

# MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

FOUNDED 1938

INCORPORATED 1946

Edited by JAMES E. WOODS

2 Hengrave Road, Honor Oak Park, London, S.E.23.

Opinions expressed in the various articles in this journal are those of the writers, and not necessarily endorsed by the Society.

Published Every Second Month by the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain

Issued Free to Members.

Additional copies, 3/- each.

---

Vol. 8, No. 10

APRIL 1961

Whole No. 70

---

## EDITORIAL

Editorial responsibility in our Society has long embraced a widely divergent number of tasks, Production Manager and Advertising to name a few, as well as the normal duty of putting to press a bi-monthly issue of the journal. With a sigh of relief, it is a great pleasure to announce that certain of these burdens have now been taken off steadily drooping shoulders. Mr. Stanley F. Cohen has been appointed by the President to the post of Advertising and Publicity Manager, and coupled with these two tasks, he will also assume responsibility for future handbook publications which the Society may decide to publish.

At this particular time his appointment is very welcome and I extend to him a welcome from all the Executive Officers of the Society and trust that now he has joined "This happy band of brothers" he will find his duties enjoyable. I hope that all members will give him the full co-operation that has been my fortune to receive in the past.

I shall now be able to give fuller time to the production of the journal, a publication which is rated highly amongst the specialist journals of the philatelic world. Mindful as I am of many suggestions in letters and personal contacts, it is to be hoped that many of these will be accommodated in this and future issues. A gentle start was made in the February issue, for many members have written to thank us for the change of paper to a finer art paper which I feel has greatly enhanced the appearance of the print and of the illustrations in particular. The cover with the use of the block was also revised.

In this issue, readers will find certain new styles of print and lay-out. It is my earnest hope to vary the contents of "Maple Leaves" as much as possible and I am constantly on the lookout for original material on B.N.A. matters.

In the final analysis however, it must be remembered that this is **your** journal. If your favourite subject is not being featured, please drop me a line and I will see what can be done about it. I am always most happy to receive **helpful** suggestions to improve 'Maple Leaves.' Whatever ideas you have, **please** let me hear about them.

## CONVENTION TIME

In this issue details are given of the two most important Conventions

to take place in future months. The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's 33rd Convention to be held in May at North Hatley, Quebec, is of great interest as the occasion is unique in the annals of both our Societies. A joint meeting in the form of a reunion of C.P.S. of G.B. members in Canada and the U.S.A. has already been planned. Our own President will attend in person and all members will want to read of the details of this joint meeting contained in this issue.

Preliminary announcements of the plans for our own Convention to be held this year at Brighton are also to be found in this issue. We want a record attendance this year and I urge all to give us their support and return the enclosed booking form and entry form as soon as possible.

### CANCELLATIONS

The trend these days seems to be more and more on the specialisation on postmarks. In the not-too-distant past it was only the stamp that really mattered and now many a collector is ruefully remembering the hastily discarded heavy strike of a scarce 'Squared Circle' or a '4 Ring Numeral' just because it ruined the appearance of the stamp.

Today however, the stamp itself is taking a back seat with many collectors and the obliteration is being studied more avidly than the catalogue would appear to warrant. New fields of discovery are practically common-place and, with great intent and purpose, collectors all over the world are going through their albums for new discoveries. Whatever our personal views may be on cancellations generally there must be few indeed who have not been solaced by a pleasant revaluation of an otherwise common-place item because of some scarce postmark.

To cater for the ever-growing number of enthusiasts, we are currently publishing two most interesting new articles in this field. An original article by Mr. E. A. Smythies compares the similar types of early Canada and U.S.A. markings and once again I think that readers will find this to be a further stimulant to their searches from the ever versatile pen of one of our regular contributors.

The second part of the Cohen-Harrison series deals with other ringed Numerals to be found on the Large Queens and follows the detailed study of the Two-Ring types covered in our last issue. Many members interested in these strikes will welcome the lucid hints given on differentiating between these rather difficult ringed types. The long-awaited full illustrations of the 64 fancy Toronto 2 types will be dealt with in the next issue.

To turn aside for the moment from cancellations and consider other fields for active and original research in B.N.A. philately. One of these fields is the 'Re-entry' and I am delighted to tell you that I have just received an excellent new article which deals extensively with the re-entries to be found on the Large Queens. This is a group which has long been in need of attention and I am hopeful that space will permit of an early start for this series which I know will appeal to many of our members.

All in all, the future augurs well for the Society and for the good reading content of your journal . . . one final word, I never tire of receiving 'Letters to the Editor' and this is a hint that our correspondence page is in need of your views and comments . . .

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The arrangements for the Convention next October have been taking shape and a Convention Bulletin is published in this issue. Miss Anne Whitehead has kindly agreed to look after the Hotel bookings and I would advise all members who propose attending the Convention to send the reservation form with their requirements to Miss Whitehead as soon as possible. Early October is high season for the large hotels in Brighton and difficulties will arise if bookings are left until just prior to the event. The Hotel Metropole is being completely modernised and by next October every bedroom will have a private bathroom. Hotel prices are steadily increasing and for a first-class hotel such as the Metropole, we have been fortunate in securing the most favourable terms. This cannot be too strongly emphasised and for those who desire a room overlooking the sea, an early booking is essential.

Leo Baresch has kindly offered his services and will take charge of all Convention Exhibits. An innovation this year is a Competition Entry form which is enclosed with this issue. Will all intending exhibitors please fill this in and send it to Mr. Baresch so that an early start can be made in planning the Exhibition. One of the Conference rooms in the Hotel will house the Exhibition and we shall have accommodation for over 500 sheets which will enable us to stage a Show the equal of anything which previous Conventions have produced. Once again, I would remind you that the success of the Exhibition depends on members' support in the various Competition Classes. If you have not shown a part of your collection before, why not take the plunge now and enter an exhibit in this year's Competition? There is a trophy to be won even if you only collect and study the Elizabethans!

### A Change of Treasurer

It is with much regret that I have to announce the resignation of David Fortnum as Treasurer of the Society. For some time now, owing to increased business responsibilities, David has had insufficient free time to devote to the onerous duties which the Treasurership entails and his resignation is solely for this reason. During the eighteen months David has been Treasurer, he has carried out his duties conscientiously and has served the Society well—so a big thank you, David, for all you have done for us. David is not being allowed to give up all his activities however, for once again he has agreed to organise and conduct our Convention Auction which, with his experience, is a role he is able to play with distinction and success. Last year's Auction totalled nearly £1,200 and we want to do as well if not better this year, so make a start by sorting out your surplus material now and send it along to David for inclusion in the Auction.

Mr. James Donne of Kirby Muxloe, Leicester, who has been our Contact member for Leicestershire for many years, has accepted the appointment of Treasurer from 1st April and in expressing a warm welcome to Mr. Donne as an Officer of the Society, I trust all members will give him their utmost support by helping to make his duties as light as possible.

