THE BNA

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Jim	Catterick,	editor,	210 Steel	es ave.W.	Apt. 210	2, Brampton	, ON Ca	n. L6Y	2 K 3
Dues 1988 dues are now due. The executive set our annual dues at \$5.00. Send in your dues now. Make your cheque payable to the Perfin study Group, and send them to the editor.									
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	Richard H		, 408 Clai	rview Road	d, Edmont	on, AB			
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	<u>NF Perfin</u>								
	have not	yet been	among the	97 that 1	have repo	in very we rted, pleas all member	e send	in	

Index Since is invertably numbered 553, but a close look conid Mike Hargraft apologies for omitting Vol. 5, No. 6 from the index. He will include it when he brings the index up to date each January beginning with the January 1989 issue of the Perforator.

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Mail Auction No. 1

With this issue of the Perforator we are conducting a Mail Auction.

The study group centerline in BNA Topics is the byline of Frank Waite, and he keeps us up to date on the highlights of each study group. At the BNAPS Convention in P.E.I., Frank gave me an envelope of Perfins. On looking them over I realized that our study group could benefit from them financially, and also let all of our members have an opportunity to add to their collection. The donation was supplemented with a consignment to bring the total up to 2 pages.

Each stamp is numbered and identified. Send your bids in with your annual dues (if not already paid). Auction closes Mar 1, 1988, so that buyers can be sent their purchase of these Perfins in with the March issue of the Perforator. In the event of a tie bid, the bid postmarked earlier will have preference. Send your bids to the editor.

If this first auction is successful, it could become an annual event.

DO WE ASSIGN THE CORRECT CATALOGUE NUMBER TO OUR PERFINS? M.

M. B. Fennell

Your first reaction is probably - what a stupid question. Surely any collector knows that by Scott Canada Specialized, the KGVI War Issue $l \not q$ green is #249 and the 2q brown is #250 etc., but that is not what is meant.

Here are some examples.

The l¢ yellow and 3¢ cermine Admirals are usually listed as 105 and 109 respectively, but such is not always the case. Some turn out to be 105iii and 109i, the die II varieties. One needs a strong glass and practised eye to tell the difference, but a difference there is and one is not the other. These and many other die varieties can be found on a number of different stamps that are perfinned.

The 5 ϕ violet Admiral is usually listed as 112, but it is often found to be 112iv, the re-drawn frameline. There are other denominations in the Admirals with re-drawn framelines, a common one being the 20ϕ .

The 7¢ yellowish Admiral is more likely than not assigned number 113, but as the saying goes - it ain't necessarily so. Have found 113, 113a, 113i and 113ii on perfin G17, and the colour variations are quite noticeable when they are side by side.

The 2ϕ green Cameo 402 often gets tossed out by collectors as they think a scissor happy person cut the paper too close and took off the perforations on one side. However, Pl5 was perfinned on the 402a miniature sheet and the only way to identify it is by a straight edge with considerable margin, preferably a corner.

The 7¢ Paul Kane is invariably numbered 553, but a close look could reveal it to be 5531 - stroke on the teepee. Found on P15. The 2111 Weeping Princess must also exist on a perfin.

The lø Bottle Gentian, appearing in the 1977-83 Definitives, can be either 705 or 781. A perforation gauge will enable you to tell one from the other as well as the different background caused by the printing process. Both found on C45.

The worst scenario of all is the 1967 Definitive issue. Here you have a wide variety of papers and tagging to contend with. The largest number of suffixes that I have been able to identify on P15 is #460 with 7. One of course is stumped with the gum difference on used copies.

These are just some of the several differences to look for in the stamps themselves and are all catalogue varieties with a distinctive catalogue number.

How involved in detail a collector becomes is, of course, up to the individual, just as it is up to the collector to mount his collection as he sees fit. This article is only intended to draw attention to the many varieties that are out there for the looking. Those of us who were postage stamp collectors before becoming perfin collectors, have a tendency towards such details. According to the Fourth Edition of our Handbook on "Canadian Stamps With Perforated Initials", the London Branch of the International Harvester Company used at one time two different perforators to puncture canadian stamps.

First, the permit for the use of the C27 perforator of the London branch was obtained by the Hamilton Office, which was probably then the head office since they obtained a permit on May 11, 1910 to put in production their own perforator along with 17 more perforators for the other branches.



Secondly, the London Office of the International Harvester Co. asked and obtained a different permit on January 8, 1912 for the production of another perforator we identify now as I3, see page 83 of the Handbook. Was the London branch the Head Office in 1912? I had to ask my canadian stamps perfinned I3 for a possible answer. Going through my modest I3 collection (20 stamps between catalogue number 167 and 397), I looked for cancels to find clues... but instead, I think I found an answer to my first question: Why a second perforator in the same office with a pattern totally different from the first one? Here are the cancels I found:

on No. 174, Swift Current, Sask. roller cancel; on No. 257, Toronto, Ont. roller cancel; on No. 351, North Bay, Ont. circular cancel on 2 different st. on No. 362, North Bay, Ont. circular cancel also.

These 5 cancels on 13 perfins represent 25% of my collection and this sampling gave me a clear answer: the branches of the International Harvester without a perforator were supplied with perfinned stamps for security purposes by the London office using their second perforator, I3 pattern, keeping the use of the C27 perforator for their own perfinned stamps.

Thirdly and finally, why the I2 perforator located in Chicago, Ill. punched canadian stamps between 1935 and late 40's and where these stamps were delivered and used? Being a "B" rated perfin (between 4 and 10 copies reported), we might wait a while for an answer, unless a member has a cover... Who will supply us with the evidence?

To start a survey on I3 perfins, here is my holding:

167-1, 174-1, 219-1, 231-1, 232-1, -5, 250-5, 254-1, 257-2, 337-1, 340-1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 341-1, 351-1, -4, 362-1, 397-8.

Send your comments and additions to the I3 survey, plus your holding (if any) of your I2 perfins with or without a city cancel to the editor.

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Exhibits

As was reported in the last issue of the Perforator, the executive of the BNAPS are encouraging study group members to exhibit their particular BNA stamps at the annual meeting to be held in Virginia in Sept.

We are pleased to know that Mark Fennell exhibited Perfins at the Saskatoon Stamp Club show, and was awarded an RPSC chapter large Gold medal, as well as a trophy for best display. His exhibit was 24 pages of a general overview of Perfin collecting.

The editor received a RPSC gold with the exhibit of Canadian Perfins on cover, and also a gold for best in show at the Bramalea Stamp Club annual show. At the Oakville Stamp Club show, the same exhibit was awarded another gold award.

Some members have no doubt not yet tried to display perfins, but it would appear that judges are now seeing the light, and displays of stamps, other than the classics, are being recognized.

Be adventuresome and enter a perfin display in your next local show and report results.

Let's go one step further, and have a real good showing at the Annual meeting. They are limiting all exhibits to 4 frames maximum, with 16 pages per frame.

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C(HI) International Harvester Company of Canada

The following are further additions to the list published in Volume 8, Number 4, and Volume 8, Number 5.

C.17 C 18	C 2 0	C 2 3	C 2 4	C 2 5	C 2 6	C 2 7	C 2 8	C 2 9	C31	C 3 3
111 105	165a	105	112c	89	257	107a	112c	117	112c	120
454	192	135	MR3a	165a		163b	106b	119b	163b	163
455	217	146		168		328		163a		165
458		340		174				241a		432
				197b						
				204						
				289 303						
				341p						
				404						
				NF 2	57					



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