



AIR MAIL STUDY

GROUP OF BNAPS

Volume 1 - Number 3

AUGUST 1993

Notice of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AIR MAIL STUDY GROUP

Saturday, September 4
12 noon - Meeting Room "B"
BNAPEX'93 - TORONTO"

Guest speaker - Murray Heifetz
"Roessler and Canadian Aerophilately"

TO: MEMBERS OF THE AIR MAIL STUDY GROUP -

From: Ed Christman, Chair

I have already learned that many of you are planning to attend our session at BNAPS'93. One member is going to bring a fellow BNAPSer who is also an Air Mail collector. That's great news - we're always in the market for new recruits.

In our business meeting, we'll discuss our status as a group and how we might get a new editor for our Newsletter. Hopefully, we will be able to come to a consensus on where we would like to go in the future as we discuss the options listed in Newsletter #2. If you aren't going to be able to get to Toronto, I'd be pleased to hear your thoughts on these questions. Don't hesitate to call me or send me a note. I'll be glad to pass on your ideas and reactions at the meeting.

I would like to commend Bill Topping and Mike Painter for all the work they have put in during the past year to get us "off the ground" with our first three newsletters. And of course kudos to Bas Burrell who as Sec-Treasurer has diligently kept our fiscal and membership records.

I'm sure all of our members can appreciate how much time and effort these jobs consume, so I'm sure I'm speaking for everyone when I say a hearty "Thank You" to Bill, Mike, and Bas.

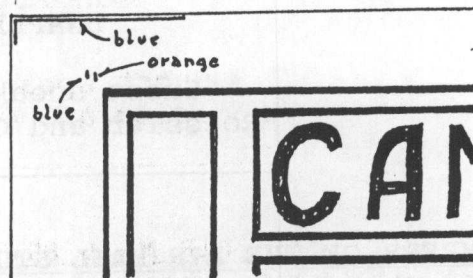
I'm looking forward to renewing acquaintances with many of you in Toronto and meeting many of you in person for the first time. That will be the highlight of our meeting.

CANADIAN AIRWAYS LIMITED - Mike Painter

The opposite page shows (slightly reduced) a most interesting pane which John Jamieson of Saskatoon Stamp Centre showed me at PIPEX, and of which he most kindly provided a colour photocopy from which the opposite xerox is made.

The pane is part perforate, with no vertical perforations and with horizontal perforations only below rows 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, and 10. The orange colour is misregistered upward by 5 mm. Bill Topping suggests that the printer may have started to perforate the sheet, noticed the misregistration and stopped the operation.

The pane also illustrates the position of three flaws which I have been trying to plate for years: "dash on the cabin" at position 3, "tree under tail" at position 33, and "bird in the sky" at position 35. It confirms that two other prominent flaws are constant: "bent frame" above the first A in Canada at position 21, and "dot in sky" in front of the plane at position 15. Finally, this interesting pane adds information on the guidelines on which I wrote on page 4 (December 1992) of this newsletter. In the upper left corner of the pane there is a thin blue guideline and two tiny dots of orange and blue as illustrated at the right. In response to my earlier article, Murray Heifetz had been good enough to send me a xerox of a block which he has illustrating these guidelines. The "dash on the cabin" in Murray's xerox confirms that his block is from the same pane as is illustrated opposite. This blue guideline differs from the orange one previously illustrated on page 4. It is 1 mm long (vertical) by 5 mm long (horizontal), whereas the orange one was 3 mm by 3 mm. The thickness of the blue lines is about half that of the outer frame of the stamps, whereas the orange lines are about the same thickness as the frameline.



Murray Heifetz also drew my attention to other guidelines which occur on the same pane as do the orange guidelines. These are between rows 5 and 6 and comprise thin blue dashes under the first, fourth and fifth stamps in row 5 as illustrated below:

Guidelines under "AIR MAIL-ONE OZ."

