

MAY 1975 Volume 32, Number 5, whole number 345



BNA TOPICS

Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

SHOW SEASON

By the first of June we will have manned stands at spring exhibitions in Cleveland, Toronto, Boston, Ottawa, Chicago and Quebec City. At each of these we will have met a few more old friends and some new ones from BNAPS. At each of these we will (hopefully) have bought some new material to offer you at the next show. Of course all this is just a preliminary to the BNAPS Convention at Toronto in September. If you haven't marked September 18, 19 and 20 on your calendar, now would be a good time to do so.

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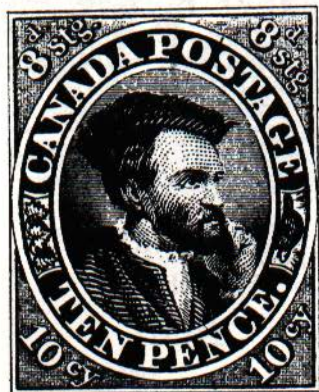
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BNA TOPICS



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Whole No. 345

MAY, 1975

Vol. 32, No. 36

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FOR ELECTED OFFICERS
SEE LISTING UNDER
"TOPICS: THE
BUSINESS SIDE"

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TWO-RING NUMERAL OBLITERATORS
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- THE ROYAL WILLIAM
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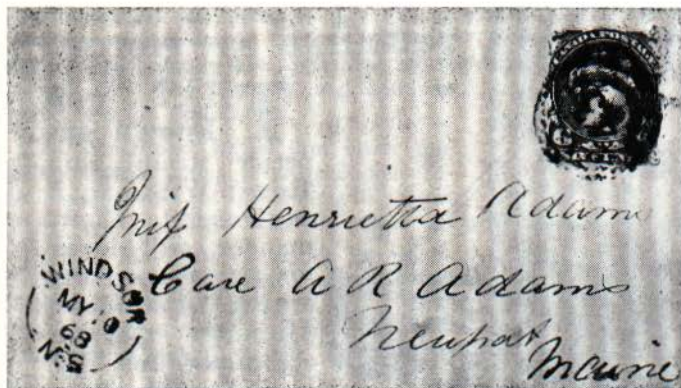
EDITORIAL OFFICE:

c/o V. G. Greene, 77 Victoria Street, Toronto M5C 2B2

Published at Toronto, Canada, by the British North America Philatelic Society. Subscription \$6.50 per year: single copies, from the Circulation Manager, \$1.00. Opinions expressed are those of the writers.

Printed by Mission Press, 53 Dundas St. E., Toronto M5B 1C6

ADVERTISING: Display advertisement copy must be received by the Advertising Manager six weeks prior to the month of publication. MEMBERSHIP: Write the Secretary: see "Elected Officers" in this issue.



Ill. 2: Cover showing the MY 10, 68 use of the two-ring "43" of Windsor, N.S. This is the earliest recorded date for a two-ring numeral, but the date is in error (see text).

Plate I, on "soft, white, blotting paper", which came into use in the spring of 1869. Thus, the year of the May 10, 1868, date stamp must be an error—the true date is probably 1869.

On the basis of the foregoing we suggest that the two-ring obliterations were first issued to post offices towards the end of March, 1869, and possibly to all 60 offices at the same time. These suggestions would explain, for example, the relative commonness of two-ring numerals on the 1c Large Queen of the yellow shade, which was introduced in January, 1869, and their relative scarcity on the 1c brown, which was virtually out of use by June, 1869.

Knowledge of the date of commencement of the obliterations is also potentially useful in establishing what papers and shades of the Large Queen issue were in use in 1868 and 1869, especially where dated material is scarce.

The authors would much appreciate receiving reports of earlier dates than those shown in Table I, with a view to establishing a more definite picture of the onset of use of these important obliterations. Correspondence should be addressed to H. W. Duckworth, Department of Chemistry, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2.

TABLE I

Earliest known use of the Two-Ring Numeral Obliterators.

1	Montreal	(?/6/69)
2	Toronto	27/3/69
3	Quebec	26/4/69
4	Halifax	(9/4/69)
5	Hamilton	4/5/69
6	London	31/3/69
7	Saint John, N.B.	15/5/69
8	Ottawa	30/4/70
9	Kingston	7/4/69
10	Sydney, N.S.	29/4/69
11	Fredericton	(5/4/69)
12	St. Catharines	10/3/70
13	Belleville	17/6/69
14	Guelph	29/6/69
15	Brantford	3/6/70
16	Brockville	20/6/70
17	Unidentified	no dated example
18	Yarmouth	28/7/70
19	Peterborough	(8/3/70)
20	Unidentified	no dated example
21	Goderich	8/12/69
22	Galt	no dated example
23	Woodstock, Ont.	28/6/69
24	Stratford	7/10/69
25	New Glasgow	13/1/70
26	Windsor, Ont.	26/8/69
27	Ingersoll	14/5/69
28	Sarnia	(?/2/73)

29	Cobourg	(?/11/70)
30	Pictou	20/10/69
31	Oshawa	(21/6/69)
32	Barrie	(16/4/69)
33	Sherbrooke	(22/5/69)
34	Chatham, N.B.	(18/3/73)
35	Lindsay	3/4/69
36	St. Johns, P.Q.	(?/7/74)
37	Amherst	12/10/69
38	Bowmanville	(23/11/69)
39	Whitby	no dated example
40	Cornwall	22/9/75
41	St. Mary's	23/4/69
42	Acton Vale (?)	no dated example
43	Windsor, N.S.	10/5/68
44	Owen Sound	(11/1/70)
45	Perth	17/5/69
46	Dundas	11/10/71
47	Napanee	(?/2/70)
48	Simcoe	(11/9/69)
49	Prescott	9/6/69
50	St. Andrews, N.B.	(22/5/72)
51	Pictou	7/10/69
52	St. Hyacinthe	10/6/69
53	Three Rivers	no dated example
54	Truro	15/5/69
55	Berlin	8/5/69
56	Brampton	(13/5/75)
57	Paris	16/4/70
58	St. Thomas	16/6/69
59	Clinton	14/9/74
60	Newmarket	(14/9/69)

PASSAGE TO LONDON, TOUCHING AT PICTOU.



THAT well known superior steam ship **ROYAL WILLIAM, J. McDougall, Com-**mander, will leave for the above ports on the 1st August. Has most extensive accommodation for cabin passengers.

For further information, apply to the Captain on board, or to **W. STEVENSON.**

Cabin passage, exclusive of Wine, &c. £20.
Quebec, 10th July, 1853.

The Royal William

a trouble-maker of a stamp,
with political repercussions
both here and abroad . . .

*by Information Services,
National Postal Museum,
Canada Post, Ottawa.*

On August 18, 1853 the paddle-wheeler *Royal William* sailed from the harbor of Pictou, Nova Scotia, and became the first such vessel to cross the North Atlantic maintaining steam all the way. One hundred years later she and her career became a headache for the Canada Post Office.

The story of the Canadian postage stamp that was issued to commemorate her historic crossing is a fascinating one that ties together in one episode probably all the problems that could possibly be encountered by a stamp-issuing authority. Before the stamp was finally withdrawn from sale the officials of the Post Office must have wished they had never bowed to public opinion and authorized its issue.

It was in the latter part of 1930 that the Post Office received its first indication that Canadians would like to see a stamp depicting the *Royal William*. In November of

that year it received a letter from a prominent philatelist advocating such an issue. Since the request was not specifically linked with any significant anniversary connected with the ship (which had been launched in April 1851), the suggestion was turned down. Nevertheless H. E. Atwater, the financial superintendent, in whose domain such matters rested, was intrigued by the topic and ordered a file on the subject to be opened.

The phenomenal success of the recent Bluenose stamp would almost certainly have been on his mind.

Nothing was heard on the subject for 2½ years. Then, in March 1933, the president of the Philatelic Society of Canada began an active, eleventh-hour fight to see the idea to fruition in time to celebrate the centenary of the sailing of the ship from Canada. He made up for the tardiness of

his attempt by the vigor of his efforts. Members of Parliament, service clubs, the Navy League, stamp clubs, historical societies all gave their support, and petitions flowed into the Post Office.

The Department stayed firm under this initial pressure, citing severe economic restraint in government spending as its reason for refusing the suggestion.

In early May, after weeks of correspondence on the topic, the first crack appeared. Colonel T. Cantley, the MP for Pictou, N.S., obtained a verbal agreement from the Postmaster General, Arthur Sauve, that there would indeed be a stamp issued in honor of the *Royal William*. As this concession had been wrung from the PMG "behind the curtains in the House of Commons", there was great consternation in the department when it was confronted with a sly letter from Cantley putting the matter on paper.

Atwater approached L. J. Gaboury, the Deputy Postmaster General for confirmation, and warned that if Cantley was correct it could run the department short of funds, possibly necessitating the cancellation of an issue that had already been announced.



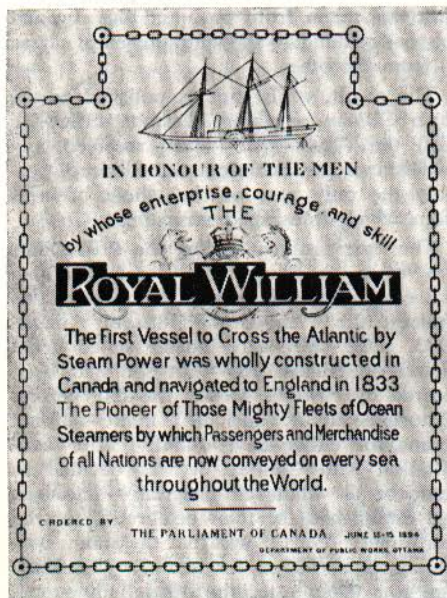
The Isabella II of the period 1831 to 1840, on the Spanish stamp

The dilemma facing the Post Office was compounded by the realization, once again expressed by Atwater, that the subject was "undoubtedly a good one". By the end of May it became obvious that the department would relent. On May 30 Cantley was informed unofficially to expect that the issue would go ahead. On June 16 the Nova Scotia Stamp Club, in answer to its petition, was informed that the matter was under consideration.

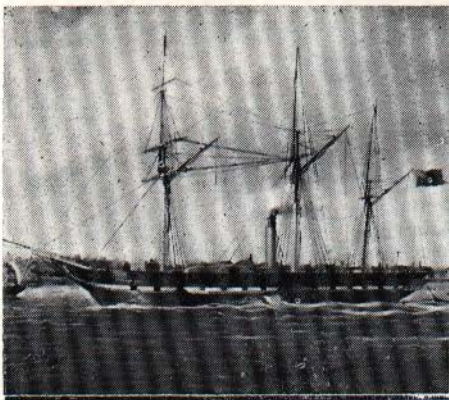
The next day C. G. Cowan, vice-president and managing director of the British American Bank Note Co. was instructed to "go ahead with the engraving of the die itself". This, of course, indicated the Post Office and the printers had already agreed upon a design. Cowan was asked to delay work on the frame of the stamp, as the design for it had not been approved.

That same day, June 17, P. T. Coolican, the Assistant Deputy Postmaster General told Cantley that the stamp was well and truly "on the stocks". In this letter full acknowledgment was made of the fact that philatelists and not public opinion in general had forced the Post Office into issuing the stamp.

This was only the end of the preliminary round of the problems the Post Office faced with this issue. An unauthorized announcement of the imminent release of the stamp, was traced to Cantley and for which he subsequently apologized. On June 21 a short memorandum was written noting that a problem existed, not with the frame of the stamp, but with the central vignette.



Plaque placed in Ottawa's Parliament Buildings



Two versions of the ship: a painting by Skillett showing it moored in the Thames — and a proof of an incomplete die of what turned out to be the wrong Royal William, one built later in 1837.

This was spelled out in detail three days later by A. S. Deaville, the chief of the philatelic section of the postage stamp division. He stunned his superiors by informing them that the model from which the die was even then being engraved was not of the correct ship! His own words best describe the muddle:

"The engraving of the stamp was started, and the design authorized by the Postmaster General, bearing a photographic reproduction of the painting of the S.S. *Royal William* as contained in the old Parliament Building, burned in 1917.

This picture was used a few years ago by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, in sending out greeting cards bearing a reproduction of this steam ship, as represented by the picture in question, and taken to be a picture of the first steam ship which crossed the Atlantic.

When we decided to issue a postage stamp representing the *Royal William* this

picture was chosen to be reproduced for that purpose.

On going to the archives to obtain further information on the picture, an official of the British American Bank Note Co. found that the action taken was in connection with a picture which did not have anything to do with the original *Royal William*. It was found that the picture . . . was that of a steam ship of the same name, built in 1838 after the name of the *Royal William* had been struck off the British registry."

The picture of the 1838 *Royal William* was a print of a painting by the artist, S. Walters.

To their credit nobody panicked, and all got down to preparing a second die using the correct model. On the same day the Bank Note Company's vice-president, while drawing attention to the fact this model was "very crude", assured the Post Office that his company could still "prepare a nice engraving of the subject and one that will be satisfactory to the government."

Eventually BABNC produced a stamp that was a reasonable synthesis of the two pictures available — a contemporary artist's painting by Skillett of the *Royal William* — as she looked sailing up the Thames in September 1833, and the incorrect picture. The ship was taken from one, and the sky and the background — showing the ship at sea — from the other.

The result, whilst not as polished as the superb *Bluenose* stamp, was attractive. In fact, the Post Office never received any criticism of the esthetics of the stamp, possibly the only part of the whole business from which it escaped unscathed.

The next problem facing the Post Office was when to release the stamp (nothing was easy about this issue). There were two choices: the 17th or the 18th of August, 1933. The ship had indeed sailed from Picou on August 18 — but she had been cleared by customs to sail the day before. Historians could (and did) make rational claims for either day. Finally, after consultation with Cantley, it was decided to conform to whatever program *Pictonians* had established for their celebration of the anniversary. Thus it was that the stamp ultimately appeared on August 17. This decision was taken after the official announcement of the date of issue of the stamp, and necessitated an official amendment a few

(continued on page 138)



Rounding Up Squared Circles

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

Column No. 134 — The listings of earliest and latest recorded dates continues; time marks are shown in parentheses, following dates; and then I list years during the earliest-latest period for which I have no strikes recorded (NSR). Please review the listings and let me know of changes which need be made.

BAIE-VERTE, N.B., SP 4/93 to OC 18/11 (Blank) NSR: 95-97, 99, 01-02, 04-07, 09.

BUTTERNUT RIDGE, N.B., NO 9/93 to JA 19/97 (Blank).

CLIFTON, N.B., JY 8/93 to AP 11/98 (Blank) NSR: 95.

FREDERICTON, N.B., JA 19/94 to AU 28/98 (AM, PM).

INDIANTOWN, N.B., SP 20/94 to MY 1/11 (Blank, AM PM) NSR: 95-96, 98-00, 02-07.

NEWCASTLE CREEK, N.B., AU 17/93 to MY 12/06 (Blank) NSR: 00-03, 05.

PETITCODIAC, N.B., NO 1/93 to AU 1/96 (Blank).

RIVER LOUISON, N.B., JA 20/94 to MR 23/13 (Blank) NSR: 98-99, 01-02, 04-05, 08, 11. In 1913, '19' in upper slot, '13' in lower slot.

ROTHESAY, N.B., Period 1—AU 4/93 to NO 8/00 (Blank). Period 2—AP 30/08 to OC 1/09 (Blank). NSR: Period 1—94, 95, 96.

SACKVILLE, N.B., FE 15/94 to JA 22/03 (Blank). NSR: 96, 97, 01, 02.

ST. JOHN, Hammer I, MR 30/95 to NO 3/96 (AM, PM, 1).

