

Trail of the Caribou

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Those of us who were apprehensive as to the future of Newfoundland stamps can now set our minds at ease if the results of the "Vowles" sale held by H. R. Harmer in London early in January can be used as a criterion.

BNAPSer Stan Wood, #221, from Auckland, New Zealand, made a rather exhaustive study of the results. According to his findings the estimated and catalogued value of the stamps ran to £7040 and the amount realized was £6508, a truly remarkable figure. Stan broke the results down a bit finer; he reports that the issued stamps catalogued £5200 by Gibbons and realized £5046. It all proves what has often been said before—good material will always bring good prices.

We can readily believe what Stan writes because we personally bid above estimate on seven items and only got one. Arthur Moll, BNAPS #68, also got one lot, the die proof of the 5c Caribou—his specialty. Stan Wood got two lots and Stanley Calder, BNAPS #326, got one. At any rate at least some of the material that formerly graced the prize winning collection of Leonard Vowles, BNAPS #403, has remained in the Society.

In the November 1948 issue of BNA TOPICS we reported the appearance of the current 10c stamp with plate #43838. We have just been advised that this stamp with this number was placed on sale June 21, 1948—better late than never.

Our correspondent in Newfoundland also advises that the 1c, 2c and 3c stamps of the current issue have appeared with new numbers. The new number on the 1c is #43965, and it was put on sale Dec. 1, 1948. The new number on the 2c stamp is #43968, and it was put on sale Dec. 10, 1948. The new number on the 3c stamp is #43967, and it was placed on sale Dec. 29, 1948. Our correspondent does not know whether a new plate was

made or whether these new numbers were placed on the old plates to designate a re-order. As soon as we get further information on this score, we will pass it on.

The philatelic world is finally beginning to appreciate the comparative rarity of the comm. perf. 13¼ varieties of the long Coronation set. We have always found this perforation variety to be the scarcest by far and our finding has been in part confirmed by a recent ad in **Stamp Collecting** which offered the 3c mint at 4/, the 8c mint at 4/6, the 15c mint at 8/6, the 24c mint at 7/6, the 3c used at 7/6 and the 10c used at 10/. Translate that into dollars at the rate of 20c a shilling and you can readily see that the asking prices are several times the catalog value of these stamps.

It is not commonly known, but there are registered envelopes on sale at St. John's and they should be part of every collection of Newfoundland Postal Stationery. They come in four sizes and are lettered as follows:

A	6½x3¾	1c
B	8x5	2c
C	9x4	3c
D	11½x6	4c

Don't say we didn't warn you. As of March 1, there are no more Newfoundland stamps on sale at the Office of the Trade Commissioner for Newfoundland in New York. Anyone now desiring to purchase Newfoundland stamps must write directly to the G. P. O. at St. John's. Our thanks to the members of the staff of the Trade Commissioner. They were very patient and gave excellent attention to all philatelists, as all who came in contact with them can testify.

Freres Meyerson will be pleased to answer any questions on Newfoundland stamps or postal history. Send your queries to the Editor for reply in BNA TOPICS.