MAIL - ONE

First stamp

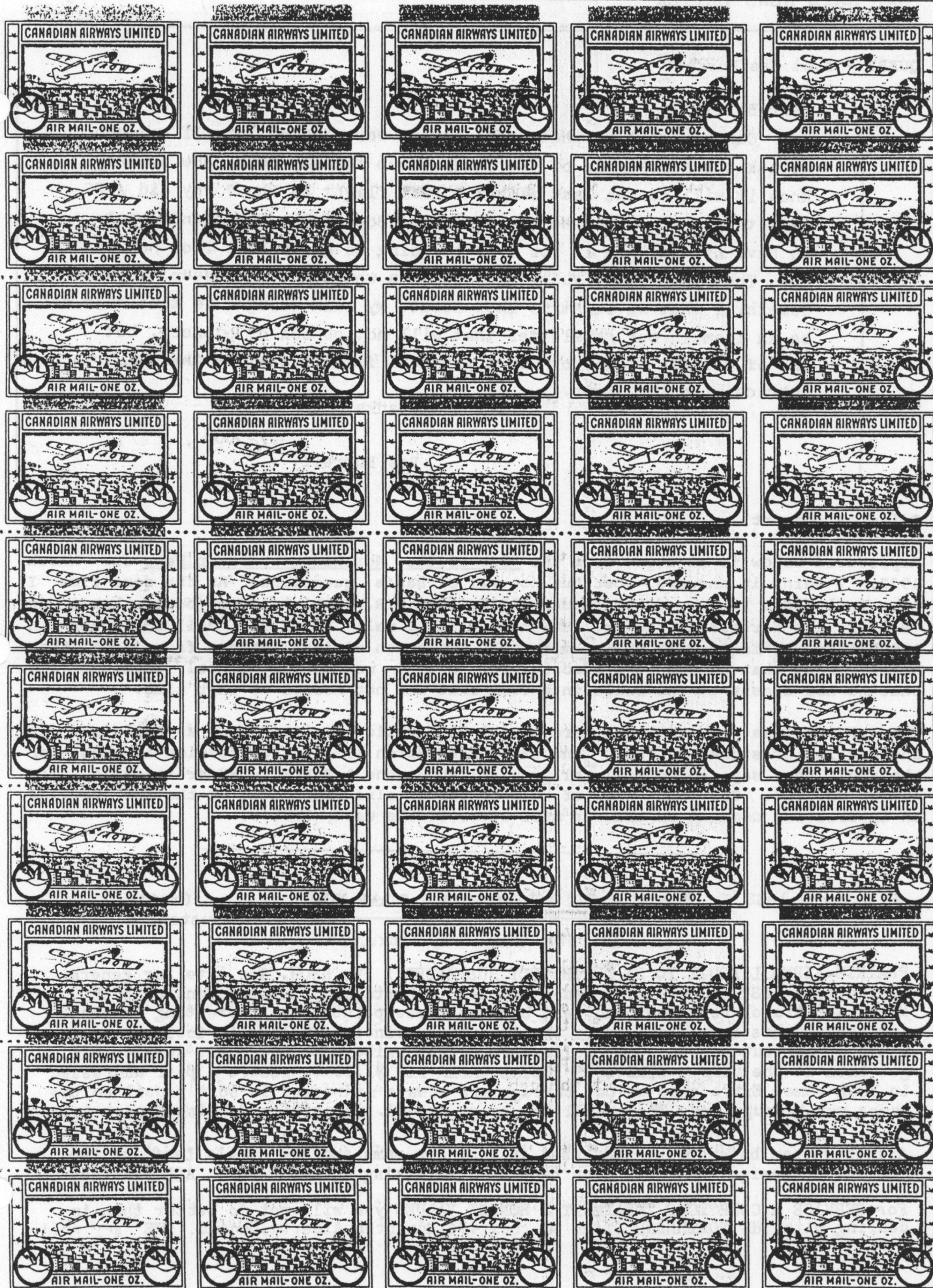
MAIL - ONE

Fourth stamp

MAIL - ONE

Fifth stamp

The sheets of Canadian Airways Limited stamps contained four panes according to a number of references. The guidelines could have been used for positioning either the blue or the orange printing, or for cutting the panes, or for all three of these purposes.



QUERY - from Bas Burrell

Dear Bill:

Can you tell me what these covers were issued for. If not can we ask the membership of the Study Group for any help. How do they know it will be the last flight? Last flight by who? Why did APPS want to get in on the act.? What was "Bob of the Northland" want to have his name on it for? Is it going to go by rail from now on?

These pop up at auctions once in a while and they seem to be something that we ought to know about. My main thought is that this can be an item in our newsletter that will not be SOA or pioneer, but one of the Air Stages or Gov't Air Mail flights that we ~~want~~ want to embrace with the Group.

Thanks,

Bas Burrell

Bas

Editor's comment.