ST. JOHN, Hammer II, NO 4/96 to OC 22/97 (AM, PM 1, 2, Blank, MR).

ST. JOHN, Hammer III, OC 23/97 to DE 28/98 (AM, PM, 2, Blank).

SHEDIAC, N.B., NO 14/94 to AU 8/03 (Blank). NSR: 95, 96, 98, 01, 02.

WOODSTOCK, N.B., AU 30/94 to JA 30/01 (Blank).

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I., Period 1—SP 8/93 to AU 19/98. Period 2—JU 13/00 (isolated revival?). Time marks: AM, PM, 1, 2, 3, 5, 0, Blank; and 2, 5, and 7—all inverted.

GEORGETOWN, P.E.I., DE 1/94 to AP 30/03 (Blank). NSR: 95, 96, 98, 99, 02.

SUMMERSIDE, PEI, NO 14/93 to FE 24/00 (Blank). NSR: 94.

ACTON VALE, QUE., JA 11/95 to AU 24/99 (Blank). NSR: 96, 97.

AYLMER (EAST), QUE., OC 3/94 to AU 19/03 (Blank). NSR: 95, 96, 98, 99, 01.

CLARENCEVILLE, QUE., JA 29/95 to SP 22/00 (Blank). NSR: 97, 98.

DANVILLE, QUE., DE 7/93 to FE 5/14 (Blank) NSR: 94-97, 99-02, 05-06, 12-13.

EASTMAN, QUE., OC 17/93 to FE 15/03 (Blank). NSR: 94, 95, 98, 00.

FARNHAM, QUE., JA 6/95 to MR 20/01 (Blank). NSR: 96, 99, 00. Nude strikes known.

GRANBY, QUE., MR 5/97 to OC 17/99 (Blank).

HULL, Hammer I, DE 2/93 to JA 30/95 (Blank).

HULL, Hammer II, FE 1/95 to AU 22/97 (Blank).

IBERVILLE, QUE., JA 13/94 to JY 7/14 (Blank). NSR: 95, 98, 00-07.

LAURENTIDES, QUE., FE 1/94 to SP 9/18 (Blank). NSR: 95, 96, 98, 01-06, 09-12, 14, 16.

LENNOXVILLE, QUE., MR 12/94 to JU 19/94 (Blank).

LEVIS, QUE., FE 23/94 to NO23/10 (Blank). NSR: 96-99, 08.

LOTBINIERE, QUE., SP 13/93 to MR 7/01 (Blank). NSR: 94, 97, 99.

MAGOG, QUE., MR 3/94 to MY 1/99 (Blank). NSR: 95, 96.

MATANE, QUE., AU 7/93 to AU 22/93 (3-line date).

MELBOURNE, QUE., FE 12/94 to MR 3/17 (Blank). NSR: 95, 96, 00-03, 07, 09-11, 14-16.

MONTREAL, Hammer I, JY 15/93 to JA 5/03 (Blank, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, inverted 5).

MONTREAL, Hammer II, 3/JA 16/PM (I believe most of reported examples are erroneous identification; please check carefully, reporting date and time mark).

MONTREAL-BELLE-RIVE, AU 17/93 to JU 11/96 (Blank, 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, and 18).

MONTREAL-HOCHELAGA, AP 23/94 to AU 7/94 (Blank).

(continued on page 144)



The RPO Cowcatcher

Lewis M. Ludlow, P.O. Box No. 135, South San Francisco, CA 94080

We are pleased to report that the response for our new revised catalogue has been quite splendid and it has prompted a flow of correspondence regarding new runs and new information which, of course, is just what it was intended to do. Shaw has been most generous with his kind comments; this is particularly gratifying since it is his work that we have edited and revised.

Gillam, in England, has also been very complimentary, adding further that we quite surprised him with this timely and overdue publication and that we probably had not printed sufficient quantity to supply prospective demand. He may be right. In the first two months, about 25 per cent of the printing has already been distributed. Repeating our previous notice, copies of the revised catalogue are available from this columnist for U.S. \$6 postage prepaid in North America; add 50c for overseas mailings.

We have been asked why we have not indicated indicia entries such as T1N, T2S, W.2, etc.; the answer is simply that we were conserving space. These combination indicia have been handled by entering the N, S, W, etc. under "DIRECTION" while the

1, 2, etc. appear in the appropriate "Train Number" section. It has been suggested that we should clarify a semantic point.

In this column, our use of the word "run" is meant to apply to a single entry covered by one Shaw number, and is not meant to apply to all entries covering two points, such as Montreal & Toronto; while perhaps the latter is technically correct, prior common usage supports our application of the word "run". Other points of the book that have elicited favorable comment are the horizontal format, the large area given to the Route, and the availability of space between runs where new additions can be entered.

The revised catalogue has reawakened the dormant interest of some of our older collectors and has created an interest for some newer members of the RPO Study Group of BNAPS. The following new runs, not previously reported, should all be added to the revised catalogue; it should also be noted that our two newest reporters are George MacManus — 143 and Douglas Birchill — 144:

NEW RUNS: NOT PREVIOUSLY RECORDED

Shaw No.	Route	Type	Direct'n	Period	R.F.	Reported by
M-37B	—TRAIN No./Halifax & Camp. R.P.O.	51	200	129	200	143, 107A
D-1A	—Cancel and remove from list; not a railroad depot; see below.					
M-60A	—Halifax & Sydney R.P.O./DAY	5B	5	129	200	143
M-85A	—MONCTON & QUEBEC/M.C./W	21D	E	51	200	137
Q-120B	—MONT. & N'TH BAY R.P.O./J. M. EDWARDS	21B	502	246	170	144, 101
O-160C	LON. & SOUTH/C. C. PLANTE (See next section below for changes to O-160A)	5H	178	268	150	Facing Slip (16)
O-339B	—G. H. ALLEN/TOR. GOD.	221	639	135	150	144
W-87W	—M. JAW & CAL. R.P.O./?	4?		268	170	137
W-138L	—Sask. & Drum./C. R. Ledingham	1E	10	no date	150	Facing Slip (16)
W-145H	—Sask.—P.A. R.P.O./E. Deschênes	17J	8	301	150	Facing Slip (16)
W-182B	—WPG. & ESTEVAN R.P.O./J. G. NORRIS, MAIL CLERK	1F	EAST	7??	200	Facing Slip (4)
R-7A	—B. & L.H. R.P.O./	5G		8	200	16
R-19E	—Carried by Canadian National Railway/ Toronto to Ottawa	22B		135	150	144
R-29M	—CANADIAN PACIFIC/RAILWAY/C. G. MILLARD/ AGENT/Coldwater, Ont.	1J		135	200	144

For W-145H above, it should be noted that there is no conflict with W-145A, for which the clerk's name is R. DECHENE and which has been corrected below. We have strikes of both of these and they are distinctly different.

One of the significant developments resulting from the revised catalogue is the

recognition that numerous errors have occurred in previous reporting into Mr. Shaw;

while many of these have been corrected, others have carried forward to the new publication. A small few of these current errors are typographical, but most are from errors in the original reports. Our job now

is to correct those that exist and further to prevent them from occurring in new reports. The following are corrections to the new revised catalogue:

CORRECTIONS TO NEW REVISED CATALOGUE

Shaw No. Correction

- N-75—Change to Type 5B; by 16.
N-76—Change AUX to AU, T.P.O./NF. to T.P.O. NF./ and change Type to Type 5. By 144.
M-45C—Under Reporter, delete Facing Slip and add 10; Shaw has same on cover.
M-73—Cancel and delist; this was incorrectly reported from a town cancel; by 10, 4, 16.
Q-133B—Change L.T.D. to J.T.D.; by 16.
O-160A—Change "&" to "—" , cancel PLANTE, and extend Period to 284; see new run O-160C above; by 16.
O-186C—Postal use confirmed by 138; Belanger has same on cover.
O-192B—Cancel and delist; established to have been O-192; by 10.
O-338I—Change to all upper case letters; run reads T-FT. WM./B. SORGESS; by 16.
W-28C—Change to Type 4K; by 10.
W-28D—Cancel and delist; by 10, 16. For alternatives see W-28F and W-28I.
W-43K—Cancel and delist; by 10, 16. For alternatives see W-43F and W-43I.
W-83G—Change to Type 22H; by 16.
W-91J—Change to Type 7B, run, all upper case, reads MOOSE JAW-SHAUNAVON/S. RIVERS by 16, 10B.
W-91K—Change to Type 17P, run reads M. JAW & SHAUN, R.P.O./H. A. Miles; by 16, 103.
W-100M—Change to all upper case letters; N. BATT. & ED. R.P.O./D. WARKENTIN; by 16, 103.
W-116I—Change to all upper case letters; N. BATT. & ED. R.P.O./D. WARKENTIN; by 16, 103.
W-138D—Cancel C. R. Ledingham; see new run above W-138L; by 16.
W-140D—Change to all lower case letters; Sask. & Eston/C. R. Ledingham.
W-141B—Cancel E. J. VICK; leave H. R. L. PARRY.
W-141I—Add E. J. VICK.
W-145A—Change E. DECHENES to R. DECHENE; see new run W-145H above; by 16.
W-146S—Change to Type 7B and read as follows—Saskatoon Division/E. J. PRICE; by 16, 103.
W-153I—Cancel and delist; by 10, 16. See R-158, A, B, and C alternatives.
W-155A—Change N. ATTREE to H. ATTREE.
W-166B—after VADSO, add/VICTORIA & VANCOUVER; by 10.
R-35B—Add S.S. UNGAVA.
R-81—Change MA. to MAN.
R-113C—Change to read Quebec Central Ry./M.C.; by 10. Shaw has two strikes on cover.
R-156—Change SOURIC to SOURIS.

Q-264-266 are cross-border runs on Canadian stamps, while W-133A and C, as well as W-154B, are American RPOs on Canadian stamps; we hope our readers can report other such examples. Max Rosenthal writes to advise that D-1A, BELLEVILLE STATION is not a proper depot, but rather a sub-station, and per his authority on this area, we have cancelled this listing. Shaw questions the existence of O-334, believing this to be O-335B and we would appreciate hearing from our readers on anything they can contribute to this question.

For Maritime runs previously reported in the column, the following is new information:

- M-3—Postal use on September 8, 1880 confirmed by Jim Lehr, 137; add Direction EAST.
M-29B, Hammer I, Postal use on December 28, 1948 confirmed by Lehr, 137; add Train 2.
M-32, Hammer II, Earliest—June 8, 1887, by Shaw, 10.
M-32, Hammer IV, Latest—April 5, 1897, by Shaw, 10.
M-35, Hammer V, Indicia—Train 285 in 1961, by Robinson.

We now go back and fully report on two new discoveries that have been found in

the Maritime Section within those runs on which we have already reported.

M-6A CAMPBELLTON & LEVIS EXPRESS R.P.O./J. A. DIONNE

One Hammer, Type 21B

- Proofed: September 23, 1915, Hammer V, M-6
Earliest: November 7, 1915
Indicia: 34 only
Usage: Only one copy known
R.F.: 200
Comments: Still another J. A. DIONNE external addition has just been discovered by F. Belanger, 138, of Montreal and to him we express our thanks for the hammer identification involved.

M-37B TRAIN No./Halifax & Camp. R.P.O.

One Hammer, Type 51

- Proofed: March 17, 1919
Earliest: September 11, 1919
Indicia: 200 only
Usage: One known copy
R.F.: 200
Comments: We are delighted to relist this run which we had previously delisted. This rubber hammer strike was previously reported by Steinhart only from the proof books; now, George MacManus, 143, has sent us a cover with three backstamp strikes as above. Although there may have been as many as six rubber stamp hammers issued on the above proof date, being of flexible dimension we have made no attempt at differentiation.



Semi-Official Airmails

Houghton E. Sanguinetti, 591 Mediterranean Manor, Dunedin, Fla., USA 33528

Laurentide Air Service

In at least one sheet of the fourth issue of stamps from this airline—the red, perforated sheet—the perforation combs are not the same distance apart. In this sheet the margin, which normally bears the plate number, is missing. On it, the stamps in row one measure 35 mm from top to bottom, those in rows two, three and four measure 40 mm, and those in row five measure 45 mm. These stamps all measure the same distance apart horizontally; only the vertical distance varies.

Covers bearing Laurentide Air Service stamps, and cancelled with a three-line cachet reading "Trans-Canada Flight—1925—Vancouver-Montreal" within a double-lined rectangular frame, were prepared for a projected flight that never materialized.

The company had leased its aircraft, a Viking G-CAEB, to a U.S. mining syndicate for exploration work in British Columbia and the Yukon. When the work was completed, Laurentide had plans to fly the plane back to Montreal with special mail. Authorization for the carriage of mail was not forthcoming from the postal authorities and the plane was dismantled and shipped back by rail instead.

Handbook Study

Trelle Morrow, chairman of the study group working on a definitive handbook on Canadian Semi-Official air stamps, says his group is a long way from its goal. The



A rare sheet of eight Patricias with a misplaced row of perms— from John Young's collection.

reason is simple: there is insufficient information on several companies. The group needs authoritative data on the Fairchild Companies, British Columbia Airways, Northern Airways and Western Canada Airways—history, financial backers, dates on which routes were laid out, designers and printers of the stamps, and dates of approval by postal authorities. Please send anything you may have to Trelle Morrow or to me.

TOPICS: THE NEWSFRONT

With just a scattered handful of BNAPSers in Texas in 1968, Mickey and Ed Richardson had to go it alone as hosts of the 1968 BNAPEX. Things have changed a great deal since then; 11 new members have

joined in the past two years.

The first and second annual luncheon meetings were held in 1973 and 1974 in connection with the Houston show. During the past eight months the group has held

informal meetings during visits of such BNAPSers as Bill Rockett and Jim Lehr, both members of the Board of Governors, and Leo LaFrance, Treasurer and now Vice-President. As many as a dozen have attended some of these sessions.

On May 3rd the Cowboys and Cowgals will hold their third annual uncheon, in conjunction with the Mid-Cities Stamp Show at Arlington, Texas. There will be a luncheon and seminar. The group is also sponsoring a special award for the best BNA exhibit in the show, and Mid-Cities are providing a special classification in their show.

For further information on the activities of this group contact Jeff Switt, 3962 Bel-ford Ave., Fort Worth, Tex. 76103.

In a previous *Topics*, (August 1974) we somehow managed to omit the name of Graham Noble from the list of officers of the Postal History Society of Ontario. Noble is not only a director but serves as editor of their excellent journal *The Postal History*.

In the current issue he has written an editorial on the pitfalls many collectors unwittingly encounter when writing about or displaying material on postal history. Noble's stress on the socio-economic aspects which underlie the creation of a post office in a community is, to say the least, thought-provoking—and one which merits careful study and consideration. Anything which improves the quality of philatelic writing or material shown in exhibition has our endorsement.

At the Stampex show, held in Toronto April 25 to 27, many members showed material and won awards. It would be hard to pick out any one showing of BNA, as all exhibits were of an exceptionally high standard, but it was nice to see that Allan Steinhart's fine collection of the Medallion issue held more than its own against 19th century material. Art Leggett's Large Queens in the Court of Honor capped an impressive exhibition. Our congratulations go out to the organizers for what has become a top event, and to member-exhibitors go our thanks for an enjoyable three days.

From George Wegg comes this information about BNAPS 1975, being held in Toronto from September 18 to 20 this year.

With the mailing of this issue of *Topics*, (May) the BNAPEX committee expects to include hotel reservations, entry blank and rules for the exhibition, and perhaps some

tourist material from the province.

