

Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



At the recent A. S. D. A. National Postage Stamp Show held in N. Y. C. on Nov. 18, 19 and 20, we were treated to the sight of one of the finest Newfoundland collections it has been our privilege to see in the last few years. It seems as though "Jim" Sissons, a fellow BNAPSer, had just bought a very famous and outstanding collection of Newfoundland and Canada. If the Canada measures up to the standard of the Newfoundland, it is indeed a gem. We only had time to skim through the collection as we were on our way upstate, along with Arthur Moll, another BNAPSer, to open the N. Y. State deer and bear season (sorry, fellows, no venison dinner this winter—we regret to advise we never even got a shot). Our time could have been spent to better advantage trying to wheedle some of the highlights of the collection away from Jim. We have been unable to chase out of our minds superb mint copies of the 2d. and 1sh. vermilion, Scott #'s 2 and 9, followed in turn by a very nice copy of the 1d. reddish brown, Scott #16. The imperforate rose issue was represented by blocks including the scarce 2d. rose, Scott #17. From this point onward virtually all of the stamps were there in mint blocks of four; we took particular notice of two—the 5c brown Seal, Scott #25, and the 3c vermilion, Scott #33. The first provisional was exceptionally well represented with a copy of Scott #75 with red surcharge, another with red and black surcharge, and a pair with misplaced surcharge such as we first illustrated in the March 1945 BNA TOPICS. The "Guy" set was there in imperf blocks of four in addition to a block of 4 of the 1c Guy in the perf 12x11, imperf between vertically, with the NFW error in the top pair of the block. In the 1918 provisionals he showed two blocks of four of the 2c surcharge on the 60c Cabot, an essay. One of the blocks contained four regularly surcharged, the second block contained one pair with the reg-

ular surcharge and the second pair with a double surcharge. The 1920 provisionals had even better representation. The red three cent essay on the 6c Cabot was there as well as the black one. In addition the collection contained a pair of the two cent on the 30c Cabot essays with the surcharge in red, one stamp showing the variety "O" over "S." We also saw a copy of Scott #127 with inverted surcharge and another with a diagonal surcharge. Scott #128 was well represented with an inverted copy of this rarity. In the 1929 provisional, Jim showed us a single and a block of four of the invert Scott #160a. We found the airmails just as well represented as the collection contained a mint Hawker as well as another copy on flown cover. The Alcock-Brown, C2, was there in mint sheet of 25 showing the complete setting of the surcharge. However, not to be outdone, the Halifax, Scott C3, was there in exactly the same condition. In addition to the above, we also saw a pair of C3 with inverted surcharge and a block of four with a sloping surcharge. Among the odds and ends that cluttered (did we say "cluttered"!!) the collection were a block of 8 of the Dead Letter Seal, and examples of the \$2 and \$3 Transportation Tax Stamps. If you don't think these last two are rare, just ask Mr. Makepeace. All in all you can readily see that it is quite a collection. I hope Jim gives someone a chance to write up the Canadian rarities before he breaks it up for sale.

If we can believe everything we read, then the long Coronation set, Scott #'s 233-243 has been found complete in the very rare and scarce comb perf. 13¼. As we have said on numerous occasions, the comb perf is by far the scarcest of the three perfs in which the set is known. In fact a considerable number of English philatelic authors have named the 1c and 7c values in the comb perf as being among

the ten rarest of the George VI issues. No mention was ever made of the 14c value as it was unrecorded. However, in the Nov. 19, 1949, issue of **STAMP COLLECTING**, published in London, the Rigby Stamps advertises that it has a copy of the 14c value in the hitherto unknown comb perf. If one exists then there must be at least 99 others, so let's all check our copies and see if we can add to the list of 14c stamps in the comb perf.

Gleanings from the 1939 Newfoundland Post Office Circular:

1. The circular of Mar. 2, announces that a special stamp to commemorate the Royal Visit will be issued on June 17th, and will be on sale until July 31st, during which time the five cent stamp regularly in use must be withdrawn.
2. The circular of Apr. 6th, announces that Postage Due stamps of the values 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c and 10c will be issued on May 1st.
3. The circular of May 25th, advises that a special cancellation will be applied to all covers posted at St. John's and Holyrood on June 17th,

that bears the Royal Visit stamp. The Holyrood cancellation will read "ROYAL LANDING," that from St. John's "ISSUED to COMMEMORATE VISIT of THEIR GRACIOUS MAJESTIES to BRITAIN'S OLDEST COLONY."

The PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

(Estab. 1875)

is your guide to British Empire and world collecting, and keeps you up to date with latest stamp events.

— FULLY ILLUSTRATED —

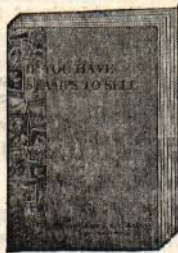
Yearly subscription \$1.50

Sample copy free on request

HARRIS PUBLICATIONS LTD.

445 Strand, London, Eng.

WE WISH TO BUY



PACKETS • COLLECTIONS
SETS • SINGLE STAMPS

As the largest wholesale stamp firm in the United States, we are constant buyers of large wholesale quantities and collections of all kinds of postage stamps.

Send us a detailed list of your offers, which will receive our prompt, careful attention. Our booklet "If You Have Stamps To Sell" will be sent free on request, (if you do not already know us); this booklet includes references and describes our business in full so that you may deal with us in complete confidence.

H. E. HARRIS & CO.

108 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass.