# CANADIAN PHILATELIST

Journal of the
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of CANADA

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 3

# STAMPS GALORE

May 1, 1972

Dear Friends:—

During the last month we have purchased a number of very interesting collections and lots. Due to the great pressure of work here at the office, I have been unable to make my usual extensive trips, but with the Spring weather coming, there is no doubt that I will have to get out and visit all the people who have written about stamps they want to sell. Today I leave on a trip to Phoenix, Arizona.

From a local collector, we purchased a very fine stock of George V. This has obviously been accumulated during the 1915-1925 period and contains all the George V commemoratives and regular sets to the £, Both mint and used. The 1935 Jubilees were particularly strong. Then, there was the Hirm British Colony collections which is a very nice lot and has already been broken up and put into stock.

From Australia we received a very fine stock of medium and later issue of Australia mint and used. These were from a dealer there who wanted to liquidate, and it is unusual that the stamps would be sold to us here in Canada rather than to the local dealers in Australia. I can only presume that we must be paying higher prices.

From Western Canada we purchased the McPhail collection of British Colonies in 12 volumes with a catalogue value of over $10,000.00. This is a collection that was formed over a period of many years and was very neatly mounted and arranged.

Of course there are always the wholesale lots of Canada bundled stock coming to us, both commemoratives, pictorials and common stamps, sometimes in quite huge quantities. During the last few weeks there have been several of these purchases.

Then there was a fellow who brought to our store, two huge Global type albums, practically full of foreign new issue sets complete for the last 10 years. It was very pretty and attractive and although we have a great deal of it already in stock, we were most interested and bought it.

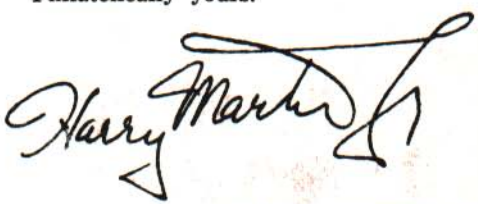
Again, old material is most difficult to come by, particularly in British Colonies, however, due to a fortunate contact, we have just purchased a tremendous lot of British Africa which included Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River and Transvaal. These include Queen Victoria and Edwards, sometimes in quantities of over 10,000 of a kind, and also has the high values up to the £. It is most extraordinary that such a lot could still be intact after all these years. This lot will gradually be broken up, and each and every one of the stamps sold individually to our customers. If you are interested in British Africa, particularly in cancellations or quantity stock to go through and study, you had better get in touch with us right away.

Last Friday I took a quick trip to London, Ontario and valued stamps all day. One being the stock of Mr. Hendershot who has decided to give up his store and go out of business. Another was that of an Estate, which was a very fine British Colony collection.

Oh yes, then there was the stock that I got from Europe. One item alone was a German Morocco stamp, 1919 issue. mint condition, which must be extremely scarce, although it only catalogues 25c. The quantity though, in mint sheets was over 100,000 stamps.

That is all for today, but just remember, when you are interested in selling your stamps, or know of stamps that are for sale, please get in touch with me. I will be a buyer, or at least be of some help or service.

Philatelically yours.



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# THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

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

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

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

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

# EDITORIAL

"More people are form blind than colour blind"

—Henry Moore

☆ ☆ ☆

The Penny Black of Great Britain is a cheap stamp. About 15 million were issued. Many more than is the case with the average modern commemorative issue, and due to the method of filing and lack of envelopes, many more have survived. The current catalogue value, of course, makes this comparison seem foolish because the used Penny Black is listed at $25 and the average used modern commemorative lists at 5c.

There are obviously more than enough of each stamp to go around, but there is a factor affecting one that does not affect the other. This factor is, of course, specialization.

The word "specialization" is often used quite wrongly by collectors and is broadened to include mere accumulation at the one extreme and one-country collecting at the other. When specialization is carried to extremes it developes into an illness which might be termed "philatelic constipation". This condition could be defined as the inability to pass anything through the system whether it is needed or not.

This total retention syndrome is very easily acquired, and I myself suffered from a mild attack for a couple of years after my book on the Forwarding Agents was published.

The accumulation of philatelic, or postal history material, is understandable when one is endeavoring to establish certain facts or a sequence of events. If on the other hand the material has been exhaustively studied and evaluated of what value is it to go over the same ground again? Isn't it enough to have a representative grouping showing the key items? If a squared circle postmark is known with fifteen different time slugs, do you have to have all of them? Surely it is sufficient to have the scarcest and list the others in the write-up.

Many people invest a lot of time and effort in the assembly of calendar collections of Small Queens. To what purpose? To collect the earliest dates of usage of a particular shade or printing has some value perhaps but one stamp used on every day of a particular year or years?

What I am really saying is that we should all be more selective in our collecting. The hobby will benefit, the eye appeal of our collections will benefit and more material will come onto the market for our fellow collectors.

After all it is only juveniles who measure the stature of a collection by numerical criteria.

☆ ☆ ☆

Through the kindness of dealer Jim Hennok, Box 75, Borden, Ontario, I am able to illustrate the Canadian equivalent of the old English "poached egg" coil testing labels. Engraved and printed by Canadian Bank Note, they were apparently first used to demonstrate the plastic coil dispensers. The printed design measures slightly less than the current 8c. but the spacing is identical with the coil issue. Found imperforate on gummed stamp paper.

☆ ☆ ☆

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CANPEX '72 are eligible for a special award presented by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. If you are eligible and wish to enter your exhibit for this special award please mark on your entry form "Eligible for Champion of Champions Award" and enclose a certificate from the Secretary of your Chapter that you have won the Grand Award of your Chapter exhibition.

Members have all received the CANPEX 72 prospectus and should be planning to either attend or exhibit at what will be one of the outstanding shows ever put on by a chapter.

The prospectus itself was so well designed and produced that it will be used by The American Philatelic Society as an example for others to follow. The members of the Edmonton Stamp Club are doing a really fine job of organizing an interesting convention. Support them by coming to Edmonton in July.

☆ ☆ ☆

**10,000**

Membership number 10,000 has just been assigned to new member Eric Bruce Clark of St. Bruno, Quebec. Mr. Clark collects Liberia, U.S.A. and G.B.

Membership #1 of the Current series was issued to J. C. Astwood of Winnipeg on September 27th, 1919 and it is interesting to look back over the last 53 years and consider the changes that have taken place in philately during the half century.

J. C. Astwood is no longer with us but other veteran collectors including - P. W. Geen #93, Fred Jarret #168, H. P. Stockwell #272, C. T. Butcher #317, Herbie Buckland #365 and Dr. H. S. Barlow #998 are still active.

☆ ☆ ☆

Many members have written about the pleasures of collecting modern Canada and some have asked why something is not written on modern postmarks. Recently retrieved from the waste basket were these Toronto postmarks — "CITY DEL. DIV", "NIGHT STAFF CITY SORTATION" and "No. 2 FWD". Why are these cancels used? What on earth does "No 2 FWD" mean?

☆ ☆ ☆

We were sorry to learn of the recent death of Herbert Dube who had been active in Toronto philatelic circles for some years. He was the founder and first president of the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada. He was at one time a director of our society and at the time of his death was acting as our Director of Publicity.

☆ ☆ ☆

## THE YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

35 mm slides are being made available to youth clubs. Several programs are now ready and several will be available within a short time. Those obtainable now:

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## RIO DE JANEIRO EXHIBITION

EXFILBRA '72 will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil August 26 - September 2, 1972. This will be the fourth annual Interamerican Philatelic Exhibition to be held under the auspices of F.I.A.F. Mrs. G. M. Geldert, Honorary Secretary of the R.P.S.C., Apt. 1510, Island Park Towers, 195 Clearview Avenue, Ottawa, K1Z 6S1, Canada has been appointed the Canadian Commissioner.

Copies of the EXFILBRA '72 prospectus, now ready for distribution, will be sent by Mrs. Geldert upon receipt of 20c. in postage. In order to maintain the high standards established by the Interamerican shows, any exhibit which has won at least a silver medal at an international exhibition or a gold medal at a national or major regional stamp show automatically will be considered eligible to compete at EXFILBRA '72. Those collections never previously exhibited and those who were winners of a lesser award at a national show will be accepted by the host committee on a selected basis providing sufficient frames are available.