The following schedule of seminars has been set up and confirmed by Ed Richardson and Jim Pike:

Thursday:

- 11:00 a.m. — Transportation
- 2:00 p.m. — Revenues
- 3:30 p.m. — Territorial

Friday:

- 9:00 a.m. — Board of Governors
- 2:00 p.m. — Flag Cancels
- 3:30 p.m. — 4-ring and 2-ring

Saturday:

- 9:00 a.m. — Annual Meeting
- 2:00 p.m. — King Edward

Post Office Department **NEW ISSUES**



On May 15 Canada Post will issue two 8c stamps, printed se-tenant on single sheets. The stamps honor two famed Canadian authors, Lucy Maud Montgomery, creator of Anne of Green Gables, and Louis Hémon, the author of Maria Chapdelaine, a devout Quebec girl.

The last stamp was not originally scheduled; it was to have paid homage to poet

Robert Service instead, but a substitution seems to have been made for political reasons at the last minute.

The Montgomery commemorative shows a painting of Anne as depicted by Peter Swann. The Hemon stamp features a painting by Clarence Gagnon, showing the girl Marie Chapdelaine.

Both stamps measure 30 x 36 mm in a vertical format. A total of 26 million will be issued in six-color lithography by Ashton Potter of Toronto. There are the usual marginal inscriptions, in four corners of each 50-stamp sheet. All are general tagged.

First day covers for the Montgomery stamp will take place in Cavendish, PEI, and for the Hemon stamp in Montreal.



On May 30 four additional stamps will appear: Marguerite Bourgeoys, Alphonse Desjardins, Samuel Chown and John Cook. Bourgeoys (1620-1700) arrived in Montreal in 1653 from her native France and opened that city's first school, Congregation de Notre-Dame—with the support of King Louis XIV of France.

Alphonse Desjardins (1854-1920) was a journalist and Hansard reporter who, shocked by tales of loan-sharking in Can-

ada, set up the first credit union in North America at Levis, Quebec.

The other two show church notables; Chown was a prohibitionist at the turn of the century and later was largely responsible for the Methodists, Congregationalists and some Presbyterians forming the United Church of Canada.

John Cook arrived in Canada in 1836 and became minister of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Quebec City, a post he held for 47 years. Proper education was one of his foremost concerns.

The first two stamps measure 30 x 36 mm, the others 30 x 48 mm. The first two are printed on separate sheets by Ashton Potter; the others are se-tenant and printed by British American Bank Note. Quantities are 12 and 14 million for the first two, and 16 million for the church leaders. All are in sheets of 50 stamps, with the usual marginal inscriptions and general tagging. First day covers are from Ottawa, with the exception of Alphonse Desjardins, which is stamped with a Levis, P.Q. dater.



TOPICS: THE BUSINESS SIDE

BNAPS: ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	James A. Pike, 5805 Balsam St., Apt. 801, Vancouver, B.C.
PAST PRESIDENT	Alfred P. Cook, Coy Glen Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
VICE-PRESIDENT	Leo J. LaFrance, Box 229, Ossining, New York 10562
SECRETARY	Edward J. Whiting, 25 Kings Circle, Malvern, Pa. 19355
TREASURER	Edmund A. Harris, 620—75 Avenue N.W., Calgary, Alta. T2K 0P9
BOARD OF GOVERNORS	Nine sitting; three elected each year for a three-year term: 1973-1975: Ed Richardson, Wilmer C. Rockett, S. S. Kenyon 1974-1976: James C. Lehr, E. H. Hausmann, Robert H. Pratt 1975-1977: G. B. Llewellyn (chairman), C. R. McNeil, D. G. Rosenblat

(FOR OTHER OFFICERS, SEE MASTHEAD ON INDEX PAGE)

NOMINATIONS: BOARD OF GOVERNORS
1976-1978 TERM

In order to remind members that nominations are in order for the Board of Governors 1976-78 term, we are publishing the following extract from the by-laws:

Article IV, Sec. 3: Nominations may be filed with the secretary of any regional group, or by any five members in good standing, at any time provided they arrive in time to be published in Topics 90 days before the annual convention.

THIS IS THE FINAL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

From the Secretary

EDWARD J. WHITING
Malvern, Pa.

New Members

- 3284 Lauer, Edward W., 1111 Michigan Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104
3285 MacManus, George E., 12 Aurora Cr., Ottawa, Ont. K2G 0Z7
3290 Palochik, A. M., 93 Smirle Ave., Ottawa, Ont. K1V 0S4

Applications Pending — "A" Group

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

- Abraham M., Box 724, Esterhazy, Sask. S0A 0X0
Basque, Denis, P.O. Box 471, Petit-Rocher, N.B.
Brahm, Harry C., 1468 Madison Ave., Memphis, TN 38104
Babin, Rene C., 1791 Avenue Bergemont, No. 4, Quebec, Que. G1J 3T1
Bucklin, Hollie A. Jr., 30 East St., Ipswich, MA 09138
Carver, J., 60 Meadowvale Rd., Toronto, Ont. M8Z 5V1
Chapman, Paul M., Box 472, Downsview, Ont.
Cherns, Larry J., Apt. 308, 500 Queen St., Dunnville, Ont. N1A 1J4
Cirelli, Pasquale, 5231—37th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98118
Collier, George W., 210 S. Main St., Donna, TX 78537
Comeau, Robert, R.R. 4, New Germany, Lunenburg County, N.S. B0R 1E0
Cox, Richard, 40 Thorncliffe Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4K 1V5
Crain, E. R., Box 8, Bragg Creek, Alta T0L 0K0
Csucs, Alexander, 2379 Lakeshore Rd., R.R. 1, Bright's Grove, Ont. N0N 1C0
Deem, Calvin K., P.O. Box Mogadore, OH 44260
Dixon, David C., 2036 Duncan Rd., Oakville, Ont.
Drozd, Victor B., Box 3926, Tryon TX 77801
Elliott, Keith S., 34012 Oxford Ave., Abbotsford, B.C.
Feather, John, Stayner, Ont. L0M 1S0
Fekete, Imre L., 140 Elmridge Dr., No. 1223, Toronto, Ont. M6B 1B1
Fevens, Gordon, P.O. Box 1510, Schefferville, Que. G0G 2T0
Gagen, T. Gary, 1750—11th Ave., Prince George, B.C.
Gilmore, Jack A., 70 S. Parkwood Ave., Pasadena, CA 91107
Goldstein, E. M., 1545 Alta Vista Dr., No. 304B, Ottawa, Ont. K1G 3P4
Gordon, D. J., No. 55 Wellington Woods, 252 Stone Rd. W., Guelph, Ont. N1G 2V7
Greer, Jimmie L., 811 S. Richardson Ave., Columbus, OH 43204
Harding, David, 10 Carriere Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R2M 0A3
Holtz, Andrew G., 4512 Papineau St., Montreal, Que.
Jacobson, Charlie, Sittner Hall, WWC, College Place, WA 99324
Jensen, Erik R., P.O. Box 5833, Concord, CA 94524
Jenkins, Sydney S., 704—188 Roslyn Rd., Winnipeg, Man. R3L 0G8
Kost, Harold, 9170 Sheridan Dr., Clarence, NY 14031
Kowalkowski, Thomas E., 4573 S. 23rd St., Apt. No. 3, Milwaukee, WI 53221
Labiuk, Eugene M., 8 Cobourg Ave., Toronto, Ont. M6H 1H8
Lafontaine, Jean, 262 Joseph Huet, Boucherville, Que. J4B 2C3
MacDonald, Kenneth C., 138A Coronation Ave., Halifax, N.S.
McClain, Robert D., P.O. Box 1631, Sioux City, IA 51102
McDonald, Arthur, 2 Richards Dr., Dartmouth, N.S.
Merrill, A. Dean, 796 Regent Park Dr., San Jose, CA 95123
Munsart, Herbert, 36 Wildwood Rd., Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07675
Muttera, William H., 1672 Carriage Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94598
Ney, Andre, 21-D Callingwood Ct., Edmonton, Alta. T5T 0H5
O'Brien, Richard A., 2227—10th Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102
Pentleton, Frances J., 6943 Gallery Way, Sacramento, CA 95831
Peters, George H. Jr., P.O. Box 741, Audubon, NJ 08106
Reid, Suzanne (Mrs. George), 670 Parliament St., No. 1112, Toronto, Ont. M4X 1R4
Richardson, John F., 2866 Salmo Ct., Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1N7
Russell, F. H., 103—6055 Balsam St., Vancouver, B.C. V6M 4C2
Sessions, David F., 56 Hoyle Court Rd., Baildon, Shipley, Yorkshire, England

Spencer, P. T., 20 Carabob Ct., Apt. 208, Agincourt, Ont. MIT 3N1
Stokl, Frank Paul, 22 Organ Cr., Hamilton, Ont. L8T 1Y6
Tay, P. H., 6E Lion Towers, Essex Road, Singapore 1, Republic of Singapore
Trimmer, V. R., 8620 E. Windsor Ave., Scottsdale, AZ 85257
Turkin, H., 681 Main St., Bldg. 1A, Belleville, NJ 07109
Veith, Gordon A., P.O. Box 51011, New Orleans, LA 70150
Welch, James R., 58 Beechmont Cr., Ottawa, Ont. K1B 4A8
Witt, E. H. Jr., 3877 Chain Bridge Rd., Fairfax, VA 22030
Woodward, Ted, 5249 H St., San Bernardino, CA 92407
Wright, William L., 2724 Doris Ct., Carmichael, CA 95608

Applications Pending — "B" Group

Arthurs, Lawrence D., 2140 Palisprior Rd. S.W., Calgary, Alta.
Brownstein, Herman, P.O. Box 518, St. Jovite, Que. J0T 2H0
Bustin, Robin, Box 18, Hebron, N.S. B0W 1X0
Cowan, Ian McTaggart, 2088 Acadia Rd., Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1R5
Dalpe, Jean-Guy, 684 Le Laboureur, Boucherville, Que. J4B 3S2
Dresser, George B., 501 Fairview Ave., College Station, TX 77840
Elkington, Peter J., 23552 Pine St., Newhall, CA 91231
Gschwendner, Joseph G., 5231 Sundown Dr., Fayetteville, NC 28303
Hennessey, Brian, 5171 S. Logan St., Littleton, CO 80121
Hill, Desmond R., 8 Roanoke Rd., Apt. 201, Don Mills, Ont. M3A 1E6
Kimmerly, Ian, 103 James St., Ottawa, Ont.
Knightly, Carl W. Jr., 19 Robinson Ct., N. Andover, MA 01845
Kosztandy, Andrew, 299 Queen St. W., Toronto, Ont.
Marriott, Richard, 7917 Nottingham Way, Ellicott City, MD 21043
McGee, James P., 727 Lasnier Ave., St. Jean, Que. J3B 4W4
Miller, James E., Box 860, Cariboo College, Kamloops, B.C. V2C 5N3
Miller, W. Barry, 300 Maple St., Fredericton, N.B. E3A 3R2
Moore, J. Sherrold, 40 St. Georges Cr., Edmonton, Alta. T5N 3M7
Moreau, Pierre G., 371 Britannia Rd., Ottawa, Ont. K2B 5X9
Morris, Charles, P.O. Box 35040, Jamaica, NY 11435
Parker, Mrs. Margaret T., R.R. 2, Utterson, Ont. P0B 1M0
Roling, Paul V., 1889 Willow, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
Troop, Andrew J., 67 Toynbee Tr., Scarborough, Ont. M1E 1G1
Vanden Boom, Vi, P.O. Box 27538, Houston, TX 77027
Warm, Harvey R., 301 E. 47th St., New York, NY 10017
Yow, Lee R., 1332 Sherbrooke Ave., Kamloops, B.C.

Application for Life Membership

2863 Ramsay, David James, 25 Fielding Cr., Hamilton, Ont. L8V 2P3

Applications for Membership

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

ADEY, K. J., 138 Ferndale Ave., St. Boniface, Man. R2H 1V3 (C) BNA. Proposed by E. J. Whiting (L61).
MADDISON, Harry W. J., 10203—134 St., Edmonton, Alta. T5N 2A6 (C) CAN, NFLD, YUKON.
Revenues. Proposed by Jon R. Whitrock (3011), seconded by E. J. Whiting (L-61).
MURPHY, William J., 4119 Pecos, Wichita Falls, TX 76305 (Cxc) CAN, Postage mint and used, blocks
mint and used, 1st day covers, plate blocks, coils, OHMS-G, mint and used booklet panes, general
varieties of Canada; Specialty: Queen Elizabeth on Canada. Proposed by E. A. Richardson (168),
seconded by J. A. Switt (2511).
POORE, Rev. Elwood S. ("Woody"), 212 Live Oak St., Jacksboro, TX 76056 (C) CAN. Postage mint and
used; 1st flight covers; federal, provincial and tax-paid revenues. Proposed by E. A. Richardson (168),
seconded by J. A. Switt (2511).
ROBERTS, Wilf, P.O. Box 856 (238A Foster Ave.), Belleville, Ont. K8N 5B5 (Dxc) CAN, NFLD, B.C.,
N.B., N.S., P.E.I., Vancouver Is. Postage mint and used, blocks mint, 19 and 20 cent. Pre-stamp
and 1st day covers. Plate blocks, coils, OHMS-G, mint booklet panes and complete booklets. Airmail
and semi-official airmint and used and on cover. Literature. Flag and squared circle cancellations.
All Canadian varieties. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
SHIVELY, Frank L., Jr., M.D., 415 Far Hills Ave., Dayton, OH 45409 (C) CAN plate blocks, federal
and provincial revenues. Proposed by E. S. J. van Dam (2709).
ZAGE, George R., Jr., DDS, 112 S. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068 (C) CAN, NFLD, all
Provs. Postage mint and used, 19 and 20 cent, 1st day covers, coils, OHMS-G, mint booklet panes
and complete booklets. Revenues, federal, provincial and tax-paid. Airmails, mint, semi-official,
on cover. Literature. Proposed by E. J. Whiting (L-61).

Mail Returned

(Information to correct address will be appreciated)

2498 J. A. Gray, 15 Montvale Drive, Scarboro, Ontario M1M 3E5
2930 Roger J. E. Higgs, 10 Mandel Crescent, Willowdale, Ontario
2469 Albert Horovenko, 1005 Strathmore Street, Windsor, Ontario N9C 3N2
2796 Roy Harvey Mathis, 106 Nelson Street, Kingston, Ontario K7L 3B5

Resignations Received

125 Solomon, Richard S., 1161 Latchwood Dr., Dayton, OH 45420
970 Livingstone, Elizabeth M., 14400 Glastonbury Rd., Detroit, MI 48223
1056 Rosenthal, Harry, 1909 Singing Wind Dr., Kerrville, TX 78028
1908 Petersen, Jeannette M., 2924 S.W. Huber, Portland, OR 97219
2096 Stuart, Christopher, Jr., 208 S. Loudoun St., Winchester, VA 22601

- 2154 Endres, Raymond E., P.O. Box 975, Effingham, IL 62401
 2155 Gordon, Arthur, M.D., 35-28 63rd St., Woodside, NY 11377
 2214 Rauch, Hilary J., 3520 John Carroll Dr., Olney, MD 20832
 2634 Anderson, W. L., M.D., 331 Sheddton Ave., Oakville, Ont. L6J 1X8
 2828 Gibbs, Charles F., Jr., 1405 Woodglan La., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013
 3030 Thompson, D. H., 11228 Braniff Green S.W., Calgary, Alta. T2W 1S1
 3101 Bissett, R., DDS, 43 Pine Glen Rd., Riverview, N.B.
 3116 Steele, S. Cedric, 2071 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver, B.C.

