



JOURNAL OF THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GT. BRITAIN

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Whole No. 17

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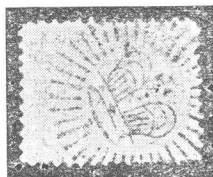
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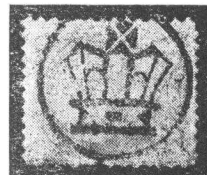
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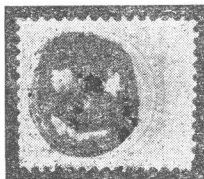


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Notes and Comments

Articles for Maple Leaves

Our members are too modest. Few evidently feel inclined to "rush into print." At any rate, the editorial office is seeing little from which to choose material for the magazine. We don't suppose members would like the journal to cease to be published; after all, it is a link between members, or should be. We hope this paragraph or similar paragraphs will not have to be repeated in each of the remaining issues of the journal. Articles need not all be on original research: general articles and bright paragraphs about the doings of groups, etc., will be of interest to members. You don't want the journal to develop into a digest of articles published elsewhere, we feel sure.

Articles in this Issue

Our good member and assistant editor R. J. Duncan, of Armstrong, B.C., has sent two old copies of B.N.A. Topics and recommends the reprinting of two articles in them, one written by C. Coleman on "Coils" and the other by Arthur B. Moll on the 5c. Caribou of Newfoundland. We hope members will be interested in them. Member J. M. Stevenson has very kindly let us have his notes and record of the Instructions to British Postmasters, dug out from official sources by Mr Westley. By the way, if any member collects the Postmarks of London he will find Mr Westley's book of absorbing interest. Mention of books reminds us that member Ramsay Stewart staged a very fine display of "Music on Stamps" at Philately House during the Edinburgh Festival this year.

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The publication of a Society journal is expensive, and we must remember that the cost is to quite a considerable extent met by payments for advertisements. The advertisers are not contributing out of charity, they expect something in return. All this is obvious and adds up to the three-word slogan heading this paragraph. Our advertisers cannot describe all the items they have to offer. Why not send an enquiry to them: they may have the very stamps you require or books or articles you would enjoy and profit by reading.

Publication Dates

The long delay in getting out the July number was the result of holidays and shortage of compositors. Holidays are over and new staff has been engaged, and our printers now hope to be able to get out the journal regularly in future at the beginning of each quarter, provided they get the "copy" in good time. Now refer back to the first paragraph and find the clue to regular publication. Must we repeat? Don't leave it all to the editor and assistant editors!

The Library

Our new librarian, member K. C. Anderson, has begun to gather in the books and is in process of compiling a catalogue. He hopes soon to be able to lend books expeditiously and to keep enquirers informed of the lending position.

Anspex Exhibition in Aberdeen

Your editor, along with many other members, including Jack Canuck, made it their business to visit Aberdeen during the Aberdeen Exhibition. Something good can always be expected when our Aberdeen members and their colleagues of the Aberdeen P.S. stage a show, and we were not disappointed. A composite display of Canadian and B.N.A. stamps was naturally our first objective. Contributed by Members John Anderson, Donald Fraser, G. Beverley, A. L. Bruce and Albert Smith, it consisted of unusual cancellations of small and large heads, semi-official and official air mails, Jubilees, and a sprinkling of both earlies and moderns. Other members showed interesting items but as these were not B.N.A. we will pass to other matters.

On opening night we saw many kent C.P.S. faces in the company—the genial Os. Fraser (not the wizard, though at times we think he is, when he produces "jist something Ah picked up"), Albert Smith, A. E. Stephenson, John Anderson, John Fraser, Major Findlay, Charles Hornal, J. Merrylees, Willie Falconer, and others. We have deliberately left out the name of another Canuck, Dr V. Watson, in order to give him special mention for his organisation as Convener of the Exhibition and Editor of the Anspex book. Yes, doctor, they were tops. (The Anspex book is a good 1s. 6d. worth, obtainable from Albert Smith, 411 Grampian Road, Aberdeen).

We got a surprise to find a man who had once lived in Perth who did not know of those delectable "sweeties," peculiar to Scotland, known as "Conversation Lozenges." However, having partaken of the wisdom that issued from a bagful, Robson Lowe was able to pour forth a wonderful chain of stories when he opened the show. We wonder if, when returning to the land of the Sassenach, he handed out many of these sweet and loving greetings. If these did not get him into trouble, perhaps we'll find a bagful for him to take to Capex!

Another welcome visitor was Major Anthony Walker of "Stamp Collecting." We should like to know how he caught that haggis he carried around, and would not be parted from. Will he assist its digestion with helpings of "Athol brose"? He and A.E.S. were later found discussing the subject of Canadian Essays in the shadow of Ben Macdhui and Cairn Toul. A fine centre for a study group!

Changes of address

A number of old addresses were inadvertently included in the membership list. The new addresses have been listed elsewhere in this issue. We hope the omission to alter the addresses has not caused inconvenience to these members.

The 5 Cent. Caribou of Newfoundland

By ARTHUR B. MOLL

(Reprinted from B.N.A. Topics, February, 1945)

Several times during the last few years there has appeared a challenge in philatelic publications to solve the "mystery" of the 5c. Caribou of Newfoundland, Scott's Type A101. Questions were raised about the different dies, shades, colours, plate numbers, printing and other factors which certainly made this stamp the subject of much speculation. The writer was tempted to accept the challenge on more than one occasion, but each time enough evidence presented itself to clearly indicate that there was more to it than appeared at first glance. However, after quite a pile of stamps and covers had been accumulated, a course of study was outlined and the job started.

This article will attempt to answer many questions and at the same time ask a number of new ones, and by doing so give many a pleasurable hour to some other collectors who may be interested enough to continue the study. It is to be noted that the job is indicated as started only, because the writer believes that additional study and perhaps some official confirmation will be needed before a completely definite story can be told. The study reported herein is the result of an examination of the stamps and covers themselves without any attempt to get official information, which made it all the more interesting and perhaps difficult.

The Catalogue Listing

The Scott 1945 Catalogue listings have just about added the finishing touch to the confusion that exists. If it were the duty of the writer to prepare the listings for the catalogue, the following is the way it would appear:

Engraved

Watermarked-Coat of Arms in Sheet (224)

Per. 13½

Two Dies of the 5c.—See description below.

‡ 190 A101 5c. violet brown (Die I) (1932)

‡ 191 A101 5c. violet (Die II) (1932)

a. 5c. violet (Die I) (1933)

b. Imperf.

Perf. 12½

‡ 259 A101 5c. violet (Die I) (1942)

a. 5c. violet. Perf. 13½ (Die I) (1941)

Note.—Numbers 191 and 191a appear in a number of different shades, from light violet to deep violet, with reddish-brown violet and deep purple-violet as additional colours. Numbers 259 and 259a were not re-engraved, but were printed from a new plate prepared from Die I. Number 259a is not one of the so-called war printings, but appeared as a regular printing from a new plate.

The above listing will be followed in the balance of this article wherever numbers are referred to.

The Dies

The first stamp to appear in this design was the violet brown stamp in Die I, Scott's number 190. This was followed by the Die II in a number of violet shades and the use of Die I in two of the violet shades, numbers 191 and 191a. The stamps listed as numbers 259 and 259a are also Die I, but from a new plate. The width of the stamps cannot be accurately used as a determining factor for deciding the different Dies. The same Die might very well produce stamps of different widths from different plates because of some difference in the metal or in the processing of the different plates during preparation. Hence the difference between the width of numbers 190 and 191a, which vary from $20\frac{1}{4}$ to $20\frac{1}{2}$ Millimeters and numbers 259 and 259a, which are 21 Millimeters wide (sometimes a slight bit less).

There are two main distinguishing features of the Dies I and II. First, in Die I, the outer frame line is thicker than the inner frame line on both sides, whereas in Die II, both frame lines are of equal thickness. The second difference is this: in Die I, the tips of the top two points of the antlers are on the same level, whereas in Die II, the tip of the right point is higher than the left. There are other minor differences, but they are unimportant and can be disregarded because the other two are consistent and clear.

The Shades and Colours

Here we consider one of the most confusing points of this study, and yet the one which helps probably the most in determining the printing and order of appearances of the stamps. To give names to the shades is always a difficult matter, because the writer's idea of light violet, for instance, might disagree with the reader's conception. At any rate, these classifications are not made at random but are supported in each case by many hundreds of stamps at least, and thus are consistent.

First to appear, of course, was the violet brown, Die I, Scott's number 190. This is in a class by itself and should cause no trouble. Then, for the sake of eliminating the more easily identified ones first, we shall describe the other Die I stamps. There are two shades of the number 191a, both a good rich violet, with one having a more pronounced red tint to the violet. Shall we call these a deep violet and a deep red violet? The deep violet appeared first in 1933 and was used for the most part in 1933 and 1934. The deep red violet made its first appearance in late 1935 and was used for the most part during 1936. Remember, however, that later use of any stamps is quite likely, but is not important unless it is consistent and widespread. Both of these stamps have a good clear design and the plate was in good condition. The other Die I stamps are numbers 259 and 259a, and at this writing do not have any important shade differences. They are both a light violet, printed with a clearly pronounced design from a good plate, and should cause no trouble in identification.

Now for the Die II stamps. The first of these is a very deep colour, almost a purple, which stands out from the other violets because it is so dark. This stamp appeared late in 1932 and was used for the most part during 1933. The design is clearly pronounced and the plate was in very good condition. Then, during the latter part of 1934, a very similar stamp was used, except that the colour appeared to be slightly washed, or dulled. It lacked the richness of the stamps which first were used, but still had a good clear design from a plate in good condition.

Let us now skip to early in 1939. At that time a stamp was placed in use which most certainly was produced from a new Die II plate. The design is smaller and very clearly defined. The new plate was probably necessary because of the worn condition of the one previously in use, as will be described later. The colour of this new stamp also stands out from the rest. It is a very rich reddish-brown violet. In the opinion of the writer, the plate was probably not in use very long before something happened to it, probably caused by enemy action, as these stamps were printed in England. Thus it was that another plate followed in a very short time, this time prepared from Die I, which was used to print the stamps known as numbers 259 and 259a.

This now brings us to the difficult in-between period from 1936 to 1939, when the stamps of Die II gradually change from a deep violet to a pale violet. An examination of the stamps discloses that this gradual lightening of the shades occurs proportionately to the decrease in the clearness of the design. In other words, the plate was wearing out. In fact, on some of the stamps used in 1939 there is a very noticeable absence of shading lines above the head of the Caribou, and all the other lines of the design are much thinner and quite faint, accounting for the light colour to a great extent. How many printings during this period? That has yet to be determined, and here the writer passes on the challenge to someone else to carry on the study. Three classifications have been made, but there is not a true feeling of finality here as brought by the other classifications.

Sizes

The first stamp to appear, number 190, measures, between $20\frac{1}{4}$ and $20\frac{1}{2}$ millimeters wide. We shall call it $20\frac{1}{4}$ because it is more nearly that. The stamp is $26\frac{3}{4}$ millimeters high. The other Die I stamps in use during 1932 to 1936, listed as number 191a, were exactly the same size and were probably printed from the same plate. The Die I stamps printed from the new plate and appearing in 1941 and 1942, numbers 259a and 259, are 21 millimeters wide by 27 millimeters high.

The first Die II stamp to appear, the very deep violet which was introduced during the first half of 1933, measures from $20\frac{1}{2}$ - $20\frac{3}{4}$ mm. wide by $26\frac{3}{4}$ mm. high. This is exactly the same size as the duller stamp which appeared later in 1934. The stamp which appeared early in 1939, the one with the very rich reddish-brown violet colour, measures from $20\frac{1}{4}$ to $20\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide by $26\frac{3}{4}$ mm. high. All the other shades of Die II measure $20\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by $26\frac{3}{4}$ mm., with some slight variations. These slight variations, mainly of less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mm., are not conclusive because of paper shrinkage, humidity, etc. It has been the experience of the writer to find this same slight variation in the same stamp when measured on different days.

Plate Numbers

At this point the writer must confess that enough stamps with plate numbers have not been examined in order to make a conclusive statement. This is your chance to come through and send yours in for inspection. They will be returned promptly. The plate numbers are located on the margin paper in the upper left corner of the sheet.

Numbers 259a and 259 do not have any plate marking at all in this respect. The first plate of Die I is one of those not seen by the writer. However, some of the Die II stamps have been printed from plates marked with either a dot and a reversed 2, or a dot and a normal 3. At least two of the printing used the dot and reversed 2, but because all of the shades were not seen, a conclusion cannot be reached.

THE 5 CENT. CARIBOU OF NEWFOUNDLAND

No.	Die (Revised)	Perf.	Colour	Size in mm.	When Issued	Main Period in Use	Paper (Wove)	Gum
190	I	13½	Violet	20¼ x 26¾	Jan. 2, 1932	1932	Medium-Thick	Thick uneven, off-white to brown
191	II	13½	Dark Purple-Violet	20¼ to 20¾ x 26¾	Late 1932	1933	Medium-Thick	Thick uneven, off-white
191a	I	13½	Deep Violet	20¼ x 26¾	Middle 1933	1933-34	Medium-Thick	Thick uneven, off-white to brown
191	II	13½	Dull Purple-Violet	20¼ to 20¾ x 26¾	Late 1934	Late 1934	Medium-Thick	Thick uneven, off-white
191a	I	13½	Deep Red-Violet	20¼ x 26¾	Late 1935	1936	Medium-Thick	Thick uneven, off-white to brown
191*	II	13½	Deep Violet	20¼ x 26¾	Jan., 1935	1936-37-38	Medium	Thick smooth, off-white
191	II	Imperf.	Deep Violet	20¼ x 26¾			Medium-Thick	Thick uneven, off-white
191*	II	13½	Violet	20¼ x 26¾		1938-39-40	Medium	Thick smooth, off-white
191*	II	13½	Pale Violet	20¼ x 26¾		1939-40	Medium	Thick smooth, off-white
191	II	13½	Deep Reddish-Brown Violet	20¼ to 20¾ x 26¾	Early 1939	1939-40-41	Medium	Thick smooth, off-white
259a	I	13½	Light Violet	21 x 27	Late 1941	1941-42	Medium	Thin smooth, white
259	I	12½	Light Violet	21 x 27	Middle 1942	1945	Medium and Thin	Thin smooth, white

* This group may quite possibly be broken up into several classifications.

Sundry Notes and Comments

The paper quite generally is a medium wove, watermarked paper, with the stamps in use during 1932 to 1936 being slightly thicker than the later ones. When the new plate of Die I (number 259a) was introduced in 1941 the paper was similar to the previous issues. This holds true for the first Perf. 12½ stamps to appear (No. 259), but later supplies are on thinner paper, which is more transparent.

The gum on number 190 varies from a slightly off-white to a distinctly brown colour, and it is usually quite thick and cracks very easily. The colour of the gum on later issues continues in the off-white shade but, whereas the early stamps have a heavy uneven gum, the later ones have a smoother, better quality gum which does not crack as easily as on the earlier stamps. The stamps numbered 259 and 259a have the new thin white gum which also does not show any tendency to crack like the first issues.

It is to be noted that the spaces between the stamps vary in proportion to the differences in the width of the stamps themselves. The space between the stamps numbered 259 and 259a which are the widest stamps, measures 3 millimeters and all the others vary from 3¼ to 3½ millimeters.

The writer has so far not discovered any stamp Perf. 14 and has just about reached the conclusion that none exist. What do you say, Mr Boggs?

However there is an Imperf. variety of the deep, violet shade of No. 191, Die II. Not many are believed to exist, possibly not more than one sheet.

The early Die I stamps are much scarcer than the Die II stamps in the proportion of roughly 1 to 20. Can anyone give more light?

The theory has been advanced that the various printings made their appearance following the withdrawal of the 5c. Commemorative stamps of the different issues. In other words, when the different commemorative stamps were issued, the 5c. Caribou went off sale, only to reappear again when the commemorative stamp was withdrawn, and quite likely at each such time a new printing was prepared. These commemorative stamps are as follows:

1933—Sir Humphrey Gilbert.

1935—Silver Jubilee.

1937—Coronation.

1939—Royal Visit.

1941—Sir Wilfred Grenfell.

The writer believes there is considerable merit to this conclusion because the changes in printings coincide generally with the above dates and the use of the 5c. Caribou is considerably less during the times when the other issues were current, which is probably correct, at any rate.

It is the sincere hope that this article will encourage other collectors to take up the slack and fill in the gaps which are quite evident here. The writer will welcome any criticism or corrections supported by facts. A summary chart is presented herewith as a part of this study.

“Experimental Coil”

By C. COLEMAN

(Reprinted from B.N.A. Topics, October, 1945)

“In July, 1918, coils of the 1c. green, Scott's #131, specially perforated with two large additional holes between each pair were sold through stamp vending machines at the Toronto G.P.O. The experiment lasted two days and was abandoned as a failure. No similarly prepared coils were subsequently used in Canada. These supplies were never large.”

The above is a brief history of this coil from George Sloane's ad. in Stamps magazine of December 18, 1943.

Again I quote, this time from Jarrett's catalogue—page 90.

“This stamp (1c. green horizontal perf. 12 and two holes $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in diam. and 7 mm. apart)—Teeth in the feed wheel engage in the larger holes and made the feeding more positive, with less liability of the paper jamming.”

And from Holmes' newest catalogue—page 128.

“The large perforation consisted of two $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. diam. perforations placed 6 mm. apart—others report these measurements different, but mine (Holmes) are taken from the stock of this stamp that was held by the late Mr George Lowe and from whom nearly all supplies of this stamp were obtained by all.”

So far—NOT so good. Experiments, failures and disagreements . . . all over a couple of holes in a coil and, friend reader, there isn't too much else to be read about this little coil. But, it is a legal issue. It was good for postage and so used by the public for two days.

How often we take things for granted and how often we buy stamps, look at them, sigh, and say, “That's one more,” hinge them in our albums and never stop long enough to wonder (in this case anyway) why or how come it was or was not a success. I did exactly this with this coil and took the word of the catalogue writers for the “why's” and the “wherefore's.” One day a second strip of 4 came to me on approval and in comparing it with my first strip, I saw things. That comes later.

Now the total amount made up for these coils is a mystery to me but my guess would be between 5 and 8 thousand coils perforated with the large holes. Of this number, it is stated that Mr George Lowe, a dealer, bought the remainders, totalling about 5,000 stamps. Even then, that (the other 3,000) is a lot of penny coils to sell in two days in a machine that was acting up all the time.

The vending machine. . . well, let's for the sake of avoiding arguments take it for granted that the machine, and especially the feed-wheels with the large engaging teeth, was machined and built accurately. But the machine did jam and many of the coils that did come out were torn and mutilated . . . hence a failure.

Let us now take a look at the stamps . . . get your pair or strip of 4 and look it over and examine it as we go along. I have before me a pair and four strips of 4 (one a paste-up). Now according to the above historians, the diameter of the large holes should be either 4 or $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Hm-m-m, I get $3\frac{1}{2}$ and $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. . . well, well (already it gives with disagreements)—and the distance between the holes . . . all 6 mm.? Just a moment! What's this? Goodness, it's $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm. . . well, whadya know! How's your measuring coming along?

I have never read, nor has anyone ever told me about, or what, the vertical measurement between the large holes should be. I find on the strips I have that they vary so, that I decided to make this small chart to give you a better idea of comparative measurements.

Key	Pair	Strip #1	Strip #2	Strip #3	Strip #4
A	$3\frac{1}{4}$ mm.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$3\frac{1}{4}$ mm.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
E	6 mm.	6 mm.	6 mm.	$7\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	6 mm.
L-1	21 mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	21 mm.	21 mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
R-1	$20\frac{3}{4}$ mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	21 mm.	21 mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
L-2	$21\frac{1}{4}$ mm.	21 mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
R-2	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	21 mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$21\frac{1}{4}$ mm.
L-3		21 mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$20\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
R-3		21 mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	21 mm.	21 mm.
L-4		21 mm.	$21\frac{1}{4}$ mm.	21 mm.	21 mm.
R-4		$21\frac{1}{4}$ mm.	$21\frac{1}{4}$ mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$21\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

A — Diameter of large holes.

B — Distance between large holes horizontally.

L-1, R-1, L-2, R-2, etc. — Distance between the large holes measured vertically, L-1 and R-1 being the left and right measurements on the same stamp and 1, 2, 3, 4, denoting the different stamps in the same strip.

How do your strips compare with the above?

I also find that the distance of the large holes from the edge of the coil varies a great deal.

The above coils all come from different dealers here and in Canada—and reputable ones at that. I wrote to several of the dealers and from their replies I feel certain that all of my coils are good ones. To quote from the dealer from whom I purchased strip #3:

"These were purchased at one of the auctions run by the Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club, one of the Patriotic Auctions I believe, and accompanying the lot was a copy of a letter written by Mr George Lowe, dealer in Toronto at the time, to the person buying the stamps. Mr Lowe thanked the purchaser for the remittance and went on to say that he had purchased the stock from the firm that had used the coils in 1918. He stated that about 5,000 were left over, and that the ones he was selling to the buyer represented all that were left."

I received the above letter long before the Holmes book came along and when it did, I was even more convinced that it was the slipshod way that the large holes were placed that caused the failure of this experiment, as here were two instances (Holmes' measurements and mine) from the stock of Mr Lowe—and both were very different. I have examined other pairs and strips and it is the same story . . . I have never found two strips of 4 that when laid one on the other will have the large holes match. It would also seem that this experiment was conducted entirely by the vending machine company with, of course, the sanction of the Canadian Government. This may be fiction on my part, but I draw the conclusion partly from the above letter from Mr Lowe and partly from the stamps themselves, because no one, after examining the coils, would blame the work on the Canadian P.O.D.

All of the foregoing are my own thoughts about this little item (elusive little beggar, too) and I don't know whether I have added any thing new, but for anyone who has any questions or can give me any additional information, here is my address: P.O. Box 16, Gilman Conn.

Instructions to British Postmasters

Relating to Mails to and from Canada—1856-1863

By J. M. STEVENSON, Member No. 103.

"The Cancelling Stamps of London 1840-1880" is the title of a book now being published by a friend of mine, Mr Harry Westley. This book, profuse with illustrations, will be a most valuable contribution to the postal history of the period, and in its preparation Harry has carried out very intensive research work in the Records Office of the G.P.O.

Knowing my interest in Canadian Postal History, Harry has been good enough to unearth and pass on to me copies of various "Instructions to Postmasters" which, I think, are now published here for the first time, and which throw fresh light on the mails to and from Canada between 1856 and 1863.

You will observe that five of these "Instructions" are signed by Rowland Hill and, as far as diction and clarity are concerned, they are masterpieces.

No. 29—1856. Establishment of a Line of Canadian Mail Packets.

