

The 'Greetmore' Program 1986-87

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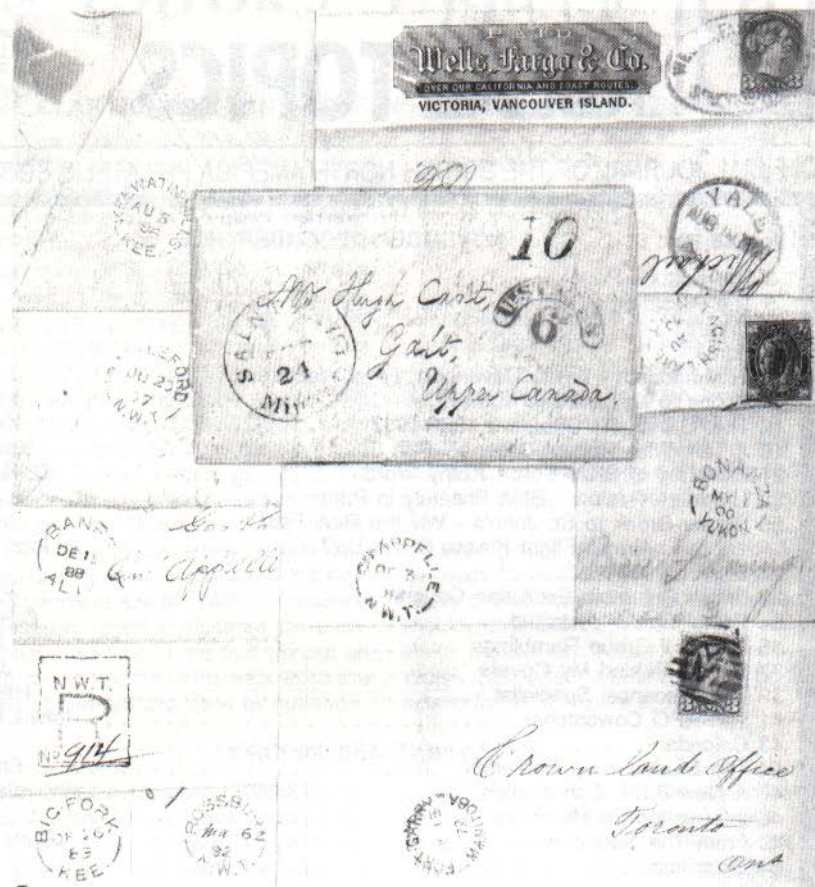
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BNAPS

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BNA TOPICS

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THE EDITOR'S PAGE

by Mike Street

CLARIFICATION - AN INTRIGUING NEWFOUNDLAND AIRMAIL COVER

In his Guest Comment, *The New Professionals and Us*, in the last *TOPICS*, Robert H. Pratt questioned the evidence behind the date critical to the point of *An Intriguing Newfoundland Airmail Cover*, by John M. Walsh, in the May-June 1988 *TOPICS*. Mr. Pratt's comment was, "[The article is] Probably correct, however the receiving date stamp at St. John's is not mentioned, or shown so that its authenticity could be checked."

For the record, it should be pointed out that the pertinent date, June 2, 1932, while not highlighted in any way, was clearly stated in the article. Further, when preparing the article and its accompanying illustration (the front of the cover), I noted the St. John's receiver on the back of the envelope and confirmed that it undoubtedly supported the text. Having made this check for *TOPICS*' readers, there seemed no need to illustrate the backstamp. It did not occur to me that without an illustration, or an explicit statement from me that I had confirmed the date in question,



someone would question the article.

My instinct is to let the veracity of the date in question rest on the above statement and my good reputation. Because, however, there is more to this incident than meets the eye, a matter which I will discuss in the next *TOPICS*, I am illustrating the backstamp here so there can be no doubt about its authenticity.

When getting *The New Professionals and Us* ready for publication the fact that this particular critical comment was undeserved and should have been deleted did not, unfortunately, register with me. As a result, John Walsh has been embarrassed. For this, I extend to him a sincere apology.

VIRGINIA BEACH REVISITED

While in Virginia Beach for BNAPEX six years ago I passed up several opportunities to have a particular favourite, stuffed crab, because I had been told that there would be lots at the seafood buffet at the closing banquet. Alas, when I got there, the table was bare! Marva and Larry Paige didn't know it, but if I had returned from Virginia Beach this year without having at least one stuffed crab at the BNAPEX dinner, funny things were going to start happening to their copies of *TOPICS*. It does not pay to fool the Editor twice!

Readers will be glad to learn that the 'Wrath of Mike' will not descend upon the only members who have 'BNAPS' on the license plate of the family automobile. There was lots of stuffed crab, and lots of everything else - and it was all terrific. The food was equally good and plentiful at the 'Southern' buffet on the Thursday night. (Having learned my lesson in '82, I made sure I got a piece of pecan pie early.)

The Convention Center was excellent. There have been some good hotels in the eight conventions I have attended - the Winnipeg Westin in 1983 comes to mind - but I have never heard so many people mention how pleased they were with the hotel and its staff as this year.

Attendance at the convention was much better than many expected, especially considering the fact that Norfolk/Virginia Beach is not exactly a bustling hub of airline activity, and it took a bit of effort to get there. More than 170 people signed in for the closing banquet; at least a dozen other members who had visited during the three days were not able to stay the whole time.

As you will read in the report on the Annual General Meeting in the next *TOPICS*, it was not all fun and games. The Society's officers were busy. Besides getting ready for a changing of the guard at the end of the year, many important business and administrative matters were acted upon.

The limit of four frames per exhibit caused much discussion, pro and con. Whether the greater than usual number of different displays was outweighed by the fact that some of the exhibitors had to leave out prime material will be debated for a while, but everyone

agreed that the quality of the philately on view was excellent. The jury, taking note of the fact that this was the closed exhibition of a specialist society, placed extra emphasis on research and the imparting of new information; their approach and the medals awarded brought almost universal agreement. Exhibition awards are given elsewhere in this issue.

Leo LaFrance, the Paiges and the others on their small committee have again shown BNAPSers Southern hospitality and deserve congratulations for a fine convention. We'll have a tough time matching them at next year's BNAPEX - but we will!

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by E.A. Harris O.T.B.



In my last column I reviewed the Society business activities which took place at our September Convention at Virginia Beach. Another side of our yearly Convention is perhaps even more important to the well-being of our Society and the hobby in general - that is the aspect of fellowship and fun.

Planning our trip to the BNAPS Convention has become an annual tradition for Kay and me. We look forward to again meeting old friends, some of whom we see only once a year at BNAPEX. The topics of conversation range from technical philately to family news. Some of our philatelic friends come from virtually next door, others from thousands of miles away. And whether the Convention contact be at a formal social function, or a mere informal hallway chat, it is always worthwhile.

What makes it worthwhile, of course, are two things: the common bond of philately, and the fun and fellowship of the Convention.

Next time you are at the Convention or at your local chapter or club meeting, however, look around - it's always the same people sharing that common bond, and sharing the fun. The 'In' crowd, if you will, gets older, and relatively fewer younger people join or come to the Convention.

Why? I am convinced it is because, in sharing our philatelic knowledge and our already well-developed social connections, we have lost sight of the newcomers or the potential member's *need to belong* and *need to feel welcome*.

Part of our goal, and part of our fun, comes rightly from letting others join in those goals and our fun. Of neglecting to do that, I am as guilty as the next person.

Next time you spend some time at a BNAPEX Convention or at your own club meetings and other gatherings, think about the new collector. Look for the new member, the one you don't know, the one who might become a very involved and valuable member if only he or she could be made to feel really welcome. Show them that being a BNAPS member is really fun and worthwhile.

My term as President ends on December 31, 1988 but I will remain on the Board of Governors for two more years. I will, of course, be looking for a way in which to continue, as many Presidents have done before me, to make an ongoing contribution to our Society. When I become Past President I shall look forward to continuing or completing some of the projects which I began in the last two years.

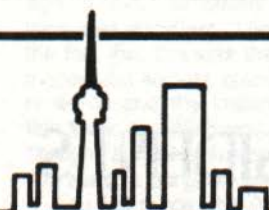
First there is the Regional Representative Project. This is the resurrection of a group which functioned many years ago as direct contact with the members in all areas. We have some fine volunteers in many parts of the U.S. and Canada, but some work remains to put our procedures into practice - and, of course, more volunteers are needed.

I will continue to serve on the recently formed Awards Committee and the Finance Committee. The former is in the process of reviewing BNAPS awards and the style they will take. BNAPEX '89 in Hamilton will see the first results of the work of this committee.

Finally, an important project which I started during my term as President, and which definitely needs to be completed, is the Policy and Procedures Manual to be used by elected officers and appointed officials and department heads. This will be a prime task for me

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to complete in the ensuing year.

Thanks to all the Society members and my fellow executive members for the fun and fellowship I've enjoyed as President. My best

wishes to your in-coming President, Lew Ludlow, who will inherit a changing Society with all the challenges this represents. I know he will do a fine job.

LETTERS

1834 ACT INFORMATION

In reply to your request for information about the "1834 Act..." (*BNA TOPICS*, vol. 45, no. 4, July/August 1988), I refer you to page 6 of the chronology in the inventory to the *Records of the Post Office Department*. The mid-1830s were rather fractious times in and out of the Legislatures of both Upper and Lower Canada. The Legislatures sat for a relatively short time, elections were held and some rebellions were organized. It appears that the affairs of the Post Office just did not rate the attention of the legislators. The pertinent passage reads as follows:

In 1834, an act of the British Parliament (4 Wm. IV, c.7) stipulated that surplus revenue would no longer be sent to London but would be divided among the provinces. This act was intended to supercede the legislation of 1765, which had authorized the collection of postage in the British North American colonies. The new act would not take effect until acceptable similar legislation had been adopted in the provinces. Consequently, in 1835, a bill providing for a postal system in each province and managed by a resident deputy, but ultimately headed by the Postmaster General in London, was drafted in London and forwarded to the Lieutenant Governors of the provinces for quick passage through their respective legislatures. Uniform rates throughout the provinces were based on distances covered, and there would be no regard for provincial boundaries. Surplus reven-

ues would be distributed among the provinces and any deficits would be made up by the provincial administrations. Rates were established for newspapers, pamphlets, and other printed matter, and finally, franking privileges would be granted to certain government and departmental officials.

In Upper and Lower Canada, the bill passed in the House of Assembly but failed to pass through the Legislative Council. In New Brunswick it was set aside until the following session and then not resurrected. In Nova Scotia, the House of Assembly passed an amended bill that was subsequently disallowed. (Great Britain, Colonial Office Records, C.O. 42, Canada, original correspondence, Q Series, vol. 180, pp. 258-259, PAC, MG 11; and Smith, William. The History of the Post Office in British North America..., chaps.9-10)

While the bill failed to pass the provincial legislatures, certain administrative appointments made in anticipation of its passage were left in place. In 1834, Edwin James King was appointed the first Accountant of the Post Office in Canada and was to reside in Quebec. In 1835, two Surveyors, William Henry Griffin (later to become a Deputy Postmaster General) for Lower Canada, and Charles Berczy for Upper Canada, were appointed. (PAC, MG 44, vol. 4, pp. 409, and 517)

Thomas A. Hillman
National Archives of Canada

NOTICE TO MEMBERS - PRINTED MEMBERSHIP LIST

In January 1989 BNAPS will publish a list of member's names and addresses. Members who **DO NOT** want their address printed **MUST** notify the Secretary **IN WRITING** no later than 1 January 1989.

Printed membership lists will be available from the Secretary for \$2US or \$2Cdn, according to the country to which it is to be mailed, to cover costs of postage. Overseas members send \$3US or \$4Cdn. Make cheques payable to: The British North America Philatelic Society Ltd.

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NOTES

SEQUENTIAL VISITS TO 1989 BNAPS AND CPSofGB CONVENTIONS POSSIBLE

In an exchange of correspondence the 1989 convention organizers for BNAPS (Mike Street) and the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain (John Hillson) have noted that their respective 1989 convention dates and locations will allow members to attend both conventions, with a week for travel and sightseeing in between.

BNAPEX '89 will be in Hamilton, Ontario from Friday, September 22 through Sunday, September 24. The CPSofGB gathering will begin 10 days later in Ayr, Scotland and run from Wednesday, October 4 through Saturday, October 7. Hamilton's easy access to Toronto International Airport and the location of Ayr, less than 10 miles from Prestwick Airport, make sequential convention going easily possible. Air Canada, British Airways and Wardair have regular flights between the two.

Members on either side of the Atlantic are encouraged to contemplate a vacation trip, in addition to their annual convention excursion, in order to take in both meetings. Exhibitors will

be particularly welcome. Both Chairmen point out that exhibitors do not have the Customs difficulties which can confront dealers. John Hillson indicates that an old Pictish phrase, "Thernofursale. Amtakinthem bakoot agin." will gain quick clearance on the UK side.

