The CANADIAN PHILATELIST

Canada Constant Plate Varieties

by Haas Reiche

The "States" Issue of Venezuela

by Louis Lamouroux

Official Organ of the Canadian Philatelic Society

VOL. 5, No. 2 FEBRUARY, 1954

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CALIFORNIA

On March 10th, I am starting a trip across the United States and will return via Canada. My schedule is as follows:

San Diego, California	March 23rd-25th	Vancouver, Victoria	April 10th-18th
Los Angeles	March 25th-30th	Edmonton, Alta.	April 19th
San Francisco-Oakland	March 31st-April 5th	Calgary, Alta.	April 21st-22nd
Portland, Oregan	April 6th-8th	Regina, Sask.	April 23rd-24th
Seattle, Wash.	April 9th	Winnipeg, Man.	April 25th-27th

Should you have any philateic property you wish to dispose of please write to me here as soon as possible so that an appointment may be arranged in your city. Otherwise I will be glad to hear of any special wants and try to find the material you need if I do not already have it. I specialize in classic issues of all countries, proofs, essays, covers, early multiples, etc. I also buy and sell philatelic literature.

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would particularly like to draw your attention to two paragraphs in this number of THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST, one relating to material that Chapter No. 1, Brantford Stamp Club, is interested in, and the other to material required by Chapter No. 13, Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society, for the Convention in April.

I would also like to point out a new feature, which may interest a large number of our members, the new Classified Ads. section. These may enable you to find just that elusive material you have been looking for for so long.

There are still a few important Clubs in Canada that have not yet applied for Chapter membership. It is strange that we seem to have no clubs in the Halifax, Winnipeg and Vancouver districts. The CPS is the natural link between fellow collectors from one end of Canada to the other and the best way of joining up with your fellow philatelists is to become a Chapter of the Society. We still have on hand a few of the very fine Plaques which have been presented to our Chapters and nothing would please us more than to award one to your club if it is not already a Chapter.

I hope a goodly number of our members are now working on their Exhibit for the Kitchener Exhibition, which we want to be outstanding in every way and worthy of our National Society.

Don't forget, articles and advertising will be more than welcome in the months to come, so please do YOUR part.

* * *

Je tiens surtout à vous signaler, dans ce numéro de notre revue, deux entrefilets. L'un traite de matériel dont notre section no 1, Brantford Stamp Club, aurait besoin, et l'autre de choses qui seront indispensables à notre section no 13, Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Sciety, pour le congrès qui y aura lieu au mois d'avril.

Je tiens à vous signaler, également un nouvel avantage de la revue, les petites announces, qui ne manqueront certainement pas d'interesser nombre de nos lecteurs et de leur permettre de trouver ce matériel qu'ils recherchent depuis si longtemps.

Il reste encore quelques importantes sociétés philatéliques du Canada qui n'ont pas encore demandé à être admises en qualiteé de section régionale. Il est curieux de constater que nous n'avons aucune société à Halifax, à Vancouver et à Winnipeg. La C.P.S. est le chaînon naturel qui unit les philatélistes canadiens d'un bout à l'autre du pays et le meilleur moyen de vous rénuir àvos confrères du monde philatélique est de devenir une section régionale de la société. Nous avons encore quelques unes de ces jolis plaquette que nous avons présentees à chacune de nos sections régionales et rien ne nous ferait plus grand plaisir que d'en présenter une à votre société si elle n'est pas encore devenue section régionale.

J'espère que nombre de nos membres sont d'ores et déjà en train de travailler au matériel qu'ils vont envoyer à l'exposition de Kitchener, exposition que nous tenons à être digne de notre société nationale.

Et ne perdez pas de vue articles et annonces. Les deux seront plus que bienvenus au cours des mois à venir. Veuillez donc faire VOTRE part sans faute.

L. M. LAMOUROUX,
President.

CANADA CONSTANT PLATE VARIETIES

By Hans Reiche

Speaking of constant plate varieties in Canadian stamps collectors often think of the small dots and splashes, double perforations and folded papers which occur frequently on stamps. Varieties like these may be found once in the entire issue of a particular stamp and may never happen again. They are caused by foreign matter falling on to the printing sheet, flaws in the printing paper, insufficient wiping of the plate before printing and many other not controlable factors. Varieties of this sort can only be termed oddities and it is often these oddities confuse and discourage the collector in his attempt to specialize, since they do not have any market, extra value or interest to the great majority of specialized collectors.

