The CANADIAN PHILATELIST

Have You Started Your Exhibit for BYPEX Ottawa May 2-3-4, 1957

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Official Organ of the Canadian Philatelic Society

VOL. 7 No. 7 NOV. DEC. 1956

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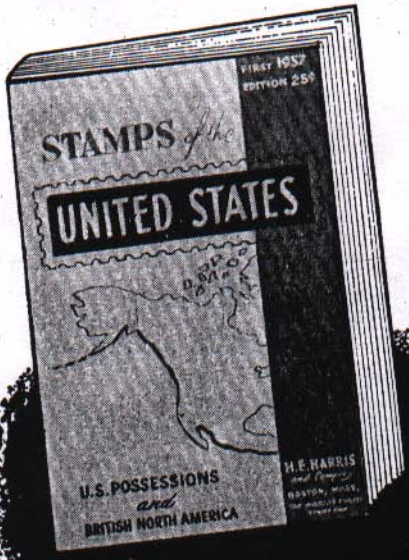

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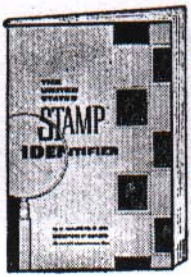

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THIS IS PHILATELY

By DON YOUNG

RUSS WAINES started it all. For the 1955 Exhibition of the North Toronto Stamp Club, he bought two pounds of a Spanish mixture, mostly the Francos, and looked through them for varieties, papers, postmarks, and whatever else he could find, to make up an exhibit. Now, Spain is not generally considered a very popular country to collect; but Russ is a philatelist, and what he found, and wrote up, won him a Gold Award in that show. Such things as a reused plate; re-entries; some queer retouches, some quite unusual postmarks, etc., made up a display that attracted a great deal of attention.

This year Russ, as Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, suggested to the gang that we have a class competition for such a project. Four suckers agreed to get two pounds of a mixture of any country of their choice, make up a display, and see what happened. The four were Russ himself, who chose France; Harold Gosney, who took Finland; Jack Banks, our President, who chose Denmark; and the writer, who picked Portugal.

And so the "Battle of the Kilos" was started. It certainly kept the four contestants out of mischief for most of the winter. It was a lot of work, mixed up with a lot of fun, and resulted in a considerable increase in philatelic knowledge for all of us. I'd like to know how many man-hours were spent. In my own case, I must have spent over thirty evenings, at least, sorting over the mixture again and again, into types and issues, into varieties and postmarks. And then when you thought you'd covered everything pretty carefully, you suddenly found out that a certain postmark meant something, and you had to go over the lot again, to see if you could recognize a variation, now you knew what to look for. Then you had to decide what to show, how much to show, how to write it up, and finally to do the write-up in a manner (you hoped) would catch the judges' eyes.

No doubt about it, it was work; yet the results were fantastic. The frames created a good deal of comment, and two contestants won major awards in competition with entries in other categories. Jack Banks was the winner; he took a Gold Award and richly deserved it. Russ Waines got a Silver Award; Harold and I, of course, contend that the others were lucky in their mixtures. The fact is that Jack did a simply terrific job of write-up in his Denmark display; his pages fairly screamed for attention, which is showmanship of an exceedingly high order. The quality of his exhibit was confirmed later at the CPS show in Windsor, where, with much the same pages he won a Gold Award, a certificate for research from the Society of Philatelic Americans, and the award for the best exhibit costing less than $10.00. Those of you who were at Windsor will agree that it was a top-notch job, covering many interesting varieties, attractively illustrated and explained. It also had a number of pages of postal markings, as well as a philatelic tour of Denmark, with drawings and notes of the places visited by postmark.

Russ Waines' France was also a super job, with possibly a more scientific approach. He analysed some of the common issues, such as the Sowers and the Marianne stamps, showing details of the types and printings, as well as a remarkable series of variations; going on from there to postmarks, papers, and everything which makes one stamp different from another of the same general type.

