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Official Organ of the Canadian Philatelic Society

Vol. 9 No. 2 MAR. - APR. 1958

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The Editor Speaks Out....

Your Editor is indeed in the doghouse in some parts of the country because of his somewhat outspoken comments on the Plate Block business. He certainly meant well, but some seemed to think he was pointing the finger at them. However, the matter is settled now and henceforward plate blocks will be obtainable at the Agency subject to the usual regulations as regards quantities. The response to the referendum was most disappointing. We expected about 25% of our members to write in, but at time of writing, only about 40 had bothered to express an opinion. The exact figures will appear elsewhere at the last minute. However, the few opinions we have received from clubs as a whole leave no doubt - every club wants the PB's to continue, with one exception, where there were 5 in favour and 8 abstaining. Obviously, no very sharp conclusions can be drawn except that most members do not seem to care one way or another and that clubmen are mostly in favour of continuing P.B.'s.

In this connection, we are reproducing two communications which are typical of the extreme opinions. The first is a postcard:

"You and your fast buck. Most plate block collectors never sold a plate block. 100% of the Members of the Hamilton Club voted in favour of the President of the Club writing to all Local Members of Parli. also to Prime Minister, Sec. of State and Postmaster G. to try to have plate blocks continued. Yes, YES, YES the same applies to all I have talked with. H.E.Canham. Serious Collector for 60 years. PUT THIS IN MAGAZINE NEXT ISSUE.

The second one comes from a member in Sault Ste. Marie:

"I have no post card handy but my answer to your query about writing Ottawa to have stamps again show plate number block is

NO!

I have always felt plate block collecting lowered the dignity of the hobby and did nothing whatever to enhance knowledge of the issues concerned. Columns in the various magazines dovoted to plate blocks seemed exclusively pre-occupied with the financial aspect, which, I feel, is an unhealthy attitude to the hobby.

Ian A. Sutherland.

The main criticism to our remarks seemed to rest on the premise that every one is free to collect what he likes. We are in absolute agreement with this premise. And everyone is free to invest and speculate in anything he pleases.

But we have always understood that the raison d'être of the C.P.S., and therefore of its officers, was to encourage and stimulate philately. Therefore, when we are asked to do something as a Society, the first thing we ask is: "Is this for the good of Philately?"

We must admit that we are far more anxious about the effect of the new ruling, that PB's will be on sale at the Agency alone. Most collectors have been able to obtain current PB's at their local P.O. without much bother Now they will have to obtain them from Ottawa and conform to the usual regulations regarding minimum quantities. In our opinion, this leads the way to all sorts of abuses and we can visualize all kinds of "funny business". We sincerely hope that Mr. Carpenter and his employees will keep a sharp eye open for any "funny business", and also that the question of reducing the minimum quantities will be seriously gone into.

Before bringing this PB controversy to a close, we would like earnestly to assure all our members and chapters that we never, at any time, had any particular person or group in mind. We are looking at the matter entirely objectively and merely in the light of what is good for philately.

The Editor Speaks Out ....

We are looking forward to the Victoria Convention, but, strange to say, no one has yet ventured to make a bid for the 1959 Convention. Our Kitchener friends, who, four years ago, so earnestly said: "Never again!", have asked us to be sure to reserve 1960 for them, but nary a response to our feelers for 1959. While we would prefer the Convention to be held in one of our smaller centres not too far from Toronto, or even in Toronto itself, this is by no means essential. Any bidders?

In the hustle and bustle of getting C.P. ready for the printers, we omitted to mention that our worthy Vice-President and right bower, Allen Christensen, of Montreal, was elected a Fellow of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, at the same time as our Librarian, Herbie Buckland, of whom mention was made in our last issue. Our warmest congratulations to Allen on a well-deserved honour, one which, with Herbie's, redounds greatly to Canada's credit.

Just as we were casting around to fill up a corner, we received STAMP COLLECTING of January 24th, and we really can not forbear from reproducing a par from the Editorial page, as follows:

"We view with disfavour the decision of the Canadian Post Office to bring back plate numbers in the sheet margins of stamps sold to philatelists through the Philatelic Bureau in Ottawa, but not on the sheets on general sale at Canadian Post Offices. We think it is a mistaken policy to pander to collectors in this way. If the Post Office decided that plate numbers served no useful official purpose, they were right to dispense with them. While they were considered necessary, they were part of the philatelic history of the stamps. Once they were discontinued, that chapter of history was closed. The plate numbers now to appear on a limited number of sheets will have no postal significance, will encourage speculation and do a lot more harm than good. The Canadian Government is doing no more than currying favour among philatelists; the P.M.G.'s statement in the Ottawa Parliament makes that clear."

THE GUNESCH-CODA PRECANCEL CATALOGUE

We have received a copy of this Precancel Catalogue for review and we find it an amazingly detailed one of the host of US precancels, and, we admit, most fascinating.

This new edition, the 5th, is quite different from previous editions because of illustrations of the various types in each section on actual stamps that were used during that period. This innovation will be of immense help to the new collector who will now be able to tell at a glance what stamps he has to look for to find the good and rare Bureaux.

Another big improvement is in the listing of the errors and error varieties. All stamps are now priced, instead of the previous statement that all varieties in a given set, for instance Milwaukee "WA" spread are worth ten times of a normal variety. All existing combination blocks, showing two Hand and two Machine set types on the same block, are listed and priced for the first time. This is something new and will give the Bureau precancel specialist an idea what such combination blocks are worth.

All in all, a very detailed and extremely useful handbook for all the numerous collectors interested in US precancels.

The catalogue is edited and published by Richard J. Coda, Sr., of Newark, New Jersey, but all orders, both wholesale and retail, should be sent to the distributors, GUNESCH PRECANCEL HOUSE, Inc., 30 West Washington St., Chicago 2, Ill., USA. or may be purchased from most dealers. Price of 5th Edition, $1.50, prepaid.

Canada 1868 - The 'LARGE QUEENS'

By R.C. Martin

In preceding articles, we have introduced the "Large Queens" issue, set up a system of classifying different printings by the differences in paper mesh, and have reviewed in detail stamps from Group 1 (the first printings on thin paper) and Group 2 (vertical diamond mesh paper, both with watermark in the sheet and unwatermarked). The discussion continues now with Group 3.

GROUP 3

Group 3 contains all the stamps on what we nave called the "normal paper" with a horizontal mesh pattern. Chronologically, it is probably in the correct order, although with definite exception of the 5c and the possible exception of the lc brown, it is by far the most common.

This paper is plain ordinary wove, with a horizontal mesh that ressembles the appearance of a window screen in which the horizontal sides of the little openings are longer than the vertical sides. This pattern of course results from the weave of the blanket in the papermaking machine, and at times it is easier to see by reflected light than by transmitted light. Since a very large quantity of this paper was used, considerable variation in thickness may be expected, and on some stamps, it is so thin that the design shows quite clearly from the back;, at the other extreme, it is quite thick and opaque. However, the characteristic mesh pattern is visible throughout the entire range and identifies the stamps (with the above noted exceptions) as the common varieties.

