



THE NEWFIE NEWSLETTER  
of the Newfoundland Study Group of BNAPS

Number 18

July/August 1988

IT ISN'T ALWAYS SO, AGAIN

AUGUST 8, 1988 LINN'S STAMP NEWS 5

## Errors in stamp design

NEWFOUNDLAND: STRANGE SEAL



People thought the seal on the Newfoundland stamp (left) looked too much like a monster, so the design was revised (right). Actually, the original was a good likeness of a ringed seal.

Once again the Linn's editor of the "Errors in stamp design" column has gotten things screwed up with respect to Newfoundland stamp designs. Study group member Bob Pratt has taken Linn's to task again for not doing their home work. His points are as follows:

The seal pictured on both stamps is a member of the harp seal family, a harp seal or a hood seal. It is not a ringed seal. The one on the stamps is a harp seal as it does not have a "hood", a bladder-like flap on the head of the males.

A harp seal does NOT possess paws with claws or nails, appearing like a dog. It is equipped with flippers in lieu of front legs.

The stamp on the left (1865) was designed by a Mr. Pease of the American Bank Note Co., New York. He did not know what a seal looked like.

The stamp on the right (1880) was designed by an engraver, possibly Smilie, from the British American Bank Note Co. of Montreal. This engraver did know what a seal looked like.

The Pease seal was copied by Mr. Jeans, a well known British engraver, and was used by Perkins Bacon, London, on banknotes for one of the banks in the colony.

The American Bank Note Company also used its rendition of the seal on banknotes printed as late as 1880.

The Perkins Bacon 15¢ Newfoundland stamp from the 1932 issue, also shows a whitecoat harp seal, with proper flippers.

From all this it is quite apparent that the stamp on the right is the proper one, and is "a good likeness of a (Ringed?) harp seal", and not the other way around as indicated in the column.

#### NEW PROJECT:

The response to Ed Wener's article in the March/April 1988 of the newsletter was so great that Palmer Moffat has volunteered to coordinate the survey of the Boxed and Oval cancellations of Newfoundland. Enclosed with this newsletter are report sheets for you to report to Palmer the color and date of your boxed and oval cancels. Please review your collection, complete the report form, and send it to Palmer Moffat at 4542 E. Camino de Oro, Tucson, Arizona 85718, U.S.A. Additional report forms are available from the newsletter editor or from Palmer.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS:

NEWFOUNDLAND SPECIALIZED STAMP CATALOGUE, 1988; John M. Walsh and John G. Butt; published by Walsh's Philatelic Service, 9 Guy Street, St. John's, Newfoundland CANADA A1B 1P4; 1988; soft cover; 70pp.; price not known.

Just published by study group member, John Walsh, is a handy little booklet on the postage stamps, postal stationery, and revenue stamps of Newfoundland. While it is called a catalogue, it is actually a checklist because space is provided for checking off mint, used, or cover of each item, and prices are not provided. In this one place the authors have listed the postage stamps, postage due stamps, air mail stamps, first flight covers, post cards, envelopes, postal slogans, reply coupons, postage meters, perfins, inland revenue stamps, money order tax stamps,

customs duty stamps, war savings stamps, plate numbers, rates, and post offices. All these listings in one publication makes it a handy book, but the shortage of illustrations and the absence of a bibliography hurts its usefulness.

This book is very good for the novice to intermediate Newfoundland collector. But for the advanced Newfoundland collector, it will be of limited value -- there are too many errors and omissions. Under the first pence issue, stamps in black with no gum are listed as proofs. This is not completely true, they may be proofs or they may be trade samples depending on the paper. The 5¢ Caribou, die I, comb perforated stamps of Perkins Bacon and Waterlow are not listed at all (see BNA TOPICS, Mar/Apr 84, p33). The first day of issue of Perkins Bacon 4¢ Prince of Wales, rose lake, is 15 August 1932 not 24 July 1934 as listed. The two "Buy Goods Made in Newfoundland" slogan cancellations (see newsletter 9, Jan/Feb 87) are not identified. These are only a few of the errors and omissions found during the review. As one uses this book, more discrepancies will be found to frustrate the advanced collector. Hopefully the next edition will reduce the number of discrepancies. All-in-all it is a good little book for the beginning collector who has just started to specialize in the stamps and postal history of Newfoundland.

