CANADIAN PHILATELIST



Journal of the
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of CANADA

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 2

STAMP TWINS

March 1, 1972

Dear Friends:

In his book "Stories to Collect Stamps By", the well known American dealer and author, Herman ("Pat") Herst, relates the following interesting story about a pair of Canadian "Stamp Twins."

In the middle of the last century, as Canada's area of growth pushed westward, getting mail from the west to the east posed a problem. The most efficient way to handle it, in the absence of any transcontinental mail routes, was to deliver it to the nearest United States point, and let Uncle Sam's Post Office take the job from there. Once in the East, the mail could then travel back into Canada over the well established mail routes.

A small town on the U.S. - Canada border in the Dakota territory was called Pembina, often erroneously pronounced "Pem-been-a" (Proper pronunciation is "Pem-bin-aw" with the accent on the first syllable.) A letter which originally started in what is now Manitoba was put in the United States Post Office, and was cancelled Pembina. Such technicalities as the U.S. Post Office's cancelling a Canadian stamp might be important today, but a century or more ago, this was of little moment. The stamps, a pair of three pence imperforate Beavers, received the postmark, the "Pem" on one stamp, the "bina" on its neighbour. Some time in its existence, the pair was severed, since only in comparitively recent times were imperforate pairs more greatly respected, pricewise, than two singles.

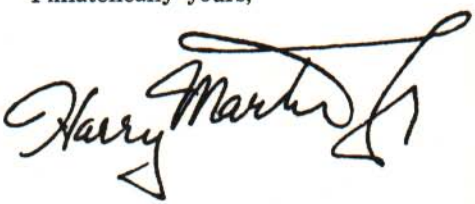
"Pem" ultimately ended up in the collection of an eminent collector of Canadian stamps, Col. J. S. O'Meara. Col. O'Meara had never been able to identify the Canadian office which had ostensibly cancelled the stamp, never thinking that it was actually that of an American Post Office. One day his collection was being examined by another famed Canadian collector, Dr. Lewis Reford. He had similarly been puzzled by his 'bina" cancel, which did not attribute itself to any known Canadian Post Office. He borrowed the stamp, placed it alongside his own, and the twins were reunited.

Both Reford and O'Meara were wealthy collectors, and whatever price either were to put on his single twin, the other could easily meet it. Since both agreed that it made sense to join the two stamps, they decided to draw lots to decide which one should give up his. Dr. Reford won the gamble and O'Meara handed him "Pem."

O'Meara, as it happened, outlived Reford who in his will, ever the philatelist, saw to it that "Pem" and "bina" were bequeathed to the Colonel. O'Meara himself died in the early 1950's and in the sale of his collection the twins passed to the collection of Paul H. Dolbec, of Quebec, where ostensibly they rest today. In all probability, the twins will never be separated again.

I hope that you enjoyed this story and will remember it. Please also remember that, more than ever before. I am anxious to buy stamps — so when you are ready to sell or know of stamps for sale — contact me.

Philatelically yours,



HARRY B. MARTIN, Jr.

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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

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CONTENTS

Expertisation of Philatelic Material 59

Highlights from the Early Days of the Cunard Line XIII by Dr. J. C. Arnell 92

National Philatelic Museum 97

The Bruce Peninsula — First Post Offices by Max Rosenthal 99

REGULAR FEATURES:

Editorial 54, Sales Dept. 67, Under the Looking Glass 71, Mailbag 73, What's New in Old Canada 75, Society Reports 76, Postmark Ottawa 81, Classified 83, Reviews 85, Chapter Meetings 88, Coming Events 91, Chapter News 100.

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MANUSCRIPTS should be typewritten, double spaced, one side of page. The submission of a manuscript to this journal is held to imply that it has not been published, is not under consideration for publication, elsewhere. Postage is required if the material is to be returned.

REVIEWS Books and Literature for review should be addressed to the Editor.

SUBSCRIPTIONS The Canadian Philatelist is available only as part of membership in the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. Membership information may be obtained from the Secretary, Walter Anderson, Box 3144, Station "C", Ottawa, Canada. Sample copy $1.00.

CORRESPONDENCE requiring a reply must enclose an addressed and stamped envelope.

ADVERTISING—All advertising correspondence and copy should be addressed to the Advertising Manager, Mrs. G. M. Geldert, Apt. 1510, 195 Clearview Avenue, Ottawa K1Z 651, Canada.

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(Opinions expressed in the various articles in this journal are those of the writers and not necessarily endorsed by the Society and/or this journal)

EDITORIAL

"In this world, nothing is certain
but death and taxes"
Franklin

TAX ON STAMPS

A number of members have written to me regarding advice on how the new tax legislation will affect the sale of stamps and collections of philatelic material.

Unfortunately the only advice that can be given at this time is in regard to the valuation of existing collections and the recording of new purchases.

There are a number of ambiguities in the act as it stands which will have to be resolved by rulings given on specific cases before accurate guidance can be given. For example the $1000 limit above which tax must be paid applies to "an item, or set of items" and obviously a collectors view of what constitutes a set of items and that of the tax assessors may differ considerably.

Many questions will require actual rulings in order to provide answers. Does a collection sold as a unit constitute a "set"? Does a collection sold as a series of lots in an auction constitute a "set" or do each of the lots become individual "sets"? Is a "catalogue set" a "set"? What constitutes a "set" of squared circle postmarks? Is a set accumulative for the value limit, i.e. does a collection of 1000 $1.50 stamps constitute a set with a value of $1500 if the stamps have been added over a period of years to reach this total?

Questions also arise regarding who reports what to whom and when. There has been no mechanism set up (February 1st) whereby such sales are automatically reported by dealers or auctioneers. Obviously anything sold to a private person would not be reported by him. Is the onus, therefore, on the individual who sells the stamps to include the capital gain of the sale in his income? Will the government require dealers and auctioneers to report sales or accumulative sales for one individual which exceed the limit? What about stamps sold abroad?

There are many more unanswered questions which will require clarification before any sort of useful advice can be given. The only constructive action that can be taken at this time is, if you feel that your collection, or parts of it, when sold would realize more than $1000, to establish its base valuation effective December 31st, 1971.

This may be done by accepting the insured value as actual with your policy as back-up or a list by catalogue number and value can be prepared and kept in some safe place. As I am a postal historian, I customarily record each new addition to my cover collection on a 3" x 5" card together with its price.

It would also be useful to similarly record all additions to your collection from December 31st, 1971 onward. It is expected that all valuations will be based upon "fair market prices" so that you should take this into account when making your valuation.

☆ ☆ ☆

We are pleased to announce that the first shipment of ties for RPSC was so successful that a new supply has been obtained. They can be purchased by members for the sum of $6 each, post paid. If you would like to obtain a tie, please send your remittance to The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, 155 Forest Hill Road, Toronto.

☆ ☆ ☆

C.S.D.A. OFFICERS

The Canadian Stamp Dealer's Association have elected a new slate of officers:

President—Robert G. Crouch
Vice-President—H. M. Martin Jr.
Secretary—Peter de la Cour
Treasurer—Manfred Walther
Regional Representatives:
(East)—George Atkinson
(West)—Fred E. Eaton

Please address all correspondence to the secretary, Peter de la Cour,
20 Cartier Crescent,
Scarborough, Ontario.

☆ ☆ ☆

"The Klondike Rush Through Edmonton 1897 - 1898"

That is the title of a fascinating book by J. G. MacGregor, well-known Canadian regional historian. In this book, Jim MacGregor tells how nearly 1,500 gold-seekers set out from Edmonton on either of two wagon roads — the Landing Trail which led to the WATER ROUTE down the Athabaska River, or the St. Albert Trail and the OVERLAND ROUTE, the All-Canadian way to the Yukon.

J. G. MacGregor will be the featured speaker at the Friday night dinner at CANPEX '72 — in Edmonton, July 7, 1972 — and we know that his talk will be one of the highlights of the 44th Annual Convention of the ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA.



The historic CPR Station portrayed above stands today on the South side of the North Saskatchewan River, where in 1898 the "END OF THE RAIL" became "The START OF THE TRAIL". It has been chosen as the design of the special **Commemorative** Cover for CANPEX '72. The original painting and the sketch made from it by the artist Thelma Manarey expressly for CANPEX '72, will be on display.

CANPEX '72 in modern Edmonton will feature many HISTORIC EXHIBITS brought together to interest Philatelists and Postal History enthusiasts. Your hosts, THE EDMONTON STAMP CLUB, are looking forward to showing you these interesting exhibits, as well as sharing with you the MANY ATTRACTIONS OF THEIR FABULOUS CITY AS IT IS TODAY.

You too can "Hit the trail in '72 for the Trail of '98"
Plan now to be part of **"THE CANPEX RUSH TO EDMONTON 1972"**

CANPEX INFORMATION
The Edmonton Stamp Club
Box 399,
EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

CANPEX COVERS
Mrs. Wyn Goodall, Covers Chairman,
13068 - 124 Avenue,
EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

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Gordon Frost reports that sales for 1971 totaled $27,460.00, an increase over 1970. 7130 books were circulated to chapters and indivdual members. The Sales Department is a great way to sell your stamps. Why not try it?

Chapters who wish interesting and informative data on collecting should write to Mr. V. A. Linnell, 5221 Hingston Ave., Montreal and enclose $1.50 for a copy of Lakeshore Stamp Club's "An Introduction to Stamps".

YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

The date for entries for the Kristians and S., Norway Junior Exhibition has been extended to April 1. Interested young collectors are invited to apply. A genuine interest in stamps and a desire for expression is all that is required. The age of legal majority in Canada is 18, therefore all those whose eighteenth birthday falls after August 26, 1972 are eligible.

A number of junior programs will become available through the regular channels (RPSC Slide Library) within the next few weeks. They will include lectures on perforations, printing and miniature sheets for advanced juniors; Seven Wonders of the World Then and Now, glimpses into history and geography of Canada, the story of the printed word, etc. for all groups. beginners and advanced.