Encouraged by the large response to my first attempt to publish a listing of known constant plate varieties, I am now preparing my second edition, enlarged and with photos of varieties. Having received many letters from collectors in possession of my little book I noted that the term "constant plate varieties" is not fully understood by all.

A constant plate variety can either be caused by a flaw on the printing plate or on the die from which the plate is made. A damage to the plate or even the transfer roll may result in such a constant plate variety. This means that a constant plate variety on a stamp must occur in similar condition on each printed sheet or pane or whatever subject is being considered. A constant variety can therefore be tied down to a particular position in the sheet if enough information is available, and certainly more than one copy must be found. The variety may not appear on all printed sheets due to a repair done on the plate, such as in the case of the major re-entry on Scott No. 162 and 163 or the missing dots in the OHMS stamps. Wear of the plate may sometimes cause slight changes in the configuration of a constant plate variety. Such is the case in the well-known tear drop on Scott No. 211 showing a number of minor variations in the shape of the tear. A forgery of this stamp exists but by comparison with the original can be detected. A common variety are certain guide dots and guide lines which have not been burnished off before printing and are not covered by the design. These varieties are valuable information to anyone attempting to plate a stamp. It is impossible to mention here all types of constant varieties but regardless of the extent of the variety it should find recognition and be collected if constant. The value of a constant plate variety is based on the scarcity regardless whether a five cents beaver or a Red Cross stamp variety.

Much information would have been still uncovered were it not for the students of constant plate varieties. The field of constant plate varieties is one of the most fascinating subjects for any collector or specialist.

BIG U.S. CATALOG



FREE! Just published by world's largest stamp firm. Hundreds of illustrations. Lists United States postage stamps complete; big values in packets; amazing clearance sale bargains; complete stamp kits; special offers; valuable information; etc. Approvals included. HARRICO, 17 Transit, Boston 17, Mass.

CANADIAN NEWS

By

U. KNOHU

Since the first of the year a fair quantity of blocks of four or larger of the 50c Textile and $ Totem in used condition, have begun to appear on the market. These are, for the most part, from controlled mail, usually from bank sources. The registered cancelation is carefully placed to one side and black town postmarks are used on the actual stamps. At this date they can be obtained for very reasonable prices. The "G" official overprints of these two stamps are very slow in coming through in used condition. The used "G" Totem stamps I have seen are from Ottawa where again controlled mail is employed between offices in several cities of the same government department. This particular source sells the stamps at below face value but a number of dealers are selling these officials cancelled in singles and even in plate number blocks (which are seldom, if ever, used as such by the government departments) at well over face value. It is quite evident that they have an oblidging local postal clerk who will cancel to order I am curious to know if the parties are aware that official Canadian stamps are sold to philatelists strickly on the understanding that they are not to be used for postage and further whether the post office clerk is aware of the law and penalty for infringing same when official stamps are illegally cancelled?

The recent prices both asked and obtained, especially by English dealers, for the missing "G" of the 10c Fur official stamp, along with the newer and larger listings of the perforated "O.H.M.S." official Canadian stamps in several recent catalogues prompts me to make some comments. I am fully aware that a number of philatelists, have in the past, decided to review this question of official stamps but have had it "suggested" that it might destroy the collector's confidence in Canadian officials. Be that as it may, I believe that philatelists are entitled to the facts and then can judge accordingly. First of all the earlier 5-hole perforated 'O.H.M.S.' later followed by the 4-hole perforation. One only needs to look at the catalogue prices of some of these, particularly in used condition, (e.g. 1939 Royal Visit 5-hole and S. Delivery 1947 - 17c corrected 4-hole) to wonder why the forger bothers to print entire stamps of other countries. With a hypodermic needle of the correct gauge and the inner edge carefully sharpened and a genuine stamp with corner cancellation (preferably Ottawa) along with a genuine official stamp as a pattern, a 5 or 4-hole perfed "O.H.M.S." can be forged that will defy detection even under the binocular microscope. Several other facts come to the aid of the forger of these "perfs." The pin perforating machines in Ottawa used in this work were not always kept in repair, so the pins may be out of line, of slightly different diameter (thicker for the new pins) or entirely missing even in the genuine perforated official stamps. Also these were often perfed on demand as called for by the volume of mail and any number of different people might be sent to a machine from time to time, including the office boy, to do the job. Further the post office department does not have any record of either the number of stamps of a value nor of the different issues of stamps that were perforated "O.H.M.S." so that "new discoveries" of these official stamps are still possible! Some time ago inOttawa I saw a First Day of Issue of the 1939 Royal Visit set on cover but the stamps were perforated "O.H.M.S." These were genuine and rumour has it that these were arranged and sent by a senior post office official of that time to a friend. Their numbers are known and they obtain a

