CANADIAN PHILATELIST

Journal of the
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of CANADA

VOLUME 28 JAN.-FEB., 1977 NUMBER 1

MONTREAL VIA FORD

January 1, 1977.

Dear Friends:-

Last August a Mr. James Ellis of Montreal telephoned me about his interest in selling his collection. Unfortunately at the time I was terribly busy, so suggested to a dealer friend that when he was in Montreal, to contact Mr. Ellis and buy the collection on my behalf. Although my dealer friend was willing, Mr. Ellis was not - he wanted to deal directly with me. Well, this shot up my ego to new highs, so much so that in November I took a week-end to drive to Montreal to meet Mr. Ellis and hopefully buy his collection.

After leaving work on Friday, I drove to Brockville and stayed overnight. I was up early the next morning to make a fast start, only to have the car "no-go." Well, the old ford has had its troubles with either the generator, the alternator, the voltage regulator, the battery, the battery cables and so on - after some time a repair was made to the cables, then a fill up of gas with a free car wash ticket thrown in. I was now in a terrible hurry, but that little bit of Scotch in me (no, not liquid) said I really should cash in that free car wash ticket. As I would not likely be back in Brockville for a while, I drove the car over. My progress was great until at the finish of the production line of the wash machine, the car decided "no-go" again. The attendants were not too happy as they had to push me out. The car drivers were held up behind and quite unhappy, and I was downright miserable. Booster cables and a few bucks got the car going. I decided the best strategy was non-stop to Montreal and I made it with no trouble at all. The Ritz Carlton in Montreal is a plush Hotel and had a red carpet right to the car door. (I found out later the carpet was special for Gina Lollibridgida.) The excellent reception was marred when on entering the elevator, the door man came running to me - guess what - the old Ford said "no-go."

I turned the problem over to the doorman, (it might have been smarter to have the car an outright gift to him) but anyway, one hundred dollars later, the car was again put at my disposal. I had an appointment for 9 a.m. Sunday morning at the home of Mr. Ellis, and although it was raining the Ford made it. Just as I was getting out of the car the radio announcer said "it is now 8 o'clock - he hoped everyone had set back their clocks to Standard time." Well I just had no choice but to sit out the next hour.

Well, I did get to see Mr. Ellis and value the collection, consisting of some twenty albums, plus stock goods, covers, duplicates, very strong in Canada, a good U.S. collection and a fine series of British Colony albums. After some hours of valuating I finished and Mr. Ellis was satisfied with the offer and the deal was completed.

Mr. Abrahams of Toronto has been a keen collector of British West Indies for thirty years. His eight volume collection is a delight to see - all stamps in super fine condition, beautifully arranged and mounted. Sometime ago I bought his Canada and now this B.W.I. collection.

When you want to sell your stamps, please telephone me at 416-921-8967. Perhaps by then I'll have the old Ford going on schedule or maybe Art Leggett will stick me for a new super G.M. automobile.

Philatelically yours,

Harry Martin Jr.

HARRY B. MARTIN, Jr.

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THOUGHTS & THINGS ..... FROM THE EDITOR

PHILATELIC SERVICE? OR DISSERVICE?

"We have experienced serious delays over the past few months in replying to customers' enquiries as the Collectors' Subscription accounts recently converted from a manual to a computerized system for order processing. The problems we have experienced during the change-over has resulted in an increase in correspondence from customers and subsequent delays in replying."

John Mackay,
Deputy Postmaster General.

The letter from John A. Ross regarding the poor service he has received from the Philatelic Service which we published in the Sept.-Oct., 1976 issue, certainly opened a large can of worms.

As one could reasonably expect, Mr. Ross was not alone in his frustrations, vexations and outrage. We have received letters relating similar or worse incidents from collectors in Piedmont, P.Q., Foching, West Germany, Mechanicsburg, PA, and Willowdale, Ont., and we have been told other stories during conversations with local collectors.

All tell the same story — cheques cashed but not credited to the deposit accounts for several weeks, non-receipt of standing and/or special orders against accounts, inaccurate statements of credit balances on deposit accounts, and on and on. Every conceivable mistake, and some one couldn't conceive of, has been made, or is being made by the Philatelic Service.

And while this has been going on, I almost wrote — is being perpetrated, Canada Post continues to advertise widely in the philatelic press 10 reasons why one should subscribe to "Canada Post's Collector's Subscription Service"! We do not wish to imply that they should not have been advertising, far from it. We, and other philatelic publications need the revenue. However, it would have been better for the image of the Service if the ads had explained the reasons for the delays and other difficulties that subscribers were experiencing.

Naturally, Canada Post has a reason for all of the troubles which collectors and subscribers have encountered. We were informed of this in September with an announcement dated August 26, 1976. Among other things, this announcement stated,

". . . .we are making progress. It is expected that the present difficulties will gradually be alleviated and that all accounts will be up to date within a few weeks."

It certainly sounds fine, but has the service improved? Michael Bean (West Germany) wrote, ". . . I have written three times now to the Philatelic Service to change my standing order. To this date (Oct. 3 '76, Ed.) my requests have not been complied with. Not only that, there seems to be a gap during which I missed three new issues and following that I now seem to have two deposit account numbers. The service has deteriorated to the point where I am considering having my needs filled by a dealer rather than the Post. What is especially frustraing is that there isn't much I can do from this great distance."

Daniel Russo of Pennsylvania made these comments among others; ". . . It has indeed been an unfortunately common occurrence for my deposits to go unacknowledged for months, and sending in orders is about as effective as tossing them into the trash can. In all fairness, however, I can say that stamps **do** occasionally arrive; long, long after they have been ordered. So long that other arrangements for their procurement have been made; so long that their being

FEBRUARY 1, 1977
DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

ordered has been completely forgotten . . forgotten . . . "

Mr. Russo is fortunate indeed. A colleague told me, as this was being written, that she is still waiting for the $1 and $2 Olympic Sites stamps of March 21st. Perhaps she will receive them in time for the Moscow Olympics in 1980.

The story thus far has been one of frustration; frustration in not receiving replies to enquiries about the non-deposit of funds, of non-receipt of items against standing orders and of non-receipt of special orders.

Apparently the Philatelic Service has been bombarded with so many enquiries that they have had to issue another, but much longer communique, in which they try to explain their troubles. The Deputy PMG also issued a statement which is printed at the head of this column.

The Philatelic Service communique is dated November 1976 and is a feeble attempt to explain away the obvious incompetence of the computer operators. We quote:

"In August of this year, we advised you that we were experiencing a number of problems which were generally being resolved as they were identified . . . At this time, we are approximately six weeks behind in filling orders received from cash customers.

"The difficulties encountered with the new system may be summarized as follows:

". . . it was necessary to suspend for several weeks the processing of special orders for miscellaneous items submitted by account holders, as well as the opening of new accounts and the crediting of deposits to existing accounts. . . .

"During the suspension a number of customers received a "Low Balance Statement" advising them that their account credit was too low to provide for the automatic processing of their standing orders. Some of these statements were in error, since remittances had been received from customers to replenish their accounts, and as soon as these were credited, standing orders could be released for processing.

"During the conversion some discrepancies in account records, including the incorrect coding of customers' standing orders, were caused by the inexperience of personnel with the new system. These errors were relatively isolated; however, they did cause annoyance to our customers an for this we sincerely apologize."

Mr. J. N. Watson of Willowdale puts another interpretation on these events. "One can understand that a change-over from a manual to a computer type operation could cause some temporary confusion and delay and we could live with this. But that a condition should continue for almost a year can only indicate gross incompetence on the part of those responsible for the operation. And of course to completely ignore correspondence is inexcusable. . . .You can't blame an improperly filled order on the computer."

Mr. Russo concluded his letter as follows: "I wish that I could say that the new book-keeping system being employed has resulted in an improvement in service. Alas, I am now bombarded with purple, blue, and white computer invoices showing rather meaningless non-consecutive balances and, from time to time, bearing

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the ominous words: "low balance/solde insuffis" - in spite of deposits which have been sent off and "deposited" only God knows where. It is indeed unfortunate that Canada's Philatelic Service must be ranked among one of the most exasperating in the world. Perhaps the Liechtensteiners might be persuaded to divulge some of their secrets for success?"

Mr. Watson suggests that the Philatelic Service could learn a great deal from the British Philatelic Service in Edinburgh. However, I do not think that would be possible. They too, show signs of incompetence as my colleague, mentioned above, told me that she has withdrawn her account from the philatelic service in Edinburgh for the same reasons that our writers have given for their dissatisfaction with the Canadian Philatelic Service.

When I heard and read of the problems that the Service is having, I was reminded of a note I read somewhere which said that the U.S. government made so many computer errors that one got the impression that they had hired 200 persons to work 8 hours a day, 5 days a week, just to feed errors into the computers.

But take heart, or become more despondent, as you will, a recent announcement by the United Nations Postal Administration admits to encountering the same problems as they are converting to computerized processing of orders. They expect a delay of at least five weeks in the mailing of orders. However, to my knowledge, the U.N.P.A. is not continuing to advertise for new deposit account subscribers as is the Canada Post.

We can but hope that the Philatelic Service's problems will be alleviated shortly and that present and future subscribers to the deposit account service will again receive the good service they once got. However, a great deal of damage has been done to the service's image by their apparent total lack of response to the concerns of their subscribers. There can be no excuse for ignoring enquiries regarding accounts and orders. Even a form letter with some explanation of the causes of the troubles could have been sent to those who made enquiries.

The communique of November 1976 states that another six to eight weeks will be required to clear the backlog of orders. But what about those orders that will be received by them in the meanwhile? They suggest:

> "Canadian customers who periodically submit cash orders and who live in areas in which post office philatelic counters are located, may prefer to obtain their stamp collecting requirements in person at these counters. These offices carry a full line of philatelic quality stamps and related items and are able to offer immediate service. . . .These outlets are open from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M., Monday through Friday."

That sounds fine on paper but do not expect such conditions to prevail at all philatelic counters. There are three types of philatelic counters; Major Philatelic Counters which have almost a full line of all philatelic items stocked by the Service, Split-Wicket Counters which have only some of the items and the Regular Counters which handle only the more popular items. As for the times during which they are open, that is a matter for the local post office to decide. For example, the Guelph counter is open Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M., 2 P.M. to 5:30 P.M., and sometimes on Saturday morning. You cannot purchase stamps of more than 12 months old at these counters because they are withdrawn from sale at the counters after 12 months and are then available only from the Philatelic Service for another 6 months. Thus, if you have missed certain items and find that your philatelic counter no longer has them, you may have to order from Ottawa and simply wait your turn to be served. But who is to say that by the time the computer gets around to your order, the items will be available? Is it possible that the time limit for sales of these items will have elapsed and they will have been destroyed? Nowhere in the communiques from the Philatelic Service is such a possibility mentioned.

Canada's philatelic image has been

CANADIAN VARIETIES

ITEM #	CAN. SPEC. #		
L-1	220 & variety	brown & white gum varieties, N.H. both	$ 5.00
L-2	232 & 232i	brown & yellow brown shades. The latter occurs on a ribbed effect paper. Both copies N.H.	2.75
L-3	345 coil on fluor. paper (scarce) Singles $6.00. Multiples pro rata.		
L-4	369i	loon stamp "dot in water" variety. in plate block	2.00
L-5	458ci	extended lines from lobster trap (cracked plate) in Mint pairs from the $1.00 booklet (see Pugh's Part 2 page 30)	1.50
		Complete booklet	12.00
L-6	458v	Winnipeg tagged hibrite single $1.50. Corner block	7.50
L-7	459iii	Fluorescent orange ink. Single	45.00
L-8	460ai	Scarce hibrite paper. 6c. black single from booklet. Cat. $70. N.H. Special	67.50
L-9	544ix	General tagged hibrite 8c. library. Special	1.75
L-10	461	8c. "Alaska highway" on very dull paper as scarce hibrite an and not offered before. Regular copy & variety	15.00
L-11	462v	10c. "Jack Pine" general tagged hibrite single $2.75. Corner blocks	12.00
L-12	462vii	10c. "Jack Pine" hibrite Winnipeg tagged (scarcest of the tens) Special	5.50
		Corner block	24.00
L-13	465	25c. "Solemn Land" on very dull paper, very scarce. Not offered before. Regular copy & variety	10.00
L-13A	467	4c. coil in strip of 4 with wide spacing between 2nd & 3rd stamp	3.50
L-14	468Ai	6c. orange coil on hibrite paper. Single $5.00. Multiples pro rata.	
L-15	544p	8c. library tagged fluor. paper in unsevered block of 4 with faint scoring line	4.50
L-16	569ii	dot over elbow variety in block of four	6.50
L-17	572ii	missing bird on totem in block of six	24.00
L-18	656	$1 Sprinter Olympics dull & med. fluor. papers (normal hibrite) both	10.00
L-19	657	$2 diver Olympics, dull paper variety. Scarce	12.50
L-20	657	$2 diver Olympics, medium fluorescent paper variety	10.00
L-21	666	50c. hurdler on scarce dull paper	3.50
L-22	687	$1 Notre Dame. on scarce dull paper. Singles	3.00
		plate block - $12.50. Sheet of 8	25.00
L-23	688	$2 Stadium. Both medium fluor. & dull paper	7.50
L-24	685	25c. arts & culture. Two distinctive shades. Both	1.50
L-24A	695	20c. Olympic flag bearers. 2 distinctive shades, orange vs. red shorts	1.50
	LATE ARRIVALS	**"INDIANS & SHIPS"**	
L-25	580-1	brite fluor. paper (normal dull fluor.) pair	1.00
L-26	580-1	black dot by feather, position 5-9 in L.R. plate block	2.00
L-27	580-1	large pink ring on skirt. in pair	1.50
L-28	580-1	"moulting feather" in Indian's head-dress. in pair	1.50
L-29	INLAND VESSELS (ALREADY CORNERED BY SPECULATION)		
	A. dot in "A" of "postage" in stamp 10 - 5 L.R. plate block		2.00
	B. flat "s" in "postes" in stamp 7 - 4 in block of 4		1.50
	C. broken "A" in "postage" in stamp 4 - 2 in block of 4		1.50
L-30	INLAND VESSELS IN VERTICAL STRIP OF 4		.60

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badly tarnished during the past few years with the plethora of pre-Olympic and Olympic stamps which called forth abundent adverse comment in the philatelic press, and now, the unbelievably poor service of the Philatelic Service. Canada Post will have to do a lot of polishing to bring its image back to the high position it once held in the philatelic community.

pmm

THE GELDERT AWARD

This year, as last year, an editorial board reviewed the articles published during the past year in The CANADIAN PHILATELIST and agreed that none of them was worthy of the Geldert Award.