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## OLD PUBLICATIONS :

A philatelic friend recently discovered this item while searching through the "New York Times" collection in the Library of Congress.

"FEMALE MAIL ROBBERS.-- A St. John's, N. F. correspondent of the Boston 'Journal' furnishes the particulars of a remarkable systematic mail robbery, which has just been brought to light in that city. It appears that money letters have often disappeared of late, among others a letter mailed by an editor from St. John's to Conception Bay. The editor finding that the Post Office authorities would not properly investigate the matter, appealed to the Governor, who immediately ordered an inquiry, which resulted in some extraordinary developments. It seems that Mrs. and Miss Shea, (wife and daughter of the Chief Clerk in the Post Office--The Postmaster-General being absent in England, the Chief Clerk had charge of the office) and two servant girls who lived with them, made a practice of opening the letters whenever they wanted money, and appropriating the contents. If they found bills of exchange or foreign notes, they would destroy them. In one case, a widow woman, named Woods, met with a serious loss. Some of her friends in England sent her a £50 Bank of England note. Mrs. Shea, not being able to pass it, burnt it. Numerous other cases have come to light. The discovery created great excitement. The parties implicated being related to some high Government officials. The four females are imprisoned in the Penitentiary awaiting their trial." --25 February 1860.

This episode certainly explains why John Delaney came from outside the Post Office to succeed the ill William Solomon as Postmaster General and why Solomon's Chief Clerk, Martin Shea was not promoted. For the big picture of what was happening at this time see Robert Pratt's THE NINETEENTH CENTURY POSTAL HISTORY OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

## AN INFO-FINDER FOR PRATT'S 19TH CENTURY POSTAL HISTORY BOOK:

If you have not yet obtained your copy of AN INFO-FINDER, you still have time as copies are available. The price of AN INFO-FINDER is \$5.00 US to study group members and \$7.00 US to others. Don't forget, Bob Pratt is donating the profits to the study group. For your copy, send your check payable to C. A. Stillions at 5031 Eskridge Terrace, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

DOUBLE OUTER OVAL



POST OFFICE

YEAR AND COLOR

PLEASE NOTE ANY VARIATIONS

AGUATHUNA  
ARGENTIA, NFLD  
BADGER, NFLD  
BAINE HARBOUR, P.B. NFLD  
BAINE HARBOUR, Nfld  
BAY BULLS. NFLD  
BAY DE VERDE  
BEAUMONT, Nfld  
BONAVISTA, NFLD  
BOTWOOD, NFLD  
BURGEO, NFLD  
BURIN, NFLD  
BURLINGTON  
CARBONEAR  
CATALINA, NFLD  
COME BY CHANCE, Nfld  
COME-BY-CHANCE, NFLD  
CRABBS  
DEER LAKE, Nfld  
EPWORTH  
FORTUNE HARBOR  
GREAT BURIN, Nfld  
HAMPDEN  
HARBOUR BUFFETT, NFL'D  
HR. DEEP, S.W. ARM, Nfld  
HAYSTACK, NFLD  
HERMITAGE, NFLD  
HUMBERMOUTH, NFLD  
JACKSON'S ARM, W.B., Nfld  
JERSEY HARBOUR, Nfld  
LAMALINE, N( )  
LEWISPORTE, NFLD  
LITTLE BAY, N.D.B.  
MILLERTOWN JUNCTION, Nfld  
NIPPERS HARBOR  
NORRIS ARM  
NORTH HARBOUR, Plac. Bauy  
ODERIN, NFLD  
OLD PERLICAN  
PILLEY'S ISLAND, NFLD  
PLACENTIA, NFLD  
PORT ALBERT  
PORT AU PORT, Nfld  
PORT BLANDFORD, NFLD  
PORT DE GRAVE  
ROBERT'S ARM

