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Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

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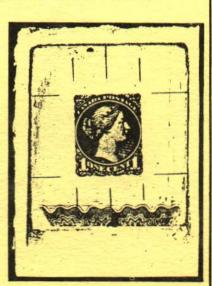
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JOHN HILLSON

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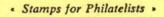
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OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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should be addressed to the Editor.

Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent those of the Society or BNA TOPICS.

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

by MIKE STREET

Hello! I'm Mike Street. Starting with this issue, and for the next three years at least -acts of God and/or the powers-that-be in the society not withstanding - I will be YOUR Editor. Please permit me to introduce myself.

I was born and raised in Montreal. Shortly after graduating as an Electrical Engineer, I was transferred to Ontario. For the last eight years I have worked as a Maintenance Supervisor at Ontario Hydro's Nanticoke Generating Station.

Philatelically, I started out just as many other kids did in the 50's, cadging stamps from anyone who would help and by spending a nickle or two, and occasionally a whole fifteen cents, at the Post Office. The 10¢ special offer ads - with approvals - played a part too.

Increased activity in sports and societies in high school and university caused stamps to take a place somewhere beyond last, but fortunately I held on to all the books, envelopes and other paraphernalia.

The box of stuff travelled with me from Montreal to Sarnia to Brantford, where I finally found time to get back to it. A chance look at the Cable TV ads told me of a stamp show in town, which led me to the Brantford Stamp Club.

One thing led to another, and eventually I became the club's reporter for the GRAND NEWS, a post I held until last month.

An Editor for a large association (900+) makes lots of contacts, and through these I got into judging at shows. At this point I am accredited by the RPSC at national level. I also had the pleasure of being Director of GRAND-PEX, the 1979 exhibition of the GRVPA and convention of the RPSC.

My collecting interests were stamps of Canada and Western Europe, but this has languished because philatelic editors seldom have enough time for stamps. My one active pursuit is stamps of the 1946 Canadian Peace Issue, including Officials, on cover. Any help from readers will be greatly appreciated. (Hope the Ad Manager doesn't catch the free plug!).

To round out this brief sketch I must mention my lovely wife Carol, for without her understanding and encouragement the offer to edit TOPICS would not have been accepted; and our daughter Alison, who at 5 months was the youngest visitor to LONDON 1980 last year.

To my predecessor, Derek Hayter, and to Alan Steinhart and other editors past; to Vinnie Green, John Young and Bill Maresch, and those who went before them on the Editorial Board, a personal word of thanks. I know that there are and have been complaints about TOPICS - there will probably always be some complaint - but without the people named, TOPICS wouldn't exist. It is through their efforts that it has come as far as it has, and I'm proud to be a part of its future.

Will TOPICS change? Every editor has his own style of writing and working. Mine is positive and optomistic; occasionally irreverent, but hopefully never irrelevant; sometimes tongue-in-cheek, again, hopefully, never foot-in-mouth. From my previous experience in editing I have some ideas and methods that I prefer, but changes arising from these will likely not be noticed by most people. The only definite change is in our printer - we intend to be on time, every time.

Will TOPICS change? In the first paragraph I emphasized the word 'your'. Topics is our magazine, and it will change, or not change, as you the members wish. Quality is the goal, but the Editor cannot - and will not - write everything himself. Member's suggestions are essential to keeping up and improving TOPICS. Philately, even BNA philately, is constantly moving in new directions. TOPICS will follow and, sometimes, lead.

One final word. It is important to me to get to know as many members as possible. I will be at LACPEX and, of course, BNAPEX in September. Come up and say hello. Let me know your thoughts. If you can't be at those shows or others, drop me a line. I won't promise to answer or print all letters, but they will be read and considered.

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(an Outline)

by

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Jim Lehr

With this issue we welcome a new team for TOPICS, with Mike Street of Ancaster, Ont.

Editor and Standard Forms (under BNAPSer Len Woodward of Dundas, Ont.) as printer. Because Art Groten had to give in to increasing demands on his time, we also welcome a new Advertising Manager, Dave Dixon of Oakville Ont. This team is committed to improving Topics in every way - content, appearance, publication schedule, you name it. If you would like to see changes in content, or have other suggestions for making Topics more meaningful to you, let our new Editor know. This is your magazine!

Ed Harris received a letter recently from a member, in response to a past-due notice, asking "whether you can give me any good reason why I should maintain membership in the Society." I've answered this letter, covering the specific complaints listed (all legitimate, incidentally), but would like to discuss this with all of you. Every member has a right to expect some value for the dues paid. Because we all have differing interests and needs, a society like BNAPS must offer help in many ways. As of now, here is what we try to offer you:

L) TOPICS-A magazine for all members. With a new team now in charge, this is the time to let us know what you want to see in the way of content. It's hard to please everyone all the time, and new areas of content will require new sources as writers, but Topics has won prizes in the past and will do so in the future.

2) Study Groups - This is a wonderful way to really learn about specialized areas of collecting. We have a number of very active groups and will help you organize new groups if your particular interest is not presently covered.

3) Regional Groups and Annual Convention -The major reason for such meetings is for fellowship - the chance to meet many fellowcollectors. Whether you visit the bourse tables, study the exhibitions, attend Study Group



meetings, or just circulate, you'll learn a lot about collecting. Try it, you'll like it!

4) Book Department - The Handbook Committee has published two books already this year, and should get three more printed before the year is out. In addition, the RPO Study Group is printing a new edition of the Ludlow handbook. These books can all be purchased from our Book Department.

5) Library - We have an excellent library which all too few members use. Next time you want information on some area of collecting give it a try.

6) Sales Department - This has not fuctioned well the last few years but is now starting up again with a new Sales Manager, Bob Jamieson. It is a good way to move duplicate material and fill up some of those holes in your collection.

7) Leadership - If you enjoy becoming part of the working leadership of organizations you join, we have plenty of need for that also. Just let me know.

Unless you have tried most, if not all, of the above areas, you don't really know yet why you should become and remain a member of BNAPS.

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LETTERS

BNAPS AWARD?

In the May 30, 1981 issue of STAMPS magazine a short news item mentions that Horace Harrison won the "British North America Philatelic Society Award" at SCOPEX. I have attended a number of BNAPS conventions and many, many other stamp shows, but I do not recall ever hearing of this award, or trophy, or whatever it is, before. Is this an official BNAPS award? If so, why is it a secret? If official, it should be mentioned in TOPICS, and be an award at BNAPEX as well. Would someone be kind enough to explain the award to the membership?

Allan L. Steinhart Toronto

POSSIBLE RE-ENTRY STUDY GROUP

I would like to start a new study group within BNAPS—the Canadian Re-Entry Study Group. Over the past few years I have gradually put aside all other areas of philately and now concentrate solely on re-entries. I find the area fascinating and am hoping that there are other

members who are similarly inclined.

I would be willing to act as chairman, secretary, treasurer, editor and whatever else is necessary in order to establish a group and run it for interested members. Depending on material available from my own collection and articles supplied by others, I would like to see a newsletter go out 6 to 10 times a year. Cost of membership would be minimal—enough to cover postage and stationery. Of course, donations would be greatly appreciated (some study groups have operated for several years on donations alone, and have not found it necessary to ask for dues).

Any interested member—you don't have to be an expert—is asked to contact me at P.O. Box 532, Station 'A', Scarborough, Ontario,

Canada M1K 5C3.

Ralph E. Trimble Toronto

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION IN TOPICS ARTICLES

On reading the article 'Trans-Atlantic Mysteries' in the Jan/Feb issue—which I found very interesting—one thing struck me as being a

bit wrong.

The author, Allan Steinhart, asks that anyone who can assist him in researching the subject write to him at his home address. Would it not be better if replies were addressed to the author, c/o TOPICS, so that the information could be printed for the benefit of all the members? I realize that any information received by Mr. Steinhart, or any other author, would likely be included in a future article, but some people might not want to wait, especially if they are working on the same subject.

Letters and Announcements is a good column, but it could be expanded to include requests for information and replies to same. This will not only help all members broaden their knowledge, but will also help increase the amount of material available for publication in TOPICS.

E. Ward Ottawa

From the Editor's viewpoint, you are quite right. Answers should go to the Editor, or through the Editor, and not just to the author of an article. Our policy in future will be to ask that a copy of any reply to such a request be sent to the Editor. This does not mean, however, that all such replies will be printed. That must remain a judgment call, based on the criteria of most value to the most members, and available space. Thanks for your thoughtful criticism.

—Ed.

SOAKING PVA GUM

Douglas Irwin's article 'The PVA Gum Enigma' in the Jan/Feb issue was particularly timely for us in Winnipeg. We have been working on a different aspect of the PVA question which might be of interest to TOPICS readers.

Letters to LINN's and STAMP COLLEC-TOR are asking "How do you get the stuff off?", referring to the PVA gum which the United States Post Office is now using on some issues. Before answering the question, a little bit of

background may be helpful.

Most paper has a sizing added to it. This prevents ink from running or soaking into the fibres. When PVA gum was first applied to stamp paper and left to dry, the gum cracked and small pieces fell out. They found that the only way to use PVA gum was to use paper without sizing. The result of this is that the gum gets right in with the fibers and the filler holding the fibers together. In contrast, Dextrine gum attaches itself quite well to sized paper and sits only on the surface of the paper.

The results of this difference in the process show up when soaking stamps. A stamp with Dextrine gum must be soaked until all the gum is washed off the surface. If any gum remains the dried stamp will curl when subjected to humidity. On the other hand, the longer you soak a PVA stamp the more gum and filler washes out. This results in a weak, floppy stamp. So a PVA stamp should be soaked only until it is off the paper and then removed quickly from the water to dry. Because there is gum remaining, a drying book can't be used.

One final point. Pure PVA gum is so transparent that it appears that there is no gum on the stamp. People actually brought stamps back because of it! To get around this, additives are used so that PVA gum appears dull,

compared to the shiny Dextrine.

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NOTES

A MAJOR ADMIRAL FIND

by Hans Reiche

The prime reference works on the Admirals written by G. C. Marler and also by this writer, state that the first printings of the coil stamps were made from the original sheet stamp plates, and not from any special coil stamp plates. This was evident from the discovery of several identical minor variations in features on both sheet and coil stamps. Apparently, the sheet plates were used for the printing, but the special perforating system then differentiated the resulting stamps into coils. It is also true that identical papers, shades, and clarity of printing are seen on both types of stamps. Part 2 of my ADMIRAL HANDBOOK suggests ".... after further study, the writer can now report that the original coil stamps were prepared from sheet stamps using plates between 15 and 20. The exact plate or plates cannot be established



It has taken 70 years to make a major find which allows the absolute identification of at least one sheet plate which was also used for early coil production. In February 1981 Dr. Warren L. Bosch located, among a lot of 1¢ green admirals, a coil stamp of the early shade which contained the major re-entry. It is known that the major re-entry occurred on plate 12 LR, No. 35; the re-entry is described and photographed in several reference volumnes. Certainly, the occurrence of this same major reentry on a coil stamp establishes the fact that, at least, plate 12 LR was used for both sheet and coil stamp production. Finding a copy of this major re-entry on a sheet stamp is extremely difficult; finding a copy on a coil stamp - the very first one known to the author - is a feat never before accomplished.

The accompanying photo does not show the perforations clearly enough, but it should serve as a reminder that others may be hiding, perhaps in the duplicates of some of the members. It may be significant to know that this coil major re-entry was roller cancelled in Montreal. Any member finding one, or more, is asked to pass this information on to the writer, c/o TOPICS.

