

# Letters to the Editor

Utica, N. Y.

Dear Ed:

In reference to a recent article in "Topics," "The Literature of Canadian Philately," I have recently read "The History of the Post Office in British North America, 1639-1870" written by William Smith and published in Great Britain. I found it to be a very detailed study of post offices and post office methods up to 1870. The facts appear to be soundly based upon long research in the "Canadian Archives," Journals of Provincial Legislatures, etc. The study of pre-confederation postal methods is especially interesting to cover collectors because it contains detailed accounts of mail handling in that period.

I am attempting to collect all possible information on the 8c small cents issue stamp, (Scott 48, abc). Perhaps other members have information that I do not possess. Not too much has been printed about this stamp to my knowledge. Would it be possible to ask via "Topics" if there is any information on the 8c 1893 Canada besides Jarrett and Hamilton?

Cordially,

W. B. Reals #89

Nantucket, Mass.

Dear Ed:

Each issue of BNA TOPICS is better than the last one. Congratulations. No. 5 is a dandy. Wish you were keeping as cool as we are up here. With best wishes,

J. B. Sheffield.

Banana River, Fla.

Dear Ed:

I wish to state that I have been receiving "Topics" each month and would like to say that it has a very good start. Mr. Forney, Mr. Pollock, Mr. Hoffman, and all the rest are to be commended on their work making it a success. I regret to say that since I am still on the learning end of the hobby, my contributions will have to be questions and short comments in place of articles, and this Navy life doesn't give us much time for that either.

There are a couple of things that come to mind which I would like cleared up. When they speak of the major re-entry on the 3p Beaver, which particular one do they refer to? Both the 3p Beaver and the 6p (#5) come on a thick hard paper, is this the same paper, and if not how does it differ? The 15c large cents in watermarked condition is cataloged at, I believe, one half as much as the 6c of the same issue. In all the years I have been searching for either one, I have yet to see the 15c at all. I am wondering where Scott gets the comparative scarcity. Also, please ask Mr. Hoffman the story behind the erroneous material circulated several years back on the existence of a 1c Victoria and Edward booklet pane. If none exist, how did it get out in the first place?

Whether these questions warrant an answer in "Topics" is up to you, but thought that I may not be the only one "in the dark" on these points. As you see, I have more questions than answers, but the only way to learn is by asking those who know. Mr. Pollock wrote about Philatelic Literature last issue. Please ask him where a copy of Howes works can be located.

Thanks much for your time, and only wish I could do more for the club.

Ensign John Siverts.

Towanda, Pa.

Dear Ed:

Having recently acquired an interesting and unusual Newfoundland Postage Paid Provisional cancellation that I fail to find listed I wonder if any of Topics readers have any information to clarify its usage.

This cancellation is a two line rubberstamp in red as follows:

PAID ALL

G.P.O., St. John's, Newfoundland.

The item I have is struck on a small piece of an old Newfoundland newspaper, which gives no clue as to date. However the paper was mailed to Boston, Mass., and bears the oval cancellation of that city, as well as a single line hand-

stamp in black "DUE 2 CENTS" plus a regular U.S. postage due of that amount showing that the Boston P.O. failed to honor the St. John's provisional marking and collected postage again.

Inasmuch as the PAID ALL marking was used in St. John's late in 1897 it seems likely that this may have been a companion stamp to the more common circular stamp of that date which appears in black, and may have been used on newspapers and other matter of a similar nature dispatched outside the colony.

Would greatly appreciate any information concerning the use of the marking that any member can supply.

Roy W. Trickey #92

### RECENTLY DISCOVERED CANADIAN VARIETIES

- (1) 2-cents Brown, 1935, (Extension of bottom line on left side of frame. Stamp #90, Plate 2, upper right).
- (2) 3-cents Red, 1937, (Colour dot top margin and colour dash "A" of "Postage," Stamp #6, Plate 2, lower right).
- (3) 6-cents Air Mail, 1935, (Flaw in upper left hand portion of panel containing the word "Air," Stamp #10, Plate 1, lower left).
- (4) 2-cents Brown, 1937, (Dot in "T" of "Postage," also flaw in "E", of "Postage," Stamp #60, Plate 5, upper right).
- (5) 5-cents Blue, 1930, (Defective inner frame line at left of "Postes," Stamp #98, Plate 3, upper right).
- (6) 6-cents Air Mail, 1938, (Colour dot right numeral "6", Stamp #35, plate 1, upper left).
- (7) 2-cents Royal Visit, 1939, (Colour line "S" of "Postes," Stamp #44, Plate 3, lower left).
- (8) 5-cents Blue, Confederation, 1927, Dot in right numeral "5", Stamp #67, Plate 3, upper left).
- (9) 6-cents Air Mail, 1935. (Hairlines in "A" of "Air," Stamps 4 and 12; Also hairlines in left numeral "6", Stamps 13 and 14, Plate 1, upper left).

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