The Government of Canada has established, under contract, a line of Mail Packets to run between Liverpool and Quebec during the summer, and between Liverpool and Portland during the winter. A Packet will sail from Liverpool on Wednesday, the 4th June next, and thenceforward, on every alternate Wednesday during the period that the River St. Lawrence may be open, and once a month when the navigation of the St. Lawrence shall be closed.

Mails will be made up for conveyance by these Packets, and such correspondence will be forwarded by them as may be specially addressed "By Canadian Mail Packet."

The postage upon letters thus sent will be:

For a Letter not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. in weight 6d.

For a Letter exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. and not exceeding 1-oz. 1s.

and so on, according to the scale for charging Inland Letters, and such letters may be paid in advance or forwarded unpaid, at the option of the sender.

Upon Books the usual rate of postage of:

For a packet not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. in weight 6d.

For a packet exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. and not exceeding 1-lb. 1s.

and so on will be chargeable.

Newspapers will be liable to a postage of one penny each.

Books and Newspapers, as well as Letters, intended to be sent by these vessels, must be specially addressed "By Canadian Mail Packet."

ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

General Post Office, 2nd June, 1856.

No. 61—1856. Arrangements for Forwarding Mails to Canada.

Letters for Canada, unless specially addressed to be sent by any particular route, or by any particular line of Packets, will in future be forwarded, as a rule, by the First Mail Packet, whether British or Canadian, which may be despatched from this Country after they are posted.

The British Packets leave Liverpool every Saturday and the Canadian

Packets are appointed to sail from that Port once a Month during the winter season, commencing on Wednesday the 26th instant.

The rates of postage chargeable on Letters, etc., by these two lines of Packets will remain as heretofore.

ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

General Post Office, 22nd November, 1856.

No. 62.—1857. Registration of Letters and Packets of Printed Paper for Certain British Colonies

On the 1st of January next and thenceforward, a Letter or a Packet of Printed Papers addressed to any of the undermentioned British Colonies may be registered on the application of the person posting it, provided the postage, together with the Registration fee of sixpence, be paid in advance:

Canada.	St. Helena.
New Brunswick.	Cape of Good Hope.
Prince Edward Island.	Natal.
Barbados.	Mauritius.
Turks Island.	Ceylon.
Trinidad.	South Australia, and
Sierra Leone.	Western Australia.
Gold Coast.	

ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

General Post Office, 12th December, 1857.

No. 26.—1858- Mails for Canada

The Postmaster-General of Canada having represented that great difficulty and delay is experienced in the conveyance through Nova Scotia and New Brunswick of Newspapers and Book Packets addressed to Canada and marked "via Halifax," and having strongly urged that their transmission by that route should in future be discontinued. Newspapers for Canada will henceforth be forwarded either by way of the United States or by Canadian Mail Packets.

As Book Packets for Canada cannot be transmitted by way of the United States, except at the letter rates of postage, such printed matter will only be forwarded by Canadian Mail Packet.

ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

General Post Office, 17th June, 1858.

No. 19.—15th March, 1859. Letters for Canada.

On the 1st April next, and thenceforward, Letters addressed to Canada posted unpaid, will be charged with a fine of Sixpence each Letter, in addition to the usual postage, and Letters posted insufficiently prepaid will also be charged with the amount deficient and with a fine of Sixpence.

A similar fine, in addition to the postage, will be levied in this country upon all Letter received from Canada, which may have been posted unpaid, or insufficiently prepaid.

A similar instruction relating to Letters to and from Mauritius was issued on 10th March, 1859.

The Money Order system was extended to Canada as from 1st June, 1859, and a list of towns in Canada where Money Orders could be made payable was given in the Post Office Circular of 21st May, 1859.

Also to Cape of Good Hope as from 1st April, 1862. Post Office Circular dated 22nd March, 1862.

No. 35—1858. Letters for Canada

A further representation having been made by the Canadian Government respecting the difficulty attending the conveyance through Nova Scotia of correspondence addressed to Canada, no mails will in future be made up for transmission to Canada by that route.

On the 17th June last, notice was given by this Department that Newspapers and Book Packets addressed to Canada would not be forwarded thenceforth via Halifax, and this regulation will now be extended to letters.

With the exception of Letters, etc., for Bay Chaleur and the district of Gaspe, which will continue to be sent in the mails for New Brunswick, the whole of the correspondence for Canada will in future be forwarded either by way of the United States, or by Canadian Mail Packets.

ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

General Post Office, 23rd August, 1858.

Post Office Circular—26th December, 1863. Pattern Post to Canada

On the 1st January next and thenceforward, Patterns of Merchandise similar to those already transmissible by post between any place in the United Kingdom at reduced rates, may be transmitted by post between England and Canada by Canadian Mail Packet, at the following rates of postage, which must in all cases be prepaid by means of postage stamps, viz.:

Not exceeding 4-oz.	3d.
Above 4-oz. and not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb.	6d.
Above $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. and not exceeding 1-lb.	1s.
Above 1-lb. and not exceeding $1\frac{1}{2}$ -lb.	1s. 6d.
Above $1\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. and not exceeding 2-lbs.	2s.
Every additional $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb.	6d.

I have now discovered one further original item that clarifies the reductions of rates to Canada which took place on the 6th January, 1871.

It is of interest to note that seven months' notice had to be given on this pending change in postal rates.

"Postage on Book Packets and Patterns not exceeding 2-oz. in weight for the Colonies, etc., (including Canada) reduced to:

Not exceeding 1-oz.	1d.
Not exceeding 2-oz.	2d.

—Post Office Circular—21st June, 1869.

Reduction of Postage on Letters to Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick

On the 6th January and thenceforth, the postage on letters posted in the United Kingdom addressed to any part of Canada, Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, will be reduced to 3d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. or fraction thereof, when conveyed by direct Packet or Private Ship, and to 4d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. or fraction thereof when sent via the United States, providing the postage be in each case prepaid.

Unpaid or insufficiently paid letters will be liable on their delivery to an additional charge of 3d. each, over and above the postage.

—Post Office Circular—3rd June, 1870.