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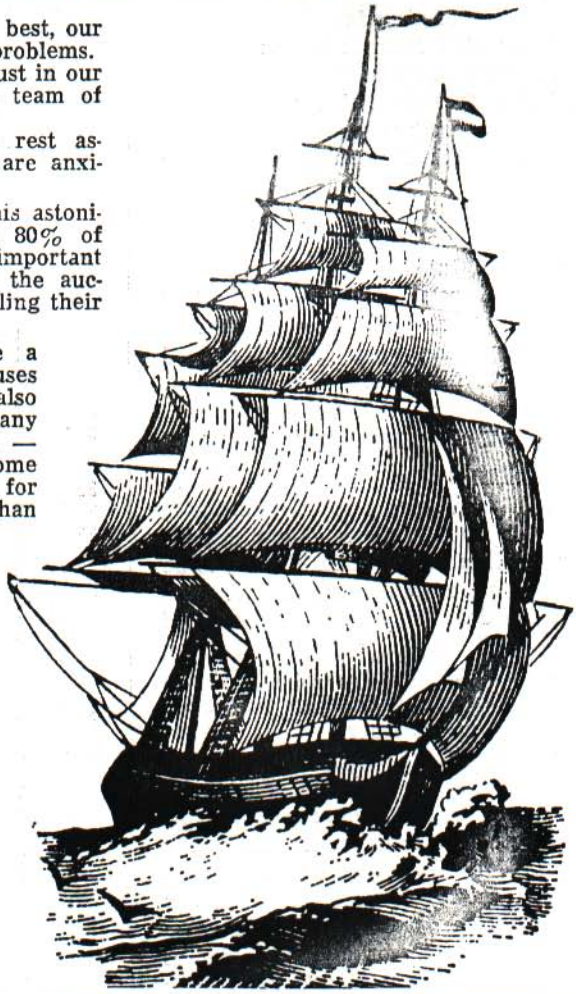

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ments are being made for members of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada to join this group at Kennedy Airport. The flight will depart JFK Airport, New York, the evening of August 24 and will return from Rio de Janeiro on the evening of September 3. These dates will accommodate those individuals who prefer to handcarry their own exhibits. For those who want to remain at least until September 7 touring Brazil or other South American countries, special arrangements are being made. Travel and hotel information for the special EXFILBRA '72 flights are being handled by Mrs. Nanvy Zwartendyk, 1349 Fontenay Crescent, Ottawa, KIV 7K5, Canada. A deposit of $15.00 is required for a reservation on the non-stop August 24 New York to Rio Flight. Be sure to specify a return date and whether you desire hotel accommodations.

For those who are unable to deliver or ship their exhibit by other means, the Canadian Commissioner, Mrs. Geldert, will make special arrangements to handcarry the exhibits to and from Rio. The charge for this service will be nominal.

It is anticipated that the Rio exhibition will exceed the size and scope of any of the previous F.I.A.F. shows held in Bogota. Caracas and Lima.

The Interamerican Federation will meet in Philadelphia in 1976 and in Toronto in 1978.

**FORTHCOMING ISSUES**

17 May — 300th Anniversary of the Appointment of Frontenac as Governor of New France

6 July — Canadian Indians (First Day at Canpex '72)

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- —24th International Geological Congress
- —22nd International Geographical Congress
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| 63 U | £4.50 |
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# ADMIRAL STATISTICS

By HANS REICHE #6397

This information may not be of interest to all of you but it is intended to raise some questions rather than bring new facts. Statistics may sometimes help to reveal certain features which otherwise can not be displayed.

The Admiral issue is full of retouched subjects. There is hardly one value which did not have some retouches during its printing life. Some values appear to have more than others and certain short printing periods appear to show a larger number of retouches than others. Some writers expressed the view that the stamps printed by the flat printing press and from the original dies have more retouched subjects than those from the curved plates and the later dies. Browsing through the various Admiral writings one may get the impression that the retouched subjects are randomly distributed over all the various pane positions (UR,UL, LR, LL), and randomly distributed within each pane (position 1 to 100). With the help from some collectors, the manufacturer and a sort of over 1,500,000 stamps (1c. green, 2c. red, 5c. blue and 10c. plum) the statistical count is as follows: Retouches on the UL panes contribute 40.5% of the total, from the UR panes 31.0%, the LL panes 3.6% and the LR panes 25.0%. Retouched stamps from pane positions 1 to 50 contributed 46% and from positions 50 to 100 54%. This ratio remained almost constant independent of the pane position. The retouched area on each stamp was studied and the stamps showing a retouch in the UL part contribute 14%, in the UR 35%, in the LL 35% and in the LR 17%.

The question which can be asked immediately is why do the LL panes contribute only such a small amount of the total? Would not the bottom panes or rows experience a much greater impact stress from the press than the upper? The distribution of retouches in the upper and lower positions on the panes appears almost equal with only a slight increase over the upper by 8%. The reason for the high percentage of retouches in the UR areas of the stamps is probably that the UR spandrel line was not engraved as heavily as the UL and wore faster. The majority of retouches in the LL are retouched vertical box lines, but why did this box require a retouch more often than the right one? The majority of retouches in the

# Announcing

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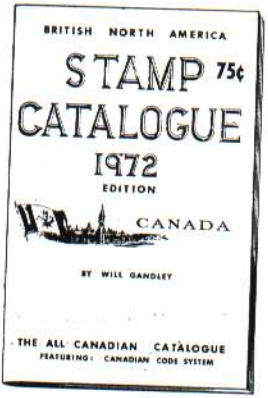


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37/10 = 10th stamp of 1937

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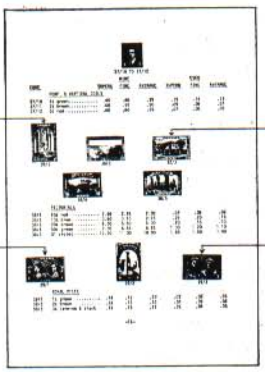

**NOTE:**

Pictures and Values Together Throughout For Easier Reading

**NOTE:**

No Over Crowding Even Spacing, Pictures Numbered.

## CANADIAN WHOLESALE SUPPLY

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

LR area are not the box line but the entire right spandrel. Why?

There are a number of peculiar plates which were not taken into account. These are the retouched plates of the 2c. red Plates 87 to 92 and the 3c. brown Plate 23. Practically all subjects on these plates were retouched and if added to the calculations would bias the questions raised here. On the 2c. red plates some subjects were retouched in one, two, three or four areas with many showing multiple retouches. The 3c. brown retouches on Plate 23 are almost all in the UL and LL areas.

The retouches appear, therefore, to be randomly distributed throughout the entire plates but not over the pane positions. This means that the early plates show the same percentages of retouches as the later plates. Retouched stamps on each pane appear to be randomly distributed but the retouched areas on each stamp appear to be high for the UR and LL and low for the UL and LR.

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## Newfoundland

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

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

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

**Philip S. Horowitz**
**P.O. BOX 27**
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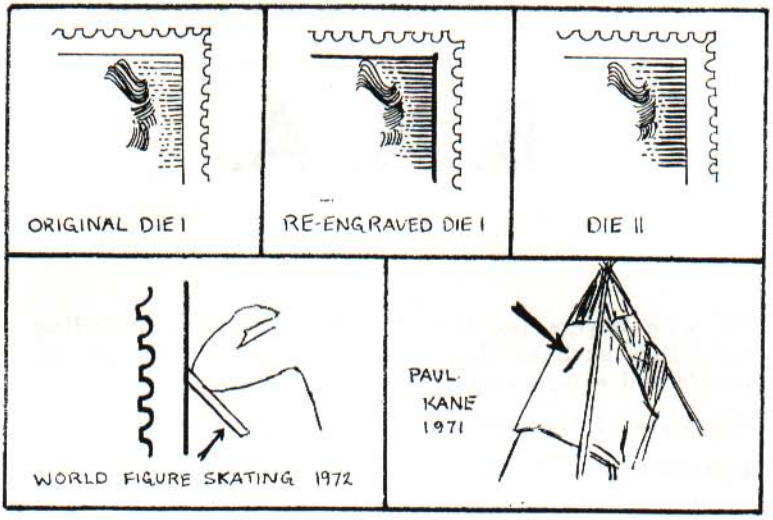
# H. E. Harris & Co., BOSTON, MASS. 02117 Established 1916




# UNDER THE LOOKING GLASS

**KEN PUGH 9503**

Last issue I discussed the intaglio plate making process that was used in the manufacture of Canadian stamps until 1968. Starting with the Gray Jay issue in 1968, a new plate making process was brought into use. A master plate of 50 to 100 impressions is prepared instead of the large 200 to 600 subject plate. This master plate is used to manufacture the four to six pane working plate which contains 50 or 100 stamps, depending upon the individual designs and colours used.

