

The questions about how early Canadian stamps were perforated, what perforation differences are "significant", and how to best measure perforations and perforation differences continue to fuel discussion. In this issue of *Topics* I have brought together three articles by different authors. These articles were submitted over the last year or so, and publishing them together represents an attempt to bring to readers a feeling for the issues being raised. The articles agree on some points and differ on others, and even consensus does not necessarily mean a point is settled! However, what the articles share is an attempt to extrapolate carefully and logically from the information that is available. There is, in each case, an attempt to look beyond the measured perforation values for a specific stamp issue to examine how the perforation machines were constructed, and how stamps of the period (not just in Canada) were perforated.

A new column, Postal Pot-pourri, also makes its appearance in this issue. The author, Earle Covert, is known to many members through his many exhibits ranging from a blockbuster display of proof and essay postal stationery to a several-page assemblage of Priority Post envelopes. He will discuss what might be designated "tomorrow's postal history today," and attempt to alert readers about items to watch for before a post office experiment ends, or to salvage before they are put in the trash.

As I put this issue to bed, I find I have now been editing *Topics* for two years. It has been interesting. I used to think I read *Topics* fairly carefully, but being involved in the editing and production of articles has shown me how superficially I had passed over research in some areas of philately far removed from my own collecting interests. I want to thank the authors who patiently continue to lead me along new paths, and the readers who respond with information and further questions. Best wishes to everyone for 1998.

## Corrections etc.

In Chris Ryan's article in Vol. 54, No. 2, on pg. 33, the fourth and fifth paragraphs, each beginning "On the . . ." should have been indented as they are part of the same quotation as the previous paragraph on this page.

Norris Dyer, the author of "Newfoundland's 1918-1920 Postal Shortages" (*BNA Topics*, Vol. 54, No. 3, p. 13) reports errors in "Table 2" of that article. The "Provisional Period" for the THREE CENT on 35¢ Cabot should have been "Sept. 15 - Sept. 27, 1920," and for the TWO CENT on 30¢ Cabot, "Sept. 24 - Oct. 2, 1920." Nevertheless, the correct periods are reflected in the article's text.

Some errors crept in during the editing of Part I of Bill Pekonen's Map Stamp Chronology (*BNA Topics*, Vol. 54, No. 3). On page 28 an extraneous "that" should have been deleted in line 13. Line 19 on the same page should read ". . . could also be considered a Christmas commemorative . . ."

---

1. Box 1870, Deep River, ON, K0J 1P0, Canada; 1-613-584-1574; 102124.1304@compuserve.com  
Letters addressed to the specific author(s) and sent c/o Robert Lemire, Editorial Consultant, *BNA Topics* will be forwarded.