CANADA POST ANNOUNCES 1989 STAMP PROGRAM

A wide variety of subjects will be featured in Canada Post's 1989 stamp program. A total of 32 commemorative and 2 definitive stamps will be issued, as follows:

- Small Craft (4) - Native small craft, first set of a three year series
- Exploration (4) - Matonabee, Sir John Franklin, J.B. Tyrell & Vilhjalmur Stefansson; last set of a four year series
- Architecture (2) - \$1 & \$2 definitives featuring Canadian heritage buildings
- Canada Day (4) - 150th Anniversary of Canadian Photography
- Canadian Art (1) - Tsinshian Indian Ceremonial Frontlet
- Poets (2) - Louis Frechette & Archibald Lampman
- Mushrooms (4) - conventions of the American Institute of Biological Sciences and the Mycological Society of America, in Toronto
- Regiments (2) - Princess Patricia's and Royal 22nd Regiment
- Performing Arts (4) - ballet, film, music & theatre
- International Trade (1)
- Christmas (4) - winter landscapes
- World War II (2) - 50th Anniversary of outbreak of WWII; Commonwealth Air Training Plan and first RCN convoy

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IN MEMORIAM

Leslie A. Davenport, OTB

Leslie A. Davenport, OTB died at Toronto on July 12, 1988 at the age of 94. A member of most of the major societies, he attended all BNAPS conventions until poor health curtailed this activity in the late 1970s. He was elected to BNAPS' Order of the Beaver in 1972.

Born in New Jersey, Les Davenport came to Canada in 1912 as Manager of the Marks Stamp Company. He stayed with Marks for many years until leaving to form his own company. Known to have one of the best stocks of British Empire stamps available, he ran a successful mail order business for over 30 years, retiring well after his 80th birthday.

Les Davenport, George Wegg and Jim Sissons were the first Canadian dealers to act as agents for private collectors at major inter-

national auctions. Among those he attended in this capacity were the Reford and Dale-Lichtenstein sales.

A member of the United Church of Canada, he took a very active role in Church affairs throughout his life. He is fondly remembered by Toronto's Chinese community for his help in acquiring a small plot of downtown land for their first United Church in Toronto in 1952. When the Chinese Church wanted to follow its congregation to the suburbs in 1984, the tiny lot's value of almost \$2 million provided for an easy transition to fine new quarters.

One of the grand old men of Canadian philately, his contribution is still appreciated by many who knew him.

Ethel Mae Wellburn

Ethel, the wife of Gerald Wellburn, RDP, FRPSC, FRPSL, OTB, died at Victoria, BC on September 29, 1988, three days after her 87th birthday. Married for 67 years, she is survived by her husband, their daughter Lois Phillips and son Vernon, and many grandchildren. Ethel was well known to philatelists as she accompanied Gerry to many exhibitions and meetings. Many will remember seeing her with him at CAPEX '87 in Toronto.

She enjoyed gardening, and lived mainly for

her family. In earlier years the Wellburns had toured the Okanagan region of BC in a restored antique car, and had travelled through the mountains on the cowcatcher of a CPR locomotive.

BNAPS Directors Jack Wallace and Bill Robinson and their wives, Advertising Manager Bob Lee, and many other members attended the funeral in Victoria. The philatelic community will be the poorer for her loss.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS RE 1989 DUES

DUES NOTICES WERE MAILED IN LATE OCTOBER

Members paying in DOLLARS should send notices, with cheque or money order for \$20CDN or \$17US, *made out to BNAPS*, to:

Howard Twichell, P.O. Box 185, Addison, TX USA 75001

Members paying in STERLING should send notices, with cheque or money order for £9.75, *made out to H.K. Dodwell*, to:

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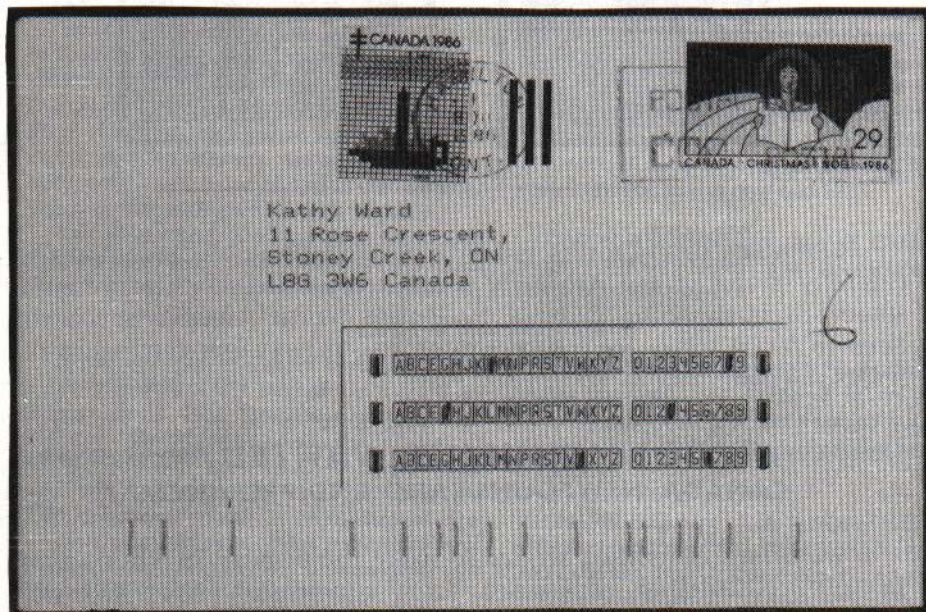
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'GREET MORE'

A Report on Canada Post Corporation's 'Greet More' Program in 1986 and 1987

by Kathy Ward



1. A 1986 Greet More envelope which was properly processed by an Optical Character Reader machine (despite the presence of the Christmas Seal on the front of the envelope)

In 1983 Canada Post Corporation began a series of experiments intended to speed up handling of the annual Christmas mail rush. The basic premise was simple, "If the sender places the postal code of the addressee in the proper location on the envelope, processing can be speeded up by having the code read by the automatic Optical Character Reader (OCR) machine." Self adhesive labels, with the effective face value of first class postage, were sold to the public in Winnipeg.

Things did not work out as hoped, however. In 1983 *STICK 'n TICK: Not as Successful as Canada Post Says*, Mike Street outlined what appeared to be a basic flaw in the trial - Canada Post did not ensure that all mail was processed *first* by OCR machines. Other problems included apparent public dislike of handling an extra, sticky, piece of pa-

per, and confusion over how to put addresses and codes on envelopes. In 1984 two part labels were tried in several more cities, with similar results.

1986 PROGRAM

For Christmas 1986 Canada Post introduced the 'Greet More' program, consisting of envelopes with a printed matrix for positive location of postal code information, and special Christmas stamps, available only in booklets, with black bars adjacent to the design as markers for the OCR machines, and a face value five (5) cents less than the prevailing first class postage rate. It is thought that Canada Post was able to persuade the major Christmas card manufacturers to print the matrix on their envelopes by offering to en-

courage more people to send Christmas cards through the 5 cent discount from the normal domestic rate.

What began simply as a survey, to find out how many Greet More covers were processed by OCR machines, turned into a more complex study which allowed me to learn more about our postal system.

Envelopes are sorted and cancelled by the Culler Facer Cancellor (CFC) machine, which uses stamp tagging or meter ink fluorescence to place the envelopes in the right position for the franking to be cancelled. Theoretically, envelopes are then sent directly to the OCR for mechanical processing of postal code information.

Envelopes with three long, thick vertical bars to the left of the stamp, such as those supplied by some utility and credit card companies for bill payments, and those carrying the special 1986 Christmas booklet stamps, are sorted out in the last stage of the CFC. The presence of three vertical bars in this location tells the OCR machine that the lower part of the envelope should be carrying a postal code indicated by six smaller vertical bars. The scanner searches the envelope, reads the postal code indicated by this pattern of bars, and then prints fluorescent orange dotted bar codes on the envelope.

For envelopes without bars beside the stamp, the OCR looks at any typed or written characters in the bottom 20mm and tries to find six characters in the postal code sequence, i.e. letter/number/letter/ space/ number/letter/number. If this sequence is found and the characters are clear, the OCR will translate the code and then print the orange dotted bars.

FRANKING

Once the 1986 Christmas season was over, I examined 200 covers bearing the special matrix which had gone through the mails. It is interesting to note the methods of franking used on the covers studied.

Special 29 cent stamp	167	83.5%
Regular 34 cent stamp	23	11.5%
Metered Mail	7	3.5%
Other	3	1.5%

In an article in the February 11, 1987 *Performance*, Canada Post Huron Division's employee journal, Lance Nater, the corporation's

Product Director, Product Planning, is quoted as saying, "There were approximately 40 million of the special stamps sold between October 29 and December 24, and we feel that figure represents a 35 to 40 per cent penetration of the market."

COMMENT ADRESSER LES ENVELOPPES POSTE-BONHEUR

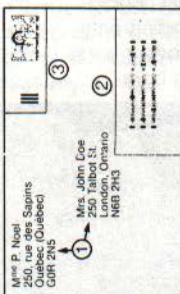
C'EST FACILE. IL SUFFIT DE SUIVRE LES TROIS ETAPES SUIVANTES.

1. Inscrivez l'adresse ou destination et le vôtre sur l'enveloppe comme vous le feriez habituellement. Si l'espace vous manque, inscrivez l'adresse de l'expéditeur au dos de l'enveloppe. Notez le code postal dans les deux adresses.

2. A l'aide d'un crayon noir ou d'un stylo à bille à encre bleue ou noire, tracez un trait droit dans les cases appropriées de la Matrice. Vous devez inscrire dans les cases N et B le chiffre de la ligne du haut de la matrice, tracez un trait sur la lettre et sur le chiffre qui correspondent à la première lettre et au premier chiffre du code postal de la personne à qui vous écrivez. Tracez un trait sur la lettre et sur le troisième chiffre du code postal et sur la dernière ligne, indiquez la troisième lettre et le troisième chiffre du code postal.

3. Collez le timbre spécial poste-bonheur dans le coin supérieur droit de l'enveloppe et vous placerez normalement le timbre poste.

EXEMPLE: L'exemple montre comment indiquer le code postal NBB-2H3. Sur la ligne N, le chiffre 2 est inscrit dans la case N et le chiffre 3 est inscrit dans la case B. Sur la ligne B, le chiffre 2 est inscrit dans la case B et le chiffre 3 est inscrit dans la case H et 3.



HOW TO ADDRESS YOUR GREET MORE ENVELOPE

IT'S EASY. WHEN YOU FOLLOW THESE 3 STEPS

1. Write the address on the envelope as you normally would, and include your return address. Place your return address on the back of the envelope if space requires it. Include postal codes in both addresses.

2. Using a black pencil or a blue/black ballpoint pen, make a heavy straight up and down mark in the appropriate boxes on the Matrix. You will make six marks in total. In the N and B boxes, mark the letter and number corresponding to the first letter and first number of the postal code of the person you are writing to. On the middle line, mark second letter and second number of the postal code, and on the bottom line, mark the third letter and third number of the postal code. On the bottom line, make a mark in the H and 3 boxes. When you have finished, the Matrix should look like the example shown. The special Greet More postage stamp, in the upper right hand corner of the envelope, where normally you would affix postage.

EXAMPLE: The example illustrates the postal code NBB-2H3 and shows in the top row that the boxes N and B are marked '2'. In the middle row, the boxes B and 2 are marked and in the bottom row, the boxes H and 3 are marked.

2. Instructions contained in the 1986 Greet More stamp booklet

My sample indicated that an overwhelming proportion of people who used the matrix envelopes also used the special stamps. What is meant by 'penetration' is hard to determine. (Nater was the Canada Post spokesman who in 1984 insisted that the first Winnipeg experiment had been a success.) An educated guess suggests that Nater's statement means that only about 35-40% of 1986 Christmas cards were sent in special matrix envelopes.

CODING

Each cover was also examined for the presence of coding bars, with the following results:

Total Sample (1986)		
Full process by OCR (orange coding bars)	51	25.5%
Rejected by OCR, finished manually (1-5 orange bars + yellow bars)	18	9.0%
Rejected by OCR, no manual coding	7	3.5%
Manual coding only (yellow coding bars)	42	21.0%
No coding bars	82	41.0%

Only 25.5% of the covers bore complete coding by the OCR. A closer look at the remainder showed that some had from 1 to 5 orange bars, instead of a complete set, indicating that the envelope went to the OCR first but was rejected for some reason. (The 1-5 bars at the beginning of the bar codes are indicators of where the OCR is located.) Adding all OCR rejects to those bearing complete orange coding bars brought the total of covers sent to the OCR first to 76, or 38% of the total. Of the 76, 32.9% were rejected.

The fact that only 38% of the 200 covers went to the OCR first seemed to indicate that the mistake made in Winnipeg in 1983 had been repeated. In order to be fair, it was necessary to eliminate envelopes which originated in post offices which did not have OCR's. It was difficult to determine which covers should have been processed in the 13 cities plus outlying districts that do have OCR's.

I decided to concentrate on 38 covers that originated in Hamilton, a centre I knew had an OCR. As expected, the Hamilton figures showed an improvement on the overall statistics, with 42.1% being processed by the OCR first, including 3 which had been rejected.



3. A case of the one hand not knowing what the other was doing. This cover, properly addressed, coded and franked, was treated as short paid mail and was not processed by an OCR machine

Hamilton Sample Only (1986)

Full process by OCR	16	42.1%
Rejected by OCR, finished manually	2	5.3%
Rejected by OCR, no manual coding	1	2.6%
Manual coding only	9	23.7%
No Coding Bars	10	26.3%

Even with this improvement, still only 50% of these covers went to the OCR first. Was some mail being diverted in another direction? A look at the 10 covers having no coding bars showed that 7 of them had not been cancelled by the usual CFC. I arranged a trip to the Hamilton Post Office to try to find some answers.

It turned out that a fairly new machine at Hamilton, made by International Peripheral Systems (IPS), had produced the non CFC cancels. The IPS is about 43 inches high and about as wide. I really do not understand how this small machine helped when the amount of Christmas mail is so great; The CFC, a large machine about 30 feet long, handles a tremendous volume; the IPS, fed by hand, is a great deal slower.

From the covers in my sample it appeared that no mail fed to the IPS was sent to the OCR. The explanation I received was that mail from the IPS canceller was diverted to the Local Delivery Unit (LDU) Sort which is done by casual staff. This mail is handsorted, and would never see either the OCR or manual coding machines. Readers can draw their own conclusions, but not feeding envelopes to the OCR first appears to be defeating the purpose of the Greet More program.

OCR REJECTION

Examination of the covers with partial orange coding bars disclosed some of the reasons why the OCR was rejecting envelopes. An improperly marked matrix seemed to be the most common error. Some examples included circles around the boxes, ticks extending outside the boxes, no boxes filled in, too many boxes filled in, writing between the boxes, and some ticked too lightly. Pencil, marker and pen all seemed to work equally as well.

On 21 covers, 10.5% of the total sample, the customer had not marked the postal code in the matrix box. These consumers were

either unaware of the program, did not know the postal code of the addressee, or did not know how to use the matrix. The instructions on how to address the Greet More envelopes were only given in the special booklet of 29 cent Christmas stamps intended for use with them, but were not included with the greeting cards.

Tests conducted by staff at the Hamilton Post Office indicated two sources of difficulty:

a) Manufacturer's Defects - 1) matrix not properly aligned with edges of envelope; 2) chemicals in the envelope paper causing OCR scanners to mix up information (some coloured envelopes, under fluorescent light, glow very brightly; others go quite dark).

b) Customer Errors - 1) stamp very crooked on the envelope so that the three vertical bars were not in a position to be spotted by the OCR; 2) incomplete filling out of matrix; 3) improper filling out of matrix; 4) other writing or marks in area of matrix; 5) use of 'white out' (liquid paper) to correct mistakes.

After talking to Hamilton Post Office personnel, I came to the conclusion that the actual rate of rejection of Greet More covers was a lot higher than my sample indicated, causing me to wonder about the capabilities of the OCR machine.

GREET MORE 1987

"The special Greet More stamp along with the specially encoded envelope is designed to make efficient use of [Canada Post's] mechanized mail stream [for letters] which otherwise would be processed manually and more expensively. The operational savings are hence passed on to our customers in the form of a discount." The quote is from a November 9, 1987 directive to Canada Post Corporation's Christmas Planning Coordinators. This document further stated that Greet More envelopes had the same properties as a 'Pre-Code' envelope and were to be separated into the pre-code mail stream, which would then enable the use of the Optical Character Reader to take advantage of the higher productivity of this equipment.

The following changes were introduced in the 1987 Greet More program: 1) minimum envelope size increased from 90mm X 140mm to 117mm X 177mm; 2) special booklet stamp size reduced from 70mm to 40mm and fourth thick vertical bar added at

4. 1987 Greet More Instructions, available in boxes of cards and at post offices



CANADA POST CORPORATION
Our commitment: better service for you.



Last year the greeting card industry introduced special **GREET MORE** envelopes in their boxed sets of cards for Christmas.

A special pre-printed postal code box, when correctly completed, ensured smoother processing at reduced cost.

Before you start... **GREET MORE** is only valid for delivery within Canada until January 31st 1988. However, **Greet More** stamps can be used on your regular mail by simply adding the amount of stamps needed to make up the correct postage rate.



Buying *Greet More* cards and stamps.

Wherever you buy your Christmas cards, you'll find boxed sets marked with this symbol. They contain the specially printed envelopes that you need to use with the *Greet More* stamps.

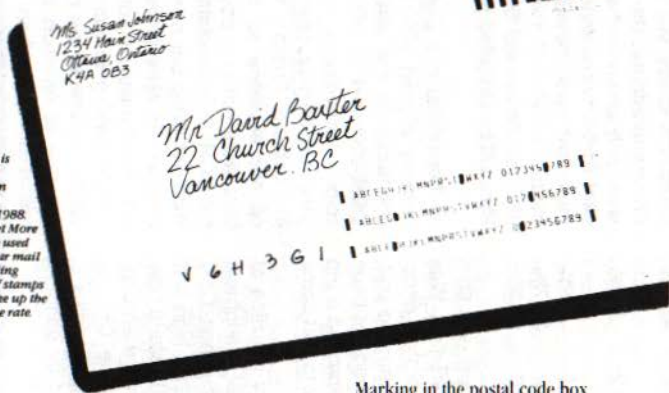
The 31 cent *Greet More* stamps are sold, in booklets of ten, at postal outlets. Saving you a total of 50 cents off the regular postage cost.

Addressing *Greet More* Envelopes.

Address the envelope, including the postal code to the left of the pre-printed code box. (Don't forget to include your coded return address.)

Hence the special 31 cent **GREET MORE** stamps, costing 5 cents less than regular postage.

Well this great idea is back: here's how it works:



Marking in the postal code box.

Using a black or blue pen, or a pencil, refer to the postal code you have just written, and transfer it to the code box by blocking in the appropriate letters and numbers. Make sure that you stay within the boxes.

The envelope above shows how the postal code box would be properly completed for the postal code V6H 3G1.

Before mailing...

Check that you have correctly completed steps 2 and 3, then place a *Greet More* stamp in the top right hand corner. Seal the envelope and mail before the deadlines of December 11th for out of town and December 16th for in-town.

Greet More is brought to you for the Christmas season by Canada Post Corporation and the greeting card industry, who jointly wish you the season's best.

left of stamp; 3) user instructions were provided in the greeting card boxes, as well as in stamp booklets; 4) six boxes were added at the left side of the postal code matrix to encourage users to write in the postal code. The last step was a safeguard in the event of non-readability of the item by the Optical Character Reader, so that it could then be processed at a manual coding machine.

My study of 1987 Greet More covers still leads me to believe that not all envelopes are being directed to the OCR first. It does appear, however, that more envelopes are being directed to manual coding stations. A sampling of 62 covers shows:

1987 Sample

Full process by OCR	16	25.8%
Rejected by OCR, finished manually	6	9.7%
Rejected by OCR, no manual coding	1	1.6%
Manual coding only	32	48.4%
No Coding Bars	9	14.5%

FUTURE OF THE GREET MORE PROGRAM

The 1987 *Performance* article boasted that the Greet More program not only stopped the decline in the sending of Christmas cards, but also contributed to an increase in that type of mail. I want to believe that, but I don't. When asked, most people indicated that the Greet More program did not make any difference to their sending of cards. Reluctantly, I have come to the conclusion that the sending of Christmas cards is becoming a custom of the past, in Canada at least. Ever since the postal rates virtually doubled in 1982 it has been just too expensive for people to send as many Christmas cards as before.

In my opinion, if Canada Post Corporation really wants to revive the Christmas Card market, a much more substantial discount - at least 10 cents, and probably 15 - will be necessary. An all out publicity campaign, with television ads, and possibly videos advertis-

ing the program in local malls and supermarkets, might help increase volume. Similar methods are needed to help instruct the public how to use the matrix. I felt sorry when I



5. The 1987 Greet More booklet stamp was smaller and had one more bar than the 1986 version

heard the clerk at the local mall's postal counter repeating the Greet More instructions over and over to customers.

The Greet More program is operating on a 5 year trial basis, so it will be interesting to see how many changes or improvements are made in that time period. I feel that one 1987 change, the six boxes beside the matrix where the code can be written in by hand, is significant. If this, with the matrix, was printed on all envelopes used by consumers year round, not just at Christmas, it would certainly help speed up mail processing.

Acknowledgement:

The author would like to thank Walter Berry and Hamilton Post Office Staff who helped answer many questions during her visit, and the following people for the loan of their covers: Stan Oddie, Malcolm Pacey, Irene Sedgwick, Earle Covert and Mike Street.

References:

1. *BNA TOPICS*, Vol. 41, No. 6, Nov.-Dec. 1984
2. This article is an updated and revised version of one which appeared in the January-February 1988 issue of *Yule Log*, the bi-monthly newsletter of the Christmas Philatelic Club. The author is now Editor of *Yule Log*. A sample copy and membership information can be obtained for 50 cents by writing the Secretary - Treasurer, Vaughn H. Augustin, P.O. Box 77, Scottsbluff, NE 69361.



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CENTENNIAL (1967) ISSUE
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DEAD LETTER OFFICE
DISASTER COVERS
DUPLEX CANCELLATIONS
EDWARD VII ISSUE
EXHIBITION & FAIR COVERS
FANCY, NUMERAL & SPECIALTY CANCELLATIONS
1859 FIRST CENTS ISSUE
FIRST DAY COVERS
FLAG CANCELLATIONS
FOREIGN COVERS
FORGERIES
INTERNATIONAL MACHINE CANCELLATIONS
JUBILEE ISSUE
LARGE QUEEN ISSUE
LEGISLATIVE MARKINGS
LITERATURE
MANITOBA POSTAL HISTORY
MAP (1898) ISSUE
MAPLE LEAF ISSUE
MILITARY POSTAL HISTORY
MOON, MOTO & POCON CANCELLATIONS
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NEW BRUNSWICK STAMPS
NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY
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PENCE ISSUES
PERFINs (PRIVATE)
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POSTAGE DUE ISSUES
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A Talk with Vincent Greene

by Derek Hayter

Part III (Conclusion)

DH: Were you active as a collector in World War 1?

VG: No. I joined the army as a Lieutenant in 1915, and it was 10 years before I returned to collecting stamps. I was in London, Ontario in 1925 when my uncle, a lawyer, produced some 25 covers and asked me to appraise them. Fifteen of them carried Cape of Good Hope triangular stamps, addressed to a Mr. Shanly of Montreal, a civil engineer. Even in those days I knew the difference between wood blocks and the regular Cape stamps.

I told my uncle there were no good (wood block) stamps in the collection, and they were worth perhaps \$1 each, or \$25 for the lot. He said he had to clear up the Shanly estate, and offered them to me for \$20. I declined, saying I didn't collect stamps any more, but I would send him the address of the Marks Stamp Company in Toronto, who would be better able to advise their worth.

The next time I met my uncle he said Marks had mailed in a cheque for \$150 for the covers. I was as mad as a hatter at the loss I'd suffered. I immediately dug out my old collection, bought a Scott's catalogue and have been an avid collector ever since.

DH: In casual conversation you refer to a friend, General Rennie. Wasn't he a war-time link with stamp collecting?

VG: Yes. Brigadier General Robert Rennie was in charge of the 1st Brigade of the 1st Division of Canadian troops in WW 1. Being a Lieutenant, I never personally met the General, but knew him by sight. Later, I first met him on joining the Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club in 1929, and by this time he was a Major General. We became friends.

During the crash of 1929 he fell on hard times. He started dealing in stamps, and became an expert, particularly in BNA. He'd often drop in to my office at 77 Victoria Street, and occasionally sell an item to me. Times indeed were hard! One of the best philatelic purchases I've made in my long life was from the General, who one day dropped in and said: "Greene, I need \$50 immediately, and for it you can have first choice from a packing case containing old Rennie Seed correspondence from 1896 to 1904, which

I've had taken out of storage".

My own finances were in bad shape too, but he was offering 500 covers for \$50, an offer I couldn't refuse ... I couldn't reach for my cheque book quickly enough! It took me two whole days to make the selection from the crate in the Rennie offices at the corner of Adelaide and Jarvis streets, a building which still stands today. The General at one time had been president of the company.

The lot included patriotic covers of the Boer War and the Spanish American War. When the General died, Charlie Foster, a retired Bank of Montreal manager, and myself were the philatelic executors of his estate. Gordon Rennie, his son, held what remained of the General's accumulation, which was valued at \$150. I told Charlie that over a period I could foresee a much larger sum accumulating to the General's estate.

Charlie Foster arranged to sell the material in small lots in Toronto. About one year later we had accumulated nearly \$1,000. Gordon Rennie was delighted. He said any material remaining was to be ours, and keep it as a form of commission. The last to be sold were two large potato sacks filled with common 2 cent Edward stamps on covers. The covers were slit open on three sides, and in the late 1950s I offered them to Jim Sissons for auction. Jim declined, and suggested I give them away. Nobody wanted them, except for one chap, a collector, who said he'd take them if we would deliver them to his address in the west end of the city. Charlie and I decided to garbage them, but at the last moment the man decided rather reluctantly to come and pick them up - for nothing!

DH: You've previously spoken of your great friend Fred Jarrett. What other anecdotes may be recorded?

VG: There are a number, beginning with one story relating to the First World War. Fred was in London, a Staff Sergeant acting as private secretary to Sir Edward Kemp, Commissioner representing Canadian soldiers in Britain.

Fred spent his leisure time haunting the shops of stamp dealers. Not unnaturally one of these visits took him to 391 Strand, the

home of Stanley Gibbons. As he entered, a friendly girl approached the counter. Fred asked to see an approval book of Canadian 3d stamps. A volume was produced and the stamps were priced at 15/- each, instead of Gibbons's catalogue price of 10/-. Fred indignantly pointed out the error, and the girl apologised, saying she'd shown him the wrong book. Shrewdly, Fred left the store. He was convinced he'd been shown an approval book marked with revised prices to be published in Gibbons's new catalogue due within a week or so.

A 50 percent increase in the price of a Beaver - knowledge not known to the trade! Hardly able to contain himself, he marshalled all available funds and visited most other West End dealers to buy what he could based on Gibbons's 10/- price. He later told me most of the finest 3-pennies on ordinary wove paper in his collection were obtained during those excursions in London after a chance visit to 391 Strand. It happened in 1917, a lucky year for Fred.