generous price on the market. However, I have since seen two other First Day covers of the same official set which had originally been first days of the ordinary stamps. These had been skillfully removed, perforated and regummed to the cover so that even the postmarks matched perfectly under the magnifying glass. This indicates that official perforated stamps, even on piece or cover, do not necessarily have to be genuine.

As far as the overprinted "O.H.M.S." and "G" stamps are concerned all I can say is that the black ink used is an ordinary variety and some I have obtained from a local printer match both to the naked eye and under the fluorescent lamp. The type used, I am told by professional printers, is not difficult to obtain and especially as the thickness of the letters vary even in the genuine overprinted stamps due to careless wiping and excess ink on the plate. Added to this is the fact that the correct plate number and position of the ordinary 10c Fur stamp on which the missing "G" occurs, can still be obtained at many local post offices plus the low cost of the Plate Number Blocks of the correct position of the $ Ferry and 50c Lumbering stamps as compared to the "O.H.M.S." overprint prices, not to speak of the missing dot variety, makes it truly an amazing situation for collectors of Canadian official stamps.

There has now been added to the stocks of the Philatelic Section stamps of the current issue H.M. Queen Elizabeth design printed from plate No. 3 of the 1c and plate No. 6 of the 2c plain. No additional plates have appeared of stamps overprinted "G" and none are expected for many months.

—o—

We regret the following omission from the Year Book listing: #4204—W. S. MacNutt, 736 King St., Fredericton, N.B.

OMISSION

Through some inexplicable error along the line, the meeting dates of Chapter No. 19, South Shore Stamp Club, were omitted in the Year Book. These should be **2nd and 4th Tuesdays.** Kindly insert these days in the proper place and thus keep your Year Book up to date. Our apologies to the South Shore for this quite unintentional omission.

—o—

REGINA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Congratulations are in order to Jack Canham, one of our hardest working and most enthusiastic members, who was elected President of our Society at our Annual Meeting in December. Others elected were, Vice President, Geo. Blow, Secy. Treas., Ron Doxee. The Executive Committee consists of Messrs. Lux, Burton, McCutcheon, Hansinger and Gray. Librarian and Publicity, Chas. Crowe, Auctioneer, Jas. Dicjenson. Sales Committee — Messrs. Blow, Nicholl and Zikman.

Plan now to attend our first 1954 Dinner and Auction, Feb. 3rd at our regular meeting place in the Y. Tickets at $1.25 may be obtained at any Sunday meeting. Bring your wife or girl friend and make this night a huge success. Mr. Fred Bard, Curator of the Provincial Museum will be our speaker, and the Auction, Entertainment, etc. will make this a night you will not want to miss.

—o—

"From the Sales Department"

The sales continue very brisk and we have pleasure in recording a new high in Sales history for the C.P.S. The month of December 1953 resulted in total sales of $1500.00. The demand for Canada is still heavy and we urgently ask members to loosen up and submit some of that material you are probably hoarding. Let us help the other fellows to improve his collection.

C. Woodhead,
Sales Manager.

THE COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The first meeting of 1954 was held on Jan. 6 with the new executive taking over. President, A. C. Jenkins; vice - president, Rozell Smith; sec.-treasurer, Jack Harrison; C.P.S. sec., John Millen.

The members are divided as to whether to meet in homes as we have been doing or to find a room we could meet in once a month. We have had lots of local comments, but are there any outside comments that would help us. This problem must be cleared up soon.

Some members gave a short talk on some new item of interest. Thurlow Fraser showed O.H.M.S. perforation varieties and some precancels (Queen). Rozell Smith—Bermuda overprint. Big 3 Conference. Vic Rogers—Canadian paper varieties (laid paper). John Millen —India issue — Mount Everest Commemorative (John follows the fortunes of mountain climbers.) Allan Jenkins—Thematic collection, butterflies. Allan hopes to have a mounted speciman of the butterfly depicted on the stamps in the very near future. An auction and C.P.S. approvals finished the evening.

—o—

SOUTH SHORE STAMP CLUB

The South Shore Stamp Club at St. Lambert held two auctions for the benefit of the Westminster Abbey Appeal and raised a total of $70 for the fund. Mr. H. C. Kingsley Organ acted as auctioneer. The South Shore Stamp Club which is C.P.S. Chapter No. 19, meets at the St. Lambert City Hall at 8 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. It also sponsors an active Junior Club.

AN APPEAL FROM BRANFORD

During the 15th Anniversary celebrations of the Brantford Stamp Club, Chapter No. 1, a series of coloured slides were shown, illustrating some facets of the Postal History of Brantford and Brant County.

However, many gaps were noticeable and it was suggested that an appeal to the membership of the Canadian Philatelic Society for any kind of material, covers, stamps, cancellations, documents, etc., referring to Brantford or Brant County, might bring some interesting results.

May I therefore appeal to all our members from Coast to Coast to look through their material for anything pertaining to Brantford or Brant County, and to loan it to the Brantford Stamp Club, who will have coloured slides made thereof if suitable.

Any material lent **will not be marred or marked in any way** and will be returned by Registered Mail within a few days of receipt.

Incidentally, this might be a good idea for all our Chapters from one end of Canada to the other. Local postal history is a very fascinating subject and fully deserves to be recorded at this stage when so much material is available, for the benefit of posterity. Just imagine, for example, what some of our Quebec members, endowed with the necessary patience, could get together by making photographic slides of postal history material of the French regime!

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26 ANNUAL CONVENTION CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

WALPER HOUSE, KITCHENER, ONT., APRIL 22-23-24 1954

EXHIBITION CLASSES

Class 1	Section A.	B.N.A. 19 Century.
	Section B.	B.N.A. 20 Century.
Class 2	Section A.	Great Britain.
	Section B.	Commonwealth.
Class 3	Section A.	United States.
	Section B.	Europe.
	Section C.	Foreign Countries of Asia, the Americas and Africa.
Class 4	Section A.	Covers 19 Century.
	Section B.	Covers 20 Century.
Class 5		Topical.
Class 6		Interclub.

Positive final date for acceptance of entries **March 5th, 1954.**

Positive final date and time for receiving exhibits April 22nd, 1954, Thursday, 1 p.m., Exhibition Hall.

Entries and Exhibits mailed to:
Wm. (Bill) Erbach, 140 Blucher St., Kitchener, Ont.

Exhibition Rules and Regulations.

1. Eighteen (18) album sheets constitute an entry.
   Should you have three (3) frames 24 x 30 inches already mounted with six (6) album sheets each this will be glady accepted.
2. No member can enter more than one entry per class.
3. Every entry must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor.
4. Class must be named specifically by the exhibitor.
5. The Kitchener and Waterloo Philatelic Society or the Canadian Philatelic Society will in no way be held responsible for loss or damage to exhibits.
6. The club or interclub exhibit must be of one particular subject, (covers, a particular issue, a study of a particular stamp, a single "theme", etc.) and be the result of the composite efforts of at least three (3) members of the club, excluding the work and effort expanded in the mounting and write-up and shall represent what a club is capable of doing rather than a single member. The assurance of the President or the Secretary of the club as to the exhibit being the result of the combined efforts of at least three members would necessitate one or both signatures on the entry form.
7. Judging Rules:

1.	Philatelic Knowledge	30%
2.	Write-up	20%
3.	Arrangement and Neatness	30%
4.	Completeness	20%
	Total in points	100%

A COLUMBIA FIND?

The writer has the advantage of receiving stamps from his office, which has a heavy mail from Colombia, on which large quantities of C112 and C120, type AP12, have been used. These two stamps are, as stated in the Catalogue, overprinted with a small "A" or "L", as the case may be, in the lower right hand corner.

Recently, a fellow collector pointed out to the writer that he had a copy of this stamp, 5 pesos orange and black, without either an "A" or an "L" overprint. A check-up of the writer's stock brought to light two further copies. Unfortunately, neither of these three copies is dated.

The question arises: Is this accidental or a new issue? As no new issue of this type has been chronicled for some time, it would seem that the absence of the "A" or "L" is accidental, and the question then arises: How many stamps or sheets have appeared without the overprint? Can any of our readers put us wise?

It is also interesting to note in connection with this set, that the 60c. gray, No. C115, has also appeared with the small "A" plumb in the centre of the stamp, instead of in the lower right hand corner.

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Canada. Notes on the 1911-1925 Series—George C. Marler

Canada's Major and Minor Varieties. From 1897 up.—Hans Reiche—1951

Cancellations of the Third Reich, 1933-1945—James N. Holt—1953

Great Britain. Monarchs of All They Surveyed (2nd Copy)—J. T. Foxwell and A. O. Spafford, O.B.E.—1952

Great Britain. Penny Red Brown. Die II. Alphabet III—H. W. Eddison, M.A., M.D.

Finnsen of the R.N.A.F.—1945

New Approach to Stamp Collecting—Michael Harrison and Douglas Armstrong—1953

Stamp Collecting. The Essentials of. Stamp Gossip—1952

Subject Matter of Philately. Supplement No. 3—Phebe Booth—1951

SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED: For a book that is worthy of consideration by all collectors, read "A New Approach to Stamp Collecting". To the student of Early Postal History "Monarchs of All They Surveyed" is well worth while.

HERBERT BUCKLAND,
Librarian.







The Realm of Stamps

By Montor

The visit of Her Majesty to Australia might well revive interest in some of the beautiful classical stamps of the Australian States. The early issues of Queensland and South Australia bearing the portrait of Queen Victoria are particularly pleasing in design and rich in colour. Admittedly the stamps of the Australian States are not popular but collectors looking for another country might do well to form a collection of these attractive stamps. In superb well centred condition they are by no means plentiful and these issues offer plenty of scope for specialization and many interesting cancellations can be found. The Swans of Western Australia are also attractive. Here again stamps or great richness in colour are to be found and a collection of these stamps would be a joy to any true philatelist.

On February 2 three Royal Visit Stamps were issued by Australia to commemorate the visit of Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. The 3½d rose-scarlet and the 2/-.deep green are of the same design portraying both the Queen and the Duke and the 7½d. purple bears a half-length portrait of Her Majesty. A special slogan cancellation, reading "Australia Celebrates 1954 Royal Visit" will be used at the General Post Offices in the capital cities of all the States and at Canberra, Newcastle and Launceston until April 1.

The Crown Agents have announced the following new issues were placed on sale on February 1. Equivalent values of the previous sets were withdrawn from sale at the close of business on January 30. FIJI; the 2d,1/-. and 2/6 stamps with Royal Portrait changed. FALKLAND ISLAND DEPENDENCIES; new definite issue of 15 values from ½d. to £1. SEYCHELLES, **change of Royal Portrait set of 15 values from 2 cents to Rs. 10.**

The Crown Agents have also announced that 30 cents stamps have been ordered for the MALAYAN STATES of Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Malacca, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Penang, Perak, Perlis, Selangor and Trengganu. The design and color will be the same as the current 35 cents in each case. The Malacca and Penang stamps will bear a portrait of Her Majesty. A ½ cent brown stamp is being added to the new issue for the LEEWARD ISLANDS. The design will be the same as the remaining lower values. Two values of stamp booklets have been ordered for NYASALAND containing the following current stamps. A 2/6 book containing 4 x ½d., 4 x 1d., and 12 x 2d. and a 5/-. book containing 8 x ½d., 8 x 1d., 12 x 2d. and 4 x 6d.

Since we went to Press with our January issue the Crown Agents have announced that the 4 and 8 cents stamps of DOMINICA with

Royal Portrait changed were not released for sale on January 15. It is understood that the date of release of these two values is being deferred until later in the year.

On February 6, NAURU issued a new set of nine values from ½d. to 5/-., each stamp depicting a different scene or subject from this Pacific island.

Among interesting new issues last month were the local stamps issued by the Island of Herm near Guernsey in the Channel Islands and the Jubilee and ordinary issues for Lundy Island which lies off the cost of Devonshire in the Bristol Channel and which first issued stamps twenty five years ago. The set for HERM comprises five values and the Lundy sets consist of a Jubilee issue of seven postage and six air mail stamps and an ordinary set of airmail stamps of the same designs as the Jubilee set but with the dates omitted.

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C.P.S. CONVENTION

With this number of THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST go an entry form for the Exhibition in Kitchener and a book of draw tickets.

There is no need to insist upon the importance of these two items. The one will ensure an Exhibition worthy of our National Society. The other will ensure that the Kitchener Club, our Chapter No. 13, will not fall down by the wayside financially as a result of our Annual Convention.

We ask each and every one of our members from Coast to Coast, to do his utmost to support our Kitchener friends and thus ensure a successful Convention and Exhibition.

And also to do his utmost to be present on at least one of the three days of the Convention, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 22, 23 and 24th April next. Bill Erbach, 140 Blucher St., Kitchener, Ont., is handling the reservations. Make sure of yours RIGHT NOW.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

May I congratulate you on the great improvement in the January issue of the "Canadian Philatelist". Especially interesting was the column "Canadian News". It really contains news and is of great interest to all collectors of modern Canada.

May I also make a suggestion. I noticed the illustration of the very attractive cancellation used at the recent convention of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain in Glasgow. Could not the Postmaster General be persuaded to authorize a similar cancellation for the Society's annual conventions?

I understand that the British Post Office only authorizes these commemorative cancellations for special occasions and not for local shows as has bee nthe rule here in Canada.

It is our experience at Westmount that Mr. Cote has always shown his personal interest in stamp collecting and I am sure that he would give such a suggestion his sympathetic consideration. Surely the conventions of the C.P.S.—Canada's national philaelic society—merit treatment on a different basis to purely local exhibitions.

If it could also be arranged that a new issue could be made to coincide with the Convention, as was done in New York at the A.S.D.A. show in November, then indeed would we be getting the same measure of co-operation that is shown to Philately by the Post Office Departments in London and Washington.

Yours sincerely,

REG. HALDIMAND,
President,
Westmount Stamp Club.

LIST OF PRIZE MATERIAL FOR C.P.S. ANNUAL CONVENTION IN KITCHENER APR. 22-23-24

Canada	Cash Price	Catalogue Value
1. Quebec Tercentenary, 96-103, mint		$20.00
2. Queen Victoria Jubilee, 1897, 50-61, mint		47.00
3. 1930 Airmail, 5c, C2, mint		3.00
4. Plate Block, 50c Lumbering, 272, mint		4.00
5. Plate Block, $1.00 Totem Pole, mint		7.20
6. Booklet Panes, 1942—3c red, #251, and 1c green, #104, mint, Sisson's price	$2.35	
7. Booklet Panes, 1942—3c purple, 4c red, 7c blue, 252, 253, C9, Sisson's price	2.00	
8. New Brunswick, #1, used, imperf.		20.00
9. Newfoundland, imperf., #1, mint (no gum)		10.00
10. Jamaica, £ mint, A53		5.60
11. Great Britain, £ mint, A123		5.60
12. New Hebrides, Franco-British Alliance, 1947, 5 cent to 5 francs		7.00
13. Mocambique Butterflies (20 stamps) $ .10 to $20.00		
14. U.S.A. Famous American Set, mint, 35 stamps		10.00
15. U.S.A. Cover, pair, imperf., #531		4.00
16. U.S.A. Cover, pair, #550, not cancelled (NG)		8.00
17. U.S.A. Cover, #616		2.50
18. U.S.A. Cover, #C4		1.25
19. U.S.A. First Day Cover, 649 and 650		1.00
20. Falkland Island Overprints, Graham Land, South Georgia; South Orkneys, South Shetlands		
21. Newfoundland Cover, #C7, Airmail, green		4.50
22. New Zealand, 258-279		2.25
23. New Zealand, Health, B28-41 inc.		1.70
24. Princess Elizabeth stamps prior to Coronation	9.00	
25. Canada, 17c blue, #19		12.50
26. Ascension Set, Geo. VI., 1934, #23 to 32		13.15