Topics and interests should be communicated to the:

Youth Education Program, R.P.S.C.
157 Clifton Avenue
Downsview 475, Ontario

for planning and consideration.

* * *

We received requests from abroad, mostly Europe, for pen pals. If you are interested drop us a line. The Correspondence Department of the United Nations Association also has lists for those interested in a distant friend.

* * *

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34	£1.40
34 U	£1.25
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38 single Eng, U	£1.20
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47	£1.50
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48	£3.90
48 U	£1.10p
49	£3
49 U vert. pair	£2.25
49a U vert. pair	£1
50-53	£1.50
50-53 U	£1.90
53 U	£1
58	£2.90
58 U	£1.25
64	£2.40
64 U	£1.50
64a	£1
64b U	£1.25
88-95 (14) U	£1
D.1-7 (7)	£2.50
D.7	£2.10p
0.28	£2.40

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7	£2.50
8	£7
9	£13.50
15 U	£1.80
16	£1.10p
18	£6.25
19	£7.50
21-40 (20)	£10
37	£1.10p
40	£3.60
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44 centre slightly rubbed	£16
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The owner has included several multiples and there are thirteen covers. The writing up is informative & neatly typewritten.

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Expertisation of Philatelic Material

Our Society is an affiliated member of The British Philatelic Association and our members are entitled to use the services of the B.P.A. Expert Committee.

A Certificate from a recognised authority accompanying a stamp is an assurance to a prospective purchaser that the stamp is genuinely what it purports to be; such certificates are more than ever sought by careful buyers today.

Since the Expert Committee of the B.P.A. was founded over 70,000 certificates have been issued. Those making use of this service of the B.P.A. include not only professional philatelists dealing in rare and costly stamps, but many amateur collectors who may seek not only for a certificate as a protection against loss, but also to aid them in establishing the identity of an obscure or difficult item.

It is thought, therefore, that some account of how the Expert Committee operates may be of interest.

First, as to the Committee itself. This consists of a panel of eight experienced philatelists each of whom, in addition to a wide general knowledge is a recognised authority in some specialised field. In addition there is available to the Committee the help of over fifty eminent specialists who can be consulted when needed, all of whom generously give advice on an honorary basis. The Committee meets once a month, the purpose of these meetings is not however the examination of all the items submitted, but to discuss those about which there has been some doubt or difference of opinion, with a view to coming to an agreed and correct decision.

The Expert Committee employs a Secretary who is concerned with all the routine business: the receipt and return of the stamps: the keeping of the records and preparation of certificates: the collection of the fees and maintenance of the accounts; correspondence. He is not concerned with any part of the B.P.A.'s work. **All material should be sent by registered post and addressed to the Secretary of the Expert Committee, 446 Strand, London WC2R 0RA** accompanied by a letter giving full details of the 'patients' so far as they are known to the owner particularly of any special information required and any relevant information.

Immediately on receipt an interim acknowledgement by post card is sent. Every stamp (including each stamp of a set) is given a number, and it keeps this number in the B.P.A. files permanently. Details are entered in a Record Book—Name etc. of owner, description, date received. Other columns in this book provide for a record of the opinion, the names of the members of the Committee who signed the final certificate, the date of its return, and the number of the invoice. A work sheet is then prepared quoting only the number and the owner's description and question; the name is not disclosed to anyone at any stage un-

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less there are unusual circumstances; for example if a large number of forgeries of a particular stamp makes an unexpected appearance it is only right Committee Members should know the source in order that any steps thought necessary can be taken. These work sheets with the stamps enclosed in transparent envelopes are then circulated among the Committee by the Secretary the Committee Members record their opinions on the work sheets. In the light of these opinions the Secretary prepares the Certificates which are in turn circulated or produced for signature at the next meeting. The signature of at least three members is essential; if any member of the Committee has expressed a dissenting opinion the item is normally referred back to him for reconsideration.

After the Completion of the certificates, those stamps which have been passed as genuine are photographed if the Committee consider this advisable for reference purposes. Three copies of the photograph are made — one attached to the certificate, one to the work sheet, and one is annotated and filed under the catalogue number to provide a cross reference. This collection of photographs is of invaluable assistance when examining similar stamps in the future. The certificates are then sealed with the Committee's seal in such a way as to tie the Photograph to the Certificate; the Record book is completed and the stamp is ready for return to the owner by registered post.

The work sheet, the owner's original letter, and any subsequent correspondence about the Certificate is filed in number order. Although the Association reserves the right to require payment of fees before the stamp is returned ,in cases where the client is known the stamp is sent with the invoice; in such cases co-operation is expected in the prompt payment of the fee without further reminder. The fees are kept as low as possible, consistent with covering the not inconsiderable expense of the service despite the fact that the Members

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336	2	3.00	1.40
337	1 or 2	2.00	.40
337	9	12.00	3.00
337	11 or 12	10.00	2.00
338	1, 2 or 5	1.60	.55
338	7	3.00	1.25
338	11 or 12	40.00	12.75
338	13	16.00	3.75
338	14 or 15	8.00	2.15
339	1 or 2	4.50	1.80
340	6	3.00	1.00
340	10	4.00	1.50
340	15 and 16	24.00	9.00
340	18	20.00	4.00
340	19	12.00	3.20
341	1, 2 or 3	3.00	1.10
341	5. 10 or 11	2.40	1.10
341	17	20.00	3.00
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A Typical Comment from the thousands who have sold stamps to Harris.



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Dear Mr. Harris,

Many thanks for your recent purchase.

Being 78 years old, I am now retiring from the philatelic field. So I must say farewell to you, my oldest philatelic friend, as we have been dealing together for more than half a century.

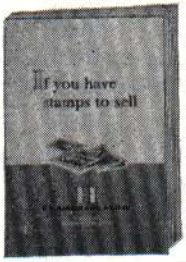
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H. E. Harris & Co., BOSTON, MASS. 02117 Established 1916

of the Committee give their time without remuneration.

Certificates are available in the minimum time consistent with proper and careful examination of the stamps. As will be seen from a perusal of this article there is inevitably a somewhat lengthy and complicated procedure to be followed ,and it is impossible, as the Secretary is occasionally asked, to obtain the opinion of the Committee "by return of post". The value and reputation of the B.P.A. Certificate must not be debased by careless or hurried examinations.

Scale of Charges and Conditions

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irrespective of whether the stamps are found to be genuine of not.
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These fees are to be in advance by all, other than Full Business Members of the Association.
Various colours are used for certificates expressing different opinions:
The above fees, which are subject to revision, are charged for each item examined by the Committee, including each stamp in a complete set for which one certificate only is required.

For stamps not listed in the Catalogue, or whose value is greatly enhanced when on cover, the charge will be assessed by the Chairman of the Expert Committee based on known auction realisations. The maximum charge for any one certificate is £100. The catalogues used will be the current editions of Stanley Gibbons Ltd.

The right will be reserved to charge extra for items involving extensive research and enquiry; also to decline to express opinions on items of nominal value or little philatelic significance which take up more time than they justify.

If the Committee is asked to re-examine an item for which an opinion has already been expressed, a second charge

Martin Apfelbaum:



The 1971 edition of the E. N. Sampson AMERICAN STAMPLESS COVER CATALOG is now available. This comprehensive catalog, published for the first time in the early sixties, lists virtually every postmark used in this nation's early postal period. In addition, every listed cover is priced, so that the collector can readily ascertain the value of his stampless cover holdings.

Stampless cover collecting has long been neglected by the vast majority of stamp collectors. Actually, there is no valid reason for this, because stampless covers provide an interesting and challenging way in which to occupy one's time. The markings often enable the collector to trace the route the cover followed on its way to its destination; and on covers on which the markings are sparse, there is often room for much interesting historical and philatelic speculation.

But perhaps the most exciting aspect of stampless cover collecting concerns simple human relations; since most stampless covers are folded letters, each cover provides an insight into the lives of the men and women who wrote them. Two stampless covers to cross my desk recently were most interesting, not only because of their markings, but especially because of their contents. In one, there is a touching letter from a man who was nearly dead with consumption. He was writing to his estranged brother, asking forgiveness for the way in which he had treated his brother in his youth. The other cover contained a letter from a Union soldier, soon to fight at Gettysburg. Included in his writing are various musings about war and about his duties as a soldier. In this letter, one can see many surprising war-wrought thoughts, especially in the soldier's respect for the enemy and in his cynical remarks on the lot of the common foot soldier.

While offering this catalog to the collector, a word must be said about the lamentable position of philatelic literature in this country. Too many collectors, I believe, look with disdain on the great scholarship and vast amounts of work required to publish a philatelic treatise. This, unfortunately, produces, for the most part, a philatelically illiterate public, never knowing or caring about the true worth (both financially and, even more important, intellectually) of their collections.

We at Apfelbaum's, in an attempt to remedy this situation, offer to our readers the AMERICAN STAMPLESS COVER CATALOG at $10.00 hardbound and $7.00 softbound. This book makes a fine addition—or even a beginning—to a worthwhile philatelic library.

Earl P. L. Apfelbaum, Inc.,
1503-05 Walnut Street, Phila., Pa.,
19102, LOcust 7-6288,
Area Code 215.