### Some help for the Editor

One of our hardest working Society Officers is the Editor—Jim Woods, who besides doing the editorial work of the Journal has up to now looked after the Advertising and Publicity, as well as the publication of the Handbooks. It was felt that Jim was doing far more than his fair whack and in order that he can devote more time to the actual pro-

duction of the Journal, it was decided to find someone who would deal with all other matters. It is with pleasure that I now announce and welcome another newcomer to our list of Society Officers—Mr. Stanley Cohen of Edgbaston, Birmingham, who has accepted the appointments of Publicity and Advertising Manager and also Secretary to the Handbook Committee. Mr. Cohen is one of our early members and needs no introduction to those who have read his fascinating articles written in conjunction with H. W. Harrison of the U.S.A. on the Numeral Cancellations of the Large Queens which have appeared in recent issues.

We wish the new Society Officers well in their respective offices, feeling confident that their one desire is to further the interests and welfare of the Society.

STANLEY GODDEN.

### A NOTE FROM THE EXCHANGE SECRETARY

I am sure that the Exchange Packet is one of the attractions of the Society to many of our members and quite a number are obviously dissatisfied with the small number of packets which they see. The Editor has kindly agreed to give me some space in *Maple Leaves* to explain the position as it is and to make some suggestions which if they bear fruit, should improve this service both for the members—and the Packet Secretary.

#### Material urgently required

Some 270 members wish to see the packets which circulate in 9 geographical areas covering approximately equal numbers. The contributors to each packet head the list so that each circuit covers some 35/40 members. An issue every fortnight, summer and winter, would allow everyone to see 3 packets nearly every year. This would require a very large number of books—some 350 each year—which is more than have been coming in and a falling off in the summer months must be expected. A small number of members send in very regularly and are really the "backbone" of the packets but there must be many others with good duplicates or unwanted material who, if they made the effort, could send in an occasional book. To these I appeal to do it now! But I must ask you not to flood me with books of common stamps of little value, unless they are very finely postmarked or otherwise of special interest. Books are covered by our insurance from the time they are posted by **ordinary post** to the Packet Secretary provided a certificate of posting is obtained **and sent separately to me**. Blank books are available—4d. each plus postage.

#### A covers-only packet?

If you are sending in bundles of covers, please keep each of these down to a maximum of 20—more in each

becomes bulky and only a few can be included in each packet which I feel must contain a reasonable proportion of stamps. There may be a demand for a packet containing covers only. Will anyone interested let me know and if there are sufficient numbers, I will see whether material can be obtained to arrange a special circuit? I will not undertake to acknowledge letters but I will note them for reference.

Since I took over from Mr. Gardner in October, 8 packets have been issued and by the time this appears in print, I hope that everyone on the list will have seen a packet since November or will be included in the list of a packet now circulating. The South-East of England is covered by the packets started most recently.

#### Help to avoid delays

Finally a word on speed. The packets are frequently held up longer than the rules permit—48 hours—please do all you can to speed them on and also send in your advice slip at the time of sending on the packet whether you have made purchases or not. It is essential that this should be done promptly, otherwise the Secretary has to write unnecessary letters to find out whether a remittance has gone amissing—but usually finds that the purchases are "NIL." As the holiday season is now approaching, just a reminder to notify holiday dates. This will again help to avoid delays.

The job is constant and sometimes worrying but it is interesting and I feel that already I have made a number of new friends. Please do co-operate and avoid my wondering whether Packet No. X has gone astray in the post. In this way you will be doing something to delay the final demise of my thinning hair! A happy holiday to you all including our many overseas members. Sorry you cannot be included in the Packet circulations.

# ADVERTISING - PUBLICITY - HANDBOOKS ...

... sounds quite a handful, unless you say it quickly, but I'm grateful indeed for the opportunity of relieving Editor, Jim Woods, of something of the burden of his responsibilities so that he can concentrate on a bigger, better and brighter 'Maple Leaves'.

## ADVERTISING

The highly specialised readership of 'M.L.' means that this is the ideal medium for acquiring, selling or trading anything and everything in B.N.A. material. The mystery to me is why so very few members ever take advantage of it. The cost of display advertising in Maple Leaves is remarkably cheap compared with any other stamp journal, whilst the price charged to members for the 'small ads' is so low that it just can't possibly pay for the cost of the type setting. So, to start off by making myself extremely unpopular, I propose raising the price of the small ads, as from the next issue (June) from 1d. a word to 2d. a word.

To simplify things for members and to encourage them to support the 'small ads.' page, a special form will be inserted with each issue which they are invited to fill in and return to me. The classification of the 'smalls' under group headings, viz. 'Wanted', 'For Sale', etc., will bring this page in line with other publications and I am hopeful that members will support the Society, the magazine and me by sending in as many of these forms as possible. The cost can only be a few shillings at most and you are going to be surprised at the results you get. This page may well become the most thumbed-over one in the whole of 'M.L.' ... I hope.

Rates for display advertisements are set out below, and it would be a very big encouragement to me if members started to take a quarter, a half or even an occasional full page space. Have a glance at the rates and I think you'll agree that they are reasonable enough ... so why not give it a trial?

## PUBLICITY

A thriving, active Society like ours ought to be talked about and new members will come along if they hear about the CPS of GB and Maple Leaves. Big news items, like the forthcoming Convention in Canada when our Society will meet for the first time in Canada, will, by the time this appears in print, have been mentioned by all the leading Philatelic journals and several lay papers in the country. There are, however, many study circles and district Groups active within the Society and, members everywhere want to know just what they are doing through the medium of Maple Leaves. This information I will be only too delighted to publish, but first I must seek the co-operation of all Study Circle Secretaries and Group Chairmen ... please let me know all about your activities and I'll see that they are publicised ... who knows but that there is a Member in your district able and willing to assist you in your endeavours but just doesn't know what is happening right next door. Let me act as receiving centre for all your up-to-date reports of activities and leave the rest to me. Please co-operate ... or else, my job as Publicity Manager just can't succeed.

## HANDBOOKS

This is a somewhat specialised and highly important side-line of our Society's programme. At the moment no definite project is in hand for any new Handbook but I am prepared to work closely with any member who has definite ideas on this subject. Let me hear your views and any worthwhile subject which can be treated in Handbook form I will be delighted to raise at the Autumn Convention. We have had considerable success with earlier Handbooks, so there is no earthly reason why we should not expand in this field. The subjects awaiting revision and up-to-date treatment are numerous besides many that have never been adequately dealt with. I'm available and all ears for your ideas ...

Your new Advertising, Publicity and  
Handbooks Manager,

STANLEY COHEN.

RATES FOR DISPLAY ADVERTISING IN 'MAPLE LEAVES'				
	Full Page	Half Page	$\frac{1}{4}$ Page	$\frac{1}{8}$ Page
	£3 15 0	£2 0 0	£1 2 6	12/6
Selected Page	£4 5 0	£2 10 0	£1 7 6	15/-

## CONVENTION BULLETIN

As announced in the December issue of *Maple Leaves* the  
15th Annual Convention will take place at the  
HOTEL METROPOLE, BRIGHTON  
Wednesday 4th to Saturday 7th October, 1961

### HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Arrangements are now being formulated for the various functions associated with the Annual Convention. One of the main problems is to estimate the number of members who intend participating. For this purpose a reservation form is included with this issue and it is to be hoped that members will give their full co-operation by sending in their reservations early. A provisional block booking has been made at the special inclusive rate of 50/- per person, per day. It must be pointed out that although the charge is the same for all rooms, not all of them have a sea view. They will therefore be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Do not send bookings in at the last moment and expect to get priority treatment.

