 x 73 mm		
One Dollar	76 x 86 mm (2)	X-G-8	—			

(1) Die II as it is generally known.

(2) These dimensions were not published in E.P.J. but were ascertained by the writer.

zontal line; in fact it stopped at the line next below.

As a result, subjects from the first 26 plates of the 2c carmine show this same condition in the upper right spandrel. The die was then retouched and a strong vertical line was added in the upper right which closed all of the horizontal lines, including the top one. Plates 27 and 28 of the 2c which were approved on December 28, 1912 and subsequent plates come from the retouched die.

I have die proofs showing both states of the die, and minor peculiarities on these proofs establish positively that the original die was retouched and not replaced by a new one. Knowing these facts I was surprised to find that the impression on the die proof (group B) of the two cents showed the die in its original state, and not of its state after retouching in 1912.

The same facts could be stated with regard to the 1c, the original die of which was likewise retouched, probably at about the same time as in the case of the 2c, but certainly not later than January 14, 1913 when plates 31 and 32 of the 1c, the first to show the retouching, were approved.

The writer has a photograph of a die proof of the 1c green which shows the retouching of the original die and not its replacement by another. (See also the illustration in Boggs, page 362.) The die proof (group B) of the 1c, however, shows the original state of the die.

The re-engraving of the dies of the 5c and the 50c was probably done in 1925, so that it is not surprising that the die proofs of group B of these two values also show the original state of the die.

### Proofs Without Die Numbers

It was difficult to reconcile these facts with the implication of the data in the *Journal* catalog that the dies which I have assigned to group B were laid down preliminary to and in anticipation of the changes of color effected in 1922, since by that time the retouching of the dies of the 1c and 2c had long previously been done.

Yet the obvious differences: size of die sinkage, die numbers and imprints, clearly implied the existence of two distinct dies of different dimensions.

Thanks to courtesies afforded by the Post Office Department at Ottawa and by the manufacturers, I am now able to give the facts regarding the die proofs of this issue.

The most important fact is that though two dies were used for the 1c and 3c stamps, only one die was used for stamps of each of the other values; all of these dies had a die number and many but not all of them had the 23.5 mm imprint (cf. table above, group A).

The dies from which proofs without die numbers but with the 25mm imprint are extant were laid down so that die proofs might be supplied when needed, but were not hardened and in consequence were never

used in the production of stamps. That they were not hardened is evident from the fact that there was no hole in the die, as was the case with the dies from group A. This hole, it may be explained, permits a wire to be attached to the die to facilitate its suspension in and removal from the hardening bath; and if there was no hole in the die, then it has not been hardened, and, of course, until it is hardened it is useful only for the production of die proofs.

It was interesting for a novice, such as myself, to learn that the manufacturers do not like to take proofs from a hardened die. It appears that after hardening it is much more difficult to obtain a proof which is clean all around the subject; there is a tendency for the ink to adhere to the hardened die, and even though it be carefully wiped the proof is apt to show traces of color around the subject. With an unhardened die this tendency is obviated and the proofs are clean and unmarked by the traces of the ink.

The manufacturers were unable to fix the time when these additional unhardened dies were laid down, but it is possible by a process of elimination to arrive at an estimate which ought to be fairly close. The fact that no such dies were laid down for the 3c, of which the original die was approved in 1918, or for any of the values subsequently issued (i.e. 4c and 8c and \$1), implies that the additional unhardened dies were anterior to 1918.

Moreover, the retouching late in 1912 of the hardened dies for the 1c and 2c would preclude the laying down at a later date of dies which did not show the retouching, unless a transfer roll taken from the die before retouching were used for the purpose. It would seem logical to rule out the use of a transfer roll from the original die, because, for values as much used as the 1c and 2c, new transfer rolls were made, and it is therefore unlikely that an old roll would be used in the preparation of a die for die proofs, particularly in view of the fact that after the two dies were retouched no new plates were made from old rolls.

The inferences to be drawn are, first, that the additional unhardened dies for the 1c and 2c were made in 1912, and second, that the five other additional unhardened dies were made at the same time and as part

of the same general operation. This perhaps is not a positive conclusion, but it seems to me to be a logical one.

The purpose of these additional unhardened dies having thus been established, and the year of their birth being fixed as 1912 pretty certainly, it seems necessary to discard the proofs from these dies as "trial color proofs" for the values issued in changed colors in 1922 or later. All of these proofs are in the color of issue (except proofs in black, of which more anon), and as they were laid down before the new colors were contemplated, they can scarcely be regarded as trial color proofs.

## The Black Proofs

What of the proofs in black listed in the *Journal* catalog as trial color proofs? Are they really trial colors? The answer is that they definitely were not submitted as such. For the most part the original proofs for the stamps were submitted to the Post Office Department in the colors in which the stamps were issued: in two or three instances the color of the proof submitted was changed, but I am doubtful if there are proofs of these trial colors except some in the possession of the department or the manufacturers. A possible exception is a small proof (29 x 32mm) in green of the 2c printed on horizontal wove paper and recorded in the catalog in *Journal* No. 15; this is now in my possession and I believe it to have been printed in October 1921 from the unhardened die.

