

MAP STAMP
STUDY GROUP
BNAPS



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No. 5 Newsletter is being written on a steamy hot day in Florida (late January /84). Marjorie and I have spent the afternoon on the beach enjoying the cool ocean breeze, which coats you with salt spray! This has been a rather cool winter compared to last year, but still more tolerable than what we see is happening to Ontario on the TV weather report each night. You've probably read about the big freeze that destroyed 25% of the citrus crop here and this is no joke! It was 31°F on our balcony on Christmas morning! I've seen warmer Xmas days up north on occasion. Well back to MAPS.

MIAMI BEACH STAMP EXPO '84 This show is being billed as a major International show with many US & foreign dealers in attendance and will be held in Miami Beach next weekend. We are going to drive down on Saturday to see for ourselves, although I hate Miami traffic. I always look forward to this type of show, as it gives me a chance to look over the various dealer stocks of Canadian Stamps, in search of Squared Circle or RPO postmarks. Invariably you can buy a rare item, if you recognize it, for just the price of the stamp. This is also true in the case of the SOUTH FLORIDA STAMP SHOW each year and my collection can attest to several rare squared circles on Maps purchased for just a few dollars - and there are lots of covers too! All you need to invest is a lot of time and patience. Come on down and see for yourself!

"WE HOLD A VASTER EMPIRE THAN HAS BEEN"

Philatelists know that this line appears on the Map stamp just below the map of the world and is taken from the Poem "A Song of Empire" written by Sir William Morris. Occasionally one finds the verse from which it is taken reproduced in its entirety but that is about all. So, to find out more about this subject, the poem and its author, I again resorted to the Library. Two books were available:

"British authors of the Nineteenth Century"
and "The Works of Lewis Morris". The latter was published by Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co. Ltd. in London in 1890.

The poem appears over seven pages (476-482) of the latter and contains 22 stanzas of about 14-16 lines each, most of which rhyme. It is dated "June 20 1887" which indicates it was written for Queen Victoria's Golden (50th) Jubilee, not for her Diamond Jubilee (60th) as is stated in numerous articles and even in the official records of our Postal Museum. One line of the poem refers to:

"THY LIFE IS ENGLAND'S. ALL THESE FIFTY YEARS
THOU FROM THY LONELY QUEENLY PLACE
HAST WATCHED THE CLOUDS AND SUNSHINE ON HER FACE":
and: "FOR FIFTY YEARS OF REIGN THOU WERT THE SAME,
THEREFORE TO-DAY WE MAKE OUR JUBILEE".

Morris died on Oct 3, 1896, so he didn't survive until the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Interestingly enough Canada's Jubilee Issue (Scott #50-65) had a FIRST DAY of 19 June 1897 - 10 YEARS LATER LESS ONE DAY!

The poem is, of course, full of expressions which glorify England, the British Empire and especially, Queen Victoria. This is natural, considering the popularity of the Queen and the esteem at the time of the British Empire.

Other typical lines:

- "WHERE'ER WITH EVERY DAY BEGUN
THY ENGLISH BUGLES GREET THE COMING SUN"
- "
- "YET EVERYWHERE ARE FOUND, THE ENGLISH LAWS, THE
ENGLISH ACCENTS FAIR,
MID BURNING NORTH OR COOLER SOUTHERN AIR".

Canada is recognized by: (in part)

"AND FROM HER FAR AND WINTRY NORTH
THE GREAT DOMINION ISSUES FORTH,
FIT NURSE OF STALWART BRITISH HEARTS AND STRONG
FROM HER BLACK PINE WOODS, DEEP IN SNOW
HER BILLOWY PRAIRIES BOUNDLESS AS THE SEA,
WHERE ON THE SWEET UNTROUBLED SOIL
YEARLY THE UNNOTICED, COUNTLESS WILDFLOWERS BLOW".

.....
"FROM THE LONE PLAINS, O'ER WHICH THE ICY WIND
SWEEPS FROM THE NORTH, LEAVING THE POLE BEHIND.

.....
"EVEN TO THOSE ULTIMATE WILDS WHERE COMES TO BE
ANOTHER WESTMINSTER ON THE PACIFIC SEA."

and part of the last verse:

"WE LOVE NOT WAR, BUT ONLY PEACE,
YET NEVER SHALL OUR ENGLAND'S POWER DECREASE!

contd.

