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Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

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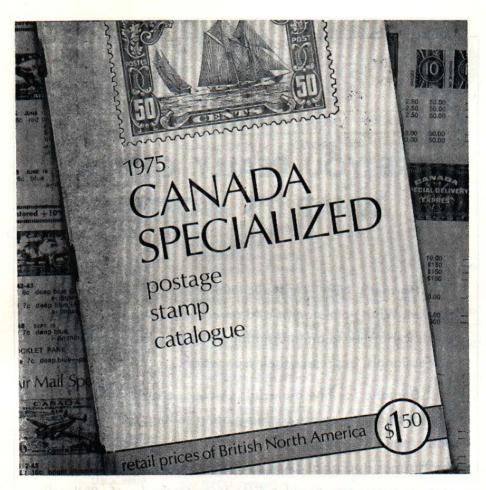
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revenue issues:

Tobacco Stamps: end of an era



BY
INFORMATION
SERVICES,
REVENUE CANADA

The last two revenue types: left, no "series" right, "series C"

A 110-year old tradition in Canada will end this fall with the recent decision of the Minister of National Revenue, Customs and Excise, to cease supplying tobacco manufacturers with the familiar excise duty stamp found on all packages of cigarettes, cigars and cut tobacco.

Over the years, these stamps have been a source of controversy between government and the tobacco industry and their usage has been greatly misunderstood by the general public. Manufacturers have felt that the tax represented by these stamps was too high and their product was being unduly discriminated against as a luxury item. The public, in many cases, have had varying ideas about why these stamps were attached to tobacco products. Many people felt the stamps were a mark of freshness indicating that the product was ready for retail sale. Others thought these stamps were used to determine the amount of cigars, cigarettes or the actual poundage of tobacco contained in the package.

Officially, the stamp has been used as a method of revenue collection and is a requirement of the law as evidence that the excise duty has been paid on the respective product. Presently, no tobacco product can be sold legally in Canada without an excise duty stamp attached to its package.

In any case, the present series of excise duty stamps will not be available after August 19, when the government will follow the lead of such countries as the U.K., France, Italy, U.S.A., Australia, New Zealand and Brazil and make all tobacco manufacturers responsible for printing and affixing their own stamps to their products.

Introduction into Canada

The use of excise stamps in Canada presents quite an interesting story dating back to 1864. At that time in Canadian history, the costly Grand Trunk Railway, completed in 1861 to provide a better transportation link for consumer goods within the country was in danger of financial collapse; the government of John A. Macdonald was going through a series of ministerial crises and short lived governments; the population feared an American invasion; the Americans were threatening to revoke various reciprocity agreements and eventually revoked the special bonding laws which permitted Canadian railway shipments to cross American territory in bond.

As a result of this tricky political and economic situation, the first series of to-bacco stamps were introduced into the Province of Canada under the Inland Revenue Act as one of many measures of collecting badly needed revenue to help hold future hopes of a Canadian Confederation together.

A Special Review Board was established

to administer the issuing and collection of all revenues from these stamps upon their sale to tobacco manufacturers. The very first set of these stamps were printed horizontally on 4¼-inch diamond shapes which showed the date of payment of the tax and a description of the product sold or the weight of the tobacco being sold.

Designs and types of Canadian tobacco stamps

While the design of tobacco stamps has changed over the years, Revenue Canada has retained a fairly strict control over the engravings to avoid any possible counterfeiting. Many of the early stamps, especially those of the 1897 series showing Victoria as the "Old Queen", were very elaborate and ornate. They were printed in a wide variety of shapes, sizes and denominations aimed at meeting the packaging and marketing requirements of the day. However, this elaborate treatment was more to prevent duplication than to provide decorative stamps for philatelists.

Many collectors of tobacco stamps will agree that the 1897 series denoting the number of cigars in each package is a memorable issue. They show finely engraved scenes of the old "centre block" of the Parliament Buildings before it was ravaged by fire. Others in the series depict the Rideau locks by the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa and various outdoor scenes typical

of Canada in the 19th century.

In the early days of issue, all tobacco stamps were serially numbered to maintain a control on the total amount issued. The most recent issues were not numbered due to the massive increases in tobacco production and the corresponding requirements for stamps. The cumbersome accounting procedures necessary to efficiently account for the issue of all excise duty stamps today is the major reason why the department is discontinuing the issuance of the stamps.

Before 1940, there were numerous sizes of cigarette packages: 5s, 8s, 10s, 12s, 18s, 20s, 25s, 50s, and so on. A special series of stamps called "Series C" was issued to cover these wide varieties of denominations and during World War II many of these stamps were overprinted with an additional excise tax to help pay for the war. However, as an economy measure towards the end of the war, two common denominations, 20 and 25, were agreed upon for packages of cigarettes. These denominations are still

in use today and in addition some packages of 50 cigarettes are produced for certain special brands.

From the very beginning, the weight of manufactured tobacco was shown on all stamps. For example, weights such as 1/8 Ib., 1/9 Ib., 2/17 Ib., 2/19 Ib., 2/21 Ib., 3/5 lb., 4/5 lb., 1/2 lb., and upwards appeared on packages of cut tobacco. Such amounts were often confusing and the average person was not aware of the actual quantity of tobacco he was buying. As a result, in 1971 the department required that the weight in ounces, in lieu of fractions of a pound, be shown on all stamps affixed to packages of cut tobacco. The change to ounces resulted in a reduction in the number of denominations of stamps that the government had to print.

Revenues — the oldest stamps collected and exhibited

The Dutch are credited with being the first nation to use a stamp as a means of tax collection. In 1624, a stamp duty was imposed on all legal documents such as agreements, securities and mortgages. From legal documents the use of stamps as a means of raising revenue spread to such items as tobacco products and even playing cards. The first record of a public display of revenue stamps dates back to the collection of John Burke of Dublin, Ireland. In 1772 Burke made his modest presentation of Irish revenues from the £6 down to the half-penny.

At the Madrid Exhibition in 1873, a Senor Provenza was awarded the silver medal for his collection of Spanish fiscals dating back to 1637 and became the first

philatelist medal winner.

Many exhibitions displaying only revenues were held after that date. In Leeds, England, in 1894 an exhibition of revenues lasted several weeks. In 1905, at the Exeter Hall in London, England, another large exhibition displaying fiscals was held. Since then classes for the display of revenue stamps have been open in almost all international exhibitions. In Canada, several major exhibitions of revenues have taken place. The most famous collections were shown in Winnipeg in 1924 and in Montreal in 1925.

In general, revenue stamps reflect the romantic flares and slants in the lives of

(continued on page 224)

Expert Committee Certificates . . .

How good are they?

BY HARRY W. LUSSEY

A certificate represents the opinion of one or more individuals, depending upon the size of the committee, regarding the status of the item submitted for examination. It is not a guarantee that the item is genuine, unused, bears a legitimate cancel, etc. It is merely an opinion and the worth of the opinion depends entirely upon the knowledge of the committee in the area of philately which is involved.

Some time ago I saw a cover in an auction which aroused my curiosity. It bore the corner card of *The Stamp Herald, Kitchener, Ontario* and it was addressed to Messrs. E. Luder-Edelmann & Co. in Zurich, Switzerland. It was properly franked with a block of four of the 2c coil sheet stamp (Scott 128a) tied by a Kitchener postmark dated December 22, 1926 with the 22 being inverted. The 8c rate was correct and it represents scarce usage.

Inside the cover was a certificate, or perhaps I should say the lack of a certificate. It was dated March 29, 1972 and numbered 71140. The description of the item was "Cover from Canada to Switzerland dated 22-12-1926 bearing block of 4, 2c yellow green, imperf x perf 8". I have no way of knowing what question was asked by the person submitting the item but the certificate form stated, "The Expert Committee decline to issue a certificate for the item submitted for the reason indicated below: Cannot identify printing or paper without removing from cover."

