

BNA TOPICS

Published quarterly by and for members of the British North America Philatelic Society

# BNA TOPICS

Vol. 1

October, 1944

No. 7

**Smith's Postal History — Pollock**

**The BNA Market in Britain — Nixon**

**Canadian Precancels — Levine**

**Newfoundland — 2 items by Meyerson**

**Nominees for Office**

**Lists of Exchangers**

Official Publication of the  
British North America Philatelic Society



## BNA TOPICS

Published monthly by and for members of the British North America Philatelic Society.

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	1 Insertion	6 Insertions
Full Page .....	\$8.00	\$6.50
½ Page .....	4.00	3.25
¼ Page .....	2.00	1.75

Payable in advance. Send copy to the editor before 15th of month for following month's publication.

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Secretary: Jack Levine, 510 Liberty Ave., Brooklyn 7, N. Y.  
Editor: H. R. Meyers, 101 W. 60th St., New York 23, N. Y.

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### EDITOR'S PAGE

Our previous issue squeezed out Meyerson's article, altho his name appeared on the cover as a contributor. In order to make up for this to Dan and his readers, we present in this number two of our "Newfoundland Correspondent's" efforts. Am I forgiven now?

Scott's new cat. has made its appearance. Canada has been upped, generally. Booklet panes have been stratosphered. This news should not discourage the newer collector too much, as there are still plenty of stamps on sale at the Ottawa Agency, all potential "good philatelic items." Witness the meteoric rise of the "Blue Nose" and the dollar Parliament soon after agency sales were discontinued. Collectors and dealers alike were found short on these. Since no advance notice is given before removal from sale at Ottawa, better send for a list, check your collection or stock against it, and order what you need. Don't overlook the possibilities in the Postal Stationery field, and the OHMS series makes an interesting collection too.

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have reached a membership of over one hundred members, and are still going strong. Let us all help make this the most active and constructive society for BNA collectors and philately in general.

The Sales Circuit will soon be in full force and effect. Much has been decided upon, but much more is yet to be approved finally by our Board, which meets next on Sep. 27. In the next issue of Topics the major features will be reported.

BNAPS for all BNA collectors!

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## Here and There

by Quebecca

Scott's # 174 would have looked nice if overprinted for the recent Quebec conference.

Canada had its Steamboat Issue as did United States. U. S. had a National Park issue, will Canada???

There are many "sleepers" in Canadian coils, and varieties galore. Most albums have only a space for single copies of coils. Most collectors like these in pairs. Couldn't something be done about this situation?

BNAPS for all BNA collectors is quite a catch phrase these days.

## MARKET VALUES IN GREAT BRITAIN OF CANADIAN AND NEWFOUNDLAND STAMPS

by W. C. Nixon

During the past four years there has been a consistent rise in stamp values in Great Britain, particularly in twentieth century issues, with comparatively small increases in the earlier issues. This has been largely due to scarcity of supplies and to the severe restrictions on goods generally, with consequent fewer ways of spending money. Stamps of North and South America especially have been in short supply on account of financial regulations governing purchases from dollar countries. Canadian and Newfoundland stamps have retained their popularity with British collectors, and substantial rises in values have taken place in many Canadian issues and in most Newfoundland issues.

In giving instances of current market values in London (at \$4 to the £), mint stamps only are mentioned as condition counts for so much in used stamps as to make comparative valuations difficult. Taking a few early Canadians, the 1851 3d laid, vermilion, sells at \$25, while 'Specimen' plate proofs of the 12d usually fetch about the same figure, and the 1857 ½d wove, rose, is worth \$40. Largest Canadian increases in Gibbons' catalog are in the 1897 Jubilee set which is in keen demand, recent auction prices being \$145. Incidentally, a large number of mint sets will be offered for sale at the Red Cross auction in London in October. The Maple Leaves and Numerals sets in blocks of 4 realized \$20 and \$45 respectively at auction, and the Edward 50c, always elusive in fine mint condition, now sells at \$15. The Quebec set has risen sharply to \$14, or \$150 in imperforate pairs. An imperforate block of 4 of the 1928 Airmail realized \$280, while \$50 and \$70 respectively were paid for imperforate pairs of the 1917 Confederation 3c and 1930 10c (Library) stamps.

Representative values of Newfoundland sets are Cabot \$18, Guy lithographed \$25, Guy engraved \$35, or in die proofs in black \$200, 1911 Coronation \$40, 1919 Coronation \$40, 1919 Caribou \$17, 1923 Pictorial \$20, and the Humphrey Gilbert set is still rising at \$23. Substantial increases are seen in the airmail stamps, which are frequently advertised, with the 1919 Alcock selling at \$20, or a block of 4 showing three varieties at \$140. The 1931 sets with and without watermark aggregate \$20, and the DO.X and Balbo are worth \$35 each. At auction, the Hawker air stamp realized \$1160, and \$480 was paid for the 1930 Columbia. The 1933 Labrador airmail set is in demand and is now worth \$20, with an aggregate of \$1880 being paid for the same set in imperforate blocks of 4.

While of late there has been a tendency for many values to become more stabilized, it is confidently believed that B. N. A. stamps will retain their values and that post-war demand may provide further stimulus. But when financial restrictions are removed there will necessarily be some adjustment of New York and London prices, and at the moment it is impossible to say what may be the general result of this as it will depend on post-war rates of exchange.

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## SOLVING THE RIDDLE OF NEWFOUNDLAND # 128 — WE HOPE

by Dan Meyerson

Those collectors of Newfoundland stamps who read my article on Scott's #128 in the August issue of "Topics," may have wondered how the printers at the office of the Royal Gazette in St. John's could have set the type up in such a manner that either the lower or upper set of values was obliterated by the bars, and not both sets at the same time.

I have often racked my brain and tried to think up a solution for this vexing problem, and at long last I believe that I may have the answer.

At a recent Harmer-Rooke sale I was able to purchase a copy of the 6c Cabot, Scott's #66, with the same overprint found on #128. The overprint is in black and the bars are  $10\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart. Boggs, talking of the 1920 Provisionals in his book on Newfoundland has this to say, "It was intended at one time to use the 6c Cabot, and the surcharge that was used on the first setting of the 3c on 15c scarlet was applied to two blocks of twenty-five, one in red, and the other in black." Had the above quotation said "first applied," most of our problems would have been solved.

Now if we examine the 6c Cabot, we notice that the figure "6" only appears twice on the stamp and that they appear in a straight line about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the way down from the top of the design. It was therefore a simple matter for the upper bar to be so placed as to obliterate the figures. The second or lower bar was then placed  $10\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart because had it been placed  $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart, it would not have appeared on the stamp proper, but in the margin.

Then for some reason probably due to the lack of a sufficient stock of the 6c Cabot, it was decided to use the 15c, Scott's #70, in its stead. However the printer did not take cognizance of the fact that the figure "15" appeared four times on #70 whereas the figure "6" only appeared twice in the case of #66.

What evidently happened is that the printer in doing the surcharging placed the upper bar over the upper set of figures, and assumed that it would be satisfactory as had been the case in the trial surcharge of the 6c stamp. After several sheets had been so surcharged it was discovered that the lower values were not obliterated so they tried to remedy the situation by the means I spoke of in the August issue of "Topics."

Finally after 150 sheets or 3,000 stamps had been overprinted they decided to correct the condition by making the bars  $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart and in this manner they created Scott's #129.

It should be frankly stated that the above article is merely my interpretation of what happened and that it is based solely on the facts that I have been able to gather.

Perhaps one of our fellow-members can give a definite answer, if so I would much appreciate hearing from him.

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## NEWFOUNDLAND

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BNAPS #57

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## SMITH'S POSTAL HISTORY

by F. Walter Pollock

To my article in the July TOPICS, just one reply was received, but it was indeed most welcome; Winthrop S. Boggs lent us a copy of Smith's opus to read.

Well and interestingly written, with a very complete index, the book is, of course, entirely authoritative; Mr. Smith spent thirty-six years in the service of the Post Office Department of Canada, and was at one time the Secretary of the Department.

The information contained in the more than three hundred and fifty pages is invaluable to the study of early postal history, and particularly to the understanding of the rates charged for and the routes travelled by covers of the pre-stamp period.