I have not seen many of the proofs in black. I have in my possession two of the 2c printed on horizontal wove paper from the unhardened die, and measuring 24 x 28mm and 31 x 35mm. I also have seen (ex Reford collection) a set of 12, one for each value including the never issued 6c, which are printed on cardboard 43 x 50mm from the hardened dies (reported in *Journal* No. 28 catalog); that is to say, all of those listed in group A excepting die II of the 1c and die II of the 3c. Some believe that these proofs in black were printed just before the destruction of the dies (circa 1928 or 1929)<sup>1</sup>, but this belief is not supported by the proofs themselves. In the course of the

(continued on page 161)

(1) The reason for this theory is that similar appearing black die proofs and 1914 essays are known to exist only of all stamps produced by the American Bank Note Co., Ottawa, and not of stamps produced by their predecessors or successors. All issues of these black die proofs from 1897 to 1929 are on similar card and printed in the same shade of black ink, in the same general size. — C.W.B.



# TYPE 63 FLAG CANCELLATION

by John F. Wilsdon

Seekers of Canadian flag cancellations are a sad, thwarted lot. Collecting is most inactive. Since the last war, over 25 years ago, only five new flags have appeared, just one every five years.

For a hobby, it is too bad wars have been responsible for most of the 208 total collectible items; 98 of them extol enlisting or investing in bonds or stamps.

Next, the Royal family account for second highest total; 48 divided between Victorian Jubilees, two Coronations and one Royal visit.

Bringing up the rear are Confederation Diamond Jubilees with 10, early Toronto Exposition six and miscellaneous four (centennials, home week and a stamp convention).

The balance of 42 are the original 19th century flags which started the whole business.

With so little modern action, one wonders why there are so many collectors. A high percentage of applicants to the Society list flags as a collecting interest.

And what is most puzzling is the general lack of curiosity concerning the newest flag which was sponsored by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada on covers mailed from their convention BYPEX at Ottawa, September 28-30, 1967.

This flag had been in general use at the Ottawa main Post Office from the 1st to the 30th of September, conforming to the standard practice of the Canada Post Office. Although the organization putting on the show pays the cost of the cancellation, non-philatelic mail will be cancelled with it for a month. During September, thousands of pieces of mail had this flag imprint.

The convention publicity committee of the RPS did not realize what a stir the new flag marking would create. No illustration appeared in the *Canadian Philatelist* prior to the convention and no effort was made to capitalize on it by charging for cover servicing.

When W. F. Anderson, the executive secretary, was asked the reason for the flag, he stated that it was intended as a subtle suggestion to the membership to attend both the convention and Expo '67 as a holiday; hence the appearance of the Expo symbol.

My thanks to Mr. Anderson and R. V. Gauthier, director of public affairs of the Canada Post Office, for supplying most of the information of flag type 63.



## Perfin Study Group

R. J. Woolley, secretary, 1520 Bathurst Street, Apt. 206, Toronto

A recent letter from Dr. Clarke Horning of Victoria, B.C. supplies a few more notes for the Perfin column. In sorting and mounting an accumulation of Perfins he found the following additions for our list-

ing of departmental perforated stamps:  
N.D. (N3) — Add Scott 223 and 241.  
W/CB (W4) — Add Scott 106, 170, 173 and 363.  
P.S. (P10) — Add Scott 458D, 458f,

458g, 458j, 458m, 465, 480, 488, 503, 504, 524-5-6-7-8-9 and 544.

\* \* \*

Dr. Horning also reports having C38 (CH) on the 1898 Newfoundland Inland



Revenue \$1 green (Sisson R6). When first reported this was on the 1c green Customs Duty.

In connection with these CH designs of Newfoundland it looks as though the confirmation for which I have been looking for some time has now turned up. Mr. E. van Dam of Peterborough loaned me a \$1 1898 Queen Victoria Inland Revenue, similar to Dr. Horning's copy but punched with the large design CH. This had been cancelled by an embossed die such as are used as official seals. Four letters in the outer band of the cancellation read CUST.

From this it would appear that the CH could be Customs House. Several readers have made this suggestion over the years but until this copy turned up no one has been able to submit any proof. As C38, the smaller size die with the same initials also comes on the Inland Revenue and Customs

Duty stamps of Newfoundland and it looks as though the Customs House had both machines — something to check on in September.

\* \* \*

Since last reported, two more precancelled stamps with perforated initials can be added to the list in the Precancel Catalogue. Rev. David Izzett of England, a precancel enthusiast, reports:

Toronto 10-107, 2c green, 1922 on C10a, C/GE.

Also reported:

Regina 1-74, 1c Edward VII on C12o CHI (Mon.).

\* \* \*

An interesting problem is posed by one of my Perfin Club correspondents, Dr. Harvey Tilles, who collects Canadian Perfins. He submits the Perfin illustrated which is on Scott 104 — a 1c green of the 1912 issue. The stamp has a very clear town cancellation of Red Deer, Alberta.

I have no lead at all to the company that might have used this design. These initials do not appear on the American Perfin Club list of designs. No name on the Canada Post Office list suggests the user nor does the Cummins list of purchasers.

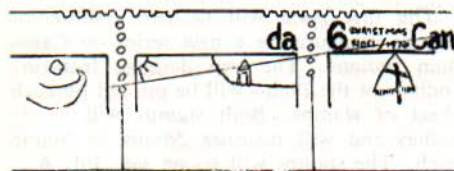
Because of the coincidence of the initials ER being the last two letters of RED DEER it could be that a machine exists in Red Deer, possibly in the Municipal tax office or in a public utilities office which is used as a cancellor, incorporating PAID and possibly a date. Can any Albertan help me in this line of enquiry?



## Tagging Along

**Kenneth G. Rose, Box 7086, Station 'E', Calgary T3C-3L8, Alberta**

Further investigations into the thin blue line which has been found on several copies of the 1970 6c Christmas stamp revealed



that the line extends through the next stamp to the left, and loses itself somewhere in the design of the third stamp from the right hand margin. Positive location of the line has not been established on the pane, but either stamps 38, 39, and 40, or 68, 69, and 70 are the ones involved. Positive identification as to location from someone who has a complete pane would be greatly appreciated. The above refers to the tagged issue; untagged are also known.

