

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

**Your 1985 dues notice was included
with the LAST issue of TOPICS.
Deadline for payment is December
31, 1984. Please act now
if your dues are still unpaid.**

Annual Dues — \$18 CDN. Send to BNAPS, c/o John Graper, Assistant
Secretary, P.O. Box 4200, Delaware City, DE 19706.

The felicitations were selected for gold award winners after the Grand Award had been awarded.

I am happy to state that in the last decade the award level of exhibits in BNAPS shows has increased dramatically. It was a pleasure to judge this particular show. It should be noted that the sponsors chose to follow the APS and RPSC and hold a critique after the awards had been posted. This is a most favorable advancement, and should be a MUST for future shows. It is the forum where exhibitors who are either displeased with their award, or wish to learn how they can upgrade their present exhibit, can present their case and receive a hearing. If unhappy exhibitors do not care to be present at the critique and voice their dissatisfaction, they have missed the chance to complain and all future pleas of discomfort will be overlooked. Later growlings to the judges can only serve to demean the exhibitor without intimidating the judges.

Another point of contention was the award to an exhibit that had been accepted by the sponsors, for which the exhibitor had paid his fee. One member felt that the exhibit was not philatelic. It should be pointed out that the judges are duty bound to judge ALL EXHIBITS. The judges are not given the option of discarding an exhibit accepted by the sponsors.

Exhibitors who frequently show the same exhibit, even if it has appeared in different shows over a period of time, run the risk of having one or more of the judges becoming overly familiar with its strengths and/or weaknesses. Thus the exhibit may be graded higher or lower as the

familiarity grows. The same effect may be had where the level of the show changes. What may be a gold in a Local show, can turn out to be a silver in a National show.

Presentation is also a factor. Garish or ostentatious presentations run the risk of offending a judge. While the effect may be subjective and points are not deleted because of the prejudice, the effect may be to lower the rating that the exhibit could be getting. One basic No/No from the point of view of the sponsor or the judges is to leave a blank described space on a page. One does not know whether the item has become detached or lost. In the case of the judges, it calls their attention to a missing item which may or may not be important. Neatness in presentation and uncrowded organization are positive factors that can influence the award.

I was impressed with the quality of the exhibits at San Francisco. Here's to having more like that show in the future.

Robert H. Pratt
Chairman of the Jury

NEWFOUNDLAND PLATE FAULT REQUEST

In his publication *The Last Stamps of Newfoundland* (Robson Lowe, 1978) John Ayshford includes a description of the major plate faults of the known plates. In an ongoing study of the usage of the five cent caribou stamps, I have identified seven of the eight major plate faults listed by Ayshford for the plate number 41419 from which there were two printings in 1942.

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The elusive fault is that described as occurring in position 16, "a dot above the first tree at right". The description itself is ambiguous, not only because one doesn't know whether to count the trees "at right" from the left or from the right, but also because there is a very small tree at left of the group which could easily be overlooked. I now have about four candidates for the position 16 fault, but each one of them could be a mere printing flaw which occurred only once. Would any TOPICS reader who possesses established examples of the position 16 plate fault please be kind enough to get in touch with me with a view

to letting me see the specimen(s) and make good photographs of the fault? My address is 392½ Markham St., Toronto, Ont. M6G 2K9.

Derek Paul

PEI STUDY GROUP

We are in the process of starting a Prince Edward Island Study Group. Anyone interested in joining (dues are \$5 US) or receiving more information should contact me at 2918 Cheshire Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810.

Jim Lehr

NOTES

SAN FRANCISCO SPURS FIVE NEW STUDY GROUPS

Study Group Coordinator John Burnett has announced that, as a result of discussions at BNAPLEX '85, five new study groups are in the process of forming.

The five, with contacts, are: Legislative Postmarks — Barry Shapiro, Box 9865, College Station, TX 77840; Postage Dues — Cal Cole, 3839 Ezie St., San Jose, CA 95111; Newfoundland — C. A. Stillions, 5031 Eskridge Terrace N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016; Roller Cancels — Nancie Rabe, Box 1106, Clearfield, PA 16830; Large Queens — Joe Di Ciommo, 414 Upper Ottawa St., Hamilton, Ont. L8T 3T1. Any member interested in any of these groups should write the contact person right away.

Burnett commented that he was extremely pleased with the response of knowledgeable BNAPSers to his request to form more groups, and mentioned that he hoped to see even more interest, especially from collectors of Twentieth Century material.

It only requires five BNAPSers to form a study group. Many areas still require representation, including: Jubilees, Maple Leaf, Numeral, Edward VII, Quebec Tercentenary, Admirals, other George V issues, George VI issues, Exhibition Covers, Registration, Key Cities Postal Histories, and many more too numerous to mention here.

If you have an interest, why not try to support our Society and its members by contacting John at 757 Parkwood St., Sidney, Ohio

45365.

1984 CANADA CHRISTMAS SEALS PROOFS AVAILABLE

The six different designs of Canada's 1984 Christmas Seals will be available in a sheet of 6 x 4 seals, a sheet of 8 parcel tags or address labels, or as a set of 54 different progressive colour proofs in 9 different colour combinations. The sets of proofs may be ordered for a minimum donation of \$15 from the Ontario Lung Association, 573 King St. E., Toronto, Ont. M5A 1M5. The 'Collector's Edition' should be specified.

MANCHEE TO EDIT JOURNAL, KILLING- LEY TAKES OVER MAPLE LEAVES

Eric B. Manchee of Ottawa has been named to succeed Dr. Robert C. Smith as Editor of the Postal History Society of Canada *JOURNAL*, effective with the first issue in 1985.

On the other side of the pond, Eric Killingley has succeeded Lionel Gillam as Editor of *Maple Leaves*, the journal of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

In congratulating his fellow editors, *TOPICS*' Editor Mike Street stated categorically that he was not contemplating changing his first name.

CANADA'S 1985 STAMP PROGRAM

Canada Post Corporation's 1985 stamp program, announced on August 31, has already seen two additions. The tentative program is: