

The **CANADIAN PHILATELIST**



Support Canada's
**NATIONAL
STAMP WEEK**

November 8th to 13th, 1954

Official Organ of the Canadian Philatelic Society

VOL. 5, No. 7

SEPTEMBER, 1954

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ADDENDUM

To C.P.S. Library Catalogue—Compiled August, 1954

Members are requested to cut out and place on page 8
of their Library Catalogues

- Airmail Catalogue. Canada and Newfoundland. O. W. R. Smith, Gordon Crouch, Fred Jarrett.
- Austria. Notes on.
- Billig's Specialized Catalogue, Canada. Hans Reiche. 1954.
- Canada Plate Block Catalogue. 2nd Edition. Maj. K. Hamilton White. 1954.
- Canada. Notes on the 1911-1923 Issues. George Marler. 1949.
- Canada Notes on the Postal History. W. E. Durant Halliday.
- Canada's Major and Minor Varieties. Hans Reiche. 1951.
- Canadian Railroad Cancellations. (Addendum). T. P. G. Shaw. 1954.
- Capex Catalogue. 1951.
- Cancellations of the Third Reich. 1933-1945.
- Chats on Postage Stamps. Fred J. Melville.
- Centenary of Postage. 1940.
- Centenary of United States Postage Stamps and Mail. Lawrence W. Case.
- Czech-English Philatelic Dictionary.
- Elizabeth Regina and the Royal Family. The Stamps of. Franklin R. Bruns. 1953.
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The Postage Stamp Collection of. Parts I and II.
- Finnson of the R.N.A.F. Stanley Deaville. 1945.
- Great Britain. Penny Red Brown. Die 2. Alphabeth III.
H. W. Eddison, M.A., M.D.
- Life Magazine. Stamp Issue. May 3rd, 1954.
- Mail From Isreal. "The Jerusalem Stamp". Alexander Fraenke. 1952.
- Postage Stamp Identifier. The White Ace. 1952.
- Queens of England on Postage Stamps. Robson Lowe. 1953.
- Revenue Stamps. A Selective Bibliography of Literature. Josef Schonfeld and R. W. Larsen. 1954.
- Stamp Collecting. A New Approach. Michael Harrison and Douglas Armstrong. 1953.
- Ditto —
- Stamp Collecting. The Essentials of. 1953.
- Stamp Collecting. Your Introduction to a Fascinating Hobby. Franklin R. Bruns. 1954.
- Ditto —
- Stories From Stamps. 1947.
- Subject Matter of Philately. (Supplement No. 3). Phebe Booth.
- The First Stamp Magazine Looks at Early Canadian Stamps. Max Rosenthal. 1953.
- The Work of Jean De Sperati. (Exhibition Catalogue). 1954.
- United Nations. First Issue of Postage Stamps. 1953.
- United Nations Postal Administration. Jose Arce. 1954.
- United States. Specialized Catalogue of First Day Covers. Leo August. 1954.
- United States. Postage Stamps of. N. E. Waterhouse. 1916.
- War Issues. (Catalogue). Edouard Locher. 1914-1922.
- Yugoslav Animal Kingdom. Postage Stamps with Designs from the Yugoslav Postal Department. 1954.
- Year Book. Hamilton Philatelic Society. 1947.
- Year Book. Winnipeg Philatelic Society. 1954.

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SEPT., 1954 VOL. 5, NO. 7

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



BY THE time this number of THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST is in your hand, most of you will be looking back with regret to the warm and pleasant days of the summer now coming to an end. However, we still have our stamps, and we shall all be getting out our tweezers, stock books and albums, if we ever did put them away!

I trust that there are a good number of you, especially among our Western friends, who have already made plans for exhibiting in Montreal next April and started getting their exhibits ready.

And I sincerely hope that an even greater number are making plans for attending the Convention to be held under the sponsorship of the Union Philatélique de Montréal. Montreal is the glamour city of Canada. We in Toronto may have our subway, but Montreal has that *je ne sais quoi* which no other city has. I can only think of Vancouver as comparable, but then it's glamour is of quite a different kind to Montreal's!