Removing this block from the cover would accomplish little in terms of determining whether it was the scarce first printing or the common second printing. There are four major differences between the two

printings.

1. The first printing was from the retouched die (die I) whereas the second printing was from the re-engraved die (die II). Die II has a short line extending outward from the base of the right numeral box. There is also a small dot in the upper right spandrel.

2. The first printing was on damp paper, before gumming, and as the sheets dried

there was shrinkage horizontally. The second printing was on dry pregummed paper which resulted in very little, if any, shrinkage. Thus a block of the second printing would be noticeably wider than one from the first printing. If a horizontal pair of the 1c green or 2c red (produced only by the wet process) was to be superimposed upon this block of the 2c green and the block was wider, it would indicate the block was from the second printing.

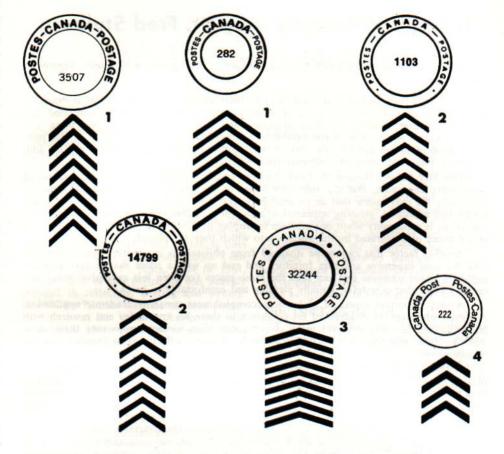
 Since the first printing was on damp paper the ink would penetrate more deeply into the paper with a resultant deep shade.
 The dry or second printing would show somewhat sharper lines but far less depth of color.

The foregoing are three tests that will definitely identify the item under examination as being from the first or second printing. There is no reason whatsoever to consider removing the block from the cover for identification purposes.

There is a fourth difference between the first and second printings and this is the thickness of the paper with the former being on fairly thick paper and the latter on somewhat thinner paper. However with three obvious face differences proving either the first or second printing any examination of the paper would be superfluous.

Here, I believe, is an outstanding example of an expert committee setting itself up to do a specific job and falling down miserably. The information necessary to permit the proper classification of this item has been available for a great many years. It appeared in George Marler's Notes on the 1911-25 Issue of Canada and on a piecemeal basis earlier than that.

If a committee cannot handle a simple problem like this how can one have confidence in their findings on items of substantial value? The sole purpose of publishing this is to illustrate the importance of "knowing your stamps". Under no circumstances should a certificate be accepted as "Absolute proof" that an item is either good or bad.



Recent Business Reply Mail

BY HANS REICHE

Recent Postage-Paid cancels have shown a number of varieties which may not have been reported in detail. The field may be boring to many but nevertheless this brief article will be of interest to a few.

I have divided them into four types. The first type makes use of the words "Postes", "Canada" and "Postage" with a hyphen between the words. Three sizes of outside circles were noted: 22mm, 24mm and 29mm. The largest has a strong outside circle and a weaker one inside, and the word "Canada" is as strong as the other words. In the other cancels the word "Canada" is strong and other words are weaker.

The next type appears similar but here the double circle has two distinct dots one in front of POSTES and one after POST-AGE. The outside circles measure: 31, 29, 28, 26 and 24mm. Various thicknesses of the words can be found and the height of the letters varies from small to large touching the two circles.

The third type shows periods between the words but not after or in front of them. Two sizes were found: 30 and 21mm. The larger one has a strong inner circle and a weak one outside.

The fourth type shows a different wording. The words read: Canada Post-Postes Canada. The outside circle is 22mm.

A Jury's Philosophy - By Dr. Fred Stulberg

An address given at the BNAPS awards banquet at Williamsburg, Virginia, September 14, 1974.

Most organizations feel that consistency in their awards from year to year is desirable and, because of this, establish a set of rules whereby collections can be exhibited and judged. However, despite the most elaborate and detailed regulations, one thing still remains beyond the control of the exhibition committee. It is the philosophy of the jury. Each group of judges has its own idea of what constitutes an ideal philatelic exhibit and, of course, this must inevitably influence their awards.

This jury (Leslie Davenport, Lewis Ludlow and Fred Stulberg, chairman) agreed, in preliminary discussion, that the monetary value or the scarcity of the material was not necessarily the only factor that determined excellence. It was felt that philately is a visual hobby and a tasteful, pleasing appearance, although a desirability when one sets up one's collection, is a necessity when one chooses to display it. Even the most valuable gems can be enhanced or denigrated by the settings into which they are placed.

Another factor that cannot be divorced from philately is creativity. One person can take the most expensive and rare furniture and end up with a room that is ugly and disjointed whereas someone else can take the same pieces (or even less expensive ones) and create a place that is tasteful, visually pleasing and comfortable to be in.

A very important aspect of philatelic accomplishment concerns academic application. A person who uses the products of his collection to share his knowledge and research with his colleagues certainly deserves more consideration than someone who uses these same items to show only the depth of his pocketbook. A good collector is as inquisitive as he is acquisitive.

Within the last quarter of a century there has been a marked change in the complexion of our hobby. The melting pot of yesteryear no longer exists. It has been replaced by a mosaic with all facets of philately — stamps, covers, postal history, revenues, topicals, postal stationery, etc. — adding their particular color to the overall design. Granted, some of the colors are more intense than others but nevertheless all are part of the total picture and none should be downgraded or ignored only because tradition dictates that this be done.

Tolstoy said "Man must not check reason by tradition, but contrariwise, must check tradition by reason." Let us hope that other juries will lose their traditional conditioning and the many branches of philately will be permitted to reach their full competitive stature.

Tradition also demands that, prior to the presentation of the awards, the chairman of the jury affirms the unanimity of its members. However, it is an insult to the intelligence of thinking people to have them believe that three people of different ages, collecting interests and background could reach the same verdict in 25 different instances. There were indeed differences but these were resolved through discussion, friendly persuasion, hard logic and, in a few instances, by majority vote.

For those exhibitors who suffered the consequences of human fallibility, we are truly sorry. However, to those who did not receive the award that they expected because of the philosophy of this particular jury, we offer no apologies but instead gain strength in knowing that we did not prostitute our ideals.

AWARDS - BNAPEX '74

GOLD MEDALS - John E. Young (Grand Award; Robert Pratt; W. E. Lea; John Payne; E. A. Richardson.

SILVER MEDALS & FELICITATIONS - Alfred Cook; Harry Lussey.

SILVER MEDALS - Gordon Perry; Julian C. Smith; Richard Pitch; John F. Ayre; Wilmer Rocket.

BRONZE MEDALS & FELICITATIONS - Robert V. C. Carr.

BRONZE MEDALS — Charles D. Blair; Douglas Crawford; R. K. Malott; Larry Paige; Earle L. Covert; Ray Peters; Joseph M. Shelton.

THE PUBLICATIONS OF

Dr. L. Seale Holmes

By Trelle A. Morrow

One of the more common topics for discussion among collectors today is that of philatelic literature. In fact collecting literature is becoming a very popular pursuit with many collectors, particularly those in the BNA field.

Certainly Dr. L. S. Holmes was one of the most prolific philatelic writers of his day as far as this subject is concerned, and the collector will no doubt profit by taking time to review some of these publications. His life span covered 77 years, 1884 to 1961, and for most of this period he was actively engaged in collecting, dealing and writing. In 1897 Dr. Holmes was one of three youngsters to form the Victoria Stamp Co., and early in the 1900s price lists appeared from this enterprising group.

In reviewing the publications by Dr. Holmes three distinct categories become evident. Firstly, there are the price-list editions prior to 1940, then the very interesting 1943-45 period and finally the 1949-68 series.

