

BNA TOPICS

Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

PRICES

The first ad which we wrote for this page became so verbose that it has ended up in another part of the magazine as an article on "condition". Prices will maybe occupy a little less space.

Briefly, stamp prices are based on supply and demand, but "demand" is the key word. The supply of a certain stamp may be very small, but if it is not from a popular group, or is not in a popular condition group (at present "very fine or better") the demand can be even smaller than the small supply, and the price may remain static until demand changes.

If, on the other hand, the supply is small but the demand is strong and outruns the supply, look out! This situation currently applies to all but the most common values of mint "very fine or better" Canadian stamps issued prior to 1925. The result is a continuing increase in prices in this group, with many stamps already bringing over 1973 catalogue listings. There is no way of increasing the supply of "very fine or better" — there are no substantial reserves anywhere in the world.

The average pane of stamps printed in the period before 1925 contains from 25 to 100 times as many FINE quality as "very fine or better". Is there perhaps a message here?

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Canada's Cello-Paqs

a complete guide to
the miniature panes

by Edward J. Whiting

A postal merchandising method that I think is unique with Canada was the selling of postage stamps pre-packaged in cellophane envelopes. This unusual method of distributing stamps to the consumer was begun in late 1961 under postmaster general William Hamilton and continued until supplies were exhausted some time in 1968.

The intent was to find packaging improvements over the already familiar booklets. These issues, therefore, are an experimental series. Cello-Paqs were said to be convenient and more sanitary than the sheet stamps sold over the counter. Also the cellophane kept the stamps clean. While they did not replace booklet stamps they were intended as a more convenient way of having a stamp supply greater than that provided by booklets at the time. Since they have been discontinued it is reasonable to presume that the experiment was something less than satisfactory, especially since they have now been replaced by the larger booklets.

The packages contained miniature sheets or panes (sometimes called blocks) imperforate on the four outer margins with no selvedge. All were unwatermarked, perforated 12, and printed by the Canadian Bank Note Co. Ltd., Ottawa.

The first issue, released in December, 1961, consisted of panes of 20 of the 5c stamps and 50 of the 2c stamps of the then current 1954 issue showing the head of Queen Elizabeth II in an oval. The printing plates used for the 2c panes of 25 were number 15 and 16, also used for the ordinary sheets of 100 stamps sold by post offices. When the sheets from these plates were intended for cutting into panes of 25, the perforation wheel between every fifth and sixth row was removed, and the unbroken blank paper selvedge that remained was the cutting selvedge.

For the 5c pane it was economical to lay down a completely new plate of 600 impressions. This plate was numbered 1P, P indicating "packages".

The first issue consisted of two types of packages, both with red wording on a white background printed on transparent cellulose film. The first type had the main wording at right angles to the border printing. The second type had the main wording parallel to the border.

The second type was delivered to the

Post Office for insertion of the panes by the postal staff, while the first was completely done by the printers.

In the latter part of 1962 a new type was issued for the then current Cameo issue. In this type the main wording is parallel to the border printing but is set in a smaller size lettering than the previous issues. Some of these Type 3 packages were used with the 1954 issue stamps, and because of the vertical stamp format, the stamps are inserted sideways.

The 17 catalogue-listed varieties of Cello-Paq panes of stamps are:

1. QE II 1954 2c green untagged pane of 25 (5x5)
2. QE II 1954 5c blue untagged pane of 20 (5Hx4V)
3. QE II 1962 (Cameo) 2c green untagged pane of 25 (5x5)
4. QE II 1962 (Cameo) 4c carmine untagged pane of 25 (5x5)
5. QE II 1962 (Cameo) 5c blue untagged pane of 20 (4Hx5V)
6. QE II 1962 (Cameo) 5c blue tagged pane of 20 (4Hx5V)
7. Christmas 1964 3c carmine untagged pane of 25 (5x5)
8. Christmas 1964 3c carmine tagged pane of 25 (5x5)
9. Christmas 1965 3c olive untagged pane of 25 (5x5)
10. Christmas 1965 3c olive tagged pane of 25 (5x5)
11. Christmas 1966 3c carmine untagged pane of 25 (5x5)
12. Christmas 1966 3c carmine tagged pane of 25 (5x5)
13. QE II & Locks 1967 4c carmine untagged pane of 25 (5x5)
14. QE II & Lobster Traps 1967 5c blue untagged pane of 20 (4Hx5V)

15. QE II & Lobster Traps 1967 5c blue tagged pane of 20 (4Hx5V)
16. Christmas 1967 3c carmine untagged pane of 25 (5x5)
17. Christmas 1967 3c carmine tagged pane of 25 (5x5)

The 17 different stamp panes each provide the following nine perforation varieties: perforated four sides, imperforate top, imperforate right side, imperforate bottom,

imperforate left side, imperforate top and right, imperforate bottom and right, imperforate bottom and left, imperforate top and left. Some of these varieties are also found on booklet stamps. A study was done on these by G. H. Potts, which reveals a comparative scarcity in these "frowned upon" but nevertheless collectible varieties. Here is his tabulation of quantities printed:

Straight edges: quantities issued

Edges Straight	1c	*2c	4c	5c
Top	75,060,000	19,408,200	75,608,650	176,213,650
Bottom	37,503,000	19,408,200	38,105,650	94,415,375
Right	—	19,408,200	—	* 8,411,400
Left	—	19,408,200	—	* 8,411,400
Top & Right	37,503,000	6,464,400	37,804,825	86,003,975
Bottom & Right	37,503,000	6,464,400	37,804,825	86,003,975
Top & Left	—	6,464,400	—	* 4,205,700
Bottom & Left	—	6,464,400	—	* 4,205,700

* only available in cellopaqs

Now let us take a look at those aspects of the Cello-Paqs that make them so different — the cellophane envelope, the printing thereon, and the other physical aspects of the package.

Four types

Here, we have four types of imprinting if we consider only the general text layout on the white panels. Within these four basic types we encounter variety in the size and positioning of the tablets, differences in text due to differing contents, and different colors for the lettering.

Type I wording:

FOR POCKET OR PURSE
50 x 2c = \$1.00
FORMAT DE POCHE

(The middle line will vary depending upon the contents.)

Type II wording:

CHRISTMAS 1965
50 x 3c = \$1.50
NOEL 1965

Type III shows two centennial symbols above the line indicating contents and value.

Type IV is a total absence of any imprinting.

Varieties: 14 types

Varieties within the four types above develop a total of 14 different Paqs, which are:

1. Type I red wording "50 x 2c = \$1.00" on a white rectangle 62mm x 72mm continuously repeated vertically with 21mm between. Heat sealed and crimped on all four sides. A white band 5mm wide runs vertically along each side in from the crimping a little. Imprinted in red reading up on the left band is "— POSTES CANADA POSTAGE" continuously repeated. On the right band reading down is "— TEAR HERE — DECHIREZ ICI" also continuously repeated.
2. Same as 1, but the wording is "20 x 5c = \$1.00".
3. Type I red wording "50 x 2c = \$1.00" on a single white rectangle 62mm x 37mm, centered. Heat sealed and crimped at top only; bottom folded under and heat sealed. Envelope type sealed seam up the back. A 5mm white band runs across the top and bottom 7 or 8mm in from the edges. Imprinted in red on the top band is "— TEAR HERE — DECHIREZ ICI —" centered and not repeated. Similarly on the bottom band is "— POSTES CANADA POSTAGE —"
4. Same as 3, but the wording is "20 x 5c = \$1.00".
5. Type I blue wording "20 x 5c = \$1.00" on a white rectangle 51mm x 30mm continuously repeated horizontally with 8mm space between. Heat sealed and crimped on all four sides. 5mm white band at top and bottom. Imprinted in blue and continuously repeated on top band is "— TEAR HERE — DECHIREZ ICI" and on bottom band is "— POSTES CANADA POSTAGE".
6. Same as 5, but wording is printed in red.
7. Same as 5, but wording is "50 x 2c = \$1.00" in green.
8. Same as 5, but wording is "25 x 4c = \$1.00" in red.
9. Same as 5, but wording is "50 x 3c = \$1.50" in red.



Four Cello-Paq covers: a 5c 1954 QEII, a Christmas 1965 on the 3c, a 4c Cameo from 1962, and Christmas 1967 with confederation symbol.

10. Type II wording in red on a white rectangle 49mm x 30mm centered on paq. Heat sealed and crimped at top. Bottom folded under and heat sealed and showing the "ES&AR" symbol on the sealed flap. Sealed seam runs up the middle of the back.
11. Type III wording "25 x 4c = \$1.00" and symbols in red on white panels the same as in 5.
12. Same as 11, but wording is "20 x 5c = \$1.00".
13. Same as 11, but wording is "50 x 3c = \$1.50" in red with the words "Merry Christmas" and "Joyeux Noël" in red script in

the clear area of the Paq alternating in different sequences horizontally above and below the central white rectangle.

14. No imprinting.

With the varieties identified, what combinations of stamps and envelopes exist? Following is a chart on which numbers indicate known varieties (those I have in my collection), a "?" indicates a reported or a possible variety but one I have not seen.

Cello-Paqs — all perf 12, unwatermarked

No.	Scott No.	Denomination and issue	Date issued	Paqs printed	Panes	Tag	Imprint type	Packaged by
1	338a	2c QEII 1954	Dec '61	5,515,400	2 of 25	no	1	CBN
2	338a	2c QEII 1954	Dec '61	954,000	2 of 25	no	3	CPO
3	341b	5c QEII 1954	Dec '61	3,961,200	1 of 20	no	2	CBN
4	341b	5c QEII 1954	Dec '61	170,000	1 of 20	no	4	CPO
?	341b	5c QEII 1954			1 of 20	no	6	CPO
?	405b	5c QEII 1962 (Cameo)			1 of 20	no	4	CPO
5	405b	5c QEII 1962 (Cameo)	3 Oct 62	74,500	1 of 20	no	5	CBN
6	405b	5c QEII 1962 (Cameo)			1 of 20	no	6	CBN
7	404b	4c QEII 1962 (Cameo)	4 Feb 63		1 of 26	no	8	CBN
8	402a	2c QEII 1962 (Cameo)	2 May 63	1,009,700	2 of 25	no	7	CBN
9	434a	3c Christmas 1964	14 Oct 64	10,000	2 of 25	no	9	CBN
10	434q	3c Christmas 1964	14 Oct 64	2,080	2 of 25	yes	9	CBN
11	443a	3c Christmas 1965	13 Oct 65		2 of 25	no	10	ES&AR
12	443q	3c Christmas 1965	13 Oct 65		2 of 25	yes	10	ES&AR
13	405q	5c QEII 1962 (Cameo)	Dec 65		1 of 20	yes	5	CBN
14	451a	3c Christmas 1966	12 Oct 66		2 of 25	no	9	CBN
15	451q	3c Christmas 1966	12 Oct 66		2 of 25	yes	9	CBN
16	404b	4c QEII 1962 (Cameo)			1 of 25	no	11	CBN
17	405b	5c QEII 1962 (Cameo)			1 of 20	no	12	CBN
18	457b	4c QEII '67 (Locks)	8 Feb 67		1 of 25	no	11	CBN
19	457b	4c QEII '67 (Locks)			1 of 25	no	none	CBN
20	458b	5c QEII '67	8 Feb 67		1 of 20	no	12	CBN
21	458q	5c QEII '67	8 Feb 67		1 of 20	yes	12	CBN
22	458b	5c QEII '67			1 of 20	no	none	CBN
23	458q	5c QEII '67			1 of 20	yes	none	CBN
24	476a	3c Christmas 1967	11 Oct 67		2 of 25	no	13	CBN
25	476q	3c Christmas 1967	11 Oct 67		2 of 25	yes	13	CBN

CBN = Canadian Bank Note Co. Ltd.

CPO = Canada Post Office Department

ES&AR = E. S. & A. Robinson (Canada) Ltd., Toronto

CELLO-PAQ TYPE

Paqs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	none
Stamp														
Panes														
338a	1	3												
341b			2	4		?								
402a							8							
404b								7			16			
405b				?	5	6						17		
405q					13									
434a									9					
434q									10					
443a										11				
443q										12				
451a											14			
451q											15			
457b												18		
458b													20	19
458q												21		22
476a														23
476q														24
														25



A postscript to French River

BY ROBERT F. BOUDIGNON

As with most historical notes, time brings to light more facts and erases from view items of lesser importance. Thus it is that since writing the article on the French River Post Office, further information has been uncovered.

When the first French River Post Office, located at the mouth of the French River, closed in October of 1922, the name passed temporarily out of the Post Office records. The following year it opened again in February under the name of Asinka with Clarence Snyder as Postmaster. The new office was located in a summer hotel named French River Bungalow Camps. This establishment was one of many owned and operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway to encourage the use of the railroad by sportsmen and vacationers. The hotel is located on the north shore of the French River at the point where the CPR crosses the river. It is still in operation, under private ownership as Chalet-Bungalow Lodge, the CPR having sold it some years ago.

Bon Air Post Office, also located near the CPR line but on the south side of the French River, had first opened in 1912 as a summer Post Office to serve the growing community of summer vacationers.

As had been previously indicated in the first article, the lumbering industry was turning away from ships and tugs, booms and rafts and looking to the railroads for the movement of their timber to markets in the southern part of the province and the United States — that being one of the reasons for closing the first post office and moving the service 20 miles inland.

The name Asinka was maintained until May 24, 1937 when it was officially changed to French River. It then became the second post office by that name.

After the resignation of Mr. Snyder, who held office for apparently only one year, a Mr. J. G. Strathdee became postmaster and held the position for 20 years, from 1924 to 1943. Upon his resignation, John William Connell was appointed postmaster. He held office for a very short time (June, 1944 to January, 1945), and died on active service during World War II.

There followed more appointments: Clarence Wentworth Honey from June, 1945 to July, 1960; Robert Coulter Brock from August, 1960 to December, 1963; James Delbert McMillan from June, 1964 to July 20, 1968, at which time the French River Post Office was closed permanently. It should be noted that many other small district and summer post offices in the area met the same fate that year.

During the interval of years from 1923 to 1968, the post office, operating under the name of Asinka and French River, was a summer office, opening in May or June of each year and closing in September or October at the end of the vacation season. It was during these years that the French River district became renowned for its fishing and recreational facilities.

The name French River will remain in our history books for many years to come, but as a Post Office it is no more. The authorities now have decreed that all mail for the French River area will be addressed to Alban with its new Postal Code P0M 1A0. This is a small French-Canadian community 10 miles to the north of the French River where, from a new and modern post office, the mail is to be delivered daily to the French River area by rural mail carrier.

The Land of the Joli Voyageur has finally been caught in the tentacles of the modern postal system.



Manitoba Law Double Prints

By ED RICHARDSON

These interesting varieties have long been overlooked by collectors, yet they do exist, and anyone owning a fair stock of Manitoba Law stamps stands a fair chance of finding at least one example, with the aid of a good, but not necessarily very strong glass.

First, I would point out that this article does not deal with the various doubles found in the handstamped varieties, but deals with "printed doubles" only.

The 50c "Double Strike"

This interesting variety, illustrated here, is really an outstanding "kiss print". The doubling did not occur throughout the entire design, but only across the bottom showing very clear doubling of the "50 CENTS 50" extending 2mm into the lower margin. While there should be at least *nine* other copies of this variety printed, I have never seen another example. I believe a similar variety does exist in the first issue British Columbia Laws.

Based on Sissons' catalogue this would be R10a 50c green, double strike.

The Double Overprints

While only one of these overprint varieties is listed in Sissons' catalogue, the 11th edition of Holmes', of which we edited the revenue section, does include them all.

"L S" Doubled

So far we have found only one variety with the double overprint. It appears on the 25c "9 scallop" value, but it would appear that perhaps all of the double prints were overprinted with the handsome "JF". Therefore I have yet to see Sissons' R3 with a double print, but have two copies of the "L S" doubled on Sissons R78. It is very possible of course that only one sheet of these were printed with the "L S" doubled, and these were all used for the "JF" hand-stamped variety.

"C F" Doubled

For some reason double overprints are found on four out of six of the denominations. All of these are on the basic issue of 1877, without the extra handstamps. In fact, I have yet to find a "C F" double print, with any of the many types of handstamps.

On Sissons R7 — the 10c value, we have two examples of this double overprint.

On Sissons R8, R10 and R11 — the 20c, 50c and \$1 values, we have but one example of the double overprint. Sissons lists the 20c variety as R8a.

"J F" Doubled

The "J F" overprinted issue did not appear until 1892. We have seen no true doubling among the small letter overprint.

Doubling does however occur on the \$1 value with the blue overprint in large letters. This is Sissons R100.

Summary

Using a catalogue numbering system tied to Sissons, we come up with the following possible new listings:

R7a	10c	double overprint	35.00	35.00
R8a	20c	double overprint	—	35.00 *
R10a	50c	DOUBLE STRIKE	—	35.00
R10b	50c	double overprint	—	35.00
R11a	\$1	double overprint	—	35.00
R78a	25c	"LS" doubled	—	25.00
R100a	\$1	double overprint	—	25.00

* presently listed as unused, my copy is used.

It is quite possible that there were two sheets of R7a. My unused copy shows the
(continued on page 132)

On Condition . . .

by George Wegg

The decreasing purchasing power of the dollar and the general instability of all currencies seems to be bringing the investment aspect of stamp collecting into greater and greater prominence. This is one of the facts of philatelic life in our changing times, and further comment is superfluous.

However, one area which does seem to deserve comment is the escalating demand for perfection. Every mail brings want lists for "superb" and/or "never hinged" early mint Canada. Experienced philatelists, either collectors or dealers, use the word "superb" very sparingly. A truly superb stamp, i.e. one above reproach in every respect is a real rarity in almost any issue.

One is also tempted to suggest that too much emphasis is being placed on the condition of the gum on unused stamps. Of course the ideal is to have unmarked original gum on every unused stamp in a collection, but in the case of most stamps prior to 1911, there are just not enough of these in well-centred condition to satisfy the wants of every collector. There are no magic sources of supply anywhere in the world. The net result is that the demand for these perfection copies is now exceeding the supply, and when the occasional extremely fine copy is offered, there are several buyers willing and anxious to pay well over catalogue — and in some instances several times catalogue. This escalating spread between fine to very fine and extremely fine quality looks like one more area where inflation is rearing its ugly head. Our hobby would be much happier and healthier without it.

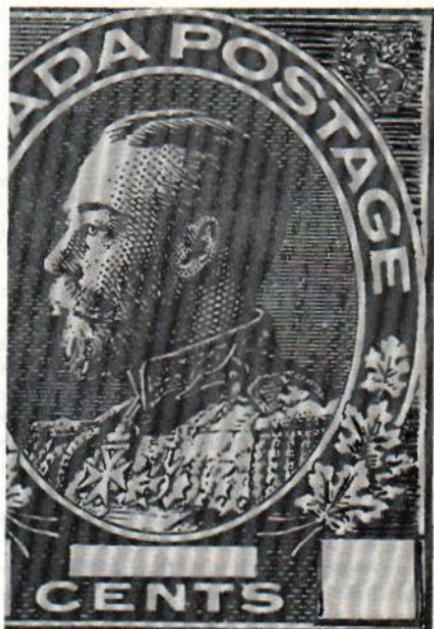
A realistic approach would be for collectors

(continued on page 131)

Re-entry on the 2c thin Admiral

by Hans Reiche

It is amazing that after so many years of research new major varieties are still being found in the Admiral issue. This extensive re-entry on the 2c green thin paper comes from a block of 20 vertical stamps, thus placing the re-entry in the top row of a pane from stamp numbers 2 to 10. Thin paper stamps were printed from plates 175, and 182 to 186. Again, as in so many other subjects of this 2c and the 3c brown, this stamp with the re-entry shows two fine parallel lines in the left numeral box just above the numeral "2". This re-entry is therefore easy to identify. The re-entry shows strong doubling of the right numeral box, all shading lines above it including the leaves, all shading lines in the upper right spandrel and the crown and slight doubling of the vertical upper left spandrel line.



Precancel printing plates

The author of "Canada Post Offices, 1755-1895" tells about the early days of hand-fed printing of precancels

By FRANK W. CAMPBELL

Printing plates for early Canada precancels were 10 rows of electrotypes nailed 10 on a wooden base, to type height (.918 inch). The place name set 10 times across, with appropriate brass rule lines as an extra cancel, was moulded 10 times, thus forming a 10x10 sheet.

Any vertical column in print would be identical, thus two notable "vertical errors" happened: a Calgary block had a line of 10 drop off and was replaced upside down, creating a vertical one-invert.

Bridgeburg precancels had an extra "B" in one word, not corrected; thus one vertical line was spelled "Bribdgebürg" and it was used thus for many years.



BOOBOO ON BRIDGEPORT

The wavy rule used in Toronto and a few other places has identical patterns at each end, to prove the use of 10-vertical pattern. Oddly, Toronto has more than one plate using this end checkup, to confuse collectors using single stamps.

Nails used to tack the copper electros to the wood at times worked up and printed a small round spot.

Many years ago some of these old plates were taken out of storage at Ottawa, to make unofficial reprints. I raised a fuss about this and Deaville had all old electros destroyed, it was said. I asked for a set of proofs of the final state of these plates and was refused.

As an oldtime printer I was much interested in the "why" of so many plural prints and crooked impressions, and inverts, which were very clear to me, but difficult to describe to non-printers.



FREQUENT INERTS—OFTEN DOUBLED

The sheets of stamps were somewhat difficult to pick up quickly one-by-one, as the pressman fed them in separately to a Gordon Press. A Gordon Press is a clam shell affair very suitable for shortrun jobs. Feeding them in and snitching the printed sheet out is a tricky job, and if a sheet is placed diagonally on the guides a diagonal results. And if things kind of bungle and the sheet is not retrieved, another or maybe two more impressions can result — thus double or triple prints can be easily made.

Only one size of printing block was available for any one set-up of type, so if the various designs of stamps varied in sheet



LONDON-WINDSOR COMBINED

size, the plates did not fit perfectly. And the different edge-margins made it necessary to reset the guides for feeding, which was not always attended to.

At times two places appeared on one stamp, as Windsor/London. It is presumed a certain number of sheets were supplied for an order, and if the count was incorrect the few extra sheets were used on the start of the following group.

Now this Gordon Press has a very good reason for me to know the why of what could happen, as about 1900 I footpowered

(continued next page)

one in Tilbury, Ontario, while learning printing, and later footpowered again in Prince Rupert, B.C., on *The Empire* newspaper there. No electric power was available.

I can go back a little more, as lately I was in an antique printery in the University of Western Ontario in London, where they had two old Washington flatbed presses in an old plant from Glencoe. This antique

Washington press I know very well, and it is pictured on the title page of the 1795 *Quebec Almanack*.

Incidentally I am working on a companion book about Canada postal data, to complement the *Canada Post Offices, 1755/1895* advertised in a recent *Topics* ad. I have no financial interest in this, having sold my library, and all rights, five years ago.



