

Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



Leave it to us Newfoundland collectors to chime in on any and all occasions with a "we too". At this moment we refer specifically to stamps perforated with initials. We know that there is increased interest in perfins in Canada and Great Britain and up until this morning we felt that Newfoundland would have to stay out of it as we only knew of one variety, the word "AYRE" perforated through the stamp diagonally from left to right. We've seen it on the stamps of the small Publicity Issue of 1923 up to and including the Coronations of 1937. Today however we came across three covers dated Aug. 6, 7 and 8, 1918, and all are franked with stamps perforated with the initials A N D standing for the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Co., Ltd. of Grand Falls. The initials form a triangle in shape with the point down, the A and the N are in either corner and the D is at the base. The stamps so initialed are Scott's Nos. 83, 105 and 108. In the case of #108 the initials are applied vertically, on the other two stamps, horizontally. Does any member have any others to report, or any other companies? We will gladly act as the Clearing House.

We guess that there must be some way of determining which pane any particular sheet came from, but if there is, we don't know the secret. We refer to the last set of Newfoundland stamps that were printed in panes of 400 and divided into 4 panes. What brought the question up is this. In one of the recent circuit books we purchased a single used copy and a used pair of the 3¢ Scott #255. The reason for the purchase was that the single and one of the pair have a scratch about halfway down the left stroke of the "W" in

Newfoundland. Since we have several sheets of this stamp we decided to try and position this variety. We found it all right but it was on only one of five sheets we examined and was position #29. What we want to know, is how can we tell which on the four panes has the variety in stamp #29. Our sheets have full margins if that is any help.



Two covers of a patriotic nature have previously been recorded in TOPICS, the first by Alec MacMaster in the April '52 issue and the second by J. Harvey Westren in the June '52 issue. Both of these patriotic covers had the Royal Family as the subject and both were used in 1899. Now we illustrate a third that has just come into our possession but unlike the others it never did postal duty and it was not made up until 1901. It was destined for registry duty and is so marked. The tablet under the 1¢, Scott #80, reads "Our Late Queen", while the tablet under the 2¢, Scott #82, reads "King Edward VII". For the first time though we learn who the artist is as our cover bears a printed inscription "Copyright by E. Krippner, P. O. B. 481, St. John's, N. F."

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