They expressed the hope that the 1977 issues of the journal would contain several articles which will qualify for the award.

The Geldert Award was established to honour the memory of our late past president, Dr. G. M. Geldert.

GAUSS BICENTENNIAL

In conjunction with the Bicentennial of the famous mathematician and scientist, Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855), a committee has been formed in Ottawa to organize, among other events, an exhibition at the National Library and Archives in May, 1977.

We have been asked to lend our support by solicting from our members displays of stamps and related materials dealing with the subject of science, mathematics and scientists.

Would any members interested in making such contributions please contact the Executive Director, Mrs. G. M. Geldert, at P.O. Box 4195, Station "E", Ottawa, Canada, K1S 5B2, as soon as possible.

$5.2 MILLION AUCTION

The Corinphila auction, held in Zurich, Switzerland, Oct. 25-30, with some 7,500 lots, realized $5.2 million or 40% more than the auction was estimated to realize.

CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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Top price was the 185,000 Swiss francs ($80,500) paid for a vertical pair of the "Double Geneva" of 1843 in superb used condition. The prize of the Canadian lots, a 12-pence 1851 single on cover to New York (the finest of four or five known) sold for 135,000 Swiss francs ($60,000). (Dr. Geldert bought this cover (ex Lichtenstein) in 1956 for $5,250. In the 1968 Harmer's auction it was bought for $15,500 by E. Luder & Co., Zurich, Switzerland.) Correspondingly high prices were paid throughout the sale.

In addition to the prices quoted and paid, each buyer also had to pay a 10% commission as is customary at European auctions (see also POSTMARKED OTTAWA in this issue).

TORONTO CAPEX*78 INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION JUNE 9-18,1978

CAPEX '78 GUARENTEE FUND

The Directors of CAPEX '78 have opened a Guarentee Fund to provide working capital for the exhibition and are soliciting contributions to it.

Contributors to the Fund may guarentee any amount with a minimum of $100. Initially guarentors are asked to forward only 25% of their guarentee. The Directors of CAPEX '78 hope that there will be sufficient guarentors to make this the only "call" for funds. They are operating on a balanced budget, so that, as with CAPEX in 1951 and INTERPHIL in 1976, they expect that all advances against guarentees will be repaid in full soon after the close of the exhibition.

Guarentees, together with a cheque for 25% of the amount guarenteed, should be mailed to Guarentee Fund, CAPEX '78, at the address given above.

Outright donations may be made to the organizing body, the Toronto Association for Philatelic Exhibitions. All such donations are Canadian Tax deductible.

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The next **BNA** Classics sale is scheduled for the Spring of 1977. Properties of the required standard can always be accepted.

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If you have not seen our illustrated catalogues it will only cost you the postage to get one or two — why not give us a try? Material for auction must catalogue at least $500.00, and be in our hands at least four months prior to the auction date.

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ANNUAL STAMP POPULARITY POLL DROPPED

Leon Turner, stamp columnist of the London Free Press, has announced that the stamp popularity poll, inaugurated in 1955 by the late Stan Shantz and conducted annually since then, will not be conducted this year. He gives lack of interest as the reason.

For several years fewer than 150 ballots have been returned. Perhaps the plethora of commemoratives issued each year has made it harder for collectors to rate them in order of preference. Perhaps they just can't be bothered. Whatever the reason, the results did not justify the time and expense involved in conducting the poll.

Whether it will be picked up again in the future remains to be seen.

G.B. SOUVENIR SHEETS

The British Post Office is considering a proposal that could see money being raised by the issue of miniature souvenir sheets consisting of stamps in the normal values for special issues plus a premium. The proceeds from the premium would be used to help finance an international philatelic exhibition in 1980. Any residue would be used to create a special philatelic fund to subsidise other philatelic activities.

Two issues of miniature sheets would probably be made, one in 1978, the other in 1980. The stamps in the miniature sheets would also be available in the usual sheet form at face value.

SWEDISH POST OFFICE REORGANIZATION

The Swedish Post office was reorganized on July 1st last so that the former units:
The Swedish Post Office Stamp Division
The Post Office Section for Philately
PFA and
The Post Office Stamp Printing Works,
all come under the common name: PFA, The Swedish Post Office Stamps and Philatelic Service, S-105 02 Stockholm, Sweden.

Their 1976-77 catalogue of postage stamps, postal stationery, letter forms, etc. is now available at no charge from the above address.

NOTICE FOR ADVERTISERS

Many advertisers are submitting ads up to a week after the deadline which is the first of the month preceding the date of publication. Late receipt of advertisements has brought about delays of up to a week in our printing and, subsequently, our mailing schedule.

Deadline for receipt of ads are: Feb. 1, Apr. 1, June 1, Aug. 1, and Oct. 1, 1977, for the remaining issues of this year.

The cooperation of all our advertisers is requested in order that we may adhere to our established publication schedules.

RKM

A REGULAR AUCTION COLUMN?

Not at the present time. Response to the question which was posed in the last issue was very light but it was unanimous in rejecting the suggestion. If anyone wants to know what is happening at auctions, they can write and pay for, if necessary, lists of prices realized, was the gist of the comments received. So be it.

pmm

CANADA OFFERS

458v - 5c. Centennial 1-bar tag HB paper Each $ 2.00
blank corner $10.00
458v - 5c. Centennial 1-bar tag HB paper Each $ 2.00
blank corner $10.00
499i - 6c. Charlottetown conference plain paper ea $ 1.50
plate block ea $ 8.00
518 - 6c. Group of Seven "Fire in Tree" variety LL plate block ea $ 2.00
544ix - 8c. slate HB paper general tagging ea $ 2.00
blank corner $10.00
560p - 8c. World Health Day HB paper general tag ea $ 2.00
blank corner $10.00
560i - 8c. World Health Day plain paper ea $ 2.00
blank corner $10.00
582-85p - 15c. Earth Sciences general tag block ea $ 4.00
582-85 - 15c. Earth Sciences plain paper miniature sheet ea $14.50
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COMING EVENTS

1977

MARCH 4 - 6—MILCOPEX 77, 10th annual exhibition and bourse of the Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Ramada Inn - Airport, 6401 South 13th St., Milwaukee. POLAR PHILATELY is the exhibition theme. Exhibition rules or bourse application from Milcopex 77, Box 1980, Milwaukee, WI, 53201.

MARCH 12-13 — KAPEX '77, 21st annual exhibition and bourse of the Kawartha Philatelic Society at the Holiday Inn, Peterborough, Ontario. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Sunday: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Chairman, John Grace, 28 Manning Avenue, Peterborough, Ont.

APRIL 2-3 — 34th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse of the North Toronto Stamp Club at the North Toronto Memorial Gardens, 180 Eglinton Ave., W., Toronto. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Sunday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Information from Mr. Stuart Sheppard, Exhibition Chairman, 81 Aldershot Cres., Willowdale, Ont., M2P 1M2.

APRIL 2 - 3 — Edmonton Stamp Club Spring Show at Chateau Lacombe, Edmonton. Information from Keith R. Spencer, 3659 - 109 St., Edmonton, Alta., T6J 1C2.

APRIL 21-23 — R.P.S.C. CONVENTION at B.C.PEX '77, Vancouver, B.C.

APRIL 22-24 — 14th Annual Stamp Exhibition and bourse of the Lakeshore Stamp Club at the Fairview Shopping Centre Auditorium, Point Claire (Montreal area) Exit 33, Trans-Canada Highway. Exhibition Chairman, R. G. Power, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire-Dorval, P.Q., H9R 4N5.

APRIL 29 - MAY 1 — CALPEX 77, Annual Exhibition and Bourse of the Calgary Philatelic Society. Exhibition Chairman: E. A. Harris, 620 - 75th Avenue, N.W., Calgary, Alberta, T2K 0R1.

1977

27 - 29 MAI — L'exposition régional de la Société Philatélique de Québec.

JUNE 24-26 — BRANTPEX '77 of the Brantford Stamp Club for Brantford's centenary.

AUGUST 19-21 — AMPHEX '77, National Youth Philatelic and Literature Exhibition and bourse. Ramada Inn-Airport, 6401 South 13th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Prospectus and general information available from Amphex 77 Committee, P.O. Box 265, Two Rivers, WI, 54241, U.S.A.

AUGUST 19-21 — AMPHEX '77, National Youth Philatelic and Literature Exhibition and bourse. Plankinton House Hotel, 609 N. Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Prospectus and general information from Amphex 77 Committee, P.O. Box 265, Two Rivers, WI, 54241, U.S.A.

SEPTEMBER 15 - 17 — BNAPS ANNUAL CONVENTION at the Plaza Hotel, Edmonton, Alta. Chairman, Stewart S. Kenyon, 9835 - 113 Street, Apt. 805, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 1N4.

OCTOBER 15-16 — ROYPEX 77, 38th annual exhibition and bouse of the Royal City Stamp Club in the Arenex, Queen's Park, New Westminster, B.C. R.P.S.C. members invited to exhibit. Cacheted covers with special P.O. slogan cancel for 40th anniversary of the club will be available at the show and by mail order. Prospectus and other information from The Royal City Stamp Club, P.O. Box 895, New Westminster, B.C., V3L 4Z8. SSAE please.

1978

JUNE 9-18 — CAPEX 78, International Stamp Exhibition, Toronto, Ontario. Centenary of Canada's entry into the UPU.

JUNE 9-18 — R.P.S.C. CONVENTION at CAPEX 78, Toronto, Ontario.

CANADA'S PHILATELIC DISTRIBUTORS:
An Explanation

By William C. Hillman, President
Philatelic Consultants, Ltd.

At the R.P.S.C. Annual General Meeting in Philadelphia last spring, I was pleased to answer a number of questions from members regarding the operations of the distributors appointed in several foreign countries by the Canada Post Office. The President kindly suggested that my replies would be of interest to the membership at large; hence this article.

To the extent that this brief statement leaves policy questions unanswered, I will be pleased to respond more fully.

The concept of using agents to merchandise new issues abroad is hardly a new idea. For several generations, the Crown Agents have acted as philatelic distributors for many entities in the Commonwealth, making it possible for a variety of nations to have their stamps readily available on the international philatelic market.

The Crown Agents remained the singular example in the field until after the end of World War II. Then a great number of other nations joined in.

Today, among the major western nations, those without philatelic representation in other countries are a distinct minority, the major exceptions being France (which itself acts as agent for many of its former colonies) and the United States (which has been studying the subject for about four years).

When Canada joined the ranks in late 1974, it was with recognition of the fact that new issue distribution to the trade is a highly specialized area of merchandising, and each national market has peculiar characteristics. If the object of the exercise is to promote sales of new issues to dealers in a particular market, expert advice is necessary. The distribution plan must, as closely as possible, fit into the trade patterns of the dealers, who are to be persuaded that handling Canadian new issues is easy and profitable for them.

Canada Post approached the subject with great care, and sought to retain distributors in other countries only when it was convinced that they provided the most effective and efficient means of accomplishing its purpose.

It was recognized that a number of philatelists would oppose the new concept. These include dealers who had been suppling new issues to their brethren in other lands and feared competition, and others, dealers and collectors alike, who had seen the damage done by other countries when they embarked upon such programs.

All objections were studied. The philosophical dispute could not be resolved (has a government ever done anything that **someone** didn't oppose?), but the real, practical problems were faced. The program did not begin until CP was satisfied that the dangers had been eliminated.

The major issue raised by collectors was the possibility that stamps would reach the market at a discount. There was basis for concern in this area, because some nations (notably East European) do offer discounts on stamps sold for hard currencies in quantity. It was imperative that this be made impossible.

Canada Post adopted a triple-pronged approach to the problem. First, all stamps would remain the property of CP until sold at face value. Second, each distributor is prohibited by contract from selling at less than face. Finally, and most important, each distributor must deposit with CP an extremely large guarantee fund to insure that the contract will be observed in all its details.

There is one further safeguard — the self-interest of the distributors themselves. All of the firms selected are aware that

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even the smallest cloud on Canadian philately would adversely affect their sales for many years to come. As professional philatelists of long standing, they are not about to jeopardize their futures, and risk loss of the guarantee funds, by selling at a discount.

Of course, it is equally improper to do indirectly what is prohibited by direct actions, and so "cooperative advertising" and other schemes, which are effectively discounts, are prohibited as well.

Having insured that stamps would be sold at face value, it was necessary to determine the exchange rate between Canadian and United States dollars. The decision was to treat the two currencies as equal.

This has met with outcries from one dealer critical of the program, based upon that fact that if the purchaser selects a date when the Canadian is at a premium over the U.S. dollar, he is buying below face.

While there may be some technical validity to this position, as practical matter the difference is negligible. For the 21 months that the distributor has been operating in the United States, the average difference between the two currencies has been a 21/100 of 1% advantage to the U.S. dollar. That is, forgetting bank charges for conversion, $100 in Canadian funds could be purchased for $99.79 in U.S. dollars. Since the exchange rate quoted is applicable only to the largest currency transactions, this minor difference dos not really exist.

Theoretically, one could hold back on purchases until a favorable rate is reached, but one never knows when or if that will happen, and a dealer must have stamps to sell today, not on some problematical date in the future.

Assume that a dealer purchased his stamps with U.S. dollars on January 20, 1975, when the Canadian dollar commanded a premium over the U.S. of 96/100 of a cent. If he still had the stamps on March 20, he had lost almost all of his theoretical edge, since the premium was then only 1/10,000. By early April, the U.S. dollar commanded a small premium, and he was behind.

There has been no practical difference in the average values of the currencies during this period, and treating the values at par has resulted in no problems.

Another potential difficulty is new issues control. All philatelists are aware of countries which have flooded the market with expensive and continuing series of new issues, often under the control of a "philatelic advisor."

I am sure that this will never be the case with Canada. No distributor has even the slightest control of new issue policies.

With these safeguards, CP has accomplished its goals. It has been able to hire experienced. knowledgeable professionals in each major philatelic market without committing itself to salaries or expenses. The experience of the last two years has demonstrated fully that CP was right in its basic assumption; that a distributor known and respected among trade professionals in its area can significantly increase sales of Canadian new issues.

What does all this mean to the collector of Canadian stamps?

First, he has more company. There are thousands of new collectors joining the ranks each year. Although they start with the current issues, many of these collectors are working backward, creating demand for older material.

Second, there is increased emphasis on the collecting of corner and plate blocks. This is especially true in the United States, where plate block collectors are a large and active segment of the philatelic community. The ease with which one can collect Canadian blocks is a delight to the U.S. plate block specialist, who must work against large obstacles to obtain a matched set of blocks of U.S. stamps. The four corner blocks of a Canadian commemorative (or even definitive), mounted as a "mini-sheet," make an extremely attractive album page.

Third, prices are increasing, caused in no small part by the increased demand. This benefits all of us who now own Canadian stamps, but will make it more expensive to complete and add to our collections.

(Continued on page 19)

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SOUTH AMERICAN STAMP CATALOGUES

Part 2

by Steven Slavik & U. J. Chaput

1975 Catalogo de los Sellos Postales de la Republic Oriental del Uruguay, by Federico Mottek, 240 pp., 5'' x 7''. Available from the author at Plaza Independencia 715, Montevideo, Uruguay, at approximately $5.00.

The Mottek catalogue from Uruguay is a staright-forward offset catalogue with clear half-tone reproductions of the issues. As the title indicates it is concerned primarily with a listing of postal issues only, with slight mention of telegraphs, official seals, and souvenir sheets. It is in the same format as the Scott catalogue, generally listing few varieties in the middle and current issues, but usually more than Scott does for the earlier issues. For example, there is a detailed listing of the lithographic errors of the Numeral Issues of 1866 (Sc. 29-33). The 5c. blue (Sc. 30) is listed with thirteen types, including lithographic inscription errors and shades.

If it is not a fine catalogue, it is because, like Scott, it is only a skeleton in a land of catalogues in which I have come to expect a fully or partially-fleshed postal history. Nevertheless, it is a fine skeleton. It provides such information as can be easily tabulated, such as types and numbers issued. It has line drawings of only watermarks and overprints. There are short paragraphs or statements concerning watermarks, dates of use, printers, and some forgeries. These are interesting and useful, but somehow too straight-forward and uninspiring and this is the only criticism I have of the catalogue.

I have read that at least in one instance, Mottek has omitted for political reasons (not for the usual ''black-blot'' reasons) an issue used in Uruguay.

> ''taking a look at this catalogue I see something very interesting . . . . Uruguay issued a stamp in 1972 in honor of Dan Mitrione, the Cleveland policeman who was assassinated in Uruguay by the Tupamaros. There was considerable debate in Uruguay about the propriety of doing this, and the issuance was held up for quite a while. Finally it came out in response to considerable pressure from the U.S. embassy. The stamp is not recognized by Mottek, and is not listed in his catalogue.''*

It is interesting to read this sort of information bearing on the issuance of stamps, but there certainly is an airmail stamp issued in 1972 commemorating Dan Mitrione listed in Mottek's catalogue. Perhaps there was also an ordinary mail issue which is not listed.

Spanish is not too essential for this catalogue, save for the ubiquitous dictionary.

Catalogo Temprano - Estampillas de Colombia, Especializado, 9th edition, 1974. 213 pages, approx. 8¼ x 6½. Available from Filatelia Tematica, Calle 17 No. 5-39, Apartado Aereo 5030, Bogota, Columbia. Approx. $10.00.

The Temprano catalogue is a soft cover book with clear printing and good illustrations on good quality heavy paper. Quite naturally it is printed entirely in Spanish. The catalogue is uniquely organized and does not follow Scott's numbering or system. The book is divided into five sections.

Section one contains the regular and airmail stamps of the first century of postal history 1859 - 1959. This section is subdivided into three parts: the classics, the ancients and the modern, which the catalogue explains reflects periods of distinct philosophy and/or practice in issuing and/or printing stamps.

The catalogue is well laid out. Each stamp is numbered and accompanied by a

---

* H. Kerst in the Jack Knight Collectors Club Federation **Air Log,** Vol. 33, No. 1, Jan.-Mar. 76, p. 61.

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5. Illustrations are placed in rotation of issue, except to assemble sets.
6. Dates throughout show when sets are assembled, and the period of years over which these stamps were issued.
7. Variety collectors can use this album. Although no varieties are illustrated, much room has been left unillustrated for varieties and spares. For extensive varieties collections extra sheets can be added.
8. For those who wish to collect singles, blocks and covers in the same album, three and four pocket sheets may be added between. We have left page numbers off for this purpose.
9. This album has been produced with specific goals in view:
   (a) To create an album for all.
   (b) To create an expensive looking album.
   (c) To create it at a low cost.
10. This album is the result of many years of planning. There is much that could be made different but much of it would cause us to lose sight of the goals specified above.

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listing of colour differences much more complete than in Scott. Colombian prices for mint and used copies are given. Little historical data is presented for the issue of the stamp, nor is the specific date of issue given, nor the number of stamps printed.

Section two is merely a continuation of section one, covering the beginning of the second century up to 1974 (Sc. 820 & C. 593).

Section three involves the specialty stamps; acknowledgement of receipt, official, special delivery, registration and postal tax, each with its distinctive number sequence, much as in Scott. This section also, however, includes stamps supposedly devoted to philatelic specialties, such as Scott 587, which are excluded from Sections 1 & 2.

Section four is devoted to the provincial issues, much as in Scott.

Section five consists of Colombia's early airmail stamps 1920 - 1923, in much greater detail than Scott, with separate listings for various cancellations of country of origin. This section also includes private postal system stamps (semi-oficials), local or urban system stamps and, finally, telegraph stamps.

With the exception of section five, a collector will find the Temprano catalogue useful only for a listing of the colour variations and local price information. On the other hand, a collector will find the organization of the stamps "untidy", mixing as it does the regular and airmail stamps and excluding the so-called philatelic specialties. U.J.C.

Catalogo Barriga, Especializado, 1976, de Colombia. 116 pages, approx. 9½ x 6½. Available from Filatelia Britannia, Apartado Aerea 53 - 404, Bogota, Columbia. Approx. $1.50.

The Barriga catalogue is a soft cover book, clearly printed with good illustrations on good quality paper. All in Spanish, the catalogue, however, does have a lengthy English/Spanish glossary of philatelic terms as well as colours.

The catalogue follows a unique single numbering system that includes all stamps —regular, air mail, official and postal tax—by date of issue. Many variations are listed. Specific date of issue and quantity printed are also given for each stamp.

A separate section of the catalogue lists provincial and urban issues as well as the telegraph stamps. A unique feature is the list of cities and towns that provided hand and mechanical cancellations.

For the price, this catalogue is well worth having for anyone specializing in Colombian stamps. U.J.C.

THE ROYAL ANNUAL MEETING AT BCPEX '77

APRIL 21 - 23, 1977

COMPLIMENTS OF

CANADIAN BANK NOTE

COMPANY LIMITED

OTTAWA · CANADA

Canada's Philatelic Distributors

(Continued from page 15)

Last, the story of Canada, as seen in its stamps, is spreading rapidly throughout the world. There is a new awareness of Canada in every country where the distributors operate, aided by regular participation by CP in foreign stamp exhibitions. This can only benefit all Canadians.

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THE TWO CENTS RED ADMIRALS UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT

by Paul V. Roling

From 1911 to 1920, over three billion two cents red Admiral stamps (Scott #106) were produced from some 160 plates. A wide variety of types[1] can be discerned by the location of breaks, retouches, etc. in various parts of the design. In the absence of plate blocks, these types can be difficut to separate and identify due to close similarities of some types, to a large amount of material that is not easily typable, and to a similarity of color throughout the issue.

While sorting through a few thousand copies of the 2c. reds, I noticed that they exhibited a variety of reactions under ultraviolet light[2]. On further examination of dated copies, easily distinguishable types, and a few plate blocks, a pattern emerged. The accompanying table lists the reaction to the ultraviolet light of some 61 dated copies. The early printings (1912 to early 1916) showed a non-fluorescent ink under ultraviolet light. They were dead — looking brown, maroon, or related shades. (The 2c. carmine Edward VII issue (Scott #90) is similarly non-fluorescent.) All type 1 (original die) stamps exhibited no fluorescence of the ink. Type 4 (worked-over die) stamps also showed no fluorescence. These stamps reportedly come from plates #1-26 and 93-94, respectively, and were printed in 1911-1912 and 1915-1916. A few plate blocks were checked and in the non-fluorescent ink category are plates #4, 28, 43, 46, 58-60, 62, 63, 69, and 94 (plate #94 was approved Dec. 9, 1915).

The ink of the late printings (1916 on) fluoresced brightly in shades of red, similar to the observed reaction of the 3c. red Admirals (Scott #109), printed starting in 1922. Plates that fluoresced a bright red included #98 (approved late 1915 or early 1916), 106, 110-112, and 145.

From the above data, apparently a change in printing inks took place somewhere around the beginning of 1916, possibly due to the war. (That the inks are different, I found to be true by the use of chemical tests.) Thus, on the basis of the fluorescence, a stamp can be classified as an early or late printing, making typing easier. This can be true especially for similar appearing types. For instance, types 2a (plates 40-43) and 2j (plates 157-8) both have breaks in the lower left junction. The former type is from an early printing and thus has non-fluorescent ink, while the latter is a late plate and should be printed with the fluorescent ink.

The other red issues printed between 1912 and 1920 show the same trends. The 2c. red coils and booklets, the 2c, War Tax, and the 2c. plus 1c. red War Tax stamps show the use of non-fluorescent and fluorescent inks centered about early 1916.

The other denominations of the Admirals, under ultraviolet light, do not show any such marked differences.

Grateful acknowledgement is made to Mr. Richardson for allowing me to study his Admiral material.

Reaction to Ultraviolet Light of Dated Two Cents Red Admirals

	Number of copies examined	
Year	**Non-Fluorescent Ink**	**Bright Red Fluorescent Ink**
1912	2	—
1913	2	—
1914	7	—
1915	8	—
1916	5	5*
1917		5
1918	1**	5
1919	1**	10
1920	—	7
1921	—	3

* Earliest date is June 27, 1916.

** These dead copies could be, and possibly are, from earlier printings, but were used years after issue.

1 See the two books by H. Reiche, "Canada The Admiral Stamps of 1911 to 1925."

2 Mineralight UVSL-15.

The Postage Stamps of

NEW BRUNSWICK and NOVA SCOTIA

Nicholas Argenti

Argenti's work is a fine example of philatelic research, covering both the Pence issue of 1851-60 and Cents issue of 1860-68 in detail, beginning with the records of Perkins Bacon & Company (printers of the first adhesive stamps of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick) and ending with information on the stamps, remainders and forgeries. Along the way, Argenti discusses the history of these issues (and some of the political ramifications) as well as technical information such as the papers, marginal imprints, and perforating machines of the American Bank Note Company. Great emphasis is also placed on the different postal rates and uses, drawing on official statements and post office rates and regulations. Adding to the text are the 25 plates of die proofs, plate varieties, covers, and forgeries.

This 272-page hardcover volume is a reproduction of the original edition published in 1962 with the addition of a brief coorigenda and addenda. The two plates printed in color in the original are reproduced in black and white in this Quarterman edition. This work is a necessity for collectors of the stamps or postal history of British North America.

$35.00 (Postpaid)

QUARTERMAN PUBLICATIONS, INC.

5 South Union Street **Lawrence, Massachusetts 01831**

THE ADMIRALS

ONE OF CANADA'S GREATEST

by Harry W. Lussey

Part Five

THE 10c. to $1 VALUES

—Philatelic Photographic Service

Fig. 1 - 10c. plum stamp paying registration and postage to Austria

The 10c. plum has become one of the better Admiral items. The first printing has the Plate #1 imprint. It is the reddish shade. Numerous other shades exist from a decided grayish tint to a purple brown. It is the only stamp to have three distinct types of lathe work, A, B, and C. Early covers in particular are scarce. An example of a single paying registration and postage to Austria in December 1912 is seen in (Fig. 1). While early covers are scarce any cover franked with this stamp by itself is worthy of a place in anyone's collection.

