

MAP STAMP

STUDY GROUP

BNAPS



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Whole #17                                      NEWSLETTER                                      March-April 1988  
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Where has the winter gone? It seems just last month I was putting #16 in the mail. We had a quiet Christmas, but in January, Marjorie & I drove to New Orleans and boarded a cruise ship for the Panama Canal. Stops along the way included Cozumel in Mexico, Cartagena in Colombia, S.A., San Blas Islds., through the canal in daylight - then Costa Rica, Acapulco and Puerto Vallarta, followed by a day in Los Angeles. We ended in San Diego after 19 days and flew back to New Orleans to pick up our car and drive back to Florida. January was shot!

Spring training baseball games occupied a number of afternoons in March, family visits and a week of work on my income tax and we're up to date.

The Canadian Map Stamp of <sup>1898</sup>~~1989~~ - A Plating Study  
Some progress was made during the winter. Mike Street sent me samples of sheet layouts for the appendices and I think we've settled on the page size. But that's all.

The Famous Fake! Sandy MacKie of Aberdeen, Scotland sent me a copy of the enlarged photo of this example of the illustration used by Tomlinson on Page 44 of his classic work "The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898", and I've used it to start this Newsletter (above).

Pan American Seal 1899 In Letter #16 I reproduced an enlargement of this seal which was not unlike the map stamp and noted that the C.P.S.G.B. "Maple Leaves" had carried an inquiry about it from Stan Lum of Don Mills, Ont. I sent Stan a copy of the letter and in due course received a nice reply and a photo copy of the seal cancelled with a Truro, N.S. Duplex. (reproduced top of next page)

Miss Blair  
 G.B. Brown Esq.  
 Stuehler  
 1042 7 Ave  
 Cheshire  
 England



2



Prices Going Up!

Mark Larkin of N.Y.C. sent me the advt. to the left that is interesting.

Scott #85 Superb -OG - NH  
 Brilliant Mint  
 (and perfectly centered)

\$75.00 U.S.

671 85

SUPERB-OG-NH, BRILLIANT MINT

75.00

U.S.

RUPP BROTHERS

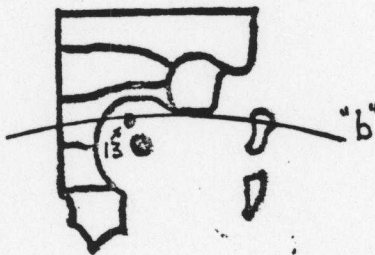
P. O. DRAWER J.

LENOX HILL STATION

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021

From the Pacific Isllds.  
 configuration it is easy to  
 tell it is position #14.

Tonkin Gulf Detail



Those of our readers who are familiar with the procedure for establishing the Plate # of any given stamp position no. (#1,2,3), will recognize the sketch to the left. It is contained on a 'seal' which when used with an ordinary office stamp pad, makes an ideal way to record the position of the Dot & Arc from the

compass scribing technique of locating the master die on the printing plate



As an

illustration I have shown the Dot in position #13 in the Gulf of Tonkin and the Arc cutting the island of Formosa at location 'b'. The seal was sent to me by Sandy MacKie and I am using it on some of my album pages.

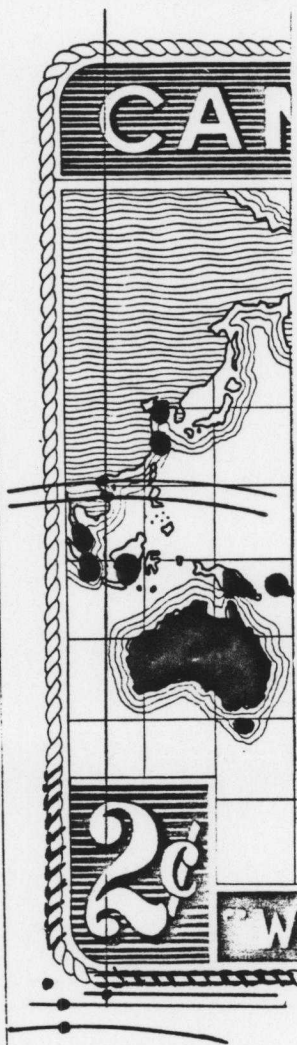
Cleaning UP! Have you ever thought about the problem of cleaning a grubby old Map stamp from the grime of about a hundred years? Well, in processing thousands of stamps over many years, I have found that it is possible to improve the appearance of any specimen that is dirty and with curled up perforations, if you are careful.