He'd frequently tell stories of "the one that got away", or opportunities missed in great stamp finds. Among the best is his account of paying a coal bill in 1927 at Roger's Coal Company office, then located on the north-east corner of Bay and Temperance streets. The clerk at the cash desk knew Fred was a stamp collector, and in an aside mentioned the coal company on the previous day had been removing the balance of a coal stock from the Queen's Hotel, under demolition on the site of today's Royal York on Front Street - it was *the* hotel at that time.

The demolition company had reached the basement and boiler room, the clerk explained, when, behind a partition, they discovered an area containing old ledgers and correspondence. Old letters, Fred thought! He quickly left Roger's office and hopped a street car at King and Bay streets - paying 10 cents to travel two blocks. Anyone knowing Fred would appreciate the payment of ten cents to travel a couple of blocks must have meant Fred was in a tremendous hurry!

Reaching the boiler room Fred met a man, sweating profusely, holding a shovel in his hand. He explained what he'd come for. "There were loads of letters," the worker explained. "They had stamps with 'cats' on, and I burnt the lot last evening." Those 'cats' were 3 penny or 5 cent Beavers. It was a double blow to Fred; he'd spent 10 cents for a mis-

sion unrewarded.

Fred didn't always lose out. Employed by the Underwood Typewriter Company, he made many trips across Ontario, and made it a point when visiting county towns to call at the registry office, enquiring for old mail, correspondence, you name it. He once struck it lucky in Whitby, Ontario. The elderly man standing at the counter said yes, he had been cleaning out the vault that morning and was about to dispose of "a pile of garbage." Fred flicked through the hoard of old envelopes displayed to him: it contained stamps mainly of the 1859 and 1868 issues - mostly Small Queens.

Fred asked if he could take them, saving the clerk a disposal hob. But the old man said no, he was just going off to lunch, and if Fred would return after an hour then, for sure, the 'junk' was his.

I think the prospects gave Fred indigestion because he told me he couldn't eat lunch that day. What was going through the clerk's mind? Was he going to sell the material behind Fred's back? It was the property of the Province of Ontario: would he therefore consult a superior?

This must have been Fred's longest day - or longest hour. He hid behind a large tree, awaiting the return of the clerk, who finally walked slowly down the street. Fred, pretending he was approaching from the opposite direction, politely asked if he might take the stuff away. "Sure," said the old man. "Come in and take it."

DH: What was its value?

VG: Fred told me he would have gladly given the man \$500 for the material.

DH: Do you want to close on an account of contemporary Canadian philatelists?

VG: Not really. The reader will have noted I've not mentioned those active in the field today. But I would like to mention Gerald Wellburn of Victoria, British Columbia. His name in my opinion stands among the greatest of BNA philatelists, past or present. At the age of 88 as we talk, he remains active in the hobby.

I saw Gerry's collection of Vancouver Island and British Columbia in London in 1950 where it took a gold award at the international exhibition. In 1951 at Capex he received the Grand Award. This collection, to me, is a joy to behold. His superb craftsmanship in calligraphy charts the routes envelopes followed to reach remote mining sites in the interior of

British Columbia. His recently published *Stamps and Postal History of Vancouver Island and British Columbia* is magnificent,

containing illustrations exclusively from his own collection. Gerald Wellburn has joined the ranks of philatelic greats.

MORE SKETCHes of BNAPSers

by Dr. R.V.C. Carr

SKETCH No. 226

Kathy Ward

Born and raised in Kitchener, Ontario, Kathy Ward grew up with a stamp collection of sorts. After two years in Toronto as a lab technician, she decided to enter the teaching profession and taught elementary school for six years before becoming a full time wife and mother (and housekeeper!).

Active in baseball in summer and volleyball in winter, Kathy dabbled in all sorts of crafts, including macrame, candle-making and ceramics, until philately came into the picture. She began 'serious' collecting in the summer of 1982 when husband Art became interested. Children Karen and David jumped in too, and the whole family joined the Stoney Creek Stamp Club in September of that year (the club hasn't been the same since!!!!).

Kathy started out with basic collections of used Canada and USA, but an early interest in exhibiting prompted the start of topical collections on Queen Elizabeth II and CHRISTMAS, and a desire to investigate the postal history of Stoney Creek. Her 'Canadian Christmas', the first exhibit of its type ever shown at a BNAPEX, won a Silver at San Francisco in 1984.

Quite involved with junior philately for the past 5 years, she has led a stamp club, nicknamed the Stamp Whiz Kids, at St. Francis Xavier School and instigated a Youth Corner at meetings of the Stoney Creek Stamp Club.

After a stint as Assistant Editor of the



Christmas Philatelic Club's bimonthly newsletter, the *Yule Log*, Kathy became Editor in January of this year. One of her articles for the *Yule Log* served as the basis of the cover article in this issue of *TOPICS*. (It doesn't often happen that a Sketch of a BNAPSer coincides with an article by that person, but our Editor assures me that it is a simple coincidence. Sure, Mike.)

Kathy enjoys meeting and corresponding with collectors, helping others and sharing information. She will be a member of the BNAPEX convention organizing team next year. I'm looking forward to seeing her in Hamilton.

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LITERATURE REVIEWS

BNA Philately in Print

ONTARIO POST OFFICES, Volume 1, An Alphabetical Listing; Robert C. Smith; BNAPS/The Unitrade Press, Toronto, 1988; Spiral bound, 216pp, \$35.95.

ONTARIO POST OFFICES, Volume 2, By County and District; Robert C. Smith; BNAPS/The Unitrade Press, Toronto, 1988; Spiral bound, 262pp, \$45.95.

Anyone expecting *Ontario Post Offices* to be chock full of prose giving historical information on early (and recent) Ontario will be disappointed. These books are essentially lists of data, but a gold mine for the postal historian nevertheless.

Splitting the work into two volumes was a good idea. Some collectors will require only an alphabetical list; others will only want one sorted by counties. To put both in a single, almost 500 page, volume and make many people pay for something they may not need would have been dumb.

Both volumes have the same basic checklist format. The name of each post office is accompanied by its opening date, closing date if applicable, township in which it is or was located, and alternate name(s), if any. In the alphabetical listing (Vol. 1) the county is also given. In the county and district listing (Vol. 2) post office names are listed alphabetically under the name of the appropriate area.

Any collector who is still skeptical about the value of personal computers should take note of Robert Smith's *magnum opus*. Without PCs, it would almost certainly have been four or five years more before these two volumes saw the printing press. The compiler deserves our thanks for taking on and accomplishing a daunting task.

THE CANADA PRECANCEL HANDBOOK; H.G. Walburn, ed.; The Unitrade Press, Toronto, 1988; Soft cover, 184pp, \$16.95.

As a result of a study group meeting at BNAPEX '81 in Ottawa, Geoff Walburn, Hans Reiche, Jim Kraemer and Tom Stott formed the 'Precancel Committee'. Their aim was to produce a definitive handbook on Canadian Precancels, and they have done so. The Committee could almost have subtitled this book *Everything You Ever Wanted To Know*

About Precancels, But Were Afraid To Ask!

Information on printing methods, name and number plates, quantities issued, users, costs, precancelling by means other than plates, etc. is followed by detailed looks at the number and bar cancels. After that, there is a section giving miscellaneous pertinent information issue by issue, from the Large Queens to the 1977 Definitives.

The only complaint about this book concerns the quality of the photographs, many of which are too dark, some to the point of being useless as illustrations. If the Committee supplied good clear pictures, then Unitrade has done them a disservice. Given the state of today's technology, there is simply no excuse for bad photos.

That complaint should not stop people from buying this book, however. *The Canada Precancel Handbook* quietly but effectively shoots down the theory that Precancels are 'back of the book' stuff. It is well worth reading, simply for basic knowledge, and should be in the library of everyone who calls him- or herself a philatelist.

KLUSSENDORF, An Updated Checklist of Town & Slogan Cancellations; compiled by Robert Wm. Meek, Brantford, 1988; Loose leaf, 20pp, \$3.00. Available from R. Meek, P.O. Box 1041, Brantford, ON N3T 5S7.

How often has a study group member lamented, "If only we had been on this at the time the [stamps, cancels, rates, ...] were current!"? The Klussendorfs are probably the first to truly benefit from this hindsight and the lessons learned by others. As a bonus, many people who were never before interested in postal history have been bitten by the Klussendorf bug. The compiler of this very handy checklist is one.

Finely produced by a draftsman's hand, it includes earliest known dates, a space for latest reported date, and spaces for earliest and latest in the owner's collection, for both the normal 'Postal Code' and any non-standard slogans used in each town or city. There is a column for each known time mark and each hour of the clock, and a space for errors and inverts to be noted. Reported inverts and

errors are listed separately, as are the text or logo (to date there have been 3 flags) of all non-standard slogans.

Has this field run its course? Definitely not. As some post offices run up against the limitations of the Klussendorf, machines are being moved around the country and new towns cancels are popping up regularly. Recently a previously unknown BC town strike, dated 1986, was discovered. Anyone interested in Klussendorfs, or in getting their feet wet in relatively inexpensive postal history, will find this checklist of great value.

CATALOGUES

NEWFOUNDLAND SPECIALIZED STAMP CATALOGUE, 1988; John M. Walsh and John G. Butt; Walsh's Philatelic Service, 9 Guy St., St. John's, NF, A1B 1P4, 1988; Soft cover, 70pp, \$27.00

The *Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue* contains information on the postage stamps, postal stationery and revenue stamps, including money order tax stamps, of Newfoundland. While called a catalogue, it is actually a checklist. Space is provided for checking off mint, used or a cover of each item, but prices are not provided.

Also included are first flight covers, cancelling machine slogans, reply coupons, postage meters, plate numbers, rates and post offices. All these listings in one publication makes it a handy book, but the shortage of illustrations and the absence of a bibliography hurt its usefulness.

This book is very good for the novice to intermediate collector of Newfoundland, but for the advanced collector it will be of limited value - there are errors and omissions. Under the first pence issue, for example, stamps in black with no gum are listed as proofs. This is not completely true; they may be proofs or trade samples, depending on the paper. At least one first day of issue is incorrect, and the two 'Buy Goods Made In Newfoundland' slogan cancellations are not identified. Hopefully the next edition will reduce the number of discrepancies.

CAS

1989 (SCOTT) STANDARD POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE, VOLUME 1; Scott Publishing Co., Sidney, OH, 1987. Soft cover, 1120 pp, \$20.00US.

The Scott catalogue that caused all the uproar has fewer pages this year than last,

but the pages are almost 20% larger. With the tremendous number of stamps being issued by the countries listed, this is not surprising. Paper quality seem to have improved again, and the illustrations are quite good. People who make regular use of Volume I will continue to find it very helpful.

This review will not attempt to comment on the battle over the considerable price drops in this edition, except for the following observations. The yelling and screaming should come as no surprise to anyone. People who bought stamps at last year's prices, whether dealers or collectors, have seen some of the value of their holdings go out the window.

For someone who had been planning to sell his collection in advance of retirement next year, it could be a serious blow. Similarly, dealers who paid more for stock than they can now possibly charge are going to lose money. On the other hand, people buying for collections will be able to get more for their money. Everyone knows that many stamps were overpriced, but the number of complaints from dealers about stamps that cannot be bought for stock at the new catalogue value suggest that many mistakes were made. Let's hope that next year's edition will see some equilibrium - and peace.

STANLEY GIBBONS STAMP CATALOGUE - PART 1, BRITISH COMMONWEALTH 1989 EDITION; Stanley Gibbons Publications Limited, London, 1987. Hard cover, 1000 pp, £21.00.

Those who have never seen - or held - a *Gibbons Volume I* will be surprised by its size and weight because, while it includes virtually all the countries covered by *Scott's Volume 1*, it leaves out the US and UN and uses fewer illustrations. This is explained largely by less cramped typesetting, resulting in wider columns, and more numerous listings of varieties than given by Scott. Paper, printing and illustration quality are uniformly good. The choice between the two comes down to the area and depth of a collector's interests. If the US and UN are not in your sphere, Gibbons is probably the better guide.

GENERAL INTEREST

POST DATES 1987; Kenneth Wood; Van Dahl Publications, Box 10, Albany, OR 97321; 1988. Soft cover, 114 pp, 9.95\$US postpaid.

Post Dates 1987 is the third annual follow

up to Ken Woods' original, from-the-beginning, chronology of the same name, published in 1984. The updates go through the year day by day, detailing new issues of Canada and the USA, philatelic and postal system personalities, major exhibitions and significant philatelic events around the world.

Illustrations of the 1987 new issues of Canada and the US are accompanied by information on subjects, designs, designers, production problems, and so on. Many special commemorative cancellations are illustrated. CAPEX '87, the major exhibition in this part of the world, is covered extensively, with the special daily cancels all illustrated, and award winners and stamps issued for the show listed in separate appendices. Other appendices list the Europa stamps for the year and stamps issued for the 1988 Olympic games. As with its predecessors, a comprehensive index is provided.

Well produced and generously illustrated, this book will be of value to anyone interested in the general history of philately.

FUN AND PROFIT IN STAMP COLLECTING; Herman Herst Jr.; Linn's Stamp News (Amos Press), Sidney, Ohio; 5th edition (1st revised edition), 1988. Hard cover, \$15US, soft cover, \$7.95US, 168pp. Available from the publisher, P.O. Box 29, Sidney, OH 45365.