The book is not arranged for the philatelist; thus the changes in rates must be followed throughout the text, and the stamps in which we are so deeply interested are hardly mentioned.

For the record, the exact title is "The History of the Post Office in British North America, 1639-1870," the author is William Smith, and the book was published by the Cambridge (England) University Press in 1920. Out of print now, of course, and the current price is around \$20.

I might add that the title is quite inclusive, the American Colonies being rightly considered as a part of British North America until 1775, wherefore the student of early American history will be as much attracted to this volume as the Canadian.

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## THE 3c NEWFOUNDLAND PROVISIONAL OF 1902

by Dan Meyerson

What is the story behind the bisecting of stamps for use on Aug. 26, 1902. It is not too much to believe that there may have been a shortage of 3c stamps, but when we examine the covers used that day we notice a strang condition existing.

To date I have seen three such covers, and all three were addressed to Avondale, N. F., and are postmarked C. B. Railway T. P. O., Aug. 26, '02 in circle and are backstamped at Avondale, Aug. 26, 02, also in circle.

However it is only when we examine the stamps used that we are faced with the aforesaid strange condition. As I have said before, I have seen three different covers, yet each of these covers bore a different combination of bisected stamps.

The first bore a bisected 2c Cabot, Scott's #62, used in conjunction with a normal stamp. The stamps were tied to the cover by the postmark and also a large 3 in black.

The second cover was franked with a bisected 6c Cabot, Scott's #66, and was tied in the same fashion.

The third cover bore still another combination, having a normal and a bisected 2c King Edward, Scott's #82, to make up the 3c rate. As is the case in the two previous instances the stamp and the bisect are tied by the postmark and also the large 3.

Isn't it strange that when a shortage of 3c stamps arose that the postmaster found it necessary to use at least three different combinations to fill the need. To my mind these are not true bisects, but rather philatelic favors made only with a monetary gain in view and certainly not worth the \$20-\$40 asking price.

Can any of our members shed any further light upon the subject.

# Report of the Secretary

## New Members

- 99 Boggs, Thomas E., 1040 Ackerman Ave., Syracuse 10, N. Y.
- 100 Chadbourne, Walter W., 825 Woodsdale Road, Wilmington 280, Del.
- 101 Curtis, Kenneth V., 1723 "G" Street, NW, Washington 6, D. C.
- 102 Hale, H. Warren K., 3193 Westmount Blvd., Montreal, P. Q., Can.
- 103 Harvey, Dorothy D., Orchard Lake, Michigan
- 104 Hemond, Gaspard, 775 Roy Street, Montreal, Can.
- 105 Hitt, Henry C., Box 345, Bremerton, Wash.
- 106 Jacobi, H. Jr., 51 Flatt Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario, Can.
- 107 Makepiece, Colin MacR., 1030 Hospital Trust Bldg., Providence, R. I.
- 108 Mc Lomore, A. R., 295 Fifth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.
- 109 Marler, George C., 1559 McGregor St., Montreal, Quebec, Can.
- 110 Piser, Harold Palmer, P. O. Box 67, Flushing, N. Y.
- 111 Wright, John P., Box 537, Keene, N. H.

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- Nouss, Henry O., 405 N. Elizabeth Ave., Ferguson 21, Missouri, (Coll) CAN — Precancels, General B. N. A. By Jack Levine, No. 1
- Oliver, Georges, 12 Wellington St., N., Sherbrooks, Quebec, Can., (Coll) BNA Postage & Revenue — USA, South & Central Americas. By Harold R. Meyers, No. 9.
- Richardson, Dr. H. E., 3810 Northwestern Ave., Detroit, Mich., (Coll) CAN, A\*o — B — BK — CO — PE — PL — S. By Oscar P. Noe, No. 70.

## A LETTER TO THE SEC.

Veteran's Hospital, Castle Point, N. Y.

Mr. J. Levine,

Dear Sir:

I am taking the liberty to write this letter to you in behalf of our hospital stamp club. We are 14 soldiers who have recently returned from overseas because of wounds, and are all shot up. We have started a stamp club and we all are very interested as it passes away lonely hours and keeps us busy, and we don't find time to worry. We would appreciate very much if you could please be so kind and send us some stamps that people do not want. We will appreciate all you could do to help us with any information or stamps that will be sent. I will assure you it will be of great help and help us to get well again so we can return to our station in life. Please send stamps to me and thank you.

Yours truly,  
Pvt. Chas. Blumenthal.

# Letters to the Editor

Towanda, Pa.

Dear Mr. Meyers:

I wish to make a correction on one item mentioned in my Nfld. Postal Stationery check list. As I stated in that list, I relied on my information on the 1904 2 cents postal card from a description by Dr. Mitchell but further correspondence with him brought out the fact that Queen Mary and NOT Queen Alexandra is pictured on this card. Dan Meyerson has just located one of these cards and confirms the description that follows:

PC 11 1904 2 Cents Red, on cream stock. Portrait of Queen Mary on stamp quite similar to Scotts A43, but without figures of value in the four corners. Card is 83 x 132 mm with imprint of "AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO."

Would appreciate your making this correction in "TOPICS," and adding, if you care to that, 92 would certainly like to obtain this item.  
(N. B. So would # 9)

Can't you persuade Mr. Moll to give us an authoritative article on the 5 cent Caribou (Type A101). I understand from Mr. Meyerson that he is quite up to date on this stamp. It is quite a problem for most of us.

Sincerely,  
Roy W. Trickey

More corrections on this article:

PC9 Delete the last two lines, they are superfluous.  
E3 Size should read 119x93.

Teaneck, N. J.

Dear Ed:

In TOPICS for September, Ensign John Siverts asks a couple of questions which I'll try to answer. Firstly, his question to me: Where a copy of Howes works can be located. As stated in my article, the book in question has long been out of print, and the best bet is to watch the auctions. Otherwise, write Paul Bluss or some other dealer in literature, and in that event, you'd better set a maximum price you're willing to pay, and make a deposit, to catch the next copy that comes along, as it probably won't be in stock at the moment. The only other alternative is an "ad" in the Philatelic Literature Review.

Secondly, his question to Mr. Hoffman, concerning reported 1c Victoria and 1c Edward booklet panes — and I hope Walter won't think I'm crowding his territory, but I had occasion to run down one of these rumored items more than eight years ago. I've never before heard mention of the 1c Victoria, but I believe the 1c Edward started on its phantom career as the result of its being listed by Jarrett in his 1929 Edition. He told me some years ago that his records had later been marked "does not exist," but he could not say how he came to list it, nor just how he learned that the listing was incorrect. Jarrett also chronicled two other non-existent booklet items: the 3c brown of 1918 and the 3c carmine of 1923, both in panes of six — they exist only in panes of four. And while we're on the subject, you can also delete in your Jarrett, the 3c brown of 1918, in coll form, perfed. 8 horizontally.

F. Walter Pollock

BUY WAR BONDS -- BUY WAR STAMPS



## NOMINEES

The following names have been placed in nomination by members for the designated office. THIS IS NOT A FINAL LIST. Further nominations may be entered with the Secretary, not later than October 15, 1944. Additional nominations will be published in the next issue of "TOPICS." The final list of members who have advised of their acceptance will appear in the December issue of "TOPICS."

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J. Alex Parks  
F. Walter Pollock  
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Charles E. Sohn  
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Jack Levine, Sec.

## PRIVATE AUCTION

I am disposing of a few surplus lots from my overstock, and would like to see all BNAP'S members get an equally fair opportunity to get needed items. For this reason, I am not stating a flat price, as Eastern seaboard collectors would have a great advantage (in time) over others.

Minimum reserves (in U. S. funds) are therefore noted on each lot. All bids must meet or exceed these reserves, and be postmarked not later than Oct. 25, 1944. Lots will be sold to the highest bidder at 25c increase over next highest offer.

All lots are guaranteed, of course, and returnable for full cash refund if not found exactly as described.

