

Trail of the Caribou

By DAN MEYERSON (BNAPS L3)



JIM CULHANE, BNAPS 280, of Norriston, Pa., has certainly come up with four nice covers that are really difficult to come by. In the mail from Jim recently we received four covers for inspection, and all of them had postage due stamps affixed. Genuinely used postage dues from Newfoundland are extremely scarce, and at one time we tried to get them and were unsuccessful. Jim's four covers are very interesting—the first is a local letter posted at St. John's for delivery in St. John's, without any stamps at all. This letter was taxed 4 cents and bears the 4c postage due stamp to show the regular rate of 2 cents and the penalty of 2 cents. The second letter is somewhat similar except that it is a letter from out of the city addressed to St. John's. The regular rate is 4 cents and since there are no stamps on the envelope, it was taxed 8 cents and has four copies of the 2c postage due to cover the 4-cent rate and the penalty of 4 cents. The third cover is a part-paid cover from out of the city and it bears a 1c postage stamp. Since the rate was 4 cents, it is 3 cents underpaid and as a result bears three copies of the 2c postage due to cover the 3 cent deficiency plus the 3-cent penalty. The last is a registered cover and is franked with a 4c postage due stamp. Since the registry rate is 9 cents, the discrepancy is covered by a 5c postage due stamp though in this instance no penalty is charged.

Back in November 1954, we reported the existence of the 7c Queen Mary, Scott 247, in imperforate condition. At that time we had no idea as to the asking price. Now in "Stamp Collecting" for December 2, 1955, we find a listing by Ritchie Bodily, a London dealer, that offers a mint imperforate pair for sale at £30.

As usual we Newfoundland collectors always try to get into the act. In the October issue of TOPICS, Nelson Bond, BNAPS 84, discussed the Pictorial Postcards of the Grand Trunk Railway System of Canada.

Now we have a letter from N. W. Scales, BNAPS 1058, of Evansville, Ind., that puts Newfoundland right into the picture. Mr. Scales sends along three pictorial Newfoundland postcards, two of one type and one of another. Since the scenes are numbered we told Mr. Scales we would ask all our readers to let us know if they have any additional scenes. The first two, which are in color, are printed by Dicks & Co., St. John's, Newfoundland. A photo of an iceberg with the caption "A Monarch of the North, Nfld." is listed as No. 1223, and No. 1230 shows a photo of a whale on a dock with the caption, "Humpback Whale on the Slip at Balena, Nfld." The third card in grey or sepia is put out by Gray & Goodland and the example we looked at (No. 31) bears the caption, "Wabana Iron Mine, Bell Island." In order to help, I should add that all these cards were used early in 1905. I would like to hear from any member having any other numbers. Please write giving number and caption.

Tom R. Hutton, BNAPS 1080, of London, England, sends in an interesting cancellation. He submits a copy of the 4c Coronation, Scott No. 231, with a "466" numeral cancellation. Our explanation is that it is a paquebot cancellation applied at Liverpool, England, as that is the number originally assigned to Liverpool, and undoubtedly still in use.

Walter Chadbourne, BNAPS 100, of Wilmington, Del., submits an interesting item for all perfin collectors. It is a copy of the 15c Cabot, Scott No. 70, with the AYRE perfin reading down and to the right. This is the earliest Scott number we have seen with a perfin, possible only because these stamps remained at the post office until the 1920's. Thank you, Walter.

John G. Momy, a new member, submits two later dates of use of CAPO No. 4 and No. 5 than published in the January issue

of TRAIL. Mr. Momy lists Sept. 14, 1945, for CAPO No. 4, and Sept. 12, 1945, for CAPO No. 5. Both of these new dates are about six weeks older than the ones previously recorded. We also note an error in our January column—the last CAPO listed is No. 6 and instead it should be CAPO No. 10. Please make necessary corrections.

