

The Letter Carrier

POSTAGE STAMPS OF CANADA

Every stamp collector hopes that some day he will experience the thrill of finding some real rarity in his collection.

In every issue of stamps it is seldom that there is not at least one stamp, or a variety of one particular value which lifts it above its fellows as a collector's favorite. Some philatelists make a specialty of stamps which, through minor peculiarities, are different from all others in the same issue.

Reproduced on this page is a photograph of the stamp issued to honor the Confederation of Newfoundland and Canada last April. This unique specimen resulted when the stamp was printed on paper which had creased before taking the impression. The odd break came to light only after the gum was dampened for mailing, during which process the paper resumed its natural flatness.



The original of this stamp was recently sold at auction in Ottawa, Ont., for \$21. Obviously there were at least two more printed with similar creases, and in addition there is some chance that still others from this sheet may end up in collections.

There are many stories concerning the origin of fabulous stamps. The most valuable piece of paper for its size in the world once sold for \$50,000. It was discovered in a schoolboy's album in England. All the adventures of an exciting treasure hunt await the philatelist, maybe in his own attic, perhaps on his next morning's mail.—F.J.B.