1. FIRST FLIGHTS — 250 diff. v. f. cacheted Canadian FFs, neatly mounted in Original Cover Album. \$50.00.
2. JARRETT, 1929 — My personal copy, well-worn, and with erasures of old notations; several loose pages; but copy intact and in good condition for this increasingly scarce handbook. \$17.50.
3. THIRD CANADIAN PHILATELIC EXHIBITION — Official Handbook, 1935; clean, fresh, rare. \$3.50.
4. PETROLEUM LABEL, Holmes (1940) #2433, cat. \$5; fine. \$2.50.
5. PETROLEUM LABEL, Holmes #2436, cat \$6; fine. \$3.00.
6. #76a — thick paper, full o. g., but cent. to NW, and with small crease in SE cnmr. Cat. \$5. Res: \$1.25.
7. Newfoundland, #s 184a, 186a, 187a, panes of 4, perf 13½; all superb. \$4.50.

I also buy, sell, or trade anything pertaining to philatelic issues of the Dominion of Canada. Send bids (and want-lists) to:

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Willow Road, Grove Park,

Roanoke 17, Va.

## Of Interest To Exchangers

It is the intention of our Society to sponsor correspondence and exchange between members with similar interests. To encourage this, the following lists are offered which provide the names and addresses of members with similar interests who have expressed their willingness to correspond and exchange.

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- 9 Meyers, Harold, 101 West 60th Street, New York 23, New York.
- 19 Bain, S. Ian, Box 152, Harrow, Ontario, Canada.
- 33 Barraclough, J. R., 7 Park Place, Westmount, Quebec, Canada.
- 46 Menendian, R. A., 2332 Coventry Road, Columbus 8, Ohio.
- 71 Norbeck, Lt. J. L., (j. g.) USNR, Y. P. 108 F. P. O., San Francisco.
- 77 Canham, H. E., 2509 Wallace Street, Regina, Sask., Canada.
- 83 Kellison, John M., First Presbyterian Church, Osage City, Kansas.
- 91 Smith, Raymond R., 206 West Packard Avenue, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.

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- 1 Levine, Jack, 510 Liberty Avenue, Brooklyn 7, New York.
- 2 Odell, F. H., 34 Grove Street, Pleasantville, New York.
- 5 Bedell, Walter V., 130 Pearsall Avenue, Freeport, New York.
- 9 Meyers, H. R., 101 W. 60 St., New York 23, N. Y.
- 15 Garrett, C., Box 512, Cranbrook, B. C., Canada.
- 19 Bain, Ian S., Box 152, Harrow, Ontario, Canada.
- 33 Barraclough, J. R., 7 Park Place, Westmount, Quebec, Canada.
- 36 Bradley, Harry A., 655 Stewart Street, Dubuque, Iowa.
- 44 Hunter, R. C., 2842 West Grand Blvd., Detroit 2, Michigan.
- 91 Smith, Raymond R., 206 West Packard Avenue, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.
- 103 Harvey, Dorothy D., Orchard Lake, Michigan.
- 109 Marler, George C., 1559 McGregor Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

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- 2 Odell, F. H., 34 Grove Street, Pleasantville, New York.
- 46 Menendian, R. A., 2332 Coventry Road, Columbus 8, Ohio.
- 91 Smith, Raymond R., 206 West Packard Avenue, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.

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- 10 Hoffmann, W. R., 77-18 95th Avenue, Ozone Park, New York.
- 15 Garrett, C., Box 512, Cranbrook, B. C., Canada.
- 20 Forney, Earl B., 1932 Princeton Avenue, St. Paul 5, Minnesota.
- 27 McDonough, Charles, 3213 N. Howard Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 33 Barraclough, J. R., 7 Park Place, Westmount, Quebec, Canada.
- 36 Bradley, Harry A., 655 Stewart Street, Dubuque, Iowa — B. P.
- 44 Hunter, R. C., 2842 West Grand Blvd., Detroit 2, Michigan — B. P.
- 50 Daggett, H. M., 329 Earl Street, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.
- 79 Crosby, Louis S., P. O. Box 543, Banff, Alberta, Canada.
- 83 Kellison, John M., First Presbyterian Church, Osage City, Kansas.
- 84 Bond, Nelson S., Willow Road, Grove Park, Roanoke 17, Virginia.
- 91 Smith, Raymond R., 206 West Packard Avenue, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.
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- 109 Marler, George C., 1559 McGregor Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

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- 91 Smith, Raymond R., 206 West Packard Avenue, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.
- 93 Baulch, Bert L., 162 Chatham Street, Brantford, Canada.