Remember: To Montreal in '55!

LORSQUE vous recevrez ce numéro de THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST, vous aurez certainement des regards nostalgiques vers ces belles journées de l'été qui est en train de s'achever. Mais nous avons toujours nos timbres et nous reprendrons tous nos pinces, nos classeurs et nos albums, comme si nous les avions jamais mis de côté!

J'espère que bon nombre de nos membres, et surtout dans l'Ouest, projettent d'envoyer du matériel à Montréal pour l'exposition qui aura lieu au mois de juin sous l'égide de l'Union Philatélique de Montréal, et ont commencé à le préparer.

Et j'espère qu'il y en a encore plus qui projettent de faire le voyage et d'assister au congrès. Montréal est la ville la plus prestigieuse du Canada. Certes, à Toronto, nous avons notre "métro", mais Montréal a ce *je ne sais quoi* qu'aucune autre ville canadienne ne possède. Vancouver approche Montréal en prestige, mais le sien est d'ordre tout à fait différent.

Rappelez-vous donc le mot d'ordre: A Montréal en '55!

L. M. Lamouroux.
President.

ADMIRAL ADDICT

by Donald A. Young

"Addict": verb, intransitive; to apply oneself persistently, give oneself up to. noun; one who is addicted to some habit.

Well, that certainly describes me. The 1911-1925 "Admiral" issue of Canada is a really insidious habit; it grows on you; the more you study it, the more fascinating it becomes. Since I spend about three-quarters of my philatelic time (and money) on that issue, I suppose you could call me an Admiral Addict.

If you want a challenging issue, and one which will repay a lot of original research—go for the Admirals. It is possibly the most rewarding of all Canadian issues—not necessarily in a monetary sense, though that can follow, too—but in the satisfaction one gets from working through a puzzling and complicated series until one begins to develop an understanding of its possibilities. Not a job for a dilettante—it takes time, study and concentration. Some of you 19th Century enthusiasts are going to blow a fuse at the mere thought of anyone rating a 20th Century issue ahead of the older issues. That is exactly what I do. I claim that there is no—repeat, no—Canadian series of stamps with as much to it, and this is an attempt to put across my point of view.

The trouble with the older issues (apart from the cost, which is considerable) is that most of the puzzles are already solved. Any which aren't, will only be solved by the well-to-do collector who can afford quantities of the stamps. That is one reason why the average Small Queen collector goes in for postmarks. There isn't enough in the issue, apart from papers and perforation variants, to keep him interested. Now, cancellations are one facet of collecting which I, for one, would not dream of belittling. They are important for

the postal historian, interesting in themselves, and sometimes quite valuable. I have heard of a collector bidding over \$25.00 in an auction, for a pair of Scott's #37 on cover, because it had a beautiful strike of the Ottawa Crown. Possibly a unique piece, it was probably worth it, and there are other cancels, such as the Masonic, which are likely more valuable. And some of them add to philatelic knowledge, but actually most collectors fill their albums with the fruits of others' researches. Why not do a little original research yourself?

Well, what's so hot about the Admirals? Anyway, what can anyone add to Mr. George C. Marler's book on the issue? A very good question. Any Admiral student must refer to his "Notes on the 1911-1925 Series" with awe and admiration for a careful and brilliant exposition. No one can get very far in his studies, without it. Yet I think Mr. Marler could write another book today, on what has been discovered since that one was published (I wish he would!) and I also think he would be the first to agree that there are many problems still unsolved.

I have no intention of comparing the Admirals, item by item, with any other issue. I think it is fair, however, to make a comparison by variety types, with some of the older series. What would a specialist look for in the pence issues, the 1859's, or the Large or Small Queens? Re-entries, retouches, papers, shades, perforation variants, watermarks, gravers' slips, misalignments, relief breaks, guide lines and dots? Did I miss any? Yes, imprints, of course, and possibly a couple more variants. I should say that the highest peak of accomplishment is the plating of a 19th Century oldie, using every last infinite variation to position each subject on the plate. I take my hat off to anyone who

can do that. He is a philatelist; he is also a very rare bird indeed.

Well, the Admirals have all of those variety types, except watermarks. In addition, there must be at least a dozen more which do not occur at all in the earlier issues. As a starter, we might list: hairlines, wet and dry printings, "file marks", paste-ups, coil repairs, experimental coils, engine-turned selvages, new dies. Booklets and coil stamps alone could be a full time specialty; they contain many of the varieties found in the sheet stamps.

As for quality, I don't suppose any of the older issues have a re-entry as strong as the 1 cent green illustrated by both Boggs and Marler. As for research, you might find a brand new re-entry tomorrow. Nobody had ever reported a re-entry in the 2 cent green, to the best of my knowledge, but I have a major one almost as strong as the 1 cent green, and would spend considerable time to find its position. I know of only two other copies, both in England.

Let's consider shades. The Indian red is, I suppose, the tops in the Small Queens, though frankly, I don't know much about them. They are supposed to be scarce, yet I have seen quite a few copies around. Let me ask you, have you ever seen the pale sage green of the 7 cent Admiral? I have seen exactly three in the last ten years—one is a newcomer to my own collection. I have heard it said that this is one of the hardest Canadian stamps to find—and I believe it. It's only worth about a dollar, but try and find one, for love or money.

Retouches, while useful to the specialist, are usually considered minor rareties; in the Admirals they are too, mostly. But Plate 23 of the 3 cent brown has the strongest retouching of any Canadian issue. There are two subjects on that plate which should be considered major varieties by any standard, one where the retouch has doubled the whole left side

spandrel line, and another where the retouch has separated the oval from the frame. Is there anything like that in 19th Century stamps? Incidentally, a couple of Admiral enthusiasts are trying to plate that stamp, and if any reader has any multiples, I'd be glad to hear from him.

There are some terrific gravers' slips, as might be expected since the plates were recut quite extensively. Some of them rate as high, in my mind, as any major variety in any issue. There are stamps out of alignment, in the sheet stamps, by almost a millimetre. There are thin paper varieties in the 2 cent green and 5 cent violet, and, though I've never seen him, I understand they exist in the 7 cent brown. Other paper variations could be found, and this might be a fertile field for study. There are the imperforates (regularly issued, too) and the "imperforate between", all of which are rare and getting rarer.

Values? Well, the 50 cent black Admiral is the third highest catalogued 20th Century stamp of the regular stamps. But don't get the impression that the issue as a whole is cheap. How about the engine-turned selvages? Just one of each type (there are four main types and two sub-types) would cost you about \$50.00, and if you wanted a complete set, all types for all stamps in which they appear, in blocks of four, I doubt if \$500.00 would be enough—if you could get them at all.

Does that give you an idea of what can be found in the issue? Take it from me, I've only skimmed the surface. The Admirals have everything a collector could wish for; it's all there, yours for the looking. I hope you will understand, now, why I am an Admiral addict.

**MEMBERS OF THE C.P.S. USE
THE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR
QUICK RESULTS.**

A STRANGE ARGUMENT

I noticed, in the May issue of **Popular Stamps**, some rather peculiar remarks in an article under the name of "Mufti".

This refers to Bob Lyman's article in the March issue of **The Canadian Philatelist** on the collection of stamps other than those of Canada and the Commonwealth, and includes some funny remarks, or rather, they would be funny were it not that they reveal the sorry state of Philately in Canada.

The main point of Mufti's remarks is: "... who wants the expense and uncertainty of merchandising material in this manner. . . . It is well known that few dealers here welcome foreign collections except at a pitiful percentage of catalogue value. It is this difficulty in the disposal and value of foreign collections in Canada that is the cause for lack of enthusiasm and which to a great extent has brought about the strong following in our country for British Empire issues."

This is a strange argument to be put forward by a writer in a philatelic magazine, and it leads one to wonder as to the extent of his knowledge of the philatelic world.