POSTAL MUSEUM SITUATION UNRESOLVED

Canada's National Postal Museum continues to be without a permanent curator, seventeen months after former Curator J.E. Kraemer transferred to other duties.

In December 1980 a civil service competition for the position was held. Three people, including the Acting Curator, C. R. McGuire, and the Acting Head of Research and Administration, Dr. K. S. MacKenzie, were interviewed. In February of this year the third interviewee was offered the position, while the other two were told that they were 'not eligible'—a civil service term meaning, more or less, not qualified for the job.

A veritable storm of protest arose from the philatelic community, with the first salvo being a blast in the Stamp Column of the OTTAWA CITIZEN. The protest centered around the fact that the person who was offered the job had a background in art museums, and no background at all in philately. In fact, no questions relating to philately or postal history were asked during the interviews.

Shortly after the story was aired in the CITIZEN, it was learned that the person offered the job had turned it down, and that a new competition would be held. That was February.

In April Dr. Mac. enzie resigned from the museum to take another position. Mackenzie announced his resignation at a meeting of the Museum's Advisory Board, and read a statement sharply critical of Post Office management for both its handling of the Curatorship vacancy, and its handling of the Museum in general.

At press time (July 15) the new competition, promised in February, for the Curator's job has still not been announced. C. R. McGuire remains as Acting Curator. It is hoped that, by the time members of BNAPS gather in Ottawa for BNAPEX in September, the situation will be resolved. Further details will be published in TOPICS as they become available.

HUDSON'S BAY LETTERS DISCOVERED AT SMITHSONIAN

Your editor is something of a reading addict—if it's in print and he's got time, it will be looked over. On a business trip to the USA last month, chance put a copy of the April 1980 SMITHSONIAN magazine into his hands. The following item, which may be of interest, turned up in a column by Editor Edwards Park.

"I have mentioned the treasures that sometimes come to light when a Smithsonian museum is refurbishing and airing things out in

order to get ready for another exhibit.

"The latest discovery at the Museum of Natural History is a bundle of letters to our second Secretary, Spencer F. Baird, from a number of Canadians of the Hudson's Bay Company. The mail dates between 1860 and 1870 and consists of messages from the north reques requesting various supplies and reporting certain facts.

"The key to this unlikely correspondence between the institution and a commercial fur company lies in Robert Kennicott, an enthusiastic naturalist who went to the Hudson Bay country to see what he could find that would be of interest to the national museum.

"Kennicott found plenty, and seems to have charmed a great many Hudson's Bay Company personnel into helping him-and finally becoming full-fledged Smithsonian Collectors

themselves.

"Secretary Baird managed his field people, cosseting them, encouraging them, thanking them. He sent them supplies and specimen requirements. So here are some 600 letters and other papers that reflect this activity."

The article quoted above gives no information about the philatelic aspects of these letters. It might be worth someone's time and effort to follow this up. If any member does so,

please keep TOPICS informed.

THE MILITARY WINS A BATTLE

BNAPSer R. K. Malott of Ottawa, well known for his Canadian Airmail studies, has been working hard at trying to get Canada Post to change its mind about something. Amazingly, he has succeeded!

In a letter dated 1 June 1981, Postmaster-General Andre Ouellet informed Malott that "... the guidelines were recently updated. You will note that wars and battles are no longer excluded from commemoration." This also means that military organizations can be commemorated.

A tip of the hat to Major Malott.

SOCIAL NOTES

- -BNAPS President Jim Lehr recently spoke to the Akron Stamp Club.
- -Gray Scrimgeour, BNAPSer and President of the Postal History Society of Canada, gave a seminar on "The Broken Circle Postmarks of Canada" at STAMPEX '81 in Toronto in June.
- -Member Clarence Stillions won a bronze award at the May 1-3 NAPEX show at Arlington, Virginia.
- -Member Dave Bastedo and his wife were the victims of an armed robbery at a restaurant on the 401 Highway while returning to Toronto from the MONEX show in Montreal. Their car and a large portion of BNA stock were hijacked.

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NOTES continued ...

WIPA 1981 by Allan L. Steinhart

WIPA 1981 was held in Vienna, Austria from May 22 to May 31, 1981. A number of BNAPS members exhibited, attended or were active on the bourse. Member William H. P. Maresch was the Canadian Commissioner and arranged for a number of excellent B.N.A. exhibits. Former BNAPS Chairman Robert H. Pratt was invited to show his Newfoundland Pence stamps and covers in the Court of Honour. Although not a BNAPS'er, Mirko Rasic of Toronto was on the Jury, so Canada had a representative on that august body. In the Honours Class was found the lovely exhibit of Nova Scotia philately of Max Guggenheim of Switzerland,

known to many on this continent. A number of B.N.A. exhibits were found in the International class, with a great showing of the Canada Pence issues by JUCLARE of Calgary, who won a large gold medal and a special prize, and a showing of exceptional quality of the 1908 Quebec Issue of Canada by Mrs. JUCLARE. I must apologize for not having all the awards as the Palmares is not out yet and I left before the end of the show. Ed Richardson, our renowned "Texian" member, showed his Large Queen material. Bob Pratt showed his St. Pierre & Miquelon, which received a small gold-in the Canada section, through some foulup on the part of the exhibits committee. Charles Firby, our Grand Award winner at BNAPEX '80 showed his 1851-1868 Pence and 1859 issue rate study in the postal history class and was awarded a small gold medal. John Krug

of Toronto showed a solid collection of postal history of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in the same class in the next frames. In the Literature class Allan Steinhart won a silver medal for his study of the Postal History of the Post Card in Canada: 1871-1911.

The exhibition was held in two separate buildings in downtown Vienna called the Hofburg and the Messepalast. During the exhibition a reception was held in another palace a few blocks from the Messepalast by the Canadian Post Office. Numerous dignitaries in philately from around the world attended. The Canadian Ambassador, Postmaster General Andre Quellet. A.D.P.M.G. Larry Sperling, G. Dubeaux of the post office, and a number of BNAPSers such as Mr. & Mrs. Bob Pratt, Mr. & Mrs. Sam Nickle, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Firby, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Maresch, Mr. & Mrs. Charles de Volpi, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Harmer, James T. DeVoss, Ken Robertson, Robert A. Lee, Fred Eaton and Sammy Eaton, Anna Katz, and yours truly, Allan Steinhart were also present.

The new Canadian stamps issued May 22 were on display and a souvenir packet of First Day covers was distributed to all attendees. P.M.G. Ouellet gave a short speech on the new commemorative stamps honouring Canadian contemporary art and invited all stamp collectors, young people in particular, to the International Youth Exhibition to be held under F. I.P. auspices in Toronto in 1982. Co-sponsored by Canada Post and the R.P.S.C., the youth exhibition, called Canada '82, will be held from May 20 to 24 at the C.N.F. grounds.

May 20 to 24 at the C.N.E. grounds.

The exhibits at WIPA '80 were generally excellent, although there were a number of problems with the organization and the bourse. The city was lovely for the visitors and I think in general a great time was had by those of us who attended the show.

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Mailing Date	Feb. 1	Apr. 1	June 1	Aug. 1	Oct. 1	Dec. 1
				Manager, BN		

BNAPS MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL GROUP MEETS AT SCOPEX



Mid-Atlantic Regional Group members display awards won at SCOPEX. L to R: John Siverts, Clarence Stillions, Horace Harrison, Jack Myers, John Burnett, Richard Colberg

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Group held a meeting during SCOPEX the weekend of April 24-26 at State College, Pennsylvania. A general meeting was held on Friday evening at the Autoport Motel to discuss plans for BNAPEX '82 at Virginia Beach, Virginia. A party was held for Leo LaFrance before the meeting to celebrate his 59th birthday. SCOPEX was an enjoyable weekend for everyone though the weather was chilly.

Members attending were: James C. Lehr, Leo & Sue LaFrance, Wilmer & Hilda Rockett, Ed & Ernestine Whiting John & Sunny Hacker, Walter & Eleanor Hoffman, Larry & Marva Paige, David & Nancie Rabe, James & Martha Keally, James Hansen, Jack Myers, John Siverts, Clarence Stillions, Emerson Clark, Horace Harrison, James T. DeVoss, Winfield Clatterbuck, John T. Burnett, Richard A. Colberg, Max Rosenthal.

All Mid-Atlantic Regional Group members who exhibited at SCOPEX were winners. Exhibitors and awards were:

 Horace Harrison - Canada's Registry System, 1826-1911; Grand Award, Large Gold, A.P.S. Medal, Best B.N.A.

- John Siverts Early Newfoundland -Covers, Proofs, & Multiples; Reserve Grand Award, Large Gold
- John T. Burnett The Small Queen Era 1870-1895, Gold Award
- Russell Allison Small Queen Issue of Canada, 1870-1898; Gold Award
- Jack L. Myers Canada's Special Air Mail Stamps; Gold, Best Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society Member
- Clarence A. Stillions Provisionals of Newfoundland; Silver Award
- Richard Colberg Great Britain Surface Printed Issue; Silver Award

You've got to love stamps and friends to do what John Burnett and a prospective BNAPSer, Ed Herder, accomplished. They drove twenty continuous hours to cover over one thousand miles from Jackson, Tennessee. That's dedication. Russ Allison was in the hospital with pneumonia and was unable to attend. A get well card was signed by all and sent. The next meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Group will be at BALPEX, at the Hunt Valley Inn, Cockeyville, Maryland during the weekend of September 5-7, 1981.

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IN MEMORIAM

The HONOURABLE GEORGE C. MARLER P.C., B.C.L., L.L.D., F.R.P.S.C., F.R.P.S.L., F.C.P.S.

by J. E. Kraemer



The philatelic community lost an eminent member when the Honourable George C. Marler of Montreal passed away on Friday, April 10, in his 80th year. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis; one son, George Eric; three daughters, Anna Evelyn, Harriet June and Phyllis Claire; six grandchildren and a brother, John.

Mr. Marler was educated at Selwyn House School, Bishop's College School, and the Royal Naval College. He received his civil law degree from McGill University. He was awarded Honourary degrees by the Université de Montreal

and by McGill.

In 1940 he became vice-president of the Executive Committee of the City Council of Montreal, a post he held until 1947. In 1942 he was elected a member of the Legislative Assembly in the Province of Quebec and served in that capacity until 1953. This was the period when Quebec was governed by Premier Maurice Duplessis of the Union Nationale Party. Mr. Marler sat in the house as a Liberal, and was Leader of the Opposition from 1948 to 1953. Known for his mastery of the French language, he gained the respect of his opponents.

In 1954 his good friend Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent asked him to join the Federal Cabinet. Elected as the member of Parliament for Westmount-St. Antoine, he served as the federal Minister of Transport from 1954 to

1957.

In 1960, in the Provincial Liberal Government of Premier Jean Lesage, he was appointed government leader in the now-defunct upper house of the Quebec legislature. He was also appointed a Minister without Portfolio and remained in the cabinet as one of the Premier's chief advisors until 1965. In 1966 he left the provincial cabinet but remained as Liberal leader of the upper house. At this time he embarked on a speaking tour of Western Canada to explain the regional aspirations of the various parts of Canada, particularly Quebec and the West. After Mr. Marler left active politics he continued to maintain a keen interest in public affairs.

Always an ardent philatelist, Mr. Marler was noted for his research and writings on the Admirals, the Edwards and, to a lesser extent, the historical issue of 1928. He contributed many well researched articles to the Canadian Philatelist, B.N.A. Topics, the American Philatelist, Maple Leaves, the Collectors Club Philatelist, Philatelia, the Essay Proof Journal and the Canadian Postal History Journal. His first philatelic book, "Canada—Notes on the 1911-25 Series" was published in 1949. In 1975 the National Postal Museum, Ottawa published his beautifully illustrated book entitled "The Edward VII Issue of Canada" which has received many awards, world wide, for its excellence.