The 10c. blue was the result of postal rate changes in 1921 and it became the foreign rate stamp. It exists in Wet and Dry printings; a thick paper variety is known and a thin paper has been reported which is quite possible as the stamp was current in late 1924. I have a few examples of the "wide" stamp precancelled but they fall far short of matching the squat printings of the booklet panes. Type "D" lathe work exists on all plates. Singles on cover are not common but the period of usage prepaying the 10c. foreign rate existed from late 1921 to October 1925. A cover to Haiti dated June 17, 1924 is illustrated in (Fig. 2). It was also used to pay the registration fee on domestic and U.S. Mail in combination with other values.

The 10c. brown replaced the blue when the foreign rate dropped to 8c. on October 1, 1925 with the day of issue being August 1, 1925. Since the stamp was issued in August 1925 it was only current for the 10c. foreign rate until September 30, 1925. Singles on cover during this two month period must be rated as rarities (Fig. 3). Lathe work "D" appeared only on Plates

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Fig. 2 - 10c. blue used to pay postage, Rimouski to Haiti.

—Philatelic Photographic Service

Fig. 3 - 10c. brown used for foreign rate for 2 months only.

#21 and #22 and examples are scarce. They come from the changeover plates of the 10c. blue and apparently the printings from these plates in brown were limited.

The 20c. value was obviously issued primarily for parcel post. It exists in three distinctive shades with variations, and the last plate, #9, was heavily retouched in all positions. Type "A" lathe work appears on plates #4 and #5 while type "D" appears on plates #6 and #7. The latter were produced by both the Wet and Dry process.

The Postal History of YUKON TERRITORY Canada

Robert G. Woodall

As the result of many years of research by the author (a smaller version was published privately in 1964), the postal history of Canada's Yukon Territory is presented in narrative and tabular form in this 272-page hardcover volume. Part one relates the history of the area before the Klondike gold rush from the first incursion of trading companies in 1843, through the establishment of the first Canadian post office in the Yukon territory in 1894, to the Klondike gold discovery of 1896-97. The rapid expansion of the mail service during the gold rush period of 1897-1900 is detailed in part two and the improvements made during the twentieth century are covered in part three. All possible methods used to carry the mail — dog sled, canoe, steamer, railroad, and airplane — are discussed. The fourth section contains the catalogue with codes for the main types of postmarks and a list of post offices and their postmarks. An index is also included.

Illustrating the text are 1 halftone and 3 line maps; 12 pages containing illustrations of postmarks; and 50 halftones of covers, postcards, letters and other items of interest to collectors. This book is a useful guide for those interested in the postal history of Canada and British North America or the history of the far north.

$25.00 (postpaid)

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5 South Union Street Lawrence, Massachusetts 01831

—Philatelic Photographic Service

Fig. 4 - 50c. Admiral used for airmial to Uruguay.

—Philatelic Photographic Service

Fig. 5 - $1 on airmail cover to Argentina.

Sheets from plate #2 and #3 were overprinted "WAR TAX" and also "WAR TAX INLAND REVENUE" in 1915. The stamps could exist singly on cover paying a combined registration and foreign rate. However, even in a combination the stamp is seldom seen on cover. From 1921 on it was accepted in payment of the special delivery rate.

The 50c. value holds all kinds of appeal. Stamps produced from plate #1 are consistently black and from p.o. #88 and #193. Sheets from the second printing, #193, were overprinted "WAR TAX". Those from plate #2, range from black to grey black and in the last printings, from a well worn plate, to a silver grey. Plate #3 has several characteristics. It is usually a brownish black; most stamps show a position dot on the neck and appear to be taller and narrower than those from plates #1 and #2. This plate is noted for wide variations in the width of the horizontal gutter. It is also the only plate of the 50c. denomination with lathe work entered on the lower panes and the R-gauge in the

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right margin. Imprint and other marginal markings are scarce. Plate #4 was laid down from a retouched die and produced by the Dry process. The color is usually a sepia but it comes infrequently in grey black and black. The latter is certainly the rarest variety of the 50c. value. One re-entry is known and there are a number of retouches which George Marler has identified. These are particularly interesting when in multiples. One of the few uses on a regular envelope is airmail to South America, and this is illustrated by a cover to Uruguay January 9, 1930 (Fig. 4).

The $1.00 value like the 50c. was primarily for parcels. Only one plate was used and lathe work "D" appears. It is rare on cover and is seen on one dated May 9, 1930 to the Argentine via Air Mail (Fig. 5). It also appears on covers attached to currency shipments. Incidentally it was mandatory that all chartered banks use registered mail for currency shipments.

(to be concluded)

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AN APOLOGY

We apologize for the omission of this ad from the last issue. We hope that no inconvenience was experienced by Mr. Affleck or his customers because of the omission.

R. K. Malott.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF MEXICO 1856-1868
Samuel Chapman

In this book Chapman goes into great details about the types and amounts of stamps sent to various postal districts, presented in tabular form. Many pages are devoted to the "Eagle" and "Maximilian" issues. This 416-page hardcover reprint includes 2 new appendices: The first contains 5 illustrations of original postal documents and the second is a series of Chapman listings by Sr. Roberto Garcia-Larranaga, originally published in the **Collectors Club Philatelist** in 1953-54 to bring the book up to date. This work is as correct now as it was 50 years ago and is a necessity to anyone interested in the early Mexican postage stamps and system.

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WHAT'S NEW IN OLD CANADA

BY FRED STULBERG

A REGULAR FEATURE

MORE FROM S.S. RIVER DENNIS

—Philatelic Photographic Service

Several issues ago (Number 5, 1976) this feature was devoted to exposing the fakery of the MacAuley correspondence. It told of covers addressed to J. A. MacAuley, S.S. (South Side) River Dennis, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, having handstruck markings added so that they could be represented a rare Canadian Maritime mailings. Many that were offered for sale came with the following description:-

> "From a collection of mostly 19th century Canadian Steamship and Maritime Cancels. Rare Cover addressed to S.S. River Dennis, Cape Breton, Inverness inlet, Nova Scotia. Backstamped with extremely rare S.S. River Dennis Maritime Station. Interesting paket and other maritime markings on front/and or/back."

The response following the last article was interesting. One dealer, who shall go unnamed, wrote that he had one such cover in a recent sale but took the precaution to make a photocopy of the front and the back so that he would have a record. Another dealer, Ameri-Can Stamp Studio of Willoedale, Ontario, sent in several of these fake covers with instructions to dispose of them in whichever way we felt would be most advantageous to philately. Edward M. Hill, Inc., dealer in Houston, Texas donated seven covers to the cause with the notation "Maybe my loss will at least protect others".

An interesting aspect of Edward Hill's generosity is that it revealed three markings that did not appear in the initial article. The most striking one (no pun intended) is illustrated at the head of this article. It is a flag enclosed in a shield 31 mm. high from point to point. Also to be noted is the aforementioned "extremely rare S.S. River Dennis Maritime Station" which, incidentally, is found as a backstamp on most of the MacAuley covers.

The other two show the word SHIP and the letters AOF. The significance of the

SHIP AOF

former is obvious but the meaning of the latter is obscure. These, like the previous noted fakes are struck in purple (usual) or blue.

THIS ARTICLE AND THE PREVIOUS ONE CAN BE REPRINTED WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION PROVIDED THEY ARE NOT EDITED AND THEIR SOURCE IS ACKNOWLEDGED.

CANADIAN GOODIES

It has been my policy for the last dozen or so large advertisements to point a finger at this or that worthwhile Canadian stamp by offering them for sale. What has been the result? Well, first of all a lot of happy buyers; those who took up my own offer or else as suggested bought the stamps elsewhere. Recall the 1963 $1.00 Export? Do you think you can now buy a copy at $10.00? Or the 1967 $1.00 PVA at $5.00? At $5.00!! Well I've still a few left but price now is $10.00 and it is SOME bargain. Consider the 5c. Cameo and 5c. Centenary Winnipeg Tag miniature sheets at $30.00 for both! If you are fortunate you may locate the Centenary sheet at $30.00. The Cameo? Who knows where? All dealers advertise is WANTED when they discuss the Cameo. I still have a few of each but price now is $75.00 for the pair. There was a mystery stamp that I did not dare advertise. All that was pointed out was that it was then listed in the catalogue at only a few cents and MIGHT be purchased for a few cents or a few dollars. I did offer to give free information as to which stamp it was and several hundred collectors took me up on this. Some reported they were most fortunate in picking up to 10 copies at a "few cents each". Good, they can still pick up bargains as the valuation is as yet low in most catalogues. But those who know charge $25.00 to $100.00 for this one stamp. Oh have we ever got some mighty muscled Canadian stamps, unrecognized as yet for the powerhouse entities that they are!

SPECIFICALLY:

Well, here's not one more, but four more. 26 years ago there came out 4 stamps, 2 airmails, 2 special deliveries overprinted for official use O.H.M.S. and G and when they were discontinued there were no more official stamps. In fact there were no further airmail or special delivery stamps of any type.

Now what about these 4 stamps? Well their use was minimal, so obscure that they were gone long before most collectors were aware of their existence. And so few were issued that the big blockbuster Canadian dollar stamps are not in the same class at all as far as numbers issued are

OLD CATALOGUES, ETC.

On hand some excellent publications by myself and others. On receipt of $2. send a useful parcel at no other charge. Probably worth 10 times this outlay Volume I, # 1 copy of the Canadian Stamp News. It's big, almost 100 page s to a first rate Canadian stamp magazine.

I HAVE TWO ADDRESSES Use Either! The Pembina, North Dakota address gives me the excuse to use the special Pembina-Winnipeg Courier Seals. Headquarters is still Winnipeg.

concerned. As good as the $1.00 1928 which sells at $200 and up? Both of the 2 special deliveries are 3 times better. 4 times better than the 1930 $1.00. 5 times better than the 1935 dollar. 12 times better than the 1938 dollar, 30 to 40 times better than the 1942 or Fish dollars both of which retail $50 to $75 each. How about the 2 airmails in this group of 4? Well they are not so good. Only about equal or up to 10 times better than any of these dollar stamps.

Had enough comparisons? How about offering them? Yes, sure. First of all will say one can see these 4 advertised mainly in long lists at about $30 to $40 but I don't know about the availability or the condition. All that one can advise is to immediately and without any hesitation write out a check to anyone who offers the 4 under $50.00. Ask of course for superb centering and never hinged condition. If within 2 months you cannot locate the 4, sent me $50.00 for 4 superb never hinged stamps or $200.00 for superb blocks of 4 of these.

There is one catch. By then I'll likely send back your check with the sad note "SOLD OUT". Maybe I can pick up some more somewhere? HOO BOY.

THE 1976 SHIP STAMPS

Once again it is time for the Canadian ships to sail. 4 more come out in November and for those who missed the #1 in what promises to be a long series of beautiful ship stamps, I offer the full 50 stamp pane of the 1975 Ships with all 4 plate blocks intact, plus the #2 1976 Ships similar size pane of 50 with all plate blocks, both for $30.00. Mailed flat and registered. Enclose $1.00 extra for this service.

APPROVALS?

Canadian stamps, old and new always available on approval. Not a very speedy service but lots of good stamps available at fair prices. References required from new clients.

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Tad Aono's note typifies the comments of the thousands of collectors who have sold stamps to Harris:

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Tad Aono

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A REGULAR FEATURE

Some of the new copying machines produce such excellent copies that difficulties have been experienced in the U.S.A. by both banks and post offices with bills, bonds, stamps, etc., which have been copied by persons who either want to keep some records or sometimes to willfully try to pass such material as genuine. A number of arrests have been made including one small stamp dealer. In this connection, it is interesting that we have seen recently very good photo-offsets of stamps of the Canadian provinces.

A new issue report of air post stationery lists an 8c. airmail envelope commemorating the Kopernicus 500th anniversary in blue and red borders with only 800 printed. We wonder who issued this as no official announcement has been made by the post office. The number of air post stationery which is being issued is enormous. The latest report lists 75 new items in the world.

Cyril Harmer of H. R. Harmer plans to revise and publish the Newfoundland Airmail book which was originally published in 1953. He is now retired from the firm and his brother Bernard has taken over the chairmanship of the organization.

A new law in Los Angeles requires that all stamp exhibitors and dealers record what items are being exhibited and sold. A special form is sent to all and the name, address and transaction must be listed on it. The forms are to be kept for a period of five years. No show is allowed without this and a small fee is charged. Dealers must be licensed. This strict law may cause some difficulties but it will depend upon how it is enforced by the Los Angeles police department. The number of items disappearing from shows has increased considerably.

Many collectors who have been successful in bidding in auctions in Europe have been surprised when they get the bill to find that sometimes an extra payment for each lot was added to the bill. In Canada and the U.S.A. auction lots are knocked down to the highest bidder and that is the amount one pays. In Europe one pays that amount plus 10% to 15% for each lot plus a little extra for each lot. There is also a capital gains tax but a foreign bidder does not have to pay it. If it is charged it can be deducted. The extra amount is not a tax of 10% or 15% but simply an extra profit for the auction house. In almost all cases auction catalogues have to be paid for, even if you attend the auction. At a recent auction in Zurich which we attended and which had a large number of nice Canadian lots, we had to pay $5 for the catalogue. Perhaps the price was for the cake and coffee? At times the room was full of bidders, at others only two or three were present. It is during these latter periods that the bargains normally can be had. The auctions are simply so long that bidders get bored unless interested in specific items.

A fluid called Philatol is being marketed in Europe. It removes stuckdown stamps from pages without damage to the page or the stamps. Even the numbers on the back of coil stamps (Germany, Switzerland) are not affected by the fluid.

* * * * *

Having received a number of inquiries about the regumming of stamps which was mentioned in our last article, it may be useful to expand on some of the information which we presented.

First the question was raised why an auction house would sell such gum for the purpose of regumming stamps. The reason may be the profit of selling the lot or to let someone carry out some research on the gum used some years ago, especially as such material is normally not available to the general public but could be of interest to philatelists. It may also be done to put

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The second question can be answered by a single statement, "It makes sense that the dealer with the best outlets can get more for your stamps." At Apfelbaum's we have not just one but two entirely different types of public auctions. One is for classics, and fine high priced singles and sets, and postal history material. The other is our famous, "Saturday Special®", public auction that caters to large accumulations, dealer stocks, and worldwide and individual country collections. Year after year our prices realized have gone higher and higher with at least 98% of our knowledgeable sellers more than happy with the results. In addition to selling through public auction we are constantly buying stamps to fill the needs of our huge mail and retail business.

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this material into the hands of people who openly advertise (mainly in the European philatelic press) restoration services to collectors. Restoration here means, according to one advertisement in Der Sammlerdienst, the improvement of the appearance of the stamp, not a repair!

The next question raised was why would a dealer or an auction house sell regummed stamps? Profit is certainly high on the list of possible answers. If you look into recent auction prices of space filling material, collectors appear to buy almost anything. Only a few are discriminating buyers, many simply want to fill a space in their album. But there are also a lot of collectors who do not collect gum but stamps, so they do not worry about the back of the stamp. Why do sellers of material such as gum, not acquire quantities of ungummed stamps and then regum and sell them? Probably the man hours required to do the job properly and the equipment to carry out the regumming job is not available. So, let others do this, especially as there are a number of them.

Why may it be difficult to detect such regumming, even on recess printed stamps? was another question. Well, today, scientific methods exist which allow such an operation to almost perfection. This by the way, holds true for reperforating, cleaning and other so-called restoration processes. An example would be the 5 Mark Reichspost Germany which exists retouched and which sells for about four times the price of the regular stamp. It took six years of court cases to resolve whether or not a block of four sold by auction was genuine or restored with the retouch. It might also be of interest to note that many old German States stamps are offered in price lists as ungummed or regummed and original gum. Normally the last are marked at 100% to 500% above the others. As many of the philatelic ideas originate from Europe, so did the question of original gum, unhinged or hinged which finally hit this continent (unfortunately).

One collector wrote that he purchased Canada Sc. 84 mint, but after careful examination found that it had been regummed. He returned the stamp and in the next auction it appeared in the catalogue as possibly regummed. He raises the question that if it is so difficult to detect such stamps or maybe not at all, should not one soak all stamps?

The question of detection or not is a difficult one to answer. At the present time there may be problems but with new instrumentation it may be possible to find the answer. This may sound like a detective story but one day it may be possible to use very high radio frequencies to determine, from reflectivity tests, whether regummed stamps differ from the original as the ageing of the gum may alter its properties. Many large auction houses currently use elaborate instruments and new types may have to be added.

Will stamps without gum preserve better? was one question. In the majority of cases this is so, and in special cases stamp catalogues even advise you to soak the gum off to avoid damage. However, we must leave the final decision to you.

Finally, a case from my own experience. The Germany Philatelic Society Expertization Committee returned one stamp to me with, "no comment at present, hand in again at a later time." We would, therefore, not suggest that one should throw away all gummed stamps or even to soak them.

Articles, Notes, Comments, etc. are always needed for your Canadian Philatelist

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537	150.00	C1	750.00
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85-6	15.00	422	13.00
87-90	49.00	422A	75.00
163-6	90.00	479	20.00
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501-13, E13	515.00	C144	260.00
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293-305	250.00	C13-5	95.00

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66-73	100.00	217-27	55.00
75-84	365.00	241-5	70.00
84	165.00	249-62	50.00
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104-22	225.00	321	9.00
149-59	250.00	411	13.00
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WANDERS of the WORLD

R. E. FLORIDA

A REGULAR FEATURE

SELECTING A CATALOGUE

In North America, Scott's catalogues are often referred to as "The Bible of Philately", a phrase which the Scott Publishing Co., does nothing to discourage. However, in Britain, Scott plays quite another tune.

One of their advertisements begins, "Gibbons knows the world. But only one catalogue knows all there is to know about the United States. If you collect stamps, you need Gibbons. If you collect U.S. stamps, you need Scott's U.S. Specialized Catalogue".

This advertisement is deadly accurate. Simply speaking, Gibbons is far better than Scott for most countries of the world. Gibbons' listings are usually far more complete, with separate pricings for perforations, shade, and other varieties which Scott only mentions at best.

Take the stamps of Denmark from 1851 to 1863 for example. Scott lists eight major and seven minor numbers. Gibbons gives 21 major and 17 minor numbers to the same stamps. Furthermore the Gibbons descriptions are more useful for distinguishing various similar items.

Facit, perhaps the leading Scandinavian catalogue, takes another approach. Only ten basic stamps are listed for this perod, but they are covered in great detail. Denmark number one, for instance, is listed in ten ordinary plate types, plus four substituted cliches and four major retouches for each of two printings, for a total of 36 different varieties of the one stamp.

What this means to the collector depends upon the degree of specialization desired. For a very simple "face different collection" of Denmark, Scott would suffice. Gibbons would do for a somewhat more specialized collection, while a highly detailed study like Facit is a necessity for extreme specialization.

In North America, one must have Scotts as the starting point as nearly all price lists and auctions use Scott's numbers. Furthermore, sometimes Scott's have philatelic and historical information not included in any other source. However, not going beyond Scott is like trying to fly an airplane blindfolded — both foolish and dangerous.

Minkus is another American publisher with a set of world-wide catalogues. In several ways, Minkus is better than Scott. For one, Minkus is much more inclusive in its listings, including some revolutionary and other dubious issues such as the 'sand dunes', which Scott excludes. While I dislike modern wallpaper, I do like to know precisely what I refuse to collect.

Also Minkus frequently gives the fullest background information for write ups. To pick an issue at random, Minkus gives the following data about the Bulgarian patriot Potev, commemorated by a set of three in 1926: Epic poet, expelled from Russia to Bulgaria in 1864 for revolutionary activities, fled later to Romania where he led the Bulgarian patriots, in 1867 invaded Bulgaria with 200 men where he was killed by the Turks. Scott merely calls him "Bulgarian Revolutionary and Poet".

Another good world-wide catalogue is Yvert, the French standard work. Its listings are rather simplified like Scott's, but sometimes go into surprising detail, e.g., early Albania. Yvert has a good reputation for prices that truly reflect the market.

Michel, the German standard catalogue, is quite detailed, but I do not use it regularly as I do not read German. However, with the help of a dictionary, one can get some good out of most any catalogue.

My recommendation is this: start with Scott for basic collecting, add Minkus and Gibbons for more information, supplement these with Yvert or Michel, and finally, turn to the highly specialized works for your favourite areas.

This need not be too expensive as old general catalogues are rather cheap, and specialized information does not date quickly. I replace my Scott's catalogues every third or fourth year to have some idea of current prices and pick up other catalogues in the years in which I do not buy Scott.

R.P.S.C. TIES

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada ties are available at the R.P.S.C. Headquarters, P.O. Box 4195, Station "E", Ottawa, Canada K1S 5B2.

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(continued from Volume 26, No. 5)

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The stamp specialist black book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, 1945. 128 p. HE6199 S78 Fol.
The stamp specialist blue book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1941. 160 p. HE6199 S8 fol.
The stamp specialist brown book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1943. 128 p. HE6199 S813 fol.
The stamp specialist chartreuse book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1948. 128 p. HE6199 S8134 fol.
The stamp specialist coral book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1945. 128 p. HE6199 S1344 fol.
The stamp specialist emerald book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1946. 136 p. HE6199 S8135 fol.
The stamp specialist forest green book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1948. 134 p. HE6199 S8137 fol.
The stamp specialist India book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1946. 142 p. HE6199 S816 fol.
The stamp specialist mahogany book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1947. 128 p. HE6199 S8167 fol.
The stamp specialist white book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1944. 131 p. HE6199 S827 fol.
The stamp specialist yellow book. New York, H. L. Lindquist, c1942. 135 p. HE6199 S83 fol.
United Nations. Postal Administration. **United Nations postage stamps.** New York, United Nations Department of Public Information, 1956. 87 p. JX1977.8 P8 U5

Yang, Warren M. S. **The Chinese postal service; a historical survey.** s.l., s.n., 1970. 475-497 p. Reprinted from Mar. 1970 issue of the Society of Philatelic Americans' **S.P.A. journal.** HE6041 Y3.

Zumstein & Cie, Bern, Switz. **Europa. Briefmarken-Katalog Zumstein.** Bern, Zumstein & Cie, 1962, xvi, 1560 p. Library also has previous editions of 1952 and 1953. HE6226 Z8.

ADDITIONS TO THE PHILATELIC MATERIALS IN THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF CANADA AS OF NOVEMBER 1976 / ADDITIONS A LA COLLECTION SUR LA PHILATELIE DE LA BIBLIOTHEQUE NATIONALE DU CANADA JUSQU'A NOVEMBRE 1976.

Directorate General of Posts. **Postage Stamp Catalogue of The Republic of China, 1878-1957.** Taipei, Directorate General of Posts, 1959. 376, 9, 10, 28 p. HE6185 C552 A573

Alcock, Ronald C. and F. C. Holland. **British Postmarks: A Short History and Guide.** Cheltenham, Eng., R. C. Alcock, 1960, 299 p. HE6185 G6 A533

Ashbrook, Stanley B. **The United States Ten Cent Stamp of 1855-1857.** New York, H. L. Lindquist, 1936. 87p. HE6185 U5 A82

Bond, Nelson. **The Postal Stationery of Canada: A Reference Catalogue.** Shrub Oak, N.Y., H. Herst, 1953. xii, 132p. HE6185 C2 B66

Chalmers, Leah. **How The Adhesive Postage Stamp was Born.** London, P. S. King, 1939. vii, 45p. HE6183 C4

Chuchin, F. **Catalogue of the Russian Rural Postage Stamps.** Moscow, Commissioner for Philately and Vouchers of the U. S. S. R., 1925. 204p. HE6185 R9 C48

Clement, Alfred. **Handbuch Der Militar-Luftpost, 1793-1954.** Graz, Im Selbstverlag des Verfassers, 1955. 158(2)p. UH80 C57

Commonwealth Stamp Company. **The Commonwealth Catalogue of King George VI Postage Stamps, 1952.** Liverpool, Commonwealth Stamp Co., 1952. vi, 248p. HE6185 G6 C6

Eichenthal, V. **Estonia: Specialized Catalogue and Handbook.** Toronto, Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada, 1962. xii, 175p. HE6185 E72 E513

Ferguson, Herbert P. **Collectors' Guide to World Stamps: An Up-to-Date Handbook.** New York, Toronto, Bantam Books, 1967. 206p. HE6215 F47

Forrester-Wood, W. R. **The Stamps and Postal History of Sarawak.** (Sutton, Surrey), Sarawak Specialists Society, (1959). 576p. HE6185 S2 F6

Hill, Rowland, Sir. **The State and Prospects of Penny Postage, as Developed in the Evidence Taken Before the Postage of Committee of 1843: With Incidental Remarks on the Testimony of the Post-Office Authorities, and an Appendix of Correspondence.** London, C. Knight, 1844. iv, 84p. HE6147 H5

Leclerc, Pierre A. **Propos D'un Ex-Philateliste.** Quebec, Ed. Privee. 1074. 38p. HE6217 L43

Collins, R. J. G., and C. W. Watts, Eds. **The Penny Universal of New Zealand by G. R. Lee.** Wellington, Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, N.Z. Post and Telegraph Dept., 1953. x, 77p. HE6185 N44 L4 fol.

Lister, Raymond. **College Stamps of Oxford and Cambridge.** Cambridge, (Eng.), Golden Head Press, 1966. 64p. HE6185 G62 L5

Melville, Fred J. **Great Britain: Line-Engraved Stamps.** London, Melville Stamp Books, No. 1, 1909. 89p. HE6185 G6 M4

Melville, Fred J. **Jamaica.** London, Melville Stamp Books, No. 12, 1910. 89p. HE6185 J3 M4

Melville, Fred J. **United States Postage Stamps, 1847-1869.** London, Melville Stamp Books, No. 3, 1909. 68p. HE6185 U52 M4

Phillips, Charles J. **Phillip's Specialized Priced Catalogue of Confederate States General Issues.** New York, C. J. Phillips, (1927?). 31p. HE6185 U5 P53

Reiche, Hans. **Canada's Major and Minor Varieties From 1897 Up.** Ottawa, Hans Reiche, c1951. 16p. HE6185 C2 R4

Roy, Michel. **Philatelie Educative: Faune, Sports, Geographie, Sciences, Histoire, Flore, Transports, Politique, Arts, Celebrites.** Levis, Quebec, Editions Etchemin, 1975, c1974. 100p. HE6182 R686 fol.

Stone, Robert G. **French Colonies: The General Issues.** New York, Collectors Club, c1961. iv, 118p. HE6185 F8 S78

Tomlinson, Frederick. **The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898: A Detailed Study.** (London), Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, 1960. 47p. HE6185 C22 T6

Whitworth, Geoffrey. **The First Decimal Issues of Canada, 1859-68.** London, Royal Philatelic Society, c1966. iv, 95p. HE6185 C22 W5 fol.

Williams, L. N., and M. Williams. **The Postage Stamp: Its History and Recognition.** Harmondsworth, Eng., Penguin Books, 1956. 272p. HE6213 W553

Roman's Specialized Catalogue, 1941: Stamps of China and Treaty Ports. Shanghai, Roman Stamp Co., 1940. 201p. HE6185 C552 R6

(This Listing will be brought up to date in the next few issues of the Canadian Philatelist.)