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# TOPICS: THE NEWSFRONT

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E. A. Smythies, a frequent contributor to these pages, would like to get details on the forger Andre Frodel, who worked out of British Columbia relatively recently. He'd like to acquire samples of his work, particularly of B.C. stamps, as very little of him is apparently known in Britain. Write Smythies at this idyllic-sounding address: Castle Morris, Tralee, Ireland.

Dr. Henry D. Hicks, an early member of BNAPS and several other societies, a fellow of the Royal of Canada and of London, and a former premier of Nova Scotia and now the president of its Dalhousie University, has just been appointed to the Senate of Canada. Our congratulations!

Congratulations, too, to Anne Cottenden of Halifax, who won the Madge Morison trophy at the Nova Scotia Stamp Club's 50th anniversary show with her 12-frame display of the 1967 definitive issue. Members will remember her as one of the three authors of the recent article on this issue published in *Topics*.

We're told that Gerald Carr won the grand award last April for his 10-frame display of Canadian transportation postmarks at the third annual exhibition sponsored by the West Suburban Stamp Club in Plymouth, Michigan.

And from Gordon D. Vaughan, writing in *Linn's Stamp News* comes this item: the "Postette" program by the Canada Post Office is still under review; these 7c domestic aerograms printed for testing in Windsor and Hamilton are still being held; they bear multi-colored pictorial views of Windsor, Hamilton and the St. Lawrence Island area, and are packaged in lots of five for 69c.

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## SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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*Canada: Varieties of the Queen Elizabeth Era: Part one, basic types. A 36-page handbook by Kenneth W. Pugh, with over 50 illustrations. Privately printed, and available at most Canadian dealers and BNAPS.*

An ambitious and authoritative little

booklet this is. It began as study of about 26 variety types, then grew to its present 80-plus. "The aim of the handbook is to provide a background for study of (these stamps) in depth, and to guide the novice and the experienced collector alike in what to look for," says Pugh, who points out that even many dealers confuse retouches for re-entries, guidelines with hairlines, and make similar boners.

With this in mind, Pugh devotes most of the book to printing methods and terminology, and the types of varieties and their causes (both constant and otherwise) before getting down to the business of specific cases.

It's an excellent book and one can't really find fault with any of it. While it's concerned with recent Canadian issues, it's really a guide to the printing of postage stamps in general, with explanations of how the different errors occur and how to identify them. And since all varieties stem from printing methods, Pugh has indeed started at the right place. His part two of the book will be devoted to a check list and price guide, given in catalogue fashion, of the recent issues. It will be published after the current definitive issue has been replaced.

At \$2.25 it's a handbook that no collector of recent issues can be without.

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## Post Office Department **NEW ISSUES**

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The Canada Post Office gave advance notice of two multiple stamp issues which will be released this summer.

The first issue will be two multi-color stamps inaugurating a new series on Canadian Indians. The two designs, featuring Indians of the Plains will be printed on each sheet of stamps. Both stamps will be 8c values and will measure 36mm by 30mm each. The stamps will go on sale July 6.



The second issue, comprising four stamps, will be released August 2 to commemorate the four international, earth sciences congresses being convened in Canada this year. All four designs will be printed on each sheet of stamps. The stamps will be multi-color with each stamp having a value of 15c and dimensions of 30mm by 30mm.

The Canada Post Office announced a number of changes in its stamp program for 1972. Two additional sets of stamps have been incorporated in the program and the dates of issue for two other stamps have been changed.

On September 8 the Department will issue five new medium value definitive stamps. On October 4 it will issue two more stamps from its new Canadian Indians series. These will be in addition to the two initial stamps of the series already scheduled for release on July 6. The Christmas issue of four stamps has been moved ahead to November 1. The commemorative issue marking the Death of Cornelius Krieghoff which was to have been released on October 11 has been moved back to November 29.

The complete revised program for 1972 follows:

- March 1: World Figure Skating Championships.
- March 17: High value definitives (two stamps).
- April 7: World Health Day—Heart Disease.
- May 17: 300th Anniversary of the appointment of Frontenac as governor of New France.
- July 6: Canadian Indians (two stamps).
- August 2: Earth Sciences—four stamps: International Geological Congress; International Geographical Congress; International Society of Photogrammetry; International Cartographic Association.
- September 8: Medium-value definitives (five stamps).
- October 4: Canadian Indians (two stamps).
- November 1: Christmas Issue (four stamps).
- November 29: 100th Anniversary: Death of Cornelius Krieghoff.

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## Auction News

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J. N. Sissons' three April 19 sales in Toronto included the exceptional collection of British Columbia covers formed by the late Stuart Johnstone. Among the highlights:

A mint single of B.C.'s first stamp, the pale dull-red imperf, went for \$750, and reddish-rose corner blocks from the Mayfair find of the stamp with perf 14 sold at \$2000. A 5c imperf on cover with a

Victoria-Vancouver Island strike sold at \$3,600 and an unusually well-centered mint block of the 10c blue (Scott 6) fetched \$575.

A 50c perf 12½ cover with a fair copy of the 5c on a registered cover to England and a Nanaimo Vancouver Island strike—one of four 50c known—sold at \$1,450. A superb mint \$1 green sold at \$340. A paid Ballou's Express cover to Yale, B.C. sold at \$1,000 and another, forwarded by Dietz and Nelson and Victoria with a double-circle and PAID on oval to New Westminster, sold at \$1,600.

