

BRINGING NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE AND STAMPS

By REV. JOHN S. BAIN

I walked into a Chicago dealer's office one day last month and observed a tall fellow expertly examining copies of Newfoundland #40. I watched as he laid the nice copies to one side, and then he picked a perfectly centered one with the imprint. It was a gem. I made a remark about it. The dealer introduced us, and who should it be—none other than BNAPS *John Siverts* with whom I had been enjoying a nice correspondence, but had never met. He too happened to be visiting Chicago. We meet in a stamp store. That has a philatelic follow thru.

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Lawrence W. Case in his famous 'Chase Bulletin' lists Newfoundland as the #2 country in his list of the 'Big Six' which will advance in price and offer the best investment. He also specifies the Newfoundland 30c Memorial College stamp, #257, to rise rapidly as soon as stocks are depleted.

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Ken Vizzard, new BNAPster and the philatelic-jeweller from Wheatley, Ontario, is going to write for *TOPICS* about his discoveries in the booklet and pane field of Canada. This should prove interesting as there is still plenty to learn. Ken now has complete booklets of the Victoria, Edward and #104.

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If anyone has any forgeries of B.N.A. for sale, or knows where they can be bought, I'd appreciate hearing from him. Anything that is bogus, fake, forgery, counterfeit, facsimile, or whatever you call it, is wanted for a reference collection. Readers to the rescue!

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For light summer reading, I offer you the following ads taken from Stanley Gibson's catalogue, 1899, Part I. "The 'Ideal' perforation gauge. The publishers claim for this Gauge many advantages which the present gauges do not possess. It is portable." I wonder what the ones looked like which were not portable!

The other ad reads as follows: "The 'Philatelist's Vade Mecum' (secured by letters patent) is an entirely new and original invention and is a 'multum in parvo' of philatelic requisite." The answer—stamp tongs!

In those days (1899) the 12d black sold for £80, the 3d beavers (laid) 7/6 and (wove) 1/6. A footnote to the 1868

Large Cents stated that the watermark in that issue is "not considered of sufficient interest to be listed separately." Oh yes, the complete set of 1897 Jubilee's were listed at 85/—!

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I hear tell that the script "R.F." overprint authorized for use by the French Naval Forces was also surcharged on Canadian stamps. Anyone know something about this. Please tell us.

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BNAPS will have its day at the 1947 show. BNAPS will have the use of the Lecture Hall at the show for a full day or at least a half day. Efforts will be made to have one of Canada's outstanding philatelic figures as guests and speaker for that day.

I'm sure that BNAPS will have a Lounge for its members and I'd suggest that we don't wait but send our contributions to the Treasurer—NOW!

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