### CONVENTION EXHIBITION

In surroundings kindly provided by the Hotel Metropole, it is hoped that the usual high standard will be reached with a diversity of subjects. We appeal especially to overseas members to participate as the occasions when we get an opportunity of seeing their material are few and far between.

Arrangements for the exhibition are in the hands of Mr. Leo Baresch who has agreed to take on this task. A new innovation, an entry form is included with this issue, so please advise Mr. Baresch as soon as possible, the details of your display so that the required number of frames can be ascertained. The various Competitive Classes are set out below.

### ANNUAL CONVENTION AUCTION

Members will recall the excellent results achieved by Mr. David Fortnum last year at Llandudno when an all time record realisation of £1,200 was reached. We have again been very fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Fortnum and we hope that every effort will be made to exceed last year's record. Only B.N.A. material will be accepted and it must be interesting and of a saleable quality. Donations of lots to the Auction will be greatly appreciated as this helps towards the cost of the Convention.

All material for the Sale must be sent to Mr. David Fortnum, 10 Wren Crescent, Branksome, Poole, Dorset.

### EXHIBITION CLASSES

The Competitive Classes for which entries will be accepted are as follows:—

1. Research and Study.
2. Contributed Displays
  - (a) British North America up to 1900 (including the Numeral Issue)
  - (b) British North America from 1901.
3. Group Displays
  - (a) Regional Groups
  - (b) Special subject Study Groups.

## 1961 CONVENTION AUCTION

It doesn't seem like a year since I sat down to appeal for lots for the Llandudno Auction but the time has come once more to remind you all of the results of the past two years. There is no doubt at all that the buyers are there if the material is forthcoming, so how about it? Now is the time to start thinking about going through the accumulated duplicates, the discarded studies, the bottom drawer, and all the other places where stamps are liable to be hidden.

At the risk of boring those faithful supporters who know the drill by heart, here are the points to bear in mind:

1. Only **B.N.A.** can be included. Don't forget Newfoundland and the Provinces, they are popular and there is never enough material to satisfy the demand.

2. Closing date to guarantee inclusion in the catalogue will be **August 1st**. This may seem early but last year it paid dividends because the overseas members were able to get their catalogues, read through, write for further details, and get their bids in.

3. It will be helpful if an indication of your own estimate of the value of each lot is given, also a note on any special points which are of interest. If we have as many lots as last year it will be quite a job getting the catalogue ready and although I'm ready and willing to value and describe your stamps to the best of my ability I can't guarantee to spot everything and should hate to miss the "three-dot" variety on your Large Queen 15c. just because I thought you'd sent it in as the clear deep violet shade!

Please be sure to make it clear if you want a reserve price on any lot. It will be too late after the sale!

4. It will also be helpful if single stamps and small lots which are mounted are kept within an area of not more than 5 inches (horizontal) by 6 inches (vertical). There is no need to enclose such lots in a folder. For greater security I plan to provide a standard size for these lots.

5. Commission, 10% on sales.

6. Please send all lots direct to me. However, please note that by **May 1st** the address shown in the December Year Book will no longer apply. The new homestead will be located at **10 Wren Crescent, Branksome, Poole, Dorset**, so anything likely to arrive after the end of April must be addressed there.

That's all for now, more news in the June edition.

DAVID FORTNUM.

### A WORD FROM THE SECRETARY

Following my note in the December issue regarding the proposal to make available enlarged prints of various stamps, sufficient interest was shown to warrant the production of prints of the Admiral and Small Cents issues. Full details regarding the supply of these, as well as certain others, of which blocks are already available, will appear in the next issue. Members who have not written in regarding this project and who would be interested in prints of any particular issue are asked to do so.

#### Changes of Address

In the list of Membership changes in

this issue, are the names of eight members, whose copies of 'Maple Leaves' sent to the address on our files, have been returned, marked 'Gone Away', 'Not Known', etc. Since this causes extra work for the Officers of the Society concerned, as well as disappointment to the members on the non-receipt of their 'Maple Leaves', all members are asked to notify the Secretary at once of **all changes of address**.

Members are also asked to quote their Membership number in all correspondence.

C.W.H.

# United States and Canadian fancy cancellations

A comparison by E. A. Smythies, F.R.P.S.L.

*About the Author . . . .*

*The name of E. A. Smythies will need little introduction to collectors of Canadian cancellations. From his versatile pen have come many fascinating articles on varied types of early cancellations and his researches have opened up new fields to explore. His handbook on the Duplex obliterations, published by this Society, is the only reference work recognised on this subject on both sides of the Atlantic whilst his studies of the "Postmasters Initials" types of cancel have appeared in a series of articles he has penned. This latest article introduces yet another field of research, by comparisons between similar markings found on both Canadian and United States stamps. We are confident that it will be read with intense interest by all our members.*

Cancellation collectors have long been fascinated by, and keenly sought for, the 19th century fancy cancellations of these two countries, and their zest has been fed, and their knowledge expanded, by some excellent publications. In particular I would mention the Herst-Zareski (1951) postmark catalog "19th Century U.S. fancy cancellations," and Jarrett's (1929) "British North America catalog." In each of these standard works, not less than two thousand cancellations of all sorts are recorded, and the majority of them illustrated.

In the introduction to the former we read:—"United States cancellations offer an extraordinary wealth of material by their variety of designs and range of colors. It is the only country in the World which can show such a variety of cancellations . . . Over 2000 cancellations are illustrated in this catalog. Extensive as this may seem, it is only a small part of the uncounted thousands that must exist, when we recall that even in 1856 the United States had over 25,000 post offices."

## Cork Cancels

Jarrett, referring to **one** type of cancel only, i.e. prepared by local postmasters for their own use out of corks cut in segments and all sorts of fancy designs, wrote: "It is a conservative estimate to state that a thousand postmasters satisfied their artistic desires and everyday requirements in the matter of cancellations by using a cork."

In the period when these fancy cancellations were chiefly in use, say 1860 to 1880, there were at any time eight to ten times as many post offices in the United States as in Canada, so we would **ipso facto** expect greater variation in the States. In certain types this was certainly the case, but in other types Canadian postmasters approached—in one case possibly exceeded—the fertility of imagination of their U.S. confreres.



### Animal cancels favoured by U.S.

In Zoology the U.S. are easily pre-empt, for example the Herst-Zareski catalog illustrates 60 or so animals, 40 insects, 40 birds (including a dozen or more eagles, the U.S. emblem), while, so far as I know, Canada can boast of only one animal (a tortoise or turtle), two insects (butterflies or moths) and no birds at all.

Again, consider the macabre type of cancel variously called Bogey faces, Pumpkin heads, Jack-o-lanterns, Skull and Crossbones, etc., we find four or five times as many different designs in the U.S. as in Canada. But when we come to another type, Leaves, Ferns, Flowers, etc., we find greater equality, no doubt due to the fact that the Maple Leaf is Canada's national emblem. And finally there is one type of fancy cancel where apparently Canada can claim the greater variety, i.e. Letters and Initials (frequently but not invariably denoting the initials of the postmaster, the town, or the county). Here the Herst-Zareski catalog illustrates about 50 only, while Jarrett illustrates 100 and recent research has established over 300 different cancels of this type in Canada, a number of which have been recorded in recent illustrated articles in our contemporary "B.N.A. TOPICS."