Date reads Day - Month - Year

# DOUBLE OUTER OVAL

POST OFFICE                      YEAR AND COLOR                      PLEASE NOTE ANY VARIATIONS

ROBINSON'S, NFLD  
ST. ALBAN'S, Nfld  
ST. ANDREW'S, N.F.  
ST. JACQUES ( )  
SANDY POINT, NFLD  
Sandy Point, St. George's  
SEAL COVE, WHITE BAY, Nfld  
SHOAL HARBOR  
Stephenville Crossing, N.F.  
Stephenville Crossing, Nfld  
WHITBOURNE

3 line dater

Separate Dater

COME-BY-CHANCE CROSSING  
COME-BY-CHANCE CROSSING  
GOOSEBERRY ISLANDS, B.B.  
Leading Tickles West, Nfld.  
PORT UNION, NFLD  
SANDY POINT, N.F.  
SUNNYSIDE

POST OFFICE/DATE/NEWFOUNDLAND/TOWN  
POST OFFICE/DATE/TOWN  
POST OFFICE/DATE/TOWN  
POST OFFICE/DATE/TOWN  
POST OFFICE/DATE/TOWN  
POST OFFICE/DATE/TOWN

RENCONTRE EAST (NFLD)

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS/DATE/TOWN

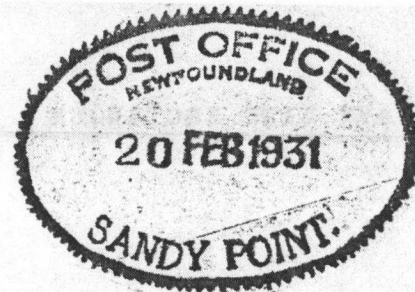
HARBOUR GRACE  
MILLERTOWN  
MONKSTOWN  
QUARRY  
ST. ANTHONY, R.N.M.  
ST. ANTHONY, NFLD

TOWN/DATE/NEWFOUNDLAND  
TOWN/DATE/NEWFOUNDLAND  
TOWN/DATE/NEWFOUNDLAND  
TOWN/DATE/NEWFOUNDLAND  
TOWN/DATE/NEWFOUNDLAND  
TOWN/DATE/I.G.A.

DEER LAKE, NFLD  
NIPPERS HARBOUR ( )  
NORRIS ARM, NFLD  
PORT AUX BASQUES ( )

H.M. CUSTOMS/DATE/TOWN  
H.M. CUSTOMS/DATE/TOWN  
H.M. CUSTOMS/DATE/TOWN  
H.M. CUSTOMS/DATE/TOWN

SERRATED OVAL



POST OFFICE

YEAR AND COLOR

PLEASE NOTE ANY VARIATIONS

BRIGUS JUNCTION, NFLD  
CAPE LA HUNE  
LOWER ISLAND COVE  
PILLEY'S ISLAND  
PORT AU BRAS  
RENCONTRE EAST, NFLD

CARBONEAR  
SANDY POINT.

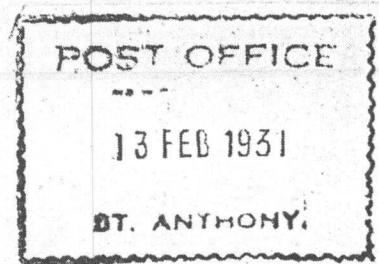
POST OFFICE / DATE / TOWN  
POST OFFICE / NEWFOUNDLAND / DATE / TOWN

ST. ANTHONY, NFLD

TOWN / DATE / I.G.A.



WAVY LINE RECTANGLE



POST OFFICE

YEAR AND COLOR

PLEASE NOTE ANY VARIATIONS

BELL ISLAND  
BELL ISLAND MINES  
BISHOP FALLS  
BUCHANS  
BURIN NORTH  
CARBONEAR  
CARMANVILLE  
CLARENVILLE  
CLARKE'S BEACH  
COACHMAN'S COVE  
COLEY'S POINT  
CORNER BROOK  
GAMBO  
GLOVERTOWN  
GREEN'S HARBOR  
HANTS HARBOUR  
HEART'S CONTENT  
HILLVIEW  
HOWLEY  
LOCK'S COVE, ST. BARBE  
MILLERTOWN  
MILLERTOWN JUNCTION  
MUNDY POND, St. John's  
PORT ANSON  
PORT DE GRAVE  
PUSHTHROUGH  
ROBINSONS'  
ROSE BLANCHE  
ST. ANTHONY  
ST. GEORGES  
SOUTH BROOK  
SOUTHERN BAY  
STAG BAY, LABRADOR  
Stephenville Crossing  
TERRA NOVA  
TRITON WEST  
WHITE ROCK