On this paper, we find the ½c, lc brown, lc orange, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c from both plates, 12½c and many shades of the 15c. It is estimated that fewer than 5% of the 5c stamps were printed on this paper - the writer has seen four copies only in some years of looking. and originally spotted the variety because the stamp was shorter and wider than the usual 5c stamps. As mentioned earlier, this was due to paper being moistened for printing and shrinking as it dries; in the case of Group 3 paper, this shrinkage takes place from top to bottom. Apart from very slight shade variations, this is the only variety to be had on the 5c value, but it is rare enough that considerable searching may be necessary to locate an example. One mint copy is known to the writer.

This paper generally has a good smooth surface presenting a sharp impression. It is rather hard paper however, and the effect on the ink is more patchy on account of the roughness than fuzzy, as with the papers of the first two groups on which the ink spreads out.

Dated copies indicate that the use of this paper began about June, 1868, and we find it being continued, off and on, until nearly the end of the currency of the 15c stamps at the turn of the century.

Before leaving Group 3, we point out again that this paper comes in a wide range of thicknesses, including some as thin as, or thinner than that found in the earliest printings (Group 1). This very thin Group 3 paper is worth only a slight premium, if any, over Group 3 paper of average thickness, but is frequently offered as the more valuable Group 1 paper. Collectors who are interested in getting a first printing are cautioned to distinguish between the thin meshless paper of Group 1, and this accidentally thin horizontal mesh paper of Group 3.

It might also be mentioned at this stage that the very thick "carton" paper which provides one of the scarce varieties of the 15c stamp also has horizontal mesh, but

the thickness is so much greater than anything found in Group 3 that there is not the least chance of confusion; the "carton" paper is treated later as Group 5c.

GROUP 4

This group includes only two stamps, which are distinguished by being on paper with "normal" but vertical mesh; in the "Large Queens" series, apparently the later printings of the ½c, and probably most of the last 15 years' printings of the 15c are on it. This paper, frequently slightly grayish in colour, is very similar to that of group 3, except that the thickness seems to be much more constant, and as already mentioned, the mesh pattern is vertical, having the long sides of the "screen" in the vertical direction

It is about equally as common as the Group 3 paper as far as the ½c is concerned, and it is the most common paper in the case of the 15c stamps. The late slate and gray printings of the 15c are normally on this paper, and all the late red-lilac stamps of the 1890's are on it. This is fortunate, as they can be thus readily distinguished from the somewhat more valuable 1868 printings in about the same shade. This is again an illustration of the value to the collector of being able to separate these stamps by the paper on which they are printed, and the writer has not infrequently seen late 15's offered at the higher price of the 1868 printings.

This paper, having vertical mesh, shrank from side to side, as in the case of the stamps on vertical diamond mesh paper, and the appearance of both values is that they are taller than normal. Another characteristic of this paper on both values is the extent to which it picked up an embossed effect during printing. The deeper parts of the design show quite plainly on the back, which leads one to wonder whether heavier pressure or possibly just moister paper had been used.

It is very difficult to illustrate such patterns graphically, but the above diagrams may give some idea of the appearance of those most frequently met with in the "Large Queens" series. In the next article, we shall examine the stamps in Group 5, in which most of the rare and unusual varieties are found.

Group 2
Vertical diamond mesh.

Group 3
Horizontal normal mesh.

Group 4
Vertical normal mesh.

Closed Album Pages

We are grieved to learn of the death of Cliff Bolduc, of Stratford, Ont., a member of the Society for many years. Cliff was a most enthusiastic collector of squared circles, in which his erudition was remarkable. His fancy cancellations on Small Queens were also very widely known He was planning to go to VICPEX in May. His loss will be very keenly felt in the Grand River Valley circles.

We also learn with regret the death of two more of our members, Oscar P. Noe, of Detroit, and Archibald A. Watts, of Victoria. Unfortunately, we have no details available as to these two members' interests.

Your Editor would appreciate it very much indeed if anyone in the circle of a deceased member would send him a few lines of obituary for C.P. No doubt everyone will appreciate that, much as he would like to, he can not possibly know every member personally.

Ways and Means for Victoria

We are now assured of a relatively large number of members who intend to go to Victoria for our Annual Convention and VICPEX. We have therefore gone into the problem of ways and means, and this is what we have turned up:

TRAIN - First Class - No reduction. However, Family Plan may interest some. This is how it works. First Class. Father pays full fare. Mother pays one way only. Total, $163.90 plus $101.92. Leave together from noon Monday to noon Thursday. Come back any day. Unlimited stop-overs. No reduction on the various types of sleeping accomodation.

Tourist Class - Party of fifteen, fare and a quarter, i.e. $105 return. Lower berth $32 return. No reduction on sleeping accomodation.

PLANE - First Class - $279 return for party of ten. Return as you please.
Tourist Class - $230 return. No reduction. Go and return as you please.

It will be obvious from the above that the Train Tourist fare for a party of at least fifteen seems to be about the best bet. Cost could be reckoned as follows: Fare, $104; lower berth, $32; meals, $40; total, say $180 return, give or take a few dollars.

There remains the question of the day of departure. We suggest Monday, 5th May. The CPR train, THE CANADIAN, leaves Toronto at 5.25 p.m., therefore arriving in Vancouver on the Thursday morning at 10 a.m. Half day to Victoria, either direct by boat, or by boat to Nanaimo and thence by bus.

On the other hand, some may prefer to go Friday, 2nd May, or Saturday, 3rd May or Sunday, 4th May, and perhaps stay a day or two in Vancouver before crossing over to Victoria.

Woud those interested therefore let me know what day they would prefer leaving, and if they would be willing to change that day to conform with the desire of the majority, if such desire be for another day.

Frankly, we think there are great possibilities in the Tourist Train idea and the long journey could be most enjoyable. Incidentally, the writer can vouch that Tourist Class on both THE CANADIAN(CPR) and the SUPER-CONTINENTAL (CNR) is quite comfortable.

The same arrangements can be made from Montreal (and therefore Ottawa) at a slightly higher rate, owing to the greater distance.

NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS

All nominations for directors, duly signed by the nominee and seconded, must be in the hands of the Secretary by the 31st of March, 1958.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The following motions will be brought up by the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting, to be held at the Empress Hotel, Victoria, on Saturday 10th May next:

"That the Annual Dues payable on the 1st April, 1058 be considered as being for the nine months to the 31st December, 1958. and that Annual Dues from the 1st January 1959 be Four Dollars per annum".

"That the beginning of the Financial Year of the Society be changed from the 1st April to the 1st January of each Calendar Year".

VICPEX - May 9 - 10 - 11

VICPEX in '58 is the slogan! Every member of the CPS, and indeed every philatelist knows by now that the 30th Annual Convention and Exhibition of the Canadian Philatelic Society will be held in Victoria, B. C. on May 9, 10 and 11 1958. It will be called VICPEX, which stands for "Victoria Centennial Philatelic Exhibition".

Victoria, the beautiful capital city of British Columbia, will be at its very best in May, when VICPEX hosts its many visitors. Victoria is known as the "City of Gardens", and in the spring, especially, it lives up to its title. Visitors return home year after year singing the praises of Victoria's gorgeous surroundings and fabulously colourful gardens.

1958 is also British Columbia's Centennial Year and many colourful and historic events have been planned to take place all across the Province, from January to December. Victoria, with many other places, will stage pageants of great historical interest, but Victoria will, of course, be the centre of philatelic interest, with the great VICPEX show, and its headquarters in the lovely old Empress Hotel.

This is the first time, in the 30-year history of the C. P. S. that its Annual Convention and Exhibition has been held in the West. The two host chapters, the Greater Victoria Philatelic Society and the Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, aim to make this Convention the "Best in the West".

General Chairman Chick Wildig, President of the GVPS for his tenth term, has announced a most important display for VICPEX. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth has given the VICPEX committee her gracious consent to exhibit parts of the Royal Collection at VICPEX. This will certainly be the highlight of the Exhibition. What part of the Royal Collection will be on display is as yet unknown. The well-known philatelist, G.E. Welburn, of Duncan, B.C. is handling the arrangements.

The prospectus for the Exhibition is now in the hands of all CPS members and chapters. These entry forms should be completed and returned to VICPEX, Box 771, Victoria, B.C., as soon as possible Additional copies of the prospectus, and also any further information on Vicpex, may be obtained at the above address.

The work of the Award Committee will soon be evident with the production of a strikingly beautiful VICPEX medal, bearing the CPS insignia. This medal will be in gold, silver and bronze and will prove to be a valuable addition to the roster of prizes. Gold medals will accompany CPS trophies, while silver and bronze medals will awarded to other prize-winners.

Distinguished philatelist W.J. Davey, of Milnes Landing, B.C., will head the panel of judges. Several other eminent collectors have also been asked to serve as judges.

POPULARITY OF THE 1957 STAMPS OF CANADA

Stan Shantz, of the London Philatelic Society and Editor of the Stamp Column in the London Free Press, ran a contest in the fall to find out which were the most popular stamps issued in 1957. Slips for this purpose were sent to most clubs, with the following results: 1. Royal Visit; 2. Loon; 3. 15c UPU; 4. David Thompson; 5. 5c UPU; 6. Hunting; 7. Fishing; 8. Mining; 9. Skiing; 10. Swimming. We are pleased to learn that the winner of the contest was our member L. E. Marrier, of Port Arthur, and member of the Lakehead Philatelic Association, who succeeded in placing the first seven in their correct order. A very interesting contest, and probably the stamps are just about in their correct order from what we have heard.

HAVE YOU A REAL LIVE CLUB?

If not, read this ....

By EDWARD A. RICHARDSON

One thing that can be said for fundamentals - they are still fundamental! What was true fifteen years ago, when THE HOLLOW TREE was a weekly feature of STAMPS, is just as true to-day. But how slow we are to learn! Some stamp clubs are still making the same mistakes, and are wondering why their membership is slipping, why those nice new collectors who dropped in once or twice don't come around anymore, why a new stamp club was started in the city, why the fellows with the best collections who used to be the backbone of the club prefer to stay at home.

First, no stamp club can be all things to all stamp collectors. Their interests are too varied. Then what is it that makes one stamp club a real success, and another a dismal failure?

Our wide experience leads us to the following conclusions. Let's call them the FUNDAMENTALS OF STAMP CLUB MANAGEMENT.

FELLOWSHIP - This is No. 1. Regardless of a stamp collector's particular field of interest, he will get a kick out of belonging to a club where good fellowship is abundant at every meeting. Therefore there should be time for just "bull" sessions and frequent social meetings, not the elaborate expensive dinner-meeting type, but the coffee and doughnut type!

STAMPS - I know it sounds superfluous. But you'd be surprised at how many stamp club meetings are held without there being any stamps! And what is most important, there should be plenty of stamps brought in by members to sell or trade. Kilos and mixtures have been tried by some clubs with great success. No stamp club meeting can really be called a success unless you have either disposed of some surplus material or picked up a needed item. That's why the big shows with their dealers' tables are so successful. Visitors at these shows spend more time at the bourse tables or in the society lounges (fellowship) than on the exhibit floor. Sure, they are interested in what someone else has, but much more so in what they can pick up for their own collections.

We've known a lot of stamp clubs which seem to outlaw any trading taking place at their meetings. Why not set aside a portion of every meeting, and in some instances devote the entire meeting, to trading purposes?

KNOWLEDGE - Very few stamp collectors will readily admit it, but none of us knows everything about stamp collecting. We've run across club members who did not know how to hinge a stamp properly or use a pair of stamp tongs. A ten-minute session, including a demonstration of the proper use of the tools of stamp collecting, will help both the new and the old collector alike. "How to Use a Stamp Lift", "How to Clean a Cover", "How to Use Blank Album Pages", "How to properly Soak off Used Stamps" - these are just a few of the many interesting "how" demonstrations that will go to make your stamp club meetings more interesting.

In this category come the special speakers and individual exhibits of collections. They should be short. The speaker must be one who knows what he is talking about, not just someone who is willing to "give a talk". The talk should be made of interest to all, and not a detailed report on some pseudo-research of the fly-speck variety. It is better to have no speaker at all than to have a series of long-winded, technical, dry and/or ill-prepared talks. In the average stamp club, speakers should be selected for their showmanship and personality rather than their erudite specialization.

ELIMINATION OF BUSINESS - Leave the business of running the club up to the officers, the Board and the proper committees. No member ever joined a club in order to participate in the business sessions. I once

sat through an hour-long meeting where the whole business was the deciding of who was to handle the $10 worth of insurance premium on a local coming exhibit. Thirty members just sat around while two or three members conducted a running debate on the subject! If you think this is far-fetched, think back on some stamp club meetings you've attended.

Some of the most successful clubs never have any business sessions at their regular meetings, just a few announcements by the president. Members are always free to attend regular meetings of the Board where the business matters are fully disposed of.

We sincerely believe that the failure to eliminate the business session from the regular stamp club meeting has contributed to more failures than any other cause.

SERVICES - Generally, these are possible only in the larger stamp clubs. These can include: (a) A Philatelic Reference Library for use of the members; (b) Auctions, giving the members a chance to dispose of some surplus and giving the club some needed income; (c) a Bulletin, keeping the members abreast of what is going on in the Club, and looking forward to coming avents of interest. There is almost no limit to the number and variety of services which many successful clubs conduct for their members. A live-wire club will think up those which are best suited to its own needs.