WHOEVER GUIDES OUR HELM OF STATE,
 LET ALL MEN KNOW IT, ENGLAND SHALL BE GREAT!
WE HOLD A VASTER EMPIRE THAN HAS BEEN!
 NIGH HALF THE RACE OF MAN IS SUBJECT TO OUR QUEEN!
 AND WHERE HER RULE COMES, ALL ARE FREE.
 AND THEREFORE 'TIS, OH QUEEN, THAT WE
 KNIT FAST IN BONDS OF TEMPERATE LIBERTY,
 REJOICE TODAY, AND MAKE OUR SOLEMN JUBILEE!"

Nowwhere can I find who chose the line! Was it "Sir William Mulock" or was it Warren L. Green, the President of the American Bank note Co. in Ottawa who produced the essay from which the design was made. Earlier essays use the word "greater" rather than "vaster" (see #85E-B & 85E-C) but the actual design was from 85E-D which contained the correction,

And who was William Morris?. Well I referred to "British Authors of the 19th Century" pages 453-455. Morris was born, near Epping, North of London on 24 March 1834 and died 30 Oct 1896. He was classed as a poet, romance writer, craftsman, printer and Socialist. He was fortunate that his father made a lucky investment in a Devon copper mine and it appears that this solved any money problems for him until his death, although he had several successful business enterprises. He attended Oxford and after taking a pass degree in 1855 he became articled to an architect and moved to London with the business. He devoted himself to Painting, drawing, modelling, illuminating and designing, as well as poetry and interior decorating. He married in 1859 and had two daughters. Later on in life, after a fling with dyeing and carpet weaving, he established a company that specialized in printing and publishing (53 books in all). He leaned toward socialism and many of his works exhibit ~~this~~ approach to ~~this~~ by way of aesthetics (in 1877 he founded the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings)!

He died on Oct 3/96 never knowing that one of his lines would appear on one of the most famous of Canadian Stamps!

Now a Problem!

All previous information and records indicate the poem was written by "Sir William Morris" but it appears in the published works of (Sir) Lewis Morris. I have no records of William Morris ever writing the poem or of ever having been knighted. Also I have no biography of Sir Lewis Morris. To solve this I have written to my trusted Librarian for clarification - more later!

Interesting Letters:

RAY HORNING, Ottawa. In the last Newsletter, I asked Ray to check with the Postal Museum and to record what is on file there with respect to old records etc. of the Map. Ray spent several hours there and sent me diagramatic sketches of the Displays available and Zerox copies of many of the items, including copies of some of the material in his collection as illustration. A veritable wealth of material. In a future Newsletter, I'll try to summarize this as it seems too many pages for me to include here. He also mentions that he will check with the Public Archives, also in search of material, and the Bank Note Co. The material Ray sent me includes a description of what appears in Drawer D-16, Panel one Section E:

"Plate 4 Proof Sheet engraved in Black only on .009 " card. Plate Engraved Dec.10,1898. It was found unsuitable and was not used."

This seems to indicate the existence of a plate proof of Plate 4.

On Panel Four - Lower Left Corner - 4C

"Plate 5, Black engraved and red electro 100 on Proving Paper"

Lower Right Corner - 4D

"Plate 5 - Black engraved proof sheet 100 on .009 card. Plate engraved 1 Jan 1899".

There's Plate V !

Now if we could only examine them together, we could determine if there were two states to plate 5. I'll have to make an effort to get to Ottawa this summer for a few days and try to solve this dilemma, although it hardly seems possible that others before us haven't looked at these! Thanks Ray!

MARK D. LARKIN, New York City N.Y. Two letters with numerous Xerox enclosures. Mark is editor of the "CARTO-PHILATELIST" and sent along a copy of their October 1983 Publication. On Page 3 he gives our study group a nice plug and on Page 8 & 9 Norman Nicholson of London Ont. has added to my study of the islands of the Pacific on the Map Stamp. (I'll reproduce it in a later issue as it about completes the picture on #1-10 of the Pacific Island Group. If anyone is interested in joining CARTO*PHILATELIST contact : Thomas H. Sutter, 714 East Maple St., Appleton WI, USA 54911

CHARLES HOLLINGSWORTH, WALSALL, England, a philatelic Christmas card.