The numerous fancy designs of Waterbury Conn. in the 1863-69 period are, of course famous—and fabulous! The Herst-Zareski catalog records that one F. Stove, who was clerk to the postmaster John W. Hiss, was a skilled engraver, and exploited his skill by making several dozen different designs of cancellations in boxwood, which were changed at frequent intervals. Hence none was in use very long, and all are rare.

### The Toronto fancy types

A parallel example of this can be quoted from Canada. In 1868 the two-ring numeral type of cancel was officially adopted, Montreal was allotted No. 1, Toronto 2, Quebec 3, and so on up to 60. But this did not satisfy Toronto, where there was evidently a kindred spirit to F. Stove of Waterbury, for recent researches by Cohen and Harrison have established the fact that during the next four or five years more than sixty different fancy cancellations were used in Toronto, incorporating the official number 2 in most elaborate and fanciful frames, two examples of which are shown below\*.



### The similarity between some U.S. and Canada cancels

Recently, while admiring the fine illustrations of U.S. cancels in the Herst-Zareski catalog, I was struck again and again with the remarkable similarity of many designs with fancy cancellations in my Canadian collection, which I was puzzled to explain, as they seemed beyond all bounds of coincidence, and direct contact 90 or 100 years ago between dozens of obscure post offices south and north of the border seemed

equally improbable. I do not know if this point has been raised before, but, thinking it might be of interest to readers of this journal, I give below a dozen or so pairs of illustrations of similar U.S. and Canadian strikes, all the former copied from the Herst-Zareski catalog, with due acknowledgment, and most of the latter copied from items in my Canada collection. Where possible, the localities or post offices and dates of use are also noted. The U.S. cancels come first, they give but a faint idea of the enormous range and variety of such cancels, made by local post-masters according to their fancy.

### 1. Bogey face or Jack-o-lantern



Lincoln, ILL. 1869



St. Catharines, ONT. 1882

As mentioned above, these ghoulish and spooky cancellations were very popular in the U.S., much more so than in Canada. One small group of exquisite but rather rude silhouettes—gentlemen in top-hats thumbing their noses—had no counterpart in Canadian cancels, and so cannot be illustrated here. One wonders at whom they were cocking snooks?

### 2. Man-in-the-Moon



Boston, MASS. 1881



Not located (CANADA)

Another rare and original design, remotely connected with Bogey faces, with a striking similarity of idea but different in detail. So far as I know, both these designs are unique in their respective countries.

### 3. Animal. Turtle or Tortoise



Turtle Bay, N.Y. 1893



Pointe-au-pic P.Q. (?) 1897

While there are dozens of animal types to choose from amongst U.S. cancels, I know of only one Canadian, and why a tortoise should have been chosen is difficult to guess. This strike in my collection cancels a Canada 3c. vermilion stamp on a cover addressed to "the Hon'ble William Howard Taft," later, President of the U.S.A., a point of additional interest.

#### 4. Insects. Butterfly or Moth



Not located (U.S.A.) 1861



Not located (Canada) 1890

Postmasters in the U.S. were prolific in producing cancels depicting insects of all sorts, flies, bees, wasps, moths, etc., but among Canadian cancels I know of only two. The one shown above has a distinct resemblance to an American one used nearly thirty years earlier.

#### 5. Pointing Hand



Not located (U.S.A.) 1875



Port Perry ONT. 1873

Another interesting pair of cancels with the same motif. The Port Perry hand is on a cover in the Kemp collection, and a comparatively new discovery. (Not recorded by Jarrett.)

#### 6. Masonic Signs



Kinnebunkport MAINE. 1861



Woodstock ONT. 1872

There must have been a number of Masons amongst postmasters in both countries a hundred years ago, as numerous different types of masonic signs, both plain and intaglio, are to be found from both countries, a popular type of cancel.

#### 7. Star in Circle



Chicago, ILL. 1861



Not located (CANADA) 1880

Chicago used several types of stars as cancellations, and stars were also widely used in Canada, particularly in the Maritime Provinces. The pair illustrated above are remarkably similar, although the one was used nearly 20 years after the other.

8. Star used as killer in Duplex



Belmont. 1878



Stellarton N.S. 1888



We find the same similarity even in home-made Duplex hammers, i.e. instruments made by a postmaster for his own use, as opposed to an official issue from some central authority, by fastening together a circular date-stamp and a cork killer of variable design.

When we turn to Letters and Initials cancels, there are a dozen or two similar pairs to choose from, which is perhaps not so surprising, although the ingenuity displayed by these old postmasters, in depicting simple letters like A or S or W in countless different ways, is quite incredible. I have selected four for various reasons.

9. Thin intaglio A in circle



Danbury, CONN.  
1873



Not located  
(CANADA)

10. Large G in circle



Waterbury, CONN. 1866



Georgetown ONT.  
1875

These two pairs are strikingly similar! Intaglio letters occur frequently in the fancy cancels of both countries. The Waterbury G is one of the numerous designs engraved by F. Stove mentioned earlier. The similar Georgetown G obviously stands for the post office.

11. The letters O.K.



Memphis, TENN. 1861



Black Brooke, N.B. 1880

These mysterious letters come from three or four different post offices in the U.S., and at least two in Canada, and they have no connection with the names of the postmasters or towns of origin. What do they indicate? My young grandson (aged 2) when told by his slightly older brother (aged 4) to do something, habitually replied "O.K. Boss." Was this meaning in general use across the Atlantic a century ago? I imagined it had circled the Globe in the wake of Western cowboy films.

## 12. Gothic R/T Seals



Rockwell, CONN. 1861



Wellington, ONT. 1869

Despite the change of letter, the similarity of design of these two early cancels suggest they may have been copied from a common origin. There is a mystery about the Gothic T cancel which has never been explained. In the London International Exhibition 1960, a display by Stanley Godden contained three strikes so nearly identical that they must have been copies of the same original. One strike was on a cover from Wellington ONT. dated 1869, a second on an imperf Chili stamp of 1865-66, and the third on a St. Helena stamp of 1864-67. What possible connection could there have been between these three places nearly a century ago? And now we have yet another rather similar cancel from Rockwell CONN. in 1861!

---

The dozen pairs of illustrations shown above are only a few of the many close resemblances that occur amongst the 19th Century fancy cancels of U.S.A. and Canada, and it is not easy to account for them. It will be seen that the Canadian cancels are usually later, sometimes with a considerable time-lag of 10 or even 20 years, which precludes the possibility of actual copying of the earlier designs, even if the Canadian postmasters ever saw them, which is unlikely. If all these resemblances are just coincidence, it would suggest the truth of the old adage—"Great minds think alike"!

**Footnote.** Since this article was drafted, Mr. Boggs has kindly supplied some interesting information, and I quote:—

"Fancy cancellations—Stars, Masonic monograms, etc., were manufactured and sold to Postmasters in the U.S. and Canada by Zevely in Virginia and by Corlear and Co. in Albany N.Y. This covered the period 1860-75 in the U.S. and pre-dominion period in Canada."

This will explain some of the early similarities, but not the later ones, nor, presumably, those which show a wide time-lag of years between their use in the U.S. and in Canada, some examples of which have been given above.

