



Type 46 (Old Type 29)

**TYPE 46—PORT ARTHUR**

176 (160) Port Arthur Mar. 1, 1934 June 27, 1934 (H) ..... 1.25- 3.00

(To be continued)

# Trail of the Caribou

By DAN MEYERSON (BNAPS L3)



SOME YEARS AGO, in fact during BNAPEX '57 in Philadelphia, I attended an auction run by Earl Apfelbaum and came home with a miscellaneous lot of Newfoundland that I purchased because the cancel on one stamp intrigued me. However, the cancel was so odd that I never wrote it up because I wasn't sure that it wasn't made in some youngster's cellar. It was like nothing I had ever seen before. Just recently, though, I received a letter from Bill Russell (BNAPS 587), Melrose, Mass., and he sent along a few items for my inspection. One of them was a copy of the 3c, Scott No. 51, with the identical cancel. Now we don't know what it is, but we are in hopes that some member may have it on cover and be able to give some hint as to its origin. The stamp on the left is the one in my collection, and the one on the right the one that Bill Russell sent in.



It has been several years since we last mentioned Newfoundland perfins in this column, but N. W. Scales (BNAPS 1058), Evanville, Ind., is in with a nice piece certainly worth reporting. He submits a copy of the 12c Caribou, Scott No. 123, a nice stamp in its own right, with the AND perfin. The strike is reading downward from right to left.

That was a nice item that Stan Wood (BNAPS 221), Auckland, New Zealand, sent along the other day. It was a copy of the 1c, Scott No. 41, struck with the "PAID ALL" cancel in the 24 mm. circle that was used as a provisional cancel during the shortage of stamps during the latter part of 1897.

And still they rise! It may be the proximity of the London International as this is being written two months before the big show, or it may be that collectors are truly beginning to appreciate the scarcity of B.N.A. covers, Newfoundland in particular. At the "W. S. Davy" sale held in London by H. R. Harmer Ltd., on May 10, some new records were established for Newfoundland covers. A superb large margined copy of the 4d scarlet, Scott No. 4, used on letter wrapper to New York during 1859 was sold by the auctioneer at £600, while a bisect of the 8d scarlet on one of the

"Tucker" letters brought the handsome figure of £250, well above any previous record. A seldom seen example of the bisected 10c, Scott No. 27, used on cover from Ferryland to Nova Scotia during 1866 realized £400 against the original cost of £36 some 30 years ago. What bothers us is that we were around collecting Newfoundland even then, but we must have bought the wrong items.

A matter that has bothered us for years was just brought back into focus as we thumbed our way through the auction catalogue of the sale to be run by Irwin Heiman on June 9, 1960, in New York. The item in question is the 3c on 6c surcharge in black, Scott No. 160c. This stamp, as well as No. 160b, are only trial color overprints. Why are they dignified with a catalogue listing while those of the 1920 Provisionals are not? Excuses might be found why the "THREE CENT" on 6c Cabot, Scott No. 66, is omitted because the overprint finally appeared on the 15c value, Scott No. 70. If that is the reason, what reason is there for omitting the "TWO CENTS" on 30c Cabot, Scott No. 72, in red. It is the exact overprint that appeared on Scott No. 127,

and it is on the same stamp. Personally we feel that neither should be in the catalogue and we would like to know how we go about getting this done. However, with our usual luck, instead of getting Scott Nos. 160b and 160c removed, we will probably wind up with the color trial of Scott No. 127 listed.

Very often the sight of an item makes you realize certain facts that, while always present, were not recognized previously. Just the other day we were offered a postally used block of 10 (2x5) of the 5c roulette, Scott No. 40, which we immediately purchased and it was only then that we realized that in all our years we had never previously seen a used block of any of the roulettes of this issue. Mint blocks of all are known, and those of the 2c and 5c are not too uncommon, but used blocks are something else again. Our collection contains used pairs of all but the 2c, Scott No. 88, and we have two used vertical strips of five of the 5c, but used blocks—never! We would be interested in hearing from anyone who has large used multiples of the stamps of this issue—let's find out how scarce they really are. ★



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