Bob Lyman's article appealed specially to the fairly advanced collector. When it comes to stamps of the class of the 17c 1859 Canada mentioned by this writer, the question of what one may be able to obtain for it from any dealer is of secondary consideration. Every country has stamps of that class, and I have yet to hear of superb material of this kind not fetching a very high percentage of catalogue and even over, in Canada or elsewhere. Scores of examples could be mentioned.

In any case, just who buys collections of that type in Canada? How many big collections are offered for sale in Toronto, or Montreal, or Winnipeg? Very few, if any. They all go to New York. And was it not in New York that Admiral Harris' collection of old Italian States fetched \$147,000 not so long ago? And a fine collection

of Spain some \$20,000 odd? I just mention these two because there can hardly be two more "unpopular" countries.

Fine material will fetch high prices no matter what country it comes from. True, fine foreign material may not sell so readily on the Canadian market at the present time, for the very good reason that Canadian "collectors", by and large, are so insular and bemused by the idea of how much they are going to make on their holdings of booklet panes, plate blocks, fly specks, Coronations, etc., that few have any idea of the fun and pleasure they can get out of pure collecting, but there would certainly be little difficulty in disposing it on the New York market, at least, at very good prices, certainly more than a "pitiful percentage" of catalogue. One must also take into consideration in this matter that the philatelic knowledge of most Canadian dealers is very low, for which Allah be praised! as it enables us to find many real bargains in foreign.

However, the great mass of collectors in Canada are only academically interested in issues such as the 17c. 1859 Canada. Relatively few are in the position of paying \$20 for a single stamp, no matter how desirable. They go in more for what Mufti calls "delightful and colourful" issues. There are certainly plenty of these these days, but I have not noticed that they are a monopoly of countries outside the Commonwealth. Anyway, such d. & c. issues are surely better, from every angle, than the monotonous and dreary procession of Jubilees, Coronations, Peace, etc., which we have had foisted upon us in recent years, even though such issues were partly redeemed last year by a rather nice portrait of our gracious young Queen. Of course, in this connection, one should also mention those d. & c. numbers from Pitcairn, Tokelau, Norfolk, Falkland Is. Dependencies, etc., issued, no doubt, to help the great letter-writing inhabitants of those distant territories to write to their

millions of cousins in Canada and elsewhere!

Well, what is the market value of these Commonwealth issues of recent years, which, after all, is what the mass of Canadian collectors go in for? Just how much will anyone get for them? Leaving aside the Jubilees, which have been the object of flagrant speculation which have, rightly, come down considerably in price of late, just what can one get for Coronations, Peace, etc., and other stamps of Canada and the Commonwealth of the last fifteen years or so? What will any dealer give for Bordens, Abbotts, Bells, Citizens, etc.? What will he pay for Pitcairns, Tokelaus, Norfolks, etc.? I'll wager he will certainly not pay more, but considerably less, judging from the evidence of my own eyes, than for many of those d. & c. issues of the Netherlands, or of Switzerland, or even of Hungary, Russia, Angola, etc., of recent years, all of which seem to sell well on the Toronto market, at least, which is more than one can say of many of their Empire contemporaries.

There are collections and collections, and what a dealer pays depends just on that collection. Judging from what I have seen around these parts of private collections and dealers' stocks, the two are, in a general sense of course, pretty much alike, and most of the "average" (if there is such a thing) collections offered to dealers would go merely to increase a fairly heavy stock of similar material. He would be a foolish dealer, or at best a most unbusinesslike one, were he to invest in more of such stamps at a high price.

I have a case in mind which came recently to my attention, when a friend offered a nice collection of mint West Indies, mostly 1920 to 1945, to quite a few Toronto dealers. The catalogue value was \$460. He ultimately obtained just \$80, a bit better than one sixth catalogue, but hardly a sensational figure! On the other

hand, a couple of years ago, a relative with a good French collection, mostly used, cataloguing \$1,100, was paid \$275 by one Toronto dealer (by no means a "foreign" specialist), without any beating about the bush. This is a quarter catalogue, certainly more than a "pitiful" percentage!