Simple, isn't it? But fundamental. Analyze the stamp clubs you have known - the good ones and the ones you no longer attend - and won't you agree that the recipe for producing a successful stamp club is nothing more than the proper blending of the five ingredients? A generous portion of FELLOWSHIP, mixed with an equally generous portion of STAMPS, sprinkled with a little KNOWLEDGE, separating and eliminating the BUSINESS session, spiced with SERVICES to fit the needs of the membership.

Just FUNDAMENTALS!
(Courtesy of STAMPS, 5 October, 1957)

My Favourite Page

(of GUY ROBINSON, of the Lakehead Philatelic Association, Chap. 33)

Printed in sheets of 480, 24 x 20, with check letters in the four corners, running from A A to X T in the top corner and from A A to T X in the bottom corners, the 1870 ½d. issue of Great Britain provides the material for MY FAVOURITE PAGE, because of the ease with which one stamp from each of the plates can be grouped on one page, enabling one to view and appreciate the varying shades and plate positions.

On MY FAVOURITE PAGE, only three shades and one stamp from each of the plates used have been shown, but from this, one can readily foresee the pleasure to be had from making up subsequent pages showing the various shades, plate numbers and sheet positions of this little stamp. Believe me, it will form quite an impressive display at a modest outlay.

My collecting days started in 1952, after visiting a display sponsored by the Lakehead Philatelic Society. Being an Englishman, having arrived in Canada in 1950, my first thoughts were, of course, for the stamps from "Home". Since then, I have added Australia, and my ambition is to complete these countries as far as possible.

My thanks to the C.P.S. and the Lakehead Philatelic Society for the opportunity to show my efforts to the rest of our fraternity and I hope that others will be inspired to show their collections so that we may all benefit.

My Favourite Page

GREAT BRITAIN

1870
1. OCT.

Wmk: "halfpenny" extending over three stamps.

Perf: 14

Pl. 5.

SHADE 'A'

SHADE 'B'

SHADE 'C'

Pl. 1.

Pl. 3.

Pl. 4.

Pl. 5.

Pl. 6.

Pl. 8.

Pl. 9

Pl. 10.

Pl. 11.

Pl. 12.

Pl. 13

Pl. 14

Pl. 15.

Pl. 19.

Pl. 20.

SHOWING LOCATION OF PLATE NUMBER.

Plates 2, 7, 16, 17 & 18 were not completed

Plates 21 & 22, though made, were not used.

Chairman of Judges

A prominent and distinguished philatelist has consented to act as Chairman of Judges for the VICPEX Convention. W.J. Davey, Milne's Landing, B. C., has agreed to place his vast knowledge of philately at the disposal of the general committee and act in this all-important position. In Mr. Davey, VICPEX has an able experienced philatelist, with a thorough knowledge of the British Commonwealth as well of foreign countries.

Mr. Davey has, in the past, specialized in many single countries, disposing of his holdings when completion or near-completion was reached. One of his most famous interests is Hawaii, and his book Hawaiian Postal History and Postage Stamps is regarded as the standard reference work on that country. Mr. Davey has collected at various times Australia, Germany, India and the Postal Histories of India and Hawaii. In the accompanying photo, he is seen showing VICPEX Chairman Chick Wildig his current interest - Postmarks of British Columbia. He has also topical interests, involving Maps on Stamps, and is a member of the Cartophilatelic Section of the A.T.A. He is a prominent member of the Vancouver Island Philatelic Society and holds many awards taken in exhibitions.

Brantford Study Circle

ARE YOU INTERESTED in the formation of a study circle of Canada and Provinces? These issues are becoming more and more popular with Canadians, hence the need of a study group for the exchange of information. Knowledge can be shared with one another through a study circle. Only two other such study groups are known in Canada. One in the south, east and western Ontario is being formed in the Brantford area for the mutual benefit of collectors whose first interest is in the stamps of our country.

A study circle can't be formed unless sufficient and eager collectors are interested.

A meeting will be held shortly by the Organizing Committee to lay the foundation of such a study group - programme planning, selection of name for circle, election of officers, etc.

All interested philatelists in the surrounding area should contact one of the Organizing Committee for particulars:

J. Barchino
Box 133
Brantford, Ont.

Miss M. Hanselman
Box 304
Brantford, Ont.

Mrs. G.M. Cockshutt
114 St. Paul Ave.
Brantford, Ont.

Eric Rushton
105 Main Street,
Simcoe, Ont.

Philatelically yours,

J. Barchino

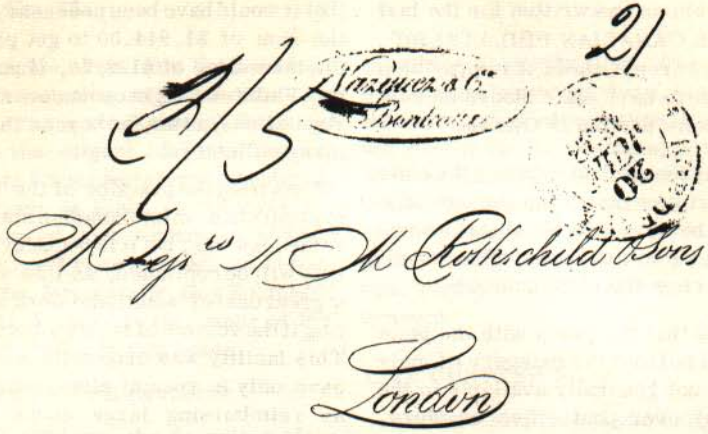
BRANTFORD WILL BE THE PHILATELISTS' MEETING PLACE

SAY YOU SAW

IT IN THE

CANADIAN PHILATELIST

The Cover on the Cover



We have to apologize for not placing the Cover of the Month on the cover in this issue, but as we usually give this prominent Place to the Society for Crippled Children at this time of the year, for their Easter Seal Campaign, and as we did not want to deprive our readers of a really interesting item, we decided to reproduce it inside the magazine. This fine cover belongs to Ken Rowe, a member of the North Toronto Stamp Club and also of the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada. Here is his description:

This cover is one of my favourites, mainly because of the beautiful copperplate script in which it is written. I have many pre-stamp covers in my collection, but the handwriting on most of them is terrible. Apart from the style of writing, the cover itself is of interest.

It was written in Havana on the 16th May 1838 and handed to the captain of a ship who carried it privately to Bordeaux and handed it to the firm of "Vazquez & Co", on the 20th June, who acted as forwarding agents and posted it through the normal channels to London, where it arrived on the 25th June 1838, having taken 40 days for the journey.

To show it had passed through their hands, Vazquez & Co. applied their handstamp to the front of the cover (the oval marking). This firm acted as Forwarding Agents from 1831 to 1844, using the same handstamp, usually in black but sometimes in blue.

Some firms who handled a lot of mail in this manner had the words "Forwarded By..." included in their handstamps, but a great many used only their normal office handstamp for this purpose and unless one examines the inside of the letter for either the sender's address or a filing note of some kind, it is quite easy to assume that such a cover originates from the place where it was postmarked, the moral of this being that it is wise to look at the inside as well as the outside of your covers. There are probably many covers of a like nature in collections whose owners are ignorant of this fact.

INTERNATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL YEAR

Date: 5th March
Designer: A.L. Pollock
Colour: Blue
Plate Numbers: None
Quantity: 25,000,000

The Realm of Stamps

by Montor

Since this column was written for the last issue of THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST, it was learned from Ottawa that provision would be made to have plate blocks on sale at the Philatelic Section in Ottawa.

Presumably the method of having the plate number inscription printed on the selvedge will be reverted to and the sheets guillotined so that the panes sold over post office counters will not show the plate numbers.

This means that the panes with the plate numbers will fall into the category of material that is not generally available in the ordinary way over post office counters, but will only be on sale for philatelic purposes, certainly a most unsatisfactory status. This will place Canada in the class of country that deliberately produces and sells philatelic material only for collecting purposes.

Stamps of the regular series printed without plate number imprints are as follows: 2 cents, plate 10; 4 cents, plates 13 & 14; and 5 cents, plate 14. The Press and the I.G.Y. commemorative stamps were also printed without plate imprints on the selvedge.

It was also announced that it would be necessary however to purchase the usual numbers of each denomination required to obtain each plate block.

This means that the plate block collector has to purchase large amounts of postal paper which he does not require, and it will entail a very considerable outlay for the average collector to keep up with his plate block collecting.

The inevitable result will be that comparatively large quantities of current Canadian stamps will be dumped onto the world's markets at substantial discounts.

One correspondent has pointed out that over the last five years he has calculated that it would have been necessary to expend the sum of $1,844.00 to get plate blocks of a face value of $129.76, if purchased at the Philatelic Agency under the present regulations, a sum far beyond the menns of many collectors.

It has been the practice of the Post Office to repurchase mint Canadian stamps at face value less 10%, but it is doubtful if this facility will be continued, as this would entail a great deal of additional work and accounting if the volume of returns became large. This facility was originally intended to be used only in special circumstances, such as reimbursing large users for stamps damaged by water or smoke in the case of a fire, and was not intended for repurchasing unwanted material from stamp collectors or speculators.

In fairness, it should be realized that the original decision to abolish plate blocks was taken last summer, before Mr. Hamilton or the present Deputy Minister were in office. The whole affair has caused a great deal of unpleasantness and bitterness, but unfortunately, the present makeshift policy is far from satisfactory.

Another result of the present set-up will be that many large purchasers of stamps will in future get their requirements from the Philatelic Section in Ottawa, in order to obtain plate blocks. This again will greatly augment the work of the Philatelic Section and will inevitably draw strong protests from Post Offices where their postal requirements were usually obtained.

It will be difficult to gauge the quantities required of the panes carrying the imprints and there would be, of course, the possibility of speculators at least trying to corner certain positions. it has been attempted in the past and would be more easy to accomplish under the present set-up.

The whole vexed affair points to the advisability of the Post Office seriously con-

(Continued on page 16)

Chapter News

CHAPTER No. 33

We have some news from the Lakehead Philatelic Association, of Port Arthur, informing us that a vote taken at their last meeting on the subject of Plate Blocks, showed five in favour and eleven abstaining, Congratulations to their Past Secretary, L.E.Marrier, of Port Arthur, on winning the London Free Press contest, as reported elsewhere. Incidentally, Guy Robinson, also of Port Arthur, is the owner of MY FAVOURITE PAGE in this issue.

ATLAS STAMP CLUB (Welland)

Mr. H. R. Waldon, the Secretary of the Atlas Stamp Club, was elected President of the Niagara Frontier Federation of Stamp Clubs and informs us that the Annual Convention and Exhibition will be held in Welland during the City's Centennial Week, July 25-26. All the clubs in the Niagara region, on both sides of the border, are working hard on the show and even Toronto is being called upon for help. We think the Convention and Exhibition should be a huge success, seeing the time of the year and the tremendous attractions the whole district offers to holiday makers, Niagara, Buffalo, St. Catharines, the Welland Canal, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Fort Erie, etc., the focal point of the history of Upper Canada and Ontario. More details in our next issue. Incidentally, we are pleased to learn, as we go to press, that the Atlas has applied for chaptership.

CHAPTER No. 55

Your President and Sales Manager journeyed to Oshawa on the 20th January to meet with the Oshawa Stamp Club for a CPS evening. We were pleased once again to meet old friends, and particularly Earl Hann and Mrs. F.R.Macdonald, President and Secretary of the Club. Our worthy Librarian, Herbie Buckland, was there, as also our Advertising Manager, Mrs. F. G. Wilkinson, of Port Hope, also President of the Kawartha Club. The Oshawa S.C. meets in new quarters, in a fine room with windows all along one wall overlooking the rink of the Recreational Areba. Fred Wilkinson, our Gwen's hubbie, who is not much interested in stamps, but usually comes along with Gwen, found the Junior games being played far more interesting than stamps. That's service with a vengeance!

LIFE CHAPTER No. 1

We had a surprise phone call from Doug Simons, of the Windsor Club. He was calling from the station, being on his way to Grance Prairie, Alberta, where he has accepted a post with the Hudson's Bay Co. This is a tremendous change, from Windsor to Grande Prairie, 470 miles north of Edmonton. We are quite sure that Doug will soon find a kindred soul in his new home and we hope to hear how he is getting along from time to time. Best of luck, Doug!

CHAPTER No. 19

It has always been a wonder to us that members do not use the valuable material in the Library to a greater extent than they have been doing, and in this connection it was a pleasure to us to learn from our Librarian, Herbie Buckland, that at least one of our chapters does make good use of it. This is the South Shore Stamp Club, chapter 19. We learn that they are taking out ten or eleven books at a time for one month and circulate them among their members. We are willing to bet that the South Shore have some good collectors in the Club.

Vicpex Covers

three colours: Green, Blue, Maroon

Covers only:	10 cents each
Serviced Covers:	15 cents each

A Word from the Librarian

The other day, in one of my favourite comics, a husband and wife were depicted as having an argument over money matters. The wife said: "All that I know is that money does matter!" How true! But there is one thing the cost of which has not risen the slightest fraction, the service given by the Library to CPS members. You can still borrow books at the old rate. And what may be the old rate, you ask? Just postage both ways, as it has always been. You may also ask: "What do you have?" Well, there are about 300 titles on the shelves and they range from Howe's Canada to a small work on Wei-Hai-Wei. It is true that we are sometimes stumped, like all libraries, but we can usually tell the enquirer where he can obtain the required information.

The books or material can be kept for 30 days, which takes care of the travelling time. The only requirement is your name and address, and your CPS number, and payment of postage both ways when returning the material. Some books have a small rental charge of 50 cents. These are the very scarce books, Howe, Boggs, Jarrett and one or two others. It is necessary to send some of these registered and to return them the same way. NOTE: All printed matter can be mailed registered. You do not have to pay first class postage when sending printed matter.