Perfin Study Group

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



The handbook lists another solid-cut perfin as M24 with the initials MA. Recently the question has come to my mind as to whether the initials should not be read as AM. One of the few designs which can be read either way.

An enquiry disclosed that there was a brokerage house of Aird McLeod during the period the stock transfer stamp was in use. First reported on the 1910-26 issue and now known on the 1935 issue.

Can I get any help in correct identification of this one?

M9 — F. W. L. Keane extends the period of use of this one to the 1949-51 issue reporting its use on the 3c value, Scott 286.

S2a — Used by the Swift Canadian Company from their office at Moose Jaw, and so recorded in the handbook, has been showing up for some time now on covers from the company's office at Yorkton, Sask.

The company probably have moved their distributing centre and office some time ago from Moose Jaw to Yorkton. Thanks to Joe Meyer of Regina for this information.



Early this year Jack Brandt mentioned in a letter that he had come across a WC solid-cut perfin on a revenue stamp. About the same time I got a similar perfin and heard of at least three others and have since acquired a couple more. My copies are on Ontario Stock Transfer Stamps of 1910-26.

In the illustration there is a small projection below the bottom of the second letter which indicates to me that it should be read as "G".

A prominent bond and stock brokerage house of this period was Wood Gundy & Co. so I think that this design was possibly used by them. In any event it is a new listing.

New Listings

Number	Description	Name of User	Issue	Rev. Stamp	RF
W16	WG H4½ (Solid cut)	Wood Gundy & Co., Toronto	1910	OSTT	75
A10	AM H4½ (Solid cut)	See also MA	1910/35	OSTT	90



Rounding Up Squared Circles

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

Column No. 122 — While the Handbook lists only "Blank" (early and late strikes) and "AM" (July, '99 to Nov., '01) for PORT ARTHUR, it now appears that numeral time marks were used in late 1916 and in 1917. The first example known to me was reported by Jim Karr in the 1970 Roster, this being 10/ OC 9/ 17. The second example was reported by Dr. Carstairs: 18/ DE 20/ 16. Roger Greer has just sent for examination, two PORT ARTHUR strikes on 2c + 1c brown War Tax, 12/ OC 21/ 17 and 8/ ? 23/ ? In the latter case, the year date falls off the stamp; the month is uncertain, but the traces which show are consistent with "OC".

I also have a report from J. C. Campbell: PORT ARTHUR, Blank/ SP 21/ 16 on Admiral. I presume the NO 4/ 18 strike listed in the First Edition Handbook is also blank because I cannot imagine Dr. Whitehead letting the presence of a numeral time mark go unnoticed on this strike. The evidence suggests that PORT ARTHUR was blank until late 1916, after which numeral time marks (8, 10, 12, and 18 reported) were in use at least until late 1917.

A number of other strikes on Admiral have been reported to me, but with no indication whether they are blank or not. It would be most helpful to me if correspondents indicated complete indicia in the style used in the preceding paragraph (12/ OC 21/ 17 or Blank/ SP 21/ 16). In this connection, I should point out that I use the two slashes to represent the two indicia bars, and reports such as FE/ 6/ 99 are a source of unending confusion to me unless they are qualified as: three-line date, FE/ 6/ 99. The reason, of course, is that some towns *did* use a three-line date of this type, either consistently or occasionally. But when I receive a report of, say, FE/ 6/ 99 for a town not known to me to have used a three-line date, I must write back to find out if it is a genuine three-line date, or actually, Blank/ FE 6/ 99.

Arthur Hanes reports three examples of the NEWPORT LANDING squared circle used during the Admiral period (presumably, all blanks): MY 15/ 12, MY 16/ 14,

and MR 24/ 15. The first two are on covers carrying the 2c carmine Admiral, and the last, on 1c green Admiral post card. In each case, the squared circle hammer was used in conjunction with a killer which actually cancelled the stamp. The MY 15/ 12 date is over a year earlier than the listing in the January, '73 column. Dates known to me for this town now run from DE 15/ 94 through MR 19/ 08; then a gap through 1911, followed by strikes reported in 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916 with the latest date known to me being JU 28/ 16.

J. C. Campbell reports a very much earlier use of the LAURENTIDES squared circle during the Admiral period, than listed in the January column. The strike is Blank/ SP 15/ 13 on a postcard bearing a 1c green Admiral. As in the case of the NEWPORT LANDING strikes mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the stamp is cancelled by a bar killer, with the squared circle to the left of it.

Horace Harrison reports three additional examples of NANAIMO, 2nd State, on Admirals, filling in some of the gaps in recorded period of use. These are: AM/ AU 3/ 13 (1c green Admiral); AM/ DE 12/ 13 (2c red Admiral); AM/ JUL 25/ 18 (2c + 1c brown War Tax).

Mike Squirell reports that while the Handbook notes that WATERLOO, ONT. was Blank in '22, he owned — and recently sold — a cover carrying the latest known date for this town, which read: PM/ JY 28/ 22.

Kimmo Salonen reports the second example known to me of QUEBEC time mark 3: 3/ FE 18/ 96. I know of 3/ AP 11/ 96 and 2/ FE 18/ 9?; all other marks reported are 1 and 4, these being the only two marks known at the time the Third Edition Handbook was published.

Dr. Matthew Carstairs reports the third known example of the rare BEAVERTON numeral time marks: 2/ FE 22/ 94. The other two examples known to me are 1/ FE 27/ 94 and 2/ FE 9/ 94. According to the Handbook, early strikes were Blank, followed by AM, PM from February, '94.

(Continued on page 132)



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

The state of the art

Almost six years ago—in June 1967 to be exact—my first *Tagging* article appeared in *Topics*. Since that time I have spent countless hours studying, writing and corresponding about tagged stamps, to mention nothing about a considerable amount of travelling—mainly to Winnipeg—to keep abreast of the developments. It all started when the late Dr. Mercantini found that time did not permit his doing justice to a regular column in *Topics*, and I agreed to take over the job of collecting and condensing all the available information.

I hasten to state that this was basically all I did—the job of putting all the information that was supplied to me into a more or less condensed readable column. It could not have been done without the help of a large number of casual correspondents, and a small number of faithful regulars. There were times when I felt that the work was more or less in vain, since there were so few serious collectors interested in tagged stamps. Still, in the early years, when only Winnipeg tagging was used, it could be done in a reasonably short period of time each month. Now—as I predicted in my R.I.P. article early in 1972, the post office has decided to make the Ottawa tagging General, and everybody will be able to keep pretty well abreast of new developments, without having to depend on a few faithful correspondents who took the time to supply your scribe with material for a column.

I am sure that all readers now agree that this work was not in vain, because the interest in Winnipeg tagged is growing rapidly, and even the diehards will be forced into collecting Ottawa (General) tagged, because nothing else will be available to them in the very near future, outside of possibly the top values. So, what started out as a study on a very small section of Canadian philately, will in the very near future become a full-scale project involving virtually all areas of Canadian philately including stamps, booklets, cards, stationery, etc., and there is just

no way that I can do justice to this kind of work.

As some of my readers may have heard, I am still working on a long-delayed book covering what has happened to date, and this is still seriously contemplated, but it would seem sensible to delay it just a little further, so that it can embrace the complete 1967 definitive issue—most of which are, or will be, available in normal, Winnipeg tagged, and Ottawa (General) tagged.. The new definitives are long overdue, and should be appearing in the very near future, and it is my intention to set an arbitrary cut-off date to the issues which I intend to cover in my column.

I would like to continue to cover all the Winnipeg tagged issues, and possibly the General tagged issues up to and including everything that is issued prior to the appearance of the new definitives. I am therefore soliciting the help of BNAPS members in securing the services of another member to take over the collection of data on future General tagged issues, or for that matter, all General tagged issues. I will give all the assistance I can, and can assure whoever the volunteer is, he will be greatly rewarded by great number of friends he will make all over the continent, and in addition, this will give him the opportunity to locate and secure errors, oddities, varieties, and other desirable material that would never come his way under normal circumstances. In this regard, I consider myself most fortunate in having volunteered to write the *Tagging Along* column, and have had ample reward for the time and effort I have put into it.

Please give this some serious consideration, because I would hate to see the study of Canadian tagged stamps cease to be recorded for all to benefit.

Don't You Forget It!

BNAPLEX '73 — CALGARY

September 19 to 22



The RPO Cowcatcher

Lewis M. Ludlow, 6 - 17, Shibaura 4-chome, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 108, Japan

M-11 Hammer Differentiation

Step 1 — Measure the diameter; 22½mm identifies Hammer VI. 23½mm or more segregates Hammers II, III and V; 23mm or more (but less than 23½mm) categorizes Hammers I and IV.

Step 2 — Check punctuation after LEVIS. Hammer III has a vertical period on the base line; all other hammers have a dot or a horizontal dash at the mid-point on the vertical.

Step 3 — A 1mm or more horizontal dash after LEVIS separates Hammer I from Hammer IV which has a dot on early strikes which wears to a larger square on later strikes (Hammer VI, previously separated, discounted).

Step 4 — In separating Hammers II and V, the angle of the 'L' in LEVIS in Hammer V is greater than 90°, while in Hammer I it is just 90°. Further the top of the loop in the 'P' of CAMP is broken in Hammer V and is not broken for Hammer I.

See individual hammers for additional identification characteristics. Circular measurement data on all hammers is available

upon request. On a visit to the National Postal Museum in Ottawa in September 1972, the Director, Mr. J. E. Kraemer, kindly made available for our study approximately 250 pages of records of steel date stamps withdrawn from the field. Each page contained twenty strikes of hammers of one sort or another marked for destruction. Of the 250 pages, 87 pages had strikes of 172 RPO hammers that had been recalled. The period covered by the pages is from July 22, 1968 to January 25, 1971 and most town strikes were undated; however, many of the RPO hammers were struck with what was apparently the last used indicia set still in the hammer, and it is a reasonable presumption that such set dates would be the last known date of use for such hammers. 172 hammers is not much in the total RPO scheme of affairs, but when available, they make an interesting adjunct to our knowledge, as has just been illustrated with M-11. Here, three of the six known hammers were identified in the destruction records. More importantly, four new RPOs not previously known were identified among the hammers sent in for disposal. These will be reported soon in Shaw's new listings.

New Listings from Shaw

No.	Route	Type	Direction	Period	R.F.	Reported By
N-7A	Bell Island C.S./Newf'd	4J		1937	200	32
M-4A	Annapolis & Yarmouth Ry./M.C.	4H	East	37	200	16A
M-12E	C'ton & Levis R.P.O./N.F. Pleau	17J	59.60	402	150	135
M-12F	Camp. & Levis Express R.P.O./ J. A. Dionne	21B	31	MR4	200	16
M-31B	Halifax & Amherst-P.O. Car	4D	East	37	200	16A
M-64B	Halifax & Yar./R.P.O.	17H	58	356	150	16
M-111A	West Br. Railway St. John & Vanceboro	4D		37	200	16A

NEW REPORTERS

16A Reported from proof books in Philatelic Foundation and National Archives

By 16 — L. M. Ludlow

134 Glenn Holyk

135 Ralph M. Jackson

TOPICS: THE NEWSFRONT

Our news is "for real" again: \$30,000 profit from postcards, a Joseph Howe issue, and some new books

Gordon Waldie of Toronto sent a copy of *Hansard* for March 5 of this year, in which postmaster general Andre Ouellet replies to questions about the picture post cards now on sale. "The primary objective of the sale of prestamped scenic postcards is customer convenience and reduced stamp sales transactions and with this in mind the Canada Post Office is prepared to discuss the possibility of private postcard manufacturers producing prestamped picture postcards for distribution and sale through commercial retail outlets," he replied.

At that time about \$30,000 profit had been made from sales of the postcards, which didn't include the cost of delivering them through the mails. "We do not believe the sale (of postcards) represents an invasion of the commercial market for postcards," Ouellet said.

Work on BNAPEX '73 at Calgary, September 19 to 22, is coming along well. Exhibition chairman is Edmund A. Harris of 620 75th Ave. S.W., Calgary. Frames will be eight pages each and while the chairman may have to cut down the number and size of exhibits at the time of mounting them, there are no restrictions on the number of entries. Study groups are being organized by Gordon M. Hill of 6701 Laird Court S.W., Calgary. Publicity is under John Payne, of 2108 66th Ave. S.E.

David Gronbeck-Jones, writings in *Linn's*, says the philatelic service in Ottawa is having problems; order forms are in short supply, and many recent issues are sold out—7c definitive coils and booklets, Kreighoff, and Expo 1970. Plate blocks for Plains Indians (part one), Laporte and Kesley and the dextrine-gum 3c 1967 are also exhausted.

He also reports some new varieties; both Kreighoff and Algonkain Indians have been found on paper that fluoresces on one side only, and the same Indians and the 8c RCMP have been found with no tagging.

Post Office Department **NEW ISSUES**



Canada Post will issue, on May 16, an 8c stamp commemorating the 100th anniversary of the death of Joseph Howe, former premier and Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia.

The stamp was designed by Allan Fleming of Toronto, and shows a portrait of Howe set in a vertical format with the stamp measuring 24mm by 40mm.

Ashton-Potter Limited of Toronto is printing 24,000,000 copies in two-color lithography. Marginal inscriptions including the designer's name appear on the four corners of each pane of 50 stamps available from the philatelic service.

The total production of this stamp has been produced bearing general tagging. This stamp will not be available in any other form.

SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Philatelic Terms Illustrated, by Russell Bennett and James Watson, published by Stanley Gibbons, London. Generously illustrated in color; 8x6 inches, 192 pages, soft cover. U.K. price £1.

This is the book version of a series published originally in Gibbons' *Stamp Monthly* over many issues. It has 92 full page color plates and a wide range of black-and-white illustrations, and the format is that of a dictionary, running from "abnormals" to "zig-zag roulettes." The color quality on the illustrations is particularly good — as good as that in the *Collect British Stamps* catalogue, also issued by Gibbons.

Unfortunately the tops of the pages don't carry key words, as in a dictionary, making it difficult to find a word alphabetically. For instance, under "perforation" there are seven pages of material, listed under subtitles (clean-cut, comb, compound, harrow, imitation, etc.) then followed by roulette types. But when thumbing through the book, one doesn't know these pages are all under the "p" or even under "perforation" unless one turns ahead to the key word.

Nor is there much evidence of cross-indexing; the word "mint" simply doesn't appear under "m" — but shows up as a sub-section under "unused." Nor is "tagging" listed under "t", and "fluorescence"

doesn't appear either. Tagging is under "phosphor", it turns out.

The book demands more patience of its owner than a reference book has a right to, but more than compensates for this by some good clear writing and by those abundant illustrations, which are worth 10,000 words apiece. —EHH

United States, United Nations, Canada and the Provinces — 1973 edition; an annual catalogue by H. E. Harris & Co., Boston. U.S. price \$1, soft cover, 8¼ x 5¼ inches, 216 pages.

The Harris continues to be a nifty little catalogue of North America, compactly but neatly laid out with no scrimping on the illustrations. The BNA stamps take 35 pages, and while the catalogue doesn't pretend to be a specialized effort, Harris manages to cover the tagged, war tax, cello-paqs, booklets, officials and postage dues to the extent of Scott. For U.S. collectors, the listings are particularly detailed, and it is difficult to imagine a neater catalogue which provides so much basic data on the North American field. —EHH

Reports are coming in that four Toronto partners intend to issue a quite new BNA catalogue this fall, to be distributed internationally. It will be the most specialized annual BNA catalogue to date, with special care given to the illustrations and typography. Several top collectors and dealers will be the consultants.