Harold Gosney took us to Finland with a display which, to my mind, was as good as any of them. His approach might be described as statistical and detailed; he showed several issues in considerable quantity to illustrate types and variations, carefully explained and annotated; he had a fine showing of varieties and several pages

(*Continued on page* 11)

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IN AUGUST, during his vacation, your President visited the three chapters of the Society in the Maritimes Provinces, the Nova Scotia S.C. (Halifax), the Moncton Stamp Collectors Club and the Saint John S.C. I also met some good members of the Society in Yarmouth, J. C. Higby and L. E. Rodney. Everywhere your President was received royally and it was most heartwarming to note the good standing the Society is in everywhere. Philately is at a point in the Maritimes, and like many things which come out of that most delectable part of Canada, what they may lack in some ways they make up for in enthusiasm and energy. Thank you indeed, Messrs. Higby, Baugild, White and Sinclair, for the way you arranged things so well for your President. It will long be a most pleasant memory.

I had been anticipating a quiet winter for once, and being able to do some "collecting" as opposed to the "accumulating" which has been my lot for a couple of years. But already I have had to visit St. Catharines, and Oshawa, with good results I may say, for St. Catharines has come in as Chapter No. 53 and we hope to receive the Oshawa S.C.'s application before long. Welcome to our ranks, St. Catharines.

Your President also attended the Convention in Buffalo of the Niagara Frontier Federation of Stamp Clubs and had to say a few words at the nnual Dinner. I am very pleased to report that, ably backed by Cyril Woodhead, Walter Bayley, Vinnie Green and Fred Jarrett, Canada's Philatelic reputation did not suffer. Dick Hedley, one of our members and President of the Stamp Collectors Club of Buffalo, and John Morton, President of the Federation and a great collector of France, treated us royally. I met there representatives of the Atlas Stamp Club (Atlas Steel Co.) and the Welland Stamp Club, and shall be visiting them very shortly. With prospective visits in the near future to the Quinte Stamp Club, Belleville and the Brantford S.C., my hopes of doing a bit of collecting are dashed to the ground for a few weeks but I am still very optimistic. After all, it is all in a good cause and I hope we carry the flag of the Society very high indeed.

Reports from Ottawa on BYPEX are very encouraging and all the various committees are hard at work preparing an outstanding Convention and Exhibition for your delight. I am making a special appeal for at least one member from EVERY chapter, from Victoria to Halifax, to exhibit at BYPEX. Now is the time to prepare for this. Ottawa want BYPEX to be an outstanding show and I call on every one to help them make it so. There are fine and enthusiastic collectors everywhere, and not only in Ontario and Quebec, so plan to send along some of your interesting material so that we can see what Canada has to show, West and East.

The Year Book is now in the course of preparation. In order that this be as accurate as possible, will all members please advise the Secretary immediately of any change of address, or of any correction or rectification that is required. Also, will all chapters who have not yet notified our Co-Ordinator of Chapters of changes in their President or Secretary, or in the dates and place of meetings, kindly do so immediately. Many thanks for your cooperation.

And so BYPEX and OTTAWA in '57.

* * *

Quelques mots à l'intention de nos membres de langue française. Le congrès d'Ottawa, qui doit avoir lieu les 2, 3 et 4 mai 1957, au Chateau Laurier, à Ottawa, promet d'être un beau succès. Toutefois, les sociétés d'Ottawa s'attendent à voir des pages d'au moins un membre de **chaque société** à travers le Canada. Voice le moment de préparer vos pages.

L'annuaire de la Société est en voie de préparation. Je pries tous nos membres et toutes nos sociétés de bien vouloir aviser not secrétaire, sans retard, de tout changement d'addresse et d toute rectification ou correction qui seraient nécessaire. Dans le cas des sociétés, s'il y avait quelques changemen dtans le prtsiden of le secréttaire, ou dans les jours ou l'mplacement de leurs réunions, veuillez en avertir sans retard not co-ordinateur des sociétés régionales. Merci mille fois de votre collaboration.

N'oubliez pas—BYPEX et OTTAWA en mai '57!

L. M. Lamouroux, President

Notes On The Next C.P.S. Convention

The 29th Annual Convention and Exhibition of the Canadian Philatelic Society is to be held in Ottawa the first week of May, 1957. C.P.S. Chapters #16 and #41, sponsoring Clubs, are known locally as the Ottawa Philatelic Society and the RA Stamp Club. The Executive Committee for this Annual Convention is composed of members from the two clubs and held its first fall meeting this past week.

With the opening of the fall season, collectors are once more becoming "stamp-minded", and committee members have begun the giant task of making definite plans for the national stamp show. "BYPEX" will be run for three days, May 2, 3 and 4, at the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Canada. The name "BYPEX" is derived from Ottawa's original name, Bytown; the "P" for Philatelic; and the word "Ex".

One of the unusual features will be a special, non-competitive display of stamps from countries maintaining diplomatic representatives in Ottawa. Of the many Embassies and Legations, the majority have already signified intention to exhibit, and more are expected to join in giving this year's CPS show an international flavor.

It is also planned to hold a Court of Honor wherein will be shown stamp collections from outstanding philatelists from Canada and the United States. A few of the events common to all stamp exhibitions will be a competitive display of some 400 frames from Canadian Philatelic Society members, a reception, a banquet, tours of Ottawa, and one or two special events planned exclusively for the ladies in attendance.

Members of the joint committee are as follows:

Central Committee—	
General Chairman	H. P. Stockwell
Vice Chairmen	Miss Elizabeth Spohn, Hans Reiche
Members at Large	Mrs. W. R. Barnard, Dr. G. Geldert
Secretary	Colin Bayley
Exhibition Chairman	Thomas Stott
Finance Chairman	Walter F. Anderson
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Entertainment	Henri Gauthier
Registration	Mrs. W. R. Barnard, Mrs. Lillian Garvin

One Good Reason

Reprint of Editorial from Western Stamp Collector.

Every year a certain number of collectors who have joined philatelic organizations either resign or allow their memberships to lapse. When they're asked why, they usually say they don't feel they're getting anything from membership.

There's a tendency to shrug this off as a lame excuse. Maybe it is in some cases. There's a tendency to feel that if a collector doesn't benefit from membership in a society it's his own fault. Doubless this is perfectly true in some cases.

At the same time a good percentage of those who drop out of philatelic organizations are speaking with complete candor when they say they can't feel they're getting anything from their membership. What's more it isn't their fault.

All of us can realize that a youngster who didn't understand simple addition, subtraction and multiplication couldn't possibly go into a college class in analytical geometry or the calculus and get anything out of it. Not only would he be bored to extremes, but the chances are he would feel awkward and out of place most of the time. So is it strange that the collector whose knowledge of philately is fragmentary is unable to benefit to any great extent from membership in an organization set up to function for the benefit of collectors whose knowledge of stamps and stamp collecting is more profound.

Among collectors generally there's a tendency to fail to recognize that there are definite levels of philatelic sophistication. Even tyros seldom realize clearly that until they have mastered certain fundamentals they can't possibly follow philately's more recondite ramifications.

Now our effective philatelic organizations are set up by collectors who know what the score is. The organization's activities and services are planned to meet the needs of collectors who have more than a casual smattering of philatelic lore.

When a collector whose level of philatelic sophistication is below that of a majority of members in a society becomes a member he's in much the same position as the youngster who hasn't mastered simple arithmetic would be were he to join a class in the calculus. Not only can he get little from the society, but the contribution he can make to it will be negligible. Is it any wonder he finally drops out?

—WM. M. WYLIE

o

Common Northern Postage Stamp

For the first time the five Northern countries, Denmark, Finland, Island, Norway and Sweden are going to issue a common Northern stamp. The motif for the design of this stamp derives from a poem of the Danish author Hans Hartvig Seedorff Pedersen, "Svanerne fra Norden" (The Swans of the North), five swans in flight, symbolizing kinship and common destiny of the peoples of the Northern lands.

The Association "NORDEN", having as its declared purpose the strengthening of cooperation between the Northern countries, has designed and arranged the production of a special envelope. The State emblems of the five Northern countries are imprinted on these envelopes. Any person wishing to obtain such envelope together with a complete set of the above mentioned Northern Stamp should write to the address given below and attach an amount equivalent to one U.S. dollar to Birger Olsson, Foreningen Norden, Vasagatan 52, Stockholm, Sweden.

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Is The Average Collector Forgotten?