JOHN JAMIESON, Saskatoon Coin and Stamp Centre - John suggests that 5% is a high estimate of the number of Maps that were salvaged in used condition. He also indicates that there were probably more mint ones saved (as a %) than similar copies of the "leafs, numerals and Edwards".

About 18 months ago John handled a quantity of "Progressive Plate proofs" from a hitherto unknown source. I purchased a quantity of these and became interested in where they came from. John gave me the name of the person and the rest makes interesting reading- tune in next time and I'll recount their history!

PAUL BUREGA, Winnipeg Man. Paul sent me an article on "The Making of a Postage Stamp" which he wrote for another publication in response to my request for Printing Methods in the last Newsletter. More on this later!

RALPH E TRIMBLE, Scarborough, Ont. (Sect. of the Re-entry Study Group) Ralph send along a Xerox of a Map Stamp with a cancel consisting of a large N in a partial circle in Black (Similar to #627 of D & S in Blue) - also a Flag Cover dated Dec. 8/98 from Toronto.

BEVERLIE CLARK, Winnipeg Man. Beverlie has taken on two large jobs lately, Pres. of BNAPS & RCPS, these keep her busy but she always finds time to drop me a short note.

GARY ARNOLD, Grand Ledge, Minn. Gary is the new editor of the Squared Circle Newsletter. I wrote Gary as I hadn't heard from the Newsletter people in over a year, suggesting an exchange of Newsletters. He sent me all of those for 1983, so later perhaps I'll be able to glean some info from them.

GENE BUCHLER, Toronto. Gene had major surgery in Nov. and was recuperating this winter. Hopefully he'll be able to visit me in Florida in the Spring. He tells me he purchased Dave Hanes' Maps and was trying to get Ron Winmills.

DICK LAMB, Kitchener, Ont. Dick and Kathryn's Christmas message is always newsworthy and interesting and this year includes a lovely picture of a chickadee at their bird feeder.

ED STANWAY, Wadsworth, Ohio. Ed is a Map enthusiast, but also is interested in Semi official Airmails, Centennial Definitives and Bosnia!

RON & JAN WINMILL, London, Ont. Ron says he has lost all interest in Maps and Philately in general, that's the reason he sold his maps. He tells me he once looked over

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19,000 used copies - less than 1% were 1898 dates, 75% were 1899 and 25% were 1900 or later. He says he has seen evidence that they were on sale at least till June 1900. Also add to the list of RPO in his book R96B both off and on cover (Ludlows old number - now RR108)

JOHN T. BURNETT, Sect/Co-ord. of the Study Groups BNAPS. We are allocated a time slot in San Francisco of 8:30 to 9:30 am on Friday Sept. 7th. I don't know if I can get ready that early in the morning!

SANDY MACKIE, Aberdeen, Scotland. Sandy always writes two pages of really interesting news. He's into Photography and Plating as well as chasing the 2 stages of plate 5. He mentions the possibility of coming to Canada for Calgary '85. Surely by then our friends in Ottawa can settle the Plate 5 mystery.

CHARLES FRANKLIN, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Charles is a member of "Carto" and enquired about membership in BNAPS and our study group - sent same.

BOB DOULL, Delta B.C. Bob is an old Map collector but had disposed of most of his material except for dated town cancels. He did a study of the squared circle ~~covers~~^{cancels} in the Halifax Post Office for the period July 1 1898 to Feb 10, 1899, which included over two months of the Map period. He sent me a copy which I'll pass on later.

DAVID McKAIN, Parkersburg, West Virginia. Dave writes and sends a copy of the Dec. newsletter of the RPO group. He inclosed photo-copies of "Fancy Corks" RPO. This is new to me! Presumably they are on the stamp or cover and are confirmed by the appropriate RPO cancel? Must be some on the Map stamp!

Well, that's quite a mouthfull!

W.L. Bradley
Editor

P.S. I'm back from Miami. The traffic wasn't too bad and I picked up a few Maps including a Huntsville squared circle on Cover! There were 4 Canadian dealers there among the 67 U.S. and foreign.

MR