A manuscript based on his comprehensive study of Canada's Admiral stamps was completed very recently. This large volume, the result of hundreds of hours of research, is being published by the American Philatelic Society and will be available within a month or two. The Admirals were Mr. Marler's first love in the stamp world. Both his first and last philatelic books were on the Admirals. Both were published by the American Philatelic Society. The new Admiral book will be a fitting memorial to a great Canadian philatelist. Mr. Marler's secretary, Mrs. Hebert, is completing the work required to produce this comprehensive volume, and she deserves the gratitude of all. Her assistance and dedication has made it possible to publish this masterly study.

An ardent golfer, a horticulturalist, and an expert photographer, Mr. Marler was noted for mastering many skills to a high degree of perfection. Writing absorbed much of his

leisure time.

George Marler will be remembered not only as "a fearless spokesman and defender of the highest ideals of freedom, decency and integrity", as he was described by the Rev. Kenneth Cleator who conducted the funeral on April 14, but also as a friend and a gentleman. Father Cleator paid tribute to Mr. Marler "for making the community of men a better and happier place to live", and gave thanks for his service to his church, the community and the world. It was a privelege to have known George Marler. Men of his stature and honour are uncommon. (Courtesy of the Canadian Philatelist Ed.)



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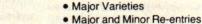
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THE CANADIAN CONNECTION WITH ST. HELENA

by C. R. McGuire

INTRODUCTION

Leverett Herbert Price was born in Butternut Ridge (now Havelock), Kings County, New Brunswick on Valentine's Day, 1868 to John Clifford Price and Mary Isabel Woodman. John Price was a Justice of the Peace and Commissioner for Taking Oaths1. He and his wife both descendants of United Empire Loyalists, raised eight boys and three girls. Leverett, known as Lev, was a likeable, good natured boy who loved the outdoors and animals, in particular horses, and as a consquence, he became an excellent horseman. In later life he is fondly remembered as a big, solid man, standing about six foot two, with a very friendly, outgoing personality. This latter attribute proved to be particularly valuable when he realized his ambition and became a medical doctor.

Price graduated from Bellevue Medical College, New York City, in 1892. Out of a class of 117, he came fourth and received honourable mention—the only Canadian of several to receive such an honour—no mean accomplishment for a boy from a small town in the Maritimes. Not forgetting his home, he returned to New Brunswick and established a practice with Doctor George B. Noyes at North Head, Grand Manan Island, in the spring of 1892. Dr. Price eventually took over the practice when Dr. Noyes left the Island.

OFF TO WAR

On 11 October 1899 the London Times recorded that war between Great Britain and the Boer Republic of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State had officially been declared. For Queen and Empire, glory and national pride, the British people went joyfully, if not blindly, into war. Nearly everyone was eager to go, particularly since it was assumed the war would be all over within a few months³. Little did they know.

The enthusiasm spread to the British Colonies and Dominions scattered around the world – the Empire upon which the sun never set. Like many Canadians Lev Price was compelled, through a mixture of a desire for adven-

ture and pure patriotism, to volunteer his services for Monarch and country. Learning that the First Canadian Contingent was to be joined by a second group, Dr. Price travelled to Halifax to join up. He arrived to find the port city "gaily decked with bunting, noisy with shouts of the populace, and sonorous with the music of military bands". To his disappointment, he soon learned that the Canadian medical team had already been selected. Fortunately, news of the availability of a doctor reached representatives of the British Army and arrangements were quickly made to engage Dr. Price on contract.

THE VOYAGE

On 21 February, 1900 as the Elder Dempster Line's S.S.Milwaukee drew out from the wharf, "thousands gathered to see her off broke into 'Auld Lang Syne' and 'Rule Britannia', while the loyal soldiers of the Queen replied from the crowded deck with 'God Save the Queen'". On board were the First Battalion, Canadian Mounted Rifles; C Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery; and Doctor Price. The Milwaukee, Laurentian and Pomeranian (which had previously sailed from Halifax on 21 and 27 January respectively), transported the Second Canadian Contingent to South Africa.

The next day a letter arrived at the Halifax post office for Dr. Price and was backstamped "Halifax. Canada - 5-FE-22-00". Mailed two days earlier from Guelph, Ontario it was addressed simply "c/o Milwaukee Boat, Halifax, N.S.". A post office clerk added "1st Batt" in blue pencil and "Capetown" in purple to the front of the envelope and forwarded it.

Meanwhile, the first night and next day aboard the Milwaukee were spent steaming over placid seas. During the second night a storm came up, and by the next morning the poorly ballasted ship was pitching and rolling in turbulent waters. The Milwaukee, a hastily converted mule-transport, had been altered to accommodate 650 men. While relatively spartan, it was nevertheless quite comfortable. In



 Cover mailed to Dr. Price from Guelph, Ontario. Addressed to Halifax, it was forwarded to Cape Town and finally reached Price on St. Helena.

conditions like these, however, seasickness ran rampant. Men and horses suffered, with several of the latter dying from various maladies right from the beginning of the trip.

By Sunday 25 February the storm subsided, in time for an impressive church service to be held on the upper deck. With improved travelling conditions the men were expected to follow a daily routine outlined in the published orders. They passed their spare time by reading, writing letters on specially printed letterhead, and joining in sing-songs and concerts. Mail was collected twice during the voyage but it was not forwarded until the ship reached Cape Town. It is known that Dr. Price wrote letters to his mother and sister while at sea, but, unfortunately, they were not among the papers retained by the family.

From the frigid North Atlantic the "Milwaukee" steamed into tropical heat. This was hard on the men but worse for the horses, whose numbers were further depleted as a result. When it was discovered that a horse had succumbed it was immediately raised from the

stable by means of a steam winch and dropped overboard.

One of the most exciting days of the trip was St. Patrick's Day. Blessed with perfect weather, a sports competition was organized. Great enthusiasm was displayed, and rivalry between the men was vigorous but good natured. The men thoroughly enjoyed the voyage, and it was a healthy, happy and harmonious group that engaged in final preparations for disembarking at Cape Town. Although the Milwaukee's route had taken it past Fogo Island (in the Cape Verde Group), Ascension and St. Helena, to the chagrin of the soldiers no stops were made. They had hoped to mail their letters and obtain news of the war. After a four week voyage, the ship dropped anchor in Table Bay at 4:45 p.m. on Wednesday, 21 March 1900. Due to the number of transports ahead of the vessel and, later, gale force winds common to the Cape, she was not able to dock until 7:00 a.m. the next morning⁵. As his anxious compatriots rushed to set foot on African soil, eager to leave for battle, Lev Price



2. A letter written from Deadwood Camp on 22 April 1900 by Dr. Price to his mother, using Milwaukee letterhead specially prepared for the Canadian Contingent.



3. The arrival of Commandant General Pieter Arnoldus Cronje at Cape Town.

learned that he had to remain with the "Milwaukee".

THE ASSIGNMENT

The battle of Paardeberg had begun on 17 February 1900. On 27 February, after nine days of intensive bombardment, Commandant-General Pieter Arnoldus Cronje sent word to Lord Roberts that he was finally ready to surrender. The sixty-five year old leader was one of the few Boers with an established military record. His defeat and capture was a devastating and demoralizing blow to his people and their cause. As a result of his part in the first Anglo-Boer War, Cronje was known as the "Lion of Potchefstroom". At Paardeberg he was described by an observer as "a great bundle of a man . . . great square shoulders, from which the heavy beard was thrust forward so that he seemed humped; a heavy face, shapeless with unkempt, grey-tinged, black hair; lowering under heavy brows, from under which small, curning, foxy eyes peered shiftily".

Cronje and his captured army were taken by train to Cape Town. Upon arrival in the capital of Cape Province Cronje, accompanied by his wife and nephew, was placed on board the British cruiser HMS Doris. They were given the flag officer's stateroom, a luxury to which they were unaccustomed. His men were put in prisoner-of-war camps at Green Point and Bellevue, Simon's Town or on ships in Simon's Bay³. Many prisoners made attempts to escape. The British had several prisoner-of-war camps in

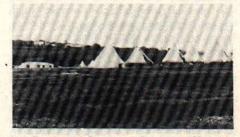


4. The Prisoner-of-War Camp at Simon's Town

—Table Bay in the background.



5. Cronje's party being towed to the Milwaukee.



background to left, where Napoleon lived while on St. Helena.

South Africa, as well as in Ceylon and Bermuda, but they had become overcrowded and difficult to guard. It was decided to establish another camp on the tiny South Atlantic island of St. Helena (where Napoleon had been kept from 15 October 1815 until his death on 5 May 1821). A total of 514 prisoners, including Cronje and his wife, were the first to be sent to St. Helena on board the Milwaukee. Dr. Price's professional expertise was put to use almost immediately treating his fellow passengers, some of whom had never seen a doctor in their lives. Dr. Price embarked on what he later referred to as one of his most exciting experiences.

THE FINAL VOYAGE

Dr. Price left Cape town without receiving the letter which had missed him in Halifax by one day. It arrived at the "Field-Post-Office, B.O. – British Army S. Africa – MY – 24-00" – on the Queen's birthday, weeks after the Milwaukee had steamed out of Simon's Bay for St. Helena.

The following letter (unedited) was written by Doctor Price (unfortunately the envelope was not saved) and gives his impressions of the voyage and his fellow passengers, and describes his activities:

> "S.S Milwaukee Near St. Helena Apr 9th 1900

Dear Mother

I wrote you a short note before leaving Simons Bay and promised to write you more after I got to sea, but am afraid I will have to make even this short. I have been as busy as I could be ever since I left have hardly had time to smoke I have 4 cases of measels 2 of Typhoid one of erysipilas and was up all night last night with Col Leefe who had two epiliptic fits. Also a naval officer from the "Niobe" a 1st Class Cruiser our escort who has been in bed ever since he came on board with gastritis, but thank fortune they are all getting better, besides all this I have been giving pills or diarrhoea mixture to about 25 or thirty dutchmen Every day extracting teeth and god knows what else. Col Leefe and all of the English officers are fine they are gentlemen every one of them and treat me as one of them selves. They are different men I can tell you to those darn Canadian rats we brought out with us I hope every darn officers we brought out with two or three exceptions will die of fever and not have the honour of having their guts (will not say brains for they havnt any) blown out. I do wish you could see Cronji and his wife they (are) a pair of beauties, he looks like a Forkstream farmer and she is the image of Jane Melvin only she dont dress so well I must get her hat as a pattern for Snowdy It is an old brown high crown broad rimmed sailor with the edges of the rim all worn out as though the rats had made a good many meals off it. Neither of them talk English, but our dutch parson often interprets stories of the general to me and tells me lots of things he says. I hope Snowdy wrote you as soon as she got my cable and that you know long before this where I am. I am not one bit sorry I came I wouldnt have missed this trip and all connected with it for anything. I havnt any idea how long I will be in st Helena but hope for some time, would like to hold this job for at least one year and do hope I can save some money. We will be in St Helena tomorrow morning about 7 o'clock and will send this letter to Halifax with Capt. Webster as he expects he will sail as soon as he can get clear of his unwelcome passengers.

I will close now as it is after 11 o'clock and I must be up at daylight to get a glimpse of the land as we come in sight.

Your letters will be forwarded to me from Cape Town, but of course write in the future to St Helena.

With love to all

Lev.