(Member Stevenson's article has already been printed in "Weekly Philatelic Gossip," U.S.A.—Ed.)

THE NEW 50 CENT. STAMP

By Mrs E. W. GUYLEE.

The introduction of the aeroplane and diesel engine marked a new era in the chapter of human progress and one of the greatest problems of our time is the supply of oil to meet the increasing demands of modern means of transport, and to provide power and fuel for industrial and domestic requirements.

Distances once so formidable and hazardous are undertaken today in a minimum of time, which would have bewildered the old-time voyager and traveller. Today any part of the world may be reached within a comparatively few flying hours.

The quickening pulse of this great achievement lies in "oil."

It is fitting, therefore, that the recent issue of the 50 cent stamp of Canada should depict the oil-wells of Alberta Province.

The development of industry in the North-West may be said to have really started with the Hudson Bay Company, which founded Fort Edmonton as a trading post in 1795, but the honour of being the first white men to have travelled and traded along the Red, Assiniboine, and Saskatchewan Rivers goes to a Frenchman, Sieur de la Verendrye, and his sons, who in 1728 established a fur trading organisation over the whole of the North-West. It was the fur trade which later, in 1749, brought in the French Canadian traders from old Quebec. The territory controlled by the Hudson Bay Company was transferred to the Dominion of Canada in 1867.

Alberta was so named in 1882 by the Marquis of Lorne — then Governor-General of Canada—as a tribute to his wife, who was the fourth daughter of Queen Victoria. At that time it was one of four Provinces, the others being Athabasca, Assiniboine, and Saskatchewan.

In 1906 the districts of Athabasca and Alberta were combined and formed the Province of Alberta as we know it today, and in the same year Edmonton was made its capital city.

The amazing growth in industry is due partly to its geographical position, and partly to the enormous resources of mineral wealth, the vast areas given over to agriculture and the rearing of cattle on the wide prairies.

The discovery of oil ushered in a new era of prosperity for the Province, for within a radius of fifty miles of Edmonton lie some of the richest oil fields in the world.

The history of this oil production may be said to have commenced in 1914 in the Turner Valley, although prior to 1914 small seepages were found which then proved inconsequential.

During the first world war, Canada produced millions of barrels of oil which contributed in no small measure to the war effort.

In 1942, geo-physicists began the great search for other oil fields, which eventually proved successful.

On 13th February, 1947, the now famous Ludue No. 1 Oil Field was developed and other fields have since been developed, e.g., Redwater, Lloydminster, etc., which may well prove of even greater significance. Even though the industry there is still in its infancy, Alberta has already 550 oil wells in active production. In the years to come, the area may develop into one of the world's greatest oil fields. Nature has been lavish in her gifts to Alberta in precious minerals, timber and agricultural products, and to these can now be added oil.

The new 50 cent stamp depicting the oil wells will impress the philatelist of the future with this remarkable discovery and bring to mind not only the pioneers of centuries ago, but also the oil pioneers of the twentieth century.

Jack Canuck Says His Piece

Dear Canucks,

The new season is now with us when we regain our freedom from the golf club, garden, car, and other summer pursuits, only to sell again our liberty for the winter to Lady Philately.

Last year was a fine year for the C.P.S.G.B. Let us make the coming year a bigger success.

Is your Group functioning? If not, can you help in any way to whip it together?

Most Contact Members of Groups already have their plans for the coming year well in hand, but others who cannot give their attention to the Groups should inform the Secretary at once of the fact and also arrange for a successor from within the Group to take over.

It has happened occasionally, that a local group has languished for want of leadership, and the contact member has stopped work without informing the Society Executive.

Our Committee this year shows a considerable change in personnel. This should be to the Society's advantage, as from the new members we will get fresh enthusiasm and new ideas. We trust, however, they will temper enthusiasm with moderation and look back on the work done by their predecessors who were and still are enthusiastic. The former members at times felt frustrated when the other members of Committee did not entirely agree with them. They saw their original idea whittled down and altered until it emerged in an entirely different form. We are inclined to look on ourselves as too stolidly BRITISH, but our policy, perhaps slow to move at times, has placed our Society on a very solid foundation, able to withstand knocks that would have shaken many other societies.

The Society has not been any one man's creation. It has evolved from the collective effort of many.

We still have short-comings and we are well aware of them. Let's tackle them together and rectify them, inspired by our earlier successes and knowledge of the immense efforts to achieve them.

The financial direction of the Society will be passing into new hands with the new season. In the season just finished our former Treasurer sent out many appeals and reminders of subscriptions due. If you have not brought your dues up to date, please do so now in order that the new Finance Chief can have a proper start to his year.

If you do not wish to continue your membership, please notify the Secretary; your doubts or indecision costs us money.

Yours aye,

JACK CANUCK.

VARIETIES

Member J. Marsden of London has been examining his stamps very closely. He describes one of his discoveries as "a copy of S.G. S4 (20c. Special Delivery) of the 'wet' or first printing which is on a thin wove paper which may be Gibbons' 'thin experimental paper.' The stamp is used and bears a town postmark, the year date being 1925. This is consistent with its being the experimental paper used in 1924. The stamp was picked out when I was looking for the two printings and when the stamps were examined face downwards it was obviously different. Can anyone say whether it is the experimental paper?"

Another of member Marsden's discoveries was S.G. 314a (3c. overprint on 2c.) with a full stop after 3. Is this No. 1916 of Scott's catalogue?

Answers to Your Queries

Dr P.—You will find a good guide to the Stamps of Canada in 1. Dr Holmes' "Holmes' Canada and B.N.A.", or 2. Boggs' "Canada" (two volumes). Both works give very comprehensive information for the specialist in B.N.A.

"Essex"—Charles Skinner was reputed to be the engraver of the design in the vignette used for the Maples Leaves Issue of 1897. Winthrop Boggs gives the following footnote to this issue: "Charles Skinner (1845-1907) was an engraver for the American Bank Note Co."

"Pictorial"—The "Secret Dates" on Canadian stamps were introduced first in the 1935 Issue when the Canadian Bank Note Co. again took over the printing of the Dominion stamps. Small dates appeared engraved in the design of the new plates. We cannot place a lot of importance on these dates, as the same date appeared throughout the life of the die. If, on the other hand, the date had changed with the various printings or plates, we feel we would have had something of real philatelic interest.

"Bothwell"—The most complete block of Bothwell Watermark that we know of is in the collection of our President, Mr Lees-Jones. An illustration of it appeared in "Maple Leaves" No 5, October, 1947.

"Inquiry"—The first Canadian to join the C.P.S.G.B. was Mr Herb. Buckland of Toronto. Now nearly 25 per cent. of our members are resident in Canada and U.S.A.

"Coils"—Yes, you have a very big field of study in Canadian Coils. The first of these were of an experimental nature used in the 1910 to 1913 period. See article in this issue.

"B.N.A. Topics."—This journal is published by our U.S. contemporary society, B.N.A.P.S. Communication with our Secretary will put you in the way of joining it.

That Town Name Again

Member A. K. Grimmer, of Temiskaming, Quebec, writes:

"I am sure that the contention of F. L. Brown that there is a place by the name of 'SHORE' in the county of Charlotte is an error.

"I was born and brought up in this county and know it thoroughly. No such town now exists or has existed since the Loyalists first landed in this country.

"There are only three towns in the area described, viz., St. Stephen, St. Andrews and St. George.

"At one time the 'SHORE LINE' Railway connected St. Stephen and St. George with Saint John, N.B. This has now been abandoned between St. Stephen and St. George.

"So there is a mistake somewhere in Mr Brown's information."

RE-ENTRIES

Member Price, of Runcorn, Cheshire, writes: "On the strength of Brig. Studd's remarks, I sent a copy of the notes to the American Bank Note Co. at Ottawa and received the following reply a few days ago. I think the point about hammering out the back rather interesting, as it seems to explain why numbers of re-entries or retouches are found on one side only of a stamp. It will be something to search for—pairs, strips and blocks will be required so that we can examine the stamps adjacent to one that has been retouched."

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT—FINANCIAL BRANCH, OTTAWA

17th April, 1950.

Mr H. J. Price,
101 Picton Avenue,
Runcorn,
Cheshire, England.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of April 5th to the Canadian Bank Note Co. has been referred to me for attention. The question of re-entry has been discussed with the manufacturers of Canadian postage stamps, the Canadian Bank Note Co., and the following information has been obtained. The Bank Note Co. does not reclaim worn out plates for additional use. Plates, generally, are not discarded because the impression has become indistinct through constant use, but generally because the metal has become fatigued and cracked.

In making the printing plate, it is common practice to re-enter an original transfer which may not be perfect because of slight variations in the thickness or hardness of the steel. It is quite possible that the steel had stretched slightly when the original transfer was made and when the re-entering was done, the transfer roller was not meshed accurately with the original design, and thus caused double lines.

The process described in your fourth paragraph is, generally, correct. Sometimes the transferred impression is faulty and is removed by burnishing. The plate is then hammered up from the back to bring the surface even again. If care is not used in this operation, the edges of adjacent stamps may be bruised, and this result might appear in stamps printed. It is not considered that the suggestions contained in your paragraph three (b), (c), can occur in a modern line engraving plant.

Yours truly,

(Signed) . . . Carpenter

for L. J. Mills

Director of Financial Services.

Group News

The **Kent and Sussex** Group had successful meetings on 12th July and 6th September, when the subjects dealt with were Small Cents and the Diamond Jubilee and Numerals Issues. The next meeting, at 53 Madeira Park, Tunbridge Wells, on 14th October, will deal with the Map Stamp and Edward VII issue. **Newcastle-on-Tyne** Group meet on fourth Tuesday of each month at 6 West Avenue, Gosforth, at 7 p.m. Subjects are:— September: selection of sheets for the Group's display to the Tynemouth Society; October: Visit to Tynemouth Society, B.N.A. display; November: Talk by Mr L. B. Ward on papers, gum and perforations.

News from other centres is lacking, but we know the programmes of the Aberdeen and Edinburgh groups are well in hand.

Appointment of Interim Treasurer

Member J. P. Macaskie, of 7 Wellington Street, Oakes, Huddersfield, has kindly consented to act as Interim Treasurer until the next A.G.M. Member Macaskie has already been doing good work for the Society in connection with arrangements for holding the 1951 A.G.M. and Convention somewhere in the North of England. His first message to members is: "Your new Treasurer introduces himself by issuing the announcement: 'Your subscriptions are now due.' The amount is small, so small that some members occasionally overlook it altogether! If it is not worth while making out a cheque for 7s. 6d., why not send one for two years in advance? Your Treasurer assures you that he will be only too pleased to take care of it for you."

PERF. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$

Member Charles de Volpi of Montreal writes to our President:

"With regard to the Perf 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1870 Indian Red, I purchased a large accumulation of the Small Queens about a year and a half ago in New Brunswick—approximately 30,000—and although a big majority were the late issues 1880-1897, I did have the good fortune of getting some 300 Indian Reds, and of these six were 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, four of them cancelled two ring seven, one with New Brunswick grid cancellation and one with a faint grid cancellation which I believe to be the Nova Scotia 'H.' They are all on horizontal wove similar to the Indian Reds of January to May, '70.

"I purchased one on cover from Sissons, ex Jarrett, cancelled H. & P.R.E., May 1, '70 N.S., addressed to Jesse Hoyt, Esquire, Acadia Mines, Pictou County.

"I thought you might be interested in adding this information to your records as shown in 'Maple Leaves'."