Originally published in 1962, the fifth edition of *Fun and Profit in Stamp Collecting* has been extensively revised by the author to reflect the extensive changes that have taken place in the stamp market since then. Included is discussion of the stamp boom of the 1970s and the crash in the early '80s, from which the hobby is still recovering.

Drawing from his many years of experience as a collector, dealer, appraiser and auctioneer, Herst offers practical advice - tips on collecting wisely, possible pitfalls, a newly updated Market Guide with specific suggestions on the state of the market for different types of stamps, etc. - to "all those who collect stamps for their prime reward - pleasure." A new preface and postscript, and an index, have been added. All in all, this book is a good read which might help one avoid a mistake.

OLYMPEX 88, catalogue of the Olympic Stamp Exhibition; Olympic Arts Festival, Calgary, February 1988. Soft cover, 52 pp, \$6.00. Available from the Calgary Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 1478, Stn. M, Calgary, AB T2P 2L6.

OLYMPEX 88 is the catalogue which was available to visitors to the Olympic Stamp Exhibition held in Calgary during this year's Winter Games. The English and French text includes articles such as *Winter Sports and Winter Olympic Philately: An Introduction*, by Ralph Mitchener, and *Frontier Town to Olympic City: A Century of Postal History*, by Edmund A. Harris, as well as the descriptions of the exhibits which were on display at the show. Although photos of covers are too small, the book is well produced. This is probably the only non-cover philatelic souvenir of the 1988 Winter Games, and should be of interest to many.

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CORNER BROOK TO ST. JOHN'S - WILL THE REAL FIRST AIRMAIL FLIGHT PLEASE STAND UP?

by John M. Walsh



In *Newfoundland Airmails* (1953-p.131; 1984-p.129)), R.E.R. Dalwick and C.H.C. Harmer tell what they know about the Corner Brook-St. John's flight in the summer of 1931. On a quick reading, it is an interesting story; a slow and careful review, however, shows that something is missing.

Harmer and Dalwick state that pilot Arthur Sullivan was known to have been in Corner Brook on July 10, and pilot Douglas Fraser was expected there on July 16. The next press mention of either was a July 25 report saying that Fraser had returned from Corner Brook to St. John's 'yesterday'.

The authors conclude, "From this it is evident that Sullivan flew this special air mail and any doubt on this is dispelled by covers autographed by him." A dispatch cancellation, 'Corner Brook Jul 16 31 Newfd', and a one line cachet, 'First Air MAil Corner Brook St. John's' are mentioned.

Here the story gets confused, because they then go on to say, "It is known that Fraser flew from St. John's to Botwood and on to Corner Brook on July 20 and he returned on that or the following day. The mail is backstamped St. John's July 21." The first flight cover reproduced in the 1953 edition of

Harmer and Dalwick shows Sullivan's signature. The cover reproduced in the 1984 edition has the one line cachet, *but does not carry Sullivan's signature. The caption states that this cover is backstamped July 21.*

If Sullivan flew the special air mail covers, what covers did Fraser fly? Was there one flight, or were there two? The cover shown above, obtained in a recent Robert Lee auction, may help shed some light on this. Post-marked 'Corner Brook Jul 18 31' and *signed by Sullivan, it is clearly backstamped July 20, 1931* with the St. John's City Registration Department cancel.

I would like to submit the following theory. There were two first flights from Corner Brook to St. John's - Sullivan and Fraser split up the mail. Sullivan flew on July 20, and signed the covers he carried. Fraser flew back from Corner Brook on July 21, and did not sign the covers he carried. It is possible that Fraser also flew on the 20th, but this is doubtful because it is extremely unlikely that registered mail would have been held overnight before being backstamped.

Any help in unravelling this mystery would be welcomed by the author.

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BNAPEX '88

EXHIBITION AWARDS

GRAND AWARD

Harry W. Lussey - Revenues of Some Eastern Provinces

MEDALS

- GOLD** - George Arfken, J.C. Arnell, Robert Carr, Earle Covert, Stewart Kenyon, Lewis Ludlow, Harry Lussey, Robert Pratt, William Robinson, Allan Selby, Allan Steinhart
- VERMEIL** - James Catterick, Winfield Clatterbuck, David Dixon, Roger Grigson, Robert Heasman, Robert Jamieson, James Lehr, William McCann, Robert Pratt, Allan Selby, Phillip Stager, Edward Whiting, Victor Willson
- SILVER** - Paul Burega, John Frith, Bradley Harris, Wilmer Rockett, Howard Twichell
- SILVER-BRONZE** - Garvin Lohman, John Myers
- BRONZE** - Maurice Hewitt, Raymond Skrepnek, E.R. Toop, Edward Whiting

ED and MICKEY RICHARDSON AWARD

Roger Grigson - Post Office Directional Markings 1870-1899

The exhibit best representing one or more of the following: research, originality, innovativeness, presentation - sponsored by the Texas Prairie Beavers Regional Group.

VINCENT G. GREENE AWARD

E.R. TOOP

The Vincent G. Greene award is given annually for the best article, or series of articles, to appear originally in *BNA TOPICS* during the previous year. The winner is chosen by a vote of the Board of Governors and the Executive.

The winner of the Vincent G. Greene Award for 1987 is E.R. (Ritch) Toop for his series *The Canadian Airgraph Service*.

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

ROBERT A. LEE

Robert A. Lee of Kelowna, BC has, for the second time, been named as the winner of the President's Award for proposing the most new members accepted into the Society in the previous calendar year. Bob is also generous in his support of the Society and the Pacific-Northwest Regional Group through notices in his auction catalogues.



Harry Lussey (r) receives the Grand Award from Horace Harrison (l) and Leo LaFrance



Roger Grigson, winner of the Ed & Mickey Richardson Award



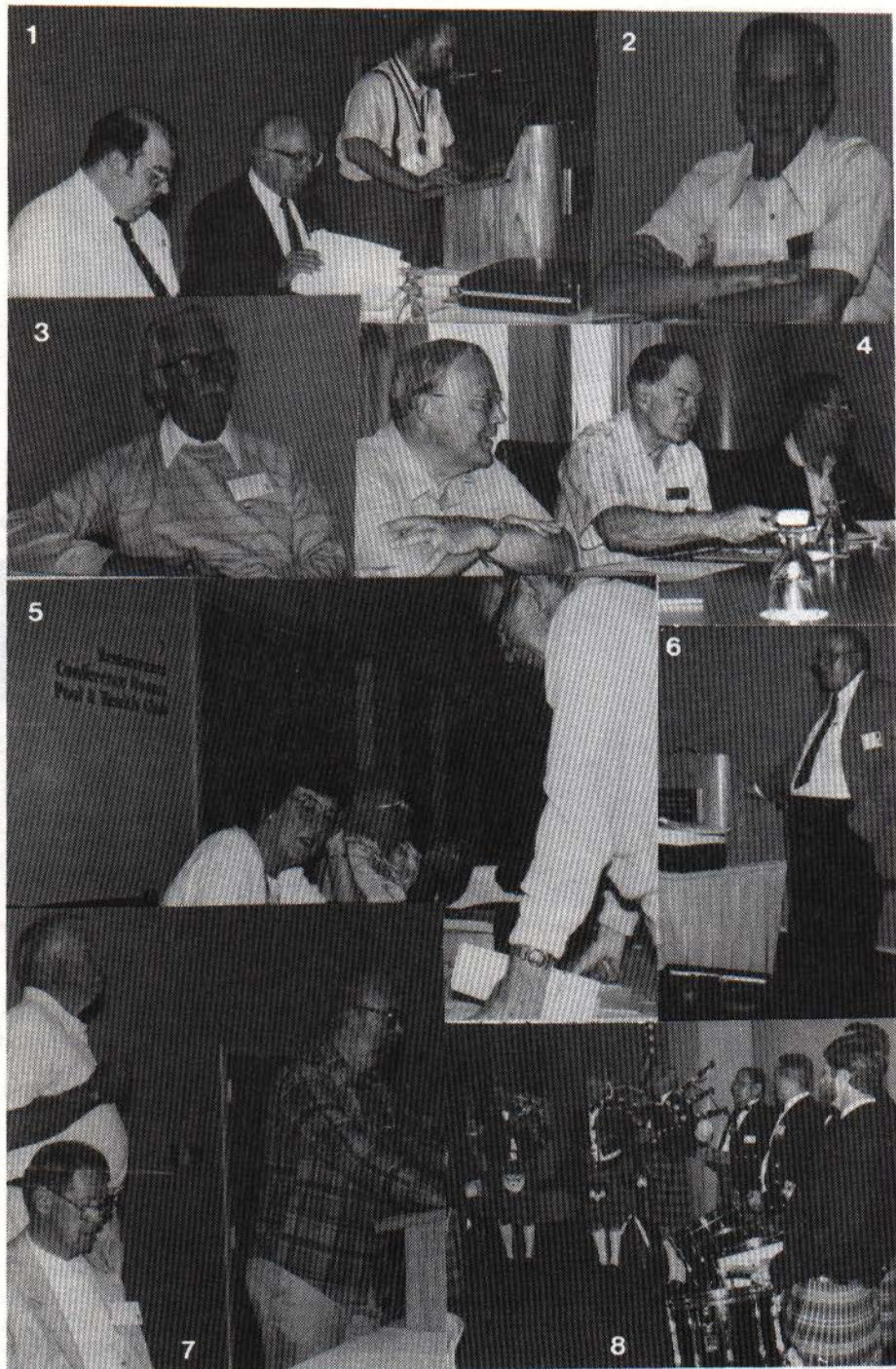
Bob Lee won the President's Award for the second year in a row

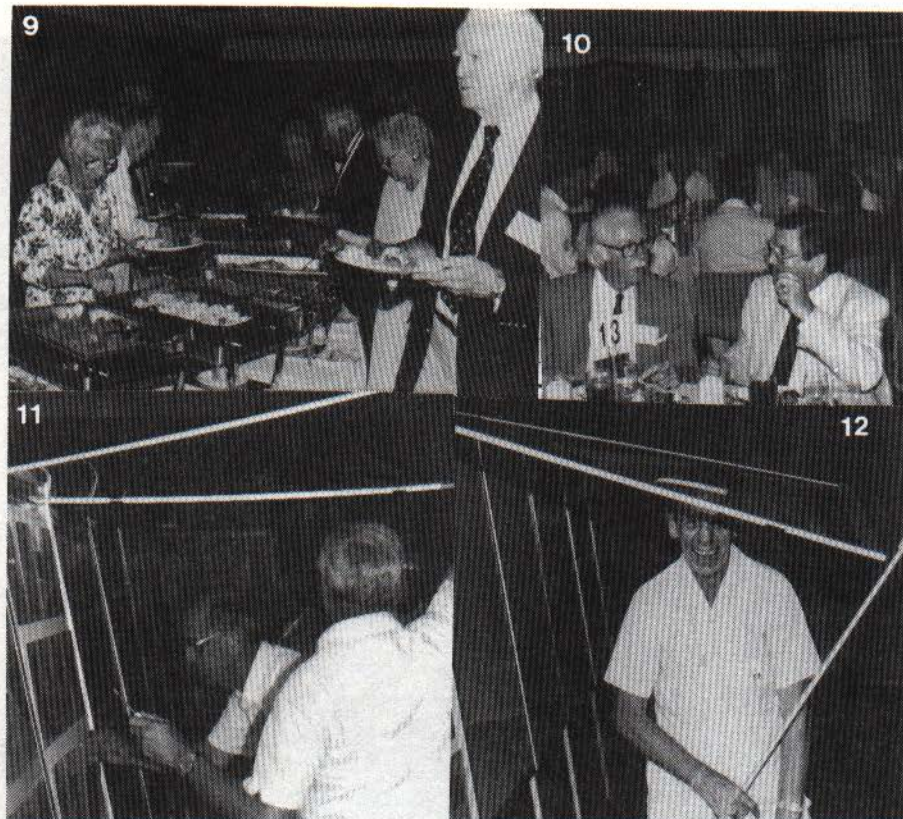


Ed Harris (r) congratulates Ritch Toop on winning the V.G. Greene Award



Flanked by show organizers Marva Paige and Leo LaFrance, Virginia Beach Vice-Mayor Robert Fentress opens the convention





1. (l-r) Earle Covert, Ed Harris and Allan Steinhart preside over their last Annual Meeting as Secretary, President and Chairman of the Board
2. Jim Catterick at the Perfins Study Group meeting
3. Jack Arnell listens to discussion at the Transatlantic group meeting
4. The New Guard: (l-r) Incoming Secretary Chris McGregor, First Vice-President Bill Robinson, and President Lew Ludlow
5. Sue LaFrance and Ernestine Whiting help Guy des Rivieres register
6. John McCrea addresses the RPO Study Group
7. Jury members Dick Lamb (s), Horace Harrison (l) and Bill Walton answer questions at the judging critique
8. Saturday night serenade from the Shriner's Pipe band. Between the Shriners and BNAPS, the hotel was a busy place!
9. The Seafood Buffet
10. The Southern Buffet was under a marquee
11. Howard Twichell (l) and Clint Phillips show how to set up frames
12. Bob Carr shows how not to!