I HAVE BEEN a stamp collector for a great many years, starting with a collection of Canada given to me as a boy of sixteen by my father. The collection was good and I have added to it considerably in a manner that was in keeping with the original collection. I now have a fair collection, including quite a few other countries as well. This is just a statement of fact for background.

At times during my thiry years, and more, of collecting, there have been periods when I could work at my collection and also stretches of years when I could not. During these latter periods, I was a collector in the real sense, in that the stamps were collected, unsorted, in cigar boxes, for a rainy day. In the meantime, I have always subscribed to a couple of stamp magazines and a couple of "house journals" and am a three-time member of the Canadian Philatelic Society. The periods of membership coincided with my active stamp-collecting periods. My personal business carries the title of "District Sales Manager" for a large Canadian company, and I am familiar with sales methods and sales tactics from factory to wholesale to retail.

At the present time, I am trying to spend a little time each month bringing my collection up to date and putting things in order in my "cigar-box filing system". In doing so I have been reading up magazines, house journals, and news items on stamps. Now we come to the reason for this outburst.

I find that reams and reams of type is set and articles written all slanted to the super-expert collector. The syndicated stamp news columns and gossip items slant everything towards the ultra-specialist. It would appear to be a disgrace, or at least a very low social level, to be an average collector. The beginner, if he is mentioned at all, is mentioned in a stage whisper or just given a brush-off. These super-collectors join their BNA societies, their pre-cancel societies, etc., etc., and appear to look with disdain on the rest of the fraternity. I would stick my neck out so far as to say that 50% of all Canadian collectors don't know what the "four corner positions of plate blocks" are all about; let alone collect them. I would also go further and say that 75% of all Canadian collectors are "average or modest collectors" and not specialists. If my sales background is any yardstick it is Mr. Average that keeps business humming and not the wealthy man or specialist. Chamber of Commerce and Canadian Bureau of Statistics figures of retail business bear this out as fact beyond any guess I might make.

The Canadian Philatelic Society is always urging people to get new members, to interest new collectors. One of the advantages of joining is the monthly magazine. When Mr. Average Collector does join and reads the magazine I am sure he must be very embarrassed at his ignorance of his own pet hobby. Also, he will find very little, if anything, of interest to him and his small collection. Technical terms used in some of the articles are meaningless to the average collector and he usually has no way of checking up on the meaning.

I have become quite prejudiced on this subject, and recently have purposely bought copies of other current weekly and monthly stamp journals to see if there was at least one written down to Mr. Average instead of up to Mr. Expert. It is my personal opinion that every stamp journal should have a page for juniors to tell them how to collect, what to collect, why they should use tweezers, the reason for stamp hinges, how to trade their duplicates, how to read a catalogue, how to buy stamps, and dozens of similar questions and answers. Sons and daughters might be interested in

their fathers' stamp magazines if such were the case.

Then there is Mr. Average collector who seems to be really caught in the squeeze. He finds himself interested enough to go to a stamp exhibition and likes to look in stamp store windows. Our large department stores usually have stamp counters and it is a rare occasion when at least one adult is not browsing among the stamps. He might be much more interested if he could, on his own, find out about specializing in a country, how plate books are mounted in an album, how to mount booklet panes in his album, how to go about adding to his "single-stamp" collection to make it better and more valuable. Explain coil stamps and the reason for having a pair, explain precancels, explain meter postage and their place in his collection. Explain Scott's and Gibobns catalogues versus the specialist catalogues of Jarrett, Holmes and others. All these are news to Mr. Average and will permit him to at least get on a talking level with the advanced collector.

If we want more members in our stamp clubs and stamp societies, let's make the average collector more at home and recognize his needs in our journals. We can have our expert articles, but also include something each issue for Mr. Average and Mr. Junior. The trend in the last ten years has been the opposite.

Yours constructively,
Mr. Average Collector.

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NEW DISCOVERY?

The early part of this month I stopped off in Hamilton to see a collector friend of mine. While looking at his collection of Canada I saw 2 single used copies of Scotts #341 the 1954 5c blue of Q.E.II that had a double overprint G on both copies. The heavy fat G was placed in the normal position but the other broken G was over the chin of the Queen. He paid 2c each for these at the regular meeting of the Hamilton Philatelic Society of which he is a member. These have been OK'd by Stanley Gibbons or rather OK'd by Stanley Stamp Co. Ltd., and Accepted by Stanley Gibbons of England.