First I soak them in luke warm water to rid the reverse of old glue, hinge marks and especially old part-hinges left from someone's album mounting. Then I change water, just enough to float the stamp and tilt the tray a bit, enough to expose the bottom, and add 3 or 4 drops of liquid dishwa<sup>SHING</sup> soap. I place the stamp, face side up, on the exposed tray bottom and gently work up a lather with a good small art paint brush with pure bristles. The resulting lather is worked in a gentle circular motion in the centre of the stamp and then outward from the center to the edges, for no more than 30-40 seconds. Be sure your liquid soap does not contain bleach or strong detergent. After washing about 15 to 20 stamps, I place them in another tray with gently running tap water for ten minutes and then dry on paper towelling. For better specimens I dry them on blotting paper in a stamp press. It is surprising how this improves their appearance, enhancing the red and brightening up the ocean colors. A look at the soapy water after 20 or 30 have gone through will show it to be gray with the accumulated dirt of the years. If in doubt, try this with a few torn or otherwise spoiled copies!

Plate IV In issue #16 I made mention of seeing a Proof sheet of the black engraving of Plate #4 in the Postal Museum in Ottawa. "PROOF SHEET ENGRAVED IN BLACK ON .009" CARD - 10 DEC. 1898 - IT WAS FOUND UNSUITABLE AND WAS NOT USED TO PRINT STAMPS".

In this newsletter I intended to analyze every plate position that showed a substantial variance from the normal black engraving of plates 1, 2 & 3 but time has run out on me for this trip! I can only do the following if I want to get this printed and mailed before I head north.

### General Comments



1. Plate positions 91-100 show the lower cable retouched as in Plates 2,3&5.
2. Column 10-100 has a Vertical guide line and 2 dots in the lower right corner of the 10 positions, along with the appearance of the right cable being retouched as in Pl. #3.
3. Column 2-92 shows a Vertical guideline through the Tonkin Gulf dot.
4. The centre line cross is  $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm long in each direction.
5. Column 1-91 has a dot and arc in the lower left corner as well as 2-3 dots and a vert.& horiz. guide line on some positions.
6. Some positions (13 eg) have 2 sets of Tonkin Gulf dots and arcs.
7. Position 12, 18 has evidence of the Vertical guide line at the top of the LVT and through the numeral 2.
8. Most positions show a strong Tonkin Gulf dot and arc.
9. Column 4 - 94 shows a dot in the lower right corner as in Plate #3.
10. Position 87 shows a strong retouch to cable at LL.

← Composite sketch

### Interesting Letters

1. Ralph Belgard Port Byron, N.Y. 13140 Ralph is a new member and has a medium collection of Maps and has divided it into Flags and R.P.O.'s etc. He is on the lookout for background information on these.
2. Cathleen Jones, Halifax, N.S. A nice card and note at Christmas, as we missed seeing each other in Halifax in Sept. after BNAPS.
3. Mike Street, Ancaster, Ont. A series of correspondence over the handbook. Mike is anchoring the arrangements with the printer and Unitrade, the publisher.



4. Sandy MacKie, Aberdeen, Scotland (2) Sandy's letters are always full of news about Philately in Scotland and it's amazing how he keeps track of Canadian collecting.

5. Bob Lee, Vernon, B.C. I sent Bob a data sheet on all the rollers on Maps I had and he tells me in a year or so there will be a catalogue similar to the Duplex Cat.

6. Bill Burden, Truro, N.S. Bill sent me about 100 Maps to be plated, as I told him I would in P.E.I., but time got the better of me and I could only do about  $\frac{1}{2}$  (the easiest ones).

7. Gordon Jarrett, 102 Cumberland St., Cornwall, Ont. K6J 4H3. Gordon is a new member and is interested in the history of "red omitted" on the Map.

8. J.C. Johnson, Calgary Alb. Box 6118 Stn."D" T2P 2C7 Jon is the new Study Group Co-ordinator of BNAPS.

9. Nation Postal Museum, Ottawa (c/o Billie Kahlon) All the back issues of the Newsletter have now been placed in their library and they will receive all future mailings.

10. Mark Larkin, N.Y.C. Mark and Linda spent 4 days with us here in Fl. in Feb., on their return from North Vietnam where they were in a party of the 2nd group to visit the country since the war. Mark keeps me supplied with the American viewpoint and literature on the Map.