Plastic flow — a further explanation

Kenneth W. Pugh sends us the following correction to his article on varieties, which appeared in the March issue of this magazine:

The second sentence of the second paragraph should read "This plastic method for making plates started at the time of the Gray Jay issue of February 15, 1968.

As this method is used for the itaglio process only (see *Varieties of the Queen Elizabeth Era*, part one, page 10) my sentence wording in this article would result in some confusion. My apologies!

For some reason I seemed to have Gray Jay in my mind, and the fourth paragraph should read "The 15c definitive examples" instead of "5c Gray Jay examples."

I wish to emphasize to readers that this method of plate making is used for engraved or intaglio issues only, and is not used for those issues printed by offset lithography.

Those interested in this problem still further should consult the noted Australian philatelist A. A. Rosenblum, who noted similar varieties on Australian issues starting in 1964.

TOPICS: THE BUSINESS SIDE

BNAPS: ELECTED OFFICERS

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VICE-PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
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James A. Pike, 945 Marine Drive, Apt. 1110, West Vancouver, B.C.
Jack Levine, 2121-G North Hills Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27610
Leo J. LaFrance, Box 229, Ossining, New York 10562
Nine sitting; three selected each year for a three-year term:
1971-1973: James C. Lehr, E. H. Hausmann, Robert H. Pratt
1972-1974: G. B. Llewellyn (chairman), C. R. McNeil, D. G. Rosenblat
1973-1975: Ed Richardson, Wilmer C. Rockett, S. S. Kenyon

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- 2940 Belanger, Ferdinand, 307 Carre St-Louis, Apt. 12, Montreal 130, Quebec
2941 Carmichael, Vance Wynne, 104 Riverdale Drive, Stoney Creek, Ontario
2942 Eckel, Leonard, 24 Victoria Street, Dundas, Ontario
2943 Evans, Michael, 350 Cabrini Blvd., New York, New York 10040
2944 Mackie, Alexander Sherritt, 17 Pitstraun Place, Aberdeen AB1-6PQ, Scotland
2945 Marcus, Joel D., M.D., 49 Meadow Place, Rye, New York 10580
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2948 Moss, Lt. J. Stephen, 1616A James Road, Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060
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Applications Pending — "A" Group

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

- Boubelik, Charles F., Box 1737, Boulder, Colorado 80302
Charles, Henry J., 7740 Trinidad, Ville Brossard, Quebec
D'Arcy, Mrs. Jeannette Margaret, Box 9, Woodlands Rd., R.R. 1, Sooke, B.C.
Ernst, Robert C., 100 Yonge Street, Barrie, Ontario
Gough, Maurice Charles, 201 Willoughby House, Barbican, London EC2Y 8BL, England
Greenwood, Dr. William Robert, P.O. 1169, Chatham, Ontario N7M 5L8
Iacovelli, John, 29 Spear Street, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169
MacKay, F. A., P.O. Box 2022, Yellowknife, Northwest Territory X0E 1H0
Pieper, Erich F., 149 Welland Street, St. Catharines, Ontario
Sullivan, Mrs. Karen H., 9 DeForrest Avenue, Newburgh, New York 12550
Terlain, Michael A., P.O. Box 268, Port Alberni, British Columbia
Waddell, Gordon M., Box 131, Newdale, Manitoba R0J 1J0

Applications Pending — "B" Group

- Adilman, Paul L., Box 1660, Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 1Y5
Anderson, William F., 2043 Swanson Road, Clearwater, British Columbia
Bobo, John S., 1668 Sycamore Street, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018
Cambridge, John Donald, 55 Owen Blvd., Willowdale, Ontario M2P 1G2
Copeland, Col. Royal S. (Ret.), R.F.D. 1, Box 2250, Englewood, Fla. 33533
deBelle, John C., Box 753, Oakville, Ontario
Emmett, Norman, P.O. Box 37, 24 Depot, Waterloo, Quebec
Gallichen, Fred W., 2650 East 53rd Avenue, Vancouver 16, British Columbia
Hennick, Martin Joseph, 2230 Tallman Avenue, Burlington, Ontario
James, George F., 553 Carlisle Street, Cobourg, Ontario K9A 1X3
Kenda, Joseph G., Morinville, Alberta T0G 1P0
Lemire, Robert James, c/o Lash Miller Chem. Lab., University of Toronto, Toronto, Ont. M5S 1A1
Makinen, Donald E., Rt. 2, Box 44B, Alvin, Texas 77511
McCann, Wm. J., 509 Durie Street, Toronto, Ontario M6S 3G8
Melanson, Stephen P., c/o RCMP, Box 349, Agassiz, British Columbia
McIntyre, Glenn H., P.O. Box 896, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4X8
McLean, Raymond, 135—55th Avenue, Lachine, Quebec
Scholdra, Dr. Roman, P.O. Box 236, Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 3Y5
Robinson, William George, 5830 Cartier Street, Vancouver 13, British Columbia
Varrin, Lawrence M., 3131 Jaguar Valley Drive, Apt. 311, Mississauga, Ont.
Whitehouse, Wilfred D., 2427 Greenfield Avenue, Kamloops, British Columbia

Applications For Membership

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

(C-Collector D-Dealer DC-Dealer-Collector) (c-correspond x-exchange)

- BROWN, Robertson M., 15 Parkdale Crescent, London, Ont. N6A 2M4 (C-cx) CAN, NFD—19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Prestamp and 1st Day covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Precancels. Literature. SPECIALTY—Centennial Definitives of Canada. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).
- CAMPBELL, John Colin, R.R. 6, Ross Road, Kelowna, B.C. (C-cx) CAN, NFD—Used postage. Canadian Military Cancels. SPECIALTY—Canada Militia type Military Cancels. Proposed by E. A. Richardson (168). Seconded by D. Crane (1139).
- CHASE, Constant W. Jr., Box 77, Balboa Heights, Canal Zone (C-c) CAN, NFD—19th and 20th century mint and used postage. 1st Day covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes and complete. Mint, used and semi-official Airmails. Postal Stationery entires. Official and Railroad Pictorial Post Cards. Proposed by D. M. Verity (2312).

- DAWSON, Harold, 17530 N.W. 11th Avenue, N. Miami, Fla. 33169 (C) CAN—19th and 20th century mint and used postage. 1st Day covers. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint and used booklet panes. Mint, used, semi-official Airmails and on cover. Literature. RPO, Flag, Slogan, 2 and 4-ring, Squared Circle, Duplex and Fancy cancellations. SPECIALTY—Large Queens. Fancy and Numerical cancels. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- GRIEG, William, 1064 Royal York Road, Toronto, Ont. M8X 2G7 (C-x) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp, stampless, 1st Day and 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint and used booklet panes. Mint, used, semi-official Airmails and on cover. Postal Stationery entires. Proofs and Essays. RPO, Flag, Slogan, 2 and 4-ring and Squared Circle cancellations. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- JOHNSON, Jonathan, 1136 Chilako St., Prince George, B.C. (C-cx) CAN—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. 1st Day covers. Coils. Literature. World Perfins. Color shift, perf. shift varieties. SPECIALTY—Private Company Perfins. Proposed by G. D. Prowse (2656). Seconded by S. H. Clark (787).
- MUIRHEAD, P. A., 2154 Kildare Road, Windsor, Ont. N8W 2X1 (C-c) CAN—Mint and used postage. QE II covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. Complete booklets. Mint and used Airmails. SPECIALTY—1967-1972 Centennial Pictorial Issue. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).
- McCALL, A. David, P.O. Box 219, Montreal 101, Que. (C) Proposed by R. J. Woolley (359).
- McGILLIVRAY, Robert J., 6030 Lanark St., Vancouver 15, B.C. (C-c) NFD—19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Pre-stamp, stampless and 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. Mint, used booklet panes and complete, Provincial and Tax-Paid Revenues. Mint, used, semi-official Airmails and on cover. Postal Stationery entires. Literature. Proofs and Essays. RPO Cancellations. Proposed by F. E. Eaton (608). Seconded by J. W. Millard (2052).
- McKEAG, Richard G., 201-500 Stradbrook Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R3L 0K1 (C-cx) CAN—19th and 20th century mint postage and blocks. 1st Day and 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. Mint Airmails blocks. SPECIALTY—Plate Blocks. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- PIERCEY, David, P.O. Box 6532, Sta. G, Vancouver 8, B.C. (C) CAN—19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Coils. Mint booklet panes and complete. Literature. Proposed by yJ. W. Millard (2052).
- WILKINSON, James L., 4295 E. Mexico No. 408, Denver, Colo. 80222 (C-cx) CAN, NFD, PROV—Mint postage. 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Federal, Provincial and Tax-Paid Revenues. Mint and semi-official Airmails. Literature. Proofs and Essays. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- WOODHOUSE, Fraser, 11 Norham Crescent, Weston, Ont. M9R 1H8 (C-cx) CAN—19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Coils. Complete booklets. Mint and used Airmails. Varieties. SPECIALTY—Centennial Definitives. Proposed by L. A. Davenport (51).
- ZAJDLER, Edward, 8917—12th Avenue, Montreal 455, Que. (C-cx) CAN—19th and 20th century mint postage. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Precancels. Mint Airmails. Literature. SPECIALTY—1967 Definitives. Proposed by D. Gronbeck-Jones (2830).

Changes of Address

(Notice of change MUST BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY. Any other office causes delay).

- 2747 Arnold, Mrs. Ronald P., 5141 Pomegranate Ave., Sacramento, Calif. 95823
 1321 Banno, Dr. Edward C., 2881 West 3rd Avenue, Vancouver 8, B.C.
 2885 Beatty, Richard H., 190 St. George St., Apt. 903, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2N4
 1409 Bernard, Eugene, 2121 West 40th, Apt. 102, Vancouver 13, B.C.
 2827 Braun, Alfons, 13565 King George Hwy., Surrey, B.C.
 2749 De Ment, Lex C. Jr., Wellington Square Mall, Lower Mall, London, Ontario
 2263 Edwards, Edward D., 37 Crestview Terrace, Montvale, N.J. 07645
 2220 Gross, Jar, Laubova-2 Vinohrady, 130 00 Praha 3, Czechoslovakia
 1733 Harper, Ethel, 130 East 39th Street, New York, New York 10016
 2507 Kahlmeier, Horst, 15 Mansion Street, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 2J5
 1049 Kitchen, CWO Ronald, 1387 Pearl Street, Gloucester P.O., Ontario K0A 1Y0
 263 Lidman, David, 163-B Heritage Village, Southbury, Conn. 06488
 2857 MacLachy, Mrs. Joan K., 4980 Laurentian Drive, Prince George, B.C.
 2800 Niepke, Barry R., P.O. Box 893, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 90506
 2307 Peppar, David, 864 Bronson Avenue, Ottawa, Ont.
 2501 Quittenton, Maurice, P.O. Box 196, Vashon, Wash. 98070
 2782 Sanderson, Dr. Dorothy, 31 Adare Drive, Coventry CV3 6AD, England
 2772 Singer, Peter, P.O. Box 6256, Vancouver 8, B.C.
 2274 Spreen, Wm. F. Jr., 4197 Sentinel Post Road N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30327
 2232 Toth, Ernest Steve, 29 Rosefield Drive, Yorkton, Sask. S3N 2K9
 2844 Vanderburgh, Capt. George A., 436-613-764, MCCD/ICCS, CFPO 5005
 2196 Waterman, Russell, 1166 Laird Blvd., Apt. 11, Montreal 305, Quebec

Deceased

- 2299 Stibbs, Norman C., 306 Silica Street, Nelson, B.C.

Resignations Accepted

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Bates, Jerry | Hewitt, Dorothy, M.D. | Nalon, John |
| Carhart, W. H. | Lamkin, Walter | Nowlan, Alfred W. |

Resignation Received

- 2125 Guskin, Leo, 6761 Neal Street, Vancouver 14, B.C.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, March 1, 1973	1277	
NEW MEMBERS, April 1, 1973	12	1289
RESIGNATIONS, April 1, 1973	6	
DECEASED, April 1, 1973	1	7
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, April 1, 1973		1282



MICHAEL DICKETTS

**From London to London
came this Admiral devotee**

*Michael B.
Dicketts
No. 2115*

In the past we have seen some articles written by Michael B. Dicketts. Now we find that he, with the early help of Russ McNeil, has emulated Keane et al by coming up with a complete story of the booklets of the 1967 Centennial issue.

Mike emigrated from England to Canada in 1958 and two years later had a bride by the name of Betty. At that time he was with the Royal Bank of Canada. In 1967, Mike got the education urge and it was off to Sir George Williams University to get

his B.A. in English literature followed by his masters in Library Sciences at New Jersey's Rutgers University. So — from London, England to London, Ontario, where he is now the Fine Arts Librarian at their library.

A childhood collector (lost two collections — which he did not explain — prior to spending time in the Royal Air Force), Mike resumed collecting one month after he was married! It's been Canada ever since and the great love is for the Admiral issue.

He is not only a BNAPSer but is also a member of the Royal of Canada. It has been some time since Betty and Mike have been to a BNAPS convention but they definitely plan to see us all at Calgary in September.

— Dr. R. V. C. Carr

...and some doodles by The Editor

The readers' letters pages of the *Toronto Star* were bristling last month, as they frequently do, with the matter of royalty and its role in Canada today. The latest storm arose from two letters complaining about the "depressing-looking" and "gray-faced queens" on our stamps. That created a new outrage.

One collector spoke grandly of our "many artistic and well-engraved issues of simplicity and beauty" and denounced the "flashy garbage" produced by many other countries — gaudy pictorials not designed "to honor a country's virtues." He suggested that persons should "realize the heritage and care" that goes into our stamps. Good heavens!

But another came out fighting against royalty. "Until the happy day when, as mature people, we free ourselves of the medieval hangups, may I suggest that when using those stamps with 'gray-faced queens', stick them on upside down? Maybe others will get the message!"

Another also suggested pasting the Queen upside down, but said we should buy instead stamps "showing beautiful scenery and pictures of worthy Canadians. We should buy many of these stamps when they are made available and use them when sending mail abroad."

The Star, ever fair-minded, ended with a letter from the vice-president of the St. George's Society of Toronto. He spoke of "the sorrow over the actions of the government of Canada in removing the Queen's portrait from some denominations of our paper currency, and from so many new issues of postage stamps. . . . The royal portrait should be a constant reminder of the values we possess," he claimed.

It's the debating of sensible, vital and urgent issues such as this that keeps us on our toes.

MAIL FROM OUR MEMBERS

Aurora-like tagging?

Lest you consider me unduly Cassandra-like, I send you herewith a paragraph from an article entitled *The Care and Maintenance of Stamps*, by Howard Ellis, which appears in *Stamp Year Book '73* (London, Link House Publications, 1972) which reached me only yesterday.

So far-reaching are the implications that I think it imperative that the tagging enthusiast be alerted. The item reads:

In the past decade electronic sorting and handling of mail has added another facet to the postage stamp—the phosphor band. Because these bands are visible to the naked eye, and come in different widths and patterns, not to mention printing processes and even colours, they have attracted the attention of the philatelist. A perusal of the catalogues will reveal that in many cases the presence or omission of a phosphor band can affect the value of a stamp to an appreciable degree. If the phosphor band is vital to a stamp's value it is necessary to preserve it intact. The trouble is that these bands have been around for such a short time that the long-term effects of sunlight, humidity and temperature have not been evident as yet. But already scientists have predicted that such phosphor bands have only a relatively short life span and that sooner or later they will fade away. It may be that we are chasing shadows, and concerning ourselves with something

Like th' Aurora in the sky

That vanishes before the eye.

Time alone will tell—and perhaps by then we may have to add atomic radiation as yet another hazard from which to protect our stamps!

—John Alden

More on semi-officials

On re-reading the article *Bogus and Counterfeit Semi-Official Stamps* I find that there is a mistake in the closing sentence. I stated "that I have never found out the number of dark blue stamps printed." It is however well known that the total number printed was 11,200 plus 2 sheets of 50 "light blue" proofs.

Printings were: October 1927 — 1,200 stamps; Late 1928 — 10,000 stamps.

My closing sentence should have read, "I have never been able to find out just how many stamps were destroyed by the Company or the Printers when the Company ceased operations. I am sure some were destroyed by the Printers and some by the Company's Agents." — H. L. Banner

. . . and more yet

In December 1972 *Topics* you ask information on an unlisted semi-official. I have this self-same item on a "Roessler" cover—and have always understood it to be a fantasy. The item is postmarked PM OC 33 from Gogana, Ontario, in a duplex cancel.

—John Wannerton

Ink transfer to mounts

Enclosed is a clear mount which contained a block from a recent local auction. You will note that there is some offset from the stamps showing on the mount and I am wondering whether this might be worth noting as a warning to collectors. I don't know what make of mount this is and suspect that the block had been in it for some years. The stamps didn't show any appreciable lightening in color but if this process, whatever it was, continued, I could see a strong possibility of future damage.

—George S. Wegg

The mount sent in by dealer Wegg appears to be cellophane, neatly folded around the Admiral block it contained. It might possibly have been made up by the collector himself from the bulk stock of the material, or may have been a manufactured mount.

In any event four faint orange brown rectangles are clearly visible on both the back and front of the material, which would indicate that the ink didn't transfer through abrasion, but rather by a form of osmosis.

Flag cancels

There appears to be a revitalized interest in Flag Cancellations based on the information which has been appearing with some frequency on the BYPEX '67 flag cancel and its dates of usage. As mentioned in M. B. Dicketts' letter in the September 1972 *Topics* I have in my collection the

(Continued on page 135)

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WELL, MY STOCKS ON A FEW VALUES OF THE NUMERAL CANCELS OF THE LARGE QUEENS HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT DEPLETED, BUT STILL I CONTINUE TO TURN UP MORE!

In addition, recent finds include a 6c L.Q. with a Montreal 21 pre-cancel forerunner cancel, some nice Newfoundland imprint blocks, and many many more items of interest, both from the BNA area, and the entire British Commonwealth. Feel free to let me know of your wants. You'll be pleasantly surprised with the results. Of course, I am always in the market to purchase better material also.

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CONDITION (continued)

to re-assess their condition standards and be prepared to collect fine to very fine, fresh, well centred stamps and de-emphasize their concern about absolute perfection in the gum. A stamp can have some traces of previous hinging and still be very fine.

If the trend toward "gum collecting" persists and drives the prices of these perfection copies even further out of line, the art of regumming is going to increase proportionately. This trick is being indulged in quite frequently now, but it can usually

be spotted in time and not too much harm done; you can always wash the offending gum off. However, as the rewards become greater, so is the skill of the regummer likely to improve and the hazards to the collector increase. By de-emphasizing the importance of never hinged stamps, the tendency to escalate prices to disproportionately high levels for never-hinged stamps should slow down, and the collector will obtain better value for his money. Thus, he will have just as attractive a collection at more reasonable cost, and also a sounder investment. Buying stamps rather than gum should be more fun, too.

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BOX 23-BN, STATION 'D', TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA M6P 3J5

Perhaps this should be altered to read: "Early strikes, Blank; 1 and 2 in February, '94; followed by AM, PM." Another report by Dr. Carstairs took me somewhat by surprise: the completely nude (no town name) hammer has long been known on the QV 1c Numeral issue (and is, I believe, very much more common than once thought), but he reports having it also on the 1c Edward VII definitive issue. I don't recall ever having heard of another example, but this indicates an extended period of use of the hammer.

Dr. Carstairs also reports: CHELTENHAM, JU 9/ 21 on 2c Admiral card (which is of the same period as the MY 9 21 listing in the Jan. '73 column); MOUNT BRYDGES, AU 13/ 12 on card carrying 1c Admiral; WATERLOO, ONT. ?/ ? ?/ 15 (a year date not previously recorded; now known in 1912, 1914, 1915, 1917, and 1922); NANAIMO, 2nd State: AM/OC 25/ 12 on 7c Admiral, a new early date in the Admiral period; also, NANAIMO, 2nd State, 14/ JUL 3/ 55 on 4c War Effort (which he identifies as a philatelic strike)

—a previously unrecorded time mark—and another example with month and day uncertain, but the year is 1946.

John Butters reports a previously unrecorded year-date error for ANTIGONISHE, ?P 1?/ 68 on a cover carrying a 3c Maple Leaf. He believes the month to be SP rather than AP; there is a second number in the date but it is indistinct. The date is thus between AP 10 and AP 19, or more probably, between SP 10 and SP 19. Unfortunately, there are no other markings on the cover to help determine whether the month is AP or SP. He also reports finding a U.S. stamp, Scott #220, with WINNIPEG, Hammer I cancel, 6/ OC 28/ 93; the stamp is also struck with some other, non-squared circle hammer.

MANITOBA LAW (continued)

second overprint just ½mm or so to the side of the first. This seems to be the normal condition in these double overprints. However, my 10c used R7a shows the second overprint about 2mm above the first. It isn't likely these two doubles came from the same sheet!

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envelope showing the October 1, 1967 usage. This means that the period of usage is six days and was in fact used after the RPSC Convention was over. Does anyone have a confirming copy?

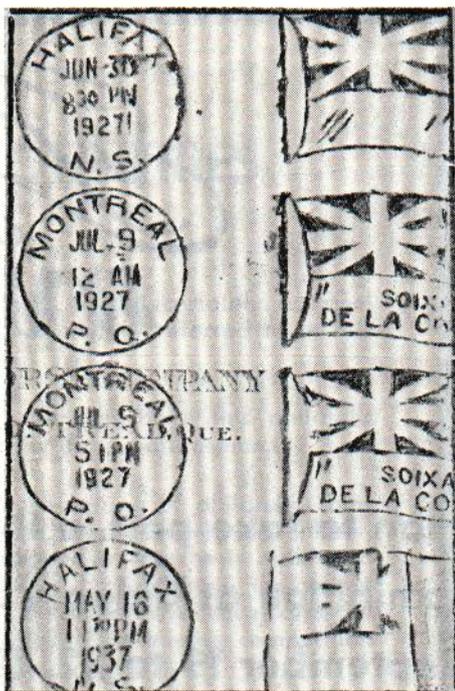
In the series of articles which appeared in 1960 and 1961 by Ed Richardson on Canadian Flag cancellations in *Topics* it was shown that the 1927 Confederation was used in Halifax from July 4, 1927 to July 29, 1928. I have a copy dated 8:30 p.m. June 30, 1927.

The dates for the bilingual version used in Montreal were given as June 27, 1927 to July 7, 1927. I have one copy dated 12:00 a.m. and another 5:00 p.m. on July 9, 1927.

The 1937 Coronation Flag cancellations are shown as being used from May 10, 1937 to May 15, 1937. I know of one exception, as I have a copy cancelled at 11:30 pm May 16, 1937 at Halifax, N.S.

Hopefully other information will be forthcoming as I believe there is a revised version of McCready's *Canadian Flag Cancellations* to be issued.

Many thanks for letting this information see the light of day. — Wayne R. Curtis



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