Reproduced below is an item from the "Bob of the Northland's" Stamp News for March 1932. I think it answers most but not all of Bas's questions. At the same time I have included a letter, dated January 1931, from M.R. (Bob) Arlidge (better known as "Bob of the Northland") to Mr. Hawthorne Hill a well known air mail collector in Lethbridge. This is only one of more than two dozen similar letters from "Bob" that clearly show that he and the Edmonton Post Office worked very closely together and that he had access to the mails in a form that was not normal at that time.

The A.P.P.S. was the "Alberta Provincial Philatelic Society" and as explained in another letter signed by "Bob" and dated 25th March 1931. "Confession is good for the soul, they say, so we will tell you all about the A.P.P.S. - MY brain-child. I'm member No. 1.". The front page of this letter is also reproduced as the two provide an interesting comment on the air mail cover of the early 1930's.

#3 - March 1932

"BOB OF THE NORTHLAND'S" STAMP NEWS

Gratis
to customers

Box 474, Edmonton, Alta., Can.

PRAIRIE AIRMAIL ROUTE TO BE DEFINITELY SUSPENDED ! We KNOW. Too late for general publicity. LAST FLIGHTS will leave Edmonton, Alberta and Winnipeg, Man. on 30th March and travel both east and west between these points. An interesting "mourning cachet" has been promised by the Alberta Provincial Philatelic Society and it would appear but few to local collectors or subscribers to our cover service will get them at the time. SEND YOUR POSTAL ORDER FOR \$1.50 to assure a pair addressed in YOUR name. Extra ones we put through are always addressed in soft pencil so the names may be supplied. There will few to go around. Quantities furnished next Aprl.

All above can be supplied addressed in your own name and the "Maple Leaf" or the "Dominion" design envelopes have been used in making up the covers. ALL beauties !

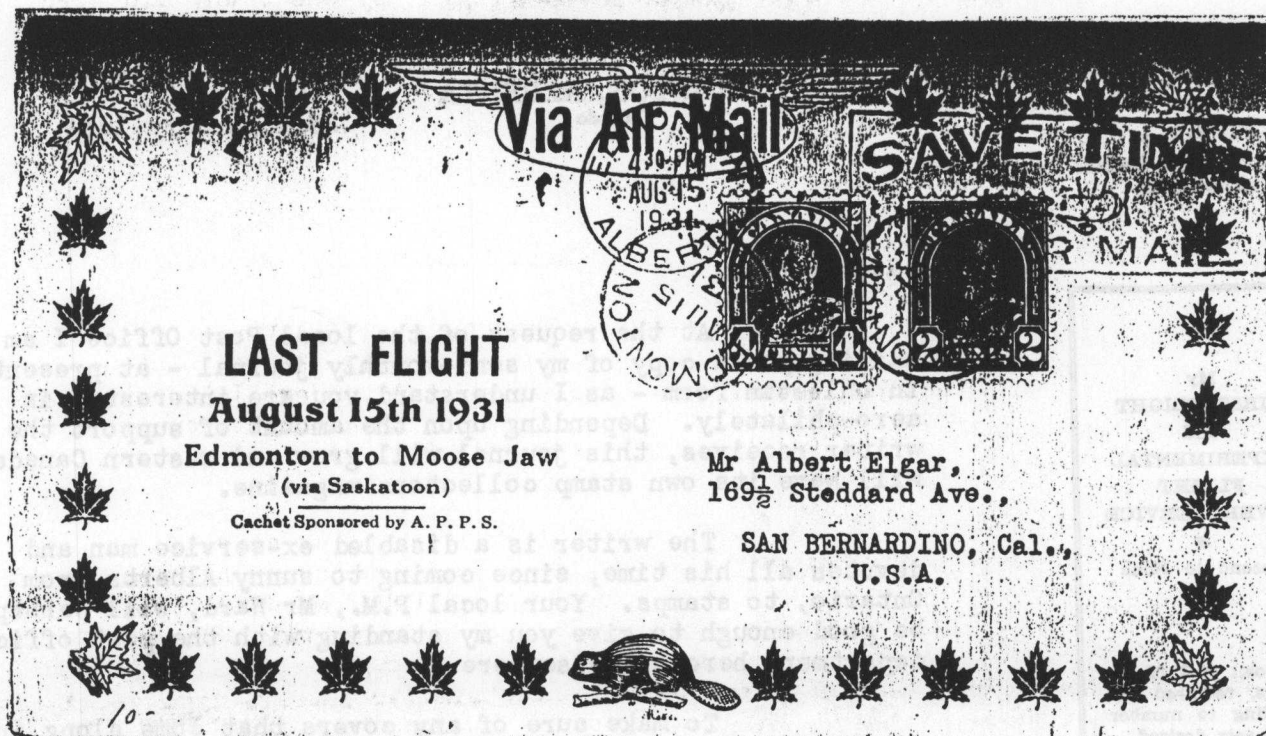
For SERVICE & COURTEOUS TREATMENT & HONEST VALUES you will not do better than in dealing with THE NORTHLAND STAMP CO., box 474, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. "WE" say so !

LAST FLIGHTS - "BOB OF THE NORTHLAND"**EDMONTON - MOOSE JAW**

Face - EDMONTON / AU 15 / 31 / ALTA.

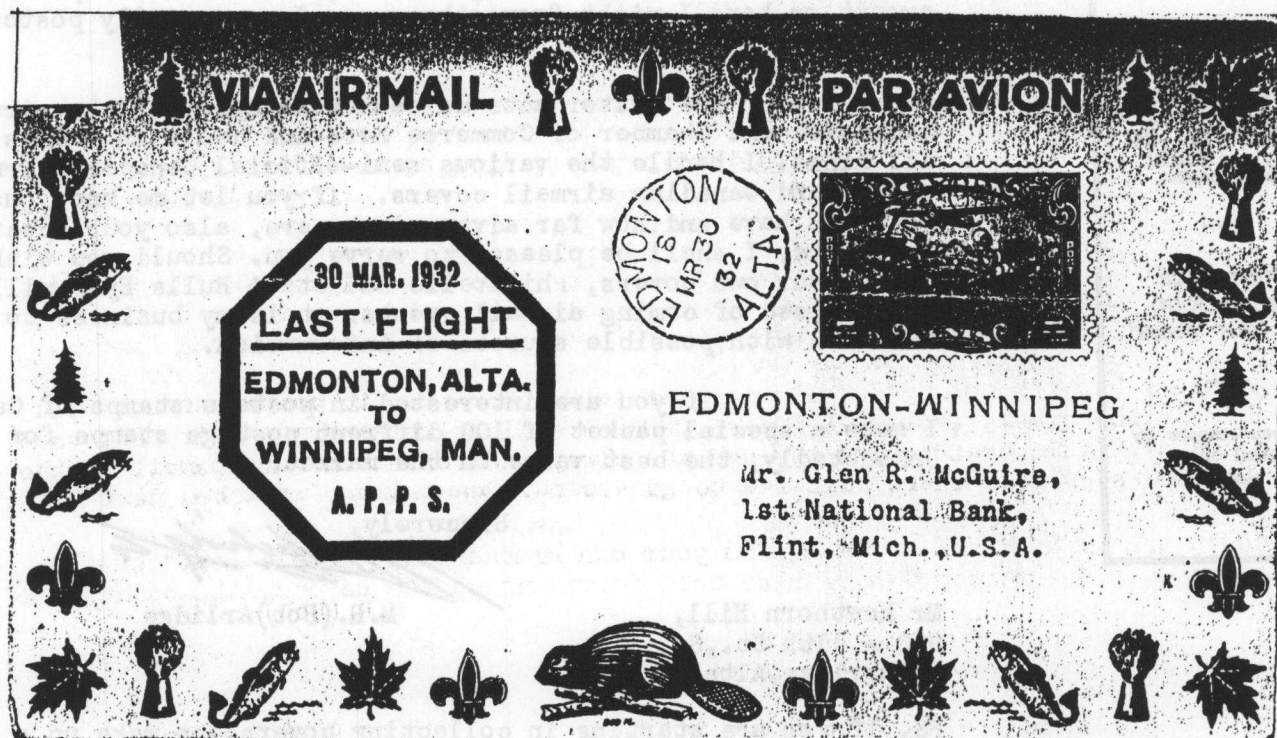
EDMONTON / 4:30 / AUG 15 / 1931 / ALBERTA

Back - MOOSE JAW / 11 PM / AUG 15 / 1931 / SASK.

**EDMONTON - WINNIPEG**

Face - EDMONTON / 18 / MR 30 / 32 / ALTA.

Back - WINNIPEG / MR 31 / 32 / CANADA



"BOB OF THE NORTH LAND"



Representative in Western Canada of
AMERICAN AERO PHILATELIC SOCIETY
 (An International Organization)

Box 474, G.P.O.
EDMONTON, ALBERTA
 Canada

23rd January 1931

My Reference:
 Supt. of Postal Service
 Edmonton

Dear Mr Hill:

At the request of the local Post Office I am mailing you a copy of my semi-monthly journal - at present in bulletin form - as I understand you are interested in aero-philately. Depending upon the amount of support the writer receives, this journal will grow and western Canada will have its own stamp collectors magazine.