Resignations Accepted

- 22 Westren, J. Harvey, 33 Glenrose Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4T 1K3

Deceased

- 144 DeLisle, Ivan J., 1891 University Ave. W., Windsor, Ont. N9B 1C7
 188 Morris, Thomas F., 19 West Dr., Larchmont, NY 10538
 317 Day, Lloyd R., 22 Lorne St., Huntsville, Ont. P0A 1K0
 1333 Davidson, John G., 207 Harrison Ave., Christiana, PA 17509
 2206 de Laroque, E. W., 1050 Richardson St., No. 110, Victoria, B.C. V5V 3C5
 3145 Miessler, Rev. Herbert S., 17220 Country La., E. Hazelcrest, Ill.

Changes of Address

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

- 2964 Adilman, Paul L., Box 6060, Wetaskiwin, Alta. T9A 0S5
 2060 Angley, William P., P.O. Box 194, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1B2
 2688 Anthes, Leonard J., Apt. 7F, 1521 LeMarchant St., Halifax, N.S.
 3085 Beatty, Walter, R.R. 2, Granton, Ont. N0M 1V0
 2047 Beaver, James E., 8811 S. Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA 98499
 3016 Birkenhead, Michael, c/o Harza Engineering Co. International, 66 Avenue Hafez, corner Takhte Jamshid, Tehran, Iran
 2082 Black, C. F., 30 Charlotte Dr., Charlottetown, P.E.I.
 2731 Brakefield-Moore, Robert S., 25-129 Lenore St., Winnipeg, Man. R3G 2C2
 2941 Carmichael, Vance Wynne, 104 Riverdale Dr., Stoney Creek, Ont. L8E 1K4
 2788 Chlanda, Henry, P.O. Box 637, Wall St. Sta., New York, NY 10005
 2766 Clark, Alexander M., MD, Pubnico, Yarmouth, N.S. B0W 2W0
 2245 Daneluk, R. W., Box 6969, Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 4K5
 1756 Day, W. H., Box 8, Galiano Island, B.C. V0N 1P0
 3126 Douglass, Peter, 9 Limardo Dr., Dartmouth, N.S. B3A 3X2
 2915 Dowsley, Neil Frederick, 47 Rivers Dr., Trenton, Ont. K8V 1B9
 3190 Cosco, S. D., 3712 W. 23 Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6S 1K7
 2410 Eacret, Bonnie G., 419 Rincon St., Sunnyvale, CA 94086
 2664 Firby, Charles G., P.O. Box 208, Southfield, MI 48075
 548 Funk, Boyd D. P., 87 Erie St., Tiffin, OH 44883
 1885 Gage, Alexander D., 23N Altadria Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107
 579 Gaylord, S. B., P.O. Box 3453, Darien, CT 06820
 2067 Gibson, Keith M., 206 Briarhill Dr., Mississauga, Ont. L5G 2N2
 2647 Gieruszczak, Thad E., 57 Doonaree Dr., Don Mills, Ont. M3A 1M5
 1274 Hadley, Fred, 13768 Marine Dr., White Rock, B.C. V4B 1A4
 2612 Harris, Peter H., 10 Whitton Close, Lowestoft, Suffolk, England NR33 9RG
 1557 Harriss, Mrs. Joan E., Box 40, Sydney, N.S. B1P 6G9
 2086 Harwood, Robert L., 1103 St. Matthew St., Montreal, Que.
 1402 Hollands, Hedley J., 581 Louis Cousineau, Aylmer, Que.
 2598 Kaalainien, E. Y., P.O. Box 695, Greenwood, Kings Co., N.S. B0P 1N0
 1196 Knox, Stewart I., P.O. Box 2674, Thunder Bay, Ont. P7B 5G2
 1387 Koepfel, Adolph, 134 Soundview Dr., Lake Success, NY 11040
 1255 Lamb, Richard M., Box 573, Kitchener, Ont. N2G 4A2
 516 Law, James, 90 Huxley St., Apt. 304, London, Ont. N6J 2X8
 2833 Machin, Frank R., 1833 San Juan Ave., Victoria, B.C. V8N 2J1
 3109 Mayo, LCDR. George, A de C., Box 41C, R.R. 1, Portugal Cove, Nfld.
 1036 McLellan, Hubert M., 2206 E. Crescent Dr., Seattle, WA 98112
 2821 Miess, Robert B., 19 Speid St., Lenoxville, Que. J1M 1S2
 2383 Nalon, John, 176 Arthur St., Gananogue, Ont. K0H 1R0
 2578 Pawluk, William S., 10 Cork Pl., St. John's, Nfld. A1B 2W4
 518 Peatman, Alfred N., 22 Second St., Renforth, Saint John, N.B. E2H 1M1
 629 Piggott, Earle L., 468 Main St., Kentville, N.S. B4N 1L2
 1361 Pike, James A., 5805 Balsam St., No. 801, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 4B8
 1909 Price, T. E., 6878 East Blvd., Vancouver, B.C. V6P 5R3
 2656 Prowse, Rev. G. David, 10 Melfa Ave., CFB Petawa, Ont. K8H 1L2
 3131 Raymond, Brian W., 5916 Dalcastle Dr. N.W., Calgary, Alta.
 3112 Rusted, Nigel F. S., 28 Monkstown Rd., St. John's, Nfld. A1C 3TC
 3010 Rutherford, A. T., 3650 Walnut Grove Rd., R.R. 4, Mississauga, Ont. L5M 2B4
 3018 Schenk, John A., 1975 Marshall Ave., Richland, WA 99352
 965 Scott, Bernard, P.O. Box 5145, Armdale, N.S. B3L 4M7
 1962 Simmonds, William E., P.O. Box 94, Addison, IL 60101
 1780 Simpson, William L., P.O. Box 728, Chatham, Ont. N7M 5L1
 2642 Sturdy, Peter J., 42 Church St., Goderich, Ont. N7A 2V4
 2884 Talman, John H., 60 Eastbourne Cr., Etobicoke, Ont. M8V 1W8
 2789 van Dam, E. S. J., P.O. Box 1417, Peterborough, Ont. K9J 7H6
 2430 Verno, Nicholas J., 5132 Keyser St., Philadelphia, PA 19144
 2431 Walton, Wayne J. A. Jr., 1420 Ramada Dr., Houston, TX 77058
 308 Wegg, George S., 36 Victoria St., Toronto, Ont. M5C 2N8
 519 Worwood, W., 1462-23rd St., Charny, Que. G6W 5K5
 2808 Wyse, Robert N., P.O. Box 352, Sillery, Que. G1T 2M5



LEX DE MENT

**A new hammer from London, Ontario
and the man behind the LCD company**

*Lex De
Ment*

The proprietor of LCD Stamp Company, Lex De Ment, has made quite a reputation for himself in the short time he has been active in the retail field; his auctions have proved highly popular among those seeking choice and difficult material in the area of BNA philately, and attract many to his sales in London and Toronto.

Lex grew up on a farm in nearby Tillsonburg, and, like most of us, became a world-wide collector at an early age. After turning to Canadian issues, he began to sell surplus material, operating a mail order business, and attending bourses in Ontario, New York and Chicago.

While this was going on he found time to continue his education and marry his charming wife Glorya-Jean, who is a constant companion at all stamp functions, and one who brightens up any show we have attended.

Following graduation in business administration at Fanshawe College, Lex opened for business on a fulltime basis in London in 1972. Since then he has abandoned the retail store in favor of public auctions which now occupy all his time and energies. Five or six of these a year ensure that Lex and Glorya-Jean have made many friends in the short while they have been on the national scene.

An astute and knowledgeable student of all things philatelic, we predict that Lex will be serving us for many years to come, as his attendance at our conventions testifies.

...and some doodles by The Editor

We are delighted with the response to our appeal for more articles and other items of news for publication, made recently. A number of members, some for the first time, have produced material on neglected or unusual aspects of BNA philately, which will be appearing in future issues.

Topics is the principal link between members, some of whom live in isolation from fellow enthusiasts, and thus its role serves to inform all of us about new or misunderstood facts on our interests. Its pages are therefore always open to each and everyone reading this, and we rely on you to maintain the high standards enjoyed through the years by contributing your knowledge and expertise for the enjoyment of all.

