

# Trail of the Caribou

By DAN MEYERSON (BNAPS L3)



**D**R. ALLAN WILKINSON (No. 935) of Old Perlican, Newfoundland, who was in large part responsible for our writing the "Postage Paid" and "Paid All" article that appeared in the March issue of TOPICS, is in with some additions to the list. The first (which we will call Fig. 10) is struck in black on an undated cover and we would hazard the opinion that it was used some time between 1920 and 1940. The interesting thing to note is that the word NEWFOUNDLAND is missing from the handstamp. The next handstamp (Fig. 11) is struck in black on a cover posted at Trinity on Dec. 16, 1940, and addressed to Carbonear. It is the only handstamp that seems to have its origin outside of St. John's.

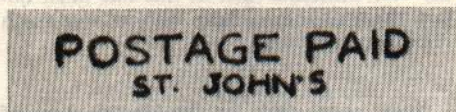


FIG. 10

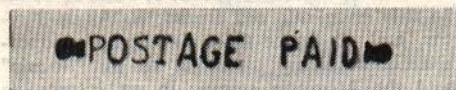


FIG. 11

**Dr. Wilkinson also submits** the earliest Labrador strike that we have ever seen. It is a closed circle 24½ mm. in circumference with the date in three lines in the centre. The lower part of the circle is indistinct but may possibly be an abbreviation of Newfoundland. The cover was postmarked at Labrador on Jul. 27, 1882, and received at Twillingate, its destination, on Aug. 7, 1882. This predates our earliest previous Labrador cancellation by about 15 years. Does any reader have an earlier postmark?

**In the H. R. Harmer auction** held in New York on March 20, 1956, there were two

lots of interest to the Newfoundland specialist. The first was an imperforate vertical pair of the 3 cent Scott 83 (listed in Gibbons as No. 88b) and it went at the very reasonable price of \$15.50. The second item was a block of nine of the 10 cent Postage Due on watermarked paper (Scott J6) with three vertical pairs imperforate between and the lower right stamp of the block of nine (3x3) with the POSTAGE LUE error. This is the first time to our knowledge that this block has been sold at public auction, all previous sales having been made privately by the finders of the three sheets with the vertical pairs imperforate between, Stanley Stamp Co. Ltd., of Vancouver, B.C. It was interesting, therefore, to note that the block realized \$87.50, a price that we thought reasonable.

**This seem to be B.N.A. month** at H. R. Harmer, because on April 10 they had an auction solely of B.N.A. material. There were only 32 Newfoundland lots, but they really were high powered. Among the items offered for sale was a fine-appearing used copy of the 2d. scarlet vermilion (Scott 2) with a slight thin. Didn't seem to effect the bidding much, though, because the stamp went to \$180 before it was sold. A used copy of the 5d. brown violet (Scott 5) brought \$36, and a fine large-margined copy of the 6d. (Scott 6) with a smudge cancellation, went very cheaply at \$155, just a bit over half catalogue. A fresh unused copy of the 1/- scarlet vermilion (Scott 9) with three boardwalk margins and one fair margin, but described as slightly creased, didn't stop until it reached \$700. Not bad for a stamp without gum and creased! A used copy of the same stamp in very fine condition went over full catalogue when it was finally knocked down at \$420 against a catalogue valuation of \$400. Amongst the oranges a superb used copy of the 2d. (Scott 11) realized \$67.50, and an o.g. copy

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