CANADA OFFICIAL STAMPS

Our mail brings many and varied requests for prices and information on the many different classifications of Canadian stamps. One area of interest is the "Official" group. At the time of writing our stock is complete in all major numbers, mint with quite a few minor varieties as well. Subject unsold, we offer:—

Scott Number	Mint	Used
01	.25	.30
01a Narrow Spacing strip of 3	2.25	—
02	2.60	2.50
03	.32	.25
03a Narrow Spacing (3)	2.50	—
04	.35	.15
04a Narrow Spacing (3)	5.00	—
06	.80	.20
07	1.25	.40
08	3.30	.50
09	52.00	50.00
010	15.00	15.00
011	7.25	—
012	.09	.09
012a Narrow Spacing(3)	2.00	—
013	.18	.20
014	.28	.18
015	.22	.06
015a	.50	.35
016	.04	.04
017	.16	.16
018	.22	.04
019	.30	.04
020	.42	.32
021	.75	.16
022	2.25	.55
023	4.25	.35
024	2.85	2.00
025	24.00	—
026	.50	.07
*026a Missing G Block	200.00	—
027	21.00	—
028	.13	.04
029	.30	.05
030	.85	.07
031	.85	.35
032	2.70	1.75
033	.12	.06
034	.14	.04
035	.12	.04
036	.25	.04
037	.22	.04
038	1.45	.35
038a Flying G	1.35	1.35
039	.35	.05
039a Flying G	.30	.30
040	.10	.04
041	.10	.04
043	.30	.06
044	.20	.03
045	.70	.08
045a Flying G	5.00	.50
046	.30	—
047	.30	—
048	.35	.40
049	.18	.22
C01	1.80	1.90
C02	3.75	3.75
E01	4.25	4.00
E02	7.50	8.00

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C-S D-A

may be made.

The above charges, which are subject to revision, are imposed for each item examined by the Committee, including each stamp in a complete set for which one certificate is required.

Stamps for examination should be sent by registered mail to:—

The Secretary.
B.P.A. Expert Committee,
446, Strand, London,
WC2R 0RA, England

and accompanied by the required fee.

R.P.S.C. Members must include a Certificate of Membership signed by The R.P.S.C. Secretary. This must be obtained in advance to prove entitlement to the lower member rate.

No form requires to be completed when submitting stamps, but the sender must indicate the catalogue number or other means of identification. Senders must also be prepared to leave the stamps with the Expert Committee for at least 6-8 weeks. Where stamps have an "extension" from an Auction Sale this fact should be stated. (30-day extensions sometimes allowed are useless for the purpose of obtaining a certificate.)

All stamps or other philatelic material submitted to the British Philatelic Association are at the sender's sole risk and neither the Association nor the Members of the Expert Committee can accept any liability either collectively or individually therefor however caused. No responsibility will be accepted for any opinion expressed by the Expert Committee.

In the absence of instructions to the contrary, material submitted will be returned by Registered Post. All postage, packing and registration charges will be at the cost of the owner.

THE SUBMISSION OF STAMPS OR OTHER MATERIAL IMPLIES ACCEPTANCE OF THESE CONDITIONS.

* * * *

COME TO EDMONTON

Newfoudland

Scott #	Description	Mint Set
61-74	1897 Cabot Set	$31.00
78-85	1898-Royal Family	7.00
87-97	Guy, Litho (Both 6c.)	50.00
98-103	Guy, Engraved	44.00
104-114	1911 Coronation (110a-12.00)	30.00
115-126	Caribou Set	22.50
127-130	1920 Surcharges	24.00
131-144	1923 Pictorials	20.00
145-159	1928 First Publicity Set	13.50
160	1929 Surcharge 3c. on 6c.	.50
163-171	Re-engraved Set	18.00
172-182	Watermarked Set	25.00
183-210	Industrials, Perf. 13½	14.00
212-225	Gilbert Set	25.00
226-229	1935 Jubilee	1.50
230-232	1937 Coronation	.40
233-243	Ditto, Long Set	4.25
245-248	Royal Family, Perf. 13½	1.50
249-251	1939 Royal Visit	.75
252	5c. Grenfell	.13
253-266	Industrials, Perf. 12½	3.50
267-270	1946-7, 4 values	.80
C2	1919 Trans-Atlantic	30.00
C3 or C3a	1921 Halifax	20.00
C6-8	1931 Unwatermarked	10.00
C9-11	1931 Watermarked	15.00
C12	1932 Do-x	95.00
C13-17	1933 Labrador	20.00
C18	1933 Balbo	140.00
C19	1943 St. John's	.12
S504	1932 Wayzata	2.25
J1-6	1939 Postage Dues	4.50
J1a-4a	1946-9 New Perfs. (4 val.)	6.00
J7	1949 10c. Watermarked	1.75

PLEASE NOTE: We have listed just a few of the Newfoundland stamps available. We have a nice stock of both mint and used singles. Above are hinged with full gum—and in good to fine condition.

My current 28 page Price List of Canada is available upon request.

Philip S. Horowitz

P.O. BOX 27
FOREST HILLS, N.Y. 11375
Member: ASDA, BNAPS, CPS of GB, APS

We Sold The Famous Sheet of Saxony



DM 260.901,50 or Can. $80.280.00 (commission included)
was paid by the new owner for the most spectacular rarity of German philately.
Further remarkable results of this international sale were

Columbian error 4 c., blue mint, Can. $5540.00,
Trinacria Can. $ 3380.00. Saxony No. 1, 4 copies on cover
Can. $22,150.00, German Empire No. 1, original sheet
Can. $ 7075.00, German Empire No. 27a, original sheet
Can. $11,690.00, Zeppelinpost collection Can. $ 9800.00.

Total turnover of the sale was most satisfactory. Starting prices experienced considerable increases, very often double and triple amounts were obtained. This has been a typical Edgar Mohrmann sale of international standard. Catalogue for the 137th **Spring Auction** was just published and is available against Can. $2.00 air mail postage, subject to refund if you buy in the sale.

AUCTION DATE — 10th till 12th APRIL, 1972

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Cable Address: EDMORO

Sales Department

My recent request for new books has certainly brought in many replies especially from the newer members and now we are well stocked in most areas except of course early Canada. For the present, books of the British West Indies group; British Asia; British Africa and Eastern Europe are **not** required.

Required are early DENMARK: U.S.A.: GREAT BRITAIN: and all aspects of Canada including town cancels on small and large queens: pre-cancels: varieties etc.

Recent arrivals include some books of Canadian postal stationery: and mint Canadian plate blocks although most of these are of the more modern era.

A mention was made in the last issue that a quantity of Admiral engine turns had come to hand. These were quickly snapped up so if any reader has supplies surplus to his requirements I would be pleased to receive them. Canadian semi-airs have been selling very well since they were last mentioned and here again we can use additional books. These issues seem to be coming popular again.

There are still some of you who send in books of unwanted material. Unless I request particular countries it is a waste of time mounting such material. For instance books of Latin America just take up valuable space and collect dust because nobody wants them. Material from Communist countries rarely sells and this also applies to the Middle Eastern "Sheikdoms". If you have issues not mentioned in this column from time to time I suggest you write me so I can advise you whether or not they are required. This way we all save time.

I am still looking for ex-member Mr. W. P. Albright formerly of Dundas, Ontario. If anyone knows his whereabouts please let me know.

Gordon F. W. Frost
P.O. Box 345
Willowdale, Ontario.

PRICES SLAUGHTERED ON CANADIAN REVENUES

ONTARIO

Sissons	Cat.		Price
40b	40.00	Imperf. Pr.	15.00
52	1.00		.25
52a	30.00	Imperf. Pr.	10.00
53	4.00		1.00
54	5.00		1.25
64	4.50	mint unhinged	1.75
65	5.50	" "	2.00
66	10.50	" "	3.00
67	22.00	" "	5.50
68	35.00	" "	10.00
84	6.00		1.00
86	7.50		1.50
87	15.00		3.50
99	5.00		1.75
154	25.00	Punch WC	5.00
155	15.00	" "	3.00
60	4.00	Supreme Court	1.00
2	10.00	Dawson Mint	2.00
3	10.00	" "	2.00

On approval. Mixture all diff.
Cat. Over $70.00 for $10.00

Fred Jarrett

BOX 302 ADELAIDE ST. P.O.
TORONTO, ONT.

BRITISH COLUMBIA



Ready at last, a beautifully produced catalog of British Columbia Revenue Stamps which, by the way have been in existence, almost as long as British Columbia, celebrating in 1971 its Centenary as a province of Canada. $10.00 gets all these things:

1. The British Columbia Revenue Catalog, value $3.00
2. The Visual Guide to B.C. Revenues, an invaluable collectors aid.
3. Set of album pages on which to mount the major varieties as listed in the catalog. (Sections 2 & 3 are valued at $10.00).
4. There are 11 different series of B.C. Law stamps. All earlier requests will receive one stamp from all 11 series correctly identified. Later will have to get 8 to 10, but total value of the stamps will be at least $15.00 and they are not necessarily the cheapest in each case.

As mentioned, all items 1 to 4 cost $10.00 and its either cash with order or else you may have the entire lot on approval. Whatever you do don't ever pass up this offer. It's the start of a series that will take in at least 20 different catalogs dealing with various phases of Canadian philately. The B.C. catalog is #1 and only 4000 units are being printed, of which 2000 go to regular customers. If you miss out by being too late on this first section, reprints will be made but only if and when an additional 1000 units are ordered in advance, and at a cost of $50.00 each!

High? Don't worry. When you get around to seeing sections 2, 3, 4, etc., at some collector's house you will be very happy to pay $50.00 on the missed out #1 group.

"Me collect Canada revenues?" By all means yes. Better get in on something good. Most are amongst the most beautiful engraved stamps ever, bargains are everywhere to be picked up as just about all dealers have a box or two tucked away. Above all, consider this: NOT A SINGLE CANADA REVENUE STAMP HAS EVER BEEN PRINTED WITH COLLECTORS IN MIND.

* * * * *

THE 8c. STAMP ISSUE OF DECEMBER 30, 1971.

On this date Canada set a new regular basic postage rate and henceforward minimum cost to mail a letter is 8c.

Dec. 30, 1971. Remember that date. It's the start of something new for Canada. The P.O. has announced an 8c. stamp is coming out. "So big deal; 8c. and I'm in on the ground floor".

Is it that simple?

Not when it comes to Canadian stamps.

Instead of one solitary stamp there are 11 different basic units to get and your starting collection of this new era is totally incomplete unless it has these 11 items!

Get them and you are still classed as a general collector. No one who specializes in Canadian stamps would ever dream of getting just the 11. His minimum requirement is 33; each and every one a distinct variety that will be listed in any comprehensive specialized Canada catalog.

And that is 33 MINT.

I try for far more by including used, and all with first day cancellations wherever possible!

One 8c. stamp? Forget it.

Ask for my SPECIALIZED Dec. 30, 1971 8c. collection to be sent on approval. It will be a joy to behold; the way Canadian stamps should be collected!

Almost forgot. On June 30, 1971 we had the last rate change i.e. 6c. to 7c. Can still supply some specialized collections for the 7c. Two dandy rarities have developed in this 7c. group. (1) 7c. plate 1: I'LL PAY $10.00 for set of 4 position blocks. (2) June 30th 1971, Tagged First Day Cover, Winnipeg Cancel of course: can supply one at $10.00.

* * * * *

THE BIG THREE

First of all in December of 1969 Vancouver, B.C. was the scene of a grand major Canadian error; the 6c. 1969 Christmas stamp with border and all lettering entirely missing. Strangely enough it was the Canadian Post Office that first discovered this error and managed to head off quite a number before they were sold to the public. Not too many landed in collectors hands, about 4 times less than the famous 1959 Seaway Error. I purchased most in existence.

Then in May 1971 the first ever special Canadian Imperforate error was discovered in a Saskatchewan town. This was the beautiful Maple Leaf in Spring stamp. I purchased all found.

Once again, in Sept. 1971 a most happy young French-Canadian Alain Duplessis, in Sherbrooke Quebec, came up with an entire pane of 50 of the Maple Leaf in Autumn stamp. Similar to the 1969 Christmas error, all lettering was missing. He wasn't a stamp collector. His mother and sister assured him the stamps were no good and he took the pane back to the P.O. to be exchanged for 50 good stamps. The postal clerk was rather dubious about any exchanging and after a lot of arguing told him to wait a while as he had other customers to look after. As chance would have it, a stamp collector heard the last part of what was going on, told Alain to hold on to the stamps and the rest is history. That is one pane the Canadian Post Office failed to recover. Bileski got all except 5, which Alain gave out to various good advisors, keeping one for himself. Might as well become a stamp collector.

One point comes up; isn't the Canadian P.O. guilty of too many postal errors? Well hardly, compared with what has been happening in both the U.S.A. and Great Britain over the past 15 years, Canada's record is marvellous. There isn't one country in the world with tighter security and inspection standards compared to Canada; our errors only approximate about 2% of what comes out in the other 2 countries. Yet note how eagerly and at what high prices all the errors found in the U.S.A. and Great Britain are purchased.

How is it this Bileski comes up with Canadian errors so consistently. Hardly any secret. Thousands of collectors and dealers know I'll buy anything of interest that is found. Millions of non-collectors see my offers to buy errors (and collections of course) in just about all the newspapers in Canada. Costs only $5,000 to $10,000 a year. One of these days I may just break even!

In connection with The Big Three: I offer

1. One perfection single copy of the 1969 Christmas error.
2. One perfection imperf pair of the Maple Leaf in Spring.
3. One perfection single copy of the Maple Leaf in Autumn error.

$5,000.00 for all 3.

(Not bad. Hansen has valued the 1969 Christmas error at $10,000.00 alone).

Only one lot as above is available. I can do 2 more lots at much lower prices, but the 1969 Christmas error in each case will not be perfect. This is one error where there are almost as many different prices as there are stamps as very few indeed are perfect. Every single one landed first in the hands of a non-collector and if you want to get heart failure fast, give your prized rarity with no warning whatsoever, to a non-collector for his inspection.

CANADA 1953-1967

Well the $5,000.00 offer will take care of the affluent, but there are any number of good hearted collectors without that sort of spare change who still would like to get a good toe-hold on a start towards building up a decent Canadian collection. I offer 2 groups:

All the major Canadian varieties (no errors) issued from 1953 to end of 1967. There are over 200 splendid mint stamps and all they cost is $50.00. Two of the sections (the Tagged and the G stamps) will each be selling at $50.00 alone in no great time.

The same thing, but fine postally used. and I do mean fine. One must discard 95 stamps out of each 100 to get the quality desired. Price of this lot is $30.00.

Either lot can be had on approval.

Am working away on the period 1968 to end 1972. This obviously wouldn't be ready till sometime in 1973. One thing these collections will have is a host of perfectly bona-fide varieties that the general catalogs just don't have the space to list. Ask to have one lot sent on approval when ready.

* * * * *

THE GABON VIPERS

Enough of Canada. Let's discuss the strange saga of the Gabon Vipers. Don't know why they are called Gabon Vipers as they live in Liberia. You may see them on the handsomely engraved Liberian stamps F20 to F29. I first began to notice them about 35 years ago. Colonel Rogers states "it is as dangerous as it looks" and that is about it. The Gabon Viper is a very mean short tempered terribly strong snake. It is not afraid of anything or anybody and will attack with or without provocation. Instant death is the usual result. Hard to see on the leaf covered ground of Liberian forests, so long ago Bileski made one thoughtful resolution; not to go wandering around in no Liberian forests.

But the stamps intrigued me no end. Some 35 years ago they catalogued 20c. each mint so I began to offer $10.00 a mint set. My $10.00 offer per 10 stamps brought not one. I kept raising this offer and still not one set! Someone there in Scotts must have noticed my offers for prices to creep up. And now look at the 1972 Scotts. Why F20 to F29 are now listed for a total of $100.00!

Don't hold your breath if you expect a sudden flood of Gabon Vipers to take advantage of the $10.00 per stamp rate! What ARE they worth? I don't know. If someone was to send me a check for $1000.00 and say "here Bileski, send me a complete set", all I could do and very regretfully is to return the check. I know of but 3 complete mint sets in existence and none are in my possession. It may be others are hidden in old time kid collections — who else in those days would go after Liberian stamps?

It so happens I have 45 mint copies of one of the Gabon Vipers. Sorry they are not for sale. Very shortly the sumptuous edition of Colonel Rogers' "A Century of Liberian Philately" will be ready. The Library edition is long since sold out on advance orders but there are still available some of the soft cover editions. Cost is $12.00. There may be a delay in delivery of 3 to 5 months but to compensate for this, one brilliant mint Gabon Viper is sent out free as order is received. At least you have one out of the 10 possible.

* * * * *

THE $51.00 PACK RAT OFFER

Those who have managed to get this far after wading through this lengthy advertisement deserve something good. In 1971 I marked 50 years as a stamp dealer and all of 1971 was offering a "pack rat" accumulation of philatelic odds and ends at $50.00. It is now 1972 and it's also now 51 years so let's make it a $51.00 PACK RAT OFFER. Very few Canadians in these groups but most all countries are available and these lots are perfect for the general collector. State whether quantity or quality is wanted (or half and half). Preferences and dislikes welcome.

Allow up to 30 days to fill the order and of course it's money back if the lot is unsatisfactory.

* * * * *

K. BILESKI LTD., STATION "B", MANITOBA, WINNIPEG, CANADA



UNDER THE LOOKING GLASS

KEN PUGH (#9503)

The question sometimes arises as to where to draw the line in collecting varieties. I would never dictate to another collector what to collect and what not to collect, but I will tell you where I draw the line for my own collection.

As to what is a collectable variety generally boils down to two questions. How was it created, and how many of it exist. To answer these questions it is now necessary to discuss the printing process.

In the engraved process the image of the master die is transferred in relief to a transfer roller which in turn transfers its image to a secondary die.

This secondary die impresses its image in relief into a second transfer roller which presses the impressions onto the plate.

If a flaw occurs in the transfer roller it will be repeated on the printing plate for all remaining subjects unless it wears out, or is removed. Likewise any alteration to the secondary die, will be repeated in all the subjects of the plate.

In recent issues, alteration to the secondary die is very rare, and the 6 cent black definitive, (1971) Plate #4 is the only example I can think of at present. In this case the secondary die was re-engraved, as the shading lines were deepened and strengthened. In some catalogues (including Scott's) the re-engraved secondary die is incorrectly called DIE 11, even though a new die was not prepared.

If isolated stamps on the plate become weak, it may be necessary to touch it up, without having to re-engrave the secondary die, and make a new plate. The weak lines are strengthened by hand, and the process is called retouching. An example might be found in the Samuel Hearne commemorative of 1971 as illustrated in The Canadian Philatelist Volume XXII, No. 6, page 263. I suggest to catalogue editors that this retouch be recognized. Since the printing plates are now chromium plated; retouching varieties are few and far between.

Any tool slip, scratch, or mark caused by a foreign particle, on the plate which is repeated for a considerable length of time, is in my opinion a collectable variety. We would prefer to be able to see these varieties easily with our naked eye, but a magnifying glass is sometimes necessary to bring them to our attention, (and save a great deal of eye strain!) The variety which cannot be seen without a lens over 20x, is much too trivial even for the most avid fly-speck hunter.

I do appreciate your letters and illustrations of new varieties, but I must insist in a strict criteria for acceptable constant varieties. You must have seen,

Announcing

THE ALL CANADIAN B.N.A. RETAIL STAMP CATALOGUE

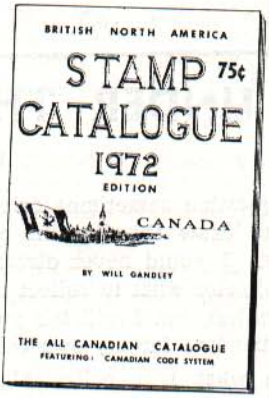
Do You Resent

—Foreign Numbers for Canadian Stamps?