The total for the three sales come to \$126,580.

The other two sales included many pioneer and early flights. A Grand Army of Canada \$1 black on cover sold at \$2,100. A London-to-London mint single was knocked down at \$2,600.

A Boggs' two-volume set went at \$115, a Boggs' Newfoundland at \$75 and a 1929 Jarrett at \$65.

\* \* \*

Later in June J. N. Sissons is running his June 21-22 sale, with an excellent group of Newfoundland mints, provinces, a specialized collection of the 17c Cartier, many 19th and 20th century Canada, and a wide number of revenues.

Meanwhile H. R. Harmer, Inc., of New York, is holding an auction in New York on July 18 to 20 that includes the 1851-55 wove paper 6d green (Scott 5b) unused, the 1855 wove-paper 10c blue (Scott 7) unused, and the 1859 17c blue imperf.

The maritime provinces are also represented with a good number of the rarities, chiefly of Newfoundland.

The British North America group, representing more than one session of the auction, will also include the Bart H. Bartlett multi-volume collection which has won more than 65 awards.



From the H. R. Harmer sale

# TOPICS: THE BUSINESS SIDE

## BNAPS: ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
SECRETARY  
TREASURER  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Sam C. Nickle, 1208 Belavista Cr., Calgary, Alberta  
Alfred P. Cook, Coy Glen Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850  
Jack Jevine, 2121-G North Hills Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27610  
Leo J. LaFrance, Box 229, Ossining, N.Y. 10562  
Nine sitting; three elected every year for a three-year term.  
1970-1972 — Dr. R. A. Chaplin, S. S. Kenyon, Wilmer C. Rockett.  
1971-1973 — James C. Lehr, James A. Pike, Robert H. Pratt.  
1972-1974 — G. B. Llewellyn (chairman), C. R. McNeil, D. G. Rosenblat.

## ELECTIONS: NEW OFFICERS

It's voting time again and ballots are enclosed for all BNAPS members with this issue. The slate is as follows:

*President* (two-year term, 1973-74): ALFRED P. COOK, Ithaca, N.Y.—by acclamation

*Vice-President* (two-year term, 1973-74):

JAMES A. PIKE, West Vancouver, B.C. — by acclamation

*Secretary* (two-year term, 1973-74): JACK LEVINE, Raleigh, N.C. — by acclamation

*Treasurer* (two-year term, 1973-74):

LEO J. LaFRANCE, Ossining, N.Y. — by acclamation

*Board of Directors* (three-year term, 1973-75) — in alphabetical order:

ROBERT A. CHAPLIN, M.D., Toronto, Ont. (for re-election to the Board) +\*

Active in Toronto circles (Toronto Stamp Collectors, Philatelic Specialists, Royal) and noted for his collection of Large Queens.

EDWARD H. HAUSMANN, Toronto, Ont. (newcomer to the Board)\*

Editor of BNAPS Topics for past 2½ years; member of Toronto Stamp Collectors. Science editor at a Toronto newspaper.

STEWART S. KENYON, Edmonton, Alta. (for re-election to the Board) +

A businessman, an active collector and the former librarian of BNAPS for several years.

EDWARD A. RICHARDSON, League CiCty, Texas (former president of BNAPS) †

In the past the host of many BNAPS annual conventions; a well-known collector now retired from business.

WILMUR C. ROCKETT, Willow Grove, Pa. (for re-election to the Board) +

An active collector, particularly in the BNAPS Study Group; now retired from business.

DAVID M. VERITY, Burlington, Ont. (newcomer to the Board)\*

Heads the BNAPS Handbook Committee in charge of sales; a collector with a wide range of interests and a member of the Toronto Stamp Collectors.

+ nominated by the Nominating Committee

\* nominated by V. G. Greene, J. H. M. Young, W. P. Maresch, C. A. Moore, N. Pelletier, Robert Woolley, and C. Russell McNeil

† nominated by F. B. Hutt, B. Hassen, R. M. Baker, W. E. Tutton, G. T. Harper, R. H. Lounsbury, C. E. Cook, and A. P. Cook.

(Robert A. Chaplin was also nominated for a second position, but declined in favor of the one listed above.)

## New Members

- 2773 Campbell, Richard L., 13646 Garfield Avenue, Hollydale, Calif. 90280  
2774 Gray, L. A., 5081 Ashland Drive, Burlington, Ontario  
2775 Henkel, Fred, 13 Whitwam Avenue, Leamington, Ontario  
2776 Holden, E. K., 7 Palm Grove, Amphill Ave., Benoni, Transvaal, S. Africa  
2777 Jarnick, Jerome C., 3 Arnold, Kincheloe AFB, Bichigan 49788  
2778 Jarrett, Gordon, 102 Cumberland Street, Cornwall, Ontario  
2779 Law, Carl Edgar, Box 1507, Station "B", Montreal 110, Quebec  
2780 Middleton, Lt. M. K. J., HMCS Ottawa, FMO, Halifax, Nova Scotia  
2781 Perry-Hooker, John H., P.O. Box 652, Wells River, Vermont 05081  
2782 Sanderson, Dr. Dorothy, 103 Rochester Road, Earlsdon, Coventry CV5 6AF, Warwickshire, England  
2783 Vinal, Loren O., 110 Albemarty Street, Liverpool, New York 13088  
2784 von Mettenheim, Mrs. Tesa, 13 Kingsbury Court, Madison, Wisconsin 53711  
2785 Young, John C., 1362 King Street West, Toronto 150, Ontario

## Applications Pending — "A" Group

(Applications shall be pending in two successive issues of the magazine)

- Bates, Jerry, Box 777, St. Charles, Missouri 63301  
Campbell, Capt. N. D., R.N., R.A.R.D.E., Fort Halstead, Nr. Sevednaki, Kent, England  
Chlanda, Henry, R. D. No. 2, Box 208, Rhinebeck, New York 12572  
Duchon, Gus, 1208—13910 Stony Plain Road, Edmonton, Alberta  
Hargraft, Michael A., Trinity College School (Staff), Port Hope, Ont.  
Johnson, Roderick W., P.O. Box 158, Port Elgin, New Brunswick  
Kerzner, Theodor, No. 2112, 80 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto 7, Ontario  
Lagerquist, F. C., 536 Rivervale Road, River Vale, New Jersey 07675  
Macaskie, J. P., 23 Thornhill Avenue, Huddersfield HD3 3DN, England  
MacPherson, Vaughan A., 49 McKellar Street, Strathroy, Ontario  
Mathis, Roy Harvey, 340 Johnson Street, Kingston, Ontario  
Moorhouse, Daniel K., 559 Partington Avenue No. 1, Windsor, Ontario  
Morris, Morton, 344 West 72nd Street, New York, New York 10023  
Moulton, Dr. R., 216 Armit Avenue, Fort Frances, Ontario  
Niepke, Barry R., 5008 Support Sqdn., PSC 1, Box 1006, APO Seattle, Washington 98742  
Petzoldt, Hans H., 185 Manygate Lane, Shepperton, Middlesex, England  
Rogers, William D., Box 2392, Denver, Colorado 80201  
Salonen, Kimmoo, 7 Lynn Gate Crescent, Agincourt, Ontario  
Scott, Edwin A. F., 11 Riverside Drive, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 0E9  
Spencer, Keith R., 10631—148 Street, Edmonton 50, Alberta  
Stokes, R. P., 4230 Kensington Avenue, Montreal 261, Quebec  
Thomason, Hugh M., 1353 State Street, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101  
Wyse, Robert N., 1228 Preston Avenue, Quebec 6, Quebec

## Applications Pending — "B" Group

- Ayrton, Lawson F., 4052 Grapehill Avenue, Burlington, Ontario  
Berry, W. M., 3015 Whitmore Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan  
Campbell, Ronald D., 4010 Lakeshore Road, Burlington, Ontario  
Flathis, Frank G., Canada Post Office, Confederation Heights, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0B5  
Franklin, Dr. A., 965 Bay Street, Apt. 1806, Toronto 1, Ontario  
Grotten, Arthur H., M.D., 3120 Schoolhouse Lane (Jeff A-10), Philadelphia, Pa. 19144  
Hanes, Arthur David, 231 Winnipeg Crescent, Curtis Park, New Brunswick  
Hart, Peter F., M.D., 125 Cottingham Street, Toronto 190, Ontario  
Hill, Thomas W., 318 Fisher Avenue, Apt. 6, Rockford, Illinois 61103  
Jackson, Ralph M., 75 Albert Street, Apt. 503, London 12, Ontario  
Mackie, G. Ronald, 318 Friendship Avenue, West Hill, Ontario  
Manning, Mrs. Judith, Box 28, Site 1, Parkdale, R.R. 1, Armdale, Nova Scotia  
Miess, Robert B., 19 Speid, Box 592, Lennoxville, Quebec  
Steer, Malcolm D., 86 Hawthorne Place, Montclair, New Jersey 07042  
Stephens, Gib, 868 Grosvenor Street, Woodstock, Ontario  
Therien, Dr. Normand, 255 Candiac, Apt. 12, Sherbrooke, Quebec  
Yager, W. R., 943 Garfield St. North, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 2N5

## Applications for Membership

(Objections must be filed with the Secretary within 30 days after month of publication)

- BRACE, L. Stephen, 1400 S. Joyce St., A-602, Arlington, Va. 22202 (C) CAN, NFD — 19th and 20th century mint postage and used 19th century blocks. Mint booklet panes. Federal Revenues. Mint Canada Air-mails C3. Postal Stationery entires. Literature. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).  
BRAUN, Alfonso, 10731 King George Hgy., Surrey, B.C. (DC-C) CAN, B.C. — 19th and 20th century postage. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Mint Airmails. Proofs and Essays. Proposed by F. R. Hadley (1274). Seconded by W. T. Day (1342).  
GIBBS, Charles F. Jr., 4374 Sandy Creek, Utica, Mich. 48087 (C-CX) CAN, NFD — 19th century mint and early used postage and mint blocks. Plate Blocks. Mint booklet panes. Imperf. pairs. 5-hole perfins. Proposed by L. A. Davenport (51). Seconded by V. G. Greene (L40).  
GILES, O. Earle, Port Williams, Kings Co., N.S. (C-CX) CAN, NFD — Mint and used postage. OHMS-G. Precancels. Federal and Provincial Revenues. Proposed by R. J. Woolley (359).  
GRONBECK-JONES, David, P.O. Box 239, Oromocto, N.B. (DC-CX) CAN — 19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Complete Booklets. Precancels. Literature. R.P.O., Territorial, Flag, Slogan, 2 and 4 ring, Squared Circle, Duplex, Rollers, Perfin cancellations. Tagged stamps. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).

- LAINE, Edward W., 6541—30th Avenue, Montreal 409, Que. (C-CX) CAN — 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. 1st Day covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint, used and complete booklets. Precancels. Federal and Quebec Revenues. Postal Stationery entires and cut-squares. Literature. SPECIALTY — Elizabethan issues of Canada. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).
- LEVESQUE, Ulric, 716 Fifth Ave., C.P. 684, La Pocatiere, Kamouraska, Que. (C-CX) CAN — Mint and used postage. Stampless covers. Precancels. Federal, Provincial and Tax-Paid Revenues. Postal Stationery entires and cut-squares. Tagged. Proposed by D. M. Verity (2312).
- MACHIN, Frank R., 985 Abbey Road, Victoria, B.C. (C-X) CAN—20th century mint and used postage and blocks. 1st Day covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- MARK, Kenneth Y., 4592 West 2nd Avenue, Vancouver 8, B.C. (C) CAN — 20th century mint postage and blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. Mint, used and complete Booklets. Literature. SPECIALTY — Admirals. Proposed by L. A. Davenport (51). Seconded by V. G. Greene (L40).
- McGUINNESS, Robert M., Box 443, Burns Lake, B.C. (C) CAN, NFD, N.S., P.E.I. — 19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Pre-stamp, 1st Day and 1st Flight covers. 19th century advertising post cards. Coils. OHMS-G. Complete Booklets. Federal and Provincial Revenues. Mint, used, semi-official Airmails and on cover. Postal Stationery entires. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- McLURE, Gordon, 44 Greendell Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R2M 2P8 (C) CAN — Mint and used postage. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- NOAKES, R. E., P.O. Box 5004, C.F.B. Petawa, Ont. (DC-X) CAN—Mint postage. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Mint and semi-official Airmails. Proofs and Essays. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- ROAN, John R., 34795 Mt. Blanchard Drive, Abbotsford, B.C. (DC-CX) CAN — 19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint, used and complete Booklets. Mint and used Airmails. SPECIALTY — Admirals. Proposed by J. W. Millard (2052).
- ROWE, C. Francis, 13A Winter Ave., St. John's, Nfld. (C-C) NFD—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. Pre-stamp, 1st Day and 1st Flight covers. Literature. Proposed by R. H. Pratt (1982).
- SCRIMGEOUR, K. G., 227 Hanna Road, Toronto 17, Ont. (C-X) CAN — Used postage. 1st Day, 1st Flight and late 19th century covers. Semi-official Airmails and on cover. Squared Circle cancellations. SPECIALTY — Airmails covers of Canada. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- SERVAS, Frank Jr., 87—12 251st Street, Bellerose, N.Y. 11426 (C) CAN, NFD—Used postage. OHMS-G. Used booklet panes. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).
- SWEETEN, Ronald John, R.R. No. 4, Trenton, Ont. (C) CAN, NFD—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. OHMS-G. Mint, used and semi-official Airmails. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- TEUNISSEN, A. B., 46221 Airport Road, Chilliwack, B.C. (C-X) CAN, NFD—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and used blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Used booklet panes. Precancels. Used Airmails. R.P.O. cancellations. Proposed by W. T. Day (1342).
- VANDEBURGH, George A., 30 Joanith Drive, Toronto 16, Ont. (DC-CX) CAN — 19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. 1st Day covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes and complete. Federal and Provincial Revenues. Proposed by N. A. Pelletier (1268).
- ZROBOK, Roman, 11503—128th Street, Edmonton 41, Alta. (C-CX) CAN — 19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Flag, Slogan, 2 and 4-ring, Squared Circle and Duplex cancellations. Proposed by S. Kenyon (1676). Seconded by D. J. Allen (2730).

#### Changes of Address

(Notice of change must be sent to the Secretary. Any other office causes delay)

- 2688 Anthes, Leonard J., Apt. 7F, 1521 LeMarchant St., Halifax, N.S.
- 645 Billings, F. L., No. 104—19 Kirkland Blvd., Kirkland, Quebec
- 2419 Boyd, Mrs. Barbara, R.R. No. 1, Woodslee, Ontario
- 1468 Boyd, Norman O., M.D., R.R. No. 1, Woodslee, Ontario
- 1502 Hetherington, R. B., c/o Edelweiss Guest House, 50 Alexandra Road, Worthing, Sussex, England
- 342 Kirchoff, 36471 Almont Court, Sterling Heights, Mich. 48077
- 71 Norbeck, John L., 5828 Halifax Avenue S., Edina, Minn. 55424
- 2641 Oickle, B. I., 232 Thornhill Place, Dollard Des Ormeaux, Quebec
- 1336 Kirk, Amy (Mrs. J. A. C.), 107B—7374 Halifax Street, Burnaby 2, B.C.
- 2286 Purrington, Clarence E., 23 Winn Street, Wakefield, Mass. 01880
- 2176 Sanguinetti, Haughton E., 561 Mediterranean Manor Drive, Dunedin, Fla. 33528

#### Resignations Received

- 637 Lett, Ralph W., 118 Montgomery Avenue, Toronto, Ontario

#### Resignations Accepted

Welter, Edward A. F. Wilkes, L. Barry, M.D.

#### Deceased

- 1921 Drew-Smith, Gerald, 28 Wentworth Avenue, Galt, Ontario
- 587 Russell, William H., 7 Vinton Street, Melrose, Mass. 02176
- 1442 Westhaver, Clarence A., 7 Spafford Road, Milton, Mass. 022186

### MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, April 1, 1972 .....	1165	
NEW MEMBERS, May 1, 1972 .....	13	1178
RESIGNATIONS, May 1, 1972 .....	2	
DECEASED, May 1, 1972 .....	3	5
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, May 1, 1972 .....		1173

Our thanks to Ed Richardson for the following donations: *The Canadian Revenue Society Directory* (1967); seven copies of *Postal History Digest* (we could use more of these); *Canadian Railway Guide* (1937); a BNAPEX monograph, the 1971 *Canadian Contingent Covers of the Anglo Boer War*; the book *Phantom Philately of Canada; The Stamps, Labels and Markings*

*of the Express and Parcel Delivery Companies of Canada and New Brunswick*; *Life* magazine for May 3, 1954 — with the article on rare stamps of the world; *Canadian Geographical Journal* for September 1936 with the article on Canadian geography and stamps by Stanley Deaville; and *The American Philatelist*, volume II (1887-88), bound.