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  - 10 Hoffman, W. R., 77-18 95th Avenue, Ozone Park, New York.
  - 19 Bain, Ian S., Box 152, Harrow, Ontario, Canada.
  - 33 Barraclough, J. R., 7 Park Place, Westmount, Quebec, Canada.
  - 34 O'Neill, Thomas H., P. O. Box 56 (603 Fourth St.), Liverpool, New York.
  - 37 Duncan, Robert J., P. O. Box 118, Armstrong, B. C., Canada.
  - 46 Menendian, R. A., 2332 Coventry Road, Columbus 8, Ohio.
  - 71 Norbec, Lt. J. L., (j. g.) USNR, Y. P. 108 F. P. O., San Francisco.
  - 83 Kellison, John M., First Presbyterian Church, Osage City, Kansas.
  - 91 Smith, Raymond R., 206 West Packard Avenue, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.
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  - 77 Canham, H. E., 2509 Wallace Street, Regina, Sask., Canada.
  - 91 Smith, Raymond R., 206 West Packard Avenue, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.
- 

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  - 79 Crosby, Louis S., P. O. Box 543, Banff, Alberta, Canada.
  - 109 Marler, George C., 1559 McGregor Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
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  - 44 Hunter, R. C., 2842 West Grand Blvd., Detroit 2, Michigan.
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- 46 Menendian, R. A., 2332 Coventry Road, Columbus 8, Ohio.
- 49 Bellis, Royal E., 3 Sturges Street, Binghamton 4, New York.
- 50 Daggett, H. M., 329 Earl Street, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.
- 77 Canham, H. E., 2509 Wallace Street, Regina, Sask., Canada.
- 79 Crosby, Louis S., P. O. Box 543, Banff, Alberta, Canada.
- 84 Bond, Nelson S., Willow Road, Grove Park, Roanoke 17, Virginia.
- 91 Smith, Raymond R., 206 West Packard Avenue, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.
- 93 Baulch, Bert L., 162 Chatham Street, Brantford, Canada.
- 15 Garrett, C., Box 512, Cranbrook, B. C., Canada — B. C. only.
- 33 Barraclough, J. R., 7 Park Place, Westmount, Quebec, Canada—Bill Stamps

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- 9 Meyers, Harold, 101 West 60th Street, New York 23, New York.
- 34 O'Neill, Thomas H., P. O. Box 56 (603 Fourth St.) Liverpool, New York.
- 46 Menendian, R. A., 2332 Coventry Road, Columbus 8, Ohio.
- 49 Bellis, Royal E., 3 Sturges Street, Binghamton 4, New York.

**STATIONERY, CANADA:**

- 4 Sheffield, Joseph B., 230 East 48th Street, New York 17, New York.
- 5 Bedell, Walter V., 130 Pearsall Avenue, Freeport, New York.
- 9 Meyers, Harold, 101 West 60th Street, New York 23, New York.
- 10 Hoffman, W. R., 77-18 95th Avenue, Ozone Park, New York.
- 15 Garrett, C., Box 512, Cranbrook, B. C., Canada.
- 27 McDonough, Charles, 3213 N. Howard Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 34 O'Neill, Thomas H., P. O. Box 56 (603 Fourth St.), Liverpool, New York.
- 50 Daggett, H. M., 329 Earl Street, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.
- 77 Canham, H. E., 2509 Wallace Street, Regina, Sask., Canada.
- 79 Crosby, Louis S., P. O. Box 543, Banff, Alberta, Canada.
- 84 Bond, Nelson S., Willow Road, Grove Park, Roanoke 17, Virginia.
- 93 Baulch, Bert L., 162 Chatham Street, Brantford, Canada.

**STATIONERY, NEWFOUNDLAND:**

- 3 Meyerson, Daniel Chester, 765 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn 13, New York.
- 4 Sheffield, Joseph B., 230 East 48th Street, New York 17, New York.
- 9 Meyers, Harold, 101 West 60th Street, New York 23, New York.
- 93 Baulch, Bert L., 162 Chatham Street, Brantford, Canada.