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5

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Applicants listed as new members have applied for membership in the Society and in accordance with the Constitution, their names are hereby published. If no adverse reports are received within thirty days of publication, they will be admitted to full membership.

(*) Has requested that street address be omitted

(M) Minor with activity guaranteed by parent or guardian.

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13199	Lie, Tiam T., 2041 Woodglen Cr. OTTAWA, ONT. K1J 6G6	Holland, Japan, Europa, Italy, Greece
13200	*Machum, Donald A.	Canada
13201	Roller, Ferdinand, 43 Roller Terrace MILFORD, CONN. 06460 USA	US mint & sgl, used, plates, coils, etc. Canada, Germany, Britain
13202	Strickland, David J., 523 Hamilton Rd. LONDON, ONT. N5Z 1S3	
13203	Akerman, Edwin H., 324 Springfield Dr. RICHMOND, B.C. V7E 1Y7	Canada, IOM, Channel Is., NZ, Australia
13204	Barker, E. F., 1550 rue McGregor, Apt. 1504, MONTREAL, P.Q. H3G 1C2	Canada, US, Western Europe, Iran, asst. topicals
13205	*Beck, Sam S.	G.B. used up to 1936, auction house
13206	Bedingfield, Stephen Robert, Box 572 FROBISHER BAY, NWT X0A 0H0	Early Canada
13207	Brans, Dennis M., 80-1 Castlebury Cr. WILLOWDALE, ONT. M2H 1W8	Canada
13208	Day, John Edward, 19134 Cherry Creek Rd., AUBURN, CALIF. 95603 USA	Canada, Australia, USSR, USA
13209	Denbow, David H., 212 Nice Dr. SANTA ANA, CALIF. 92703 USA	Canada & prov.
13210	Goto, Edwin, P.O. Box 2305 GARDENA, CA. 90247 USA	Japan, Canada-mint blocks & insc. blks.
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13213	McKee, R. G., 2002 Sharel Dr. OTTAWA, ONT. K1H 6W2	Canada
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13217	Simons, Gordon C. (Rev.), 42 Main N., P.O. Box 232 SAWYERVILLE, P.Q. J0B 3A0	Canada-mint, used and precancels
13218	Sullivan, Peter J., 7596 Titian Parkway SACRAMENTO, CALIF. 95823 USA	US sgls, revenues, Canada & prov. sgls.
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13224	(M) Harris, Arthur Neal, Box 416 NEEPAWA, MAN. R0J 1H0	Canada-mint & used (esp. 1967), postal stationery, modern plate blocks, tagged and paper varieties (fluor) incl. cut squares
13225	*Holtje, Robt. F.	Canada, US, UN, FDC, sgls.
13226	*Hilke, Wm. C.	US, Canada, Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man.
13227	*Insinga, Anthony R.	US, general foreign
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13233	Petersen, Malcolm J., 3513 S.E. 11th Ave., PORTLAND, ORE. 97202 U.S.A.	Canada, US, French So. & Ant. Terr.
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13239	Hall, William, 274 Oriole Pkwy. TORONTO, ONT. M5P 2H3	Canada, mint, NH and used
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13241	McBride, Eugene E., 6380 Swamp St. N.E., HARTVILLE, OHIO 44632 USA	US, bureau precancels towns and types, Canada, Netherlands, UN
13242	Norman, Douglas E., 3972 Sunnycrest Dr. N. VANCOUVER, B.C. V7R 3C9	NZ, Switzerland, Falklands, Pitcairn, BNA, US, GB, Australia
13243	Ridley, John Brian, 98 Willowmeade Cr., WINNIPEG, MAN. R2M 4P3	Can., GB, Br. col. USA
13244	(M) Ross, Jeffrey, P.O. Box 591, ST. ANDREWS, N.B. E0G 2X0	Canada, US
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13247	Smith, Kenneth Route 5, Box 176A1 LUBBOCK, TEX. 79407 USA	FDC
13248	Davies, Murray, 149 Kingsmount Blvd. SUDBURY, ONT. P3E 1K8	Canada, GB, USA
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13250	*Ireson, Raymond W.	GB, Jamaica, Columbia, Bahamas, Canada
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13257	Kaasalainen, Ernie (Maj.), 22-7th Cr., P.O. Box 695, GREENWOOD, N.S. B0P 1N0	Canada-small queens specialized' all early cancellations, Finland specialized
13258	Murata, Taketo, 648 Broadway Ave., TORNTO, ONT. M4G 2S7	Canada, prov., Nfld.
13259	Paige, Larry R., 1145 Shillelagh Rd. CHESAPEAKE, VA. 23323 USA	Cdn. flag cancels
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13261	Shumway, R. Chad (Dr.), 588 Fulton St., P.O. Box 12, HANNIBAL, N.Y. 13074 U.S.A.	US, Canada, BNA, UN
13262	McGuay, John B. (Dr.), P.O. Box 150, MINDEMOYA, ONT. P0P 1S0	Canada
13263	Mifsud, Austin Vincent, 832 Walnut St., Apt. 24, SAN CARLOS, CA. 90470 USA	Br. Col. & Vancouver Is.
13264	Shyam, Sanjay, 15 Kensington Rd., #902, BRAMALEA, ONT. L6T 3W2	Canada, Br. Comm.
13265	Holemans, Al, 199 Green Rd., STONEY CREEK, ONT. L8E 2A4	Canada, Belgium, Israel
13266	Kennedy, J., 480 Crescent St., ST-LAMBERT, P.Q. J4P 1Y9	Canada-mint sgls. and plate blocks
13267	Sawa, Victor, 190 Lester St., Apt. 27A WATERLOO, ONT. N2Z 3W4	Canada, USA, UK, Br. Comm., Europe, Japan
13268	Seed, Daphne C. W. (Mrs.), R.R. 1, SICAMOUS, B.C. V0E 2V0	Br. Comm., France, BC cancellations

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Brakefield-Moore, E., 4448 Tremblay Dr., VICTORIA, B.C. V8N 4W5
Buckley, Robt. R., 78 Brown Cr., SASKATOON, SASK. S7J 2R8
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c/o John L. Dinoff, 42 Jackman Dr. BRAMALEA, ONT. L6S 2L8
Canadian Forces Philatelic Society (#139)
P.O. Box 2595, Station "D" OTTAWA, ONT. K1P 5W6
Germany Philatelic Society (#75)
c/o Gerhard Siebenbrodt, Pres. 206 Edinburgh St., LONDON, ONT.
Kingston Stamp Club (#49)
c/o J. Edwards
72 Collingwood St., KINGSTON, ONT.
Lahr Base Stamp Club (#124)
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P.O. Box 174, LINDSAY, ONT. K9V 4S1
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c/o Dave Dixon, P.O. Box 1082 OAKVILLE, ONT. L6J 5E9
The Philatelic Club of Montreal (#122)
c/o L. L. Grosz, 780 Lakeshore Dr., #305, DORVAL, P.Q. H9S 2C4
R.C.A.F. Greenwood Stamp Club (#77)
c/o Mrs. Shirley M. Mann, Box 34 GREENWOOD, KINGS CO., N.S. B0P 1N0
Salmon Arm Stamp Club (#141)
c/o Edward Hillary, Box 741, SALMON ARM, B.C. V0E 2V0
Swiatowid Polish Philatelic & Numismatic Society (#140)
c/o Emily Lottamoza, 166 Pearson Ave., TORONTO, ONT. M6R 1G5

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H7G 1E5

Charles Ball, 246 Dunsmere St.
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KENORA, ONT. (formerly Hong Kong)

Clyde A. Rano, 5 Maple Ave.,
ERVING, MASS. 01344 U.S.A.

Lawrence E. Pyle, 1405 S. River Rd.,
FARGO, N.D. 58102 U.S.A.

DECEASED

C. P. Crofton, Sudbury, Ont.
Earl M. Daniels, Hampden, Mass. USA
S. P. Luiz, India

NAME INCORRECTLY SPELLED IN MAY-JUNE ISSUE

Jory Burke (#13071)
522 W. Washington,
HOWELL, MICH. 48843 USA

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Charles Ball, 246 Dunsmere St.
PUEBLO, COLO. 81004 USA

HONOUR ROLL

on which members an/or chapters are given credit for adding new members to the Society roster for 1976.

10760 Anderson, Raymond
11600 Ayre, Donald
12234 Bartlinski, Richard
10218 Beer, John Francis
12299 Bornmann, A. (3)
9405 Brasier, Leonard C. (2)
8024 Browning, Wallace C.
9905 Butters, John C. (2)
10887 Craig, L. D.
8338 Crane, David B.
7545 Curtis, Wayne R.
8764 Denes, Barbara (Mrs.)
6771 Dilworth, H. M. (2)
12800 Dubois, R. (5)
7873 Geldert, Mrs. G. M. (248)
10708 Girt, N. A.
10719 Goodwin, L. H.
7608 Gray, Dr. James
3080 Greene, V. G. (2)
8477 Hansen, G. E. (31)
12874 Harris, R. Gordon
12369 Hart, Philip
10649 Hay, Ralph G.
10493 Hayter, Derek
5179 Hinrichs, A. H.
9403 Hughes, Dr. Harley J.
8283 Knox, Tomas (7)
10012 Kurowski, Lou
9099 Leggett, Arthur
12895 Lingen, Roy
4709 Madesker, M.
11709 Malone, John
5358 Malott, R. K. (25)
7297 Mann, Peter (4)
8744 Marshall, Douglas W.
7537 Millar, Michael (6)
7059 Moore, James H.
7857 Pike, James A. (3)
5331 Ritari, A. R. M.
5415 St-Laurent, J. C.
7558 Sare, Dr. Robin
12248 Shek, Peter
3740 Simpson, W. L.
10759 Skwarczynski, Peter W.
7197 Slate, W. H.
9431 Spencer, Keith R.
8273 Stulberg, Dr. Fred G. (2)
6216 Sutherland, Harry (2)
9249 Taylor, Mrs. Mae
7824 Thomas, Irvin F.
11569 Trittenbass, John B.
11824 Van Oudenaren, Harry (2)
9432 Vickers, F. W.
6734 Walther, Manfred (2)
13102 Warm, Lynn S.
3871 Wightman, G. F.
4105 Whitley, Lawrence A.
4149 Whittington, H. M. (2)

Chapters Sponsoring Members

31 B.C. Philatelic Society (3)
73 Barrie District Stamp Club (2)
144 Bramalea Stamp Club
106 Cobourg Philatelic Society
6 Edmonton Stamp Club (Life Chapter)
137 Fraser Valley Philatelic Society (4)
98 Guelph Stamp Club (2)
51 Hamilton Philatelic Society (2)
33 Lakehead Stamp Club
84 Lakeshore Stamp Club (3)

HONOUR ROLL (cont'd)

142 Lindsay Stamp Club (2)
5 North Toronto Stamp Club
135 Oakville Stamp Club (2)
40 Quebec Philatelic Society
140 Swiatowid Polish Philatelic and Numismatic Society (3)
86 Winnipeg Philatelic Society (2)

P. Geldert
Managing Director

THE SALES CIRCUIT--

We are being kept very busy so far this year (Nov.) with so many clubs and individuals wanting circuits. Our supply of books seems to be adequate in many areas, However, we do need Germany, Austria, Switzerland. The Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and good quality Canada. No other countries are needed at this time. We will let you know when we run low on them.

Margaret Allen
Sales Department Director.

THE CHAPTER COORDINATOR--

Programme #70, The Postage Stamps of Great Britain, has been withdrawn from the list of slide programmes.

The R.P.S.C. Judging Workshop was held at the Rosedale Golf Club in Toronto on the 27th November. Thirty-three persons attended from all across Southern Ontario. The morning session was taken up with a review of judging principles as outlined in the R.P.S.C. Exhibitions and Judging Manual. This review was conducted by Mr. Harry Sutherland and Dr. Fred Stulberg. Following lunch a Judging Competition was held. Fifteen exhibits had been laid out and had been selected to simulate as much as possible the type of material which might be encountered in a local club exhibition. Some "ringers" had been slipped into some of these exhibits deliberately to try to catch people; e.g., one page of mint stamps in a used exhibit and one page of used stamps in an exhibit entitled "Canada Covers 1851-1867". Following the judging the results were evaluated exhibit by exhibit by a distinguished panel consisting of Mr. Harry Sutherland, Mr. Kenneth Rowe, Mr. James Kraemer and Dr. Fred Stulberg. I was the moderator. To me it was a very interesting day. All who attended agreed that they had learned a great deal and that the whole exercise had been well worthwhile. An added feature of the day was the presentation to Con Laubach of Guelph of a certificate from the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada by Dr. Stulberg. The certificate was presented for Con's study of the 1d Georgian issues of Australia shown at the Hamilton-Buffalo Stamp Exhibition in Nov. 1976. All Chapters will be kept informed about the Apprentice Judging Programme.

Michael Millar

THE COORDINATOR OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES--

GERMAN - CANADIAN STAMP EXHIBITION FOR YOUNG PHILATELISTS

The First German-Canadian Stamp Exhibition for Young Philatelists was held in Soest, Germany October 9 and 10, 1976 under the Patronage of His Excellency, John G. H. Halstead, Canadian Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

The exhibition was held under the joint sponsorship of the Philatelic Youth Association of Soest, represented by Mr. H. Oeleker and the Royal Philatelic Society of

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Canada represented by the Youth Co-ordinator Mr. M. Madesker. All arrangements for the event in Soest were under the management of Mr. Oeleker who also served as the liaison with the Canadian group. Col. T. D. Lafferty of the Canadian contingent at Soest participated in the Exhibition while Mr. Barry Dew was representing Canada on the jury. A Canadian Field Post Office was active during the Exhibition.