Although standard catalogue information on stamps is carried forward from one edition to the next, many additions and deletions do occur as his works progress. This will be particularly evident in the discussion of the Handbook period of 1943-45.

1940 and earlier

By the 1930s the price lists of the Victoria Stamp Co. had reached a fair degree of sophistication. Printing was done on good quality glossy paper, the format was in a handy 4" x 7½" pocket-size and the contents included most of the collecting areas that are popular today.

Up to 1939 the catalogues had a paper cover similar to the remaining sheets in the booklet. The 1939-40 editions, however, were dressed up considerably with a heavy velvet-paper cover. Several colors were used as indicated in the Catalogue Schedule.

The 1943-45 period

Early in the 1940s, Dr. Holmes obtained the copyright for the well-known Jarrett BNA Catalogue of 1929. This action, together with Dr. Holmes' great desire to produce a compact and comprehensive reference on BNA postal material, resulted in the 1943 Handbook and Catalogue of Canada and BNA. This 443-page edition in purple cover was truly an encyclopedia compared to the earlier priced catalogues. The first 246 pages form a handbook on stamps and postal material with the re-

(continued on page 215)

Bibliography: Shantz & Demaray, "Philately in London", London Philatelic Society, 1967.

Catalogue Schedule 1933 (approximate date of first edition) Holmes Catalogue of Canada and BNA Holmes Catalogue of Canada and BNA Holmes Catalogue of Canada and BNA: blue velvet paper cover; 67 pp 1935 1937 70 pp 1939 also with green cover 134 pp Holmes Catalogue of Canada and BNA: red velvet paper cover 134 pp (The above Catalogues are basically price lists and were published under the name of the Victoria Stamp Co. Format size is 4" x 7"1/2. Holmes Handbook & Catalogue of Canada & BNA: first printing; 1943 443 pp 1945 443 pp 266 pp dark blue cover dark blue cover Holmes Catalogue of Canada & BNA: seventh edition Specialized Philatelic Catalogue of Canada & BNA: eighth edition Holmes Handbook of Canada and BNA. This is an American edition and a reprint of a portion of the 1943 edition; red and green covers Specialized Philatelic Catalogue of Canada and BNA: ninth edition Specialized Philatelic Catalogue of Canada & BNA: eighth edition Holmes Specialized Philatelic Catalogue of Canada & BNA: 11th edition 1949 1954 330 pp 1954 246 pp 410 pp 1960 1963 410 pp 1968 434 pp



Semi-Official Airmails

Haughton E. Sanguinetti, 591 Mediterranean Manor, Dunedin, Fla., USA 33528



Seminar study committee

The seminar on Canadian Semi-Official Airmails at BNAPEX '74 was held 2:00 pm on Friday, September 13. The committee was composed of Robert H. Jamieson, Richard Malott, Daniel Rosenblatt, Ray Simrak (Secretary), Ernest F. S. Smith, Robert Young, and chairman Haughton Sanguinetti. There were special displays and a discussion on pioneer and early airmail flights.

Estevan-Winnipeg issue

Opinion is divided as to whether or not there were two printings of this stamp; Ian C. Morgan's first edition of *The Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Airmails* made no mention of a possible two printings, but in his revised edition, 1934-1935, the statement is made that there were two printings.

There are two distinct shades of this stamp; most numerous is the darker shade seen on stamps affixed to flight covers. Most of the unused copies are of a lighter shade Red.

A constant minor variety reported is of a circle in the clouds at left margin extending into the vignette so as to join the two clouds. Whenever this loop or circle appears it is also noted that the extreme left building in the picture of the buildings on the Estevan skyline is incomplete. Opinions differ as to whether the changes were due to a second printing or to a slow printing process and a none-too-clean plate. In use that would involve cleaning the plate and re-inking it which could give a different shade, especially one heavier in tone.

Cataloguers recite 1,028 stamps issued, 544 with normal and 544 stamps with a wide spacing between "e" and "w" of "Saskatchewan".

The plate was reported to have been defaced after the stamps were printed but how and when and in what manner is not clear. If the figures reported in the specialized catalogues are correct, then 950 stamps were used on covers carried on the flight and 50 pairs were retained, of which six pairs had the wording reversed, two pairs were printed without any wording and 12 pairs were destroyed. That means only 60 stamps unused, and since the stamps were printed in pairs each pair having one stamp with normal and one with the wide space between the "e" and "w" in "Saskatchewan", it leaves only 30 unused stamps of each variety.

Could a second printing have been made some time after the flight? Could the number of copies reported in the catalogues be too conservative? It would be helpful if members reported the number of unused copies of the stamp they own.

Canadian Airways, Ltd.

Don Snider reports that he has a copy of the Canadian Airways Ltd., stamp which has a broken outer lower frame line, just under the hyphen. The break is one-half letter in length and there is a third line below the "L" of "AIR MAIL" and another below the hyphen under the inner lower frame. Has anyone else noted this flaw or variety?





The RPO Cowcatcher

Lewis M. Ludlow, P.O. Box No. 135, South San Francisco, CA 94080

M30 HALIFAX & AMHERST/M.C.

Three Hammers, Type 9E Hammer 1

Proofed: March 8, 1882 Earliest: July 19, 1882 Latest: February 7, 1884 Indicia: EAST only known to date

Usage: Apparently limited R.F.: 50 (6.9%)

Comments: Although our material is not too extensive, this hammer appears to have been used for only a brief time. We believe that for some reason it was withdrawn in the later 1880s and supplanted by Hammer III. Our readers should be able to give more definitive data on this hammer. Hammer II

Proofed: March 8, 1882
Earliest: — 13, 1882
Latest: May 4, 1899
Indicia: EAST throughout; WEST in 1896;

W from 1897

W from 1897
Usage: Apparently continuous for the period
R.F.: 50 (37.9%)
Comments: This hammer is deceptive. A clear,
clean-cut hammer in its early days, it wore badly
and in the 1890s it is quite used and gives very
poor, badly inked strikes; however, measurement
confirms that it is merely a run-down version of
the initially share clear hammer. the initially sharp, clear hammer. Hammer III

Proofed: Unknown
Earliest: July 20, 1888
Latest: April 21, 1899
Indicia: WEST only until 1894; then EAST
and WEST together

Usage: Continuous for the period

Usage: Continuous for the period R.F.: 50 (55.2%)
Comments: This is the most common of the three hammers; however, this occurs in part because of its use predominantly in the 1890s for which considerably more material is available. We believe that this hammer superceded Hammer I with which there is no overlap. This hammer wore still giving excellent impressions when well and was still giving excellent impressions when its use was discontinued.

M30 Hammer Separation

- 1. Measure the bottom width of the "M" in M.C. If this distance is 21/4 mm, the strike is Hammer I; Hammers II and III measure 23/4 mm.
- 2. Measure the chordal distance from the bottom of the "T" of AMHERST to the upper right corner of the "M" of M.C. If this distance is 8½ mm, the strike is Hammer II, while a distance of 71/2 mm must be Hammers I or III.
- 3. Measure the chordal distance from the bottom of the left leg of the "R" to the bottom of the "T", both of AM-HERST. Hammer III measures 51/4 mm. while Hammers I and II measure 6 mm.

4. Results of any combination of two of the three steps above must confirm the strike as being only one of the three available hammers.

M31

HALIFAX . & . AMHERST . P.O. CAR/

One Hammer, Type 4D

Proofed: January 25, 1877
Earliest: November 1, 1879
Latest: To be advised
Indicia: WEST known, EAST, E reported but not confirmed.