## NEWFIEPEX 1972

If you haven't done it by now, it's almost too late. Have you ARRANGED to be in St. John's 7-10 September 1972?

- The exhibits will be mounted Wednesday night (September 6).
- The show opens at 10 a.m. on Thursday, September 7.
- On Friday, the 8th, there will be tours of the town.
- On Saturday, the 9th, the Annual Meeting and Banquet.
- The Exhibits will be demounted Sunday, the 10th.

P.S. — Your Holiday Inn reservations can be made through regular Holiday Inn channels. Just mention BNAPS.

YOU CAN ALSO CALL IT BNAPEX '72!



Ralph A.  
Hart  
No. 2665

## RALPH A. HART

A lawyer who copped the grand prize on his first exhibition . . .

A very new member of BNAPS who was enticed to Halifax and proved to be a grand philatelist (and no slouch at the bridge table, either!) is Ralph A. Hart of Cleveland, Ohio.

Ralph, as of this writing, just had his first exhibition—Garfield Perry of Cleveland—and he beat out your writer for the Grand Award! Now where can he go from here? You should have seen his exceptional showing of covers of BA— all lovely bisects! This is not his main interest, but rather BNA and BWI with emphasis on Canada and Newfoundland, and Barbados and Jamaica. While browsing through his "stock" book, and there before me is the other PEI 2d, rouletted, from the Lichtenstein collection (we have the only two of the five known, available to collectors). He definitely will bring along a fine collection to St. John's.

Ralph is a member of BNAPS, the Royal of Canada, the APS, and the SPA.

He and his charming wife Lorna have three children who have left the roost, so papa now has more time for stamps.

As to education, he has his A.B. from Ohio University and from Cleveland— Marshall Law School, both his LL.B. and his J.B. Following school he joined Standard Oil of Ohio and has been with them for nearly 40 years. Here is truly the Horatio Alger story—from a lowly clerk in the accounting department to Senior Vice President, Administration. Not only is he a director of his company but is or has been a director in most of the company's subsidiaries.

Ralph is a member of the American Bar Association and the American Petroleum Institute. His civic duties are many with membership in many Cleveland organizations, especially the Goodwill Industries and the Better Business Bureau—a director in both.

We look forward to seeing the Harts again and in St. John's plus his fine exhibit.

—Dr. R. V. C. Carr

## ...and some doodles by The Editor

C. Russell McNeil is on the editorial board and the publicity committee and a member of the Board of Directors. But his main chore with BNAPS is in an unofficial capacity—he's the main letter-writer and society prodger, collector of loose-ends and organizer of things-that-otherwise-don't-get-organized.

That's why it was a particularly serious blow when he heard, last spring, that Russ had suffered a serious heart attack. It was necessary to crack open four of his ribs during the emergency to start his pump going again, but we're glad to report that his recovery at the hospital was swift and that for some time now he's been at home again—though taking it much easier.

Unfortunately he still hasn't regained the use of his left hand as a result of the seizure—but on the phone he seems to have retained all his excellent spirits and while he can't type with the same stenographer speed he was once known for, we all hope it's a condition that won't last.

# MAIL FROM OUR MEMBERS

## Passing up a good thing — from the Sales Circuit

Here's one for a good "belly laugh" — among some BNAPS Sales Circuit books returned from your circuits was one with five mint Scott's 167 comprising a single and a pair in a block of four described as "ribbed printing" — price \$20. No one was interested at my price then.

In intervening years, nothing had been done about the stamps described above — which is as they were called by Fred Jarrett, when he first saw them.

While in Ottawa last December I had an opportunity to speak to Jim Kraemer about those stamps, which were later donated to the National Postal Museum. Jim sent the stamps to the British American Bank Note Company for an appraisal to their authenticity and probable value. This is their reply:

"These particular stamps show evidence of being from a start-up or close-down of a paper roll and normally would be destroyed by the printer under surveillance of the Post Office Department. These specimens obviously escaped detection in the inspection of the sheets. The gum shows distortion and there is evidence of some gum being on the face of some of the stamps. The printing is distorted with lines broken around the frame. In the opinion of the British American Bank Note Company, these specimens are not errors, but are defective printing and gumming varieties. We do not know of any similar varieties being discovered and while we hesitate in estimating what monetary value might be attached to them, they are most unusual and scarce; perhaps these are even unique."

Jim Kraemer was the guest speaker locally soon afterwards, and I broached the subject as to what the government might value the above stamps. I was in for an awakening — he said to write down what I thought they might be worth, and not to appear greedy wrote \$100. Jim folded over the piece of paper and wrote a figure which he asked me to turn over — a far-higher one.

I also reiterated to Jim that I did not

wish to be greedy; if the Post Office would give me \$500 tax credit, I'd be very happy. So when members and others turned down my asking price of \$20 all passed up a good thing.

— C. Russell McNeil

## Those War Tax stamps are still useful

The following is correspondence between Stanley Lum and the Canada Post Office:

Post Office Department,  
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Sir:

Kindly advise me if this 3c (2c plus 1c War Tax) red 'Admiral' stamp issued in 1916 can be used as a regular 3c postage stamp.