The writer is a disabled ex-service man and devotes all his time, since coming to sunny Alberta from Ontario, to stamps. Your local P.M., Mr Ward, will perhaps be good enough to give you my standing with the post office department here and elsewhere.

To make sure of any covers that come along in future in Canada, and at minimum cost, my cover service will obtain all at a real reasonable outlay. My subscribers from all parts of Canada and USA - many postmasters included - make a deposit of \$2. or more with me, if they just desire single specimens of covers, or increase proportionately if they wish duplicates. Of course, being near me, I would not expect the amount on hand I might from others, as I can readily postcard when funds are low.

The writer acts as cachet manager for the airways companies and Chamber of Commerce here and deals in stamps of all kinds. I handle the various semi-official Canadian airmail stamps and Canadian airmail covers. If you let me know just what you have and how far advanced you are, also your special interests, I shall be pleased to serve you. Should you wish to place your own covers, Philatelic Bullets & Bulls Eyes will keep you advised of coming airmail events. It is my business to keep in touch with possible sources of information.

If you are interested in postage stamps of Canada, I make a special packet of 100 different postage stamps for \$2.50. Undoubtedly, the best value on the market.

Sincerely,

M.R. (Bob) Arlidge

Mr Hawthorn Hill,
 930 - 11th St., S.,
 Lethbridge, Alta.

PS. If you are starting in collecting covers, can make up a special "job lot" for you at \$5., \$10., or up. My prices are

My
FIRST FLIGHT
 and
EXPERIMENTAL
FLIGHT
COVER SERVICE
 is
 Second to None

Deposit of \$2.00, or
 more, required ac-
 cording to number
 of sets desired.

Subscribers will
 not miss a flight if
 funds on hand
 are low.

I prepare covers—
 15c each plus
 carrier's fee (if
 any) at actual
 out-of-pocket.

DON'T MISS
THOSE GOOD
"SUDDEN ONES"

All remittances by
 postal order,
 please!

PRESIDENT:

E. BOISSONNEAULT, M.D.
324 TEGLER BUILDING.
EDMONTON, ALTA.

SEC. TREAS.

D. W. GOODMAN, ESQ.
11437 - 125TH STREET
EDMONTON, ALTA.

LEGAL ADVISOR:

J. BÖYD MCBRIDE, ESQ.
BARRISTER
604-5 TEGLER BLDG.
EDMONTON, ALTA.

ARCHIVIST:

V. K. O'GORMAN, M.D.
642 TEGLER BLDG.
EDMONTON, ALTA.

Alberta Provincial Philatelic Society

EDMONTON, ALTA.

Eve., 10.30 pm., 25th March 1931

Dear Hawthorne Hill:

Here I have to thank you for another of your welcome, interesting letters, which came last night. Also, I hear from "Tim" (Tiny Tim) Goodman to-day that he had a very fine letter from you.

Confession is good for the soul, they say, so we will tell you ALL about the A.P.P.S. - MY brain-child. I'm member No.1. This, by the way, is the FIRST sheet of the temporary letterhead that has been used. I obtained for Tim, who is sick with flu, and bummed a few sheets to use in inviting some into charter membership, which is restricted to 25. You and daughter are there and I have to advise that, along with me, you are on the executive committee for the first year at least. Meeting was held for elections in Dr B's office last Friday night, and it was insisted that I do "something" in return for the "big business" I'll get from the membership this coming fall and winter. (I HOPE so.)

So you will understand things, the two doctors and Tim Goodman are my BEST friends here. We've been palling ever since I came to city and Tim's wife is a great friend of my "Babs" (for Barbara) - my wife. Dr O'G. is a bachelor and Dr. B., is married but has no family. Tim has two small boys. O'G. - or "Vincent", as he is to us says he will never marry - too old and ugly. I think he is cut out for a bach. On 2nd March, the 3 came to take pot luck for late dinner and to help me get covers ready for Athabasca event. Babs was helping too and I had often talked to the boys about my idea that there should be a provincial society, to which local clubs could adhere and which we will encourage to be formed WHEN we are ready for publicity. Keep this next to yourself. We placed a regd. cover at Aklavik for Buenos Aires to the Prince of Wales, putting it to him, as a "fellow-Albertan" to accept the Honorary Presidency of the society. We think he will. Hon. Vice-Pres. - we're inviting Chief Justice Harvey, who is an ardent collector. Dr Mason - funny you should mention him - we are asking to be Vice-Pres. I have been in correspondence with him a long time and have sold him stamps - one of my first customers in Alberta. We are going to have a program prepared for press all over the province and have announcement made and, in meantime, hope to hear from H.R.H. Wales. Will have elaborate letter heads, available for use of the membership. I suggested to the "gang" that night - WHY NOT make a start now ??? We did and elected provisional officers and last Friday, with about 15 members, elected for the year. First 25 to be listed will be charter members and will have Constitution submitted to them (we are working on it now) for approval, before adoption. Ian Morgan of Montreal, Ed. of the Cdn. Airmail Cat. is a charter member. Also I have to invite a number of adult collectors, with whom I am in touch. The four officers listed and Dr M. and the two members of committee (4 is a quorum) will handle business of society as a standing committee. Application forms, with invitation and particulars etc., are being prepared. Your suggestion of invitation coming from here may be OK but when you have the printed matter to show it will make it easier for you. Just had a note from Mr Ward, asking for some information re covers. Mr Leger, Dist. Supt. of Postal Service here, is going to join - saw him yesterday. OH, money, money! An "entrance fee" of 25¢ was decided upon - to help pay for membership cards, stationery etc., in addition to annual dues of \$1.00, so we have to ask you to let Tim have another "four bits" some time. Am looking forward to our first provincial "get together" but hope you can see us before then.

Re stamps, or supplies of any kind, I buy wholesale from Scott or any of them and shall be pleased to have any business you or friends care to show me.

ELLIOT FAIRCHILD AIR TRANSPORT

- Mike Painter

I can confirm all of the constant features Basil Burrell describes (page 9 of newsletter) to identify each of the five stamps in the pane. I have three examples of the stamp five with no sign of a red dot between AIR MAIL and ROUYN, so that one doesn't seem to be constant. Some small features can be added to Basil's list:

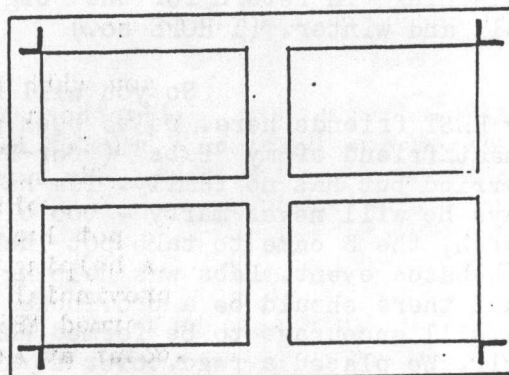
Stamp 1. A break in the left leg of the A in FAIRCHILD, above the bar in the A.

Stamp 3. Two very small dots in the margin close to the right compass - one below the compass and one near the E. The A in the plane registration does not have a red dot to mark the space above the bar. The left leg of the M in MAIL has a small narrowing on the inside.

Stamp 5. A thinning of the bottom frame below the first E in SERVICE.

The last feature is visible in the enlarged xerox on page 8 of the newsletter. The other items are too small to show up in this xerox.

Subsequent to the earlier article on guidelines, John Wannerton wrote to say that corner marks are often used in the printing business to position the printing as illustrated at right. He also noted that the orange colour would probably be the first colour printed. It doesn't appear that the Canadian Airways stamps had guidelines at the corners of all four panes as illustrated by John. However the orange guidelines illustrated earlier



on the one pane may have been used for the same purpose as John indicates. The blue ones, however, illustrated on the last page seem more likely to have been used as a guide for cutting the sheet into the four panes.

The Canadian Airways Limited guideline story is still incomplete, but we now know that, of the four panes on the sheet, one had an orange L at the lower left as well as thin blue dashes below row 5, one pane had a thin blue L at the upper left as well as two small dots of each colour, and one had no guidelines at all. The fourth pane is still an unknown. If anyone has a corner with guidelines which don't match any of those illustrated so far, it is from this fourth pane, and might help us guess where each pane was on the sheet.

The AIR MAIL STUDY GROUP - is a study group under the BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY. This new letter is published three times a year. Membership fees are \$5.00 US / \$6.00 CAN and are payable to the Treasurer.

Chairman -
Ed Christman, Jr,
5419 Jason St.
Houston, TX

Treasurer -
Basil Burrell
911 Huckleberry Lane
Glenview, IL
60025-2201 USA

Editor
Bill Topping
7430 Angus Drive
Vancouver, BC
V6P 5K2 CANADA