11. Ray Horning, Ottawa, Ont. Ray sent me a price list from a stamp dealer in Victoria B.C. with about 60 mint maps listed by plate position number and priced as if on a rarity factor basis - eg. Position 89 (Isld. 3 P.I.G. missing) \$120.00!

12. John Jamieson, Saskatoon Stamp Centre, Sask. John says he has never seen a Pan-American Seal used on cover.

13. Alan Steinhart, Toronto. With a Duplex cancel on cover that I had been looking for.

14. Jim Hennuck, Toronto: reports that lot 375 (Dec.'87 sale) sold for \$35.31 (with Com. & Postage) against an estimate of \$35.00. It was 12 Issues of the Map Newsletter and 100 Photos. AW COME ON! WAS THAT ALL?

15. Newsletters from the Re-entry, R.P.O., Squared Circle and Duplex Study groups for the period Nov 87 to Mar 88.

16. Dick & Kathryn Lamb, The Ed. Harris', the Jack Wallaces and others at Christmas.

17. Jim Kraemer, Ottawa, Ont. Jim sent a selection of Maps for me to look over and a request to write an article for "The Canadian Philatelist". Will do.

# OPINIONS III

## Philatelic Expertizing — An Inside View

Edited by Elizabeth C. Pope

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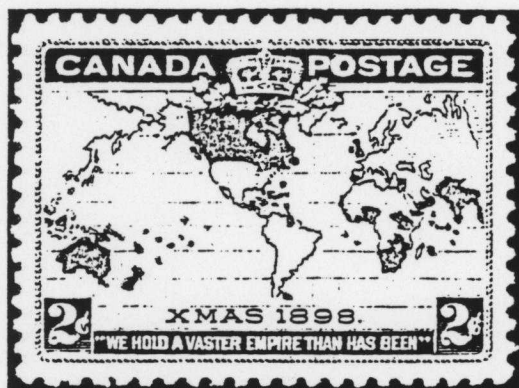
Elizabeth C. Pope

This article "The Shifting Empire" appeared in Vol. III (1986) of the Philatelic Foundation's annual "Philatelic Expertizing - An Inside View" and deals with the printing of the Map stamp and three items sent to them for a certificate. The Article deals with a number of points which I have been attempting to make over the last 5 years in our newsletter and it is reproduced here as it is not likely to have been seen by our members. My thanks and appreciation go to the foundation whose address is 270 Madison Ave. N.Y.C. N.Y. 10016. I am told that the foundation is the leading expertizing service in the U.S.A. and that they "expertized" over 17,000 stamps in 1987 alone. (thanks to Mark Larkin)



## Shifting Empire — Canada's First Multicolored Stamp

By Timothy A. Holmes



In July of 1898 an Imperial Postal Conference was held in London, England. At the Conference, Canadian Postmaster General William Mulock strongly supported the adoption of Imperial Penny Postage, the setting of the one-penny rate for letters of one-half ounce among all dominions, colonies and possessions of Great Britain. This represented an attempt to universalize the

phenomenon of penny postage with which Great Britain had revolutionized communications in 1840. It was an ideal conceived and fostered from that time forward. The Hon. Mr. Mulock was a strong advocate of Ocean penny postage. The result of the proposal in 1898 was the voluntary adoption by Great Britain and several of the important British dominions of the penny rate throughout the Empire. It was hoped that other colonies able to do so would follow suit. Originally supporting the idea, Canada's was among the governments to set Empire postage at the penny equivalent, or two cents Canadian. Shortly afterwards the domestic rate was reduced from three cents to two cents.

The Hon. Mr. Mulock was a man of perseverance and innovation. By December 1st he had designed and ordered the preparation of a stamp issue to commemorate and serve the new rate. In an era new to special stamp issues — the extravagant Jubilee issue had come only the year before — this stamp was remarkable in design. Canadians harbored a strong sense of pride in membership in the Empire celebrated by the stamp's issuance.

The design incorporated not an image of the reigning monarch, but the relatively abstract subject of a world map on Mercator's projection. According to the *Ottawa Evening Journal* at the time, while in London

Mr. Mulock had been "surprised to notice that the great mass of the people there did not appreciate the value of the greatness of the British possessions abroad. This was especially true of Canada. The idea therefore suggested itself to him, when he was considering a new stamp, to prepare something that would show the dimensions of Great Britain compared with all other countries."<sup>1</sup> It may be noted that the use of Mercator's square-grid projection amplifies the land areas farthest north and south, making Canada a prime beneficiary of the distortion.

The greatest design innovation was the introduction of multi-color printing. The American Bank Note Co., Ottawa, employed two printing methods to bring out the striking design. The stamp's black frame and the continental land masses were printed from an engraved steel plate. The oceans, in varying shades of lavender and blue-green, and British possessions, in red, were printed from electroplates, a form of typography. It was here that the ambitious experiment surprised its creator and postal patrons with more innovative varieties than they had expected.

Electrotype plates are built up by copper depositing on a softer, electrically charged surface of the raised designs in complete plate format. The shell so created becomes the printing plate. The raised areas impress the ink onto the paper during printing, a typographic method.

The three-color design required three passes through the press: one for the engraved plate to print the black, and one each for the electrotype lavender/blue and red.

In the print run of 19,927,500 stamps, damage and wear took their toll visibly on the black and red plates. Numerous re-entries and retouches were made to the black frame, which is in the form of a cable. These can be found by the trained eye; but they are readily and effectively done on the steel plate to keep the design from being seriously disrupted. The softer typographic plate, printing from raised surfaces, does not lend itself to such repair when worn or damaged. Throughout the printing life of the stamp, variations in the red-printed areas were continually noted. The unintentional changes in design are most noticeable in the small dots of color representing islands in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and the West Indies. Islands disappear or change position, two may appear instead of one, others join together to form larger land masses. Many extra islands appear. In his exhaustive, painstaking study of this stamp, Frederick Tomlinson<sup>2</sup> found 67 such variations just in the Pacific Ocean area on the first red plate alone. Shifts of the entire color are normal. Accumulation of foreign matter on the plate cause island and continental anomalies beyond count.



Finding an assortment of the above varieties is easily done and can lead to an intensive search for the more elusive varieties.



Figure 2. Certificate 56 628.

possibility of a composite pre-plate die proof.

Imperforate multiples of the stamp had been recorded from an early date, notably in the Worthington collection. These occur among stamps from the early lavender-sea period, as well as from the later blue printings. The pair under examination is compared carefully with reference copies as to weave and thickness of the paper. It is established to be stamp paper. The subject is allowed as a stamp.

The question of the missing color is taken up next. Further reference is reviewed. The records of previous certificates supply a color variety candidate and color-missing submittal, as well as test reference.

Certificate candidate 56 628 is submitted not only as an imperforate pair, but also as missing the red color of the land masses. One expert examining the subject suggests that this is a proof of two colors only. Proofs do exist on white wove paper in each possible color combination as well as in each single color. But the spacing between the stamps, the lavender color present, and the black inking impression precisely match the printed stamps. This rules out the

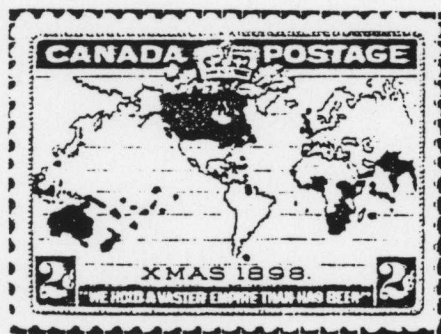


Figure 3. Certificate 4 780.



Figure 4. Certificate 26 250.

An early Foundation certificate, number 4 780 (Figure 3), was issued for an unused stamp with original gum, whose submitter stated, "Blue color for the ocean area is missing on this stamp." Sufficient numbers of this stamp had been handled by the Expert Committee signing for them to be able to state that the stamp's colors were normal as issued, although the lavender-to-blue area appeared only pale grey.

From the seldom-referenced press of the time: "A government official of Canada states that the two-cent Imperial postage stamp is to be changed in color from lavender to a blue. One of your contemporaries states that the color is to be green."<sup>3</sup> The intentional changes of color must actually have taken place within a week of the commencement of printing (December 2nd, 1898), as blue and green copies dated mid-December are known. In addition to this, however, it is evident that control of the shades desired was beyond the ability of the printers. An accumulation of these stamps displays a complete range of shades through those desired. This dismayed postal officials. Even though the stamps were printed by the American Bank Note Co., it also evoked questions among the public as to the constancy of the government office responsible for issuing them. And so, while the spectrum of colors on this issue exceed that of many other stamps which are highlighted as having color varieties, this stamp, given two Scott numbers, caused Winthrop S. Boggs to write on expertizing worksheet 4 780, "The shades of the ocean color on this stamp vary from pale gray to green blue — there are no errors of color."