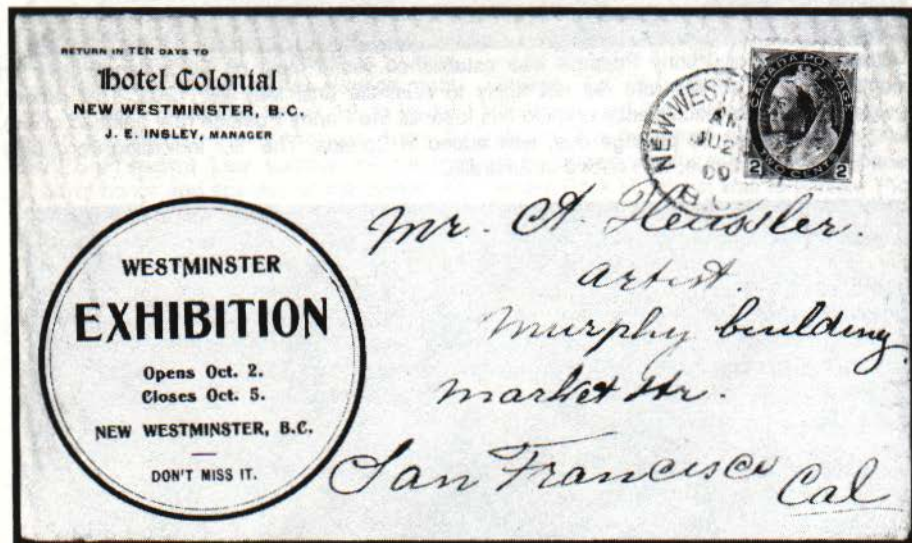


BNAPS is People:

1. Grace and Don Ure
2. Clint Phillips and Ron Leith
3. Brian Grant-Duff and Dan Eaton
4. Bob and Connie Prince
5. Lola Caron
6. Ed Richardson
7. Palmer and Marion Moffatt
8. Frank Waite and Dave McKain
9. Mike and Carol Street get ready to host BNAPEX '89. STEEL YOURSELVES FOR HAMILTON!

EARLY EXHIBITION COVERS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

by Kenneth Ellison



WESTMINSTER EXHIBITION 1900

By 1900 the Westminster Exhibition, as the show at New Westminster had become known, was drawing better exhibits and larger crowds. Permanent buildings in Queen's Park greatly enhanced the enthusiasm of all to take part in the festivities. This cover of Ju 28 / 00 was very plain, as BC exhibition covers go. It may have been printed privately rather than under the auspices of the Exhibition, but no other printings have been noted for this year at New Westminster.

by C. R. McGuire
BNAPS LIFE MEMBER

23. INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID UNDELIVERABLE INTERNATIONAL LETTER



Although Imperial Penny Postage was established within most of the British Empire on December 25, 1898, this rate did not apply to Australia until May 25, 1903. The sender, unaware of this fact, insufficiently prepaid this letter at the Penny Postage rate (instead of 5¢). The 'T-15', indicating 3¢ postage due, was added in Canada. The '3D' indicating 6¢ double the deficient postage due, was added in Australia.



This letter was returned to sender under separate cover by the Dead Letter Office, Ottawa as undeliverable.

2. Prepayment on letters addressed to Postal Union countries generally is not compulsory, but in case of non-prepayment of insufficient prepayment, the letters are stamped T (representing the word 'tax') at the despatching Exchange Office, and go forward subject to a charge of double the amount of deficient postage.

2. Every Dead Letter returned to the sender is subject to a special statutory charge of 2¢ for return, in addition to whatever may be due on account of any insufficiency in original prepayment.

REGIONAL GROUP RAMBLINGS

by Jim Goben

REGIONAL GROUP COORDINATOR: Dr. Robert V.C. Carr, 117 Robin Hood Way, Youngstown, OH 44511

REGIONAL GROUP REPORTER: Jim Goben, 304 W. Lincoln St., Bloomington, IL 61701

PRAIRIE BEAVERS: Howard Twichell, 5200 Keller Springs, No. 530, Dallas, TX 75248

CALGARY: Phillip Wolf, 636 Woodbine Blvd. S.W., Calgary, AB T2W 4W4

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA: Garvin Lohman, 1541 Sacramento St., Apt. 3, San Francisco, CA 94109

MID-ATLANTIC: G.H. Davis, 9 Queen St., Mayfair, London W1X 7PH, England

GOLDEN HORSESHOE: Eugene Labiuk, P.O. Box 1193, Str. B, Mississauga, ON L4Y 3W5

MANITOBA-NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO: Robert Lemire, P.O. Box 549, Pinawa, MB R0E 1L0

PACIFIC-NORTHWEST: Colin Campbell, 1450 Ross Road, Kelowna, B.C. V1Z 1L6

MID-AMERICA: Robert Schlesinger, 523 Highland Grove Dr., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

The **Golden Horseshoe** group's gathering on September 25 saw *BNA TOPICS'* Editor Mike Street give his slide presentation on the 'Barrel Cancels of Canada'. In addition to a November 5 meeting at the Hamilton Philatelic Society show, the group has planned meetings for January 22 and March 12, to be followed by the annual dinner on June 2. BNAPS President Lew Ludlow will be the guest of honor and speaker at the dinner. All these meetings will take place at the Fort York Armoury Officer's Mess.

All **Midwest** BNAPSers were invited to attend an organizational meeting for a regional group in the area at CHICAGOPEX on November 6. Steve Whitcombe and Bob Schlesinger worked hard on getting this started, and we hope to have good news to report next time.

The fall meeting of the **Pacific Northwest** Regional Group was held from September 30-October 2 at the Village Green Hotel in Vernon, BC. Bob Lee conducted an auction in conjunction with the meeting. Speaker for the Saturday dinner was author Ted Beau-doin, whose topic was 'Bush Pilots and Mails of Northern Canada'. On Sunday morning, several interesting seminars were held. Two new members have joined: Mrs. Elfreda Mar-

lon-Lambert and Bill Pawluk. If you live in the area, or can make this group's meetings, be sure to drop in. You will enjoy your weekend.

The **Prairie Beavers** were well represented at BNAPEX '88. Ron Leith, Clint and Judy Phillips, Ed Richardson, Howard and Ruth Twichell, and Vic Willson were in Virginia Beach. The good time at the convention was to be followed by the fall meeting in Houston, where Erick Middleton was to present 'Pictorial Railway Postcards and the Many Ways to Collect Them'. We'll have more news from that get-together next time.

The September *Beaver Chatter* contained several articles, including the nicely illustrated *Some Lumber Company Advertising Covers, Cross Border Forwarding, 1872, Empire Letter Rate, 1921-1926, and North America Preferred Rate, 1926-1931.*

These are the only groups heard from this time around. Please be sure to get your newsletters, or even just a quick note if the latter is delayed, off to me as early as possible so I can include *your* news in the next column. Items for the January-February *TOPICS* should be on their way to me NOW; for the March-April issue, news should be in the mail no later than February 5.

BNAPEX '89

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SEPTEMBER 22-24, 1989

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The Committee is working to arrange the following events and tours:

- NIAGARA FALLS and Niagara-on-the-lake (by day)
- Dundurn CASTLE, 19th Century home of Prime Minister Sir Allan McNab
- Niagara Peninsula WINERY (evening reception and tour)
- Royal BOTANICAL Gardens
- Niagara Falls BY NIGHT
- Ancaster OLD MILL (1792) Restaurant (Dutch Treat Lunch)

Information:

Mike Street, Chairman, BNAPEX '89, P.O. Box 7230, Ancaster, ON L9G 3N6

STEEL YOURSELF FOR HAMILTON!

STORIES BEHIND MY COVERS

by Jack Arnell

8. Duplicate Letters

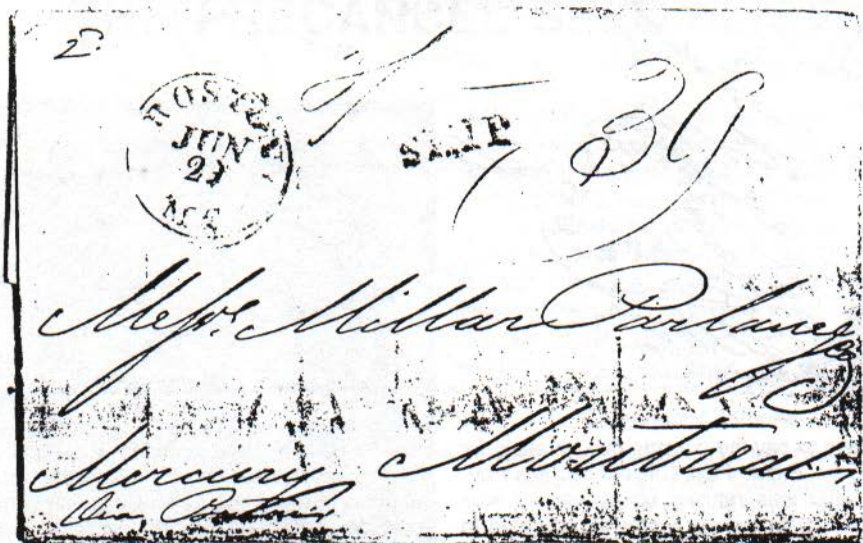


Figure 1

Until the days of steam, it was common commercial practice to send transatlantic business correspondence in duplicate on different vessels to ensure that at least one reached its destination. Letters of special

importance were often sent in triplicate. Because the risk of loss was high, letters were usually sent with the postage unpaid, where this was permitted. In the event that both copies of a letter arrived, the recipient was

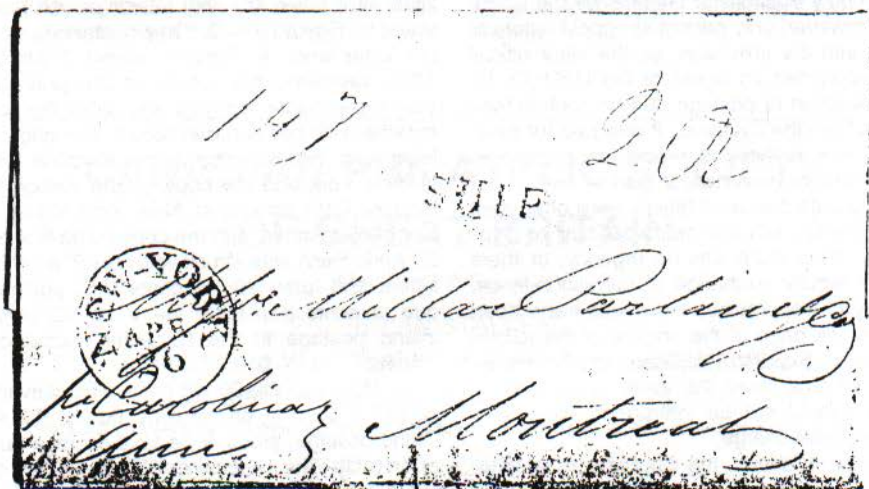


Figure 2



Figure 3

expected to pay the postage due on each, for under the British Post Office Acts, if an unpaid letter was refused on delivery, it was returned to the sender who was obligated to pay for it.

As the B.N.A. Post Offices functioned as subsidiaries of the General Post Office in London, unpaid letters could be sent in either direction between Great Britain and British North America. The 1792 postal convention between the U.S. Postmaster General and the Deputy Postmaster General for the Canadas, however, only permitted unpaid letters to travel into the provinces, as the latter official was appointed an agent of the U.S.P.O. for the collection of postage due on such letters; letters from the Canadas, if destined for overseas, had to have the postage prepaid to destination or an American port.

Duplicate copies of letters were often sent concurrently, with one marked 'Copy' or Duplicate'; when there was no urgency, or there was a regular exchange of correspondence, a copy of the previous letter was transcribed on a blank page of the original of the following letter. Separate duplicate copies sometimes have a small '2d' in an upper corner, which should not be interpreted as a Two Penny postal charge.

Figure 1 shows the duplicate of a letter from A. Parlane, Liverpool dated 21 May 1821. The original was sent by the *Industry* to Quebec, while this was carried by the *Mer-*

cury to Boston. Date stamped at Boston on 29 June, it was struck with 'SHIP' and rated 39 cents postage due to the Canadian border as a double letter (2 cents ship letter fee + 2x18 1/2 cents inland postage). At Montreal this was converted to 2/-Cy., and 2x6d = 1/-Cy. inland postage added for 3/-Cy. total postage due. The '2d' at upper left shows that it is a duplicate letter.

Seldom is a postal history collector fortunate enough to have both the original and duplicate of a letter. My only examples are illustrated in Figures 2 & 3. They contain an earlier letter from A. Parlane, dated 7 March 1819, reviewing the results of the previous year's shipments received and sales thereof, together with two itemized tables. The original letter was marked to go by the *Carolina Ann* to New York and the copy by the *Falcon* to Boston. Both arrived at New York within a day of each other, with the copy being first on 25 April. Each was struck with 'SHIP' as ship letters and rated 20 1/2 cents U.S. postage due (2 cents ship letter fee + 18 1/2 cents inland postage to the Canadian exchange office).

At Montreal, the 20 1/2 cents was converted to 1/1 Cy. and, on the copy, 9d Cy. B.N.A. inland postage added, for a total postage due of 1/10 Cy. The original, arriving but a day or two later, was only charged 6d Cy. inland postage for a total postage due of 1/7 Cy. The difference in the B.N.A. inland postage

was the result of the reduction in the postage between the border exchange office and Montreal, which occurred on 1 May 1819.

Are You Coming

to Hamilton?

THE PRECANCEL SPECIALIST

by Hans Reiche



Toronto Money Order Office Number

An interesting observation has been made on the Toronto Style 13 overprints. The Toronto Money Order Office Number (4350) appears on this style between a pair of bars.

Although there are some slight differences in thickness of these overprints, most likely due to wear of the plate used, the length of the number 4350 varies from 9.5 mm to 10.0 mm. It appears that two different plates were used for overprinting this style. The early stamps show the 10 mm, and the later 9.5 mm. Measurements were made of 750 stamps of the 1930-32 KG V Leaf issue, from 13-163i to 13-170.

Catalogue Additions

After the appearance of the 1988 Standard Canada Precancel Catalogue during CAPEX, a number of new items have been reported and will be added to the revised catalogue in 1989. All these new finds were made by the writer and verified by Mr. H.G. Walburn.

E-34-D	Toronto 3-74-ID
T-76a 2¢ thick paper	Toronto 7-120-D
Y-591-D	Toronto 11-165 Die II
London 4-197i Die I	Winnipeg 1-106-ID
Montreal 8-197i Die I	Winnipeg 1-150
Regina 1-160 1¢ coil	

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THE ABCs OF R.P.O.s



Ross Gray



Ross Gray

Q-167B, MONT. & TOR. G.T.R.Y./., Type 17, Direction NW, April 5, 1913

MA50, CHARLOTTETOWN & SUMMERSIDE R.P.O./., Type 17, Train 53, October 24, 1933

This column is being written for anyone who has not heretofore been involved in collecting Canadian railway cancellations, whether beginner or specialist in another BNA field. Just what is a R.P.O.? There are two definitions:

1. R.P.O. = Railway Post Office, a rail car specifically designed, equipped and staffed by official personnel for the handling of mail on the railroads traveling between key postal centers.
2. R.P.O. = a generic term covering any cancellation that is applied to mail on a railway mail car, which may include the initials 'R.P.O.' or any other equivalent. This is what is meant when 'R.P.O.' is used in this article.

How do we recognize a railway cancellation? Let us count the ways!!!

1. Most - but not all - railway cancella-

tions involve two named termini whose names (or abbreviations of same) are separated by a punctuation mark, usually - but not always - an ampersand &. The illustrated strike of MA-50 has the towns of Charlottetown and Summerside connected with the ampersand. An ampersand does not always a R.P.O. make, however! DUCK & PRINGLES/B. C., which existed in the 1890s, had this symbol in its cancellation.

2. Look for the initials 'R.P.O.' or an equivalent in the cancellation, either on the right side, as illustrated, or on the bottom. Some of the equivalents include 'Ry.P.O.', 'Rwy.P.O.', or 'M.C.' for 'Mail Car'. Also, be alert for the initials 'T.P.O.' which are sometimes used for water routes, particularly in Newfoundland. 'T.P.O.' is the abbreviation for Transportation Post Office.

3. Look for the initials of a named railroad in the cancellation. Some of these

include 'G.T.Ry.' or equivalent, for Grand Trunk Railway (see illustration); 'C.P.R.', or equivalent, for Canadian Pacific Railway; 'C.N.R.', or equivalent, for Canadian National Railway; 'G.T.P.' for Grand Trunk Pacific; and 'G.W.R.', or equivalent, for the Great Western Railway. There are others.

4. In the space above the date, check for the presence of letters, words or numbers. 'N, E, S or W', or 'NE, NW, DE or DW', or 'NORTH, EAST, SOUTH or WEST', if present, is a direction mark and indicates a railway cancellation. If there is a number in that location, anything from '1' to '874', it is probably a train number. Keep in mind, however, that some town cancellations from larger cities are known to have time marks between '1' and '24'. A few railway cancellations are known with 'AM' or 'PM' above the date. There are also some mixed direction train number marks, such as 'T1N' or 'T2S' known on R.P.O.s.

5. Check the size of the cancellation. Most R.P.O. strikes are 24 to 25 mm in

diameter. These were produced by steel hammers. There are, however, quite a number of railway cancellations made by rubber hand stamps, many of which are oversize, more than 30 mm in diameter.

6. If a cancellation is in some color other than black, check to see if it is a railway strike. Colored strikes - red, magenta, violet, blue and green are known - particularly in the Edward/Admiral period, are often railway cancellations, if they are not bank or fiscal strikes.

Where do we find R.P.O. cancellations? To answer this question, look at the ways in which they were created:

1. In the first instance, railway mail cars were used to process mail that was loaded on at stations between major postal centers, or hooked on the fly from track-side posts at small towns. The clerks sorted and cancelled such mail as the train continued on its way. Thus we can expect to find R.P.O.s on regular stamps that were used on first

TABLE - RPO BREAKDOWN

Section	Basic 20th Century	Intermediate 19th Century	Advanced Clerks or Equivalent	Sub- Totals	OPK/UNC	Totals
Newfoundland	126	16	4	146	5	151
Maritimes	115	56	129	300	11	311
Quebec	203	90	216	509	27	536
Ontario	256	140	302	698	45	743
Western	236	11	627	874	60	934
Western - Ornaments	42	7	3	52	5	57
Railroads	26	145	11	182	15	197
Registered	9	40	-	49	4	53
Depots	31	16	-	47	11	58
Sub-totals	1,044	521	1,292	2,857	183	3,040
Ticket Stamps	109	40	19	168	3	171
Steamers	277	13	1	291	16	307
Emergency	46	-	-	46	3	49
Totals	1,476	574	1,312	3,362	205	3,567

Clerks or Equivalent = Clerk strikes or others not normally used in the processing of ordinary mail.

OPK/UNC = Only Proof Known / Unconfirmed listings.

class letters throughout the railway period. This is a great advantage because lower denomination stamps, especially those of the 20th Century, are usually inexpensive and easily acquired.

2. Postal regulations designated that registered mail should travel 'under hand' from the sender to the addressee. Often railway mail clerks processing registered mail put their R.P.O. strike on the reverse of the envelope to indicate that they had processed it. We can look, then, for R.P.O.s as transit marks on the backs of registered covers.

These are the two main sources of railway cancellations, and will be the most rewarding to those just starting to collect R.P.O.s., but there are a few other sources, such as registered bank tags and ordinary facing slips.

Why collect R.P.O.s? As a specialty, rail-

way cancellations are almost the ideal for collecting. Their circumscribed period of use - 1853 to 1971 - is large enough to provide sufficient scope and challenge, while at the same time they can be found on some of the most common stamps. It is possible to build an extensive basic collection without untoward investment. If one strives for total completion, collecting R.P.O.s can provide a lifetime of pleasure. One can specialize either by period or by province as a way of getting started. The table, which is based on our 1982 catalogue and the six annual annexes which followed, gives the breakdown of listings involved, by both methods, so all can see what is involved in the collecting of R.P.O.s.

The above outlines the scope of collecting R.P.O.s at various levels. On the whole, it can appear somewhat awesome, but smaller areas of specialization become easily manageable. Welcome to R.P.O.s!!!

CALENDAR

CALENDAR lists exhibitions and bourses with significant BNA content, and BNAPS Regional Group functions. Information/Prospectus must reach the Editor at least 3 months in advance.

1989

JANUARY 13-15, TORONTO, ONTARIO - PHILEX, International dealer's bourse, seminars. Sheraton Centre. Information: David B. Bastedo, Box 980, Stn. K, Toronto, ON M4P 2V3

APRIL 29-30, OTTAWA, ONTARIO - ORAPEX '89, R.A. Stamp Club show and bourse. RA Center, 2451 Riverside Dr. BNAPS Study Group meetings. Information: D. Lingard, 2425 Blackstone Cr., Ottawa, ON K1B 4H3

MAY 5-7, HAMILTON, ONTARIO - ROYAL '89, national level exhibition, bourse and annual convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. Hosted by the Hamilton Philatelic Society. Hamilton Convention Centre. Information: ROYAL '89, c/o Vernon March, 200 Charlotte St., Hamilton, ON L8K 4V6.

JUNE 23-25, EDMONTON, ALBERTA - PIPEX '89, Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs show and bourse. RPSC and APS accredited, national level. BNAPS Regional Group participation. Information: PIPEX '89, Edmonton Stamp Club, Attn. K. Spencer, P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6

JULY 7-17, PARIS, FRANCE - PHILEXFRANCE '89. FIP sanctioned International Exhibition. Exhibition Park of Paris, Porte de Versailles. Canadian Commissioner: J.E. Kraemer, 17 Commanche Dr., Ottawa, ON K2E 6E8

BNAPEX '89

HAMILTON, ONTARIO, September 22-24, BNAPS' Annual Convention. Sheraton Hamilton. Bourse (deposit:\$50) and hotel suite reservations are now being accepted. Chairman: Mike Street, P.O. Box 7230, Ancaster, ON L9G 3N6

OCTOBER 4-8, AYR, SCOTLAND - the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain's annual convention. Station Hotel. Information: John Hillson, 52 Stamperland Gardens, Clarkston, Glasgow, Scotland G76 8HG.

BNAPEX '90: GALVESTON, TX

BNAPEX '91: VANCOUVER, BC

The Study Group CENTERLINE

by Frank Waite

STUDY GROUP COORDINATOR: Jonathan C. Johnson, P.O. Box 6118, Calgary, AB T2P 2C7

STUDY GROUP REPORTER: Frank Waite, 110 E. McMillan St., Newberry, MI 49868

BNA PERFINs: Michael Hargraft, Trinity College School (Staff), Port Hope, ON L1A 3W2

CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES: D. Irwin, 2250 Lawrence Ave. E., #406, Scarborough, ON M1P 2P9

DUPLEX CANCELLATIONS OF BNA: Robert A. Lee, Box 937, Vernon, BC V1T 6N8

FANCY CANCELS: Dave Lacelle, 369 Fullerton Ave., Ottawa, ON K1K 1K1

FLAG CANCELS: Robert Heasman, 8 Wandering Hill, Irvine, CA 92715

MAP STAMP: W.L. Bradley, P.O. Box 6, Honey Harbour, ON P0E 1E0

MILITARY MAIL: Ken Ellison, R.R. #1, Oyama, BC V0H 1W0

NEWFOUNDLAND: C.A. Stillions, 5031 Eskridge Terrace, N.W., Washington, DC 20016

POSTAGE DUES: Calvin Cole, 3839 Ezie St., San Jose, CA 95111

POSTAL STATIONERY: Robert Lemire, P.O. Box 549, Pinawa, MB R0E 1L0

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: James C. Lehr, 2918 Cheshire Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810

RE-ENTRIES: Ralph E. Trimble, P.O. Box 532, Stn. A. Scarborough, ON M1K 5C3

REVENUES: Wilmer C. Rockett, 2030 Overlook Ave., Willowgrove, PA 19090

ROLLER CANCELS: Robert A. Lee, P.O. Box 937, Vernon, BC V1T 6N8

R.P.O.'s: W.G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V8M 3A7

SEMI-OFFICIAL AIRMAILS: Robert Marcello, P.O. Box 961, Boston, MA 02103

SLOGAN CANCELS: Jeff Switt, 3962 Belford, Fort Worth, TX 76103

SMALL QUEENS: Bill Burden, P.O. Box 152, Truro, NS B2N 5C1

SQUARED CIRCLES: Gary D. Arnold, 10533 Countryside Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837

1972-78 DEFINITIVES & LANDSCAPES: D.J. Moore, Box 29, Aylesford, NS B0P 1C0

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL: Dr. J. Amell, Box HM 1263, Hamilton, Bermuda

NEW GROUPS FORMING

GEORGE VI RATES: Dave Dixon, P.O. Box 1082, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9

ON THE FRINGES

BNAPEX '88 has slipped into history - postal history of course. The host committee under Marva Paige provided many happy memories. A wonderful job well done. The exhibits were the most varied, and of the highest average quality, that I have ever seen.

My one disappointment was the Study Group meetings. There were some fine, well organized sessions, but two thirds of the study groups either didn't schedule meetings or the meetings didn't materialize. I feel that this is a mistake. The annual convention is the one time that the members of a study group can assemble to discuss its goals and how to attain them. Blame is not constructive. The problems were many and varied. We must have a cooperative effort from the Study Group Coordinator, the Host Committee and the study group Chairmen. Each group should have a meeting set by April to facilitate scheduling by the Host Committee. If a

chairman is unable to attend, he should make sure that a substitute will conduct the meeting.

Bob Lee, editor of the **Duplex** group, keeps interest up in his group with regular newsletters. There is a brief financial report, and several catalog corrections. Eight new listings are presented, some with illustrations. Several problem cancels are pictured. Any information on these will be welcome.

The **Roller** cancel people received a lengthy newsletter (Bob Lee edits this one too). Information and updates have been received from so many members that Editor Mike would kill me if I name them all. There have been nearly 800 changes in the catalog. To keep the members current, updates were enclosed for Armed Forces, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia Roller cancellations.

Dave Lacelle issued his first newsletter for the **Fancy Cancel** Study Group at a meeting

he conducted at Virginia Beach. He details his background and his goals for the study group. Dave divides 'Fancies' into eight sub-interests. He illustrates types of 'Crown Wax Seals', and lists those he has recorded. Also illustrated are a large number of non-verified Day and Smithies 'Initial' cancels with a request for information, known (or suspected) foreign cancels listed in D & S, and finally 35 'Initial' cancels, illustrated in D & S, which Dave feels should be delisted. This is an excellent newsletter. Anyone at all interested in fancy cancels should write to Dave. I'm sure he'd be glad to recruit you, and send you a copy of the newsletter.

Ken Ellison, after a brief holiday, returns to edit the **Military** newsletter. He asks for a volunteer to bring the newsletter index up to date. Alan Brown and Michael Dobbs of the Forces Postal History Society (G.B.) have corresponded; the former contributed photocopies of two covers from the 4th Canadian General Hospital in Salonika. Steven Luciuk is interested in obtaining information on P.O.W. Christmas post cards. Several books are mentioned - *Behind Canadian Barbed Wire, From B.C. to Basieux - 102nd Canadian Infantry Battalion and The Canadian Forestry Corps*. There is an interesting excerpt from the *Edmonton Journal* about 'Project Habakkuk' - now sunk in a Jasper Park lake. This was a prototype for a huge artificial ice island to be positioned in mid-Atlantic as a bomber base. *Canadian Troops in the Bahamas in World War II*, by H.G. Gosney and G.J. Raymond, is the main article of the newsletter. Informative and nicely illustrated, it is taken from the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* of June 1988.

The vigilant Bob Pratt exposes another error in Linn's *Errors in Stamp Design* series. This is the lead story in C.A. Stillion's **Newfie** Newsletter. The *Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue*, by John M. Walsh and John G. Butt, is reviewed. A *New York Times* story (2-25-1860), *Female Mail Robbers*, adds an interesting note. The bulk of the newsletter is a proposed survey, by Palmer Moffat, of the 'Boxed' and 'Oval' cancels of Newfoundland. He lists those known to him and will coordinate the responses - a wonderful project.

The **Perfin** people have a new Chairman, Floyd McNey, and a new Editor, Michael Behm. I'm sure Mike Behm will continue the fine work of Jim Catterick. There will be an-

other auction to augment their treasury. A resume and photocopies of the seven CNR perfins and the five CPR perfins are presented. *Perfins in the 1980's-Part III*, by Mike Hargraft, is a continuation of a series. The newsletter concludes with photocopies of plating work, by Conrad Tremblay, of Workman's Compensation Board of B.C. (Vancouver) perfins.

The **Postal Stationery** Editor, Robert Lemire, presents two interesting puzzles in Canadian stationery from Bill Walton. This sort of thing adds interest to a newsletter, and stirs up the members. Steven Whitcombe makes two corrections to his article on Webb P1/P2. There are a few new ERPs from Colin Campbell, Robert Lemire and Bill Walton. Robert Lemire discusses some more puzzles concerning Canadian Letter Cards. George Manley has two articles. Multiple articles are an editor's joy. Both are illustrated; the first is *Dominion Envelope Specimen Markings*, and the second is *More Notes on Precancelled Postcards*. Bill Walton also submits two entries, *Corrections to the 5th Edition of the Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue*, and an interesting article on an early catalog by J.B. Moens. A page of adlets follows.

The **Railroaders** had a fine meeting at BNAPEX. Dr. John McCrea and Lew Ludlow were featured speakers. This is reviewed in Bill Robinson's latest newsletter. He also describes the activity of the group at PIPEX '88. Malcolm Smith furnishes copies of two cards with U.S. stamps that received Canadian R.P.O. cancels. He also sent in pictures of the interior of a mail car, and a clipping from the *Times* of London concerning Sub-Postmaster's liability for robberies. Jim Lehr has initiated a project on DD-96 and DD-98 and requests information. Three newspaper articles of interest were submitted - one from Ken Ellison on construction of the Midway-Vernon Railway; the second from Don Wilson on the first train to cross Newfoundland to Port aux Basques; and the third, from Dr. A.D. Campbell, on the destruction of the Dundas railway station. The newsletter concludes with a membership list and a financial report.

I received Ralph Trimble's **Re-entry** newsletter after I had completed this column. Rather than leave it for the next I decided, appropriately, to re-enter it in this column! Ralph pictures two lovely misplaced entries on the 1c Quebec Tercentenary and explains them. Jim Watt supplies, with data, his theory of the

5¢ on 6¢ Small Queen variety. No Canadian variety has inspired as much ink as this. Ralph illustrates a beautiful re-entry on the 3¢ Small Queen, and several on Postage Due imprints. He closes with his policy concerning the scope of this study group and the newsletter.

Bill Rockett edits the newsletter of the **Revenuers** - our largest study group. He reviews their Virginia Beach meeting, and the awards won by their group at the exhibition, where Harry Lussey won the Grand Award. Auctions with revenue listings are reviewed, and the newsletter closes with a number of adlets. This group has 150 members.

The **Slogan** study group Chairman, Jeff Switt, asks for money (dues), and the Editor, Dan Rosenblatt, asks for articles. I don't know how successful Jeff is in collecting dues, but Dan has sure been successful in collecting articles. The newsletter is crammed with fascinating material. After a request from Dan, Doug Lingard complied with copies of over 150 letters from the P.O. Archives concerning the 'Poppy Day' slogan. Dan has reviewed this in a very interesting article on the mechanics and fiscal details of slogan issuance. A detailed article, with illustrations and lists of users, on Canadian slogan usage in 1912 and 1913 is, I suspect, by Dan Rosenblatt. *Notes on Canadian Slogans in the French Language*, by Jean-Guy Dalpe, discusses these slogans and lists them - a fine story. John Robertson provided photocopies of two slogan covers. George Potts lists the offices using the 'Why Wait for Spring - Do It Now' slogan - again an excellent article. It is noted that Hungary objected to this slogan. Jeff illustrates and describes a damaged die of the 'St. John Exhibition' slogan of 1914. The first copy of Kentville's 'Save Time Use Airmail' slogan was discovered by Dan Rosenblatt. An update to the earlier article on the 'Buy War Savings Stamps' slogan is presented. Mysteries in the use of the World War II slogan 'Conserve Coal', and its varieties, are discussed. New dates of usage for the 'V...' slogan are included. Jeff tries to convince us of Texan literacy by belittling the grammar of the 'Better Secretaries Means Better Business' slogan. The newsletter ends with several adlets. This is one of the finest newsletters I have ever reviewed - congratulations Dan!

Dr. J.C. Arnell, Editor for the **Transatlantic** group, discusses the usage of and mark-

ings associated with late fees. Allan Steinhart sent in photocopies of two fine covers - one to France, and an unusual Forwarding Agent cover. These invoke a very interesting discussion. Finally, there is reproduced a Foreign Office circular (1-31-1857) regarding the 'Registration of letters'. This is courtesy of Maggie Toms.

Study Group Coordinator Jon Johnson reports that our 21 study groups have over 900 members. Many BNAPsers are affiliated with more than one group. Most of these study groups are viable and active. Perhaps some others should reassess their commitment. The total number of study groups is not nearly as important as the number of active, committed study groups. Jon feels the need for an Elizabethan Study Group even though we already have the Centennial and Landscapes groups. Leadership and strong interest is needed to form, and keep alive, any study group. See you in Hamilton - JOIN A STUDY GROUP!

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A NEW P.E.I. CANCELLATION

by James Lehr, OTB



Since I was rather busy at BNAPEX '87 in Charlottetown, there was little opportunity to do much searching for new P.E.I. material for my collection. I owe the illustrated cover to my friend Bob Jamieson, who brought it to me while I was working at our registration area and gave me first chance to purchase it. At the time a quick glance showed a rare St. Eleanors PAID cancellation, so it was put

aside for further study. That night further study showed it was something special.

The front shows a broken double circle 'ST. ELEANORS - PAID' (P-13) cancellation in red and a large red 2, while the back shows a light but full strike of the broken double circle 'ST-ELEANORS/AP5/1860/A' strike (P-49) and the common broken double ring 'PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND /AP 6/1860'



strike (P-5). The P-13 is only the third known example, while the P-49 is the twelfth recorded - and I did not have either cancellation in my collection! A great addition, but the red 2 on the front was the real thrill - the first known example of this mark (given the identification listing of P-107A).

This letter is an internal cover from St. Eleanors (two marks) to Charlottetown (the P-5 mark was only used there), so that the 2 is definitely a P.E.I. cancel. It represents the 2d internal rate in use in 1860. It apparently was used rather than the manuscript figure often found inside the town PAID mark or on some

other part of the cover. The red colour represents paid. The St. Eleanors backstamp is dated April 5 and the Prince Edward Island backstamp is dated April 6, definitely identifying this figure 2 as a St. Eleanors postmark. Finally, the writing in ink on the right front end, very common on lawyer covers (John Longworth was a well documented lawyer in Charlottetown) of this time, ties the figure 2.

The author has not been able to find any other reference to, or example of, this 2 on other BNA covers of this period. He would appreciate correspondence with anyone having information on such usage.

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LIBRARY: Clinton A. Phillips, 1704 Glade St., College Station, TX 77840

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BNA TOPICS: See Page 2

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Annual membership fees are \$20CDN or \$17US (or equivalent in Sterling). A one-time application fee of \$3CDN is payable by new applicants. Mail new applications, with payment, to the Secretary.

DECEASED

E0051 DAVENPORT, Leslie A.
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R2763 BAILEY, L. Col. William. J., 108 - 7155 Granville St., Vancouver, BC, Canada V6P 4X6
R2872 BARNES, Hubert L., 21 Lanse Aux Meadows Cr., Apt. 217, ST. John's, NF, Canada A1E 5C1
R3571 EDWARD, William G., P.O. Box 964, Freeland, Whidbey Island, WA, USA 98249
R3652 STAGER, Phillip J., 4184 51st Ave., S, St. Petersburg, FL, USA 33711-4734
R3695 PEFHANY, Spehro, 4598 Longmoor Rd., Mississauga, ON, Canada L5M 4J5
R3739 DELWASSE, Jean-Pierre, 653 rue Saint-Augustin, Breakeyville, PQ, Canada G0S 1E0
R3915 MARTIN, Joseph R., All World Stamp Auctions, P.O. Box 69, Rothesay, NB, Canada E0G 2W0
R3943 BENNETT, Charles W., 13050 Willow Lane, Golden, CO, USA 80401-3569
R3999 BOONE, Mel A., P. O. Box 130, Freshwater, Placentia Bay, NF, Canada A0B 1W0
R4004 BOUW, J. Daniel, 351 North 11th Street, Newark, NJ, USA 07107
R4029 SHEFFIELD, John, P.O. Box 2014, Lambeth, ON, Canada N0L 4J4
R4133 ROBERTSON, Ian S., 101 Hay Ave, Toronto, ON, Canada M8Z 1G3
L4150 BERKOVITS, Joseph, York Toronto P.O. Box 33, 260 Adelaide St. East, Toronto, ON, Canada M5A 1N0
R4241 DE LA VERGNE, John N., 55 Lombard St Apt 203, Toronto, ON, Canada M4L 2R7
R4548 CREIGHTON, Richard W., 120 Rosedale Valley Rd., Apt 303, Toronto, ON, Canada M4W 1P8
R4678 ATTRELL, John R., P.O. Box 4548 "PSSE", Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 5G4

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Last given address shown - please notify Secretary of any changes known

E0759 BAUGILD, George Collins, 2537 Windsor St., Halifax, NS, Canada B3K 5C2
R4385 MOFFITT, Heather S., Gunn, AB, Canada T0E 1A0

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Total membership as of last report	1456
New members added in this report	4
Reinstated	1
Deceased	2
Mail returned	2
Total membership as of this report	1457
New application(s)	10

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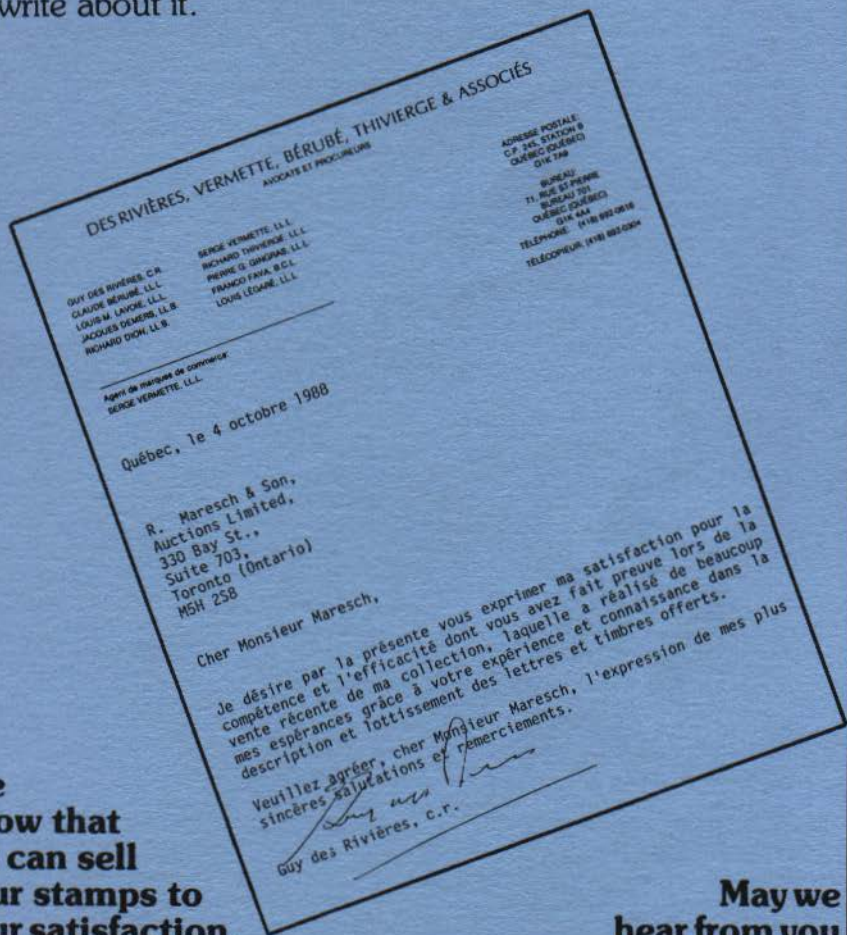
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