Here is a sample pulled at random from the shelves: "Postage Stamps and Postal History of the Bahamas", by Harold G. D. Gisburn. The blurb on the jacket states: "The reader who is a stamp collector will be led to take a new interest in these fascinating stamps; he who is not a collector, may well become one; and all - when the last page is turned - will be tempted to enquire about the fare to Nassau!" Now the strike is over, it would be quite safe to do so! The book was published in 1950 and has XVI chapters, with an appendix listing the Post Offices and the changes in the postal rates. An excellent book, covering the pre-stamp period to the Silver Wedding issue.

Last month, in Montreal, two of our members met together and, as usual, started to talk over their stamp problems. You know how it is when kindred spirits get together. One asked the other: "Where can I get something on paper?" And the other replied: "Try Herb Buckland". He did and it was found and promptly sent to him.

It is my hope that we shall have a new list of the books in the Library prepared in the near future. The last one was compiled in 1953. Our Editor has kindly consented to publish this when prepared. Look for this corner again in the next issue.

Herbert Buckland, F.C.P.S.G.B.
Librarian

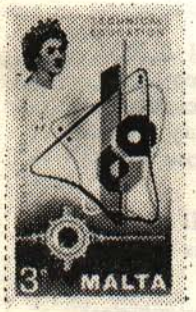
THE LIBRARY IS YOURS - USE IT!

The Realm of Stamps (continued from page 14)

sidering following the steps taken by the United States Post Office in setting up a committee to advise the Department on philatelic matters.

Such a panel, which could be composed of non-professional philatelists, who would be completely unbiassed in their findings, could also be extremely useful in aiding in the selection of the subject matter and design of Canada's issues. After all, those who have had a lifetime experience with stamps and are familiar with the issues put out by the countries of the world over the years are in a position to accurately asses the merits of design and colouring. Unfortunately, during the past decade, far too many of Canada's stamps have been lacking in these respects.

Recent New Issues of Topical Interest



AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT

A Pre-VICPEX Show in Windsor

Our C.P.S. Preview

We are trying to assemble all the C P S. exhibits from Eastern Canada for a preview for those who will not be able to attend VICPEX in Victoria.

We are in close cooperation with VICPEX, not in competition with them. Do *not* send your exhibit to us *instead of* VICPEX but we invite you to send it to us *too*.

This will be the first time that the annual C.P.S. Convention and Exhibition will have been held in Western Canada. If we wish C.P.S. to be strong throughout the whole country and to avoid any criticism of regionalism, we should support their show with our exhibits and our attendance.

We, of the Windsor Y Club wish to press all of our exhibitors to show at Vicpex too and for this reason offer to pay the express costs on to Victoria.

We also hope that those who are already planning to exhibit at Victoria will let us show their exhibit for the benefit of the many who will not be able to to make the trip west.

Our club will forward your exhibit to Victoria, if you so desire, at our expense by express *in time* for their show.

If you are not a C P.S. member, or do not wish to show your stamps at Victoria, your application is still most welcome.

Write for your VICPEX Prospectus

directly to

The Chairman,
VICPEX Exhibition Committee,
P.O. Box 771,
Victoria, B C. Canada.

The Secretary's Page

NEW MEMBERS

The applicants listed below have applied for membership in the Society, and in accordance with the Constitution, their names are hereby published. If no adverse reports are received within thirty days, they will be admitted to full membership.

6813 C. E. Englemark	Box 676, Marathon, Ont.
6814 Morley T. Davies	915 Runnymede Place, Victoria, B.C.
6815 E. W. Collett	732 Fourth Avenue, San Diego 1, Calf.,USA
6816 Wayne L. Fry	2617 College Ave.,Apt.15, Berkeley 4, Calf,.USA
6817 B. Leverton	Box 822, Victoria, B.C.
6818 John W. Dodds	1310 Payne Ave., St. Paul, Minn., USA
6819 Roy G. Hart	41 Wilson St., Apt. 10, Woodstock, Ont.
6820 Father Jean Ouellette	5391 Snowdon Ave., Montreal 29, P.Q.
6821 Mlle Thérèse Gauthier	4833 rue St-Dominique, Montréal 14, P.Q.
6822 D. B. McKichan	R.R. 1, Cooksville, Ont.
6823 Ron D. Fowke	36 Dundas Rd., Guelph, Ont.
6824 Gordon Nelson	Box 248, Tweed,Ont.
6825 Réal Legault	11a rue St-Laurent, Laprairie, P.Q.
6826 R. Brady	Dominion Block, Ste. 4, Fort William, Ont.
6827 John A. Armstrong	36 South High St., Port Arthur, Ont.
6828 F. Thomas	498 Simcoe St. North, Apt. 14, Oshawa, Ont.
6829 Miss Hildegarde Crombie	Gilston Farm, Paris, Ont.
6830 Howard R. Douglas	66 Dawlish Ave., Toronto 12, Ont.
6831 Donald A. Murdoch	Box 364, Fort William, Ont.
6832 S. J. Perry	2140 Queen St. East, Apt. 12, Toronto 8, Ont.
6833 M. B. Manilla	75 Palm Drive, Downsview, Ont.
6834 P. Bell	Box 374, Courtenay, B.C.
6835 C. Howald	108 Velva Ave., Port Arthur, Ont.
6836 G. Robinson	294 Park Street, Port Arthur, Ont.
6837 D. Jack	437 South Marks St., Port Arthur, Ont.
6838 Wynne H. Day	654 Burrard St., Vancouver 1, B.C.
6839 P. W. Se. Chazal	60 Church Avenue, Granby, P.Q.

REINSTATEMENTS

6478 B. Milosevic	370 Maxwell St., Sarnia, Ont.
6551 Wes. Thompson	431 Davis St., Sarnia, Ont.
4313 Alden C. Johnson	6 Myles View Place, Willowdale, Ont.
6505 Mrs. B. A. Busst	104 Dallas Rd., Apt. 4, Victoria, B.C.
6270 W. G. Logan	435 North 12th St., New Castle, Indiana, USA
6288 C. E. Horn	2459 West Granville Rd., Worthington, Ohio, USA
3425 W. N. Affleck	163 Alexandra St., Oshawa, Ont.
6150 R. N. Phin	Hespeler, Ont.
3358 Reg. Nairne	642 Battery St., Victoria, B.C.
6462 J. Linton	227 Kendal Ave., Oshawa, Ont.
6682 T. L. McRae	La Ronge, Sask.
4736 Miss W. E. Law	Box 507, Gananoque, Ont.

NAMES OMITTED FROM YEAR BOOK

6472 P. J. Heculuck	121 East Chester St., St. Catharines, Ont.
6043 J. Fuchs	44 Avenue Road, Toronto 5, Ont.
4170 J. R. Cooke	Arkona, Ont.