Usage: Apparently limited, and supplanted by R.F.: 150 Comments: We believe that M31 and have been confused, and that they are really one and the same run; subject to repudiation by our readers, we are now making a tentative revision of M31 and striking out (delisting) M31B. If our thesis is incorrect, we can always reinstate. Originally, M31 was reported at Type 14A, which would have been with frame line, and with P.O. CAR at have been with frame line, and with P.O. CAR at the bottom of the strike. However, some time ago, this was changed to Type 4H which would be without frame line, but with P.O. CAR still at the bottom. We believe this was in error. The proof book strike has P.O. CAR as included in the top part of the run, with a connecting line around the bottom, a true Type 4D, and our strke on post card confirms this as correct. Since there is a good continuity from M31A to this strike to M30 in regard to time, we believe it improbable (although possible) that another run was used in the though possible) that another run was used in the midst of those known and available. Certainly, another was not needed. We hope that any readers having strikes purporting to be M31/M31B will contact us with details and descriptions of their strikes.

M31A HALIFAX & AMHERST . R.R/=

One Hammer, Type 4 Proofed: Unknown Earliest: February 9, 1876

Latest: To be advised
Indicia: WEST only known or reported
Usage: Limited

R.F.: 150

Comments: The single known strike above on a Small Queen cover will undoubtedly be elaborated upon by subsequent reports by collectors; even so, we believe this to be a difficult RPO to find and well worth the indicated rarity factor, if not more so. In the chronology of the Halifax and Amherst route, it appears that M31A appeared first, followed by M31, which in turn was followed first by Hammers I and II of M30, with Hammer III of M30 finally replacing Hammer I. Comments: The single known strike above

As indicated above, we have tentatively delisted M31B in favor of M31, subject to report and correction by our readers. Any information received will be reported in subsequent columns.

M32 HALIFAX & ANNAPOLIS/M.C.

Four Hammers, Type 9E

Hammer I

Proofed: March 2, 1883
Earliest: December 5, 1883
Latest: March 15, 1893
Indicia: EAST, WEST
Usage: Continuous and apparently comparatively

common for this early period

R.F.: 75 (15.7%)

Comments: At least two hammers were introduced on the above proof strike date; we are not sure that a third hammer may not have been issued, but if so, its use has not yet been noted.

Hammer II

Hamber 11
Proofed: March 2, 1883
Earliest: April 12, 1890
Latest: May 4, 1895
Indicia: EAST, WEST — normal
Blank — strikes known in 1893 and 1894
W — November 8, 1893 — abnormal Usage: Brief, but continuous; expect to find earlier strikes R.F.: 75 (14.8%)

Comments: We are assured that earlier dates will definitely be found unless the use of this hammer was delayed for some unknown reason; however, a seven year delay seems improbable. Hammers I and II are very similar in their characteristics which is the properties. terestics which is to be expected if they were made at the same time.

Hammer III

Earliest: May 15, 1893
Latest: May 17, 1897
Latest: May 17, 1897
Indicia: EAST only; Blank — June, 1893
W only — 1895(5), 1896(1) 1897(2)
Usage: Continuous without break to the end

of the run

R.F.: 75 (38.9%)

Comments: In contrast to Hammers II and IV, which are normal, the "5" of "95" for Hammer III is broken and apparently bent. This set lasted for the whole year; we have found no exceptions.

Hammer IV

Earliest: April 23, 1894
Earliest: April 23, 1894
Latest: March 23, 1897
Indicia: E, W only
Blank strikes known in 1895 and 1896

Usage: Continuous without break to the end

of the run. R.F.: 75 (30.6%)

Comments: "6" for "96" on November 7th; on December 23rd, "9" for "?", probably 1896. We believe that Hammer IV was introduced because of additional need, whereas Hammer III, although perhaps acquired for the same reason, was apparatused to the same reason, was apparatused to the same reason, was apparatused to the same reason. ently used to replace Hammer I.

M32 Hammer Separation

Hammers III and IV are immediately recognizable while Hammers I and II are almost identical; however, the following steps will insure complete separation of all four hammers:

- 1. Hammer III has mid-vertical dots before and after "M.C."; the other three hammers have no such dots.
- 2. Hammer IV has a diameter of over

- 25 mm, a noticeably big circle, and the narrow letters of the run are inset over 11/2 mm from the edge of the ring. Hammer III, with its side dots, has a diameter of just over 24 mm and its normal letters are inset only 1-11/4 mm from the ring. Hammers I and II are 23½ mm diameter only and their smaller letters are inset 1 mm or less from the ring.
- 3. To separate Hammers I and II, carefully measure the chordal distance from the bottom of the "I" of ANNAPOLIS to the upper left corner of the "M" of "M.C." A distance of over 10 mm proves Hammer I; Hammer II measures only 9½ mm. (Hammer III — 10 mm; Hammer IV — 1034 mm).
- 4. Measure the chordal distance from the bottom of the right leg of the "H" to the lower left corner of the "L", both of HALIFAX. Hammer I measures only 3 mm, while Hammer II is 31/2 mm.
- 5. The rings of both Hammer I and Hammer II wore poorly, particularly on the right side, and as such are not definitive for identification against each other; however, breaks in the ring below "M.C." (and this is not constant) are indicative of Hammer II. Hammer I is normally unbroken in this position.
- 6. Partial strikes of Hammers III and IV are easily identified by many different chordal measurements. For example, measure the distance from the bottom of the "A" of HALIFAX to the bottom of the right leg of the first "N" of ANNAPOLIS. Hammers I and II measure 11½ mm, while Hammer III is only 101/2 mm and Hammer IV is 11 mm.
- 7. Another example is the chordal distance from the bottom of the left leg of the first "N" to the bottom of the "I", both of ANNAPOLIS. Hammers I and II will be 121/2 mm or just under, while Hammer III is 1134 mm and Hammer IV is only 1034 mm.

M32A HALIFAX & ANAPOLIS Ry/~M.C.~

Two Hammers, Type 4G

Hammer I

Proofed: February 25, 1881 Earliest: September 17, 188 Latest: October 24, 1881 Latest: October 24, 18 Indicia: EAST, WEST Usage: Brief and limited

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R.F.: 140 (40%)

Comments: We believe that M32A preceded M32 which, if correct, would indicate a life span for this run of only approximately two years and would also explain the difficulty in finding this strike. To date, we have only the two strikes reported above, and would welcome additional reports from other collectors.

Proofed: February 25, 1881 Earliest: January 19, 1882 Latest: July 13, 1882 Indicia: EAST, Blank Usage: Brief and limited R.F.: 140 (60%)

Comments: Struck at the same time as Hammer I, we should expect that these two hammers saw concurrent usage; however, so far, we can only report the consecutive use of Hammer II after that of Hammer I. Perhaps reports from our readers will clarify this point.

M32A Hammer Separation

- 1. Measure the chordal distance from the bottom of the left leg of the "H" to the bottom of the "F", both of HALIFAX. Hammer I measures 71/2 mm, while Hammer II measures only 7 mm. (The "H" of Hammer II is more narrow than that of Hammer I.)
- 2. Measure the chordal distance from the bottom of the left leg of the first "A" to the bottom of the left leg of the second "A" both of ANNAPOLIS. Hammer I measures 61/2 mm, while that of Hammer II is only 6 mm.
- 3. Measure the chordal distance from the bottom of the "P" of ANNAPOLIS to the bottom of the left leg of the "R" of RY. A distance of less than 10 mm proves Hammer I, while over 10 mm proves Hammer II.

For M33 and M34, we are most anxious to hear from any readers who may have copies of either or both of these runs. We have no copies; we have no record of any proof strikes of either run, which for the indicated periods is not to be expected. All of the want lists that we have from other collectors show M33 and M34 as wanted items. Shaw's book shows no original reported for either run. Do these runs exist? There is some reason for doubt, and we would welcome any information to the contrary.

M34A HX. B'WATER & YAR. R.P.O./.