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# Canadian Precancels

The collecting of Canadian Precancels is a phase of Canadian Philately which may not be very popular at present, but to me, it provides much of interest and pleasure. It may be that due to their lack of appeal many of these found their way into the wastebasket, and because of this, there is not an over-abundance of material available. The last issued Hoover Bros. "Catalog of Canadian Precancels," 1938 edition, lists over 2900 varieties and sub-varieties may well be termed "rare" in the sense of availability. I am offering herewith a brief outline of their history and a review of the various styles used.

Precancels are stamps which are cancelled by means of the cancellation printed or stamped upon them **before** they are affixed to letters, circulars, or packages. They are used on 2nd, 3rd, and 4th class mailing matter, and 1st class matter only under special P. O. regulations. Originally, only such firms requiring a minimum of 25,000 at one time for use on a particular class of mailing matter were qualified to requisition for these stamps. Later, the use of Precancels was allowed when required for the mailing of 10,000 pieces, and at present no minimum specification of an amount is required.

All Canadian Precancels were and are printed by the Post Office Dept. at Ottawa with plates especially prepared to overprint stamps for the authorized cities.

At first, nine different combinations of from three to ten lines in a parallel series were used to precancel stamps. Then, six styles of short diagonal dashes were used to form from two to five parallel lines, and likewise to form series of three and four double parallel lines. After that, four styles of a combination of a wavy line between two parallel straight lines were used. The last two styles of such combination wavy and straight lines continued in use until 1903. With the advent of the 1912 George V issue, three pairs of horizontal lines were used to overprint stamps. Three types of this style of precancelling were used, and two of these types are being used at present.

In 1903, a standard type for precancelling was introduced. This, known as the "City" and "Province" type, was printed to show the name of the City and Province. There are 12 standard "City Type" overprints which were used for most of the Cities ordering precancels, and variations of these standard types were used for some Cities. This type of precancelling continued in use until the appearance and issuance of Precancels of the George VI, 1937 Issue.

In 1903 there also appeared a special overprint for 3rd class mail. This style noted only the name of the city and the words "For Third Class Matter Only." This type of precancelling continued in use until the issuance of Precancels of the George V 1912 issue.

1931 saw the "Number" style of Precancel make its appearance. This type of precancelling provides a numeral overprint with the same number used for the authorized City as the one noted for it in the Dominion Post Office Money Order System. Three styles of "Number" Precancels were used, and since the issuance of Precancels of the George VI 1937 issue, only the last style of "Number" Precancelling is being used for authorized Cities.

Aside from doubles, triples and inverts, Canadian Precancels have been surprisingly free of errors. The only true errors are:

- "BriBdgeburg" for Bridgeburg, Ont.
- Windsor, Ont. double overprint with one reading "London, Ontario".
- Winnipeg, Manitoba double overprint with one reading "Brandon, Man."
- 50c blue "Widow" for Toronto with two distinct and different styles of "City" and "Province" overprint.

Recently, there appeared the No. 3070 on the 1c George VI 1937 issue. This is the number for Green Valley, Ont., a city not authorized to use Precancels. A copy on cover was traced to London, Ont., whose No. is 3470. Through error, 50,000 of the 1c 1937 were printed with this wrong number before the mistake was discovered.

Herewith is the "List of Post Offices Authorized to Use Precanceled Stamps," (Precancelled with Number of Office). Also noted are the last issued Precancels for the designated office.