Mr. Boggs also noted that very little, if any, research has been done in this field, and that it seems to be wide open for study. Perhaps this article may set the ball rolling?

\* [The complete range of fancy Toronto 2 cancels will be illustrated in Part III of the Cohen-Harrison series in the next issue—Ed.]

# PHOTOGRAPHING POSTAGE STAMPS IN COLOUR

by John F. Bird, F.C.P.S.

In response to many requests from philatelists I have prepared the following notes on the preparation of 35mm. coloured transparencies of postage stamps.

As the stamps are photographed from a distance of approximately 6 inches away a fair amount of equipment is required.

The main equipment, the camera, it is suggested that one of the reflex type or one with removable lens, are most suitable for this work. My choice is a Leica with a 5cm. Elmar lens, and a camera which is capable of slow speeds.

I use my enlarging column and base, on the column is attached a focussing arm to which is fitted the camera holder, this having a lens flange fitted. The camera holder in turn, takes the ground glass viewing and focussing unit. It is most essential that the ground glass screen is at exactly the same distance from the front of the focussing stage as the film plane. A reflex camera of course has its own focussing screen.

For lighting I use two Photoflood lamps which are covered with a piece of muslin to soften the light. The lamp holders are set at an angle of about 45 degrees to the subject, and about 15 ins. away, one on each side, thus avoiding shadows and reflections.

Photographing a sheet of stamps 10 x 8 inches, I use a supplementary lens of 1 Dioptré, so as to get down to the distance of about 15 inches, and to photograph a single stamp at a distance of about 6 inches it is necessary to use an extension tube of about one inch in length, which screwed into the camera holder flange, and the camera lens into the distance piece. Close-ups of this nature require very accurate focussing at full aperture and the removal of the blue filter to obtain a bright image. It would be a considerable advantage to have a rack and pinion movement to adjust camera position for focussing.

Having once ascertained the correct focus, remove the focussing unit, stop down to required aperture and place filter in position, slip the camera into its position and all is ready for the first exposure.

For my personal preference, Kodachrome daylight film is used, therefore it is necessary to use a blue filter (daylight to photoflood conversion) in front of the lens to correct the colour, this required an increase of exposure by about 4 times. Artificial light film may be used without a correction filter and at normal film speeds.

The stamp or stamps to be photographed are laid on the base board and covered with a piece of plate glass so as to keep the sheet as flat as possible.

Finally I come to the all important point of exposure. For strong colours, dark blues and browns, stop the lens down to F 9.5 or even F 10, and give one second exposures, having first placed the lens hood in position.

Exposure will vary critically with distance of lamps and should be checked with an exposure meter. When starting to work with fresh apparatus it is a question of trial and error. Take your meter readings of large sheets of coloured paper about the same colour and brightness as the dominant colour of the stamps and place in the same position on the base board, white paper will always give too high a reading.

Always use the smallest aperture possible to obtain maximum depth of focus, as this is very small in close distance.

I hope that these few notes will be of interest to those philatelists who are also amateur photographers. I would be delighted to clarify any points on which you may have doubts.

# *Numeral Cancels on Canada's Large Queens*

By S. F. Cohen (G.B.) and H. W. Harrison (U.S.A.)

## PART 2. THE ONE, THREE AND FOUR RING TYPES

### Introduction

In the preceding article, we dealt, all too briefly perhaps, with the Two-Ring Numeral group of cancels which are normally associated with the Large Head Queen series.

The advantage of the Large Queens, and our main reason for selecting them as a basis for study, is because during their life all the other groups of Ringed Numerals and most of the fancy types are known to have been currently in use. Accordingly it is possible to form a fairly complete collection of these fascinating and often colourful obliterations on the one series of stamps.

In the case of the Four Ring Numerals, it is true to say that these are more often collected on the pre-Dominion series. This group of cancel had been in constant use since 1855 and even by 1868 it is apparent that very few of the devices had been withdrawn or destroyed. No less than 41 of the possible 51 numbers in the 1-52 range (there was no allocation of No. 9) have been noted by us on Large Queen stamps. Both the special types No. 516 and No. 627 are also found. However, by 1870, the position had changed. A goodly number of these obliterations had either been called in or were destroyed, since only a comparative few are found on the small queens series. This is an important aspect for students of postal history to note, because it ties the years 1868-1870 as being the period during which they are most likely to discover Numeral cancels of outstanding interest. During these two years, not only are the 4 Ring group to be found but also an enormous range of fancy Numeral types, a great many of which had disappeared by early 1870.

Both the One-Ring and the Three-Ring groups would make a fascinating study in themselves. Very few examples turn up other than on the Large Queens, with two exceptions. One Ring 13 and Three Ring 23 are later devices which predominate on the small queens.

### Identification

To the collector who has made a careful study of these Ringed Numeral groups, there should be little difficulty in identifying the particular group to which any strike belongs. However, the authors have noted that in several specialised collections, numeral types have been incorrectly described. A typical error occurs when the very rare Two Ring 17 and 19 gaps in the collection are filled by the scarce, but not as rare, One Ring 17 and 19.

Heavily inked strikes tend to blur the rings around the numeral and this is particularly so with the four rings which are usually very thin. Accordingly collectors may be confused when the four rings merge into one or two thicker rings through over-inking. **The secret of correct**

identification lies not in the rings at all, but in the shape and size of the numeral figures.

It is useful to remember that the figures in the Two Ring group have a constant size and shape throughout the 1-60 range. The figures all have a height of 6.5mm. and any distortion through over-inking usually only affects the height very slightly whereas it may have disastrous effects upon the outer rings.

In the Four Ring group, the numerals vary in size between 7.5-10mm., being larger and much fuller and rounder than in the Two Ring group.



1 Ring 19  
Fig. ht.  
9mm.



2 Ring 19  
Fig. ht.  
6.5mm.



4 Ring 19  
Fig. ht.  
8.5mm.

#### Exceptions to the Rule

It must be noted however, in case an avalanche of protesting letters descend upon us, that the Rules set out above, like all rules, are proved by their exceptions. The exceptions in the case of the Four Rings are Nos. 516 and 627 special types, both of which have figures even slightly smaller than the Two Ring figures. In the case of the Two Rings group, a few very rare freak size figures are known to exist. Nevertheless, as a general guide, the principles set out above will, we hope, be of some assistance to those who find difficulty in distinguishing between these numeral types.

Unfortunately it is not nearly so easy to distinguish and separate the One, Three, and Four Ring groups by the size of the figures which approximate sometimes very closely to one another. However, the figure shapes help to identify these when the rings are blurred.

**Rarity Factors.** After some hesitation, we have decided against giving an R.F. Table for these three groups, as we did in the case of the Two Rings. This for two main reasons. Firstly, in very many cases there have been insufficient number of copies reported to us to arrive at even a reasonably accurate Table. Secondly, in the case of the Four Rings, the R. Factors would be particularly misleading, since they are much more readily found on the 1859 series. We are, however, including a list of the number of copies of each strike reported to us on Large Queens, and readers who wish may draw their own conclusions as to relative scarcity.

