

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Penny Black Centennial celebration was so enjoyable that it is not surprising to learn that suggestions are now being made for similar honours for the Penny Red next year. Collectors in one nearby city are even looking ahead to 1951 when the Three Penny Beaver will become a centenarian.

With the celebration over, we are getting back to ordinary routine which calls for building up the membership of the Society, increasing the selling and buying through the Sales Department, and in continuing our battle to provide a good stamp publication.

Our Auditor, Mr. C. F. Foster, advises us to make the selling price of our stamps in the Sales Dept. attractively cheap so that the turn over will be larger and more rapid.

Do any or many of the members prefer to have an American stamp magazine provided in place of this bulletin or can they help to build up this effort? At the present time a good old British magazine is nearly out of the question because of more serious business on hand. If our members will show enough interest in this society to criticize or to help the directors it will be appreciated.

The Annual Convention of the American Airmail Society in Toronto on August 16th and 17th, on the invitation of the Canadian Philatelic Society through the Toronto Airmail Club, is going to get off to a good start, judging by the comprehensive preparatory work being done by the committees under Edward Goodale and J.M. Stephen. There is no better way to get into Airmail collecting than to swing into it now with a lot of us who are not much more than beginners as far as serious airmail collecting is concerned.

E. S. BALL.

SALES DEPARTMENT

Our Sales Manager reports that he has new books to hand with the following stamps represented:-

French Colonials

Netherland and Colonies

Uruguay, 1924 to date

He says that dozens of members request blank approval books but seem to forget to put stamps in them and send them back.

He has requests for the following material which he cannot supply -

CANADA GEORGE V

U.S.A. #481 to #631

USED EUROPEAN

Why not turn those idle accumulations into pennies to buy new material, instead of upsetting the family budget.

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CHANGES IN ROSTER

Kindly note the correct address of Mr. Walter W. Pollock is Carleton Place, Ont. also that the address of Miss B.L. Ogden is now Shanty Bay, Lake Simcoe.

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EDITORIAL.

It was remarked at a recent meeting that first day covers of the Newfoundland overprints (November 20th, 1939) were coming on the market faster. They were from different post offices in Newfoundland and the implication was that they may not have been supplied with the overprint stamps on that date. The writer had lately acquired a cover addressed in pencil and postmarked Victoria. This cover with explanatory note was sent to the Newfoundland Postal Authorities.

We are pleased to quote from their letter as follows:

"I have to inform you that it was possible for the Post Office at Victoria to have a supply of these stamps on hand on the 20th of November. It is possible that these stamps were purchased in St. John's and arrived in Victoria in less than four hours. There is a good motor road in addition to the railway line and I have no reason to believe that the date stamp has been set up particularly for First Day covers. The postmasters throughout Newfoundland have very definite instructions that they are not, under any circumstances, to alter the date stamp for any purpose".

Although the Royal Visit stamp and the two overprints are sold out, the Authorities are unable to give the official figures of the sale of these stamps. Can any of our members give us any definite information on the above!

You will note by the President's Message that the Board of Directors would like an expression of opinion by the membership as to whether they would like the Directors to try out an American magazine in the place of the Bulletin. Please write to the President and give him your opinion of this step.

Your Editor will have to give up this job unless he can get one or two other Collectors to co-operate by supplying material EACH month for the Bulletin. A prominent Toronto Collector has referred to the Bulletin as "an inconsequential essay in stamp literature". Many a Sunday afternoon we have referred to it in much stronger

terms. We have reason to believe, too, that our Recording Secretary would be tickled to be relieved of the task of stamping and addressing hundreds of envelopes each month. LET THE PRESIDENT HAVE YOUR OPINION OR YOUR OFFER OF HELP BY RETURN MAIL SO THAT DECISION IN THIS MATTER CAN BE REACHED AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD.

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CANADIAN METER POSTAGE (continued)

by Mr. A.B. McNEILL, Victoria, B.C.

The Philatelic Standpoint

Being an integral part of our postal service it has naturally followed that those interested in stamps have added meter specimens to their collections. Meter postage has attained catalogue status and early specimens are definitely hard to secure. Some of you may consider meter postage impressions uninteresting when compared with postage stamps but I assure once the collector commences on them there are many interesting angles. We can even like the stamp collector follow the vagaries left by the printer and instead of re-entries we can look for varieties within the standard design. Some of the early color combinations form interesting album pages.

The machine being numbered one can try and secure numbered impressions from as many machines as possible. This is particularly attractive in the first type used in Canada as there were only 304 machines. I have succeeded in securing impressions of 216 of them.

Although meter postage forms a nice field for study especially since the advertising slogan has been added to the cancellation. Meter collectors continue to increase; meter clubs have been formed and new issues and varieties are chronicled regularly.

Most collectors of meter cancellations collect them in the 2x4 size but it is quite the best to collect them with the complete top two inches of the letter so that the name of the user is available. In following up the number system the collector will find that some firms have more than one meter; and on the other hand will find that there may be only one meter between a group of companies which are under one management. It seems that machines sometimes need servicing and the Postage Meter Co. had some machines which were loaned out during servicing. The Company have also developed new and faster models and have sold a hand-operated machine only to take it back on a faster electric machine in a year or two, and it is not uncommon to find the hand machine operating in another city at a later date.

Types of Canadian Meters

We will not try to describe the various cancellations as they can readily recognized as to type by serial number. We are advised by the Postage Meter Co. that the first type are all now obsolete. They are all under #1500. Next comes #4000 to 4300 and #04000 to 04020. Next comes #40,000 to 40412 and 48000 to 48015. Next comes #46000 to 46200; 54000 to 54100; 82,400 to 83,800.

This model is known as HX. The design is very similar to that of the HT machine but of course can be identified by the number. HT machines number from 84,000 to 84,050. Up to this time the amount of postage and the date circle were about 2 inches apart, then came the #94,000 series with the date circle and the postage slug quite close together with the whole enclosed in a rectangle with the design of a crown and the meter number between the amount slug and the date slug.

We are advised by the Company that there will be in operation shortly a new type of machine, their type R. The 1st machine is numbered 140,000 and one of the first installations will be in the office of a large Hamilton concern. We have been favored with a trial impression from this model. The word "Canada" is not surrounded by maple leaves but has a crown between the word and the value. The date slug has a border at the top of maple leaves.

Many firms have made arrangements to have an advertisement appear on their meter cancellation. Some firms change these with the season and these advertisements have made meter collecting much more interesting. The cancellation on this letter is typical of these advertisements. We hope you will appreciate the co-operation of the Meter Co. in making this cancellation possible. You can take our word for it this cancellation is going to be much sought after in years to come. You may express your appreciation direct to the Canadian Postage Meters and Machines Co., Wellington St., Toronto, or to our President, who is expecting to hear from you.

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