What we need in Canada, is not only more collectors of countries outside the Commonwealth, but more COLLECTORS, period, more people who collect just for the fun of getting together numbers of those fascinating little pieces of paper some of us love and enjoy, no matter where they come from, and who are not continually preoccupied with the percentage of catalogue they can obtain for their holdings. And incidentally, there is no earthly reason why they should not, if some day necessity unfortunately arises, make quite a nice little profit in the doing, whatever country or group of countries they go in for.

When we have reached that point, then Canadian Philately will have come into its own and be able to stand on its own feet in the world councils of Philately.

Incidentally, my own collection of Canada and some Commonwealth countries, while certainly not of the "Redford" type, is respectable and a treasured portion of what I do own, even though it be not the main part of it.

"Fiat lux".



Meetings
Every Thursday
At 8 p.m.
Juniors at 7 p.m.
*Except during the
Summer months.*

**VICTORIA HALL
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CANADIAN NEWS

by

by U. KNOHU

DURING the summer months I have had the opportunity to visit several cities in Eastern Canada and United States and to meet a number of collectors and dealers who collect Canadian stamps. I was interested to hear that many of them are becoming interested in Canada's Postal Stationary. However, it would appear that while a number of philatelic magazines give the day of issue, etc. concerning the ordinary postage stamps, very little information is published about postal stationary.

The Canadian Philatelic Agency again generously supplied the following official information which I hope will be of interest not only to the postal stationary specialist but also to the general collector. It will be noted that not all of the items are supplied by the Philatelic Agency and to make a complete collection of this material is a real challenge.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II. 1953 (original design)

Early in 1953 the Post Office Department instructed the manufacturers to proceed with the development of stamped envelopes and post cards with a stamp design similar to the ordinary postage stamp but that the original photograph was to be duplicated and reproduced by photographic means and not from the engraved portrait.

This was done by means of the offset process and the Queen's Printer produced the following stamped envelopes:

2c No. 8 envelope—first issued February 1, 1954; 2c No. 10 envelope—first issued February 17, 1954; 4c No. 8 envelope—first issued between January and March, 1954; 4c No. 10 envelope—first issued June 21, 1954; 5c No. 8 envelope—first issued March 24,

1954; 5c No. 10 envelope—first issued March 17, 1954.

In addition to the above offset printed envelopes, special order envelopes can be ordered by a patron from any commercial envelope manufacturing firm and forwarded to Ottawa for the printing of a postage stamp impression by the Government Printing Bureau. This stamp impression is printed by LETTERPRESS and because of the small volume of envelopes so printed, 2c, 4c and 5c electros were obtained from an electrotype company. The stamp impression is of the same design but the printing is not as satisfactory as that obtained by offset and is to be replaced at an early date by a stamp reproduced on steel printing dies from an engraving. These types of envelopes are not obtainable from the Philatelic Agency. First printed in approximately March, 1954.

The Canadian Bank Note Company prints multiple sheets of post cards, reply cards; 8, 16, 32 to the sheet by offset printing and single cards by letterpress printing. These post cards are not available from the Philatelic Agency.

2c—8 to the sheet cards—first issued December 15, 1953; 2c—reply card—first issued January 20, 1954; 4c—8 to the sheet cards—first issued March 16, 1954.

In addition newspaper wrappers and post bands were printed with the H.M. Queen Elizabeth 1953 design stamp: first issued in May and June of 1954.

If one feels like making a complete collection of all the philatelic items showing the 1953 Queen design portrait the following are the days of issue of the other postage stamps:

4c and 5c precancelled with office numbers, Sept., 1953; 3c booklets, English, July 17, 1953; Bi-

lingual, Oct. 20, 1953; 4c Booklets, English, July 6, 1953; Bilingual, August 19, 1953; Combination Booklet, English, (not known); Bilingual, August 12, 1953; Coils, 2c precancelled, Nov. 12, 1953; 2c plain, July 30, 1953; 3c plain, July 27, 1953; 4c plain, Sept. 3, 1953.