—Foreign Values for Canadian Stamps?

—Foreign Control of Canadian Stamps?

—Tribute Paid Foreign Companies for the above?



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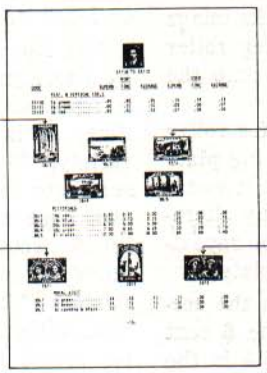
37/10 = 10th stamp of 1937

As easy as that

NOTE:

Values in 3 conditions

Both Mint and Used



NOTE:

Pictures and Values Together Throughout For Easier Reading

NOTE:

No Over Crowding Even Spacing, Pictures Numbered.

CANADIAN WHOLESALE SUPPLY

P.O. BOX 841 :: BRANTFORD, ONT.

or have heard of at least two of the same variety before it can be suspected of being constant. It must be proven that the flaw was severe enough to be duplicated for a considerable length of time. Two used copies with cancellations from different towns or even provinces, would accomplish this beautifully. If there was not this criteria, we would soon be labelling ink splashes, dust spots, dried cleaning fluid bubbles or doughnuts as constant varieties.

As I would like to leave you with some examples of recent varieties, consider the two 'philatelic posers' illustrated.

(a) is found on the 1967 15 cent definitive. The doubling to the left of the 15 has been termed a re-entry by some dealers (I hope not by the buyers). I believe it to be caused by plate wear combined with an inking problem. As always, I invite an alternate suggestion from you, so don't hesitate to write telling me so.

(b) is found on the 6 cent 1970 black coil. Dealers have been calling this a hairline, but I believe it to be minor scratches caused by a grain of sand when the plate was wiped when cleaning. Your comments would be appreciated as well.

My next article will discuss varieties in the lithographic process but until then keep up the hunting. If you have any more varieties to report my address is 644-13th Street, Brandon, Man. R7A 4R5.

Germany
and AFFILIATED COUNTRIES
• bought and sold •
want lists filled, price quotation, approvals, covers, postal history
Manfred Walther
P.O. BOX 250 WEST HILL, ONT. CANADA
CSDA GPS RPSC



Dear Sir:

In Canadian Philatelist Vol 23 #1 Hans Reiche mentioned that Canadian stamp prices are unrealistic. Perhaps he is right, but only for stamps in good or less than good condition or stamps issued about after 1946. I would certainly not pay $19.50 (according to Lyman's catalogue) for unused #120a, c or d stamp in only good condition. But show me dealer or source where I could get the same stamps in very fine or better condition for only $19.50 or less. When I wrote to dealers the usual reply was "Sorry, we do not have it in stock now but we will put your name on our waiting list, etc."

How often have you seen #113b, 113c, 84, 39. 40 not to mention large cent issue, in mint in very fine condition for sale? Why? Because those who have them are not willing to sell them for the low price. Certainly there is inflation, and competition is very keen among **buyers,** but not sellers.

The question if Canadian stamp prices are too high could be best answered by the fact that 75% of the sale at Sisson's November 17th auction (the magnificent L. G. Firth collection) went to U.S. and U.K. dealers. The collectors abroad know that prices for Canadian stamps before 1930 with very few exemptions in very fine or better condition are still a **bargain.**

G. Eikerts R.C.P.S. #9266

* * * *

CANPEX '72

FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF ALL PHILATELISTS

AND STAMP COLLECTORS

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NOW OPERATES A POSTAL SERVICE CENTRE

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POSTAL STATION "B"	1250 University St., Montreal 110, P.Q.
POSTAL STATION "B"	Sparks Street Mall, Cor. Sparks and Elgin Streets, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5A0
Station Haute Ville	3 rue Buade, Quebec 4, P.Q.
***Postal Station "C"**	Fairview Mall, Cor. Don Mills Road and Sheppard Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario (Metropolitan Toronto)

* Packages of assorted single stamps only are available at this location.

A L'INTENTION DE TOUS LES PHILATELISTES

ET COLLECTIONNEURS DE TIMBRES,

LES POSTES CANADIENNES ONT MIS SUR PIED

UN CENTRE DE SERVICE POSTAL OFFRANT UNE

EXPOSITION DE TIMBRES-POSTE ET LA POSSIBILITE

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—Philatelic Photographic Service, Toronto

WHAT'S NEW IN OLD CANADA

By FRED STULBERG

OVERPRINTS — NARROW SPACING

In order to understand this irregularity, it is necessary to know how the printing plates for stamps were set up as well as the plates for the overprints. Briefly and simply (perhaps overly so), this is the story.

Until recently almost all printing plates for Canadian stamps were prepared by impressing a hardened steel die into a steel plate — stamp after stamp, row after row. This continued until the required number of stamps in the designated format was impressed in the plate.

The printing plate for overprints was something else again. Here the type for printing was cast separately — usually an individual "slug" for each stamp — and set into a frame with spacers between each so that they would line up with each stamp to be overprinted.

Thus we can see that the plate used for printing the stamp was prepared in one piece with sophisticated equipment and a great degree of precision. On the other hand, the plate for the overprints was assembled from many individual pieces with the main item of precision being an ordinary ruler. It is because of this that irregularities appear in the location of the overprints in relation to each other.

The best known "narrow spacing" appears on the O.H.M.S. Overprints on the 1c., 2c., 3c., and 4c. values of the 1942-43 War Issue. The overprints on the first two vertical rows of stamps of the right panes are closer to each other than any other horizontal pair of overprints on the rest of the sheet. Little is known, however, of the narrow spacing on the 1899 Surcharges on the 3c. Maple Leaf (above) and Numeral Issues of 1897 and 1898 respectively.

Here we see that the average distance between surcharges is 7mm. except between the the third and fourth stamp from the left of the sheet. It is here that the overprinted surcharges are only 4mm. apart. This appears to be consistent in all sheets of both the Numeral and Maple Leaf Issue and certainly opens a new variety for collectors of Canadian Victorian Issues.

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By HANS REICHE (RPSC 6397)

I do not want to disturb the peaceful co-existence of unhinged and mint stamps but it was with great interest that I heard about the recent meeting which was held in Europe by the International Congress of Philatelic Societies. For obvious reasons a large number of journals which are heavily supported by the "unhinged" dealers and collectors did not even report this meeting. A decision was reached by this international body that mint stamps with light hinge marks equal those which are never hinged. One well known German magazine reflects this stand in that some dealers have dropped the difference from their listing.

With the new 7c. and 8c. regular issue we have entered the "dark" era. Both are printed in a very dark colour and the cancellation on such a dark stamp is often indistinct. New varieties are being reported almost every day. We have already mentioned some months ago the possible change in the tagging and now with the new Ottawa tagging another experiment starts. This will likely be followed by a further change in the method as the hi bright paper is out and the regular paper is used. Speaking of the regular issue all the recent coils have appeared in imperforated form and the first 8c. coil has been seen.

Coming back to my first topic I notice that hinge makers are introducing folded hinges with very narrow hinge portion about 1mm wide. Unfortunately these hinges touch such a small area that they do not stick well at all. One sale circuit book mounted with these hinges arrived in Ottawa with all the stamps "unhinged". Before buying hinges make certain they are what you really want and can use.

A mysterious 1c. Maple Leaf has been shown to me with a clear double line U watermark similar to the large Queen issue . Was this type of paper used for this issue? Not too many Canadian stamps show watermarks.

The interest in philatelic sidelines is growing everywhere. This is probably not surprising because everything around us is becoming more complex. Stamps alone may not be challenging enough for a number of collectors. Dealers are always looking for new material. Few can afford fine classics and recent auction prices show this clearly. In the USA the Government Printing Bureau issues special souvenir sheets for stamp exhibitions. They have no mailing value but are often nice reproductions of issued stamps. The latest one shows U.S. No. 1 and 2 on a sheet. These sheets have now become a collecting sideline with special albums and prices for some issues going into the hundreds. Many German government offices used to apply special stickers to their official mail envelopes to close the mail. These stickers come in fancy forms and colours with the inscription of the government department. A special catalogue exists for these. The official free mailing government envelopes and mail labels are another such sideline Soon this privilege will end and the government will use stamps on their mail or make use of meters. During the war special cards were printed to tell soldiers in the field of a shipment of cigarettes. These cards come in many different designs but I have not seen a listing of them. A collection of the International Reply Coupons is a study in itself. Another facet are the old Retour stamps or labels which were used to indicate a return of

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a letter. The Old German States had a number of such labels, all of them very primitive with many printing errors. They are listed in specialized catalogues. The Canadian Prisoner of War labels are another such item. Many stamp manufacturing companies issue samples of their printing art for advertisement purposes. Such examples exist from the two Canadian Bank Note Companies, De La Rue, Bradbury Wilkinson, Courvoisier and others. Good hunting!

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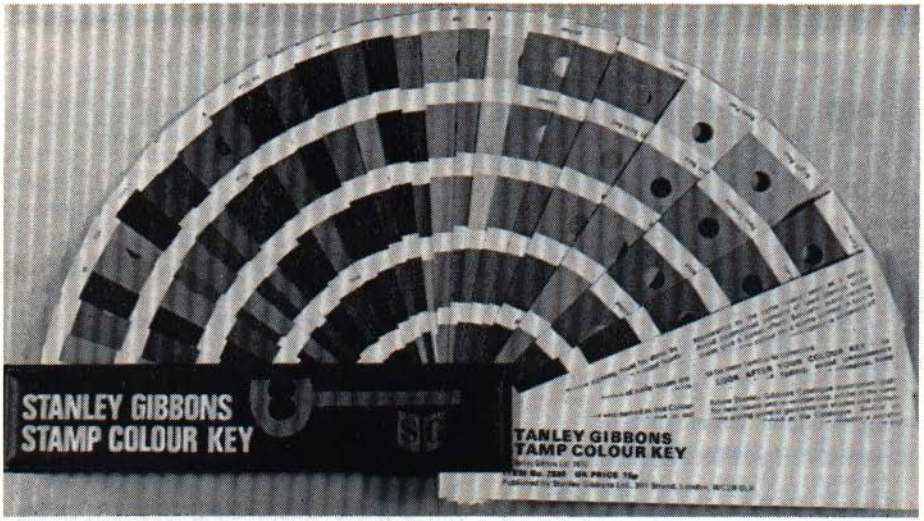
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REVIEW

LYMAN'S B.N.A. CATALOGUE - 1972

Well, here it is "Lyman Time" again. This annual catalogue continues to grow in content but not in size (56 pages), and prices continue to change (3,468 increases). However, the signs of increased cost of production are starting to show by the various compromises that had to be made to keep the price reasonable.

Despite the fact that new chrome printing plates are being used ,illustrations, in many instances, are blurred, indistinct and smudged. Many of the neat, black-framed pictures of the previous catalogues have given way to irregularly cropped stamps. Most of the tall stamps are now lying on their side and some sets have been overlapped in order to gain more printing space. Although these changes detract from the overall general appearance, they do not change the usefulness of the catalogue as a price list and the ever increasing number of collectors and dealers who accept it as the standard pricing for B.N.A. stamps, attest to its acceptance.

A serious oversight in last year's issue is continued in this one. The order form (page 54) gives no indication as to where the order is to be sent and, in fact, the complete address of the publisher appears only once elsewhere and then only to inform readers about catalogues. In addition, the use of the order form mutilates the catalogue. A detached order form enclosure would have been a wiser choice for the small extra expense involved.

Catalogues can be obtained from most dealers @ 85c. or from R. W. Lyman (Canada) Company, P.O. Box 23 Station D, Toronto 165, Ontario, Canada, @ $1.00 postpaid.

F.G.S.

* * * *

British Columbia Revenue Catalogue, Visual Guide and Album Sheets. Published by K. Bileski, Station B, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Price $10.00.

Mr. Bileski has added another to his list of revenue publications to cover the issues of British Columbia Revenue Stamps (Franks are not included). Based upon data supplied by Dr. J. A. Pearce of Victoria the catalogue is an interesting study of the Law stamps which is backed up by a tabulation of all of the printing orders. The excellent illustrations in the catalogue and the Visual guide make identification easy and the loose leaf album has spaces for all main varieties.

* * * *

Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Specialised Stamp Catalogue Volume 3 Queen Elizabeth II— Second Edition, Published 5th November 1971. Price £2

It is a sad commentary on the ever increasing flood of new issues that a specialised catalogue on the U.K. Queen Elizabeth issues can occupy 360 pages. Approximately substantially over half the book is devoted to special issues including a section on postage dues, perforations and booklets. Extensive listings are given for varieties, cylinder numbers, shades and other aspects of the stamps covered. The catalogue can be recommended for all who are interested in this period. (H. S.)

* * * *

Stanley Gibbons 'Elizabethan' Postage Stamp Catalogue, 1972 Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London, WC2R OLX. Price £1.75

A compact 5x6½ in. pocket-size reference work which you can slip into your overcoat this winter before you sally forth to the local stamp club meeting. Stamp illustrations and text have been reduced photographically, but despite this compression, the smaller type is clear and readable, with the numerous varieties which interest so many collectors (448 new ones in this edition), suitably enlarged. The Publishers have added 76 extra pages, 1,812 new stamps and 412 new illustrations.

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Ireland and South Africa belonging to 'Elizabethan' era, which commenced in February 1952 — virtually 20 years of stamp development and history. It is more detailed than the standard Gibbons British Comonwealth Catalogue, steering a middle course for the fairly advanced collector. Prices have been revised to accord with the latest market changes, and there are many price alterations throughout. Some worthwhile shades and plate varieties have been added, with some interesting developments in the short-lived releases of Commonwealth booklets. With all its ancillary information on currencies, location, political status, plate-numbers and printings, sheet sizes, imprints and quantities sold, the new Elizabethan is an encyclopaedic 'mini-marvel'!

* * * *

1972 Scott Catalogue — Volumes 1; 2 and 3

This year Scott has gone to three volumes to accommodate the ever increasing numbers of new issues. All volumes show numerous price changes although most of these apply to the earlier issues. There are 74,853 price changes in the three volumes or about 21% more than were made in the TWO volume edition last year. The market for good material shows no sign of deteriorating as indicated by the high number of price increases.

In volume 1 the British Guiana No. 13 is now shown a valuation of $325,000. This is its first listing since 1966 when it was listed at $75,000. Wouldn't it be nice to find one in a mixture.

In this volume there are over 13,000 price changes and over half of them are in the British Commonwealth with U.S.A. issues showing nearly 3,000. Over 2,000 new issues were added from the previous edition.

The Canadian section shows nearly 700 new prices, the early and middle issues being mostly affected. Quotations for the 1897 jubilees are up about 20%.

Volume 2 has many price changes and most of them are increases. Venezuela and Russia lead with nearly three thousands each. The 2,300 changes in Spanish issues suggest a lively market.

Volume 3 has about 27,000 price changes. It includes many new listings including San Marino's 1947 issue honouring Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The three volumes of 1972 Scott are of approximately equal size and retail at $8. each. New lightweight bindings reduce the bulk of the catalogues considerably and are now quite attractive. Well recommended for serious philatelists.

G. F. W. F.

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Coming Events

MARCH 25 & 26 — North Toronto Stamp Club Annual Exhibition. 180 Eglinton Ave. West, Toronto. (S. C. Sheppard 225 - 8070).

APRIL 8 & 9 — KAPEX 72 Annual Exhibition of the Kawartha Philatelic Society, Holiday Inn, George St. Peterboro, Ont. Bob Bowley, 374 Hunter St. W., chairman.

APRIL 15th — Barrie District Stamp Club Exhibition, St. Georges Parish Hall, Barrie, Ont.

MAY 5 & 6 — Annual Exhibition & Bourse, St. Catharines Stamp Club, Fairview Mall - adj. Q.E. Highway, St. Catharines, Ontario.

MAY 6 & 7 — ORAPEX 72. R. A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr. Ottawa.

JULY 6, 7 and 8 — CANPEX '72. The Annual Convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Chateau Lacombe, Edmonton, Alberta. Contact Mr. E. S. Bishop, Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta.

JUNE 24 - JULY 9 — "Belgica 72" International Exhibition, Brussels, Belgium. Canadian Commissioner. J. N. Sissons, Suite 27 King Edward Hotel, 37 King Street East, Toronto 1.

AUGUST 12 — Cobourg Stamp Club Annual Exhibition, Senior Citizens Centre (behind Town Hall) Cobourg.

SEPTEMBER 7 - 10 — B.N.A.P.S. Convention, Holiday Inn, St. John's Newfoundland. Col. R. H. Pratt, 7912 N. Beach Road, Milwaukee 17, Wisconsin.

NOVEMBER 10 - 11 — Hamilton Philatelic Society Annual Exhibition and Bourse, Hamilton YMCA.

1976. PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION—MAY 21st to 30th. Secretary—A. H. Kessler 7934 Pickering Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19150, U.S.A.

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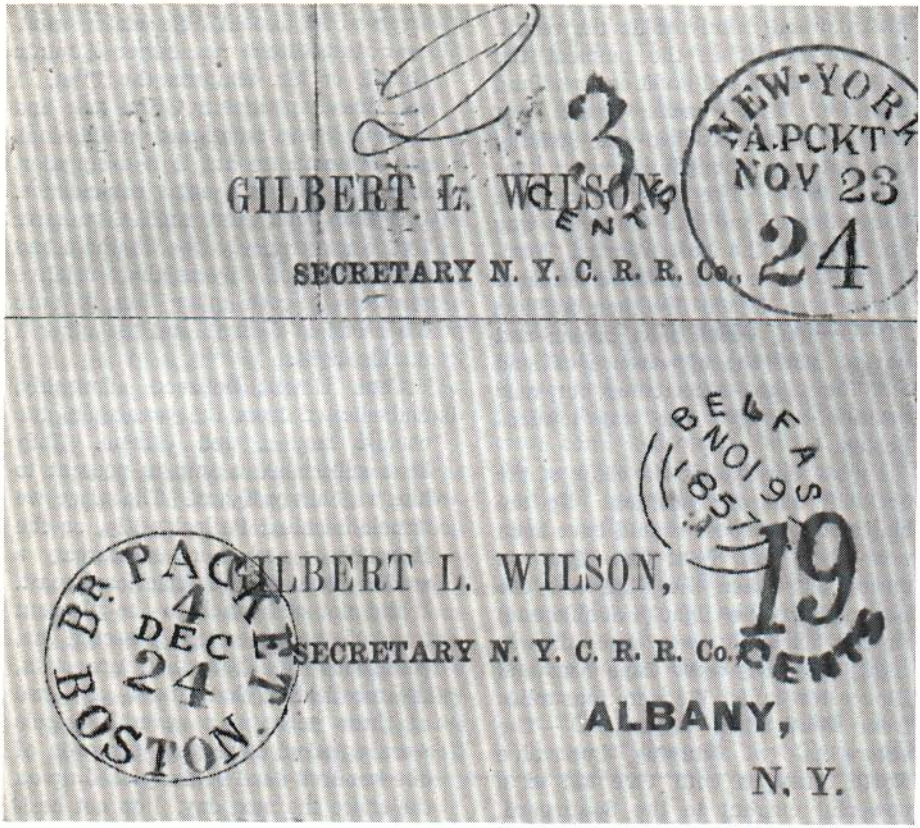
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CUNARD LINE

By J. C. ARNELL, RPSC 8170

XIII. Near Tragedies for the Britannia

Unless a Cunard steamer failed to arrive at its destination on schedule, any unusual event during a voyage was as likely as not be over-looked by the newspaper, unless a passenger happened to send the story to an editor. Part VI of this series of articles described an eye-witness account of the loss of the **Columbia** on Black Ledge off the south coast of Nova Scotia on 2 July 1843. Six months later, the **Britannia** was nearly lost near Cape Cod on her way from Halifax to Boston just before dawn on 21 January 1844. Most newspapers only carried the usual item of Shipping Intelligence, viz. "The Steamship Britannia, Hewitt, hence arrived at Boston in 49 hours." However, a Halifax passenger sent an account of the accident to the Halifax **Morning Post,** and it was subsequently copied from there by the Bermuda **Royal Gazette** on 20 February 1844 . This letter is reproduced below, because it gives a good description of incident and the reaction of the passengers, as well as adding to Charles Dickens' account of life of the same vessel (Part IX).