#### The Four Ring Numerals

Introduced in 1855, these were allotted to post offices in alphabetical order all of which have been amply recorded and are shown in earlier handbooks, notably Jarrett, Boggs and Holmes. No. 9 was not allocated and the latest research casts some doubt as to even the allocation of No. 6. Has any collector a copy of 4R No. 6 on any stamp? These cancellations are often found in colour with bright blue predominating after black, but we have also noted green, orange, yellow and red. In the case of No. 15, there are two completely different types. Type (1)



has large upright figures (10mm. high) and is struck in black. Type (2) has figures 7.5mm. high, sloping to the right, and is usually struck in blue. (We have not seen Type (2) except on a Large Queen.)



2 Ring 15  
Fig. ht.  
6.5mm.



3 Ring 15  
Fig. ht.  
10mm.



4 Ring 15  
Type I Fig. ht.  
10mm.



4 Ring 15  
Type II Fig. ht.  
7.5mm.

In most cases the Four Ring figures do **not** touch the inner ring. In the No. 1-52 group the average height of the figures is 9mm. or very nearly half as big again as in the Two Rings. The following Nos. are the only ones which have not yet been recorded on Large Queens, and it is probable that these were already out of use by 1868: Nos. 5, 6, 12, 16, 17, 18, 28, 32, 33, 43.

The total quantity of Four Ring numerals reported to us on Large Queens is 275, with the commonest strike being No. 627 (Ottawa Senate) having 38 copies noted. In the No. 1-52 group No. 27 (Ottawa) with 22 copies is the one most frequently found. We have noted only a single example of Nos. 3, 8, 14, 30, 31, 37 and 38.

#### The One Ring Numerals

Only five different numerals are known in this group, being Nos. 4, 13, 17, 19 and 42. The first four of these have been identified and it is interesting to note that they all emanate from the same towns as the corresponding numerals in the four ring group. It is therefore reasonable to assume that No. 42 One Ring also originates from Sherbrooke, L.C.; for, of this rarity, only one off-cover copy is known to exist (Cohen collection).



1 Ring 4



1 Ring 42

No. 4 (Bowmanville) hitherto unrecorded is known on several 1869 entires and is photographed by Boggs (p. 627) on a 5 cents Beaver. It presumably had a fairly long life and could not have been a replacement for Four Ring No. 4 which, though extremely rare, is to be found on Large Queens.

No. 13 (Galt) is a much later obliterator, being found much more often on the small queens, for only two examples have been noted on the Large Heads.

None of the One Ring cancels can be termed common, but both

No. 17 and No. 19 have turned up more frequently than the others and each has its own mysterious and unsolved peculiarity. No. 17 for some reason is more often found on the 3 cent rare Laid paper. In the case of No. 19, the strike nearly always occurs on the 1 cent Red-Brown of both thin and thick papers. It can hardly be possible that this obliterator should have been reserved for mail using this particular value stamp, but the authors are at a complete loss as to hazarding a guess at any other reason why this should be.

**Identification.** One very thick solid ring surrounding a large squat numeral. Nos. 17 and 19 figures touch the ring. The figure heights fall within a close 8-9mm. range. No. 4 variety is known with an elongated and slightly thinner figure, so there were at least two devices used of this type.

The total number of One Ring Numerals reported to us on Large Queens is 45, with No. 19 being more than half of this total with 24 copies.

### The Three Ring Numerals

We have only seen two different Three Ring Numerals, being Nos. 15 and 23, although Jarrett also lists Nos. 21 and 45. An unusual feature of both is that the outer ring often appears as partly broken away or partly missing. This would normally have led to the belief that the strikes were simply late worn states of the Four Ring Types. However, in the case of No. 15, a very careful comparison between the Four Ring Type, described above, and the Three Ring type shows slight differences in the structure of the figures, so that this is apparently not the same obliterator in a worn state.

No. 23 is a late device, being found much more frequently on the Small Queens.

The total number of Three Ring Numerals reported to us on Large Queens only amounts to 11, with all but one being No. 15.

In our next article we shall deal with the fancy Toronto '2' types.

### H. H. BROWN

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the sudden death of H. H. (Peter) Brown in his 66th year.

Peter was one of the Society's stalwart supporters, and was always a welcome visitor to many of our various functions, for his buoyant humour and speeches endeared us all to him.

As a philatelist, his researches into many fields of B.N.A. issues were well known and in presenting his findings he always made a novel approach.

At the last Convention at Llandudno he was the first winner of the newly presented Lees-Jones Trophy.

Peter will be sadly missed by many of us.

To his wife and family we offer the condolences of all the members of the Society.

J.W.

# NUMERALS ON LARGE QUEENS

## THE FOUR RING TABLE

4 Ring No.	Town	Copies Reported	4 Ring No.	Town	Copies Reported
1	Barrie	4	36	Preston	3
2	Belleville	8	37	Quebec	1
3	Berlin	1	38	St. Catherine's	1
4	Bowmanville	2	39	St. Hyacinthe	8
5	Brantford	0	40	St. Thomas	8
6	Brighton (?)	0	41	Sandwich	2
7	Burlington	11	42	Sherbrooke	6
8	Collingwood	1	43	Simcoe	0
9	Chatham	1	44	Smith Falls	7
10	—Not allocated—		45	Stanstead	9
11	Cobourg	3	46	Stratford	2
12	Cornwall	2	47	Three Rivers	2
13	Dundas	0	48	Thorold	13
14	Galt	5	49	Whitby	2
15	Goderich	1	50	Windsor	6
16	Guelph	8	51	Brockville	8
17	Hamilton	0	52	Clifton	5
18	Ingersoll	0	516	Montreal	20
19	Kingston	0	627	Ottawa Senate	7
20	London	4			38
21	Melbourne	6			
22	Montreal	3			
23	Napanee	4			
24	Niagara	2			
25	Oakville	9			
26	Oshawa	2			
27	Owen Sound	11			
28	Ottawa	22			
29	Paris	0			
30	Perth	9			
31	Peterborough	1			
32	Pictou	1			
33	Port Dover	0			
34	Port Hope	0			
35	Port Sarnia	8			
	Prescott	3			

## THE ONE RING TABLE

1 Ring No.	Town	Copies Reported
4	Bowmanville	7
13	Galt	2
17	Ingersoll	11
19	London	24
42	Not known	1

## THE THREE RING TABLE

3 Ring No.	Town	Copies Reported
15	Guelph	10
23	Niagara	1

## R.P.S. OF CANADA ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 33rd Annual Convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada will be held under the General Chairmanship of A. H. Christensen, F.C.P.S., at North Hatley, Quebec, from May 11th to 14th, 1961.

The first of the Society's Conventions to be held outside one of the larger Canadian cities, it will take a different form from previous years so as to allow ample time for members to hear addresses on specialised subjects and take part in study groups. Arrangements will also provide more time for delegates to meet informally and enjoy a few days of pleasant philatelic companionship and social activity.

### Classic Issues foremost

North Hatley on beautiful Lake Massawippi in the Eastern Townships is well known as a fashionable summer and winter resort and has excellent hotel facilities. It is but 90 miles by road from Montreal and 30 miles from the Vermont border. There is good golf and fishing for those interested. Accommodation has been secured for the holding of meetings, study groups and a bourse in the Community Hall at North Hatley. Papers will be given by leading specialists on the classic issues of Canada, which this year will form the principal subjects for discussion. Groups will also be formed covering other subjects of particular interest to those attending the Convention.