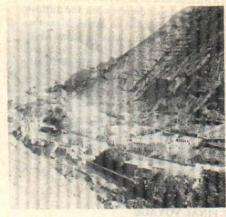
P.S. Cronji game me a Transval Sovereign with Kings head on it and a stamp,"

Dr. Price refers to performing tooth extractions, one of which was done on Cronje.

The Boer General gave Price the tooth, which



 Boer Prisoners-of-War walking up main street of Jamestown on their way to Deadwood camp.



8. Jamestown, St. Helena, ca. 1900.



9. Studio portrait of Dr. Leverett Herbert Price taken while he was on St. Helena, ca. 1900. The British Army employed many medical men on contract. It was normal for these civilian doctors to wear military uniforms as this practice was thought to help the patients accept the doctors and be more comfortable during treatment. It was also a good alternative to doctors bringing their own clothes with them.



10. Doctor Price in front of his tent.



 Left to right—Dr. Price, unknown man, F. W. Alexander, the chief civilian mail censor (see illustration 12), Lt. Cordin (Gordon?) who is wearing a black band on his right arm, probably in mourning for Queen Victoria.



 Alexander's initials and censor mark (BW-1) are known used on letters from 11 May 1900 to 17 February 1902.

RW-1

he kept and carried as a souvenir. It is reported to be in the New Brunswick Museum, St. John, N.B. "Snowdy" is a nickname given by Dr. Price to his girlfriend and future wife - Alice Maude Snowden.

CONCLUSION

The letter (Illustration 1) which 'missed the boat' at Halifax, and again at Cape Town, finally found its way to St. Helena on 3 June, long after the Milwaukee arrived about mid-April. The letter had been written by Miss Snowden. It can be readily observed that Dr. Price was so excited to receive the letter that he just ripped the envelope open, tearing off half the stamp and the right side of the envelope in the process. Regardless of its condition, a very interesting example of Boer War/Prisoner-of-

War postal history has survived.

When I found this cover, it was immediately obvious that it was an item of Boer War postal history, but the 'St. Helena' forwarding mark sparked my curiosity. Researching this quickly turned into researching the story of Dr. Price. Over the past six years, I have met and been in correspondence with a large and extremely helpful group of people, including members of Dr. Price's family, and historians and philatelists in Great Britain and South Africa. The response I received from individuals and institutions in South Africa has been particularly gratifying, and I am most grateful to all those who have assisted me.

As is my practice, I have written this article as a prelude to a more comprehensive booklet, planned for future publication, con-

cerning Dr. Price and his career, particularly while he was on St. Helena. It will include the Island's postal history during the Boer War period. If readers have any information they think may be of use to me, particularly letters and references to or about Dr. Price, please write to me care of the Editor, BNA Topics.



NOTICE.

In a few days the troopship "Milwaukee" escorted by H.M.S. "Niobe" will arrive with Prisoners of War.

No unauthorized persons will be allowed on the Wharf at the time of disembarkation. The Police will assist, as far as they can, the Military acting under the orders of the Officer Commanding the Troops in keeping order.

His Excellency the Governor expresses the hope that the Inhabitants will treat the Prisoners with that courtesy and consideration which should be extended to all men who laye fought bravely in what they considered the cause of their Country, and will help in repressing any unseemly demonstration which individuals might exhibit.

ROBT. R. BRUCE, For Colonial Secretary.

The Costle, St. Helens, 6th April 1900.

13. Proclamation issued by St. Helena's Governor, Robert Sterndale, prior to the arrival of the Boer Prisoners-of-War.

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- Canada's Sons on Kopje & Veldt, T. G. Marguis, Canada's Sons Publishing Co., Toronto, 1900
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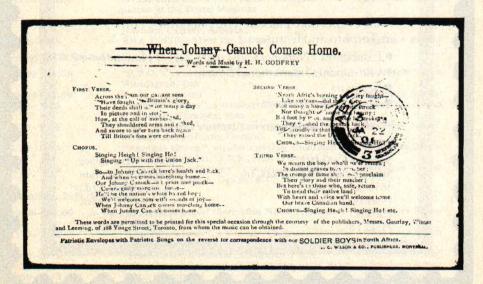
EDITOR'S NOTE: Originally printed in the STAMPEX '81 program in a slightly different form. It is reprinted here for the benefit of the many BNAPS members who were unable to attend STAMPEX '81.

Credits for Illustrations

- 2, 8, 9, 10 and 11 MacNeill family
- 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 St. Helena: The Historic Island, E.L. Jackson, Ward Lock & Co., London, 1903
- 12 and 13 Anglo-Boer War Philatelic



4. One of several envelopes with patriotic designs and the words to patriotic songs printed on the reverse published by C. Wilson & Co. of Montreal. This design, in multi-colour, commemorates battles in which Canadian troops took part, including Paardeberg where Cronje and his soldiers surrendered. They eventually became the first prisoners-of-war to be interned on St. Helena. Many of them were treated by Dr. Price. It should be noted that this envelope was mailed 9 January 1901 to "Messrs. Alex. Pirie & Sons Ltd." in Aberdeen. This is the firm which manufactured the watermarked paper used for one of the scarcest of Canada's fifteen cent Large Queen printings. It is also interesting that the envelope is backstamped upon receipt—22 January 1901—the day Queen Victoria died. The Queen's death was one of the major events of the Boer war, and virtually marked the end of an era.



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BNAPEX '81

A lot of money, time and effort goes into making Ottawa one of Canada's most interesting cities. BNAPSers attending this year's convention, "BNAPEX 81", September 24-26, will find museums, historical sites, local treasures, antique shops, a huge shopping mall and underground boutiques—all within walking distance of the Skyline Hotel, this year's site for the convention. There is more to Ottawa than the Parliament Buildings—they are just a beginning. You could spend a week just visiting the Museums.

According to the Calendar of Events there may not be much time to see what's outside the convention halls. We understand there are four receptions, a buffet, and a five-course gourmet banquet, with a famous Canadian as guest speaker. There is a bourse limited to 20 dealers, a 152 frame exhibition of the finest Canada and British North America stamps, and a double decker bus tour for the ladies. A special visit and presentation at the National Postal Museum has been scheduled. The first day of use of a Museum flag cancel has been

12:00 NOON

scheduled to coincide with the BNAPS visit. Jim Kraemer, General Chairman of this year's convention, hints there are other surprises for registered members.

This year's Convention sounds like one you wouldn't want to miss. Perhaps you will stay a few days longer and visit Ottawa's famous Arts Centre, the National Art Gallery, the Bank of Canada's Currency Museum, the National Library of Canada, some of Canada's half dozen National Museums, or maybe instead do some research at the Public Archives of Canada. Of course you could take the extra time to visit the Governor General's home, see the foreign embassies in Rockcliffe as well as the Prime Minister's home, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police headquarters or some of Ottawa's famous waterways and parks.

With the U.S. dollar worth almost \$1.20 in Canada, there is an added incentive to see you at Convention this year. Come and join us in Ottawa. Be sure to make your hotel reservations early since September is the busy season in Canada's Capital.

SEMINARS AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, Seminars and Special Meetings are open to all registered BNAPS members
Thursday, 24th September

12:00 NOON	Presentation of the Fred Jarrett Memorial	National Postal Museum
3:30-5:15	plaque at the Postal Museum "Perfins", a seminar, Chairman Jonathan C. Johnson, Calgary, Alberta	Chaudiere Room
3:30-5:15	BNA TOPICS: Meet the Editor	Seigniory Room
Friday, 25th Septer	mber	
10:00-12:00	"R.P.O.'s", a seminar, Chairman James C. Lehr, Wilmington, Del.	Chaudiere Room
10:00-12:00	To be announced	Seigniory Room
1:30-3:15	"Squared Circles", a seminar, Chairman Glenn F. Hansen, Winnipeg, Man.	Chaudiere Room
1:30-3:15	"Split Rings", a seminar, Chairman Gray Scrimgeour, Toronto, Ontario	Seigniory Room
3:30-5:15	"Revenue Group", regular meeting, Chairman Wilmer C. Rockett, O.T.B., Willow Grove, Pa.	Chaudiere Room
3:30-5:15	"Military Cancellations", a seminar, Chairman Kenneth V. Ellison, Ogama, B.C.	Seigniory Room
Saturday, 26th Sep	ptember	
10:00-12:00	Annual Meeting of the British North America Philatelic Society	Chaudiere Room
1:30-3:15	"Centennial Issue", a seminar, Chairman Douglas Irwin, Toronto, Ont.	Chaudiere Room
1:30-3:15	"Precancels", a seminar, Chairman T.B.A.	Seigniory Room
3:30-5:15	"Flag Cancels", a seminar, Chairman Larry Paige	Chaudiere Room
3:30-5:15	To be announced	Seigniory Room

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

		-	Taxan Control	
Wedt	nesday	. Sen	tember	23

10:00 A.M. York Room Board of Governors' Meeting

(closed meeting)

1:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M. Set up and Mount Exhitibion Le Grand Salon Convention Floor 5:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M. Registration

Thursday, September 24

9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Convention Floor Registration 10:00 A.M. Official Opening of BNAPEX '81, the 33rd Convention Floor

Annual BNAPS Convention, Exhibition and Bourse, by Gerald E. Wellburn, O.T.B., F.R.P.S.C.,

F.R.P.S.L., Victoria, B.C.

12:00 NOON Presentation of BNAPS Bronze Plaque in honour National Postal Museum

of the late Fred Jarrett, O.T.B., F.R.P.S.C., F.R.P. S.C., Toronto, to the Postal Museum by BNAPS. President, James C. Lehr. The Museum's Court of Honour display, prepared for BNAPEX '81, will be on display. Guests are invited to tour.

Reception follows (1)

To Be Announced 3:30 P.M. Seminars

Exhibition and Bourse closes 5:00 P.M. Le Grand Salon Past President's Reception (1) 6:30 P.M. Top of the Hill 7:30 P.M. Buffet Dinner Top of the Hill

Friday, September 25

8:30 A.M. Order of the Beaver Breakfast Trellis Room

(members only) 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Registration

Le Grand Salon 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Exhibition and Bourse open

Convention Floor

10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. Ladies Bus Tour - Bus will stop for lunch 10:00 A.M. Seminars

1:30 P.M. Seminars 3:30 P.M. Revenue Group Annual Meeting

3:30 P.M. Seminars 6:50 P.M. Reception (1) To Be Announced

Saturday, September 26

9:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. Convention Floor Registration 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Exhibition and Bourse open Le Grand Salon Annual Meeting BNAPS Chaudiere Room 10:00 A.M.

