

Study Group Centreline

David Whiteley

Vice-President for Study Groups: Douglas Lingard, 2425 Blackstone Cr., Ottawa, ON K1B 4H3

Study Group Reporter: David Whiteley, Apt. 605, 77 Edmonton St., Winnipeg, MB R3C 4H8

Study Groups

Admirals: Bill Longley, 155 Hillcrest Ave., #1203, Mississauga, ON L5B 3Z2

Air Mail: Basil Burrell, 911 Huckleberry Lane, Glenview, IL 60025

B.C. Postal History: Bill Topping, 7430 Angus Drive, Vancouver, BC V6B 5K2

BNA Perfins: Steve Koning, R.R.1, Bloomfield, ON K0K 1G0

Centennial Definitives: Leonard Kruczynski, 19 Petersfield Place, Winnipeg, MB R3T 3V5

Duplex Cancellations of BNA: Robert A. Lee, 203-1139 Sutherland Ave., Kelowna, BC V1Y 5Y2

Elizabethan: John D. Arn, N. 17708 Saddle Hill Rd., Colbert, WA 99005

Fancy Cancels: Dave Lacelle, 369 Fullerton Ave., Ottawa, ON K1K 1K1

Flag Cancels: John G. Robertson, 10 Pergola Rd., Rexdale, ON M9W 5K5

Military Mail: Bill Bailey, #5 - 8191 Francis Rd, Richmond, BC V6Y 1A5

Newfoundland: John Butt, 264 Hamilton Ave., St. John's, NF A1E 1J7

Philatelic Literature: Paul M. Burega, 16 Aldgate Cres., Nepean, ON K2J 2G4

Postal Stationery: Steven Whitcombe, 334 Old York Road, New Cumberland, PA 17070-3135

Re-Entries: undergoing reorganization; for further information contact Douglas Lingard, 2425 Blackstone Cr., Ottawa, ON K1B 4H3

Revenues: Bill Rockett, 540 Overlook Ave., Willow Grove, PA 19090

R.P.O.s: William G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V6M 3A7

Slogan Cancels: Daniel G. Rosenblat, 5300 Edgeview Drive, Byron, CA 94514

Large and Small Queens: Ron Ribler, P.O. Box 22911, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335

Squared Circles: Jack Gordon, 2364 Gallant Fox Ct., Reston, VA 20191-2611

Transatlantic Mail: Malcolm Montgomery, 76 Glen Eyre Road, Bassett, Southampton SO2 3NL
England

On The Fringes

Easter is upon us and philatelists will be thinking of spring excepting those who live in the frigid prairie provinces, where winter is still upon us. The coming of spring means that there will be many calls on our spare time: houses, gardens and other outdoor activities will take up much of our time, and stamps will be put away for rainy days. From a collector's and columnist's perspective the winter has been a busy one, with lots of activity and lots of newsletters.

Two editions of the *Newfie Newsletter* are to hand, November/December '96 and January/February '97. Both editions contain a continuation of Kevin O'Reilly's listing of Labrador Postmarks. There is an interesting article on the Newfoundland 1920 2¢ on 30¢ slate (Scott #127) by Norris Dyer, who poses a number of interesting questions on the printing of the overprint and earliest and latest postmarks. There is also a nice illustration of a 1925 British Empire Exhibition Cover from the late C. Francis Rowe, a long time member of the study group. Then are a number of very short pieces covering various topics including a piece from the Douglas Campbell collection illustrating the Trinity Paid Handstamp 1851-64, a question about a postcard from the APEX International Air Post Exhibition - London 1934, an example of a St. John's Money Order canceller used to cancel a postcard to France (1907). Horace Harrison illustrates a 2¢ U.P.U postal stationery reply

card half, sent from St. John's to Halifax September 1, 1930, with a further meter 2¢ handstamp added. Horace would like to know why the extra 2¢ for a U.P.U. postcard? Two further items include a 1972 St John's BNAPS Exhibition cover and a short piece on printings of the 1¢ 1903 Newfoundland pre-stamped postcards.

The *BNA PERFORATOR* for January '97 contains its first "auction only" format with 380 lots offered for sale, however by the time this reaches you the sale will be over, as the closing date was March 7th. A late arrival is the Flag cancel group's newsletter *The Flag Pole* for June 1996. Although much of the news has been reported elsewhere, there are still interesting articles on various types flag cancels on Jubilees and also on the ENLIST NOW flag cancel used during the Second World War. The January edition of the same journal with its new editor, Michael Rixon, has arrived (welcome Mike). In an article by Geoff Newman, this edition contains further information on the Bickerdike machines used in Montreal July - August 1897. There is also an update on the ENLIST NOW flags using illustrations from Cecil Coutts book. Doug Lingard contributes an article entitled "Why was the Montreal Type 8 Die II Obliterator Replaced." Possible explanations are discussed. *The Slogan Box* for January/February '97 is taken up with a long article on the OBSERVE SUNDAY/OBSERVEZ LE DIMANCHE slogan cancel used between 1929-1969. Doug Lingard reports the discovery of an unreported 1939 slogan which reads NEWMARKET/OLD BOYS REUNION/JUNE - - -/. This slogan is on a commercial cover with a Newmarket June 31st 1939 date stamp. Another rare slogan reported by Doug Lingard is also illustrated. This is the CANADIAN GOODS/ ARE BEST slogan used as early as 1925. Steve Friedenthal closes out the newsletter with an update of slogan, commemorative and pictorial hand stamps.

It is with pleasure that I report two newsletters from the rejuvenated Large Queen/Small Queen group under the Banner "*CONFEDERATION*." The January edition starts off in great style with an illustration of a "Mystery Cross Border Cover!" sold at Christie's Ishikawa Sale in 1993 for \$5,980. The letter in question is double franked the correct overseas rate to England with both Canadian and American stamps. The question posed: was this a genuine cross border cover? From the replies published in the March newsletter the overwhelming consensus to date, for a variety of reasons, is no, and that Christie's description of the cover was in error. The consensus is that this letter was either carried across the border by the sender and posted in the United States, or was carried by favour to Boston where it was posted, as these would be the only two reasons for the presence of the American stamps. Roy Sass then contributes a piece which he calls his favourite cover. This I believe could be a subject on which to build a regular feature as I am sure we all have favourite covers. The January edition closes with a question and answer column. John Hillson contributed a number of items to the March edition. One provides comments on a 6¢ Small Queen die proof which was offered for auction by Firby on Feb.6 1997, and which John believes for a number of reasons to be a fake. John also agrees with the general consensus on the cross border cover. There is a short piece by Guenter Jansen entitled "So What's a Half-Cent Stamp Good For, Anyway, along with an illustration of a printed commercial flyer stamped with a half-cent stamp sent as a bulk mailing in 1881.

The R.P.O. Cowcatcher for January '97 contains a number of Newfoundland views and a piece by Don Wilson illustrating the Newfoundland Railway mail steamers *S.S. Bruce* and *S.S. Prospero* circa 1910. Also reported is a new clerk strike - Geo Chattaway working on the Chatham & Walkerville Rwy., 3/26/13. Also a strike of the Moose Jaw & Empress R.P.O. with clerk M.T. Reid. There is also an article by Ross Grey on the Type 5 rubber