The stamp submitted for Certificate 26 250 (Figure 4) was accompanied by an application which read in part, "As listed in Catalog, and shown on all copies that I have seen, the 'water or oceans' is a different color from the copy enclosed ..." The submitter was quite correct: the usually lavender-grey-blue water-bodies were brown.

This item did not take long for consideration, although six experts signed the worksheet for the stamp. This was clearly a color changeling, not as simply achieved as the extreme paleness of blue obtained by leaving the stamp in direct sunlight for a period of time, but certainly a case of the ink being altered after its printing. On this used stamp the other colors and paper were affected as well. For inks such as these the color alteration can be made by immersion, contact or environment. It need not be deliberate, although some changes can be done with household liquids. Most instances will show change in several or all of the inks present, as in this case. The stamp was returned with the opinion, "a color changeling of the blue to brown."

A reference stamp from the early years of the Foundation was reviewed. This was a postally used copy, but missing the red color. This



time it appeared that harsh bleaching agents had been used, and the other parts of the design reflected this. Rather than being considered the first color-missing variety of this issue, it was determined to be an attempt to out-fox the collector.

The imperforate pair without red color (Figure 2) is taken up again. The potentially fugitive and alterable lavender is studied. It falls into the strongest shade range of the early printings, and matches copies accepted as the actual color intended at the beginning of production. There are traces of red. But the freshness of the paper and other inks present indicate no substantial change since its printing, although minor creasing has occurred.

The nature of the typographic process is considered: the inks are punched in by the raised surfaces of the plate. Removal of the intense carmine ink, which has never shown tendencies to fade, would be achieved only at the expense of the ephemeral lavender. The typographic process is known to be subject, though rarely, to underinking and missed inking. The condition of this pair of stamps leads the Expert Committee to conclude that it is "a genuine vertically imperforate pair with some creasing and red color mostly missing."

Mr. Mulock's bold experiment of multiple colors and printing methods left its mark. The stamp was by far the most costly per unit which Canada had produced to that time. Wide swings in color and great shifts among Her Majesty's lands, in a design radical for its day, brought unprecedented public comment, much of it less than favorable. Although another special commemorative issue was ventured ten years later, it was decades before the Canadian postal department would again depart from the monochromatic and engraved formats.

With the other printing difficulties encountered in this issue, no stamps have been previously listed as being printed with color missing. With Certificate 56 628, the Foundation recognized this imperforate pair as a very early color missing variety.

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<sup>1</sup> Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, Vol. IX, p. 87.

<sup>2</sup> *The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898, a detailed study*, by Frederick Tomlinson, F.P.C.S., The Philatelic Society of Great Britain, 1960.

<sup>3</sup> *Weekly Philatelic Era*, Vol. XIII, p. 105.

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## MAPS AND ORBS: A GLOBAL REPORT

## PART IV -- TORONTO 2-RINGS

by Jim Felton



The Toronto Post Office was the first user of the large, multi-ring cancels we call orbs, and was ultimately the largest user of these devices. Because of the many devices used in Toronto, we divide our discussion into two parts. In this part we will discuss the 2-ring orbs; next time the 3-ring devices.

Toronto used three 2-ring orbs. Two of them were covered by David Handelman in his article "Toronto's Two- and Three-Ring Orbs," BNA TOPICS, volume 30 number 4 (April 1973), pages 84-85f. First we will examine the two 2-rings that he presented, then we will discuss the third device.

Handelman gave data on two 2-ring cancels which at first glance may appear to be identical, or nearly so. In fact these cancels are easy to distinguish, and Handelman labelled them involving their features. One has large side dots and no period following 'CANADA' whereas the other has no side dots but does have a period following 'CANADA.' The hammer with the dots has been labelled hammer D and the hammer with the period is labelled hammer P.

Hammer P is apparently the earliest orb. The proof date is 10 AM/FEB 19/91. The earliest date known used is MAR 12/91. It has been recorded used each month from that date through August 1897, except that no strikes have been recorded for December 1891, nor October through December 1892. Handelman gave his latest date as "to Sep 97." Recently I acquired a cover with hammer P used in December 1897. There was a revival of this hammer in 1899, with examples dated March, April, and November.

To date there has been no reported use of hammer P on the Map stamp, but there is high probability that it will be found. Until we have reports of hammer P on the Map we will not go into greater detail.

Hammer D, on the other hand, seems well known on the Map stamps. This hammer was proofed JUL 26/2 PM/92. Its earliest use is under discussion. Jim Miller tells of a very clear AUG 7/4 PM/92, but it is on a card with the message very clearly dated AUG 17, and backstamped at Winnipeg AUG 20. My earliest is AUG 14, and I consider this the earliest for the hammer. Either way, the cancel saw use fairly quickly.

The usage so far recorded for hammer D is less regular than that of hammer <sup>P</sup>. Between August 1892 and August 1897, no strikes are recorded for JU, JY, AU, OC, and DE 1894, nor during JA 1896. From AU 97 there is no strike recorded until MAR 98, and then no strikes recorded for MY, JU, JY, or SP 98. We do note, how-



ever, usage beginning again in OC 98 and each month thereafter through NO 99. Next use known occurs in MAR and AP 00, then none until OC 00. Handelman gives his latest date as JY/01.

For hammer D the normal indicia pattern is MMM DD/TIME/YY. In other words, the month is usually three letters, and the month and day are on the top line. The second line carries the time expressed in full hours from 10 AM to 11 PM except for 9 PM. There are enough examples showing time over date so that the variety is not rare. The same holds true for reports of two letter months, as they are known throughout the life of the cancel. Examples with the day preceding month are less common. Other than Miller's likely date error no other errors such as inversions or reversals have been detected.

On Map stamps the Toronto hammer D is not as common as London but certainly more common than Hamilton. The examples reported below come from the collections of Whit Bradley, Beverly Clark, Ray Horning, and Vic Willson:

1898	DEC 19/5 PM, DEC 27/2 PM, DEC 31/4 PM
1899	JAN 3/2 PM, JAN 4/7 PM, JAN 5/5/PM, JAN 23/7 PM, JAN 24/7 PM
	FEB 2/7 PM (2 copies), FEB 4/7 PM, FEB 22/7 PM
	MAR 2/7 PM, MAR 31/ 10 PM
	3 PM/APR 25
	7 PM/MAY 8
	NOV 28/2 PM

There is some suggestion that the late use may be associated with special purpose usage. The cover with the APR 25 cancel also bears the special delivery stamp, and the NOV 28 date is on a long, legal-sized cover. By this time the machines had taken over the bulk of cancelling duties, and the two covers may have been non-machinable.

There was a third 2-ring device used at Toronto, this one having been a converted duplex cancel. This cancel is distinctive because of the larger size of its ring diamters and also of the indicia lettering. The latest date as a duplex that I have recorded is JAN 6/02, and the earliest as a 2-ring is 13/JAN 13/02. It was used well into 1903. So far I have not recorded any examples on Map stamps, but it would seem possible to find one even given the lateness of this cancel with respect to the period of highest Map usage. The size of the cancel will make it an easy task to identify from the slightest partial cancel.

As you can see the devices are fairly well known and recognizable, and were all used during the Map stamp era. Since only one of the three devices has so far been recorded on the Map stamp, there is much yet to learn. Your continuing reports do help a great deal, and an update is planned for a later time. If you do have any of the Toronto orbs, or from other offices, please contact me at Box 56371, Little Rock, AR 72215.

Thanks to Jim Felton of Little Rock Ark. for this article.  
Part V will appear next issue and then a wrap-up.

Spring Cleaning The last time we 'cleaned house' was 2½ years ago and so it is about time we had another look at our mailing list. With this issue it looks like we will be mailing it out to 48 members and 14 dealers etc., including several officers of BNAPS. The cost of this letter is mine and I regard it as my little contribution to Philately, and while this is not a factor, there is no sense in mailing it to someone who has lost interest or who has moved on to other facets of the hobby. Perhaps the next issue will be devoted to a revised and up to date membership list with comments from the members if they feel so inclined to elaborate on their hobby and new specializations.

If there is a tick in the box to the right, it means I'd like to hear from you and perhaps you would describe your collection a bit.

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Below is reserved for a few personal comments, if I owe you a letter, or have something of interest to tell you particularly.

April 18

Hello Ed.

It's always a pleasure to send you one of these!

Hope all is well with you.

Sincerely WLB

mb/

all the best

W.L.B.  
WLB