There will be numerous other items added to this list before April 24th.

MEMBERS NOTICE

1954-1955 Board of Directors

Please note according to the C.P.S. Constitution, we hereby give notice that nomination for 12 Directors may be sent to the Secretary not later than March 1st, 1954.

All nominations must have the assent of the member nominated and must be duly seconded.

Signed:
FRED GREEN,
Secretary C.P.S.

NOTE

On and after Feb. 13th, 1954, please change address for

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Juniors at 7 p.m.
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VISITORS WELCOME

THE SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB

The Saint John Stamp Club reorganized for the current year with the following executive officers being elected and installed at the Annual Meeting held Tuesday evening, January 19th, 1954: Mr. H. R. S. McLaughlin, president; Mr. H. M. Nevers, vice-president; Mr. C. H. Magee, corresponding secretary and treasurer; Mr. John Clark, recording secretary. Directors for the current year are Stanley S. Atherton, Miss E. Barbara Clark and Mr. R. M. Richardson. Two new members were welcomed and introduced by the new president. The treasurer reported that, during its 22 years of existence, the club currently had an all-time high in total membership.

Mr. C. A. Hewitt was the winner in a draw for a copy of the combined edition of Scott's 1954 Catalogue. Also discussed were plans for a convention of Maritime philatelists to be held the latter part of next April, with possibly the Saint John Club acting as hosts.

Canada Plate-Blocks

BUYER: I am interested in buying almost anything in plate blocks, and especially interested in good lots prior to 1946. Send what you have with your price, or for my offer.

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BUY AND USE EASTER SEALS

Canada goes into its Eighth Easter Seal Appeal. This is the fund raising medium for services to crippled children through which eight Provinces throughout the Dominion provide a substantial proportion of funds necessary to promote the welfare of the crippled child.

This year the Seal depicts a boy discarding his crutches on a superimposed background of the stylized lily, which has been adopted as the identifying symbol of Canada's National Easter Seal. The Seal is very attractive; the figure being in blue with yellow background.

They are available to collectors in singles, blocks, sheets, perf. and imperf., English and Bilingual, as well as colour proofs.

Orders for these Seals, or requests for information or complete price list should be directed to:—

The Canadian Council for Crippled Children,
52 St. Clair Avenue East,
Toronto 7, Ontario.

SOME CONSIDERATIONS ON THE "STATES" ISSUE OF VENEZUELA

The "States" or "Escudos" (Arms) Issue of Venezuela is surely one of the most aggravating and fascinating issues of recent years and with reason.

The Venezuelan Post Office announced in 1950 that it would issue a set of stamps bearing the arms of each of the States of the Republic, including one showing the Arms of Venezuela, some 384 stamps in all, with a total face value of well over $90 U.S.A., and much protest was aroused in all quarters. However, as one writer pointed out, the Venezuelan Government is in the happy position of owing "nobody nuttin' nohow" and their Post Office took the line that if it pleased them to issue 384 stamps, what concern was it of anyone and what did it have to do with any of us poor collectors? No doubt, many collectors of Venezuela, including the writer, groaned in despair and determined there and then to leave this issue alone.

Alas, this writer gains his daily sustenance in the Head Office of one of the largest Life Insurance Companies in Canada, which happens to have a branch office in Caracas, which office happens to be one of the most important of the Company's organization, which therefore has a heavy mail, which heavy mail bears stamps, to which stamps the writer has access (along with a few other members of the staff). And in due course the much criticized "Escudos" began coming in, swelling after a while to the proportions of a flood! And, inevitably, he was not long in discovering that it would be great fun trying to get together a complete used set of these stamps.