If a flaw occurs in the master plate, it should be repeated on all post office panes.

I believe I have previously discussed the difference between the current 6 cent black definitive Original Die I, and the Re-engraved Die I. Since that date, a new Die II has now appeared. This should thoroughly confuse Scott, who has previously listed the Re-engraved Die I, as a DieII. I wonder what Die II will be called?

1) Original Die I—Cloud background is light coloured giving a light grey appearance to the stamp. Frame lines are thin, often broken. Plates 1, 2 and 3. Perforated 11.9 x 12.4. Tagged - side bars only (Winnipeg). Printed by British American Bank Note Co.
2) Re-engraved Die I — Cloud background is darker, giving a black appearance to the stamp. Frame lines are thick, with the right vertical framelike extending a little beyond the top horizontal frame line. Plate 4. Perforated 11.9 x 12.4. Tagged - one center bar (Winnipeg). Printed by British American Bank Note Co.
3) Die II — Cloud background is as dark as the Re-engraved Die I. Frame lines are fine, with no extension to the right vertical frame line. Plates 1 and 2. Perforated 11.8 x 11.8. Tagged - one center bar (Winnipeg). Printed by Canadian Bank Note Co.

A constant variety has appeared on the World Figure Skating Championship issue of March 1, 1972. This issue was printed by one colour lithography in post office panes of 50.

# B. N. A.

**We are buyers for B. N. A. collections, etc., including specialties such as first rate plate block collections, proofs and essays, and revenues of every kind.**

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3. **Canada Basic Catalog**
4. **Canada Plate Block Catalog**
5. **Canada Revenue Album**

Album for revenues is being published in sections and several have been completed so far. As to revenues themselves, we are always in the market for larger collections and accumulations. Our latest purchase, for example, was an estate property consisting of one of the finest collections of Canadian revenues in existence.

**ERRORS**

**New printing procedures in Canada have produced several major errors and despite the dependence on computer run printing machines will produce more. We are most eager to purchase anything that may be discovered in the way of errors and varieties and will pay handsome prices for anything attractive. In 1959, for example, we purchased 105 copies of the Seaway Invert, nearly all at high prices.**

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The variety consists of a white scratch near the shaded woman skater: R3/1. It has occured on all the panes I have seen so far, but this does not necessarily mean that all panes printed will contain this variety. If you have found this variety please let me know about it .

Many sheets contain small circular marks called doughnuts, or hickies. I have not found these to be constant to any significant degree.

Every sheet of the Paul Kane commemorative I have seen also contain a constant repeating flaw in the first vertical row. R1 to R10/1. This flaw, in the form of a small black line, is found on the middle teepee. Again, if anyone has found a sheet not containing this variety, please let me know.

My address is 644 13th Street, Brandon, Manitoba -R7A 4R5

# Sales Department

After a winter of record breaking sales volume ,and a bigger demand than ever for sales circuits, I am looking forward to enjoying the great outdoors once again. However I must look ahead to September and commencement of another philatelic season which I expect will be another hectic one.

This leads to the matter of supply of good material. Requests for early Canada continue to increase and outweigh all other countries combined. This winter some very good books were received and sales were excellent. Early mint Canada and semi-official airs were good sellers, contributing in large measure to record sales. I appeal to all members who have surplus early Canadian material to consider entering it in the sales circuits. Provided they're priced reasonably, sales will be good. Modern Canada is not required.

Insofar as other countries are concerned I need the following:—

Early mint and used GREAT BRITAIN
Early mint and used DENMARK
Mint and used ICELAND
Early mint and used U.S.A.
Mint and used FRANCE and SWITZERLAND

At the present time I do **not** need issues of the following areas . . . . . British Asia: British Africa: Central and South America.

As mentioned in previous issues I would appreciate your enquiry before submitting unwanted countries. It may save you time and money.

I have detected a buyer resistance to unrealistically priced books. This is a thorny subject and I do not propose to say what is a realistic price. I suppose a good guideline would be that a stamp should be priced at a percentage of catalog that you would be prepared to pay. We are all looking for bargains but it is unrealistic to price your books at 70-80% catalog and expect to buy at 30-40%. Before selling in the circuits you should have a good idea what the market price is.

My post office box will remain open all summer for the receipt of books. I thank those of you who have contributed books and look forward to your continued support.

A good summer to you all.

Gordon F. W. Frost,
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Willowdale, Ontario.

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

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| **SUCCURSALE POSTALE "B"** | Rue Sparks, | Au coin des rues Sparks et Elgin, Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 5A0 |
| **Succursale Haute-Ville** | 3, rue Buade | Québec 4 (P.Q.) |
| ***Succursale postale "C"** | Fairview Mall | Au coin de Don Mills Road et de Sheppard Avenue, Willowdale (Ontario) (Toronto métroplitain) |

* Seules peuvent être obtenues, à cet endroit, des envelopes de timbres assortis.

# WHAT'S NEW IN OLD CANADA

By FRED STULBERG

## REGISTERED POSTCARDS

Today, the concept of registering postcards seems strange but this is only because our use of postcards is different now than it was a century ago. The first government postcard with the postage printed on it was introduced in Canada in 1871. Public acceptance was immediate because of its reduced postage rate (1c. instead of 3c. for domestic use) and its convenience for short messages. In effect ,it acted as the "telephone" of the time especially for commercial establishments in the larger urban areas.

The registration system was established in Canada in 1855 as a projection of the "money-letter" system that was in use up to that time. When the government postcards were made available to the public, there was nothing in postal regulations that prevented their registration. However, it was not until the Registered Letter Stamps were issued in 1875 that the practice of registering these postcards began, albeit in a limited way. Most examples of this era (fig. 1) pertain to legal matters and are either to or from the courts, or from one lawyer to another. This card is from a law firm in Toronto to one in Aurora (a town just north of Toronto) stressing the urgency of the information of a certain file. The 1c. postcard pays, of course, the domestic postcard rate and the 2c. registered letter stamp pays the registration fee. The use of this stamp was compulsory for registration of the article.

In 1882, specific regulations came into effect which prohibited the registration of postcards. However, despite this, the practice continued in a limited way. Most examples of this type of postcard (fig. 2) were not the governmental issue and were privately printed. Again, most known have a legal complexion and, incidentally, were for local delivery only.

We want to thank all the members who have written for the literature on our Current Issue Service, and then sent in their deposits with orders. We would also like to encourage those who haven't yet invested 8c. to find out what it's all about, to send in now. Join up with your fellow members now. This service is for you. It is not available to Non-Society members.

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This gives credulity to the theory that, although they were messages on card, they were treated by the post office as normal local letters which, at that time, could be mailed to any local address for 1c. postage (the same as the postcard rate) and there were no regulations prohibiting the registration of local or "drop" letters.

Examples of registered postcards of any type beyond the mid 1880's are virtually unknown.

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PRESIDENT — Jan H. Roebroek, Phone 466-6273
SECRETARY — E. Christensen, Phone 477-1897
REPRESENTATIVE — G. C. Bolton,
Phone 452-2978
Address all mail % the Club
P.O. Box 399, Edmonton 15, Alberta

## LA SOCIETE PHILATELIQUE DE QUEBEC

(CHAPTER No. 40)

QUEBEC 26 OC CANADA

**Meets in the**
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**Québec**

First & Third
Wednesdays of the month at 8.30 p.m.
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## KITCHENER WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**(Chapter 13, of the R.P.S.C.)**

Meets at 7.30 p.m. the 2nd. Thursday of month (except during June, July, August & December) in Kitchener Public Library
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**President: Howard Bryce,**
Tel. 744-8865
464 Hazel St., Waterloo, Ont.

## WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

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**MEETINGS:**
**2nd and 4th TUESDAYS—7.30 p.m.**
**VISITORS WELCOME**

## EDMONTON IN '72

## LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB

**R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 33**

Meets second Wednesday and last Friday of each month in
**Confederation College, 8 p.m.**
— Visitors always welcome —
**Donald Jack, Secretary-Treasurer**
Apt. #9 - 2830 Victoria Ave.,
Thunder Bay "F" Ontario

## NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB

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**33 Melrose Avenue**
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# CHAPTER MEETINGS

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**R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 16**

Meet 8:00 p.m. Thursdays
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Ottawa 8
— *VISITORS WELCOME* —

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL STAMP CLUB

## NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (July & August excepted) at the North York Memorial Community Hall.
5090 Yonge St., Willowdale, Ontario.
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Chapter Fifty-one

Hamilton Philatelic Society

A. E. TREBILCOCK,
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M. T. MONTGOMERY,
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## R A STAMP CLUB OTTAWA

**(CHAPTER 41, RPSC)**

MEETS 7.30 p.m. EVERY MONDAY at
THE R. A. CENTRE
2451 Riverside Drive,
Ottawa, Ontario.
(Except June, July and August)
Visitors Welcome — Phone 733-5100

## Winnipeg Philatelic Society

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Secretary
ROBERT FOURES - Phone 233-6522
*Visitors Welcome*

## VANCOUVER ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings on the SECOND THURSDAY of each month, (except July and August) at 7.45 p.m.
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**Room 112, B.C. Provincial Museum**
Visitors always most Welcome.

## CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY

**(C.A.F.I.P.) RPSC Chapter #76**

Meetings every second Monday of the month (except July and August) at 8:00 p.m.,
Juniors 7:00 p.m. at the Jewish Public Library, 22 Glen Park Ave., Toronto (Bathurst-Glencairn area).
— Visitors Welcome —
Information:
**Mrs. S. Chernick, Phone 425-1346**

## EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

**Cedarvale Park Building**
**Cedarvale Ave.,**
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• 1st & 3rd Wednesdays •
**Secretary: Raymond Reakes,**
188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto 13
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GET A NEW MEMBER

# $14,892.55

That respectable figure is the Scott catalog value of the BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN section of our 191st Auction Sale, taking place in New York the evening of **Tuesday, June 6th,** in in the Monte Carlo suite of the Hotel Americana.

CANADA is of course the most substantial portion, with 330 lots, ranging from Beavers to Registries, with stops along the way at Boer War covers, a bevy of dollar Jubilees, and even a few choice early sheets. NEWFOUNDLAND runs to 175 lots, with several lots each of the more popular sets, such as the Cabot, Caribou, Royal Family, Guy, Gilbert and Labradors.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, NOVA SCOTIA and PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND are also included.

The entire sale consists of non-U.S.A. material. The four sessions will offer stamps of British Commonwealth and General Foreign. Catalog value of just a few sections is as follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
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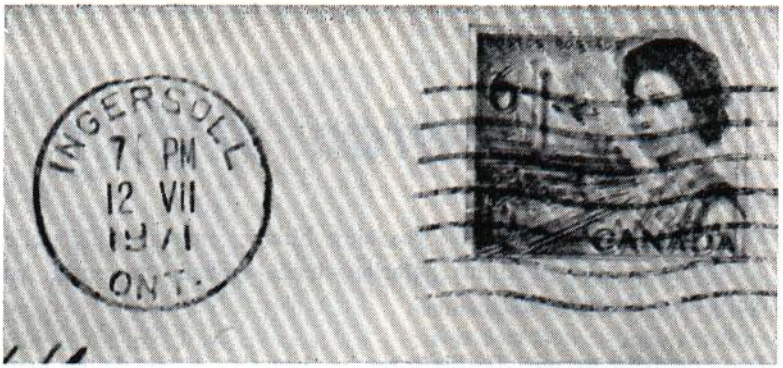


# CENTENNIAL STATIONERY ENVELOPES

By H. KAHLMEIER #9587

Since writing my previous article on the Centennial stationery envelopes more interesting items have been discovered and come to my attention. Some of these items appear to be unique at this time. In the following passages I have attempted to list and describe the varieties to bring the reader up to date.

The International type surcharge die in the thicker type as pictured in the last article can be found on all three envelopes, 4c. #10, 5c. #10 and 5c. #8. The reason for this variety I think is either worn out dies, resulting in flatter and wider characters holding more ink, or the printing company used two different dies. The Gasparo type does not show this variation and I stand to be corrected on my reasons.

The "open house" variety as described in last article has now been found with the Gasparo surcharge on the #10 size. I had just recently received a few copies from the philatelic bureau in Ottawa and quite possibly you may also have received some. (These old type surcharges of the first rate increase may soon be sold out in Ottawa . The 3c. pre-cancel overprinted 5c. #8 and the orange and black 6c. postcards are already sold out at time of writing.)

The 5c. envelope can now be collected in colour groups. Group 1. blue, is composed of #8, #10, #10 Gasparo surcharge, #8 Gasparo surcharge, #8 International surcharge and #10 International surcharge. Group 2, ultramarine, composed of #10, #10 Gasparo surcharge, #8 Gasparo surcharge and #8 International surcharge. I have not yet seen any other variations that may come under these groups.

The 5c. value can also be found showing a rich deep blue and with slightly blurry stamp impressions. These were found on the International surcharged issues.

The next item of this denomination to report on is a paper variety. Two envelopes size #8 have been found with the stamp impression and Gasparo surcharge having been printed on the coarse reverse side of the paper. This "inside out" variety can easily be distinguished from the normal printing by the diagonal lines running across the paper. This may have been caused accidently by feeding the paper in wrong, resulting in the normal smooth stamp impression printing surface receiving the overall security printing "Postes Canada Post" instead!

A very rare item has been found of this 5c. value. The envelope concerns a #8 International overprint without the 5c. blue stamp impression! This

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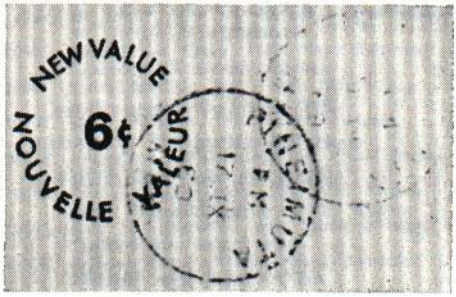
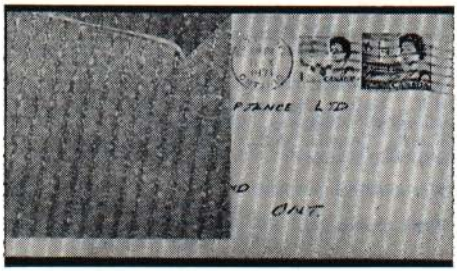
envelope has the normal security printing inside.




Going on now to the 6c. orange a seeming double stamp impression has now also been seen in the #8 size. This variety, I have learned, was not caused in the process of printing the impression but in the actual preparation of the dies. Thus the die itself has a blurry image which is reproduced in the printing. This deep orange shade seems to be scarcer than the #10 size after finding only one in a lot of one thousand.

The 6c. black impressions recently saw a major triple printing impression rarity. The question is how could such an envelope be printed? Or perhaps, more astonishing, why was a cover printed with four stamp impressions which was found along with the triple printing!

A minor printing variety has been found on the 6c. black issue which has a very light stamp impression and is close to very light gray in appearance.



This issue also has a few envelopes with an inside overall "washed in gray" look. With this kind of security printing variety there may be envelopes with absolutely no inside security printing on this 6c. issue!

Before leaving the black denomination of 6c., I will mention that a yellow paper the size of the #8 envelopes, has been found with the International surcharge. This may be a filler paper or spacer used by the printing company in their methods of separating paper or quantities. Perhaps someone has the answer.

The now obsolete 7c. envelopes come in two distinct colour variations, a dull green shade and a light green shade. Also, a seeming double stamp impression resulting in a dark blurry green shade.

It is now time to look out for any new printing varieties that may be found of the current increased postal rate stationery and perhaps new experimental innovations by the postal department. The new 15c. aerogrammes have already been printed in three distinctive different types within a matter of only four months last year!

It is very fortunate indeed that these varieties mentioned have been found and preserved for philaelic study by people who were "on the ball". Without these interesting errors and varieties, however minor or major they may seem, fascination in the issue may not be so great. Variety is the spice of philately!

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(*) Has requested that street address be left out.

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(Has paid up dues for 1971 & 1972)
7201 Donald W. Thompson, Box 88, Richmond Hill, Ont.
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## Expelled

9690 Robert Kindred, J. & B. Stamp and Coin Co., 201 Wellington Street, Kingston, Ontario
(Expelled for activities unbecoming to a society member.)

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#110 B. & W. Stamp Club C/o Allen Bailey, 278 Marentette, Windsor 14, Ontario
#111 Independent Order of Foresters Stamp Club, C/o Floyd McNey, P.O. Box 177, Stony Plain, Alta.
#112 Richmond Stamp Club, C/o Burton S. Smythe, 571 Riverdale Drive, Richmond, B.C.

## Chapter Changes

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#28 Northern Electric Philatelic Club C/o A. E. Struthers, Dept. K.355, 1261 Shearer Street, Montreal, Quebec
#58 Kawartha Philatelic Society, C/o R. Cameron, 34 Kingswood Drive, Peterborough, Ont.
#75 Germany Philatelic Society of Kitchener, C/o William Erbach, 14 Blucher Street, Kitchener, Ontario
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COME TO EDMONTON

# THE BRUCE PENINSULA -- ITS FIRST POST OFFICES

By MAX ROSENTHAL

### The Route to Colpoy's Bay

"An Old Settler", in his "Reminiscences of the Saugeen Peninsula", explained in the September 12, 1879 Wiarton Echo that "during the first few years of our residence here we had to go to Owen Sound in small boats for all that we required — even our letters and papers."

Gradually a little village also made its appearance on Keppel's Big Bay, North Keppel. The Grey County Gazetter and Directory of 1865-6 called it "a new village on Colpoy's Bay, or rather on Big Bay, between Colpoy's Bay and Owen's Sound. It is on the north shore of the Township of Keppel — hence the name. Mr. John Horne put up a sawmill five or six years ago, and is now making preparations to erect a grist mill also North Keppel is 18 m. from Owen Sound town. Mail every Tuesday from Owen Sound." Robert Dowar was postmaster at this village, at the corner of the Lake Shore Road and sideroad 37.

Of Colpoy's Bay itself, the Directory waxed eloquently:

"A beautiful bay washing the northernmost part of the county, and an arm of Georgian Bay, named after a pilot in the exploring expedition of Captain Owen. On the southern shore, for two miles before reaching the head of the bay, a beautiful succession of improving farms is presented. This was formerly an Indian Reserve, but given up and sold some three years ago. Here we find a P.O. lately established for the convenience of the settlers — 'Ovenden P.O.' The mail from Owen Sound is carried across by boat to 'Colpoy's Bay' P.O. directly opposite (1¼ miles across). in the Township of Albemarle and County of Bruce.

"The Two post-offices above named are 30 miles from Owen Sound by water."

Oxenden had gotten its post office in 1864, with James Atkey, Sr., mentioned in the opening story, as postmaster, at the corner of the 11th sideroad and what is now the country road northeast from Wiarton. The Directory of the next year put its distance at "about 18m. in a direct line from Owen Sound, about 20 by the nearest opened-out road, and some 25 by the mail route via North Keppel. Mails from Owen Sound (via Sarawak and N. Keppel and en-route for Colpoy's Bay post-offices) every Tuesday."

Sarawak post office, named after its townships, was established on the same route in 1863, on the 3rd concession road in lot 42, but, after a lighthouse was built in 1872 at Presqu'Ile (Almost an Island) on the Lake Shore Road just south of the northern boundary it was moved there. Lovell's Canadian Directory of 1871 called it a "romantic village on the west side of Owen Sound. It has a good wharf, about 200 feet long and 14 feet deep. Lumbering is carried on considerably in the vicinity. Steamers call here regularly."

The first postmaster, John McKenzie was agent for the steamboats, and wharfinger, and he kept the lighthouse when it opened. On the same mail route Kemble opened in 1868, at the 20th concession road and 40th sideroad of Keppel, with William Heard as postmaster.

### Wiarton and North

The 1865-6 Grey County Directory explained: "In former years all connection with Colpoy's Bay was by coasting in boats. Lately the County Line has been opened out, and Owen Sound is brought 10 miles nearer."

This line between Grey and Bruce Counties is now Highway 6. Where it reaches the head of Colpoy's Bay, Wiarton town lots were not offered for sale

until 1868, although James Lennox had built a log shanty there two years earlier. The absence at first of a wharf resulted in the nucleus of the town being built on top of the hill, on Gould Street. There in 1868 B. Miller built a hotel, and opened the post office. Wiarton received its name from the birthplace of the then Governor-General, Sir Edmund Walker Head, who was born at Wiarton Place, near Maidstone, Kent. After wharves were constructed and mills built below the hill, business moved to Berford Street, the present main thoroughfare.

After the earliest settlers around Colpoy's Bay, Albomarle Township's next influx came between its southern boundary and the center of the township, in the vicinity of Mar. A road was opened by the end of the 1860's through Mar to the next township north, Eastnor, the present Highway 6. Mar post office was established in 1870 on its west side, in lot 17.

The Cape Croker peninsula on the east side of Albermarle remained an Indian Reserve. Fred Lamorandiere opened Cape Croker post office there in 1873.

Settlers did not take up land in Eastnor Township until 1869 ,the first ones in the vicinity of Lion's Head. Situated on an inlet of Isthmus Bay, Lion's Head in 1875 consisted only of the post office, opened that year, with Francis W. Stewart as postmaster, and one store, the only one in the whole township. The village took its name from the resemblance to a lion's head of a rocky cliff a mile east of the harbour. Four years later much growth began, resulting in Lion's Head becoming the largest village in the Peninsula north of Wiarton.

In the southeast corner of Eastnor, in lot 3 concession 10, Hope Bay post office was opened in 1876 by Joseph Waugh, at the head of the bay of the same name. Another inlet, on the west shore of Eastnor, gave its name to Pike Bay, es-


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tablished in 1878 on lot 2 concession 4 by J. Bellamore.

Settlement in Eastnor spread south from Lion's Head south to the 20th sideroad, and from there west to Spry, at its corner with the 3rd concession road west. George Jenks opened its post office in 1879.

The first sale of lands in Lindsay, the next township north of Eastnor, was in 1870. Early settlement was north from Stokes Bay, an inlet in the northwest corner of Eastnor not quite touching Lindsay. In 1879 Stokes Bay post office appeared in lot 5 concession 2 west of Lindsay, kept by William Tyous. It later moved south into Eastnor.

1879 also saw John McIver open in Albemarle Township McIver post office, at the corner of two roads one quarter mile northwest of the intersection of the 13th concession road and 15th sideroad.

**The Echo Complains**

Only 11 years after its founding, Wiarton got a weekly newspaper, the Echo, which still exists. On August 22, 1879 it editorialized:

"We believe the time has arrived when a change in the mail system for the Peninsula north of Wiarton, and that of Wiarton itself, is desirable. Under existing arrangements, it is impossible to get an answer to a communication to anyone at Lion's Head, Spry, or any other post office north of here inside of a week or 10 days, and considering that the distance to either of the places mentioned is not more than 20 miles, such a state of things is anything but a blessing. The population of the Peninsula is increasing rapidly, and what might have sufficed for its requirements three or five years ago has become worse than a nuisance today. We would advise those interested on the east side of the Peninsula to agitate the establishing a tri-weekly mail, and those on the west side for one twice a week."

1881 saw Red Bay post office established by James Christison near the west shore of Albemarle, in lot 22 on the 4th concession road. The same year Dyer's Bay came into being on the west side of the 7th concession road of Lindsay, in lot 38, kept by Alexander T. Simpson in his general store, after a road had been opened through from Lion's Head the previous year.

In 1882 Eastnor Township got Hope Ness, near the corner of the 9th concession east road and the 10th sideroad, kept by a postmaster with the same name as the former one of Hope Bay, Joseph Waugh. Hope Ness, however, only lasted until 1889. As one goes north through the Bruce Peninsula the land gets ever rockier, and less agricultural. The farthest north and rockiest township is St. Edmund. In 1871 Captain John Charles Earl had become its first settler, on Tobermory Harbour, at its northern tip. A post office was established at Tobermory in 1882, with a weekly mail carried on foot from Stokes Bay. Alexander Green was postmaster.

**Railroad to Wiarton**

On August 4, 1882 the Echo proudly announced "The First Excursion to Wiarton by the New Railway". October 13 it reported:

"The mails for Colpoys Bay and Oxenden now leave Wiarton in the evening, after the arrival of the mail train. Postal matter for McIver and Cape Croker must be in the Office on Friday afternoon."