Canadian exhibitors included two vermeil medal winners: Frances Bowley and Jay Carrick. Others who won awards were: Jess Carrick (silver), Deborah Madesker (silver-bronze), Doug Moore (silver-bronze) and Uli Walther (silver).

The Second Canadian-German Stamp Exhibition for Young Philatelists will be held in the framework of STAMPEX CANADA, June 10-12, 1977. Applications for this event are being accepted now by the Youth Co-ordinator.

Michael Madesker.

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CHAPTER MEETINGS

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 73, Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. Founded - 1 December 1960. Meets every Second Wednesday of Each Month except July and August at St. Georges Anglican Church Hall at 7:30 p.m. Corner of Burton Ave. and Granville St., Barrie, Ont. Visitors Welcome.

B. C. PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets every Wednesday 8 p.m. (except July) in the Stry Bowling Alley. Visitors always welcome. Your hosts for '77. For information write:- P.O. Box 67723, Stn. "O", Vancouver, B.C. V5W 3T1.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY
(Chapter No. 66). Regular Meetings: First Tuesday of the month, Calgary Central Library, 616 Macleod Trail, 7:30 p.m. Auction: Third Tuesday of the month, CUPE Hall, 104 - 13th Avenue S.E., 7:30 p.m. Secretary: J. R. Taylor, 5328 Lasalle Cres. S.W., Calgary, Alberta T3E 5Y5. Visitors Always Welcome.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY
(C.A.F.I.P.) RPSC Chapter #76. Meetings every third Monday of the month (except July and August) at 7:30 p.m. at Coleman's Delicatessen, 3085 Bathurst Street, (at Lawrence). Visitors always welcome. President: Peter Brull, P.O. Box 454, Willowdale, Ontario. M2N 1Y2.

COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter No. 11. Meetings held monthly on the fourth Monday at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Secretary - Mrs. E. Bailey, 1490 Fourth Ave., Trail, B.C. 364-1303. President - Mrs. R. Nuyens, 120 Haig St., Trail, B.C. 368-6750.

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Cedarvale Park Building, Cedarvale Ave., First East of Woodbine, at Cosburn, North of Arena. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays. Sec'y: Raymond Reakes, 188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto 13. Phone: 425-1545. Visitors Always Welcome.

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB
Touring stampers welcome. Meetings on Alternate Mondays in the cafeteria of St. Joseph Composite School. Pres. - Keith R. Spencer, ph. 434-0270; Membership - Floyd McNey, ph. 963-2986. Address all mail c/o the Club, P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2J6.

GREATER VICTORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
(Chapter 32 of the R.P.S.C.) Meets in Windsor Park Pavilion at 8:00 p.m. on the third Friday of each month. Secretary Miss Peggy Bell, 2151 Beach Drive, Victoria, B.C. V8R 6J9. Telephone 592-4245. Visitors Welcome.

GUELPH STAMP CLUB
(Chapter 98, RPSC). Meets first and third Wednesdays, September through May, third Wednesdays June through August, at 8 p.m. in the Guelph Library, Norfolk at Paisley Streets, Guelph, Ontario. Secretary: Bram Costin, 43 Walnut Drive, Guelph, Ont., N1E 4B4. Visitors most welcome.

HAMILTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter Fifty-one. 2nd and 4th Mondays Sept. to May inc. Jewish Community Centre, 57 Delaware Ave., Hamilton. Mrs. E. Rowles, Secretary, 258 Gardenview Drive, Burlington, Ont. L7T 1K4.

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB
Meetings every 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month (except June, July and August) at 7:30 p.m. in the Hall of St. George's Cathedral, Johnson and Wellington Sts. President: Mr. Roy Lingen, Secretary: Mrs. M. Amson, R.R. 2, Inverary, Ont.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY
(Chapter 13 of the R.P.S.C.). Meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month (except during June, July and August) in the Library of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church (Queen Street Entrance). Visitors Welcome. Pres. Gil King, Tel. 648-2716. Notre Dame St. Maryhill, Ont. N0B 2B0.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB
R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 33. Meets second Wednesday and last Friday monthly from September to June in the Faculty of Education Building. Visitors always welcome. Jan van Geen, Secretary-Treasurer, 230 Peter Street, Thunder Bay "P", Ontario P7A 5H9.

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB
501 St. John's Blvd., Pointe Claire, Quebec. Meeting nights 2nd and 4th Thursdays September till June at 7:30 p.m. President - Darrell Bedford, Secretary - Joan Januba. Mailing address: P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire-Dorval, P.Q., H9R 4N5. Visitors Welcome.

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Chapter 5 of the Royal. Meetings at 7:30 p.m. on Second and Fourth Thursdays (except in July and August) at Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, 33 Melrose Avenue. Visitors Welcome.

Confederate Postal History

Edited by

Francis J. Crown, Jr.

This anthology contains reprints of 28 articles which form a general outline of many of the important and more popular aspects of Confederate postal history - that have been divided into chapters to present the history of the Confederate postal service in a logical sequence. These articles have lasting value despite the findings since their original publication in **The Stamp Specialist** between 1939 and 1948. Their durability is, in large part, due to the excellence of the authors: August Dietz, Stanley Ashbrook, Lawrence Shenfield, Van Dyk MacBride, and George Malpass, among others. In almost every case the author has chosen a specific subject, thoroughly researched it, and prepared a comprehensive study.

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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. Sec'y: Mrs. M. Summerfield, Phone 221-0375. Visitors Welcome.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Est. 1922. First Affiliate of the R.P.S.C. (1934). Meets 2nd Tuesday of the Month, Nova Scotia Museum. Corr. Sec'y: Miss Marilyn Murphy, 5872 Merkel Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3K 2J3. Visitors Welcome.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB
R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 135 meets 7:30 p.m., second and fourth Tuesdays, year round at Trafalgar Hall Auditorium, Trafalgar Road at Hwy 5, Oakville. Secretary: P.T. Hart, 2404 Pyramid Crescent, Mississauga L5K 1C9. Visitors welcome.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
(R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 16). Meets Thursdays at 8:00 p.m., September through May in the Chateau Laurier. Contact George Le Mesurier, 60 Crown Crescent, Ottawa, K1Z 7R8. Visitors Welcome.

THE PHILATELIC CLUB OF MONTREAL
Meets the first Thursday of each month, September through June, at 7.30 p.m., at the N.D.G. Community Centre, 5311 Cote St. Antoine Rd., Montreal. Guests welcome. Information: Leslie Grosz, President. 780 Lakeshore Dr., Apt. 102, Dorval, P.Q., Telephone 636-6025.

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.

ST. LAWRENCE INTERNATIONAL STAMP CLUB
Cornwall Ont. Massena, N.Y. (Chapter 54) Meets the First Tuesday in Massena, N.Y. & Third Tuesday at House of Labour, 130 Sidney St. Cornwall, Ont. Time 7:30 till 10:30 p.m. of each month. (Except July and August.) Visitors always welcome.

SARNIA STAMP CLUB
Meets on 2nd Wed. of each month (except June - August) at 7:30 p.m. in Centennial Park Building. Also on 4th Sunday of **every** month, informally, at Central Collegiate (on East St. just south of London Rd.) at 2:00 p.m. All Visitors Welcome. Sec'y, R. J. D. Wilson, 744 Sylvia Ave., Sarnia, Ont. N7S 2W3.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIC DE QUEBEC
Regular meetings will be held in the basement of The Saint Charles Garnier church, 1215 Chanoine Morel, Sillery. As in the past we will hold meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month - 7.30 Hr., to 10.00.

VANCOUVER ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets monthly on the second Thursday, Room 112, Provincial Museum, at 8 p.m. Sec'y: Chas. W. Marshall, 2612 Victor St. V8R 4E2. Visitors always welcome.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Meets 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesdays, except July and August at St. Pauls Runnymede Church, 404 Willard Ave., near Jane and Annette, Toronto. Visitors welcome.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursdays 7:30 p.m. Planetarium Bldg. P.O. Box 1425, Winnipeg, Man. R3C 2Z1.

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ADMIRAL COLOUR IDENTIFICATION by Hans Reiche. 14.8 cm. x 21 cm. 20 pages [8 full page colour illus.] + soft cover. Available from many dealers at around $5.00.

Although the uninformed may assume that this book has some naval connotation, it actually deals with the colours and shades of the stamps of the George V "Admiral" Issue of Canada (1911 to 1925). This issue has been a long time favourite of many collectors and much of its charm and challenge has been because of the many printings and the inevitable variations.

The author's attempt to show subtle changes of colour in a handbook of this price has met with reasonable success. The publication, printed in Switzerland, shows fidelity colour reproduction often found in much more expensive works. However, many illustrations are of used stamps and, although one appreciates the author's desire to document month by month, year by year usage, the colour veracity of stamps that have been subject to soaking, being used on envelopes of different papers, subjected to uncontrolled storage and light conditions, is open to question.

However, if there was nothing more than photo plates 5 to 8, the justification for this publication would still exist. On these four pages the major colours and shades are shown with surprising clarity and could be used as a reliable guide for most collectors of this issue. FGS

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STANLEY GIBBONS STAMPS OF THE WORLD CATALOGUE 1977. 42nd. ed. Published by Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd., 391 Strand, London, Eng., WC2R OLX. 23.8 cm x 28.6 cm, xii + 1504 pages, illus., hard covers. £7.95 or equivalent from dealers.

The subtitle tells what the catalogue is: An illustrated and priced guide to the postage stamps of the whole world. excluding changes of paper, perforation, shade and watermark. It is a catalogue for stamp collectors interested in at least some of the many countries of the world whose stamps they collect without fussy regard for perforations, shades and watermarks.

In this new edition the large format is maintained and enhanced with the introduction of more prominent country headings; the listings have been updated with special attention paid to the revision of some 'A' to 'C' Overseas countries and the prices have been thoroughly revised.

The catalogue lists more stamps (186,500) and shows more illustrations (38,500 - most of them very clear) than ever before. If you want a world-wide, one volume catalogue, this is it.

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STANLEY GIBBONS ELIZABETHAN SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF MODERN BRITISH COMMONWEALTH STAMPS, 1977. 13th ed. Published by Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd., 391 Strand, London, Eng., WC2R OLX. 17.2 cm x 22.8 cm, xvi + 1136 pages, illus., limp covers. £6.75 or equivalent from dealers.

The 'Elizabethan' has been expanded to list over 22,400 stamps, over 5,100 varieties and over 8,000 illustrations, and more than 2,200 new stamps have been added to this edition. The lists include all recent Great Britain and Commonwealth issues.

Prices for most countries continue to show dramatic increases, particularly among the earlier commemoratives and obsolete definitives.

The former Gilbert and Ellice Islands groups each now have their separate stamp issues under Gilbert Islands and Tuvalu respectively; Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda have reverted to separate commemorative

issues again and the issues of the British Solomon Islands are now recorded under the new 'Solomon Islands' heading. A tabulated key to the South African 1961-74 definitives provides an aid to easy identification. The scope embraces GB, the British Commonwealth and the post independence issues of Ireland, Pakistan, Rhodesia and South Africa of the 'Elizabethan' era.

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CONFEDERATE POSTAL HISTORY: AN ANTHOLOGY FROM THE STAMP SPECIALIST. Edited by Francis J. Crown, Jr. Published by Quarterman Publications, Inc., 8 South Union St., Lawrence, MA, U.S.A., 01887. 26.3 cm x 18.6 cm, xvi + 313 pages, illus., offset, hard bound, 1976. US $30.00 available from the publisher.

Francis Crown has brought together in this anthology all of the Confederate articles which originally appeared in The Stamp Specialist between 1939 and 1948. In all, there are twenty-eight articles by such luminaries as August Dietz, Stanley B. Ashbrook, Van Dyke MacBride and seven others. Their contributions range from one to seven separate articles which have been grouped under: An overview of Confederate Postal History Postmasters' Provisionals, General Issues, Across the Lines & Blockade Mail, Prisoner of War & Flag of Truce Covers, Express Marks, Patriotic Envelopes, Robert E. Lee Field Letters and Camp Shenandoah, Virginia.

Crown has added an Introduction in which he comments on the authors and Confederate philately. A bibliography and an index which have been added, contribute greatly to the usefulness of this volume.

Whether you are a Confederate philately buff or not, this book will provide you with many hours of interesting reading.

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UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS, 1902-1935: REGULAR ISSUES, PARCEL POST, AIRMAILS. By Max G. Johl, published by Quarterman Publications, Inc., 8 South Union Street, Lawrence, MA., U.S.A., 01887. 16 cm x 23.6 cm,xxvi + 4 unnumbered pages + 566 pages, illus., offset, hard bound, 1976. US $35.00 available from the publisher.

The Quarterman reprint of parts of Johl's best selling volumes, "The United States Postage Stamps of the Twentieth Century" brings together those chapters (II & V of Vol. I, rev. 1937; I - V of Vol. III, 1935) that deal with regular, parcel post and air mail issues from 1902 - 1935. Added to these is Johl's article "Specializing in Twentieth Century United States Stamps" from The Stamp Specialist, 1941. The type size is slightly reduced, pages are renumbered consecutively and the original indexes have been rewritten to incorporate subjects that were originally in two volumes and to delete listings not in this volume. Because the Scott numbers have been revised since the original volumes appeared, a Scott Number Cross Reference has been inserted to assist in locating particular stamps in the text or in the indexes because both the text and indexes have retained to original Scott numbers.

This volume offers all the necessary background information on these groups of stamps one would need.