—E. Rushton

Edwin Mueller To Address Canadian Specialists

An outstanding figure in international philately, Mr. Edwin Mueller of New York, will be the guest speaker at the second anniversary dinner of the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada in the Fountain Court of the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, Ontario, on Saturday, November 17th, 1956.

Mr. Mueller is editor of the authoritive Mercury Stamp Journal, and an author and expert on advanced phases of philately. His subject is announced as "Sources of Philatelic Knowledge."

The Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada comprises a limited membership of advanced students of philately, operating on the "Rotary Club" principle with not more than two members who specialize in the same field. Its purpose is to foster philatelic knowledge and research in all phases of the hobby.

The dinner on November 17th, 1956, will attract prominent collectors from a wide area.

President Herbert Dube of the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada, announces that a few reservations are still open to non-members. Those interested should contact the treasurer, Mr. Jules Reissman, 64 Wellington Street West, Toronto 1, Ontario.

The Realm Of Stamps

By Montor

A GREAT MANY interesting new issues have been appearing amongst which of particular note are the set of four stamps for North Borneo, issued on November 1 to mark the 75th anniversary of the Chartered Company of North Borneo. The designs incorporate motifs used on the old Chartered Company's stamps. The pictorial issue bearing Her Majesty's portrait for the Virgin Islands issued on November 1 is a most attractive set and the new definite set for Ascension released on November 19 both contain many subjects of interest to the thematic collector. The set of four values and an air letter sheet issued on October 31 by Australia for the Olympic Games at Melbourne is another set of particular interest. The two highest values incidentally are printed in four colours.

One of the most beautiful series of stamps ever issued are those released on October 30 by the five Northern Countries, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland to commemorate "Northern Countries Day." The motif of the stamps all of which are of the same design (as illustrated) except for the name of the country and the denomination, shows five flying swans. The stamp was designed by Viggo Bang and engraved by Sven Ewert. The theme was taken from the poem "Svanerne fra Norden (Swans from the North) by Hans H. S. Pedersen. Two values were issued by each of the five countries.

This year the Netherlands is issuing a set of five semi-postals on November 12, the surtax being for the benefit of child welfare. The designs show children from portraits by Dutch and Flemish painters of the 16th century. The 1956 Pro Juventute set which is being issued by Switzerland on December 1 continues the popular insect series.

An important philatelic event

took place from October 25 to 27 when the Westmount Stamp Club in conjunction with the Hobby Committee of the Laurentian Council of the Telephone Pioneers of America put on a most attractive exhibition in the head office building of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada in Mnotreal. Not only was this a splendidly organized and publicised show containing a very high standard of material but the measure of co-operation accorded to philately by this great company was extremely gratifying to all those interested in the welfare of stamp collecting. There was a post office on the floor of the exhibition at which mail was cancelled with the special exhibition slogan cancellation which incidentally was only used at the exhibition. Sales of stamps at the post office were substantially greater than at any previous stamp exhibition in Montreal which seems to indicate the need for a philatelic window in our large cities. Both L. G. Buck, the president of Westmount, who originated the idea and Major R. M. Watson, the chairman of the exhibition committee and all associated with them deserve high praise for their initiative in organising and staging such an excellent show. It was indeed a fitting prelude to Ottawa next May. The judging was carried out on the basis of Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards as at Windsor this spring. The judges were C. G. Kemp, Paul Nattel and A. H. Christensen. Particulars of the award winners are given on another page.

At the weekly meeting of the Westmount Stamp Club following the exhibition Major R. M. Watson was unanmiously elected an Honorary Life Member of the club on a resolution proposed by Reg Haldimand and seconded by Major W. W. Gear. Major Watson has been a member and one of the club's most ardent supporters for many years. He is a past president and has acted as chairman of the exhibition committees for the last three shows staged by Westmount.