It might be of interest to collectors to know that the precancelled stamps may be used for the prepayment of mail only when specially authorized by the Postmaster from which they are purchased. This accounts for the large black type "Warning! To be used only as specially authorized", printed along the top or bottom margin of a sheet of these stamps.

Because of the increase in postage rates effective last April 1st the 3c stamped envelopes with the KG VI portrait stamp on them, small and large, were recalled from all offices and revalued in blue ink by the use of a Pitney-Bowes Tickometer. Conceivably a variety of 3c stamped envelopes could be so processed, depending on the length of time they had been in stock in the post office but the great majority would be the KG VI design stamp. Collectors, however, should be on the look for other design stamps revalued by this means as they would definitely be scarce and of great philatelic interest.

The 4c single postcard, printed by letterpress with the old KG VI design will continue to be printed until new steel dies for letterpress printing of the Queen Elizabeth portrait are available.

The 3c postcards were also recalled for revaluing and as a matter of economy they were revalued to 4c by the Pitney-Bowes Tickometer. 3c cards in multiple sheets were revalued by the Canadian Bank Note Company by deleting the denomination 3c and surcharging 4c.

In closing I would greatly appreciate it if any reader that may have examples of the 2c and 4c value electro printed QE II 1953 stamped envelopes and the 2c and

4c QE II postcards from multiple sheets could let me examine these as they are not available in my area.

The following are the Plate Block positions available of the Queen Elizabeth stamps at the Philatelic agency on August 15th:

QE 1953 (ordinary postage)
Design—1c Brown, Plate No. 1—UL, UR, LL, LR; No. 2—UL, UR, LL, LR; 2c Green, Plate No. 1—UL, UR, LL, LR; No. 2—UL, UR, LL, LR; 3c Red, Plate No. 1—UL, UR, LL, LR; No. 2—UL, UR, LL, LR; 4c Purple, Plate No. 1—UL, UR, LL, LR; No. 3—UL, UR, LL, LR; No. 4—UL, UR; 5c Blue, Plate No. 1—UL, UR, LL, LR; No. 2—UL, UR, LL, LR.

QE 1954 (ordinary postage)
Design—1c, 2c, 3c, 4c each—Plate No. 1, all positions; Plate No. 2—all positions; 5c, Plate No. 1, 2, 3, 4—all positions; 6c, Plate No. 1, 2—all positions.

New Israel Stamp Magazine To Make Its Appearance

Literature from Israel has reached us giving information on a new publication "The Holy Land Philatelist" shortly to appear in English. The first issue will appear in October 1954 on the occasion of the Israel Stamp Exhibition and will be 32 pages with subsequent issues 16 pages.

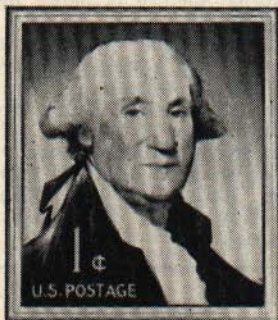
Annual subscription is \$3.00 postpaid, and may be obtained by writing to the editor F. W. Pollack, 13 Montefiore St., Tel Aviv, Israel.

The Realm Of Stamps

By Montor

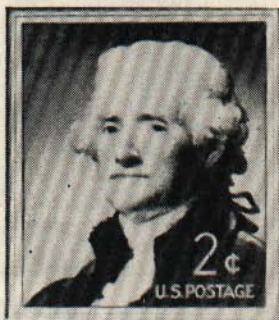
DURING the summer months many attractive new stamps have been issued throughout the world. However the most important new issues from the point of view of stamp collecting are those that have been announced by the United States.

The United States Postmaster General announced that these new stamps would be placed on first day sale at the Conventions of four of the great American philatelic societies, a sincere tribute by the Government of the United States to Philately and a very wonderful example of the co-operation that stamp collectors in America receive from their Post Office Department.



The 1 cent value printed in green bears the likeness of George Washington taken from the portrait by Gilbert Stuart, now in the Mellon Collection in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. It was placed on first day sale in Chicago on August 26, on the occasion of the Annual Convention of the Society of Philatelic Americans.