Well, so far, he has reached a score of 267, out of a possible 288. It will be noted that he says 288, and not 384. The last six states were only released as from the 17th December last and are therefore not included in this review. In the meantime, some interesting considerations arise in connection with this issue.

So far, until the 17th December last, 18 states had appeared, and it was soon apparent that there were three series of values, each comprising 7 Ordinary Mail and 9 Airmail. These series are as follows:

1. States of Amacuro, Anzoategui, Bolivar, Guarico, Manágas, Sucre, **Amazonas and Nueva Esparta.**

Ordinary: 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 40c, 45c, Bs, 3.00.

Airmail: 5c, 10c, 15c, 25c, 30c, 50c, 60c, B, 100, Bs, 2.00.

2. States of Aragua, Carabobo, Carácas, Lara, Miranda, Venezuela, **Cojédes, Yaracuy.**

Ordinary: 5c 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c.

Airmail: 5c, 7½c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 30c, 45c, 60c, 90c.

3. States of Falcon, Mérida, Portuguesa, Tachira, Trujillo, Zulia, **Apure, Barinas.**

Ordinary: 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 50c, B, 1.00, Bs, 5.00.

Airmail: 5c, 10c, 15c, 30c, 60c, Bs, 1.20, Bs, 3.00 Bs, 5.00, Bs, 10.00.

The states in bold face are those which were only released on the 17th December last and will therefore not appear in these considerations.

Many values of this series have been, or appear to be, quite elusive and earnest efforts on our part have so far failed to obtain them. Among these are the 45c and Bs. 3 of the first series, the 35c, and 90c of the second series, and the Bs, 10.00 Air Trujillo of the third series. They are, of course, all obtainable mint, at a price, as advertised by a New York dealer some time ago, who, by the way, was guilty of a very unethical practice, inasmuch as he advertised that he had ALL the states, whereas at the time, the ones in bold face above had not yet made their appearance.

We understand that the difficulty in obtaining certain used copies is due to the fact that the distribution of the various items among the post offices of the country was done in an apparently very haphazard manner, some items being sold in one place, only, sometimes a small town way back in the bush. The Head Post Office in Carácas apparently never had all the issues on sale at any time. It is also possible

that some of the items have not yet been released, although we are reasonably certain that the Bs. 10 Trujillo has actually been sold.

The stamps are printed in sheets of 100 by the famous Swiss firm of Courvoisier, by the photogravure process. There is one printing variety which, to my knowledge, has never been satisfactorily explained. In ALL the loc. Airmail values, the 82nd stamp of the sheet shows a "1" that is considerably shorter than the normal. Why is this? It is possible to obtain the lower left hand corner block showing his interesting variety.

A curious error occurred in all the Bolivar set, wherein the month has been spelt **Diciember** instead of the correct **Diciembre.**

This is but a short review of this remarkable issue, but we think that sufficient has been said to show that it is well worth investigating and collecting by anyone who is interested in Venezuela. In the meantime, if anyone has any 45c or Bs. 3 Ordinary mail of the first series, or of the 90c Airmail of the second, or a Bs. 10 Airmail Trujillo, the writer would be delighted to hear about them.

Louis Lamouroux

B.N.A. Collectors Club of Montreal

The annual general meeting of the B.N.A. Collectors Club of Montreal was held at the Windsor Hotel in Montreal on Tuesday, Jan. 5th, 1954.

Mr. Peter J. Hurst was re-elected president for the year 1954. Mr. A. Graham Fairbanks was re-elected first vice-president, Mr. G. Scott Brooks, hon. treasurer, and Mrs. H. C. Cooke, hon. secretary. Messrs. Earl E. Sault, C. P. de Volpi, C. G. Kemp and Walter Macklin were elected directors.

It was decided to lower the membership fees from $10 to $5 per annum. Members of the C.P.S. visiting Montreal will be welcomed at the club's meetings which are held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at the Windsor Hotel at 8 p.m. except during the summer months.

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