Dr. Allan A. Wilkinson, BNAPS 835, of Old Perlican, Nfld., is in with a very nice cover that adds to our knowledge concerning Newfoundland "MORE TO PAY" cancellations. In the September 1955 issue of TRAIL we discussed three types of "MORE TO PAY" cancels and recorded that Type 3 had been seen on a cover dated Apr. 15, 1896. The cover that Dr. Wilkinson submitted went from St. John's to Harbor Grace and is postmarked on Mar. 26, 1917. The face of the cover bears the Type 3 "MORE TO PAY" cancel and extends our dates from 1896 to 1917.

Two more corrections to our list of CAPO dates first published in the January issue of TRAIL and supplemented in the March issue. This time N. W. Scales finds that he has a CAPO No. 4 cover dated April 5, 1943, which is a little more than two months prior to our previously recorded earliest date. The second correction is sent in by W. L. Gutzman, BNAPS 1300, of Strathmore, Quebec, who was stationed at Goose Bay, Labrador, in 1946. He reports that the name of the post office was changed from CAPO No. 10 to Goose Bay on April 1, 1946, and that on that one day only the two cancels were used concurrently, CAPO No. 10 on regular mail and the Goose Bay strike on registered mail. Mr. Gutzman also sends along two covers that illustrate his point. We want to thank Mr. Gutzman for supplying a definite closing date for CAPO No. 10 and we are in hopes that eventually the same information will turn up for the other CAPO post offices.

Still another addition to our CAPO list, this one from Stan Wood, BNAPS 221, Auckland, New Zealand. Stan sends in a later date for use of CAPO No. 2 than has previously been recorded. Stan has it in use on July 24, 1945, almost seven and a half months after the previous record of use.

At an auction held by Harmer, Rooke & Co., of New York, on January 26, 1956, some excellent prices were realized for the 19th century Newfoundland that they offered for sale. A very fine copy of the 2d

scarlet vermilion, Scott No. 2, with three very nice margins and one close margin, was finally knocked down for \$370 against a catalogue valuation of \$450. A superb used copy of the 4d scarlet vermilion, Scott No. 4, sold for \$250. A bisected 8d scarlet used as a 4d on cover to Baltimore went very reasonably at \$180. It is seldom that we see this item sold at less than \$200. A fairly nice copy of the 1/- scarlet vermilion, Scott No. 9, in used condition, realized \$310. In the orange vermilion classification, a used 4d, Scott No. 12, with three good margins and one close, brought a price of \$70, whereas a very fine used copy of the 6d, Scott No. 13, sold for \$65. A copy of the 1/-, Scott No. 15, described as clear margins all around and light cancel, didn't stop until it reached \$400. A fine o.g. block of the 24c, Scott No. 31, sold for \$14.50, or \$2.50 over catalogue.

A new booklet pane variety, variously reported on previous occasions, has been verified by Dr. Willan, BNAPS No. 568, Lancashire, England, author of that very fine column, "Newfoundland Corner", a regular feature of Maple Leaves. Some years ago, Tom Hutton, BNAPS 1080, London, England, wrote in to report that he had a pane of four of the 2c rose, Scott No. 185, that were comb perf. 13.3x13.3 instead of line perf. 13.1x13.1, as were all the previous booklet panes. At that time we thought that Tom either had a counterfeit or that he had perfed the pane incorrectly, and thought no more about it. But now, no less an authority than Dr. Willan writes that he has a complete example of the booklet and all three panes of the 2c rose are comb perfed instead of line perfed. Our apologies to Mr. Hutton, and we are pleased to report a new Newfoundland variety. ★

'TWINS' SOLD

• **The celebrated pair** of the Canada 7½d green of 1857, with the PEMBINA (North Dakota) cancellation (written up in BNA TOPICS, June 1954), was sold for \$1,000 though it catalogues only \$240 in a B.N.A. auction held recently by Harmer, Rooke.

These rejoined, used-in-the-U.S. "twins" had been cut apart and lost to each other for 30 years when the late Dr. Lewis Re-ford discovered in 1936 that a 7½d with "—BINA" cancel in his collection was the mate of a 7½d with "PEM—" cancel in the album of the late Col. John S. O'Meara.