### Exhibition planned for 1962

There will be no competitive exhibition as such so that the Society's trophies for annual competition will not be awarded this year. However plans are already well advanced to present an important exhibition in 1962 at Windsor, Ontario.

The Convention will be opened by a reception on the Thursday evening at the North Hatley home of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Christensen for Members of the Society and their wives. Registration will take place on the Friday morning followed by the holding of meetings and study groups throughout the day.

The Eastern Townships Stamp Club, a Chapter of the Society, will act as hosts at "Open House" meetings on the

Saturday and Sunday afternoons so that visitors and local collectors can visit the bourse and hear talks which are also being specially arranged for these afternoons. The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada will take place on the Saturday morning.

### Informality the keynote

A special buffet supper will be held on the Saturday evening instead of a banquet as it is felt that this will be a much more enjoyable affair than the usual banquet with its innumerable long speeches, and will give those attending the Convention an opportunity to meet their friends in a pleasant and convivial atmosphere.

Informality is to be the keynote of the Convention with emphasis laid on providing the members with a few interesting and enjoyable days in the country at this particularly lovely time of the year.

Excellent hotel accommodation at reasonable rates is available at the Connaught Inn, Hovey Manor and the Pleasant View Hotel. Those planning to come to North Hatley for this long philatelic week-end should make their hotel reservations with Bruce McKay at the Connaught Inn who has kindly undertaken to look after this important part of the Convention arrangements.

All other correspondence concerning the Convention should be addressed to A. H. Christensen, Convention Chairman, P.O. Box 250, North Hatley, P.Q.

Latest news of the North Hatley Convention is that the Hon. William Hamilton, M.P., Postmaster General of Canada, has accepted the invitation of Dr. G. M. Geldert, F.R.P.S., L. President of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, to be present at the Convention. The Postmaster General will address the Convention and will be the Guest of Honour at the special Saturday evening buffet supper.

It appears from hotel reservations already received that this Convention will be one of the largest gatherings of philatelists ever to assemble in the Province of Quebec.

## C.P.S.G.B. TO MEET ON CANADIAN SOIL FOR THE FIRST TIME

During the North Hatley Convention, a meeting of the Fellows and Members of the Canadian Philatelic Society will take place for the first time in Canada. This historic occasion in the life of our Society will be honoured by the presence in person of our President, Mr. Stanley Godden, who will be one of the principal speakers at the Convention.

This will be the first time that members of the C.P.S. of G.B. will meet officially on Canadian soil and this joint Meeting with the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada will present a wonderful opportunity for the many Canadian and American members to meet together with members from Great Britain.

The Convention Chairman, Mr. A. H. Christensen, F.C.P.S., is to convene a special meeting so that Mr. Godden may have the opportunity of meeting personally the members in Canada and to tell them something about the work of the Society in Great Britain. Also taking part in this special meeting will be Hedley J. Hollands, who was for

several years Hon. Sec. of the C.P.S. of G.B. before settling in Canada in 1957.



Stanley Godden, C.P.S. G.B. President, who will attend the Convention in Canada.

### “STAMP COLLECTING” AWARDS YEAR’S BEST DESIGN TO CANADA’S DOLLARD

A Canadian postage stamp, issued last May 19 to commemorate the famous stand of Dollard Des Ormeaux and his companions at the Long Sault, has been named “best of the year” by an outstanding British philatelic authority, announced the Honourable William Hamilton, Postmaster General of Canada.

The blue and brown Des Ormeaux stamp, which pictures a profile of the gallant French leader against a background battle scene, won first place in the 1960 “Ten Best” list of the Stamp Collector’s Annual, published by Harris Publications Ltd. Selections are made each year from among the thousand or more stamps issued by all countries of the world. The award-winning stamps are chosen by L. E. Scott, a noted English philatelic writer.

The Dollard stamp was designed for the Canadian Post Office by Philip

Weise, a native of Quebec, who now lives in Ottawa. The Postmaster General pointed out that another Canadian stamp, commemorating the Battle of the Plains of Abraham, and also designed by Mr. Weiss, had won a place on Mr. Scott’s “Ten Best” list for 1959.

In reviewing his choice, Mr. Scott referred to the one and one-half inch square Canadian commemorative as “a little masterpiece”.

In announcing the award, the Postmaster General noted that the Dollard stamp had been issued to commemorate an important milestone in the relations between the settlers of New France and the native Indians. He pointed out that another recent issue, marking the centennial of the birth of the Indian poetess, E. Pauline Johnson, honoured the tremendous contribution of Canada’s Indians to the development of the nation.

# CANADA — TWO NEW ISSUES

## CANADA'S P.M.G. HONOURS INDIANS

The tremendous strides made by Canada's Indian population and the significant contribution they have made to the development of Canada in many fields was honoured by the Canadian Post Office with the issue of a special commemorative stamp on March 10, 1961.

Occasion for the special stamp was the centennial of the birth of E. Pauline Johnson, the famed Mohawk poetess, who was born at Chiefswood, near Brantford, Ontario, on March 10, 1861.

### Canadian Indians achievements

In announcing the new stamp, Mr. Hamilton, the Postmaster General, pointed out that although the issue was directly related to the life and work of Miss Johnson, it was intended to honour all the members of her race. He noted that in recent years particularly, Canadian Indians have made tremendous advances. They have achieved the federal franchise, made sweeping gains in educational, health and social fields, and contributed at a vastly accelerated pace to the economic and industrial growth of the nation.

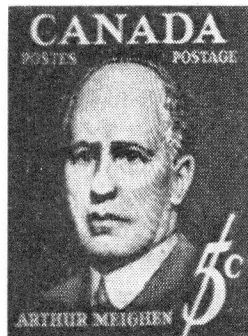
Historically, Mr. Hamilton pointed out, Canadian Indians had produced outstanding leaders in many fields. He mentioned, among other greats, Joseph Brant, Crowfoot and Tecumseh, all outstanding military leaders.



### Design of the Stamp

The stamp is designed to show Miss Johnson's two personalities of Victorian lady and Indian princess. It shows the poetess in the foreground, wearing a high ruffed collar. In the background, she is depicted in tribal dress. Printed in brown and dark green, the stamp measures one and one-half inches by one inch. It was designed by B. J. Reddie of Ottawa. It is of the five-cent denomination and 32,000,000 copies will be printed.

## A NEW ADDITION TO "PRIME MINISTERS" SERIES



One of Canada's great political figures (during the time when this nation was emerging as a power on the international scene) is to be honoured by the Canada Post Office with a special commemorative stamp to be issued on April 19, 1961.

The blue-coloured five-cent stamp will honour the late Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, who served as Prime Minister of Canada from July, 1920, to December, 1921, and from June, 1926, to September, 1926.

One of the most vigorous and active men ever to enter public life in Canada, Mr. Meighen was first elected to Parliament in 1908, representing the Manitoba constituency of Portage La Prairie. Following a term as Solicitor General in 1913, he became Minister of the Interior when the Union Government was formed in 1917. He played a leading part in the acquisition of the Canadian Northern Grand Trunk Railway and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, and was a leading spirit in the passing of the highly controversial Military Service Act of 1917. Born on a farm near Anderson, Ontario, Mr. Meighen graduated from the University of Toronto in 1896 and practised law in Manitoba. He retired from active political life in 1942 but retained an active interest in Canadian affairs, publishing several works on the political scene. He passed away at Toronto on August 6, 1960.