— Yours truly, Stanley Lum

Dear Mr. Lum:

This refers to your recent letter and the enclosure of a postage stamp issued in 1916.

The postage stamp described in your letter is still valid for the prepayment of postage charges on mail matter originating in Canada.

The 2c plus 1c War Tax stamp received with your letter is returned herewith.

— Philatelic Service

Canada Post Office  
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter 8-15-L of April 6 advising me that the 2c plus 1c War Tax stamp is valid for postage.

I should appreciate it, however, if you will clarify one point: Is this stamp equivalent to a regular 3c postage stamp? If, for example, the postage were 6c, can two of these 2c plus 1c War Tax stamps be used?

— Stanley Lum

Dear Mr. Lum:

This refers to your letter of 8 April concerning the 2c plus 1c War Tax stamp.

The postage value of the stamp outlined in your letter is 3c. It is correct that if the postage was 6c two of these 2c plus 1c War Tax stamps could be used.

— Philatelic Service

# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

RATES: 10 cents per word per insertion, payable with copy in advance. Copy for classified advertisements should be sent to Edward J. Whiting, 25 Kings Circle, Malvern, Pennsylvania 19355.

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**BNAPEX: SEPTEMBER 7-10**

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forerunner of the present St. Lawrence Seaway which at the time was considered as an alternative.

Gradually, with the development of the Great Northern Road out of Parry Sound, the advancement into the north of the Canadian Northern Railway in 1908, mail deliveries by boat began to dwindle — especially in those communities which could be served by land. French River village continued to be served by boat since it was only accessible by water. Killarney was another community in a similar situation. The delivery of mail there by water from Little Current was contracted every year until the early 1960s when a road was finally opened into the village.

By 1910 with unfavourable legislation, the lumbering industry began to decline. The French River post office and its postmasters continued to serve a smaller population which was now less than 150 people living in and near the village.

Miss May Borran became the first postmistress and handled the mail from January 1903 to July 1908. She in turn was followed by Mrs. Emma Borran, likely a

relative, who was postmistress from September 1908 to September 1912. From 1912 to 1922 Mrs. Dean Udy, wife of the village magistrate, was postmistress. It was she who saw to the final closing of the French River post office on October 1922. It had been in operation for some 37 years.

Even with a reduced population during the period when the post office saw its last years of service, it seems strange that none of the Admiral stamps in use at the time have come to light.

## **Pickrel River**

As a sideline to the activities of 1912, there might be mentioned the mail service that was operated by a Mr. Crombie. He delivered the mail to and from Beaverstone, an Indian settlement on Georgian Bay to the west of the French River. His route took him through French River on his way to the new railway stops on the French and Pickrel rivers — Pickrel River post office being the stop for the Canadian Northern Railway on the Pickrel, and Bon Air post office being the stop for the Canadian Pacific Railway on the French River.

Little remains now the flourishing lumbering village — only a few pilings to remind one of the immense docks which existed, and stone ruins of one of the mills with some of its machinery can still be seen, and ruins of the jail, and the Copananing hotel. There remains a trace of a cemetery, with a few headstones still standing.

All these are scant evidence of a thriving community, hard pressed to earn a living on a distant rocky shore, midst the privations of long winters and the vagaries of a fluctuating economy. The French River today looks much as it must have to Champlain and the early explorers. Forests still come to the edge of the waters which still tumble over unchanged falls and rushing rapids. For the present-day traveller, there still exists unique fascination in following this canoe route of the voyageurs, Gateway to the West, the French River.

**There's a new address for the**

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1c and 3c, the proofs are from die I which suggests that they were made prior to September 23-24, 1924 when the two new dies were approved.

In the case of the 5c, the proof in black shows the die in its re-engraved state which probably means that it was later than plates 21-22 approved on February 12, 1924 (original state) and earlier than plates 23 to 25 approved on April 14, 1925 which show the re-engraved state of the die. In the case of the 50c, the proof in black likewise shows the re-engraved state of the die, which may be placed between June 8, 1923

and March 10, 1925. The proofs include the 8c for which the plates were made on June 8, 1925. All in all it seems impossible to fix a particular time for the preparing of these die proofs, but it would seem to me to be around the latter part of 1924 and early part of 1925.

In the light of these facts it might seem desirable to revise the catalog listing of the various proofs of the 1911-25 issue, and to supplement it with some additional information which I gleaned in the course of my investigation. Further information could usefully be added by other collectors who could supply information as to the state of the die shown in the proofs which they possess.

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It is unfortunately true that rare early British North American stamps are more likely to be "as represented" when offered in Turin, than early Italian States offered in Toronto.

In such a hypothetical case, lack of knowledge is a more probable handicap than dishonesty. One must also comment that an Italian collector is more likely to show interest in early classic Canada than a Canadian collector in Sardinia.

I maintain a library of several hundred items and also have a reference of **genuine** stamps covering the range of classic issues of the world. This reference includes most of the rarities in second rate quality.

Should you wish to take up a new country or collecting group, do not hesitate to consult me. Despite the fact that you may feel that local sources will not be able to supply you, I can probably give a general idea of the availability of the material in your proposed field.

One of the frequent problems in selecting a new country is that the collector finds that after he has reached a certain "plateau" that additional material is almost unavailable. This is the case with some small colonies, etc., but if a wide enough field is selected I am sure that I will be able to locate stamps for the prospective collector. This applies whether the country is Afghanistan or Transvaal.

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