

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

TRANSATLANTIC STUDY GROUP

Newsletter No. 4

July 1987

CAPEX

CAPEX has come and gone. Those of you who were there know all about it and those who were not will read as many versions of it as the number of philatelic publications they see. For this reason, I shall limit my comments to two:

(a) Because of a lack of publicity, it was a collector's show as the general public were not there in any numbers. I was surprised to find that none of my contacts in Toronto away from the Metro Centre were aware the exhibition was on. The result of this was that the dealers with "collectors' material" were smiling all the way to the bank - they did better than at AMERIPEX - while the remainder of the bourse were unhappy because there were so few customers for their "nickel and dime" stock.

(b) The judging was hard, but fair, in the areas I knew. I had been appalled at the AMERIPEX judging, which was more political than philatelic. Here at CAPEX, exhibits that had been riding high with Golds, Large Golds and Special Awards, which they did not deserve, were lucky to get Large Vermeils. Reviewing the Postal History Section, it was easy to see why the few exhibits were given the Large Golds and Golds, as they were obviously better than the rest. Still there were a lot of Large Vermeils given, and we tend to forget that the median is between Vermeil and Large Silver, as there are eight levels of awards. I support the CAPEX judging and hope that it marks a change for the better.

There were seventeen exhibits entered by members of our study group and, as might be expected, they were well above the average. These exhibits represented just under two percent of the CAPEX total, but they received over three and a half percent of the top three levels of awards, with two receiving special prizes. The exhibits and awards are listed below, and it should be noted that only a few are related to transatlantic mail and three to cross-border mail, showing the diversity of collecting interests among the group members.

Large Gold + Special Prize R.H. Pratt Newfoundland 1865-1880

Large Gold Willson Selected Pages of Canada Small Queens 1870-1897

Gold + Special Prize Horace Harrison Canada's Registry System 1870-1907  
Allan Steinhart Pre-stamp and Stampless Mailings To and  
From B.N.A. 1685-1865

Gold A.W. Leggett 1859 Issue of Canada  
Susan McDonald B.N.A.-U.S. Cross Border Mails to 1875

Large Vermeil J.C. Arnell U.S. Transatlantic Mail  
Susan McDonald U.S. Treaty Mails 1845 - GPU/UPU  
Earl Palmer U.S.-Canada Cross-Border Mail to 1851  
R.H. Pratt St. Pierre 1737-1910  
Allan Steinhart Special Delivery Issues of Canada

Vermeil + Felicitations Dorothy Sanderson Cross-Border Mail between Canada and the U.S.

Large Silver Paul Burega Newfoundland: The First Cents Issue 1865-1897  
 Clifford Guile Death of Money  
 Robert Heasman Canadian Flag and Contemporary Machine Cancells 1896-1902

Silver Clifford Guile Registered Post Cards  
 Garvin Lohman Ireland: Postal History 1672-1900

Award Summary

<u>Award</u>	<u>Total CAPEX</u>	<u>Study Group</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Large Gold	60	2	3.33%
Gold	102	4	3.92
Large Vermeil	148	5	3.38
Vermeil	127	1	0.79
Large Silver	133	3	2.25
Silver	107	2	1.87
Silver Bronze	101	-	-
Bronze	63	-	-
Certificate	24	-	-
	<u>865</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>1.97%</u>

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Transatlantic Mail Handbook

I indicated in the last newsletter that I hoped to be able to get sections of the handbook to the publisher in June. As things turned out, those who had undertaken to contribute specific information to it, sent in their material in time for it to be incorporated in a near-complete draft handbook prior to CAPEX. So while in Toronto, I discussed the feasibility of changing the plan of producing a looseleaf book in stages to that of an inexpensive softcover first edition by offset printing. This was approved by the BNAPS publications chairman and arrangements were made with the University of Toronto Press to produce the books in time for the Charlottetown meeting, subject only to my getting the copy to the Press in time.

For the past month, I have been busy retyping the existing copy with the proportional spacing typeface I am using here, as it gives a more finished product, and adding some forty years of Falmouth packet dates, as Dick Winter gave me the New York dates he has been digging out for the past months. Last week it was finished and sixty-nine pages were sent off to the U of T Press. The price may be more than the original quotation because of the extra pages. However, it is still hoped that it can be sold to Group members for \$5.00 (plus \$2.00 for packing and postage); to BNAPS members for \$7.50; and to others for \$10.00. This will be Handbook No. 1 of the Study Group, any suggestions for No. 2?

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Members

I owe Mrs. Maggie Toms a humble apology for inadvertently omitting her name from the list of Founding Members in the June 1986 newsletter. In addition, Frank Mandel joined early this year to become the 34th member.