

# Trail of the Caribou

By DAN MEYERSON (BNAPS L3)



**J**IM SISSONS, in his Sept. 25 sale, sold two interesting Newfoundland items. As they are not often offered for sale, it is interesting and illuminating to learn the prices realized. A mint corner sheet margin copy of the Officially Sealed stamp on blue paper realized \$27, while a well centered, lightly cancelled copy of the \$20 Queen Victoria revenue stamp with two perfs. short at the bottom, went for \$35.

**Bill Pollitz**, BNAPS No. 763, Boston, Mass., had some nice Newfoundland items in his Oct. 19 sale, and they realized very fair prices. Two gummed perforated proofs of the 2c Scott No. 24, from the Trade Sample sheet, brought \$19.50 and \$20.50 each. Five copies of gummed perforated proofs of the 5c Scott No. 25 sold for \$19.50 and a sixth went for \$20. The essay of the 10c Prince Consort, Scott No. 27, with 'Five' in the value tablet instead of 'Ten', realized \$45. Six gummed perforated proofs of the 10c from the same Trade Sample sheet went to the highest bidder at \$30 each while two copies of the 13c, Scott No. 30, in the same condition were knocked down at \$19.50 each. An item of postal stationery that is seldom seen, a used portion of the Post and Reply card, Bond No. NCH1, didn't stop until it reached \$7.25.

**The price** of the 3c, Scott No. 246, in the line perf. 14.1, seems to be on the way up, at least the asking price is. Last month we reported that an English dealer was asking £25 for the stamp in mint condition and in the Oct. 25 issue of Stamp Collecting, Bridger & Kay Ltd. of London, list the stamp at £27 10s—a new high. At the same time, they also quote the 15c, Scott No. 195, in line perf. 14.1, at 30/-, the 20c, Scott No. 196, at £6, and the 25c, Scott No. 197, at £5.

**Paging Arthur Moll!** The Nov. 23 issue of 'Stamps' contains an advertisement from the firm of E. Beaver, 3 Bloomsbury St., London W.C.1, England, offering for sale

an upper left corner block of the 5c Caribou, Scott No. 191, in imperforate condition: Imperforate blocks of this stamp are not too rare but upper left blocks are because that is the block that contains the plate number and this one has the small '3' to denote the plate it is from. The asking price is \$110, and if Arthur doesn't take it we would be tempted to purchase it ourselves. A word to Stan Wood of New Zealand: "The reason you weren't notified of the offer is that we happen to know that just such a block is already part of your collection. We saw it among the pages of your exhibit that won the silver medal at BNAPEX-57."

**I guess it was** just a matter of time. Away back in the early 1940s when we were just starting to build up a Newfoundland philatelic library, one of the first periodicals we picked up was the June 1930 issue of the 'Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.' The reason for the acquisition was the article, "Varieties Unchronicled, Uncatalogued, or Not Generally Known" by A. J. Sefi. Two of the varieties mentioned were Newfoundland items. The first was a variety of the 12c Scott Nos. 28, 28a and 29, which was amply covered by us in the March 1953 issue of TOPICS. The second was another breed of pups—it was a re-entry on the 13c ship, Scott No. 30, and we've been looking for it ever since. The other day we spotted it as one of a group of three copies of No. 30 being offered for sale, and we bought the lot and took the time to examine the re-entry and report on it. The most readily recognizable feature of the re-entry shows to the right of the bow of the ship as a spot of color directly below the juncture of the two front sails. The second feature, and this one needs a glass, is a duplication of the circle around the left '13'. The duplication exists slightly to the right. There are further signs of duplication in the figures of value at the left and also in the words of the value at the bottom. ★