CORRECTION TO YEAR BOOK

6741 F/L J. J. Charron	298 Blake Boulevard, Apt. 3, Ottawa 2, Ont.

THE SECRETARY'S PAGE

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

6511 Michael MacDonald	124 Inglis St., Sydney, N.S.
5094 R. M. Richardson	Box 292, Westville, Pictou Co., N.S.
3461 Guy des Rivières	170 avenue de Bernières, Québec, P.Q.
4781 S. R. L. Newman	930 Second St. East, Fort Frances, Ont.
6715 Hedley J. Hollands	209 Holton Ave. South, Hamilton, Ont.
6337 Dr. Erich Pieper	1902 Drummond Road, Niagara Falls, Ont.
4786 J. A. Calder	576 Dovercourt Avenue, Ottawa 3, Ont.
6587 Gordon Norman	787 Vaughan Rd., Apt. 107, Toronto 10, Ont.
6283 W. J. Smallacombe	52 Millgate Crescent, Willowdale, Ont.
6412 David E. Watts	40 Whittaker Crescent, Willowdale, Ont.
3346 J. L. Purcell	220 Hugo St., Apt. 8A, Winnipeg 9, Man.
4348 R. R. Doxsee	2060 Princess St., Regina, Sask.
4463 E. F. McPhail	C/o Bank of Montreal, Regina, Sask.
6759 P. G. Haley	7823 - 7th St. S.W., Calgary, Alta.
5576 Peter Mezulis	6911 - 11th Ave., Edmonton, Alta.
4469 J. H. B. Watson	R. R. 1, Brentwood Bay, B.C.
3530 Richard P. Hedley	Box 6, Buffalo, N.Y., USA
6090 Mrs. M. G. Cockshutt	114 St. Paul Ave., Brantford, Ont.
6425 Gordon T. German	C/o Bank of Montreal, Powell River, B.C.
6774 L. P. Crispell	1345 West Boulevard, Cleveland 2, Ohio, USA
6592 Chas. D. Chappell	2603 Thorndyke, Seattle 99, Wash., USA
6396 Edouard Beaubien	312 Gloucester St., Ottawa 4, Ont.
6286 A. G. Bond	Carragana, Sask.
3808 S. W. E. Candy	1405 Stadacona Avenue, Victoria, B.C.

TO BE REMOVED FROM YEAR BOOK

4567 Oscar P. Noe	Detroit (deceased)
5093 Archibald A. Watt	Victoria (deceased)
5542 C. D. Bolduc	Stratford, Ont. (deceased)
6168 John C. Prescott	St. Petersburg, Florida (resigned)
6275 L. A. Binet	Oakville, Ont. (resigned)

CHAPTER CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS

Chapter No. 33 - Lakehead Philatelic Association (Port Arthur)
Secretary: E. Brady, Dominion Block, Ste. 4, Fort William, Ont.

Chapter No. 37 - Quinte Stamp Club (Belleville)
President: H. H. Seymour
Secretary: D. McPhee, Stirling, Ont.

Chapter No. 50 - Nova Scotia Stamp Club (Halifax)
Secretary: Miss Alice McLearn

Chapter No. 10 - Regina Philatelic Society
Secretary: R. R. Doxsee, 2060 Princess St., Regina, Sask.

NEW CHAPTER

Chapter No. 62 - Atlas Stamp Club (Welland)
Secretary: Miss Doris Hegedus, 233 Division St., Welland, Ont.

INFORMATION REQUIRED (THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST returned with mention "Moved Address Unknown)

J. H. Benjamin	6297 Macdonald Ave., Montreal 29, P.Q.
G. A. Wightman	4395 Grand Boulevard, Montreal 28, P.Q.
George Vankay	150 Springhurst Avenue, Toronto 3, Ont.

The VICPEX Seal

30th ANNUAL
CPS CONVENTION

Postal Frank used in 1858
VICTORIA, B.C.
MAY 9, 10, 11 1958

30th ANNUAL
CPS CONVENTION

Postal Frank used in 1858
VICTORIA, B.C.
MAY 9, 10, 11 1958

A distinctive and striking poster seal or sticker has been designed by the VICPEX seal committee. The design is based on a reproduction of one of the first postmarks used in the colony of British Columbia and Vancouver Island about 100 years ago.

The original strike was supplied from England in 1856 for the use of the collector of customs in the colony, at the request of Governor Douglas. The following information may be found in A. S. Deaville's book on the Colonial Postal Systems and Postage Stamps of B.C. & V.I. - 1849-1871.

The postal frank is very rare, only two being known to exist. It was evidently used as a provisional postal frank by Peter Tuite, Town Postmaster of Victoria, during the early stages of the lower Fraser River gold rush of 1858. The cancellation has been seen only on Wells-Fargo Express U.S. 3c and 10c stamped envelopes of the 1853-55 period. Wells-Fargo commenced operations in Victoria about July 1857, and it is probable that this strike was used on the first batches of colonial mail carried by them after the carriage of letters by express was sanctioned, subject to 2½d. tax on each letter There is evidence that letters carried by express from the colony were taxed 2½d. each, prior to April 5th 1859. The seal was probably used to frank envelopes for sale to the public as stamped envelopes.

Two sheets of these VICPEX seals may be had for 25c. from
"SEALS", Box 771, Victoria, B.C.

THE
Empress
VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA
The VICPEX Headquarters
Rates from $7.00 (single) and $11.00 (double)
Make Your Reservations EARLY
A
Canadian Pacific
HOTEL

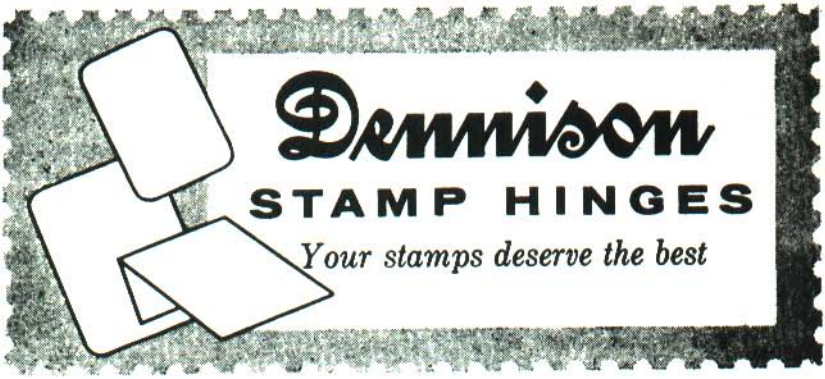
WHY WAIT?

Selling by auction takes time and payment is long delayed.

Send your collection to us and receive full cash payment by return mail. Your collection is held intact pending your complete satisfaction.

We need collections worth $100.00 to $10,000.00 and will pay higher than auction prices.

EMPIRE STAMP CORPORATION LIMITED
1152 Yonge Street, Toronto, Canada
References: Dun & Bradstreet - Capital $2,000,000.00



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE C.P.S.

From left to right: Hedley J. Hollands; Harry Sutherland, Director; Louis Lamouroux, President; Alan McKanna, Assistant Treasurer; Fred Green, Secretary; Cyril Woodhead, Sales Manager; Herb Buckland, Librarian; and EricRushton, Co-Ordinator of Chapters.