November 10 a letter from C. W. Dalton complained that "there is no chance for those on the west side to answer their letters until the next week it actually being only a fortnightly mail.

"Seeing that the mails from Toronto are now carried by rail to Wiarton, I think that it is time that a change was made in the carriage of the mails up the west side of the Peninsula, from Wiarton to Tobermory. The mails, at present, are carried from Wairton every Monday morning to Mar, post office, Albemarle, Pike Bay, at noon thence to Spry, due at 3 p.m., thence across the 20th sideline to Lion's Head at 6 p.m., returning the next day by the Lion's Head Road, calling at Hope Ness and Hope Bay post offices. The carrier of

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the mail from Tobermory and Stokes Bay meets the arrival of the mail at Spry on Monday, and returns at Tuesday, arriving at Tobermory on Wednesday.

"It is a great injustice to the western side to only have a fortnightly mail, while the eastern side has a mail twice a week."

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Dear Sir:

Your readers may be interested in knowing that there have been three main issues of the new designed .15¢ Canadian aerogramme since 22 July 1971. In addition there have been many shades of paper used with the main distinction being between the normal gray and the scarcer white paper. Here is the data for those interested:

a) on 22 July 1971 the new .15¢ aerogramme was issued depicting a Canada Goose in flight. There were two main colours in the paper used - a gray and a very white. There were approximately 2 million printed in the first printing by the British American Bank Note Company in Ottawa. More were printed in a second printing along with a design-changed variety. There was a wide variation in colour shadings used since the company was using its stock of paper on hand to meet the scheduled date of the revised increase in the areogramme rate - .10 to .15 cents. The date was 1 July 1971, but the first of the new areogrammes were not released from the Post Office Department until 22 July 1971.

b) on or about 16 October 1971 a revised aerogramme was issued with a panograph on the middle outside section of the aerogramme. This section is out to the open when the aerogramme was sealed and users were complaining that their messages were not enclosed when the first type of aerogramme was used. Thus this large rectangular panograph was placed on aerogrammes during the second printing. The same variation of shades in the paper was used, and thus the gray and the off-white colours were issued. The white shade in this variety was not used extensively in Ottawa. Has anyone seen this shade in other regions of Canada? (Do not confuse this variety with the last one to be listed.) There were also variations in the width of the glue used on these latter issues of the aerogramme. These first two types were printed by the British American Bank Note Company by the gravure system.

c) on or about 22 November 1971 the third main issue of the .15¢ aerogramme appeared. This was a lithographed aerogramme of the same design with the panograph on the middle section. The paper is the off-white but the die-cutting has been changed. The flaps on the sides are narrower and there is a notch on the flap to facilitate easier opening. The manufacturer was Ashton-Potter Limited of Toronto. To see the differences one must place the three types together. There may be other types not yet reported.

If anyone has any new data on these new aerogrammes I would be pleased to hear from them. The Post Office Department will release a story on these aerogrammes eventually. Data was given that an experiment tagging some 10,000 aerogrammes did not prove successful and all were to be destroyed. A few may be retained for the philatelic museum but the variety will not be available for use. These variations provide a challenge to the collector. In addition the pending release of the new 8 cent postette for use in Canada will make the collection of the Canadian aerogrammes most interesting. The addition of the Canadian Forces air letter forms makes an interesting subject for collecting and study. The last .10 cent aerogramme was sold out at the

Philatelic Agency in late October. Does anyone know of the locations of any accumulations of the earlier Canadian mint aerogrammes? I would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in this subject.

(R. K. Malott) Major

Dear Sir:

The RCMP Ottawa and Area Stamp Club are currently undertaking to provide a thematic display depicting "Policemen on Stamps" and "Law Enforcement on Stamps" for the RCMP Centennial during 1973.

Mr. J. E. Kraemer, Manager, National Postal Museum has suggested that perhaps some members could assist in providing information on special slogans or cachets. He also states that several first flights used cachets showing Mounted Policemen, and perhaps the dates of these covers could be provided.

Any assistance the Canadian Philatelist could provide would be greatly appreciated.

K. L. Tilbury,
Co-ordinator,
Special Thematic Collection
Room 361, CPIC Building.

Dear Sir:

It might interest all members of the Royal Philatelic Society to know that the 100th anniversary of the birth of John Buchan, noted writer and Governor-General of Canada, will occur in 1975. It is hoped that a commemorative postage stamp in his honour will be officially approved in the interim.

C. Addington, RPSC 9610

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# Postmarked London

By ROBSON LOWE RPSC 7400

Swinging London has kept me tied up for some months with pressure such as I have not known since the war years. Tonight the power cut caused by the coal strike has diverted me from stamps which cannot be studied closely by the light of the flickering candle.

This is just one man's view of what has effected him philatelically during one month.

### The Growth of the Hobby

The British Philatelic Exhibition held last November produced many new competitors. The number of collectors in all classes have increased by around fifty per cent in the last two years and quite a large number of entries were judged but not exhibited. The souvenir, a reprint from the die of the un-issued £5 stamp of King Edward VII proved very popular and over three thousand were sold. Already they have more than doubled in price and are selling for $3 against the $1.25 paid by those who visited the exhibition.

The market has been active inspite of the flood of collections which have poured in for sale. The number of auctions held every week is astonishing, as is the variety of properties sold. The sales over the counter more than doubled any previous national exhibition.

### And Who was St. Vincent?

Still in November, there were three other factors that affected my London Life. A new book was published which had been started by Arthur Pierce and the completed draft had been written on the first types before his sudden death. Bobbie Messenger and I talked it over and we decided to complete the volume, although as a result of our researches a great deal had to be added to Arthur's work. Bobbie dealt with the cancellations and I had the forgeries, the revenue stamps and certain aspects of postal history to cover.

One of the assets with which I have been blessed for the past five or six years is a professional gold digger, Kay Horowicz who knows her way around the Public Record Office, the Record Room at the G.P.O., the British Museum and the library of the Colonial Office better than anyone else that I have ever met.

It was she who dug out the papers regarding the forged 1880 provisionals which were made in the Kingston Post Office by the Postmaster's clerk using a piece of genuine type. Alas for him, he applied the surcharge to the wrong printing of the genuine stamp and the dealers of the day complained through the London Philatelic Society, now the Royal. To my astonishment, the Royal still have the seven examples of the forgery which were used as evidence in the case heard ninety years ago.

We laboured for nearly three years to complete this volume and by the time it appeared we felt akin to the female elephant who gazes at her new born and wonders whether it was worth the effort. It was.

### The Cods of Newfoundland

The second happening in November was that I started to edit the mass of information that Kay had accumulated about the postage stamps of Newfoundland for this was one of the two sections that I had not completed for the fifth volume of the Encyclopaedia.

I started full of confidence that ten days work would see it completed but it was only this afternoon — three months later that I finished the copy.

The classics proved comparatively easy but I was surprised to find that

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the bisects of the first issue were used for five different rates, three to U.S., one to U.K. and one to Cape Breton.

Of course there are many different aspects of Newfoundland philately which are fascinating. The essays and proofs of which Bob Pratt compiled such a fine record and while many of these lovely engravings are of great rarity, there is no country within the old Empire that produced such a wide variety of such beauty and which have come on the market. To these have to be added the many and mainly common reprints from the Perkins Bacon dies, the sample sheets produced by the American Bank Note Company and the so called Mandel and Goodall proofs, some of which are as rare (and even lovelier) than the originals.

**The half is greater than the Whole**

The classic issues include a considerable variety of bisects which were permitted although unauthorised. As far as I can find out there are only three necessary bisects in this century of which only one was authorized. As for the others, the views of the Newfoundland Postal Department in 1947 on bisects of 1935-40 are worth quoting **"So far as the Department is concerned, the stamp is mutilated and should not have been accepted as payment for postage".** Such bisects lack philatelic morality!

**The Heinz Varieties**

The imperforate and imperforate between varieties of The Royal Family issue of 1897-1901 are all unknown used and foreshadowed a phethora of imperforate and part perforate varieties. Such stamps are best classified as "postmasters' perquisites" and were apparently manufactured so that a postal official could make a profit out of the cupidity of collectors. There are no less than fifty-seven of such errors catalogued in 172 stamps issued during a period of twenty-eight years and produced by five different printers. Such a proportion of "errors" is impossible to justify when one considers the enormous number of different stamps printed for other countries by the same printers during the same period, during which not more than one catalogue number in two hundred has a catalogued error. The record of Newfoundland would test the credulity of the most virginal collector and it might be appropriate to give these 57 catalogue numbers the general heading that appears at the head of this paragraph.

