

Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



DURING THE latter part of October 1954 Irwin Heiman, the New York auctioneer, held an auction at which two 20th century Newfoundland imperforates were offered for sale. A horizontal pair imperforate vertically of the 8c Long Coronation realized \$200 and an imperforate pair of the 4c Elizabeth sold for \$105.

* * *

Nelson Bond's superlative book on postal stationery, "The Postal Stationery of Canada", (Newfoundland included), has certainly stimulated interest in that subject. Now that a complete and comprehensive list exists, more and more collectors are turning to that field. There is one variety, rather moderately priced, that seems to be missing from the collections of most of our correspondents. We refer specifically to the 1892 paid reply card for use within the Universal Postal Union. The variety known as Bond NFC1 is comparatively common, but NFC2 is another breed of pups. We have no idea as to the relative quantities printed, but we do know that the latter variety is far scarcer than the slight difference in catalogue price would indicate. Used copies of either NFC1 or NFC2 are virtually unobtainable, particularly used prior to 1900.

* * *

Tom R. Hutton (BNAPS 1080) of London, England, has submitted a used copy of the 3c Queen Victoria (Scott No. 49) with a black "3" handstamped across the face. This is another variety to be added to the list we published some months ago. Tom has also sent along for examination a flight cover that is unlisted in the Dalwick and Harmer book. It seems to be an extension of a flight about which very little is known, as Dalwick and Harmer, in describing the flight, state that no press record seems to

exist. It is their belief that on March 11, 1922, Capt. V. S. Bennett, a contemporary of Maj. Cotton, took off from St. John's for Twillingate and the Fogo District. Covers are known cancelled at Twillingate on March 11 and at Fogo on March 12. This cover in question is cancelled with a straight line "HERRING NECK", dated March 11, 1922. Since Herring Neck is halfway between Twillingate and Fogo, it is reasonable to assume that the plane made a stop enroute from Twillingate to Fogo.

* * *

Dr. Allan Wilkinson (BNAPS 935) is in with the answer to our query of October concerning the AYRE & SONS, LTD. cancellation on the 2c Caribou (Scott No. 116). Allan wrote directly to the concern involved and received the following reply, from which we quote: "So far as I know, this cancellation was used exclusively for stamped receipts, and this particular stamp must have been cancelled prior to 1924, since with the pictorial issue of that date we started to use a perforating machine, which we continued to use until Confederation, when stamps on receipts were no longer required." The letter is signed "Lewis Ayre", a director of the company in question. We learn two things from Mr. Ayre's letter, firstly, the cancellation was undoubtedly a revenue cancellation and not at all in the nature of a precancel, and secondly, this will interest the perfin collectors as we are told rather authoritatively that the AYRE perforation did not make its appearance until 1924. We know of a copy of the 4c Caribou (Scott No. 118) with this perforation, but we can now say quite definitely that it was perforated and used after 1924. Thank you, Dr. Wilkinson, for clearing up this matter.

(Continued on Page 14)

Bringing News About People and Stamps

By REV. JOHN S. BAIN (BNAPS 19)

FOR PURPOSES of keeping the record straight, I would draw the attention of the Perfin Study Group to their column as edited by R. J. Woolley, appearing in TOPICS for November 1954, concerning the "only perfin so far noted on the Map" stamp. This statement is not accurate. The Canada 1898 Map stamp is also known with the perfin W.J.G., which is that of the Toronto book-sellers, W. J. Gage & Co. Copies are known in which the perfin appears horizontally and also vertically. If you have any others, let the Perfin Study Group know about them.

BNAPS

Writing a monthly column brings the ups and downs, the joys and the sorrows. On the "downs" and "sorrows" I shall not dwell. One of the "joys" is the many faithful readers who write in and contribute pieces of information from time to time. Such a person is BNAPSer E. Rushton, who writes to share with me enclosing three sheets 8¾ x 11 inches, with diagram sketches showing the "Flow Sheet for Sulphite Paper Mill", "Flow Sheet for Soda Pulp Mill" and "Flow Sheet for Paper Mill" respectively. These are published by Howard Smith Paper Mills Ltd., Cornwall Division. I mention them because they are the ideal presentation for a club talk on paper. Suggest that you try and obtain a set. My thanks to BNAPSer Rushton for his sharing, that I in turn might share it with BNAPS.

BNAPS

For those collectors of Royal Train items I ran across a card which was new to me. It has a purple cachet reading CANADA/and/UNITED STATES/join to/WELCOME /the/ROYAL VISITORS. The cancellation is also in purple, circular, and reads Transfer Office/Jun/7/1939/9:30 p.m./Suspension Bridge, N.Y. Handwritten on the message side of the card appears: "Royal Train just crossed this Bridge. Official Welcoming at

this station". Much of this Royal Train material is being keenly sought after, and apart from the very common covers, it is extremely difficult to find.

BNAPS

Had the opportunity a few weeks ago of going through an accumulation of covers mailed from the Canadian Philatelic Agency in Ottawa, in the late 1920's and early 30's. It was amazing to see the variety of postage that was used in these mailings! In fact, I am inclined to believe that this was not regular procedure! Usually the current stamps are used, not ones that date back to 1917!

BNAPS

Start to work now on those philatelic projects for 1955. Another new year will then add to your enjoyment of stamps, instead of slipping away with much left undone that finally becomes a burden. Plan your exhibit for BNAPEX in '55. ★

TRAIL—From Page 13

That was a nice piece that Henry Gates (BNAPS 114) showed us recently. It was a proof of the vignette used for the Newfoundland dog on the stamps, Scott 56-58. The proof in question is in black on thick white card and measures approximately 2 inches by 2 inches, and is several times the size it actually appeared on the stamp, so that the piece in question is probably more correctly termed an essay. Maybe some of the members of the Essay-Proof Society may be able to give us the correct terminology. ★

INDEX TO VOLUME 11

The Index to Volume 11 of BNA TOPICS bound into the centre of this issue, can easily be removed for binding purposes without damaging the remainder of the magazine.