The 2 cent red is from a portrait of Thomas Jefferson also by Gilbert Stuart, now in the Bowdoin College Museum of Fine Arts at Brunswick, Maine. It will be placed on first day sale at San Francisco



on September 15 on the occasion of the Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Society.

The 4 cents lavender is from a portrait of Abraham Lincoln by Douglas Volk, now in the Mellon Collection in the National Gallery of Fine Arts in Washington, D.C. It will be placed on first day sale in New York on November 19 on the occasion of the Annual Convention of the American Stamp Dealers Association.

The 4 cents blue air mail stamp is being placed on sale at Philadelphia on September 3 on the



occasion of the Annual Convention of the American Air Mail Society.

It is to be hoped that the Canadian Postmaster General will be

able to arrange that a new Canadian stamp may be placed on first day sale to coincide with the Annual Convention of the Canadian



Philatelic Society in Montreal next April. Such a gesture would be appreciated by all Philatelists throughout Canada and with the new stamps that are in preparation there should not be any insurmountable difficulty in making such an arrangement.

It has been estimated that there are over ten million active stamp collectors in the United States, and on the same basis there are quite probably a million stamp collectors in Canada. There is no doubt that Exhibitions are of the greatest benefit to Philately from the promotional point of view whether they be of the local clubs or of international calibre.

Already this year important exhibitions have been held in the Philippines and in West Berlin and two International Exhibitions are to take place this Fall.

The India Postage Stamp Centenary Exhibition is to be held in New Dehli from October 1-15, under the auspices of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Administration. This exhibition is being held to celebrate the centenary of the issue of postage stamps in India.

Another International Exhibition, Brapex 111, is being held at Sao Paulo, Brazil, from November 6-15, to commemorate the fourth centenary of the founding of that city.

Three International Exhibitions

are planned for next year. The New Zealand Stamp Exhibition is to be held at Auckland from July 16-22 to commemorate the issue of New Zealand's first postage stamps on July 18, 1855. The Norwex Oslo Exhibition, commemorating the centenary of the issue of Norway's first stamp in January, 1855, is to be held in Oslo from June 4-12, under the patronage of H.M. King Haakon VII.

The Stockholm Exhibition, commemorating one hundred years of Swedish postage stamps will be held in Stockholm from July 1-10, under the patronage of H.M. King Gustav VI Adolph. The Swedish Post Office is co-operating with the Swedish Philatelic Society in presenting this exhibition.

Few Canadian philatelists will have the opportunity of visiting these exhibitions but 1955 should be a big year for stamp collecting in Canada. The 1955 Convention and Exhibition of the Canadian Philatelic Society is being held in Montreal in April and the host club, the Union Philatelique de Montreal, are actively engaged in preparations to make it an outstanding success. There are altogether five Chapters of the C.P.S. in the Montreal area. Particulars may be obtained from the Union Philatelique de Montreal, P.O. Box 1061, Place d'Armes, Montreal.

