

# Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



G. Lewis

You may remember that in the March issue of TRAIL we discussed our recent acquisition of a plate proof block of 6 of the 24¢ blue #31 showing the major re-entry. Previously the only other example we had ever seen was another plate proof single. The other day the New York Group was hosts to the Philadelphia Group and Jim Culhane, BNAPS #280, showed us a strip of four of the stamp with a beautiful example of the major re-entry. He had purchased the strip several years ago merely because it showed the imprint.

Indicator." We are particularly anxious to see a paper that was published during the Winter months to get the complete details as to how the packets handled their mail at that time of the year.

Was Arthur Moll, BNAPS #68, surprised when we called him the other day and told him that Stan Wood of New Zealand, BNAPS #221, had sent us a block of four of the 5¢ Caribou in the Die 2, Scott #191, in the line perf. His first reaction was one of disbelief as he has examined thousands of copies and has yet to find his first. I would have concurred with him except that I had the block in my hand, had perfed it, and I had seen the gauge read 14.1x14.1. The item was first mentioned in Boggs, but that book was published in 1942 and in the intervening 9 years we had never come across an example of the line perf. Yet here it was and beyond any chance of contradiction it was an example of the line perf. It was with extreme reluctance that we put the block in an envelope and returned it to Stan. Does anyone have an example of the Die I that they think is line perf and that they would like us to check?

We've often received help from our readers in answer to some of our questions, and here we go again. Only recently we learned that the newspapers published in Newfoundland prior to 1850 carried advertisements from the local packet boats on Conception Bay giving the name of the packet, the home port, and the rate for carrying mail. We have only seen a few thus far, but those few have confirmed several facts to us and in addition they have given us the name of 4 new packets previously unrecorded. They are the "Rapid" and "Ariel" out of Brigus and the "St. Patrick" and "Native Lass" out of Carbonear. There is still plenty to learn about the subject so we would like to hear from anyone who knows where we can find copies of the following papers that were published in Newfoundland prior to 1850; "Conception Bay Mercury"; "Morning Courier & General Advertiser," "Newfoundlander," "Morning Post & Shopping Gazette," "Public Ledger & Newfoundland General Advertiser," "Royal Gazette & Newfoundland Advertiser," "Star and Newfoundland Advocate," "Times & General Commercial Gazette" and "Newfoundland

We didn't realize that it was so long but we've just checked and we first advised as to the scarcity of the comb perf Coronations in TOPICS of April 1945. We now want to advise that in our estimation the 20¢ stamp in the line perf 14¼ is a far better buy than the comb perf. We've come to our conclusions through the means of checking the want lists of several prominent collectors, and the 20¢ line perf 14¼ is on everyone of them. Take our advice and pick up this stamp if you can.