

Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



G. Lewis

Well BNAPEX '52 has been here and gone, and a grand show it was. All members of BNAPS who were not there sure missed a fine show. However, regretfully we say that the Newfoundland collectors fell down on the job as the only Newfoundland collection exhibited was that of Stan Wood of New Zealand. We were pleased, though, that his collection was so outstanding that he won one of the Silver Plates. From Stan's collection we get the answer to a question that had been bothering us for some time. The English dealers have been advertising the 2¢, Scott #186, in line perf 13.7 and 14.1. We had always had the sneaking suspicion that these line perf stamps were out of the booklets, but Stan's collection proved otherwise as he had both line perf examples and they were in the Die 1 whereas the booklet copies of #186 are always in the Die II, so we guess that the line perf stamps do really exist.

Back in January of this year we discussed the black SPECIMEN overprint on the pence issue and added the 2d rose from the Royal Collection to the list of the values reported. The other day we received a letter from Harry Nissen, the prominent English dealer, and he advises that he has in stock another copy of the 2d rose as well as a copy of the 1d Scott 15a. This last value is new to us, though Boggs does list it in his book on Newfoundland. According to our figures the only stamps still missing are the 3d, Scott 11a, the 5d Scott 12a, the 10¢, Scott #27, and the 3¢, Scott #34. The first two values are listed in Boggs, the second two values we just assume must exist. Report all findings to us.

While at Ithaca, Bill Russell, BNA-

PS #587, showed us something new. It was a mint copy of the 4¢, Scott #90, with an imperforate right margin.

Henry Gates, BNAPS #114 showed us something new in Newfoundland Postal Stationery, it was a Progress Proof or an Essay of the 2¢ Post Card, Boggs PS2. It was printed on India and mounted on a card. It differed from the issued card in that the imprint was missing as were the three lines for the address. We'll check with Clarence Brazer or Marcus White one of these days to see if they can give us any additional information.

Back in November 1947 we did an article on the CANCELLED-TO-ORDER values of the Cabot Issue, namely the 24¢, 30¢, 35¢ and 60¢. We quote from that article "In November 1920, the Postal Authorities decided to destroy the remainders of the 24¢, 30¢, 35¢ and 60¢ Cabot stamps as they had been in the vaults for 23 years and there was no further use for them. It was planned to deface the stamps and then burn them. A handstamp was used to deface the sheets. The cancellation in red was placed in the center of each block of four so that no single stamp shows more or less than a quarter of the cancellation." For some reason or other we had always believed that this red cancellation was used specifically for this one purpose. However we now have reason to believe that it was a regular cancelling device of the post office as we have recently come upon a cover franked with the 3¢ narrow bar provisional, Scott #128, used on Sept. 16, 1920, during the period of the emergency and it is cancelled with the same handstamp as were the CANCELLED-TO-ORDER Cabots.