One Hammer, Type 17 Proofed: July 11, 1946 Earliest: July 25, 1952

Latest: February 10, 1958 Indicia: 88 to 1955; 286 from 1957 Usage: To be advised; apparently continuous

R.F.: 150

even so, we expect the earliest above to be pre-dated. Undoubtedly, this was used to replace one of the early hammers of M35, probably I, III or IV. It is our understanding that M34B is a facing slip strike and as indicated before we do not report on such. M34C was reported by Steinhart from the proof books; however, this could not be

Comments: This modern RPO is difficult to find;

confirmed and no used copies have been reported.

M35 HX. BR. & YAR./R.P.O.

Six Hammers, Type 17H

Hammer I

Proofed: February 16, 1929 Earliest: August 23, 1933 Latest: April 30, 1945 Indicia: 86 to 1939; 88 from 1942 Usage: Apparently continuous R.F.: 50 (34.3%)

Comments: This hammer was indicated as Hammer I because we have a proof strike for it. Although Hammers II and III have earlier dates, proof strikes for them are unknown. Even so, we believe that the first four hammers were probably all issued right about the same time because of all issued right about the same time because of the extremely similar characteristics of all four. If this is true, the earliest above will most as-suredly be predated and we can expect the same for Hammers II, III and IV.

Proofed: Unknown, but probably the same as Hammer I

Earliest: August 4, 1931 Latest: February 28, 1961 Indicia: 85 to 1939; 87 from 1944 to 1952

285 from 1957 Usage: Apparently continuous R.F.: 50 (20.0%)

Comments: Please note that between Hammers I and II there is no overlap in indicia. We have 86 and 88 for Hammer I, and 85, 87, and 285 for Hammer II; apparently Hammer I was used on the east run and Hammer II on the west run. Surprisingly, we found no exceptions to this situation after the fact of having completed the identification. A similar situation exists for Hammers III and IV.

Hammer III

Proofed: Unknown, but probably the same as Hammer I

Earliest: November 3, 1932 Latest: February 15, 1952

Indicia: E—earliest above—one 86—1934-1937; 88—1941-1952 one only and rare

Usage: Apparently continuous, but spotty R.F.: 50 (20.0%)

Comments: Either a companion or counterpart hammer to Hammer I, both are known over the same period with the same indicia; probably there were two clerks on the same car on this popular run, thus necessitating the use of two hammers.

Proofed: Unknown, but probably the same as Hammer I

Hammer 1
Earliest: January 7, 1935
Latest: July 11, 1945
Indicia: 87—January, 1935—two only 85—1935-1939; 87—1942-1945
88—1941—one only—abnormal

Usage: Continuous but quite spotty R.F.: 50 (14.3%)

Comments: A companion hammer to Hammer II, but the only hammer to have Train 87 in the 1930s. The normal Trains 85 and 87 parallel Hammer II. This hammer was ordered destroyed on or about August 1, 1968. The indicia set at that time was 243/AP 29/67; why did no other example of this hammer show up in the intervening twenty-two years from the latest above? Perhaps our readers can report additional examples.

Hammer V

Proofed: June 1, 1950
Earliest: August 30, 1952
Latest: March 16, 1970
Indicia: 88 to 1954; 286 from 1956; 244—1970
Usage: To be advised

R.F.: 50 (5.7%)

Comments: We believe this hammer was issued to replace Hammer I of similar indicia charac-

teristics. It is easily recognizable; however, our representation in this late period is sporadic and we hope to hear more from other collectors.

Proofed: March 12, 1953 Earliest: October 8, 1955 Latest: February 20, 1967 Indicia: 286 to 1961; 244—1967 Usage: To be advised R.F.: 50 (5.7%)

Comments: This hammer was ordered destroyed on March 12, 1969; the indicia set at the time of deon March 12, 1969; the indicia set at the time of ustruction was April 28, 1967, about the same time as Hammer IV, Train 244. As with Hammer V, we lack material in this late period and would welcome additional reports.



R. J. Woolley, secretary, 1520 Bathurst Street, Apt. 206, Toronto





Enough small items have accumulated in my mail over the last few months to present in a column.

The most important is a new design submitted by Jack Brandt of Calgary, an enthusiastic member of the Perfins Club. This is again a Canadian stamp of the Admiral issue used by an American company with no identifiable postmark. "M & M" appears in the U.S. Perfin Club catalogue as having been used by Marsh & McLennon of New York City.

The other illustration (oversized) is also of a Canadian stamp perforated by a U.S. company. This was submitted by R. L. Mewhinney, the secretary of the Perfins Club and is on a mint copy of the 10c Library of the 1930-31 issue.

I have seen the stamp and it appears genuine in all respects but I still have doubts about it. Firstly because it is a mint copy and secondly because three cents would be the rate to be used for a return postage-paid envelope of the period. There are still many machines available in offices although they might not be in current use. Should any other collector have this design on a Canadian stamp I would be very pleased to hear about it.

I have three new new perforated precancels to report: one from Maurice Decarie of Montreal and two from William Symes of North Bay:

CW/C Hamilton 4.122 C33 Toronto 7.112a W3 WBR Toronto 10.113 C10a C/GE

A note from Mike Dicketts drew my attention to another erroneous illustration in the third edition of the handbook. Our S3, the Swift Canadian Company, is shown having 13 holes in the letter "S" whereas it should have, correctly, 14 holes. In trying to improve the illustrations for the second edition I inadvertently used an incomplete strike. A correction will be made if, as and when we publish a fourth edition.

New Listing

M&M D51/2-4-51/2 M25

Marsh & McLennon New York N.Y.

1912 RF100



Rounding Up Squared Circles

Dr. W. G. Moffatt, Hickory Hollow, RR-3, Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019

Dr. Chaplin reports RIVER LOUISON on Admiral issue, 19/MR 23/13; this date is identical with the late date listed in the Third Edition Handbook. In checking the date, I noticed Dr. Whitehead's comment that he had been unable to locate this little settlement when in the district, and thought the name must have been changed. A note sent off to Max Rosenthal quickly settled the matter; Max reports that the name RIVER LOUISON was changed to NASH CREEK in 1918.

Nels Pelletier sent me a photostat of BRANTFORD carrying the earliest date as listed in the Third Edition Handbook; the feature about this strike which surprised me is that it carries time mark '2': 2/JY 29/93. Nels also advises me that since his chronology of YORK STREET time marks (listed in column 129) was written, he has seen a clear strike of YORK STREET, 700/FE 9/00, a date for which

he also has time mark 6.30. The listing for time mark 700 thus should read: known from FE 9/00 to FE 20/00. Jack Gordon reports having YORK STREET, 6.30/FE 12/00 so the listing for time mark 6.30 should read: AP 2/96 to FE 12/00.

Bill Topping wrote me that according to Norm Gordy—who was postmaster at NANAIMO in 1958—the cut-down NANAIMO canceller had been used for many years on the overnight mail (AM or 7). Bill thinks the hammer was used on the 7 AM mail from about the turn of the century since there seems to be no record of PM since that time. Bill reports having many copies of this hammer with dates in the 30s, 40s and early 50s, and also having seen copies with dates for most of the periods earlier listed as not known. I think the conclusion must be that the cutdown hammer saw rather continuous duty from DE 30/96 through mid-1954.

DR. SEALE HOLMES - continued

maining pages forming a detailed, comprehensive catalogue. Although copyrighted in 1943 the work was not off the press until December, 1944, due to wartime production problems.

By 1945 a second printing appeared, this time in a dark blue cover. In 1950 Dr. Holmes received a Certificate of Merit from the London International Stamp Exhibition for this major work. The handbook section enjoyed particular popularity and in 1954 a reprint of only this portion of the 1943 edition was produced in the U.S. The red cover copy is on hand with several collectors and a green colored copy has been reported.

1949-68 period

Up to 1949 no edition number appeared in any of the catalogues and in 1949 we were confronted with a seventh edition. Referring to the catalogue schedule we will see six previous editions listed and earlier publications do exist. In any case by 1949 someone decided that the publications should have an edition number.

The series from 1949-68 are fairly similar in nature. These editions exhibit a departure from the 1943-45 format in that the formal handbook section has been deleted and the publications revert to a catalogue pattern. One must hasten to point out that the various catalogue sections become enriched through added material and by 1968 the publication must be considered a comprehensive reference book more than a catalogue.

The last two editions were published after Dr. Holmes' death in 1961. Price revisions and additional material were compiled by a group of BNA specialists; hence the original Holmes works were extended to even greater fulfillment for the benefit of present and future collectors.

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TOPICS: THE NEWSFRONT

The classic work on BNA philately continues to be Bogg's Canada, and thus it comes as great news to hear that Quarterman Publications Inc. of Boston has decided to reprint this fine work. We understand that a section has been added of notes gleaned from Bogg's own copy, containing slight revisions that had come to his attention after the original had been published. When a copy reaches us we will, of course, review it in these pages. Meanwhile the ad on page 225 gives further information.

SOME NEW PUBLICATIONS

1975 edition, Lyman's Canada-BNA Postage Stamp Retail Catalogue, 23rd edition, 64 pages, size 6 x 9 inches; \$1.25 from most Canadian dealers; publisher-editor, J. K. MacRory.

Unfortunately this edition seems to have missed the many Scott number-changes released last spring on the 1967 Definitive issue, but this perhaps is compensated by having some early issues listed with prices in "average" condition, an innovation this year. As always, there are vast amounts of price changes — 4,470 this time.

Publisher MacRory points out that last year's edition was sold out in record time and that this has the largest printing ever. Now faced with his second year of competition from the Canada Specialized catalogue, it is interesting to note MacRory's statement in a press release accompanying this edition: "The Canada catalogue listing the issues of interest to most collectors"a sign that would indicate he is happy to continue the Lyman in its present role as a less-specialized catalogue for the broader market. This seems reasonable and would suggest that there's a healthy market for both catalogues - Lyman's for average Canada collectors, and the Specialized for the more advanced ones.

-E.H.H.

Post Office Department NEW ISSUES





On August 28 a multicultural series stamp was issued paying tribute to the ethnic groups who first settled the prairies a century ago.

Canada's multicultural stamp series started with the Scottish Settlers issue on July 20, 1973. (On November 15 another stamp in the series will be issued honoring the Italian physicist Guglielmo Marconi.

This multicultural stamp, mainly in oranges and golds, gives the impression of a watercolor paintings, say Canada Post. The stamp was designed by Will Davies of Toronto, and was printed by Ashton-Potter Ltd.; outside measurements are 40 x 24 mm.

A total of 28 million were printed in four-color lithography. Marginal inscriptions, including the designer's name, appear on the four corners of each pane of 50 stamps available from the Philatelic Service.

Four additional 8c Olympic commemorative stamps in the "Keeping Fit" series

were issued on September 23.

The red-colored stamps, featuring four designs se-tenant on one sheet, depict Canadians participating in the winter sports of snowshoeing, skiing, skating and curling.

A total of 60 million stamps were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company Limited of Ottawa. They measure 36 x 30 mm from perf to perf.

The stamps were designed by Hunter Straker Templeton Limited of Toronto, who based the skiing, skating and snowshoeing stamps on photographs by Malak of Ottawa.

On October 9, an 8c and 15c stamp were issued to commemorate the centennial of the Universal Postal Union. The stamps, in purple, blue and red, feature the official emblem of the UPU and an engraving of the messenger god Mercury with two winged horses.

A total of 25 million 8c and 13 million 15c stamps, printed by the British American Bank Note Company of Ottawa, were issued.

Known as the General Postal Union when first established October 9, 1874, it became the Universal Postal Union in 1878, the year Canada became a member.

The stamps were designed by George Gundersen of Ottawa, and measure 40 x 24 mm including margins.

BNAPS: ELECTED OFFICERS

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TREASURER **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

Nine sitting; three elected each year for a three-year trm: 1972-1974; G. B. Llewellyn (chairman), C. R. McNeil, D. G. Rosenblat 1973-1975; Ed Richardson, Wilmer C. Rockett, S. S. Kenyon 1974-1976; James C. Lehr, E. H. Hausmann, Robert H. Pratt

From the Secretary

New Members

3186

3187

3188 3189

3190 3191

3192 3193

3194 3195 3196 3197

3198

Abel, Sebastian W., 4111 Dickson Court, Oakland, California 94605
Bowles, A. Bruce C., 13 McLaren Drive, Oromocto, New Brunswick E2V 1L6
Butler, D. E. M.D., 145 Lemarchant Road, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 2H3
Butler, Gordon, 23 Bond Street, St. John's, Newfoundland
Cosco, S. D., 16 Trevor Crescent, Blenheim, New Zealand
Hay, Ralph C., 421 Graham Street, Helena, Montana 59601
Levy, Michael L., c/o Woodward Stores Ltd., 101 W. Hastings St., Vancouver, British Columbia
Macdonald, Miss E. M., Box 364, Minnedosa, Manitoba R01 1E0
Madesker, M., 157 Clifton Avenue, Downsview, Ontario M3H 4L6
Marcotte, C., 1417 Fort, Montreal, Quebec H3H 2C2
Marrion, Herbert J., 885 Cunningham, Victoria, British Columbia V9A 4M7
McKinnon, Frank A., P.O. Box 308, Marysville, Washington 98270
Parama, Rick, Box 997, Spruce Grove, Alberta T0E 2C0
Patterson, Reginald A., R.R. No. 1, Petitcodiac, New Brunswick E0A 2H0
Shapiro, Dr. Bernard L., 1101 Merry Oaks, College Station, Texas 77840 3199 3200

Summerell, A. F., 2 Sandpiper Avenue, Manitouwadge, Ontario Tunnicliff, Sally S., 210—112th St., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Ward, E., 905 Chapman Blvd., Ottawa, Ontario K1G 1V1 Wyllie, Rev. W., 120 Mundy Pond Road, St. John's, Newfoundland A1E 1V1 3201 3202

3203

3204

Life Member

3185 Campbell, William D., 1 Beekman Place, New York, New York 10022

Applications Pending - "A" Group

Applications Pending — "A" Group

(Applications shall be pending in two successive issues of the magazine Beck, Leonard, P.O. Box 2644, Fullerton, California 92633
Chaffee, Col. Frederic H., 5615 Kirkside Drive, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015
Clough, Larry, P.O. Box 377, Gold Hill, Oregon 97525
Davidson, J. F., 525 Cathcart Street, W-7, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3R 0S6
Fishman, Adolph, 940 Oak Avenue, St. Lambert, Quebec J4P 1Z7
Howard, Charles C., P.O. Box 2163, Sunnyvale, California 94087
Kelsey, John E., 2810 North Wooded Lane, McHenry, Illinois 60050
Lawson, James A., 3385 Alder, Eugene, Oregon 97405
Major, Thomas M., P.O. Box 808, Columbus, Ohio 43216
Rascati, Wayne M., P.O. Box 717, Goleta, California 93017
Spurgeon, Walter C., 89 Rameau Drive, No. 1, Willowdale, Ontario M2H 1T6
Tanner, Dr. Aubrey C., 39 Donjek Road, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 3R1
Burpee, Thomas R., 315 Elm Avenue, Montreal, Quebec H3Z 1Z4
Drolet, Rene, 324 Price Est., Alma-Lac St. Jean, Quebec G8B 3Z1
Estus, Glenn A., Box 451, Westport, New York 12993
Halek, John, 602—15 Carlton, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1N8
Lindsay, Cameron A., 262 Brookside Terrace, Edmonton, Alberta T6H 4J6
Liptak, Andrew J., 7 Huron Street, Kapuskasing, Ontario P5N 2C1
Menzel, Mary Jane, 719 Sleepyvale, Houston, Texas 77018
Miller, Robert H., 915 Wallace Avenue, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania 17201
Millier, Bill, No. 2—1912 Grant Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V5L 2Y9
Noble, Graham J., 35 Kingsgrove Blvd., Toronto, Ontario
Novak, Larry M., No. 1560—1330 8th Street S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2R 1B6
Olson, George T. Jr., 4141—21st Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407
Schumann, Klaus, 12 Goldfinch Court, Willowdale, Ontario
Scrivener, Ian E., 106 Woodridge Crescent, No. 20, Ottawa, Ontario K2B 789
Wallbridge, Campbell L., 470 George St. S., No. 702, Peterborough, Ont. K9J 3E4 (Applications shall be pending in two successive issues of the magazine)