Member de Volpi adds in a further letter:

"As mentioned in your letter, I was also rewarded with a wonderful assortment of cancellations of all types, and I was particularly gratified with the number of dated copies. I got a minimum of 30 of every year starting with 1870 right through the issue to 1897.

"There were also 32 different two ring numeral cancellations and 14 four ring numeral cancellations; top of this a few 'Crowns,' 'Way-letters,' 'Too Lates,' and in addition to this, 100 different fancy or Cork cancellations.

"This lot, added to my collection of this issue, has built it up to a rather pleasing state and I do hope to add more to it in the near future."

Random Jottings

We were accustomed during the past few years to our ex-President, A. E. Stephenson, combining his business duties with his work in connection with the Society. Major Geoff. Harper, our Secretary, seems to be following suit and travelling even further afield. This is definitely to our advantage, as he is making numerous personal contacts which, apart from their propaganda value, maintain the friendly atmosphere which is one of the mainstays of our organisation. We will not attempt to record all his journeys, nor shall we place them in any particular order. During the past few weeks, among other places, he has been in South Wales, the Surrey area, Edinburgh, and Lanarkshire, and impending visits are to Edinburgh and Aberdeen. Just after we had heard that he had been spotted on the front at Folkestone in earnest conversation with G. R. C. Searles, he popped up at Airdrie on a visit to the Vice-President. They had a lengthy discussion on various subjects, including the importance of "Maple Leaves" coming out prompt to time, recruitment of new members, and the personal contacts that had been made recently. Geoff is particularly interested in re-entries and he had quite recently been introduced to collections of those in the possession of George Searles and E. T. E. Lloyd. Geoff sounded a little bit envious! In Manchester he was disappointed when he found J.A. Lea was apparently away on a busman's holiday but he did study the window display till supper time. That reminds us that any member anywhere and anytime may get a call from the Secretary, as he seldom knows where he is going to be from day to day and it is not possible for him to give advance notice. However, from the point of view of his great interest in B.N.A. Philately and the Society, we are sure he will be a welcome visitor. He told us he was not the least bit fussy what he had for supper, so long as it was a nice juicy grilled steak, failing which, of course, the old pot luck was equally acceptable. In fact he was quite prepared to starve so long as he could have the pleasure of having a discussion with a member.

C.B. tells us he spent a pleasant afternoon with C. E. C. Shipton recently and those who were at Edinburgh last year will remember C.E.C. was present at the Convention. In London during a brief visit, though, of course, his home is there, he spent a pleasant return visit at the Royal Automobile Club with Nugent and Mrs Clougher.

Even while the V.P. was talking to him, a letter arrived from the ex-President who stated he would be in Aberdeen next week and expected to meet Major Harper there. Well there is no finer crowd of enthusiasts than those found in Aberdeen. From personal experience, we know that a B.N.A. get-together at the home of John Anderson or O. A. Fraser usually means the presence of quite a number of the local lads and a walk home about 2 in the morning.

We have again taken a bit of a slating from the V.P., D. Gardner, over one of our comments in the July number, where we made a reference to the V.P.'s hat. He says the explanation is really quite simple. The fact is that four members, namely, the President, the V.P., the Editor and the Publicity Officer, sat down to a cup of tea, a midget sandwich and a microscopic cake. The charge was 14s. The V.P. felt that a cloakroom charge for his hat, in proportion, would almost certainly have brought sudden collapse, and anyhow his return ticket to Glasgow was in the hatband.

We have just heard about the enrolment as a member of a young gentleman not yet in his teens. Although so young, it is understood that he has already given a number of displays to various Societies. We are sure to hear quite a lot of him in future.

Our Jubilee Year

March 25th of this year marked our celebration of fifty years of dealing in the stamps of British North America in Canada and Great Britain. Our experience and the balanced stock built up to meet your requirements is available for filling wants lists or for the supply of regular approval selections.

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Hon. Exchange Secretary—DAVID GARDNER, F.C.P.S., 20 Woodburn Avenue, Airdrie.

* * *

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

237	HOFFMAN, H.	...	...	15226 Rockcastle, Detroit 24, Mich., U.S.A.
424	HOLLINGSWORTH, Dr C. W.	...	...	36 Rooth Street, Wednesbury, Staffs.
447	HUNTER, S. C.	...	...	60 Harrington Road, Preston Park, Brighton, Sussex.
245	JACKSON, F.	...	...	54 Edenfield Rd., Rochdale, Lanes.
60	KIRBY, H. C.	...	...	Withenlee, Prestbury, Cheshire.
264	KNIGHT, R. A.	...	...	55 Station Road, Harrow, Middlesex. (from 8-10-50).
243	MACNAB, R. S.	...	...	P.O. Box 67, Branburn, Manitoba, Canada.
55	MARSHALL, W.	...	...	478 Waterloo Street, Winnipeg, Canada.
298	MONRO, H.	...	...	40 Airthrey Avenue, Glasgow, W.4.
209	STEVENSON, Thomas	...	...	Westfield, West Newport, Eife.
434	CASTLE, Rev. W. T. F.	...	...	13 General Makrygiannes St., Limassol, Cyprus.
9	McNEILL, H.	...	...	71 Finnart Street, Greenock.

* * *

RESIGNATIONS

318	PILE, F. J.
180	KNELLER, Godfrey, G.

* * *

NEW MEMBERS

493	WEATHERED, Graham	...	Byng Hotel, Folkestone, Kent.
494	STOKES, J. W.	...	11 Connaught Road, Folkestone, Kent.
495	GOODMAN, S. F.	...	101 Easter Avenue, Kingsthorpe, Northampton.

* * *

AMENDMENT

25	BRODIE, Capt. R. Hume	...	For " Weldron " read " Wendron."
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WHO IS "F.B.?"

(The writer of our "Canadian Column.")

WHO CARES^{*}

The point is that his artless chatter is making collectors more and more "Canadian Minded," and—incidentally—it doesn't hurt our Canadian circulation! (Mercenary lot, aren't we? But we must live!)

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