Nevertheless, they are lovely to look at and are still keenly sought after by some, the charm of the hobby being that a collector may put in his album just what he pleases.

**Legitimacy is Cheap**

The history of the pioneer trans-atlantic flights I found as interesting as when I first learned the details during my first year as a professional (1920). Of course the Hawker and the Martinsyde are very valuable stamps in their own right but their popularity has had an effect on the bogus Martinsyde covers manufactured by Edwin Cleary at that time. In 1959 his overprinted postcard realised £75 and in 1963, £85. In March 1970 it fetched £600. It has really taken off after half a century.

Age has brought an air of sanctity to Cleary's productions and they are keenly sought after but nearly $1500 for such a philatelic bastard makes the legitimate look very inexpensive.

At the end of November 1 went to New York to see ANPHILEX, the international show "by invitation" put on by the Collectors Club of New York. It was the best that I have ever seen and in my opinion future internationals could do no better than to follow this precedent. Eight hundred frames of lovelies have far greater appeal than five thousand and I do not not need a wheel chair to get round the show.

## EDMONTON IN 1972

# Coming Events

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

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

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

**AUGUST 26 to SEPTEMBER 2. 1972** — Fourth annual Interamerican Philatelic Exhibition (EXFIBRA '72) to be held under the auspices of F.I.A.F. at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Commissioner, Mrs. G. M. Geldert, Apartment 1510, 195 Clearview Avenue, Ottawa K1Z 6S1, Canada.

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

**SEPTEMBER 23 - 24** — Annual Exhibition David Thompson Stamp Club, Selkirk College, Castlegar, B.C.

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

**1973 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION,** Munich, Germany.
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**1976. PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION—MAY 21st to 30th.** Secretary—A. H. Kessler 7934 Pickering Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19150, U.S.A.

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By HANS REICHE (RPSC 6397)

There appears to be a lot of controversy regarding the sale of postage stamps at exhibitions by government agencies. A number of complaints were voiced at Interpex about the fact that the Canadian Post Office were selling their stamps in packet form. You may be interested to know that of the over 60 dealers and government groups selling stamps at Interpex the Canadian Post Office did a roaring business. It was impossible even to get near the well stocked stand and a lineup of more than 200 was continuous throughout the show. The majority of people who bought were beginners, newcomers who had not seen the many varieties which were on sale and who believed that this could make a good start for their collection. If nothing else this must be good for all dealers who will eventually sell to these newcomers some of the older and better stamps which the Post Office cannot supply. Dealers with good classic material found a good market but dealers with modern stamps still available from the Post Offices for face value did not do so well. What was missing at the Canadian stand was someone with more knowledge of the various varieties which were sold.

During the recent two months I have received three letters from collectors and one dealer asking me to verify a statement made by Expertization Committees on certain stamps. All three of them dealt with the same problem. Each was declared as having a pen cancel removed but otherwise genuine. All three correspondents questioned the statements and said they could not see any sign of the cancel being removed. However, the statement was true in all cases. Without a special instrument it is often not possible to determine if a cancel has been removed or not and the stamp may look unused. It is easy to remove an ink cancel and if well done one can not detect this with the naked eye. Certain ultra violet frequencies will react to the type of ink removed or the type of remover used and will show up the removed cancel. The expertization committees make use of such tools, including Xrays and other spectographic methods, and it not very often that a mistake is made.

Next year is the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Mounted Police and I hear that their stamp club is engaged in a project to come up with some suggestions for the design for such a stamp. Some guide lines were provided and it will be interesting to see what a club can do. If a design is accepted from such a suggestion it would be the first time that actual collectors jointly prepared this. Such assistance from collectors should be encouraged because I believe the Post Office can still learn a lot from us when it comes to designs, use of papers, perforations, layout, colours, size etc. Stamps are for mailing but collectors have a good judgement and a very observant eye and are often good, practical people.

In another journal I have raised the question of earliest dates. It is obvious that many of the so called first days do not exist. I suggested that an attempt be made to determine the earliest known dates of the earlier stamps and list them in lieu of first days. This would be of interest to many and assist researchers as well as dealers to find and bring on the market such material which may be sleeping in a box.

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one who ordered them will get at least some, so no one will be left out. None were reprinted or sold cancelled. A new lot of picture cards will soon make its appearance but this time there should be plenty to go around. Watch for the new picture booklets similar to the types used in England. We do not know when they will be issued.

# REVIEWS

**The Collectors Club Philatelist Cumulative Index:**
**Volumes 1 to 50, 1922 - 1971**
**Compiled by Ernest C. Wilkens and John D. Dowd**

For fifty years the Collectors Club Philatelist has served as a forum where the specialist and the postal historian have presented the results of their research. Because, throughout its history, the magazine has been edited by philatelists with experience in many phases of stamp collecting, the value of the contributions has been consistently high.

It is the purpose of this Cumulative Index to make this vast fund of information readily accessible to the stamp collector. In addition to featured articles ,all critical reviews of books and all displays by members containing significant philatelic information have been indexed. A thorough system of cross-reference insures that the subject sought by the reader will be found. The compilers have endeavored to make each entry descriptive of its content and to place it in a logical order.

The Collectors Club maintains a large file of back issues of the CCP for sale to all collectors. Although many of the issues from the early years are no longer in stock, almost every issue from 1944 to the present can be supplied.

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It is refreshing indeed to find a new and well produced magazine (the two things not always being synonymous!) devoted entirely to the subject of Postal History.

For his first issue Editor Kenneth Pennycuick has assembled an impressive selection of well written and informative articles - German Horseshoe Postmarks, Aden Postmarks, The Foreign Post Offices in Japan, German East Africa and Indian Field Post Offices 1930-47 being the main articles with many additional features.

All of the articles are well illustrated, written by experts in field and printed on good quality paper. A mail auction sale of material from the parent organization Proud-Bailey & Co. is an added attraction.

All in all, a most worthwhile publication which will be needed by postal historians of all persuasions.

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# THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF MALTA

The Maltese archipelago, consisting of the islands of Malta, Gozo and Comino, is the last vestige of one of the great land bridges by which Europe was once joined to Africa. In prehistoric times it offered the best route for communication between the two continents and, in more modern times, has been at the crossroads of Mediterranean civilisation. Geographically Malta lies 60 miles south of Sicily and 180 miles north of Africa, yet it is in latitudes considerably to the south of Tunisia, and its fauna and flora, both past and present, have a certain affinity with North Africa. The people of Malta speak an ancient language which is Semitic in origin and survives to this day, in spite of centuries of overlordship and the imposition of alien cultures by the Phoenicians. Cartaginians, Romans, Arabs, Normans, Swabians, Aragonese, the Knights of St. John, the French and the British. Malta lies a thousand miles from Gibraltar and Alexandria and was thus equidistant from the Eastern and the Western confines of the ancient world. Twice in the past four centuries Malta has been the bastion of civilisation against powers which threatened to overthrow the freedom of Europe. Malta therefore possesses a strategic and economic importance by far superior to its size or population.

Little is known of the early inhabitants, but by 3000 B.C. there was an incursion of people probably from Sicily, skilled in the use of copper and in making pottery. The Stone and Bronze Age people of Malta have left ample record of their residence in the form of stone temples, statuary and megaliths. They were succeeded by the Phoenicians who made Malta a colony about 800 B.C. The name "Malta" is considered to be a corruption of the Punic word "Maleth" meaning an anchorage, an allusion to the excellent harbour facilities which the island possesses.

The Romans captured Malta in 216 B.C., but though they occupied it for seven centuries they left remarkably little record of their residence besides the Villa at Rabat, tombs and other remains. It was during the Roman period, however, that Malta experienced one of the greatest events in its history. In 60 A.D. St. Paul suffered shipwreck there, while on his way to stand trial

for treason at Rome. During his sojourn in Malta he performed miracles of healing and converted to Christianity the Islanders. Malta thus became one of the earliest countries to embrace Christianity and to this day, the Maltese are among the most devoutly Catholic peoples of the world.

With the fall of Imperial Rome in the fifth century, Malta's history disappeared into oblivion. Little is known of its history during the ensuing centuries, but it is a fact that at some time or other the archipelago came under the influence of the Byzantine Empire. In 870 A.D., however, Malta was seized by the Aglabite Arabs of Kairouan in Tunisia, at the time of the great Islamic invasions of Europe. The Arabs ruled Malta for 220 years, but the most palpable trace of their occupation that remains is the Arabic element in the Maltese language, and place names such as Mdina and Rabat (meaning respectively "the city" and "the suburb").

Malta fell to Count Roger of Normandy in 1090 and the next 104 years are regarded as a golden age in Maltese history. Tradition holds that Count Roger's chief legacy to the island was his personal colours—red and white—which today form the Maltese flag. Norman rule came to an end in 1194 on the death of Count Tancred who was succeeded by Constanza, daughter of Roger II and wife of Henry VI of the Swabian house of Hohenstaufen. The Swabians ruled for only 74 years, being supplanted in 1268 by Charles of Anjou. The Angevins were unpopular with their Sicilian and Maltese subjects and were overthrown sixteen years later by Peter III of Aragon. With the other fiefs of the crown of Aragon Malta passed under Spanish dominance, until 1530 when the Emperor Charles V ceded the Islands to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John, who had recently lost the stronghold of Rhodes to the Turks. They were to rule in Malta for almost 270 years.

They had their heyday in the sixteenth century when their galleys harried Turkish shipping in the Mediterranean. When the Turkish Sultan was goaded into retaliation and attempted to take Malta by Siege, the Knights and the Maltese defended the island stoutly against overwhelming odds and saved Malta — and Western Europe — from the menace of Islam. A few years after the Great Siege, the Turkish fleet was annihilated at the Battle of Lepanto and from then onwards the Ottoman Empire gradually declined as a potential danger to the peace of Europe. Ironically the power and importance of the Knights declined at the same time.

By 1798 the Order was a mere shadow of its former self, and in its feebleness capitulated to Napoleon who seized

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Malta as a base while on his expedition to Egypt. Although at first welcomed by the Maltese, the French turned out to be worse rulers than the erstwhile Knights, and within a few months the islands of Malta and Gozo had risen against their oppressors. In answer to their plea for help, British and Portuguese forces were landed to assist the Maltese rebels against the French. For almost more than two years the French were virtually besieged in Valletta, and surrendered in September, 1800. The Treaty of Amiens of 1802 stipulated that the islands should revert to the Knights but war broke out afresh before this could be implemented. The Treaty of Paris in 1814 and the Congress of Vienna in 1815 confirmed Britain's possession of Malta which became a Crown Colony. With the development of Malta as a British naval base in the nineteenth century the Island entered an era of unparalleled prosperity and enormous progress was made in many fields. A new constitution in 1887 established an Executive Council and a Council of Government. These bodies foreshadowed the self-government granted after the First World War. During the 1930s, however, the ministry of Sir Ugo Mifsud clashed with the Governor who dissolved Parliament in November, 1933 and re-instituted crown colony rule.

Malta suffered terrible bombing and hardships during the Second World War. The valiant defence of the island by the people themselves earned for them the collective award of the George Cross and, after the War, a return to Self-government. This paved the way gradually for full independence which was granted in September, 1964, when Malta became a full member of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The population of Malta and Gozo today is over 300,000, which, in an area of only 120 square miles, gives a density of 2,800 persons to the square mile. The run-down of the British naval dockyard has forced Malta to diversify its economy into other industries and occupations; thus light engineering, property development and tourism are providing new sources of revenue.

Malta's position at the crossroads of the Mediterranean accounted for postal connections with Europe and North Africa. Religious and Diplomatic correspondence to and from the Island, dates to the late Middle Ages. During subsequent centuries, this service expanded until its organisation during the Knights of St. John. Efficient and organised postal service is known to have existed since the middle of the 17th century. As the number of letters was always on the increase, we meet with new regulations on their handling, posting and delivery. The earliest known hand stamp bearing the name of the Island originated from Marseilles Post Office in 1755. The stamp DE MALTHE was used on incoming mail. Later the word MARSEILLES was added to the stamp.

During the last decade of the Order the service was more organised to handle letters to and from foreign countries. The officers of the Order, the Maltese nobility, the Church as well as the commercial community made use of the Postal Offices of the Order in Valletta. Domenico Montanaro headed this service under the Knights, and his experience was utilised under the French and during the first year of the British in Malta.

In 1804 Sir Alexander Ball, the Civil Commissioner appointed him as the first Director of the Post Office.

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An agent for His Majesty's packet was appointed in Malta in July, 1806. He was responsible for the incoming and outgoing mail which was struck with a double quarter circle with MALTA in script capitals within double lines. While this stamp was used in 1807, two years later the word PAID above the framed MALTA was introduced.

The British Packet Agency was well organised, and Malta became a very important centre for mail travelling from the Levant to Europe and vice-versa. Of particular interest to specialists are the various markings used at the Quarantine Station in Malta on letters emanating from towns in the Middle East where an epidemic had broken out. The usual inscription was PURIFIE AU LAZARET MALTE (Disinfected at the Malta Lazaret) and several types of "Purifie" markings are found on letters since the 1830's.

A separate organisation existed for the handling of inland mail. It seems that it' operated on an informal basis. Couriers or mail runners facilitated the delivery of letters. The Government, the Church and local merchants had their own arrangements for the delivery of important correspondence. When police stations were established, later in the century, they exhibited letters awaiting the addressee to call for them.

The local post began using hand-struck stamps in the late 1820s; these were mostly charge marks indicating either that postage had been paid or that money had to be levied from the addressee. They consisted of a date, giving the day and month only, followed by the sum involved. In 1849 the Local Post was amalgamated with the Packet Agency, under the control of Mr. Bourchier, the British Packet Agent and Controller of Customs. As the business of the postal administration increased, so also the title of its chief was changed. Bourchier's successor, John S. Coxon, became Deputy Postmaster-General in 1858 and, some time later, Postmaster-General.

Adhesive stamps were first officially introduced into Malta in 1857 when contemporary British issues were used. Their use became compulsory on mail destined for the United Kingdom after the 1st March, 1858, and were employed until 1885. During a period of almost thirty years every British stamp, except the £1 and £5 values, has been recorded with the Maltese postmark. At first the obliterator used consisted of an "M" in an oval of horizontal lines, but duplex marks incorporating the code "A 25"

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were introduced in 1859 and entirely superseded the "M" stamp in 1860.

The rate for internal letters was one penny per half ounce and ordinary British stamps at first sufficed. However, it was decided in 1859 to reduce the internal rate to a halfpenny and, no British stamp of that denomination being in existence at that time, it became necessary to produce special stamps for Malta. The Crown Agents placed the contract for the Maltese halfpenny stamps with De La Rue who printed by typography the famous yellow stamp which was Malta's sole issue for 25 years. During the long period of its currency, however, this stamp was subject to numerous changes in shade, paper, watermark and perforation, affording a great deal of interest for the advanced philatelist. This stamp had no franking validity beyond Malta and Gozo, all mail intended for overseas having to be prepaid with British stamps.

Control of the island's postal affairs was handed over by the General Post Office in London to the Maltese authorities in 1885, and the use of British stamps came to an end. De La Rue typographed stamps in denominations of ½d, 2d, 2½d, 4d, 1/- and 5/- and, at the same time, altered the colour of the ½d. stamp from yellow to green. The small format low values were printed on Crown CA paper, while the large-sized 5/- appeared with the Crown CC watermark. The series made its debut on the 1st January, 1885. One of the few errors recorded on Maltese stamps was found in this series. In 1893 a pane of the 4d. brown was discovered imperforate and several examples were sold over the post office counter in the normal way before the mistake came to the attention of postal officials. An interesting point about the stamps of the 1885 series is that the distinctive eight-pointed cross of the Knights of St. John appears on all of them; no fewer than sixteen crosses appear on the 1d. denomination alone!

Malta's first essay into pictorial stamps design came in 1899 when four denominations were introduced featuring the Grand Harbour at Valletta (¼d.) a Gozitan fishing boat (4½d.), an ancient Maltese galley (5d.), a female allegory of Melita (2/6) and a representation of the ship-wreck of St. Paul (10/-). The stamps were recess-printed by DeLa Rue, the lower values on Crown CA paper and the two higher denominations on Crown CC paper. The three intermediate designs were comparatively short-lived, but the Grand Harbour design was retained for all the pictorial farthing stamps up to 1953, while variations on the Shipwreck design were used till 1922.

(To Be Continued)

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