Application for Life Membership

Eckhardt, Walter, 187 Frankfurter Landst., D-61, Darmstadt-Arnheilgen, West Germany

Applications for Membership - "B" Group

Applications for Membership — "B" Group
Brahm, Harry C., 1468 Madison Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee 38104
Goldstein, E. M., 1545 Alta Vista Drive, No. 304B, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3P4
Holtz, Andrew G., 4512 Papineau Street, Montreal, Quebec
Jordan, Richard S., P.O. Box 16204, Wichita, Kansas 67216
O'Brian, Richard A., 2227—10th Avenue East, Seattle, Washington 98102
Peters, George M. Jr., P.O. Box 741, Audubon, New Jersey 08106
Russell, F. H., 103—6055 Balsam St., Vancouver, British Columbia V6M 4C2
Scarowsky, I., 6911 Darlington Avenue, No. 6, Montreal, Quebec H3S 2K2
Schlesinger, Robert, 1221 Lynn Terrace, Highland Park Illinois 60035
Tay, P. H., 6E Lion Towers, Essex Road, Singapore 1, Republic of Singapore
Trimmer, V. R., 8620 East Windsor Avenue, Scottsdale, Arizona 85257
Veith, Gordon S., P.O. Box 51011, New Orleans, Louisiana 70150
Witt, E. H. Jr., 3877 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22030
Woodward, Ted, 5249 H Street, San Bernardino, California 92407
Wright, William L., 2724 Doris Court, Carmichael, California 95608

Applications for Membership

(Objections must be filed with the Secretary within 30 days after month of publication)
(C—Collector D—Dealer DC—Dealer-Collector) (c—correspond x—exchange)
BABIN, Rene C., 1791 Avenue Bergemont, No. 4, Quebec, Que. GIJ 3T1 (C-cx) CAN—Small Queens No. 37 on cover. All cancellations on No. 37. SPECIALTY—Small Queens 1c, 2c and 3c. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203). Seconded by G. desRivieres (1077).
CHAPMAN, Paul M., Box 472, Downsview, Ont. (D-DC). Proposed by V. W. Carmichael (2941).
CIRELLI, Pasquale, 5231—37th Avenue S., Seattle, Wash. 98118 (C-x) CAN—Mint postage. Proposed by J. Levine. (L1).
CURRIE, Robert, 65 Sellier St., Auteuil, Laval, Que. H7H 1G1 (C-x) CAN—Mint postage and blocks. 1st Day and 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes and complete. Mint Airmails. Postal Stationery entires. Proposed by P. V. Long (2744). Seconded by D. Hollingshead (L2622).
DROZD, Victor B., Box 3925, Bryan, Texas 77801 (DC-c) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century used postage and blocks. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).
FEATHER, John, Stayner, Ont. L0M 150 (CDC) CAN, NFD, P.E.I., N.S., N.B.—19th century mint and used postage. Pre-stamp, 1st Day, 1st Flight covers, OHMS-G. Precancels. Federal and Provincial Revenues. Used Airmails and on cover. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).
FEKETE, Imre L., 140 Elmridge Drive, No. 1223, Toronto, Ont. M6B 1B1 (C-cx) CAN, NFD, PROV—20th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Precancels. Mint and used Airmails. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203). Seconded by S. V. Soanes (2531).
GORDON, D. J., 55 Wellington Woods, 252 Stone Road W., Guelph, Ont. N1G 2V7 (C-cx) CAN, NFD, N.S., N.B., P.E.I., B.C.—Mint and used postage. Pre-1900 covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Literature. Flag, 2 and 4-ring, Squared Circle and Duplex cancellations Proposed by G. E. Pond (2007).

(2007).

McELROY, Clell E. Jr., 4088 Wilson Lane, Concord, Calif. 94521 (C) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Mint Airmails. Postal Stationery entires. Literature. Plate varieties. SPECIALTY— PROV-19th and Mint booklet

20th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Mint Airmails. Postal Stationery entires. Literature. Plate varieties. SPECIALTY—Admirals. Proposed by D. Verity (2312).

Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes and complete. Precancels. Postal Stationery entires. Litera-RICHARDSON, John F., 2866 Salmo Court, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1N7 (c-x) CAN Mint postage. Plate Blocks. Coils. Mint booklet panes and complete. Pre-cancels. Postal stationery entires. Literature. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).

SESSIONS, David F., 56 Hoyle Court Rd., Baildon, Shipley, Yorkshire, Eng. (C-cx) CAN—19th and 20th century used postage. Flag cancellations. SPECIALTY—Maple Leaf, Numerals, Edward VII, Flag cancellations. Proposed by J. P. Macaskie (2794).

Changes of Address

Changes of Address

(Notice of change MUST BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY. Any other office causes delay)
Dahlquist, Dr. D. F., 9014 Kenilworth, Houston, Texas 77024
David, Franklin O., P.O. Box 159, Yardley, Pa. 19067
Dorman, Rev. Milton F., 1004 Manawagonish Road, St. John, N.B. E2M 3X3
Eisele, Herman, 2657 Noble Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121
Fisk, Arnold Roy, 25 Park Road, Flat B2, Hong Kong
Poley, Joseph E., Box 3073, Brick Church Station, East Orange, N.J. 07019
Gaylord, Sherwood B., Box 3453, Carien, Conn. 16820
Groton, Arthur H., M.D., 51 Alston Avenue, New Haven, Conn. 06515
Hewett, Capt. M. E., 763—7th Street East, Owen Sound, Ontario
Leitch, Richard, 10 St. Dennis Drive, No. 535, Don Mills, Ontario M3C 1E9
McGrath, John G., 4—13th Street West, Cornwall, Ontario K6J 3G3
Wiedemann, Peter J., Box 564, Cambridge, Galt, Ontario

2663 1155

3069

1191

3070 2584

579

2814 3176

2544 2934

2643

Deceased

334 Kessler, Alfred H., 1528 Simpson Avenue, Ocean City, N.J. 08226

Resignations Received

Blois, E. M., 79 Lacewood Drive, No. 302, Halifax, Nova Scotia 673 Emerson, Robert W., 825 East Broadway, South Boston, Mass. 02127 2595

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, August 1, 1974 NEW MEMBERS, September 1, 1974 | 1457 20 | 1477 |
|---|------------|------|
| DECEASED, September 1, 1974 | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, September 1, 1974 | - | 1476 |

Notes from the Librarian MICHAEL SQUIRREL

Lively, Ontario

I had heard about the formation of a Western Canada Postal History Society some months ago, but it had slipped my mind until Harold Wilding, of Winnipeg, sent me a copy of the first issue of Post West. I am very impressed with this first issue, which is of the same quality as Topics, and is jam-packed with many informative pieces of postal history that are of interest to every student. The first issue of 22 pages (no advertising) contains the following: Postal History of Manitoba and North West Territories, to 1882; Change-in-Postmaster lists; Post Offices in the District of Saskatchewan; Yukon Mail, 1898; and other articles.