Office Number	Name of Office	
2310	Brantford, Ontario	1942 — 1c
2342	Brookville, Ontario	1937 — 1c
2575	Cobourg, Ontario	1937 — 1, 2, 3c
3080	Guelph, Ontario	1942 — 1c
3100	Hamilton, Ontario	1937 — 3c, 1942 — 1c
3340	Kingston, Ontario	1937 — 1, 2, 3c, 1942 — 1c
3366	Kitchener, Ontario	1942 — 2c
3445	Lindsay, Ontario	
3470	London, Ontario	1942 — 1c
3800	Niagara Falls, Ontario	1942 — 1c
3893	Oshawa, Ontario	1942 — 1, 3c
3900	Ottawa, Ontario	1937 — 1, 2c
4035	Peterborough, Ontario	
4260	St. Thomas, Ontario	
4530	Toronto, Ontario	1942 — 1c
4948	Windsor (Walkerville), Ont. (Uses Office No. 4940)	
4940	Windsor, Ontario	1937 — 1c
0592	Lennoxville, P. Q.	1942 — 1c
0700	Montreal, P. Q.	1942 — 1, 2c
1050	Quebec, P. Q.	1937 — 2, 3c, 1942 — 1c
X809	Moncton, N. B.	1937 — 1c
X910	Saint John, N. B.	
X945	Sackville, N. B.	
X030	Charlottetown, P. E. I.	
X275	Halifax, N. S.	1937 — 1c
5099	Brandon, Manitoba	1937 — 1c
5850	Winnipeg, Manitoba	
7120	Moose Jaw, Sask.	1942 — 2c
7420	Regina, Sask.	1937 — 2c
7550	Saskatoon, Sask.	1937 — 1, 2, 3c
7977	Yorkton, Sask.	1942 — 1c
8160	Calgary, Alberta	1942 — 1, 2, 4c
8360	Edmonton, Alberta	1937 — 1c
9780	Vancouver, B. C.	1937 — 1, 2, 3c
9890	Victoria, B. C.	

The 1c, 2c, 3c, values of the 1942 George VI issue have been noted Precancelled with the three rows of parallel line overprint. There are 131 "Post Offices Authorized To Use Postage Stamps Precancelled With Bars." Since such Precancels can only be identified when on cover, I shall not list the names of such Cities authorized to use "Postage Stamps Precancelled With Bars."

Jack Levine

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# Chatter

by Sec.

A very kind "Thank You" to Oscar P. Noe, No. 70, for his list of prospective members. See the "new applications" for the results.

Dan Meyerson, No. 3, offers to help any members with his problems about Newfoundland. From his articles in "TOPICS," he seems to be well qualified.

From new applicant Ed Goodale, already some helpful precancel information. How to identify Hoover's Type 3 and Type 4 of Hamilton, Ont — Type 3 has the "A" wider, and the last "O" in Ontario narrower. Thanks Ed.

Your Sec. has available articles and clippings regarding Canada from various stamp magazines. They're yours for reading. Write to him and ask for them.

Latest list from the Post Office in Ottawa shows the following removed from sale, Scott's Numbers 152, 193, 229, 230, 247.

With the summer season officially over, we look forward to No. 20 again favoring us with his nice column.

A boost for "TOPICS" classified ads. Yours truly is receiving some much wanted material. (His precancel collection is being well rounded out, not so many empty spaces.)

Thanks to our readers for their advice on the Sask. Laws.

Another \$1 normal background, Second Issue — start looking.

Another block of 4 — the 10c value, second issue, and rumors of a block of the 5c.

Still no \$5 mint — Third Issue.

So far, 4 copies of the \$10 and \$20, First Issue.

Published elsewhere in this issue are the nominations received so far. (study these names). Send your candidate's name to the Sec. not later than October 15, 1944.

The prices realized at auction for the Proofs and Essays are causing many "wows" an "woes." The Proof is in the EHsay.

No. 20 writes to ask whether B.N.A.P.S. could not, from time to time, make additions for the present precancel catalog. Of course, I'll provide the list of such as are available, and I'm sure the editor will publish same when space allows. I guess No. 20 just won't neglect B.N.A.P.S. even while on vacation.

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**WANTED: CANADIAN PRECANCELS; DOUBLED AND INVERTED VARIETIES. Forward with your price or preference in exchange. J. Levine, 510 Liberty Ave., Brooklyn 7, N. Y.**

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**WANTED—Newfoundland Pre-stamp and Stampless covers, Postmaster Provisionals, Booklets—Send priced. Dan Meyerson, 765 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn 13, New York.**

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I don't know why but I've become interested in Newfoundland Proofs and Essays. If you have any for sale send them along priced net. Daniel C. Meyerson, 765 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn 13, N. Y.

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