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THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF MEXICO, 1856-1868. By Samuel Chapman, published by Quarterman Publications, Inc., 8 South Union Street, Lawrence, MA, U.S.A., 01887. 15.9 cm x 23.6 cm, xxxi + 376 pages, frontis., illus., offset, hard bound. 1976. US $30.00 available from the publisher.

Just to see the name Quarterman as the publisher and you know that the book is a quality reprint. This book is no exception. Quarterman has made available in this edition, a 1926 book which was published in a limited edition of only 150 copies. However, unless you are a Mexico specialist, this book will not hold much interest as it consists essentially of tables of the stamp issues, numbers issued and the like plus lists of post offices, etc. of interest to the postal historian.

Additional material in the form of two appendices has been incorporated. Appendix II contains photofacsimiles of

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original documents, rate schedules and regulations and Appendix IV presents a series of six additions to the Chapman listings by Sr. Roberto Garcia-Larranga which were originally published in the Collectors Club Philatelist, 1953-54. These serve to bring the book up to date and make it even more of a necessity to the Mexico specialist.

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CANADA/BNA POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE, 7th ed. By Tom McAlpin and Will Gandley. Canadian Wholesale Supply, P.O. Box 841, Brantford, Ontario, N3T 5R7. 13.8 cm x 21.6 cm, 80 pages, illus., offset, paper. 1976. $1.50 from dealers.

This edition of the CWS Canada/BNA catalogue is an improvement over earlier editions in that the illustrations and layout are clearer and more easily read.

Prices are said to better reflect the current prices than do the other two catalogues, Lymans Canada/BNA and the Canada Specialized. However, no catalogue is correct in that regard by the time it reaches the hands of the collector. At best, the prices listed are only a guide.

The listings and prices are for only the basic stamp in the majority of cases. Only the better known varieties are listed and priced and these tend to be those of stamps prior to 1950.

Recent paper and gum varieties are barely touched upon, especially fluorescent papers. One Hibrite paper (#620a) is listed, two plain paper (#s 493A, 499A) (what is 'plain' paper?) appear to be the only stamps with a reference to fluorescence of paper. Why only those?

First Day Covers and Matched Plate Blocks are listed and priced.

In general, this would be a handy catalogue for a collector of Canada's basic stamps only. One feature of the catalogue that disturbs me is the manner in which advertisements are interspersed throughout the listings. In some cases they appear to be part of the lists themselves. I would prefer to see them gathered together in the center of the catalogue, rather than having them intrude upon the lists and illustrations.

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DIE BAYERISCHEN AUSHILFSSTEMPEL. By Georg Winkler, published by Verlag J. Gotteswinter, Amalienstrasse 11, 8000 Munich 40, West Germany. 14.7 cm x 21 cm, 178 pages + 13 blank pages, illus., paper cover. 1975. DM 60 [$24.00 approx.].

Bavarian collectors will be pleased to see this book which is the product of intensive study and research particularly at the Bavarian Museum in Nürnberg. There, the author was able to study original material and obtained illustrations of many original cancelling devices.

Few documents concerning this type of postmark exist so this book is built largely on the study of covers which were loaned to the author or which were studied in the museum. In spite of the extensive research involved, the exact time of the start of use of the postmarking devices is still in doubt.

Winkler has grouped and priced the postmarks according to their rarity, i.e., Class I, less than 25 examples known, valued at DM 40.--, Class II, between 25 and 50 known, valued at DM 30.--, Class III, between 50 and 75 known, valued at DM 20.-- and Class IV, more than 75 known, valued at DM 10.--.

After a 45 page introduction in which there is a clear description of the marking and marking devices, there follows 132 pages of tables listing, in alphabetical order, postal villages, the type of mark for that village, colour, date of use, price class and remarks and illustrations of many of the postmarks.

This book can be recommended to all Bavarian collectors although the high price of $24 for a 178 page paperback could deter some from buying it.

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LA EMPRESA DE CORREOS MARITIMOS. By J. L. Guerra Aguiar, Published by Museo Postal Cubano, Havana, Cuba. 14.1 cm x 18.6 cm, 46 pages, illus., stiff covers. 1972.

American Philatelic Miscellany

Introduced and Arranged by

Susan M. McDonald

This anthology, containing reprints of thirty articles originally published in **The Stamp Specialist** between 1939 and 1948, retrieves writings of past philatelic giants and acquaints the reader with some less familiar names. (Authors include Stanley Ashbrook, Richard Cabeen, Harry M. Konwiser, and Frank Staff.)

This 592-page hardcover volume contains something of worth and interest to almost every collector of nineteenth century United States stamps or postal history.

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DESARROLLO DEL CORREO EXTERIOR DE CUBA Y SUS MARCAS POSTALES [1765-1877]. By J. L. Guerra Aguiar, published by Museo Postal Cubano, Havana, Cuba. 14.6 cm x 18.9 cm, 64 pages, illus., stiff covers. 1973.

DESARROLLO DEL CORREO INTERIOR DE CUBA Y SUS MARCUS POSTALES [1756-1898]. By J. L. Guerra Aguiar, published by Museo Postal Cubano, Havana, Cuba. 14.6 cm x 18.9 cm, 64 pages, illus., stiff covers. 1974.

EL CORREO EN LA REPUBLICA DE CUBA EN ARMAS [1868-78 Y 1895-98]. By J. L. Guerra Aguiar, published by Museo Postal Cubano, Havana, Cuba. 14.1 cm x 19.5 cm, 52 pages, illus., table, stiff covers. 1975.

The Cuban Postal Museum has published one of the above handbooks annually and together they provide a good postal history of Cuba. Although the text is in Spanish, they are easy to follow with the help of a dictionary.

Each of the slim booklets has a full colour cover illustrating scenery (historical) covers or postmarks. They are well printed on coated paper and are amply and well illustrated with portraits, postmarks and entire covers. Each has transcriptions of documents, letters, orders, regulations, etc., to support the satements made in the text by the author who is the director of the Postal Museum.

There are no contents pages and only one booklet, that of 1974. has an index.

If you are interested in Cuban postal history or wish to learn some back-ground on the stamps and post of Cuba, this set of booklets and a dictionary will be of good use to you. They are available (price not given) from: Morazain Stamp Agency, 9125 Viau Street, Montreal, Quebec, H1R 2V6.

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ESTUDIO SOBRE LA PRIMERA EMISION POSTAL DE ANTILLES ESPAÑOLAS [1855-64]. By J. L. Guerra Aguiar, published by the Museo Postal Cubano, Havana, Cuba. 14.3 cmm x 21.6 cm, 134 pages, illus., black and white and coloured, stiff covers. 1976. [Available from Morazain Stamp Agency, price not given].

The latest handbook by the director of the Cuban Postal Museum is a detailed study of the first postage stamps issued for the Spanish Antilles (Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines).

The first chapter discusses the introduction of the stamps to the islands and lists values, numbers of sheets and stamps issued. It also illustrates covers, cancellations and documents relating to their use.

This if followed by two pages describing and illustrating the papers on which the stamps were printed and then by 8 pages in which the plate layouts for each value are figured and described.

The bulk of the handbook, and the part which is of most use to the students of this issue, consists of 60 pages on which are coloured illustrations, as many as six per page, of the several values in the issue. Each illustration has the characteristics marked on it which allow it to be placed in its appropriate place in the plate layaouts given earlier.

Forgeries of this issue are dealt with in detail utilizing coloured illustrations and descriptions of the characteristics of each forgery. The booklet concludes with an appendix containing transcriptions of documents relating to the issue and the use of the stamps. There is a table of contents at the end of the booklet.

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CHENG'S STAMP JOURNAL. Published by Cheng's Stamp Journal, P.O. Box 1121, Taipei 100, Taiwan. Canadian subscription price US $5.00.

This is a new quarterly bilingual journal in English (starting from the front) and Chinese (starting from the back), edited by Warren M. S. Yang, former director of the Philatelic Department. The journal is financed by Sun-sing Cheng, a Chinese businessman and collector in the Philippines. This first issue of 56 pages (28 in either language) has a lead article on the

(Continued on page 61)

Canada Post Postes Canada
On Postal Service Service Des Postes

THE MAILBAG

Last year we asked what would be considered to be the date of issue of the 1975 Christmas stamps and the Canadian Legion stamp. You may recall that there was a postal workers strike when those stamps were to be released. We received one answer to the question. Now we have another one.

". . . Perhaps this question of issue dates has since been resolved. However, I can assure you that the Xmas stamps were on sale on Oct. 22nd and for about a week thereafter at the Bala (Ont.) post office, and probably elsewhere in Canada.

"The Bala office falls into the category of a Contract Operation. Contractor employees do not normally belong to the postal union and continue to report for work until their offices are advised by the C.P. to close down for lack of regional mail collections and deliveries.

"I was in Bala from Oct. 21 to 30 and during that period the local p.o. was open for the sale of stamps and postal stationery, and processed local mail as usual. I understand that all such contract offices were ordered by the C.P., prior to November 1st, to close for the duration of the strike. So the issue date, **actual,** of the Legion stamp is still an open question."

Frank E. Patterson III,
Voorburg, Nederland.

* * * * *

Here is an opportunity to put your duplicate stamps and other philatelic material to good use.

"I am a teacher of mentally retarded children at Broadmeadows Special School. We instigated a stamp club for some of these children in the beginning of the third term and these children enjoy this activity immensely. The only problem now is that the demand is greater than the supply.

"I am wondering if any of your members have any spare stamps they may care to send for these children."

Mrs. Sharon Evans,
Broadmeadows Special School
No. 4950,
Koroit Avenue,
Broadmeadows 3047,
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

* * * * *

Mr. R. Gordon Harris would like some help in identifying a postmark.

"Can any reader of The Canadian Philatelist help to identify the cancel on this stamp?

—Guelphoto

"Being a narrow stamp it seems quite unusual for any cancel to be as complete and as clear as this — clear except for (apparently) two missing letters at the beginning.

"Judging from the symmetry of the town cancel, it appears to be "--MOUET CHAPEL N.S. JU 28 90"."

R. Gordon Harris,
305 Palisade Apartments,
3193 Walnut Road,
Kelowna, B.C., V1Y 1N3.

* * * * *

Peter Ware of Summerside, P.E.I. asks a question which he may find answered elsewhere in this issue.

"What is the difference between 'fluorescent' and 'hibrite' paper? Lyman's has a separate listing for each in the $1 Vancouver. In the Musson Stamp Dictionary they are classified as being the same. Is there any difference at all?

Peter Ware.

* * * * *

Mr. Albert N. Holmes of Sackville, N.B. also has a question and expresses an opinion regarding mint and used stamps that many of our members will probably agree with.

"Most stamp collectors these days, it seems, prefer mint or unused stamps — 'Never hinged' — they insist.

"This creates a problem when mounting such stamps in Sales Circuit Books. I have used crystal transparent mounts of various sorts, but these have open sides permitting the stamps to fall out. I have enclosed mint stamps in small glssine envelopes; but how to fasten them to the pages? I abhor the use of Scotch Tape. It is like putting molasses on your fingers. If anyone has some new and more practical ideas on the solution to this problem, I would appreciate receiving them.

"Another problem is how to mount FDC's and other interesting covers, corner blocks, panes, etc. I have used photo corners with some degree of success; but they are not completely satisfactory. Perhaps the Sales Department may be able to come up with some special books for mounting such items.

"I am sometimes amazed and annoyed at the wide difference in the price of mint stamps and that of the same stamp used, e.g., Sc.41(Can.) m $10. u. 20c.: Sc. 273, m $20, u. $2.25, etc. A used stamp, lightly cancelled with colour still bright, is still a good stamp and has the added historical value of a postal zone identification. In fact, it can be argued that the only authentic stamp is one that is cancelled or postmarked and used for the purpose for which it was originally made."

Albert N. Holmes,
P.O. Box 182,
Sackville, N.B., E0A 3C0.

Editor's note: The comments at the end of this letter have been made many times in the past. However, I think that they bear repeating every so often in order that we do not lose sight of the purpose of a postage stamp. Whether postage stamps are being produced for postal purposes nowadays is debatable. I suspect that as much as 50% of the postal emissions are for the collector and not for mailings.

THE BOOKSHELF

(Continued from page 59)

Chinese 1939 issue for the sesquicentennial of the U.S.A. Among the other four articles is one on the U.S. Declaration of Independence commemoratives by Samuel A. Tower, stamp editor of the New York Times, and one on the Chinese "Flying Geese Overprints". Sample copies are available on request.

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Also received: HJMR NEWSLIST, No. 28, Oct.-Dec. 1976. Forty pages of Literature reviews, and literature, stamps and covers for sale by HJMR Co., P.O. Box 601308, North Miami, Florida, 33161. Copies are available at 25c.

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Wm. C. JARMAN, Stamps for Collectors. Try our Bi-Monthly Mail Bid Sale. Free Lists on request. Something of interest to most Collectors. P.O. Box 123, Emsdale, Ontario, P0A 1J0.

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FOR SALE - We hold regular Mail Auctions featuring Canada, U.S.A., British Empire and Foreign. Free copy on request. Vance Auctions, Box 267, Smithville, Ontario, Canada L0R 2A0.

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ISLE OF MAN - World War One and Two prisoner of war material; also covers, postcards and postmarks prior to 1930. Gordon Frost (RPSC 7696) 3 Davenhill Rd., Levenshulme, Manchester 19, England.

WANTED: Switzerland B105 mint and certain other used Swiss wanted. Paul A. Carpenter, P.O. Box 173, Washago, Ont. L0K 2B0.

WANTED - To buy one cover with a map stamp squared circle on face for Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. To form an exhibition page. N. A. Pelletier, 34 Blandford St., Toronto, Ontario M6E 3A7.

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