CLASSIFIED

Rates—3c per word, first insertion, minimum 15 words or less, 45c; succeeding consecutive insertions of same ad 2c per word. Please indicate what heading ad to go under.

CASH WITH ORDER PLEASE

Open to Members of the C.P.S. Only.

FINE USED CANADA, U.S.A. wanted in exchange for Sweden, used or mint, Carl Westberg, 3460 Simpson. Apt. 804, Montreal 25, P.Q. (MA 58)

CANADA OFFICIALS: Collection of 79 varieties with one on cover and four rare 5-hole perf. OHMS - $10.00; Canada Officials checklist, listing 729 varieties, - $1.50. Canada Officials Catalogue, pricing all major varieties, $1.50. Selections of Canada Officials or Canada Revenues sent on request or send Want List. ROY WRIGLEY (APS, CPS, BNAPS etc.) 2288 Bellevue Ave., West Vancouver, B.C. (SO 58)

BUY STAMPS at face value from countries of origin. Directory listing addresses of 100 Philatelic Agencies throughout the world, $1.00. BEDARD PUBLICATIONS Box 637-W, Detroit 31, Michigan. (MJ 58)

FINLAND AND SCANDINAVIA, Anything you need from these countries. Want Lists, Approvals, FDC's etc.. Also buying from same countries. Write Hans O. Elmgren, Box 301, Station "Q", Toronto 7, Ont. (MA 58)

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

UNION PHILATELIQUE DE MONTREAL

Meetings:
Second Tuesday and Fourth Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m.
Juniors at 7 p.m.
4242 Papineau, Montreal
VISITORS WELCOME
U.P.M. Address:
P.O. Box 1061
Place d'Armes,
Montreal, P.Q.

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB

15th
ANNUAL EXHIBITION

March 22nd & 23rd 1958
at
North Toronto Memorial Gardens
180 Eglinton Ave. East
(200 Yards west of Subway)

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

VICTORIA HALL
WESTMOUNT

VISITORS WELCOME

CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY LIBRARY

"FEW COLLECTORS RECOGNISE THE VALUE OF A GOOD PHILATELIC LIBRARY"

This is true. We have nearly 300 Titles on the LIBRARY SHELVES

THE LIBRARY IS YOURS—USE IT.

Herbert Buckland, Librarian,
Box 252, Port Perry, Ontario

The Windsor Y Club is holding its 12th Annual Wypex Exhibition on April 18, 19 and invite you to exhibit. We are trying to assemble all the CPS exhibits from Eastern Canada for a preview for those who will not be able to attend VICPEX. We are in close cooperation with VICPEX, not in competition with them. We will forward your exhibit, if you so desire, at our expense by express in time for their show. Get your Wypex application from P.T. Wakeham, 425 Belle Isle View, Riverside, Ontario.

Some of the stamps, found in lot BPl: Paris Bank Lot, all large French Colonials, up to 200 Francs Airmail (about 100 stamps), Lot $ 3.00

Some of the stamps, found in Lot BG: German Mission Super Lot, sealed in Germany, very fine, top variety, Lot $ 3.00

CO : Colombia, many beautiful large pictorials and commemoratives, mostly very modern issues, good value, 2 oz : $ 2.20, 4 oz $ 4.30

Some stamps, found in lot BWI : British West Indies, off paper, good variety, including many commemoratives and good values. 100. for $3.85
Illustrated samples are typical, but the variety may change.

ELITE STAMP SERVICE

R. R. No. 1, ROYAL OAK, B.C., CANADA

THE CANADA BASIC CATALOGUE

Lists 807 varieties, each beautifully illustrated in the exact size of the issued stamp and, each illustration is of the exact stamp listed and this includes the fabulous 2c on laid paper! The check list section of the catalogue prices all 807 varieties where so existing, in singles mint and used; same with blocks of 4, pairs, covers and minor varieties, all in a neat compact form.

$5.00 is the cost of the complete catalogue. May be had on approval.

Favorable reviews dealing with the Canada Basic Catalogue have appeared in numerous philatelic magazines and journals. To mention some:

American Philatelist
B. N. A. Topics
Collectors Club Philatelist
Gibbons Stamp Monthly (England)
Linns Weekly
Maple Leaves (England)
Mekeels Weekly
Mercury Stamp Journal
National Stamp News
Philatelic Magazine (England)
Popular Stamps
S. P. A. Journal
Stamp Collecting (England)
"Stamps"
Weekly Philatelic Gossip
Western Stamp Collector

RARITIES

Rare stamps have always interested the stamp collector, but there are extreme differences in valuing rarities of equal status numerically. Only one exists of the famous British Guiana 1c and it is valued at $100,000.00, yet I have in stock philatelic pieces that are also certainly unique. Like to own something no one else in the world would have? Cost would be a modest $10.00 to $100.00 and on approval willingly.

Of course, a unique item is RARE, but this word covers also far more prolific varieties, 100 exist of the 24c U. S. A. airmail invert, and just about 100 exist of the equally popular 12 pence Canada, but just try and buy one of these under $4,000.00 each!

I have on hand several varieties from various countries, with each of which comes a sworn affidavit that exactly 100 exist. A selection of 3, is available on approval. $10.00 is the regular price of any one, but the buyer may have ONE, his choice, for only $2.00; the other 2 are of course still $10.00 each.

Ask to see this interesting lot. No obligation to purchase all, or anything.

BUYING

Am always in the market to purchase worthwhile Canadian stamps (packet material excepted). Wanted: 19 Century 1851 to 1900 in particular, but all else welcome; singles, blocks, sheets, also plate blocks in any quantity, Canadian revenues, etc. Submit whatever you wish to sell by registered mail either with price or for offer. No need to write first. The more valuable the lot or collection, the better; there are no limits upwards.

K. BILESKI, Station B, Winnipeg, Canada

From the Sales Department

- Sales continue to mount and should show a substantial increase over previous season.
- The Sales Manager and wife hoping to make our first Western trip to "VICPEX." Will be taking lots of material along for the C.P.S. Bourse and looking forward to meeting friends.
- I would still like to take along some good books of Canada. Maybe you have some nice Canadian covers which sell very well. I can return these after the convention.
- Will be visiting Windsor, Ont., for their show on April 18 and 19, and will have the usual Bourse.
- Oh ! By the way ! The plate blocks are still popular in the circuits. Don't worry !
- Worth repeating ! If you are going to "VICPEX", let the President know so we can get together. Nice to travel in a group.
- Please ! The department is naturally much bigger now than a few years ago, so if you appear to have been neglected won't you drop me a line?
- One or two *Small Complaints* of substitutions, in the books. Our records are pretty clean, so watch it, fellows.
- Holding up circuits unduly is not fair to the owners of books and delays further sales.
- Are you getting your share of your C.P.S. advantages? Always pleased to hear from you.

CYRIL WOODHEAD

123 Albertus Ave. Toronto 12, Ont.