1:30 P.M. Seminars 3:30 P.M. Seminars

5:15 P.M. Dismounting of Exhibition Le Grand Salon 7:00 P.M. President's Reception (1) International Ballroom

8:00 P.M. **Annual Banquet** International Ballroom

> Speaker-The Honourable Henry D. Hicks, Halifax **Exhibition Awards and Medals**

(1) Registered BNAPS guests will receive invitations

ATTRACTIONS -

Refer to Ottawa Map

14. Garden of the Provinces 1. Skyline Hotel 2. National Postal Museum 15. Nepean Point 3. Royal Canadian Mint

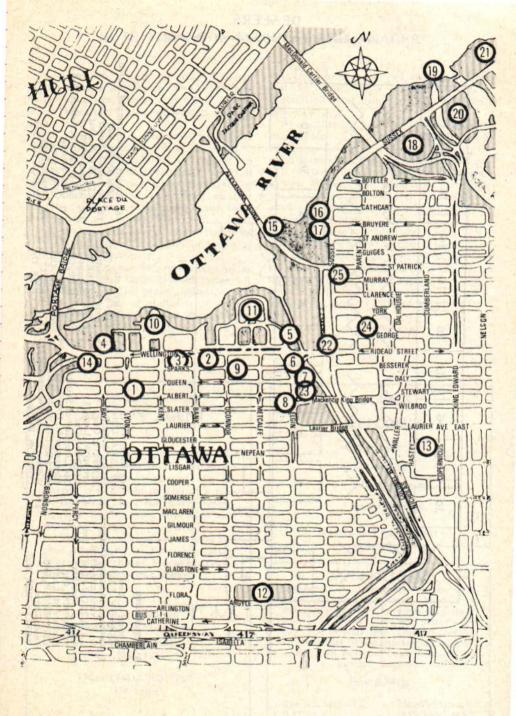
National Currency Museum National Library & Public Archives 16. 4. 17. Canadian War Museum 5. Bytown Museum 18. Lester B. Pearson Building (External Affairs) 6. **National War Memorial**

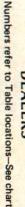
19. **National Arts Centre** 7. Rideau Falls 8. National Art Gallery 20. Ottawa City Hall

21. 9. Sparks Street Mall Prime Minister's Residence 22. 10. Supreme Court of Canada Customs & Excise Museum

23. 11. Parliament Buildings Visitors Information Bureau National Museum of Man & National 12. Byward Market

Museum of Natural Science 25. Ski Museum 13. University of Ottawa





A Registration

- 1. Robert A. Lee VERNON, B.C.
- 2. Greenwood Stamp Company 7. Berube & April R. F. Narbonne, Prop. CARLETON PLACE, Ont.
- 3. Allan L. Steinhart TORONTO, Ont.
- 4. Richard M. Lamb KITCHENER, Ont.
- 5. Peter Singer VANCOUVER, B.C.

6. Ian Kimmerly OTTAWA, Ont.

20

19

18

17

16

15

- STE FOY, Que.
- 8. Arthur W. Leggett WESTON, Ont. 9. The Company of Stamps
- Alexander M. Unwin, Prop. 14. Jim A. Hennok Ltd. BELLEVUE, Wash. U.S.A.
- 10. William E. Lea (Philatelists) 115. E. J. Barnett LONDON, England
- 11. Stanley Lum DON MILLS, Ont.
- 12. David J. Winstone NEWMARKET, Ont.
- 13. D & D Stamps OAKVILLE, Ont.
 - TORONTO, Ont. OAKVILLE, Ont.
- 16. Robert Laird Stamps Limited TORONTO, Ont
- 17. Graham J. Noble KINGSTON, Ont.
- 18. Richard Wolffers San Francisco, Calif. U.S.A.
- 19. U. H. Wesingi AJAX, Ont.

13

20. George Wegg TORONTO, Ont.

NOTE FROM THE CIRCULATION MANAGER

A recent letter from our new President moved me to write a few words to explain to may of our newest members just why the Circulation Department exists and what its manager does.

The Circulation Department exists primarily as a depository of suplus TOPICS. These are made available, on request, to members and prospective members alike. At all times there are on hand several thousands of back issues. Unfortunately, however, we have very few complete volumes and no issues older than volume 12, that is, 1995.

All requests for specific back issues of TOPICS are filled, if available, at a cost of

\$2.50 per copy, post-paid.

The department has, however, a continuous Bargain Basement Sale of back issues of TOPICS. At \$10.00 per order, a selection of 20 random copies will be mailed from surplus stock. These could be from any years between 1955 and 1980. If you should be satisfied and

wish to re-order another lot, another 20 copies will be mailed with a guarantee of no duplication. These orders are also filled on a post-paid basis.

At any time the Librarian has back issues to loan should you wish to make a purchase of the back issue desired or if the circulation department doesn't have that particular one on hand.

If you have problems regarding non-delivery of your TOPICS you should write your Circulation Manager. For a change of address or to correct a wrong address, you should write the Secretary for prompt action.

Though there have been many postal delays which we have had to accept, it must be said that in ten years of operation the Department has only lost on parcel. So the mail does go through. Why not try a sample order of back issues? Write to me at P.O. Box 639, Coppercliff, Ontario POM 1NO.

Bob Boudignon

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TOPICS WELCOMES

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- Suggestions

Contact The Editor

COLLECTIONS

Disposing of collections to the best advantage can sometimes become a complex problem. I have the experience and ready access to the best markets for any type of collection. This includes the International British market as Canadian Agent for Robson Lowe Limited of London, England.

George Wegg

Box 68, Station Q, M4T 2L7 Toronto, Canada (416)489 - 4683

A POSTAL HISTORY OF RAT PORTAGE, KEEWATIN; With Some Reference To The Province Of Keewatin, Its Own Postal and Railway History - 1876-1886

by G.F. Hansen

PART III CONCLUSION

One addition to the post office was built around 1927, and another in the 1940's. As a result of the first addition it was necessary to replace the heating system boilers in 1978.

In November of 1968 it was announced that a new Federal Building would be built in Kenora, and that the post office would be moved to the new building. In June of 1970 that transition took place and the post office closed its doors at the old site for the last time. Since then the old building has stood idle, still looking stately and Victorian, but forlorn. In 1980 there were signs of activity around the place. It was indicated that the post office building was being renovated to house the Kenora Museum in more spacious quarters. Later on the local council decided that the space was needed for new council changes. A rather sharp fight broke out in the community, which resulted in the resignation of the museum board.

Now there is a political move afoot to amalgamate KENORA and KEEWATIN with the Rural Municipality of Jaffrey-Mellick. At one time the amalgamation was even more ambitious but this was fought off by several surrounding areas which felt that they were being swallowed up by three largely urban areas, while they were mainly rural in nature. It would be logical, if the smaller amalgamation does take place, that the name KEEWATIN be retained, rather than KENORA. After all, it is much more historic and important to the area.

RAT PORTAGE and KEEWATIN were not the only two post offices in what for a short time was known as the Province of Keewatin, created in 1876 to set up a buffer between Manitoba on the west and Ontario on the east. Manitoba at the time was known as the postage stamp Province. Ontario had rather indefinite boundaries to the west of Lake Superior. The Province of Keewatin has had as western boundary the east boundary of Manitoba, its southern boundary was the border with the United States, its Eastern boundary was the western boundary of Ontario set at 90°58′W. Thenorthernboundary of Keewatin was rather indeterminate, but extended north from the

northern limits of Manitoba into the sub-arctic regions, much of which was practically uninhabited. After 1886, when much of the southern section of what was Keewatin was given to Ontario despite Manitoba's claim to it, the District of Keewatin moved further northward, and still exists as a portion of the North West Territories.

According to Gray Scrimgeour, writing in The Postal History Society of Canada Journal, Number 20, December 1979, there were the following post offices in the Province of Keewatin in the area near KEEWATIN and RAT PORTAGE:

Cross Lake
Cross Lake Station
Ignace
Vermillion Bay
Darlington
Big Fork

Rainy River Whitemouth Lake Deception Hawk Lake Fort Francis Pine Falls





WHITEMOUTH and PINE FALLS play no real part in this narrative, although WHITEMOUTH was on the C.P.R. line from Winnipeg to Rat Portage. Also listed as Province of Keewatin post offices at the time were GIMLI and HOOSAVICK, both of which were basically Icelandic settlements on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg.





It is interesting to note the revenues of the early post offices of Keewatin during the ten years it held its original boundaries (Table A). This data is from records of the Postmaster General, and is normally for the period July I of one year to June 30 of the next. KEEWATIN MILLS was the name for KEEWATIN when it was part of the Province of Keewatin.

The history of several of these Keewatin post offices was closely linked with the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Contrary to the belief of certain people, the railway was not built simply from east to west but in sections on which crews were working from the west, using supplies brought in to them by whatever means, while other crews were working towards them from the east. At some point along the section the two crews would meet and the symbolic "last spike" would be driven.

The Keewatin area was part of the Thunder Bay to Winnipeg section, which was itself divided into three sub-sections. These were the Thunder Bay section from Port Arthur to Ignace, a distance of 151.8 railway miles; the Wabigoon section from Ignace to Rat Portage, another 144.9 miles; and finally, the Rat Portage section to Winnipeg, which was an additional 132.4 railway miles. Track work began on the section at Thunder Bay with a sod turning ceremony on June 1, 1875, and the last spike was driven on June 19, 1882 at a point just west of Eagle River.

As the railway crews moved forward post offices would be opened up for their use at what was called the railhead, also known as the endof- track. For the crew moving towards RAT PORTAGE from Winnipeg, the first of these railhead post offices was at DARLINGTON, which is known to have been somewhere west of CROSS LAKE. This had to be in Manitoba, but the name cannot now be found on any maps of Manitoba. DARLINGTON opened December 1, 1878 and closed on November 1. 1879 when CROSS LAKE opened. CROSS LAKE, in turn, closed when LAKE DECEPTION opened on December 1, 1880. LAKE DECEPTION, KEE, was just 12.6 rail miles short of RAT PORTAGE.



LAKE DECEPTION has an interesting story connected with its name. It was here that the contractor for the railway, at that time being built by the Government of Canada, found himself pouring literally hundreds of thousands of yards of gravel into the building of a road bed across a portion of the lake. When he thought he had a good road bed an engine was driven across it, only to have the engine, the track and the road bed sink into the lake to form the base for still more costly yards of gravel. This section of road bed that was to cause trouble for the railway for years after it was taken over by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The contractor is said to have almost bankrupted himself at this location, so it is no wonder that the name became LAKE DECEPTION. The railway still designates the spot as DECEPTION, although the flag stop station at the lake is now called Busteed.

LAKE DECEPTION continued to operate as a post office until December 1, 1883, indicative of the need to maintain a crew at the spot long after the section had been completed. On that date the name CROSS LAKE STATION came into use. It is believed that this was a new name for LAKE DECEPTION.



KEEWATIN MILLS (now Keewatin, Ont.) and RAT PORTAGE (now Kenora, Ont.) are the next two post office locations on the railway. There is some trouble establishing an accurate postal history here, for reasons explained in the story told of RAT PORTAGE earlier in this article. If we follow Frank Campbell's chronology, KEEWATIN was established on September 1, 1879 and was bodily transported to what is now Kenora two months later. By March 1, 1880 KEEWATIN MILLS, ONT. had been established, while RAT PORTAGE, KEE. CANADA had its post office canceller around December 6, 1879.

To the east of Rat Portage, HAWK LAKE was opened sometime in the spring or summer of 1885, while VERMILLION BAY was established September 1, 1884. Hawk Lake was soon closed as its revenues were low but re-opened for a ten year period from 1896 to 1906. It again

opened in 1913, and closed permanently in 1963. The Vermillion Bay post office was closed in 1886, re-opened in 1887, and re-closed on December 1, 1899. It opened again on August 1, 1900 and continues in use.

IGNACE was opened February 1, 1884 and continues in use as IGNACE, ONT. It should be noted that HAWK LAKE, VERMILLION BAY and IGNACE, while surely railway communities, were not opened as railhead post offices. It appears that in these locations settlers must have moved in as the railway went throught. A visit to the aea will show many old Swedish and Norwegian names that are known to go back almost a century.



Not railway towns, but originally in the Province of Keewatin and now in Ontario. were BIG FORK opened August 1, 1883, closed October 30, 1936, and RAINY RIVER established October 1, 1885 and still open. FORT FRANCIS, N.W.T. opened before the

Province of Keewatin was created on January 1. 1876, became FORT FRANCIS, KEE, six months later and then became FORT FRANCES, ONT, in 1886, (Note the change to the feminine spelling. This was done when it was found out that the town had been named after the wife of Sir George Simpson, factor of the Hudson's Bay Company, governor-in-chief of Rupert's Land.)

now in Manitoba. WHITEMOUTH. celebrated its 100th anniversary as a post office on November 1, 1980. PINE FALLS opened on November 1, 1879, then became FORT ALEXANDER, KEE, on November 1, 1881 Fort Alexander, Man, was closed on July 1. 1941 but re-opened on May 1, 1950 and is

still open.

A SELECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY:

The Daily Miner and News; Kenora, Ont.;

April 25, 1980.

The Postal History Society of Canada Journal: Numbers 20 (Dec. 1979) and 23 (Sept. 1980) Place Names of Manitoba; Geographic Board of Canada: 1933

Van Horne's Road: Lavalee, Omer; Railfare

Enterprises: Montreal: 1974.

The National Dream: Burton, Pierre; McClelland & Stewart, Toronto: 1970. The Last Spike: Burton, Pierre; McClelland &

Stewart, Toronto: 1971.

TABLE A -- REVENUES OF THE POST OFFICES OF EARLY KEEWATIN

	1876	1877	18/8	18/9	1880	1881
Cross Lake		THE BANG	11/19-		\$330.67	
Darlington				\$104.66		
Fort Francis	\$17.82	\$86.42	\$118.58	\$70.82	\$44.45	\$42.56
Gimli			\$67.59	\$115.25	\$97.42	\$42.63
Hoosavick				\$12.81	\$15.48	\$13.34
Keewatin Mills					\$9.14	\$191.71
Lake Deception						\$674.50
Pine Falls						\$28.21
Rat Portage					\$556.16	\$1415.09
	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	
Big-Fork			\$13.25	\$9.85	\$13.06	
Cross Lake Station			\$51.40	\$28.63	\$149.57	
Fort Francis	\$61.63	\$102.47	\$129.67	\$71.78	\$91.77	
Hawk Lake					\$4.68	
Ignace			\$23.39	\$132.79	\$105.80	
Keewatin Mills	\$216.49	\$347.16	\$385.06	\$277.01	\$319.30	
Lake Deception	\$230.15	\$89.55	\$34.74			
Rainy River					\$8.64	
Rat Portage	\$1555.47	\$1782.12	\$2291.24	\$1751.67	\$1703.80	
Vermilion Bay				\$60.17	\$158.68	
Whitemouth	\$252.05					





Revenue Study Group

Editor - Wilmer Rockett





WAR TAX STAMPS

Bill 45, Victoria, Chapter 1, assented to on 3 March 1882, repealed all Bill Taxes as of 4 March, 1882. No further taxes on fiscal instruments were collected until 1915.

The pressing demand for more Federal revenue, as a result of World War I, resulted in the passing of the special War Revenue Act, Bill 76, in February 1915. It required War Tax and Excise Tax stamps.

In order to collect the additional tax on wines and spirits, the 5¢, 20¢ and 50¢ regular postage stamps of the 1912 issue were overprinted WAR TAX. These were also being used as postage. Just to make the status of the 5¢, 20¢ and 50¢ war tax stamps clear, when a new supply was printed in 1916, the words Inland Revenue were added to the overprint.





In order to collect the War Tax of 1c on all letters, and 2c on all checks, two war tax stamps were issued by the Post Office. On 25 March 1915 Type 1 was issued, the 1c green and the 2c red. In 1916 two more stamps, Type 2, were issued, the 2c plus 1c carmine and the 2c plus 1e brown. The 2c plus 1c carmine was issued perforated 12, perforated 12x 8, and in rolls of 500 perforated 8 vertically. The 2c plus 1c brown was issued perforated 12 and in rolls of 500 perforated 8 vertically.

The 1915 issues were frequently used-incorrectly-to pay the full amount of postage. However, on 16 April 1915 an Official Circular stated, "The Postmaster has been informed that it has been decided the Postage Stamps upon which the words 'WAR TAX' have been printed may be accepted for prepayment of postage".





THE WAR TAX REVENUE STAMP

The War Tax stamps and Excise Tax Stamps were issued concurrently. There does not seem to be any legislation requiring one versus the other.

As mentioned previously, there was 2¢ tax on fiscal documents - checks, bills of exchange, promissory notes, receipts for advances by banks, etc.; 2¢ tax on money orders; and 1¢ tax on postal notes, post cards and letters. A tax of 1¢ for each 25¢ of the retail price of patent medicines and perfumery was levied. On still wines the tax was 3¢ per pint, 5¢ per quart. On sparkling wines, 13¢ per half-pint or less, 25¢ per pint for larger quantities. In 1918, 1¢ per 100 matches, and 8¢ per pack of playing cards was charged. There was no tax on goods exported.

The War Tax stamps of 1915 were printed by the American Bank Note Company. The denominations 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 4¢, 5¢, 8¢, 10¢, 13¢, 25¢ and 50¢ were perforated 12. The 1¢ and 2¢ were issued in booklets. These two values were also issued in rolls of 500, perforated 8 horizontally.

There are many varieties of overprints and surcharges on this issue. Quite an extensive and interesting collection can be made.

If you have an interest in the various issues of Canadian Revenues you should be a member of the Revenue Study Group of BNAPS. Naturally, all members of BNAPS are eligible for membership in this Group. We publish 10 Newsletters each year. Write: W.C. Rockett, 2030 Overlook Ave., Willow Grove, Pa. 19090.

THE FLAG CANCEL STUDY GROUP TYPE 2 MONTREAL

by Larry R. Paige

It has been thought, from a report of years ago, that an early brochure by the Imperial Mail Marking Machine Company Ltd. contains an example of a Type 2 flag cancel dated March 18, 1896. This was incorrect, it was the Type 1 Montreal Blank which was illustrated.

The service of the Imperial Machine at Montreal during April 1986 produced the first flag cancel to have continual use, though only for a short period of time. This was the Type 2 flag cancel, or Straight Jack, as it is referred to by most collectors. This flag cancel has a reported period of use of only 12 days. The earliest reported date of use is 11 April 1896, although the machine cancel M2-A was also used on this date. (I saw this date a few years ago in a dealer's stock, but did not realize its significance until too late. I contacted the dealer, but the cover had been sold and he did not remember to whom. If the owner reads this, I would like to hear from him/her.)

The machine cancel M2-A was used from 23 March 1896 to 11 April 1896. Sometime during the day on April 11 the M2-A was taken out of service, to be replaced with the Type 2 flag cancel. I have not seen, or heard any reports, of use of the M2-A cancel during the

April 11-22, 1986 period of use of the type 2 flag cancel. Again, I would like to hear from anyone with an example of the use of M2-A in this period.

I have in my collection the late date of 22 April 1896 of Type 2 for 10-0 (10 a.m.), as well as cancel M2-A for 22 April, 19-0 (7 p.m.), which shows the change from the Type 2 flag to M2-A sometime between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on that day. The M2-B was reported as being put into service on 22 April 1896 but this was an error. How long the M2-A stayed in service after 22 April 1896 is not known.

The Type 2 flag cancel is also listed in the Catalogue of United States Flag Cancels, by Frederick Langford, which states that the Straight Jack was not used on the two Sundays during the 12 reported days of use. This is not correct, as I have both dates on cover, April 12 and April 19, both for 19-0 (7 p.m.).

The Type 2 flag cancel is the only one of the 13 different classic flag cancels of the Victorian Era to be of the Straight Jack design. The shape of the flag is straight line, rectangular. All of the other flags have the wavy design, which gives the impression of the flag blowing in the breeze.



 Il April 1896, the earliest reported date of use. The left leg of the R in April is always missing. This apparently was damaged during use with cancel M2-A.



(2) 12 April 1896, this is use on a Sunday. Note the name of the addressee—A prominent Canadian family.



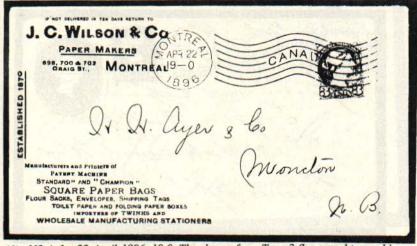
(3) 54 U.P.U. rate to Germany. This is the first cover I have seen with the Type 2 to a foreign country other than England.



(4) 19 April 1896, use on the second Sunday of the 12 reported days of use. Notice the short foot L of Montreal in the date dial. The short L is also found in the date dial of this Type I, indicia F flag cancel.



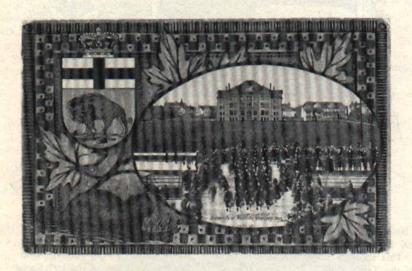
(5) 22 April 1896, the latest reported date of use of the Type 2.



(6) M2-A for 22 April 1896, 19-0. The change from Type 2 flag cancel to machine cancel M2-A was made between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Patriotic Postcard Series

by W. L. GUTZMAN



Checkerboard Series-Manitoba Coat of Arms

Brown Checkerboard Borders

An unusually-colored set of cards was produced by Valentine & Sons about the year 1913. The brown borders give the impression of leather and were possibly inspired by the real leather cards produced in earlier years. The checkerboard, beaver, and maple leaves are all coloured in pleasant shades of medium brown and pale brown. The view, within an oval frame, is in colour, which is a variation from most series.

There are two distinct types. The more commonly reported one shows the Manitoba Coat-of-Arms at upper left, while a second type shows the very colourful Canada Coat-of-Arms.

The Valentine numbers appear rather haphazardly on these cards. In some cases, the number is printed in the brown area of the card and is not readable. Readers are requested to contact me and fill in any numbers that they can read on their own cards.

The only used cards reported were mailed in the late winter and spring of 1913.

MANITOBA COAT-OF-ARMS

Armstrong's Point, Winnipeg
City Hall, Winnipeg, Man.
Court House, Winnipeg, Man.
Drive in City Park, Winnipeg, Man. (105,780)
Main Street, Winnipeg, Man.
Parliament Buildings, Winnipeg, Man.
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Man.
(106,350)

CANADA COAT-OF-ARMS
City Hall, Toronto (Vertical) (101,007)
King Street, Toronto
Queen's Park Entrance, The University,
Toronto

Canadian Life: National Series 1099

Although the pale green background colour makes cards of this series fairly easy to identify, the borders and arrangement of flags, maple leaves and crests do not show any standard pattern. Not only are the patriotic symbols in bright colours, but the views are also in color.

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Canadian Life-National Series 1099

Backs are all divided. The standard National Series header appears in a greenish print. This shows a shield surmounted by a lion as the Trade Mark. The series number appears immediately below. There seem to be six cards in this series. Any additions should be reported.

Rectangular View: Lumbermen, on the way

to the Woods

Rectangular View: A Sunday Camp Rectangular View: A Hunter's Camp Rectangular View: A Lumberman's Camp 3 Circular Views: Carting Wheat-Reaping-

Oval View: Threshing

No Caption-shows canoe



National Series 456

National Series - 456

The number of this series appears at the lower left of the face of the card, in very small print. The quaint designs also easily identify the cards. Coloured flags, snowshoes, maple leaves and crests are drawn on a white background with bluish shading behind the designs.

Backs are divided. The National Series trade-mark and other wording is printed in a dark gray colour. Used cards have not been reported so the period of usage has not been identified.