This first issue was edited and published by one man, Del Allen, and I extend congratulations on a job well done. Members of the BNAPS who are interested in Western Canada postal history can obtain a copy for \$1.25, or join for one year at the \$6 membership rate; write to D. J. Allen, P.O. Box 5232, Station E, Edmonton, Alta. T5P 4C5, for application and include a self addressed stamped envelope.

I found a very informative article in the July issue of the APS Writers unit journal News Bulletin by Dr. Felix D. Bertalanffy of Winnipeg, titled "How To Organize A Postal History Article." I found that this would be a wonderful guide for those writing for the first time. I will send a copy of this article at no charge to BNAPS members, who send a SSAE with their request for the article.

BNAPSer Richard Malott of Ottawa has donated 12 items of semi-official, official and air mail history - covering Laurentide Air Service and a host of other early aviation events.



JOHN F. AYRE

A Newfoundlander who saw those men go off in their flying machines

John F. Ayre No. 177

Here's a BNAPSer who must surely be the envy of five decades of youngsters who have read about those historic trans-Atlantic flights taking off from Newfoundland: John Ayre has lived in Newfoundland all his life and when he was but a lad his grandfather took him to the nearby Pleasantville area to watch the attempts of the Martinsyde "Raymor" aircraft taking off, with pilot F. P. Raynham and navigator C. W. F. Morgan.

John's grandfather was quite actively involved with experimental air flights over the next decade; as a leading merchant in St. John's, he was anxious to further any form of transportation that would speed the mails in the island. And grandfather was no doubt instrumental in young John's having acquired virtually all the early Newfoundland classic air covers and stamps.

But as time went forward, and John was taken into the family department store to work his way up from the bottom rung, his stamp collecting interests changed. By the time of the depression, John had decided to sell his Newfoundland airmail collection—which he did, for a mere song.

After World War II John revived his interest in stamps and set about to buy those rarities he had once sold — except that by then they were not available any longer, for a mere song, as he found out.

His main interest in collecting has been the British West Indies, and his collection of these is one of the finest. But John is now working on a Canadian collection, and won a silver medal for it at the BNAPEX exhibition last September at Williamsburg.

John is now semi-retired, having worked his way up through the ranks in the family business to chairman of the board. And being Johnny-on-the-Spot, he was Bob Pratt's chief contact in the province when Bob arranged the highly-successful show there in 1972.

-E.H.H.

...and some doodles by The Editor

As I write this it is only three days since Jack Levine died, of complications following an operation—only three weeks after the Williamsburg convention he organized. A formal tribute will appear in the next issue.

Jack was much more than the secretary of this society for Lord knows how many years; he was, as he liked to put it, "the Daddy of BNAPS"—the founding father, the creator of the whole thing—back in 1943.

He was proud of his unique role, and for 31 years, in one capacity or another, he worked hard to keep BNAPS running smoothly. And much more: BNAPS was his creation, and over those years he nursed it, helped it grow up, watched it fondly, scolding when necessary, and he led it through difficult times and good times—like a loving, very concerned parent.

BNAPS was an important part of his life, and I think he got almost as much pleasure out of it as the help and countless hours he put into it. I hope so. But BNAPS will never be quite the same without him.

Our condolences go out to his good wife, Buddy.

MAIL FROM OUR MEMBERS



Flag cancellations

I recently received a copy of Mr. Richardson's new book "The Canadian Flag Cancellation Handbook 1896-1973" and was interested in his comments on Type 24, Renfrew, pages 42 and 43.

The enclosed photocopy shows Type 24, Renfrew, dated September 22, 1917, four days later than the last noted date of issue. While this is documentation of usage, it was, in this example, used as a transit back stamp.

- R. P. Stokes

That article — again!

I have read several times a letter from R. H. Pratt, published in the April issue of *Topics* and after several months of thought, it still bothers me.

I do not argue with the message the writer is attempting to get across, that the articles should be factual and that the editorial board should exercise care in the choice of material.

The bluntness and use of expletives, however, in Mr. Pratt's letter is enough to discourage contributions to *Topics*. The letter itself is most informative and I hope we will hear from Mr. Pratt's fund of knowledge, but please — not in anger!

- Douglas Murray

. . . and a word from the ed

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Murray perhaps does not realize that the article in question, on Labrador's postal history, was not written by a BNAPS member, as is the case with most articles that appear on these pages. Instead the article was reprinted from an old issue of Linn's Stamp News which we inherited when we took over this job, along with many other "filler" items. The writer of the article wrote with seeming authority, and being short of time and long on space, we simply ran it without checking.

In fact, few articles are checked by the editorial board or by anyone else, except the editor. Such thorough checking might be possible only (a) if a full-time editor were available; (b) if the ultimate experts in each field of BNA philately had plenty of free time to devote to checking submissions (assuming an editorial board could agree on who the experts would be in the first place); and (c) if there were so many submissions available at all times that some could be set in type after having been approved while scores of other articles, for later issues, could be going through the mails, back and forth across the continent, getting approval. Such checking is a luxury that only a handful of scientific magazines can afford.

Happily, most articles we receive have been well-researched and can be run as they are written. When errors do occur they can be corrected in later issues. When there's a difference of opinion, the other view or views can form other articles afterwards.

This may not be the ideal way of doing things, but it's the only practical one. Contrary to the wishes of many members, this is not a scientific journal. Nor, in fact, is stamp collecting a science. It's a hobby—and one that is sometimes taken too seriously.

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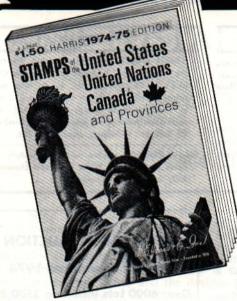
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Canadians and can be as interesting to collectors as any commemorative postage stamp. However, revenues are far harder to get than regular postage stamps for they are stocked by only a few dealers and it appears that only the breaking up of collections will result in new varieties of these stamps on the open market. As yet, it is very difficult to speculate on the value of tobacco stamps as no definite market seems (continued on page 227)

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to exist for these stamps amongst collectors. Perhaps philatelists will take more of an interest in tobacco stamps now that the government issues will end this year.

All manufacturers of tobacco products in Canada will have the opportunity of designing their own excise stamps within certain basic departmental requirements, for affixing to their products consistent with their respective packaging techniques. The stamp may take the form of a paper stamp or a tear tape encircling the package.

First issues of the newly designed stamps have appeared on tobacco packages shortly

after August 19. However, manufacturers will be allowed to use up their present stock of government issued stamps after that date and then start to use their own issues.

All new stamps must bear the inscription, "Canada", "Duty Paid", and the description of the contents in both official languages and must show the weight of the tobacco or the number of cigars or cigarettes in the package. Manufacturers will be able to choose the color, size, and basic configuration of the stamps to be used on their products, subject to departmental approval.

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Generalizations are dangerous but in philately it is normal for rare stamps to find their way back to the country of origin.

It must be stressed that this is a long-term trend. A major exception to it is the stamps of underdeveloped and poorer countries, where the home market lacks sophistication and buying power.

The long-term trend is frequently upset by wars, depressions and other abnormal circumstances. The German market was unable to compete for rare old German States after the last war, and for a few years such stamps were dispersed in the markets of Paris, London, New York, Zurich and other centres of demand. Since the mid-fifties many of these stamps are again residing in German collections.

At the present time the trend of repatriation of British North American stamps is somewhat interrupted. It is rather complacent to blame this situation on currency differentials. As a Canadian I feel entitled to assign much of the reason for it to lack of appreciation and courage on the part of Canadian buyers. Competitive foreign buyers of old Canadian stamps often win out by discarding arbitrary yardsticks of price when purchasing.

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