To those hesitant about making a contribution, perhaps for the first time, may we say that we'll be more than glad to discuss the matter with you and offer any advice we can on preparing an article for publication, so don't let lack of experience deter you from writing.

Now a few guidelines. Typed, double-spaced copy is vital. If you can't type, then have someone do it for you. For illustrations we prefer photographs or the material itself (which will be safely handled and returned). Photocopies give us trouble and do not reproduce well. We do not knowingly publish articles submitted to other magazines so make your submissions exclusive to *Topics*.

To all of you reading this — don't put off any longer that long postponed item you've been meaning to write about but "sit right down and write us an article/letter".

MAIL FROM OUR MEMBERS

Register Handbook changes

This letter is a supplement to addendum D of my handbook, *Canada's Registry System: 1827-1911*. Here are details on new discoveries in the oval registry markings used in the 1870s and 1880s.

The first 10 illustrations shown on pages 62 and 63 indicated all of the known oval registry handstamps of the era which I had seen at the time of going to press. The Peterborough oval cancellor had been reported, although not seen by me, but at STAMPEX 1974 I was shown a cover with this marking and a similar one from Charlottetown, PEI.

Both covers showed only the name of the province and not the word Canada, as would be indicated by no. 11 on page 63 of the handbook. Additionally, Peterborough is spelled out in its entirety rather than in the abbreviated form shown.

At the same time that I was shown these registry markings, I was told that a Cornwall cover existed with an oval registry marking. However, it was not available for me to view, no one knew who owned it, nor who had reported it.

Months passed and the time came for the National Postage Stamp Show in New York. I found myself making the rounds of dealers likely to have material in my particular field of interest. One such was a dealer from Vancouver who, being asked if he had any covers, showed me a number, one of which you see illustrated. It will be seen that it contains three strikes of the oval registry from Cornwall, dated October 28, 1885, in addition to the circular date stamp in the upper left corner.



Thus the first supplement to Addendum D of my book should be amended to read:

11. Peterborough, Ont., similar to No. 3 (10).

11A. Cornwall, Ont., similar to No. 3.

11B. Charlottetown, PEI, similar to No. 3 (10).

Those of you who own the book should make these corrections on page 63. For anyone interested in Canadian postal history, the book contains drawings of over 340 money letter or registry cancels and nearly 100 photographs of covers from 1827 to 1908. Postage plus registry rates are given for the period. The book is obtainable from the American Philatelic Society, State College, Penn. at US \$6 for members and US \$7.50 for non-members.

—Horace W. Harrison

Yukon Airways

In *Topics* (February, 1973 issue) an excellent article by Harold L. Banner on one of Canada's bogus Semi-Official airmail stamps was published.

In discussing the Yukon Airways and Exploration Co., Ltd., forgeries Mr. Banner stated: "I have no means of finding out just how many were in the sheets."

I recently purchased four complete sheets of this forgery in shades of ultramarine, pale-orange, magenta and brown-orange. Missing was the pale green shade. The sheets were rouletted in a 2 x 5 format (2 across, 5 down). All other data correlates with the original article by Mr. Banner.

I would be pleased to hear if anyone has a spare sheet of the pale green shade to complete my set.

—Kenneth W. Pugh

1967 issue dies

I was somewhat aghast to see Mr. LaFontaine's presentation *The 1967 Issue — a Second Die* in the February issue. It seems that he has failed to grasp several of the
(continued on page 136)

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LETTERS — *continued*

important points already made in the lengthy discussions over the dies of the 6c, and stands ready to lead us into further pointless controversies.

First, the original dies for the Centennial issue were done by CBNCo, and as far as is known the BABNCo plates were first made from transfers from these dies. Thus I believe that *if* a distinction into dies is warranted on the 1c, as he suggests, the CBNCo product must be denoted as die I, as this was the original. To suggest that the CBNCo die is the second die is illogical.

Second, all of the stamps produced by BABNCo differ to some degree from their CBNCo counterparts in the fine details of the design — and this includes all the small-format values of the series except the 2c, as all were printed by CBNCo in either sheet, booklet or coil form.

Exactly how the differences came about on the 6c has been much discussed, but with no definite answer to date. The best guesses have been that the BABNCo transfers were poorly done, or improperly hardened and

thus prone to weakening — or perhaps that the differences were the result of the plastic mould-process which BABNCo used to produce its plates. Whatever the cause, there appears to be a loss of fine detail and a cruder image to the BABNCo products. There is no *proof* as yet that BABNCo altered any of the dies, except for the black 6c.

Until such time as proof is offered, it would seem the most prudent course (and the one least prone to the misleading controversy and illogical classification) is to simply denote the two products by their printers.

If it is felt necessary to use the terminology of "dies", then refer to the CBNCo issues as Die 1 and their BABNCo relatives as Die 1a, since the current state of our information indicates that the BABNCo issues emanated from the same dies, but were produced in such a manner that some differences appeared in the details.

— Charles Berg



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The die proof was struck on the morning of July 17 and proofs, in brown and blue, were sent to the Post Office. A week later 5 million stamps were ordered to be printed, in blue. Ultimately 4,854,200 stamps were received from the manufacturer. Advance supplies of the stamp were sent out between July 4 and 8 to postmasters at 24 different towns* across Canada to enable them to prepare first day covers in advance. The Post Office could congratulate itself on the fact that it had taken it less than three months to produce the stamp.

Not even with the stamp successfully issued were the Post Office's problems over. A veritable hornet's nest was stirred up over the various 'firsts' claimed for the *Royal William* on the publicity releases concerning it. In early September 1933 it received a telegram asking "will Royal William stamp be withdrawn recognizing claims for *Curacao*?", thus presaging the form the
(continued on page 140)

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This 312-page Quarterman edition is an unabridged reproduction of the original with the addition of a new foreword. The 14 illustrated plates, inserted loosely into the original edition, are included as a special signature at the back of this hardbound volume. Although Winthrop S. Boggs described this title as a "great work", he did not incorporate all of Howe's information into his Canadian volumes. Thus, *Canadian Postage Stamps and Stationery* remains a solid ground for continuing study and a necessity for all Canada collectors.

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coming criticism would take. The *Curacao*, a Netherland steamer, had crossed the Atlantic in a more southerly latitude six years before the *Royal William*.

Three major firsts had been claimed for the *Royal William*: the first British steamship to call at an American seaport; the first steamship to cross the Atlantic steaming all the way; and the first steam warship to fire a shot in anger. The first claim stood: without doubt when she entered Boston on that day in June 1833, hers was the first red ensign to fly from a steamship in an American port.

The second claim created the furore, and when the dust had settled the department had to admit that its claims in that regard had been extravagant. Even then, however, the claim as made in the first paragraph of this paper remained valid.

The *Curacao* had crossed the Atlantic in more southerly latitudes. The only unsure aspect of this trip was the exact percentage of the time she was under steam — but then the specific claim of having turned her paddles by steam all the way across was never made for the *Royal William* — not even by her commander, John McDougall.

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Interestingly, the one totally incorrect claim, that she was the first steam warship to fire a shot in action, went unchallenged at the time. Here again she had been thwarted by seven years—the steamer *Karteria* having fired over 18,000 shells in the cause of Greek independence in 1827.

When the matter had finally died down the Canada Post Office most surely have regretted the day it gave into public pressure and issued the stamp “under mistaken premises”. Philatelists came in for some blame, because they had provided some of the incorrect information. Post Office officials would think long and hard before they allowed themselves once again to be hustled into rushing a stamp issue to completion.

*The following cities were designated as “First Day Cities” for this issue: Charlottetown, Pictou, Halifax, St. John, Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, Kingston, Windsor, London, Winnipeg, Regina, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Lethbridge, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, and Victoria. Port Arthur and Fort William were later added to this list, primarily because these lakehead cities had been in the forefront of the campaign to obtain the issue. (It had even been considered at one stage making Pictou the only “First Day City”, but that was not approved).

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Please check your collection for dates in the years listed as 'No Strikes Recorded', or for time marks not listed above. This information is needed for a revision of the handbook.

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