The design for this stamp in the Prime Minister Series was prepared by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Limited, and the engraving was based on the best likeness. Thirty-two million stamps will be printed.

## NEWFOUNDLAND CORNER

by Dr. R. Willan

Professor Marshall Kay writes to me concerning certain perforations of the 1929 re-engraved Publicity Issue. As I am in complete agreement with his facts but disagree entirely with his suggestions based on them, I will set out the matter for students to form their own opinion. The point at issue concerns the comb perforation usually described as 13.6 x 13.4. The base of the comb is on the long side of the stamps and is slightly irregular, but the teeth, on the short sides, are more so. In most of the teeth the first few holes from the base gauge about 14, but the further ones stretch out to about 13.2. Professor Kay suggests that this perforation should be described as being 13.6 x 13.2-14.0. In my opinion this is raising quite unnecessary complications. If the full length of the comb teeth is measured, they all gauge 13.4, and I think it is wrong to introduce any measurements of length less than the short side of a stamp. To me the description 13.6 x 13.2-14.0 would mean that the comb base is 13.6 but some teeth are 13.2 whilst others are 14.0, and this is not the case.

### The collector's choice

This question calls up the wider one of what is collectable and what is not, and I feel very strongly that the right answer to that depends entirely on the collector. If flyspecks fascinate you or second decimal perforations give you a thrill, by all means collect them, but don't think everyone else should do the same. I am a specialist who revels in flyspecks and rarities, but I have seen some very unpretentious Newfoundland collections which have excited in me more envy than some exhibition displays. Any collection is worthy of respect provided the owner is really interested in it and knows what he is collecting. Every collector needs a catalogue, and in this country Gibbons is the philatelist's bible. But that is no reason for regarding it as the Puritan did his scriptures, where every word was to be accepted literally and without question, and anything not directly approved therein was the work of the devil. Gibbons is an excellent compilation, but it makes no claim to being either exhaustive or infallible. Much of great interest and philatelic importance is lacking, and on the other hand some items have no title to inclusion in a philatelic listing. Of course they are collectable; so are grandfather clocks and cigarette cards, but they don't belong in a philatelic collection.

### Genuine or not?

Doctors are notorious for giving good advice which they do not follow themselves, and with shame I must admit that many items in my collection have no right to be where they are. I am perfectly entitled to have two blocks of S.G. 224ba, having been foolish enough to buy them, but they should be in my collection of fakes and forgeries, along with some others of my modern part-perforates. Some of these latter, like some of the rarer perforation varieties are definitely genuine and were sold at the post office, but others are of very doubtful status. The only excuse I can make for having them in my collection is that they appear in Gibbons. One day I may summon up sufficient moral courage to remove ruthlessly from my albums all this dubious and frankly bad material, though I fear I shall never attain the height of consigning it to the incinerator, however much I feel that that would be its proper fate.

## Amendments to Membership to 22nd February, 1961

### New Members

- 1335 BETTIN, F., 806 Rimpau Blvd., Los Angeles 5, Calif., U.S.A. C, CL, CS  
 1336 PARKER, Dr. R. R., 2515 Holyrood Drive, Nanaimo, B.C., Canada. CG  
 1337 DEVLIN, M., 4507—Centre St. N., Calgary, Alta, Canada. C  
 1338 CHAPMAN, S. E., 'Dorney', 69 St. Leonard's Rd., Chesham Bois, Bucks. C  
 1339 FRANKS, D. G., 107a Grosvenor Ave., Carshalton, Surrey. CG, PH  
 1340 MARTIN, E. B., Rm 608 366 Madison Ave., N.Y. 17, N.Y., U.S.A. CGE

### Resignations

- 725 C. J. Chaplin.  
 1029 L. A. King.  
 241 E. D. McDowall.  
 360 Lt/Col. H. Poulter.  
 692 D. Vaudreuil.

### Change of address

- 1240 BANFIELD, Mrs. B., 6 Craigmillar Park, Edinburgh 9.  
 1260 DANE, Lt/Cdr. P. P. R., Roseacre, 82 Titchfield Rd., Fareham, Hants.  
 802 CLOUGH, T. S., 16 Carlton Ave., Newsham, Blyth, Northumberland.  
 624 DENT, G. W., Poynings, Church Lane, Haslemere, Surrey.  
 305 EASTON, D. E. F., 73 Edward Avenue, San Rafael, Marin Co.,  
 California, U.S.A.  
 675 FORTNUM, D. L., 10 Wren Cresc., Branksome, Poole, Dorset.  
 906 HATFIELD, Lt/Col. F. E., 35 Base Workshops REME, Old Dalby,  
 Nr. Melton Mowbray, Leics.  
 1214 HETHERINGTON, A. E., 1510 Western Rd., London, Ont., Canada.  
 941 GROMYKO, N., 8 Hillside Gardens, London, N.6.  
 1159 LITTLETON, J. H., 98 Thorntree Drive, W. Monkseaton, Whitley Bay,  
 Northumberland.  
 943 PINION, R., 5 West Parade, Horsham, Sussex.  
 907 McLELLAN, L. M., 98 Dalewood Ave. S., Hamilton, Ont., Canada.  
 1297 RIMINGTON, T. G., The Old Rectory, Congerstone, Nuneaton.  
 176 SEARLES, G., Colville House, 15 Dry Hill Rd., Tonbridge, Kent.  
 1046 TRAQUAIR, R. S., P.O. Box 855, Calgary, Alta, Canada.

### Amendments to Year Book listing

- 1195 SOMERVILLE, J. C., 9 Hillhouse Rd., Barassie, Troon.  
 564 HITCHCOCK, J. N. (not H. N.).  
 942 HATTEY, H. J., 38 Tyrone Rd., Thorpe Bay, Essex.  
 896 LEE, G. A. M., 78 Meol's Parade, Hoylake, Cheshire.  
 1094 OUDENOL, P. D. van (not VAN Oudenol).  
 907 McLELLAN, L. M. amend interests to C, BL, DC, P, SC, SP.

### Information required of new address (last known address given)

- 947 HORNBY, F., 8120 East Jefferson Ave., Detroit 14, Mich., U.S.A.  
 600 MACCALLUM, R. S., 8 Lafayette Rd., Larchmont, New York, U.S.A.  
 1148 WILSON, J. C., 10332-114 St., Edmonton, Alta, Canada.  
 364 WIDDOWSON, H. J., Clinton House, Pelham Rd., Sherwood Rise,  
 Nottingham.  
 1087 BOURGIE, L., 10451 Blvd. St. Michel, Montreal 12, Canada.  
 1015 WODEHOUSE, N. E., 47 Woodland Ave., Hove, Sussex.  
 1144 BRETON, Mrs. A., 11 Gariepy Block, 10004 Jasper Ave., Edmonton,  
 Alta, Canada.  
 900 McDONALD, K., 9 North Bridge Arcade, Edinburgh 1.

Net Change +1

New Total 863