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15c. blue	3/-	4/-
18c. sage & green	7/-	7/6
30c. violet & green	7/-	8/6
45c. brown & carm.	4/-	6/6
75c. yell. & violet	8/6	9/6
1r. 50 black & carm.	18/-	20/-
2r. 25 pur. & grn.	25/-	27/6
Ditto, Surcharged.		
3c. on 15c	3/9	4/6
3c. on 18c	11/6	15/-
3c. on 45c.	6/-	7/6
1906. K.E. Mult. CA.		
2c., 3c. & 6c	2/-	2/3
12c. olive & green	2/3	2/6
*15c. blue	3/-	4/-
*18c. sage & carm.	3/6	4/6
*30c. violet & green	3/6	5/-
*45c. brown & carm.	6/-	8/6
75c. yell. & violet	6/6	9/-
1r. 50 black & carm.	12/6	16/-
2r. 25c. pur. & grn.	25/-	27/6
1912. K.G. V. First type.		
2c., 3c. & 6c.	3/3	3/3
12c. olive & green	2/3	3/-
15c. blue	3/6	2/6
18c. sage & carmine	3/-	4/6
30c. violet & green	6/-	4/6
45c. brown & Carm.	4/-	6/6
75c. yell. & violet	7/6	9/6
1r. 50 black & carm.	8/-	4/6
2r. 50 purple & grn.	21/-	11/6
1917-20. K.G. V. Second type.		
Postage & Revenue. Mult. CA.		
*2c., 3c. & 5c.	1/6	—
*6c. rose-carmine	1/3	—
*6c. rose	3/-	—
*12c. grey	1/3	2/-
*15c. blue	1/6	2/-
*18c. on yellow	3/-	—
*18c. on pale, die 11	1/9	—
25c., die 1	3/-	—
*25c., die 11	2/-	3/-
*30c. purple & green	2/3	—
45c. purple & orange	4/-	—
*50c. purple & black	4/-	—
75c., die 1	5/-	—
*75c., die 11	3/6	6/6
1r. 50 purple & bl.		
die 1 or 11, each	10/-	—
2r. 25 green & vio.	21/-	—
1921-32. K.G. V. Wmk. Script.		
2c., 3c., 5c. & 6c.	1/9	3/-
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12c. grey, die 1	—	1/9
15c. blue	2/-	—
18c. purple & yell.	2/-	3/6
25c. on yellow	1/6	—
30c. purple & sage	3/-	5/-
45c. purp. & orange	2/6	4/6

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INFORMATION AND PROBABILITIES OF THE U.S.I.R. ERROR

Alfred G. Boerger

No definite information supplied by the Post Office Department. The following data supplied thru questionnaires filled out by collectors and dealers locating copies of the error.

Discovered in March, 1953 by a N.Y. dealer on a used block. The announcement held up till October, 1953, stated a full and part sheet of mints found and less than 150 copies known used. Ad in December issue of The American Philatelist offered mint singles at \$150 and a Center-Line block of 4 at \$3,500. A June 21st, 1954 list of Jacques Minkus at Gimbel Bros. in N.Y. City prices singles at \$35 and Center-Line block for \$210.00. Our January, 1954 ad offered used copies at \$5.00 and \$7.50 for VERY Fine—Present ad remains at same prices.

*** Just a guess—but Used copies are more scarce than mint ones. Full sheets of the mints are known and being reported where only a few used make their appearance.

Stamps containing a FULL letter of the watermark are Scarce. About 15% of a full sheet would contain a FULL letter. Divide this by the four letters and a particular one is even more difficult to locate.

The RAREST item of this error is the earliest cancellation. The earliest date known now is July 10, 1951 from Milwaukee, Wisc. on a block of four with Registry cancell.

Additional information on the U.S.I.R. error is sought—write for a copy of our questionnaire. Alfred G. Boerger, Box 12, Toledo 5, Ohio.

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Reviews

LA TIMBROLOGIE HAITI-ENNE, by Léon Montès, Published by Editions Henri Deschamps, Port-au-Prince, Haiti-\$3.85, including airmail postage.

There are not many Haiti enthusiasts in Canada, more's the pity, for it is a most fascinating little country, which has had a stormy history since its emancipation from France in 1804 and its first issue of stamps in 1881, all of which is reflected in its stamps.

If most of the stamps of Haiti are obtainable at quite a low figure, there are quite a few which are highly catalogued and a review of this interesting book soon shows why, for some of the quantities printed and sold are amazingly small and easily explain why this reviewer finds it so difficult to fill the few gaps in his collection.

The amazing series of surcharges and overprints, and surcharges on surcharges, which ran from 1907 to 1920 are well explained and illustrated and enable the reader easily to follow the various printings.

The author, Mr. Léon Montès, is of member of the Société Philatélique Haitienne and has undoubtedly written a masterful description of the stamps of his country, not too detailed, but sufficiently so to make their study an absorbing and most interesting specialty. The treatise is written in French but can easily be followed by anyone who has but a smattering of the language. A must for all collectors of Haiti and a decided encouragement to all to collect the stamps of this fascinating little republic.

L. M. L.

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