Designs and captions vary greatly, but

- -Hands across the Sea
 - in gold (2 snowshoes)
 - -in black (skating 456 at lower right)
 - -in gold (crest and leaf in circles)
- -"Our watchword evermore shall be 'The Maple Leaf For Ever'"
- -Soon as the woods on shore look dim, we'll sing at St. Annes our parting hymn"-Canadian Boat Song
- -"The Maple Leaf For Ever" (tobogganing)



National Series 2261

National Series - 2261

A beautiful series of cream-coloured cards shows usage in the period 1913-1915. The cards are in both vertical and horizontal format, and are brilliantly designed with multicoloured maple leaves, flags, coats-of-arms and elaborate lettering.

Backs are divided. The National Series trade-mark and other wording is printed in a dark olive-green colour. Although not so indicated on the cards, the publishers were probably Miller and Lang Ltd.

Wording on the cards varies in format, but should be identifiable from the following:

Best Wishes/Canada the Land of the Free Canada/For Auld Lang Syne

Dear Land of Ours

Greetings/from the/Land of the Maple Leaf

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THE CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES STUDY GROUP

Booklets of the Centennial Issue

by Douglas Irwin

PART 3

CS Bk 66, 25ϕ booklet containing one pane of 1x1d + 1x3d + 3x7d + 1abel

We have found three grades of paper on these panes under ultraviolet light - non fluorescent, dull fluorescent and low fluorescent (slightly more fluorescent than dull).

The non fluorescent panes and low fluorescent panes are found in covers with a black sealing strip and back cover inscription reading either:

Free dispenser Pre-stamped envelopes with each roll of OR A bargain and 100 8¢ stamps no stamps to lick Sanitary/convenient Ask-at your post office

Counting marks seem to be found only on booklets with back cover inscription "Free dispenser...". We would appreciate hearing from anyone who has seen a counting mark on the other cover.

The dull fluorescent panes are found in covers with a clear sealing strip and two different back cover inscriptions. Counting marks can be found on covers with both back inscriptions as illustrated.

We have seen two different varieties resulting from the panes being attached to the covers improperly. The most outstanding variety results from the pane being attached upside down. In normal booklets, the pane is attached via selvedge, to the inside of the front cover, and the face of the stamps are seen when the cover is opened. In the variety, the pane selvedge is attached to the back cover and upside down, so that when the front cover is opened, the gum side of the pane is seen. This variety probably results from the cover stock being fed backward into the British American Bank Note Company's booklet manufacturing press.

The second variety results from the selvedge of the pane being attached (in the proper orientation) over the fold of the booklet cover. When the booklet is closed, the pane is folded through the selvedge rather than along the first horizontal row of perforations.

The communications tower of the 7¢ stamps seems to be printed rather poorly and in many cases sections of the tower are missing. The extent and location of the missing sections are not constant, but vary from pane to pane. Various sections of the frame line of the 7¢ stamp can also be found missing.

CS Bk 67, \$1 booklet containing one pane of 4x16 + 4x36 + 12x76

These booklet panes are printed on dull fluorescent paper with counting marks existing on every 50th cover.

CS Bk 68, $50 \neq$ booklet containing two panes of $1x1 \neq + 1x3 \neq + 3x7 \neq + 1$ abel

Both panes in these booklets are printed on dull fluorescent paper (this is understandable as these booklets are made from the corresponding 25¢ booklets (Bk 66), with clear sealing strips, and panes on dull fluorescent



paper). We have found that the exact sizes of the large and small labels vary by as much as 3 mm on each dimension. Counting marks seem to occur only on booklets with back cover inscription "Free dispenser . . .". We have not seen any copies with counting marks on the "Premarks on both covers). We have not seen any copies with counting marks on the "Prestamped . . ." covers but would appreciate hearing from anyone who has.

Again, as in the 25¢ booklets, there are missing sections of the tower on the 7¢ stamps. Various sections of the frame line of the 7¢ stamps can also be found missing (most evident on the upper pane).

CS Bk 70, \$1 booklet containing one pane of 6x1e + 1x6e + 11x8e

The panes are printed on non fluorescent paper, and are either Ottawa tagged (OP4 migrating phosphor), or untagged, with counting marks being found on both types of booklets.

A small number of untagged and tagged booklets exist with the right edge of the 8¢ stamp (R 4/2) missing 1. Our study of this variety seems to indicate that the amount of the inked design missing is not constant, but varies substantially from variety to variety. We feel that the total number of this variety in existence is much greater than 40 (as was reported elsewhere 1).

CS Bk 71, 50¢ booklet containing one pane of 4x1¢ + 1x6¢ + 5x8¢

These booklet panes are printed on low fluorescent paper in covers with 10 different designs in blue. The panes are either untagged or tagged with OP4 migrating phosphor. Both types of panes are found in covers with either a black sealing strip or a clear sealing strip. This gives four basic sets:

- 10 different cover designs with untagged panes and black sealing strips
- 10 different cover designs with untagged panes and clear sealing strips
- 10 different cover designs with tagged panes and black sealing strips
- 10 different cover designs with tagged panes and clear sealing strips.

The counting marks seem to occur only on the motorcycle booklet in all four sets.

We have found numerous varieties in these booklets. In the tagged booklets, the tagging bars can be found ending on the selvedge above the panes, or in the other case, running completely through the selvedge. These tagging varieties exist with both a black sealing strip and a clear sealing strip and arise due to the positioning of the panes on the printing cylinder. Panes at the edge of the cylinder will have the tagging bars ending on the selvedge above the pane, while panes from the middle of the cylinder will have the tagging bars running completely through the selvedge above the pane.

We have seen panes where the tagging bars have been shifted horizontally, resulting in only two bars on each pane rather than three (the bar down the right edge or the left edge is missing). We have also seen copies of the tagged booklets with faint or completely missing sections of the tagging bars. The location and the extent of the missing section is not constant.

Centennial definitive printed by the British American Bank Note Company seemed to be error free in perforating until the booklet issues with the 8¢ library stamp. The 50¢ booklets can be found with the vertical perforations shifted to the right and to the left (we consider a significant shift in perforations to occur when the perforations run through the design). The variety where the perforations are shifted left into the stamp have the tagging bars occurring in the normal position. However, the variety with the perforations shifted to the right has the tagging shifted left from its normal position. This results in the tagging being completely absent from the left edge of the pane.

In some instances, doubled perforations or abnormally large spacing between perforations can be found in the horizontal perforations along the edge of the panes, probably resulting from improper alignment of the perforating drum between successive sweeps.

Addenda

Some information provided to the study group by a Canadian booklet collector has made us aware of a new variety from the era discussed in Part 1 of this article (TOPICS, Volume 38, Number 2).

We have seen two copies of the Cameo booklet (Bk 53, 25¢ booklet with red cover) containing one pane of 5x1¢ brown Centennial and one pane of 5x4¢ carmine Centennial stamps (instead of the corresponding Cameo panes). The seal along the left edge of these

(continued on page 45)



Rounding Up Squared Circles

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









Column No. 143

With this column, Rounding Up Squared Circles resumes after a considerable absence from the pages of TOPICS. During its absence, a Squared Circle Study Group was formed. Its newsletter, The Roundup Annex, was established, and the task of preparing the Fourth Edition Squared Circle handbook was embarked upon.

The Squared Circle Study Group is now one of the larger BNAPS Study Groups, comprising nearly one hundred Squared Circle collectors. The Roundup Annex, hereafter referred to simply as Annex, co-edited by Glenn Hansen and myself, is now an established forum for gathering and disseminating information of interest to the specialist. And the new, Fourth Edition, Squared Circle Handbook, also co-edited by Glenn Hansen and myself, is now complete, proofread, and ready for the printers.

In view of the foregoing, it seems appropriate to modify the content of this column so that it does not simply duplicate material covered in Annex. This column will now deal with the more general aspects of Squared Circle collecting, while Annex will continue to deal with topics more of interest to the specialist. Collectors unaware of the existence of the Squared Circle Study Group and its newsletter, or whose interest may become whetted via this column, might like to join the Study Group to participate in its work. Details regarding membership are to be found at the end of this column.

A cursory scan of the collecting interests of new BNAPS members during the past several years indicates that many have at least a peripheral interest in Squared Circle cancellations. There is undoubtedly an even larger group which, for one reason or another, contains many potential converts to the field. It may include those who have arrived at an impasse in their current collecting interests and are casting about for new worlds to conquer, those who have really not taken note of these cancellations because of preoccupation with other fields, and those who have simply not been aware of the field because of lack of exposure to it-partly due to the absence of Rounding Up Squared Circles from TOPICS and the unavailability of a Handbook.

To establish the subject matter, the illustration heading this column contains examples of the two main types of Squared Circle cancels. Two Type I cancels - those with thin bars - are shown, one (BROCK-VILLE), very common, the other (SPRING-HILL MINES), rare. Two Type II cancels - those with thick bars - are also shown, one (HALIFAX), very common, and the other (FONTHILL), very rare and known in only a single example.

The illustrations are copies of proof impressions of the hammers (or cancellers), from the Proof Book of the manufacturer, Messrs. Pritchard & Andrews of Ottawa. The proof impressions were simply appearance strikes made for the records of the manu-

facturer, and contained the date on which the hammers were completed and ready for delivery to the Post Office. Fortunately, a substantial portion of the Proof Book survives and forms a valuable resource in the study of these cancellations. More will be said of the Proof Book, and the proof strikes contained in it, in ensuing columns.

Squared Circle hammers were issued to 309 towns, sub-offices of towns, RPO's and a lone non-Canadian town, HONOLULU, H.I. The number is commonly quoted as 311 towns; however; two of them (MONTREAL and LONDON) were initially issued Type I hammers and then, at later times, Type II hammers (two, in the case of MONTREAL).

A number of towns or offices were issued two or more hammers, each distinguishable in some way from other hammers for that town. At present, 336 distinct as-issued hammers can be identified. Various modifications were made, after issue, to a number of hamgenerally easily recognizable features of subsequent strikes, and provide an additional 14 hammer states. The total of all presently known hammers, and states of hammers, is thus 350, of which 25 towns plus one additional hammer state are Type I, and the balance, Type II.

The Squared Circle cancels form a small, compact group, a feature which highly recommends them as a collecting area. But the smallness of the number of hammers to be collected belies the difficulty of forming a nearly complete collection. Strikes of several hammers, known from impressions in the Proof Book, have not yet been found: these are MONTREAL, Type I; SYDNEY, Hammer II; and FORMOSA, Hammer I. Single examples of COLEMAN, Type I and FONTHILL, Type II are known. There are others known in only two or three examples. In some cases, the scarcity of strikes from a given town may be attributed to the fact that the towns were small and probably did not handle a large volume of mail; in other cases, this explanation is not valid, and other explanations, such as reservation of the Squared Circle hammer for some special use, must be invoked.

Fortunately, the group contains many common towns and a further fairly large number of only moderate scarcity. It is possible, starting from scratch, to form within a year or two, a representative collection com-

prised of perhaps two-thirds of all the known hammers. Beyond the level of 200 to 250 towns, the going is much more difficult. But therein lies the challenge. One cannot just write off to a dealer, ordering the desired scarce-to-rare towns. Assiduous hunting is required to achieve a level of perhaps 300 different towns/hammers, Generally, the scarceto-rare needed towns become available from specialist dealers or at auction, only when a large, important collection is being dispersed, or a new find has been made. Those who have formed large collections realize the great importance of corresponding and trading with other collectors. It often happens that a town needed in one collection is held in one or more duplicates in another collection, only awaiting a suitable trade.

Interest need not flag when the rate of new acquisitions slows down, either because one cannot find needed towns, or cannot afford them when available. There are many specialties which can be developed within the fold of Squared Circle collecting; indeed, most Squared Circle collectors actively pursue a number of sub-specialties. Some of the areas, by no means exhaustive, which one could consider are:

- (1) Collections on special stamp, such as the 15d Large Queen, 5d Registry Stamp, 1d or 3d Jubilee, 2d Map Stamp, or Admiral Issues. Each of these are actively pursued by a number of collectors. Of course, the collection could just as well be Squared Circles on any other stamp which takes one's fancy (provided that the particular stamp was current during the period of use of the Squared Circle cancellers). Many of these collections will be of much more limited scope than a general Squared Circle collection. For example, most Squared Circle towns had stopped using the Squared Circle hammer long before the Admiral Stamp era. A much larger number of possibilities exist for Squared Circles on Map Stamps, but even here many towns had stopped using their Squared Circle hammers before the advent of the Map Stamp. A still larger group is possible on Jubilee stamps, but here too, some towns had ceased using the Squared Circle canceller prior to issue of the jubilees.
- (2) Specialized indicia collectors, where the aim is to acquire an example of each

time mark and/or indicia style known for each town. Some of these are rare, and the hunt will be challenging.

(3) Matched indicia collections wherein the aim is to find AM, PM, or 1, 2 or A, B, C, D for the same day at the same town. Some towns used much longer strings of time marks, such as 1 to 8 at OTTAWA and 1 to 10 at WINNIPEG, or hourly time marks, 7AM to 12PM (TORONTO). The hunt for needed time marks for a specific date will generally require a considerable correspondence, making one's needs known to others, and trading.

(4) Collections of error indicia, such as inverted time marks, inverted or scrambled month and day, and erroneous year dates such as 10 for 01, 89 for 98 and others not involving mere transposition of digits. Particularly desirable are pairs of strikes showing the error in one example, and its correction the same day, same time period, or following time period, in a second example.

(5) Collections showing damage to the hammer face or the indicia, especially when the damage is progressive. Examples are the progressive damage to the 'IL' of the town name in the BROCK-VILLE hammer, and the progressive damage to the numeral '8' in the year date, '98', at BRANDON. Numerous other examples of progressive damage to rim lettering and the indicia can be found for other towns.

(6) Collections on cover. These may be general collections on cover, or covers carrying Squared Circle cancels of two or more towns (office of origin and transit or receiving marks), or on illustrated covers.

The listing is as long, or as short, as one's imagination.

There are numerous other topics to be considered. These include such things as colored cancels (shades of blue, purple, green are known for certain towns at certain times); Nude cancels (those completely devoid of indicia), known from several towns, and representing precancel use at one of them; concurrent or consecutive use of hammers at multi-hammer towns; concurrent use of the Squared Circle hammer and other cancellers (for example, use of PM in the Squared Circle cancels, but

AM only in a CDS used at the same time period), and modifications of the hammer face (for example, the 'broken circle' states of BOB-CAYGEON, SCHREIBER and NANAIMO, and the various states of one of the RPO's).

There is still room for the collector with an interest in postal history to make a contribution. Some topics elucidated in recent years include reason for the change from AM, PM to 1, 2 and then 7, 8 at NANAIMO; work hours corresponding to time marks 1, 2, 3, 4 at HALIFAX; and the discovery, only a few months ago, of a third, and previously unknown hammer for KINGSTON.

In following columns I will consider a wide range of topics including construction of the hammers, indicia styles, time marks, the Proof Book and its contained proof strikes, identification of hammers for multi-hammer towns, means of identifying partial strikes, collections on special stamp, and so forth.

* * * * * * * *

Members in good standing of BNAPS are eligible for membership in the Squared Circle Study Group. Its newsletter, the Roundup Annex, is issued about six times a year, sometimes more frequently. In it, material of a more specialized nature than contained in this column is covered. It provides a forum for discussion of a wide range of topics, and contributions from members are actively sought. It is co-edited by Glenn Hansen and myself. I should, at this point, direct credit where it is due: Glenn does the lion's share of the work, including making up the newsletter from material provided both by myself and other members, printing and mailing, maintaining the membership roster, and receiving the subscriptions which pay for printing and mailing. The subscription last year was \$5.00; I am not sure, in face of increased paper and postage costs whether that will be adequate this year. I understand from Glenn that requests for back issues of the newsletter from new members have now exhausted the stock, and that none are presently available. Readers having an interest in membership in the Squared Circle Study Group should write directly to Glenn at the following address:

> Glenn F. Hansen 375 Jefferson Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R2V ON4



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"Grow with The Royal"

The Centennial Definitives Study Group

(continued from Page 41)

booklets is still intact and the wax paper interleaf is present. We have not examined the panes under UV light and thus do not know their grade of fluorescence. We would appreciate hearing from anyone who has more information regarding this variety.

The Centennial Definitives Study Group will have a session in Ottawa at BNAPEX 81. We are anxious to meet any collectors interested in the Centennial era. Any collector desiring to join the study group can contact us at:

Centennial Definitives Study Group 2250 Lawrence Ave. East, No. 406 Scarborough, Ontario, M1P 2P9

 CANADA, THE 1967-1973 DEFINITIVE ISSUE, by Keane and Hughes, page 61. (to be continued)

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CANADA-B.N.A. PHILATELY (An Outline); Ed Richardson; BNAPS, 1981, 64pp. \$10.00

Why review a book that every member of BNAPS has received? For two reasons: first, to make sure that everyone reads it; second, to encourage members to tell others about it, especially newcomers and recent returnees to the hobby.

Our well known member, Ed Richardson, has prepared this 64-page handbook to stimulate interest in the many facets of BNA philately and has succeeded admirably. The book is a goldmine of information. Stampless covers, early issues, recent issues, airmails, cancellations, precancels and perfins, postal stationery, military and patriotic covers, and, of course, revenues are all covered. There are also sections on the Provinces, proofs and postal history. Ed has collected many of the areas discussed, so he writes from experience.

Some things are covered in depth, others only touched on, a few not even mentioned—an indication of the vastness of BNA philately as a study area. The important thing is that CANADA—B.N.A. PHILATELY (An Outline) is a well full of ideas that anyone—from the vetern looking for a new subject to the beginner wondering where to start—can draw from and use.

Additional copies are available from the BNAPS Book Department at \$10 each. Quantity discounts are available to established dealers.

ALS/MS

LA PREMIERE ROUTE POSTALE AU CAN-ADA 1763-1851; Guy des Rivières; La Société d'Histoire Postale du Quebec, 1981, 44pp,\$5.

Another prominent member, Guy des Rivières, has once again taken pen in hand, this time to help the newly formed Quebec Postal History Society produce its first publication.

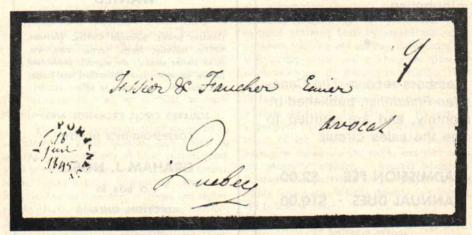
Anyone with a little knowledge of French should have no difficulty reading this well-written book, especially if a French-Eng-

lish dictionary is kept handy.

The First Postal Route in Canada was from Quebec City to Montreal, along the north shore of the St. Lawrence River. The French had established a stagecoach route which, after the transfer of power in 1763, became the basis of the first organized, official, postal system in Canada. The book starts off by describing things as they were in 1763, and then goes on to describe the activities of Hugh Finlay, the first Postmaster of Quebec, as he developed and enlarged the Post Office.

Rates, including a good explanation of the differences between currency and sterling, are covered very well. The development of early postmarks, from straight line through split-ring, is done in an interesting way; specifically by tying the different types of postmarks to the different post-offices as the latter were added on the route.

Available at \$5.00 from the Société d' Histoire Postale du Quebec, 2497 Rue des Hospitalières, Sillery, Quebec G1T 1V6. MS



One of the early covers illustrated in LA PREMIERE ROUTE POSTALE AU CANADA

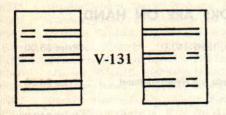
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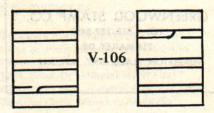
by Hans Reiche

Inverted bar types exist the same as in the numbers and cities. Listing of these inverts would be difficult because the features which identify them are not always obvious as they are in the other overprints. In addition there is another problem. Which bar is actually inverted and which is the normal one? By simply looking at the features of the bar it is not possible to determine which bar is inverted and which is normal. One must therefore make use of another method.

A statistical sampling of a large enough and representative sample can reveal at least a trend. If one, for example, examines 1000 copies of Type U one may find that 900 of them are showing one feature, the other 100 an inverted one. Although this may not in all cases indicate that the large sample was the normal one, and the inverted one the small sample, for the purposes of this discussion, the assumption is made that this is true. The discussion below of some features of the bars is therefore based on the samples found. The large sample found was termed the normal, the small sample the invert. In all cases exactly 1000 stamps of each Type were examined.



Type V with three pairs of heavy bars can be found normal and inverted. A double break in two of the bar pairs can be found from the first or the last sheet rows. The three pairs of bars on the outside rows end not at the margin of the stamps, but to the right for the first row, and to the left for the last row. Because of the existence of an invert the double break is either on the left or the right side. The break on the left side is believed to be the normal, the other the invert. The stamp is V-131.



On V-106 another such feature can be identified. Here the break occurs in the bottom pair of bars. The top bar is broken and shows a distortion in the form of a short line extending from the broken bar to the bottom bar of the bottom bar pair. The same break can be found inverted and in the top pair of bars. The first one is suggested to be the normal one.

Type X-222 can be noted with an extra line below the middle pair of bars. The same exists where the extra line is above the pair of bars. The first one appears to be the normal one.

Type R with two bars and a wavy line often shows that one of the bars is thinner than the other. The majority found have the thinner bar on top and the thicker one at the bottom. Inverts are the opposite. Although this feature may be due to wear and replacement of plates, statistically one can prove that the type with the thinner bar at the top is the normal one.

A very similar picture emerges for Type T, but here the thin bar is at the bottom for the suggested normal. Large blocks of 20 and 50 have been examined, and the so called normal, with the thin bar at the bottom, also shows additional features, especially at the first and last vertical sheet rows, which supports the theory.

For Type U it may be possible to establish a normal and an invert. The centre flattened wavy line shows that the flat part is either 8mm or 7mm long, one following the other flat. Unfortunately not enough samples were available for the test, and stamps from the outside rows would be needed to carry out further research.

For other W, X, and Y Types no pattern has yet been established and it may not be possible to do this because these were laid down with better control.

Your comments would be greatly appreciated.

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4069	Behm, Michael	4079	Campbell, Dr. Alex D	.4085	Singh, Madan Mohan
4071	Davis, Jack	4080	Crowther, Alan L.	4086	Fallon, Ron
4075	Toulch, Fred C.	4081	Parsons, Robert S.	4087	Utberg, Neil S.

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2770	Perry, Gordon F., 19 Glenridge Cr., St. John's, Nfld. A1A 1T4
520	Allison, Russell A., 936 Fernwood Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07062

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1388	Lincoln, Leo L., 14 Kenwood St., Pittsfield, MA 01201
2445	Gibbons, Norman, R. R. No. 1, Unionville, Ont. L3R 2L6
2898	Gittis, Samuel, P. O. Box 559, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
2438	Webster, John C., 425 Bate Cr., Saskatoon, Sask. S7H 3A6
3496	Britton, David, 28 Summerhill Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4T 1B2

3609

Guenther, Herbert, Leuteroder Str. 17, D-5433 Siershahn, Germany

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