> "You know we left the wharf at Halifax on Friday at 2 o'clock, having on board about 80 passengers. Every thing went on very smoothly and with the usual monotony until next morning at 6 o'clock, when it began to blow violently from the North and increased to a gale, accompanied with snow and sleet, the vessel making ice very fast. Thus it continued all Saturday — the ropes frozen and bound in ice — the decks thick with sleet, and the cold piercing and intense. Owing to the gale (which was violent as that of the Wednesday night previous to o u r leaving you may remember it,) no fires could be kept in either the Ladies' or Gentlemen's Saloon, for at every attempt to make a fire in either, it was filled with smoke; and the passengers sat all day muffled up in cloaks and great coats — looking very triste. For my own part I went to bed, to keep myself warm, and got up when at 4 o'clock the dinner bell sounded. At dinner there was a general disposition shown to be cheerful and happy. The attendance was very numerous; and it passed off very pleasantly. An officer of the ship proposed, and drew forth a reply from a young American gentleman on board, most happily expressed ending with the quotation from a Scotch Bard "Is there a man with soul so dead," &c., then all at table sang "Home sweet Home" with excellent effect. Many songs followed, and the party sat late; and when they retired for the night it was with the agreeable impression that at day-light we would make Cape Ann light and be in Boston in time to breakfast. Thus we retired: but how different the awakening! About an hour before daylight on Sunday morning, passengers were aroused from sleep by confusion of noise which it is not an easy task to describe — the vessel had struck! T h e thumping of her hull on the shore — the cry on deck of "stop her" addressed to the Engineer — the clustering together of passengers in the Cabin or springing from their beds — cries of "Steward, Steward — a light in my cabin!" — the various hurried reports from the deck brought by passengers who had rushed up — the scene, some hurriedly dressing, other standing motionless, several blowing most lustily the air into their life preserves, (as if they would avail one minute in a sea where



Two proxy votes from Sidmouth dated 9 November 1857 and from Belfast ten days later. The earlier one was backstamped at London on 10 November and sent to Liverpool, where it was struck with "3 CENTS" to show the G.P.O.'s share of the postage to be collected on delivery, as it was to go by American packet to New York, where it was datestamped on 23 November with the "A.PCKT" strike, which also showed that 24 cents postage was due. The second one was backstamped at both the Liverpool postoffice and exchange office on 20 November and struck with "19 CENTS" as it was going by Cunard steamer. At Boston, it was datestamped with the "BR. PACKET" strike, which also showed that 24 cents postage was due. All markings in black.

the temperature was fearfully cold.) all tended to perplex and distress the mind without imparting one iota of information or relief. Some reported that she had struck close to the Boston light, others at Cape Ann, others Cape Cod, and the real facts were that no body on board at the moment knew where we where. On deck it was very dark ,and so piercing cold and icy that it was next to impossible remaining there. The thermometer must have been considerably below zero. I hastily threw on part of my dress; and awakened my little boy out of a sound sleep, (who murmured much at being taken from his warm bed so early) and, with the awful uncertainty at that moment of the issue of our disaster, my feelings while dressing my darling son can never be described. I made up my

mind firmly to remain on board at all hazards, and calmly abide the result. Captain Hewitt at the moment the ship struck showed great coolness and decision. The steamer struck four times, and was backed off, striking once after we thought we were clear of the shoal. The ship's course was then altered, and had moderate way on her when the look-out cried "hard-a-port" and we thus escaped breakers which were ahead. We then laid bye till daylight, which soon broke; and having from the appearance of land and the lights, ascertained our true position we sped our way towards Boston.

I must now explain the cause of the accident and our position. By the ship's reckoning we should have been near Cape Ann light the time we struck and when the Pilot saw the light and another light (a double one) further ahead he was sure all was right; that they were Cape Ann and Gloucester lights. We were four miles from shore when we struck. —The severe gale of Saturday, from the North, blew us with the aid of a powerful current to the Southward, and when we struck and ascertained that we were between Chatham and Cape Cod lights, we found we had drifted 35 miles to the southward of our course! We were at an opposite point from Boston to where we expected to be, and about 85 miles instead of 30 distant. No blame whatever can attach to either Captain Hewitt or Mr. Simpson the Pilot. I say this emphatically. The gale and current I have mentioned would alone exonerate them; but it is a singular, and was nearly a fatal coincidence, that the Cape Ann and Gloucester lights are precisely like Chatham and Cape Cod, not only in their relative position to each other, but in both cases one is a single and the other a double light.

Capt. Hewitt behaved admirably, and elicited from the passengers the utmost respect and esteem. They have subscribed a sum to present to him a gold snuff box. The place we struck is called Pollock's Rip, or the Horse-Shoe; and there is scarcely a worse place on the American coast. It did not add much to the pleasant train of thought which possesed me, while our fate remained uncertain, the recollection that after a gale, two or three years ago several Vessels were wrecked here, and upwards of one hundred dead bodies picked up on the shore the next day. I do not hesitate to say that had we been in a sailing vessel, our fate would inevitably have been — death. I have many doubts, also, if we had struck at midnight with the wind blowing as it did —the darkness of the night and the

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intense cold; added to the uncertainty of our position, whether we should not have perished.

We were, however, saved, and I trust the hearts of all beat high in gratitude to our kind and almighty Preserver. There may be those among the passengers who — now they are safe on shore — may recklessly forget the dangers they have passed through; ;and lips utter details of the scene with scoffs and laughter which, at the time, at the dread and uncertain hour, were blanched, and colorless with fear. I hope a solemn feeling pervades the minds of all.

Soon after breakfast a notice was stuck up announcing that Divine Service would be performed in the Saloon at 11 o'clock. It was well attended — about 70 being present. The Morning Service of our excellent church was read (including the solemn Sea Service) in a most solemn and impressive manner by Lt. Turner, the Admiralty agent — the 100th and 4th part of the 107th Psalm were sung and a well selected sermon closed the morning service. We arrived here on same day, at 4 in the afternoon, the ship a mass of ice. Excuse this hurried account, as the mail by which I send it closes at mid day, and I have not a moment to read or re-write it."

In September 1847, the **Britannia** was again the victim of a grounding. This time it occurred near Cape Race, Newfoundland, while she was on the way to Halifax from Liverpool. After striking the rocks, the vessel passed into deep water and not appearing to have sustained any serious damage, Captain Harrison continued on to Halifax and, after the usual stop of a several hours at that port, he proceeded to Boston on schedule. Before the **Britannia** was allowed to return across the Atlantic, she was sent to New York for docking to permit an examination on her bottom. Details of the damage was copied from a New York paper by the Halifax Nova Scotian in the 11 October 1847 issue:

"This vessel was raised on the Sectional Dock at New York on Fri-

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day. She was found to be injured much more than was supposed. Her stern, where she received the first shock, was literally broken into splinters ,and her head was entirely off, while she was also badly damaged at midships. If she had run on the dock at low tide, she could not have been got off. The crowd of spectators to see her was immense.

As many ship carpenters are at work on the Britannia as can conveniently be employed, it is expected the necessary repairs will be completed on Wednesday next, when she will leave for Boston. It has been found that false keel is carried away, from the stem to abaft the paddle box, and that the keel is so much damaged as to require the removal of fifty feet on it. The sheathing, which is very thick, is broken off about twenty five feet. The copper in some places is rubbed up."

A second New York report in the same issue commented on the lack of navigational aids along that part of the Newfoundland coast, which overlooked the main transatlantic shipping lanes:

"It is most earnestly to be desired that the British Government will direct the immediate erection of a Light House at the point of Cape Race: and the addition of a 'fog bell' will greatly promote the safety of vessels which pass this dangerous point. The difficulty heretofore has been a question between the local and home authorities, as to which of the two should be at the expense of erecting the building. It strikes us that there cannot be a reasonable doubt on this question. The island of Newfoundland is a part of the British Dominions, and Cape Race is not near the mouth of any harbour. The vicinity of that point is the line of all the British steamers to Halifax ,and on the track of the immense fleet that navigates the St. Lawrence &c.

We believe that the Admiralty have come to the conclusion to erect a light house on the point, as we know that they have corresponded with Captain Harrison with reference to the most eligible point at which to place it."

A modern reader cannot help but be impressed by the ruggedness of these little steamers and the skill of their captains in navigating them across the Atlantic in all seasons with gales and fogs reducing visibility along routes that passed close to the shoals of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia.

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Attending the National Postal Museum Conference and representing the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada were Directors:—Guy des Rivieres, C. H. Bayley, A. H. Hinrichs, Dr. F. G. Stulberg, Dr. Henry Hicks, E. J. Christensen, S. Kanee, C. Mangold and J. Pike.

A National Philatelic Museum For Canada

In the national philatelic museum which the Post Office is now setting up. The museum, to be located at the Department's Headquarters building in Ottawa, will open its doors in April 1974, or perhaps even before then.

"We are setting our sights high," says Jim Kraemer, the man behind the project. "Our goal is to display a collection that includes items unique in the philatelic world as well as to promote interest in Canadian stamps both inside and outside Canada."

The museum will house stamp collections, artists' original drawings, approved designs, imperforates, sheets of stamps and artifacts associated with the postal service. Over the years since Confederation, the Post Office has filed away unique and rare philatelic items. These will be exhibited along with the donations the Post Office has received from collectors.

Although the emphasis will be on Canadian philatelic items, stamps received from other countries, through a Universal Postal Union exchange program, will be displayed on a rotating basis.

Postmaster General Jean-Pierre Côté invited about 25 philatelists, including the directors of philatelic societies representing the collectors specializing in the study of Canadian postage stamps, to a meeting in Ottawa on December 8th to exchange ideas with them concerning plans for the museum and the acquisition of unique philatelic material.

"In the past, too many of our rare Canadian stamps have left Canada," the Minister said. "Many are in the United States, Switzerland, Italy and elsewhere."

Recently, one of the two known copies of the 1868 "2-Cent Green" (on laid paper) was sold for $25,000 to an American dealer. Most of the "12-penny blacks" ,probably Canada's best known stamp, are in the hands of collectors in Britain and the United States.

A "proof book" showing all the cancellation devices used by the Canada

Post Office prior to 1908 is in the Philatelic Foundation in New York.

"Our early Canadian stamps have the distinction of being among the best engraved in the world. They also rank among the leaders in world popularity".

Mr. Kraemer expects to secure many interesting items from old post offices which have closed or are now closing. This includes cancelling devices, scales, documents, proof books, etc.

He also hopes the Canadian public will contribute to the national museum by donating rare stamps, bequeathing entire collections and providing financial assistance. There exist very favourable tax concessions for donations of this kind.

"The money which is contributed will help us to acquire items needed to fill in the blank spaces in our national collections," Mr. Kraemer said.

The National Postal Museum of Great Britain, founded in 1965, received its impetus when Mr. R. M. Phillips donated his gold medal collection of 19th Century Great Britain. In addition, funds were donated for research and for use by the museum in acquiring various philatelic items.

The National Philatelic Collection of the U.S.A. received its first donation in 1866. Their collection has been continuously built up through donations of specialized collections by philatelists and through transfers of philatelic items from Federal Agencies.

Several collections have already been given to the Canada Post Office. Among them are a collection of Canadian postal stationery, donated by the late Professor R. de L. French of Montreal, and a large collection of Canadian First Flight covers. The covers were not mounted, so considerable work is required to mount and write up this large collection before it can be presented to the public.

In connection with this museum, and with the cooperation of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the British North America Philatelic Society, the Post Office plans to set up a committee to authenticate Canadian stamps.

Mr. Côté has said that the philatelic museum in the Post Office Headquarters' building would be only temporary, with a more permanent postal museum envisaged for the future.

"In this museum we visualize the display area, a library, quiet rooms for research, meeting and lecture rooms with facilities for projecting films, a microfilm viewing room, staff offices, necessary storage rooms, work areas, a post office, etc.," said Mr. Côté.

Mr. Kraemer emphasized that collecting and cataloguing the stamps are not the only problems he faces.

"We have to study a hundred and one things, such as lighting, room temperature, plastic covers for the stamps, cabinets, etc.," he said. "For example, certain adhesive used in displays can ruin a stamp because, in time, they penetrate the paper. Also, lighting can cause some colours on a stamp to fade or change colour."

Philately involves more than just collecting the stamps. "You have to know what each stamp represents in the history of the particular country," Mr. Kraemer says.

"Collecting postage stamps is an easy way to learn history. I hope that the schools will take an interest in the museum. The stamp collection is expected to promote an awareness of our country and pride in our cultural heritage."

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THE BRUCE PENINSULA -- ITS FIRST POST OFFICES

By MAX ROSENTHAL

A Desperate Bear Encounter At Colpoys Bay

"It may not be well known that the Indian Lands at Colpoys Bay are getting pretty well bought up, and are being settled by a hardy industrious race of backwoodsmen, that will in a few years reclaim the forests of the Peninsula from being the homes of bears and other wild beasts, to finally become the garden of Western Canada. Some 10 or 14 years past there settled at Colpoy's Bay the Rev. Mr. Atkey, whose indefatigable labours as missionary are well-known to draw the native Indian from his savage mode of life to embrace Christianity. Mr. Atkey has a very interesting family, smart, active, and well educated, but the most interesting members of said family are two fascinating young ladies, and like all blooming girls have their admirers.

It so happened that the rush of settlers lately to Colpoys Bay, that a family by the name of "Soper" bought and located on the Indian Reserve — the old gentleman and his two sons. Mr. Soper is a good shot, and an old bear and deer hunter, and so is young Soper, who has lately been shooting his darts at the said Miss Atkey. The wants of the settlers had become so pressing in most all branches of trade and commerce, and among other wants, that of postal communication was felt the worst, and through the exertions of J. McKenzie, of Presque Isle, Geo. Brown*, Esq. of Owen Sound, and others, Officers were established at Sarawak, North Keppel, and Colpoys Bay. The business of different Offices commenced on first July—John McKenzie being mail contractor. — On Monday evening the mail arrived at Rev. Mr. Atkey, who takes charge of the carrier's horse, the mail being ferried across to the north side of Colpoys Bay. — Mr. Atkey having ordered the "black mare" to be tethered in the clover, by the side of which is a patch of late oats.

Said oats had lately been visited by the bear, to the great destruction of the crop. This night Mr. Soper and his son undertook to watch for "Bruin", the old man with his rifle, the young man with the old musket, but Bruin was slow in making his appearance. At last young Soper heard and saw the bear was at some distance in the oats. After consultation the young man was prevailed on to fire, and down went the bear. By mutual agreement Mr. Atkey and his three sons ran with axes and pitch-forks to the scene of conflict. Very cautiously did they approach the fallen foe, Sopers on the one side, Atkey on the other. What was their astonishment to find shot through the leg and side not "Bruin", but McKenzie's "black mare", faithful "Doll", the bearer of Her Majesty's Mail.

The mare is now "convalescent" and is likely soon to bear the "track" again. If your readers keep a good look out, they will see on Tuesday night, the Owen Sound and Colpoys Bay mail carried on the back of the "hero" of this tale, the bear of Colpoys Bay."

* Postmaster of Owen Sound then.

With this amusing story from "Manitua", one of its subscribers, the Owen Sound Comet on October 23, 1863 informed its readers of the introduction of post offices and mail service in the Bruce Peninsula, northwest from Owen Sound.

In 1854 the Saugeen or Bruce Peninsula had been sold by the Indians. Bounded on the south by a line from the Indian village of Newash, where the Pottawatamie River flows into the Owen Sound, to the Indian village of Saugeen, where the river of that name flows into

Lake Huron, in this surrender several small reserves were excepted, among them a strip north from the Pottawatamie, and a tract of land at Colpoy's Bay. By the Peter Jones Treaty of 1857 the Indians surrendered their reserve at Newash, immediately northwest of the town of Owen Sound. It became the township of Sarawak. In 1861 the Colpoy's Bay Reserve was surrendered to the white man.

All of the lands in Grey County north of the present Highway 21 to Colpoy's Bay, except for the Sarawak portion, became Keppel Township. In 1855 Charles Rankin surveyed it, as well as Amabel Township, west of the present Highway 6. The latter and all other townships in the Peninsula are in Bruce County.

As early as 1857 there were settlements on the Big Bay shore of Keppel, that broad bay which curves into the shore east of Colpoy's Bay and west of the Owen Sound bay. In December the first settlers took up land in Albemarle, the next township north of Amabel, among them Rev. Ludwick Kribs. In the summer of the next year Leonard Gleeson began a saw mill at Colpoy's Bay, followed by the building of a saw and grist mill by Kribs. This had the effect of centering the trade of the settlers at this village. The post office was opened at Colpoy's Bay by Kribs in 1863. Lovell's 1871 Canadian Directory noted: "It has a steamboat landing at which boats plying between Owen Sound and Colpoy's Bay call."

(to be continued)

CHAPTER R.P.S.C NEWS -CANADA-

ORAPEX '72 sponsored by the RA Stamp Club, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1H 7X7, will have for sale a specially designed commemorative envelope for the 11th Annual Exhibition & Bourse of the RA Stamp Club.

The envelope will commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the RA Stamp Club. Envelopes will be sold in sets of 3 for $1.00. A different Canadian. 08c. postage stamp will be used on the three envelopes, including an Ottawa .08c. tagged and an .08c. coil definite issue (Parliamentary Library issued 30 December, 1971. Each envelope will be cancelled by a special four-line bilingual die cancellation to be used for one day only (6 May 1972) - ORAPEX '72, 1947-1972, 25th Anniv 25 ieme, May 6 & 7 mai.

The envelopes will be sold in sets of three only for $1.00 per set. Payment should be made by postal money order. No stamps or personal cheques please. Orders should be sent to Miss Margaret Over, c/o RA Stamp Club, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1H 7X7. The set of 3 envelopes will be returned under cover to the purchaser. Orders will be accepted now.

* * * *

GREETINGS FROM THE NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB

1972 marks our 50th year as a stamp club, and we are commemorating this event by means of a Jubilee Party to be held at the Lord Nelson Hotel on Friday and Saturday, 14-15 Apr. 72. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jarrett will be with us as our guests; and Fred will be our guest speaker at the banquet party on Saturday evening 15 Apr. 7...

The 2-day event will include, in addition to the above, Seminars; Exhibitions (Public, Club and Post Office); Showings of 35 mm Slides; Auctions (Junior and Club); Bourse; Award of the Madge Morison Trophy donated by Dr. and Mrs. Henry D. Hicks; and other general awards. In addition we are hoping that many of our friends will see fit to come to Halifax to join us and the Jarrets in this celebration.

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