EXHIBITION IN BELL BUILDING IN MONTREAL

The exhibition held from October 25 to 27 in the Bell Telephone building in Montreal, staged by the Westmount Stamp Club in conjunction with the Hobby Committee of the Laurentian Council of the Telephone Pioneers of America, was officially opened by Rene Boileau, Postmaster of Montreal, who was representing the Postmaster General. Also present were A. R. Neilson, president of the Laurentian Council, Telephone Pioneers of America; J. E. Clark, chairman of the Hobby Committee; L. G. Buck, president of the Westmount Stamp Club, and Major R. M. Watson, chairman of the exhibition committee, as well as a large gathering of prominent Montreal philatelists.

Award winners were as follows:

GOLD AWARDS: A. Graham Fairbanks for his very fine showing of the Pence Issues of Canada which included 12d. blacks and a unique strip of four of the 7½d green.

Major R. M. Watson for his interesting exhibit of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies which included a fine showing of early covers and bisects.

Dr. D. B. Johnstone of Burlington, Vermont, for a beautifully presented display of U.S. Carriers including proofs, essays and entires.

H. A. Dykerman for the first issue of the Netherlands showing examples of the various plates and many rare cancellations and entires.

Carl Mangold for a magnificent showing of Swiss Cantonals and plating of the Rayon issues of Switzerland.

SILVER AWARDS: Rev. Dr. G. P. Dewey (Canada Small Cents); C. H. Bayley of Ottawa (B.W.I. Covers); Major W. W. Gear (Specimens); N. Lagios (Greece); H. G. Teal (Stamps and Related Autographs); S. Ivy (Austria); R. K. Eadie (Swiss Pioneer Airmails); and Reg. Haldimand (Flowers on Stamps).

BRONZE AWARDS: R. J. Sutherland (Newfoundland); Dr. D. F. Green of Burlington Vermont (U.S.A.); K. Pam (Saxony); Dr. Stewart Allen (China); Dr. S. de Abravanel (Israel); J. Edinger (Israel); E. B. Philip (Canada); Wm. Griffiths (Airmails); and E. A. Rawlings (Air letter sheets).

Junior Awards, BRONZE: Margaret Ward and John Sheel.

(Continued from page 3)

of interesting postal markings — altogether a splendid showing of philatelic Finland.

The writer's Portugal didn't really rate with the other three exhibits; nevertheless it did include some items of interest, including a display of Railway Postoffice markings, called "Ambulancias". Had some fun with these, as it developed that some of these railway runs are named after the rivers whose banks the railway followed. This led to a frenzied search through all the mixture for examples of the various rail lines, then a study of maps and a travel book or two to place the rivers. By the time I'd finished all that, I had learned a great deal about the geography, the history, and the people of Portgual.

I can't say what influenced the others' choice of a country to study; my choice of Portugal was on two major grounds; first, that since I knew little about Portugal and less about its stmps, I could hardly fail to acquire a useful fund of information; secondly, that if I did find items good enough to form an interesting exhibit, it would prove something I have always held to be true; that it doesn't matter what country you collect, even a so-called "unpopular" country has so much of interest in its variations, types, postmarks, history, and personalities that a valuable and fascinating collection can be formed, if the collector is willing to study his subject thoroughly.

We all feel that this was an experiment in which we got out of our work much more than we put into it; in particular, the satisfaction of doing a job which was somewhat unique, and achieving a certain success at it. If other clubs would like to try such a project—well, there's no patent on it, and we'd all recommend it unhesitatingly, as the tops in philatelic fun.

C.P.S. of G.B. CONVENTION

The 10th Annual Convention of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain closed here last evening, and has been an undoubted success, with quite record attendances, despite the absence of many well-known faces. President J. J. Bonar and his assistants had prepared a very attractive programme which was carried out without a hitch, as far as I could see.

The Hostelry of the Golden Lion provided facilities and hospitality of a high order. The conference room was large enough to stage the exhibition, give seating accommodation for all the delegates and display tables for the lecturers. The exhibition was not as extensive as in some previous years but had been most carefully selected to ensure interest for every frame.

Pence Issue (the 12c Black was there), the 1859 Cents issue. The Large and Small Queens, Jubilees, Edwards, George V and George VI and the Commemoratives were all represented. Two or three Frames were devoted to the usual studies of a single stamp, i.e., the 1 cent Edward VII, 2 cent King George V but what was specially noticeable about these and similar stamps, was that they were the work of new students, instead of being left to the stalwarts of former years.

The two or three frames of Newfoundland Issues had some very choice material on show. Proofs, complete sheets, Airmail Issues. The growth of Pre-Cancels study was indicated by most excellent displays of this material. I am still, however, wanting to know why Dollar Value Jubilees were issued in Pre-Cancel state, as also some oth-

er high values. Slogan Postmarks were also shown in great variety, and as these are much more definitely Postal History than Philately, I must emphasize that, in proportion, more Postal History was in evidence than in former years with most attractive Covers in nearly every Section. In this connection I would like to suggest that I should prefer to see Pre-Cancels collected on Cover, or at least on piece, rather than, as soaked off stamps. Were I judging, for instance, I should award higher marks for those on Cover or on pieces, as it would so clearly establish the usage of Pre-Cancels.

At this Stirling Convention, Study Groups were discarded in favour of straight Displays by well known experts, followed by Questions and Discussions, and I think we learned quite a few new facts, and had fresh light shed on debatable points. Mr. J. Millar Allen on "Some Aspects of the 1859 Issue" and Colonel D. McLellan on "The Large and Small Cents Issues" were particularly interesting in this respect. The so-called Indian 3 cents got a special wallop from the colonel, but he then cleared the air with a lucid explanation of how to detect this colour.

He told us that he had read and tabulated the findings of the previous writers on these issues, showing a disagreement of up to 100%, and his work was to try and reconcile these differences by more careful research. Attention to the different papers used had proved of great value, and his method of colour differentiation was strikingly new.

Mr. Millar Allen doesn't pull his punches and particularly about the 12½ cents and the 17 cents he gave us much to ponder over.

Mr. Nicholas Argent's display of the Cents Issues of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick was a feast of good things. When I mention complete sheets of Plate Proofs which he dismissed in a few words, I don't need to specify one of the finest Displays I have ever seen. I hope the three Papers may be printed, at length, in "Maple Leaves" for they are worthy the attention of all collectors and students of Canadian Stamps.

An innovation was the reception by the Provost of the Royal Burgh of Stirling on our first morning, at the close of which we felt really to belong.

The attendance at the Annual Dinner on the Saturday evening was certainly a record for the C.P.S. Close to 100 guests sitting down, in the charming ball room with the tables in horseshoe fashion at the Golden Lion. Meal and speeches were according to pattern but the kilted Piper to pipe in the diners, and during the dinner to skirl for the 8 boys from the Queen Victoria Soldiers' Orphans' School at Dunblane, who danced the Highland dances for us, made a memory, which will ever be associated with convention at Stirling.

Fred Tomlinson (Editor of "Maple Leaves") for research on the 2 cents Map Stamp, and W. E. Lea (the Manchester Dealer) for research on the 1859 issue were elected Fellows of the Society, and signed the Roll.

Mrs. Stanley Barratt received cups and awards for superlative Newfoundland Displays and G. Whitworth was awarded the "Aitken" Cup for the best article of the year, published in "Maple Leaves."

The weather was not as good as we have been accustomed to get, but for our two outings, the sun shone bravely, even though heavy rain persisted until the very start. Just to pull the heart-strings of the Scots in Canada who will read this, I only need to say, Aberfoyle and the Trossacks for one trip, and via the Sma' Glen to Pittochry, Aberfeldy, Loch Tay, Lochearnhead and Callander, for the other. I will warrant that they would have longed to have been there, and to listen to Eddie McGuigan who compared the trips with sound knowledge of scenery, history and legend.

We would be glad to welcome some of you at our Convention next year. You would enjoy it.

FREDERICK WALKER.

Stirling, Scotland, Oct. 1st, 1956.

RAILWAYS ON STAMPS

MANY general collectors now run a sideline collection of thematic or topical stamps. Taking any special subject which may make an appeal to them, they collect on go-as-you-please lines, collecting only those stamps which take their fancy. No specially designed albums are required, a loose leaf book being ideal for the purpose, especially if it has black pages to show up the stamps to better advantage.

Choice of subject is boundless. Recently a "Gallup Poll" of several hundred members of a "Topical" stamp society was taken in the United States in order to ascertain which subjects were the most popular amongst these collectors. The result was as follows: 1—Flowers and plants, 2—Music, 3—Railways, 4—Animals, 5—Birds, 6—Ships.

Of the 32 subjects gaining sufficient votes to be listed, Agriculture was last, with the varied subjects of Insects, Queen Elizabeth II and Food bracketed together as last but one! Of those at the head of the list, Flowers and Music make a general appeal to collectors of both sexes, but Railways are an almost exclusively male preserve. It only goes to show how, in male collections at least, railways must be the most popular side line of all.

Every small boy at some time or other wants to be an engine driver. Some achieve their ambition, some outgrow it, others retain their interest in railways but are content to be passengers. It is these latter who form the nucleus of those interested in railway stamps, and it is to please these collectors that impecunious governments put out the attractive stamps which have been issued on this theme. The sale of such stamps to thematic collectors all over the world can make an appreciable addition to the national revenue of a small country!

The very first stamp picturing a railway subject was issued by New Brunswick, which now uses Canadian stamps, as long ago as 1860, and showed an early 4-4-0 locomotive fitted for wood burning. Nine years later the United States put out another delightful little wood burning. Nine years later the United States put out another delightful little wood burner on their 3 cents blue of 1869, and after that many different countries took up the theme, until today it is possible to make up a collection of well over 350 different designs on stamps dealing with this subject.

Although Great Britain has never yet issued a stamp having anything to do with railways (the nearest being the tractor depicted on the 1945 Peace 2½d.), one British locomotive actually appears on a stamp issued by a foreign country. This is one put out by Uruguay in 1895 and shows an unmistakable G.N.R. Stirling eight-foot single.

What connection the old G.N.R. or Mr. Patrick Stirling had with Uruguay is obscure, but as the stamps were printed in England by Waterlow, it may well be that, being asked to depict a locomotive of some sort, they used a suitable illustration which they happened to have by them at the moment! But, although the locomotive is a British type, the passengers and scenery are typically South American, thus creating a real philatelic problem picture.

What is probably the finest railway set yet issued is a set of four stamps produced by Egypt in 1933 for the International Railway Congress held in Cairo in that year. Two of these are of old 2-2-2 locomotives, one is a 2-4-0, and the fourth a fine "Atlantic" type engine, at that time the largest running in Egypt. All of these were British-built, and one of the 2-2-2's, of Caledonian Railway style, commemorates the fact that three single-drivers designed by Benjamin Connor were built by Nelson & Co. in Glasgow and sent out to Egypt in 1862.

Even kings have shown enthusi-

(Continued on Page 15)

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(Continued from page 13)

asm for railways. Keenest among them was the late King Boris of Bulgaria and his father, King Ferdinand. The top value of the Bulgarian Railway Jubilee set of 1938 actually shows King Boris on the footplate looking thoroughly happy and at home there. He was a competent amateur driver and it is reported that on the occasion of a visit to England he brought his own train into the London terminus and appeared before the reception committee lined up to receive him wiping his hands on some cotton waste!

The United States Post Office likes to issue stamps with a story behind them, and in 1944 a stamp was issued to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Completion of the first Transcontinental Railway. It was in 1869 that the Union Pacific Railroad building from the Missouri River at Omaha met with the lines of the Central Pacific built from San Francisco, thus making a line 1,848 miles long. The stamp depicts the grand ceremony which attended the driving home of the final rivet, after which the coast-to-coast link-up was complete.

Another U.S. commemorative, commonly known as the "Casey Jones" stamp, was issued on 29th April, 1950, fifty years after the terrible accident in which the heroic engine driver lost his life. Although the stamp is issued to honour all railroad engineers (engine drivers) of America, it is "Casey" who is remembered in particular.

Born in 1863, he has become a legend in American railway history owing to his self-sacrifice which cost him his life in the famous train wreck at Vaughn, Mississippi, on April 30th, 1900. The stamp was issued one day short of the actual date, which happened in 1950 to fall on a Sunday. Casey is burried in Calvary Cemetery in Jackson, Tennessee, which town was his home for many years prior to the smash.

The following have applied for admission to the Society. If in 30 days no adverse reports are received by the Secretary, they will be admitted to full membership.

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