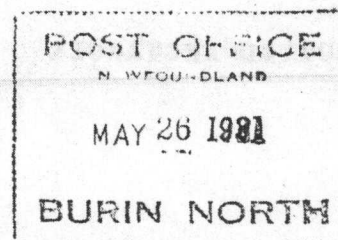
GANDER BAY, NFLD.

"T" & "W" larger than other letters

Two sizes of letters;  
TELEGRAPH OFFICE/DATE/TOWN



**DOTTED RECTANGLE**



POST OFFICE      YEAR AND COLOR      PLEASE NOTE ANY VARIATIONS

ADMIRAL'S COVE, Fermeuse  
AGUATHUNA  
ANGLE BROOK  
ARNOLD'S COVE STATION  
BADGER  
BARENEED  
BATTLE HARBOUR  
BATTLE HR. LAB  
BAY DE VERDE  
BAY ROBERTS  
BELLEVUE EAST  
BELL ISLAND  
BELL ISLAND MINES  
BISHOP FALLS  
BLAKETOWN  
BONAVISTA  
BOTWOOD  
BRIGUS  
BUCHANS  
BURIN NORTH  
BURLINGTON  
CARBONEAR  
CARBONEAR, NFLD  
CARMANVILLE  
CATALINA  
CLARENVILLE  
CLARKE'S BEACH  
COACHMAN'S COVE  
COME BY CHANCE  
COOK'S HARBOR  
CORNER BROOK  
DEER LAKE  
FRANCOIS  
GLENWOOD  
GRAND LAKE  
GRATE'S COVE  
GRIQUET  
HAMPDEN  
HARBOR MAIN  
HEART'S CONTENT  
HEART'S DELIGHT  
HERMITAGE  
HILLVIEW, T.B.  
HOWLEY  
HUMBERMOUTH  
LADLE COVE

"Newfoundland" in bottom line

"B" & "F" larger than other letters

1931 - date is DAY-MONTH-YEAR

"NEWFOUNDLAND" omitted  
rectangle severely worn; could be wav

"C" & "B" larger than other letters

"Q" could be "G"

severely worn; could be wavy

badly worn; could be wavy

# **DOTTED RECTANGLE**

<u>POST OFFICE</u>	<u>YEAR AND COLOR</u>	<u>PLEASE NOTE ANY VARIATIONS</u>
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LITTLE BAY  
 LITTLE HARBOR  
 LONG BEACH, B.D.V.  
 LONG HARBOUR  
 LOWER ISLAND COVE  
 MARYSTOWN  
 MILLERTOWN  
 MILLERTOWN JUNCTION  
 MONROE, T.B.  
 MUNDY POND, St. John's  
 NARDINIS  
 NORRIS ARM  
 PASS ISLAND  
 PLACENTIA  
 PORT ANSON  
 PORT DE GRAVE  
 RATTILING BROOK, N.D.B.  
 ROSE BLANCHE  
 ST. ANTHONY, NFLD.  
 ST. ANTHONY, I.G.A.  
 ST. BERNARDS  
 ST. GEORGE'S  
 ST. JOHN'S EAST  
 ST. JOHN'S EAST, N.F.  
 SHOAL HARBOR  
 SPRINGDALE  
 STEPHENVILLE CROSSING  
 TERRA NOVA

"NEWFOUNDLAND" omitted

"NEWFOUNDLAND" omitted

BELL ISLAND MINES  
 CHANGE ISLANDS, NFLD.  
 CLARENVILLE  
 Come-By-Chance Crossing  
 I.G.A./ ST. ANTHONY, NFLD

MONEY ORDER/DATE/TOWN (45mm x 25mm)  
 POSTAL TELEGRAPHS/DATE/TOWN, NFLD  
 TOWN/DATE/NEWFOUNDLAND  
 POSTAL TELEGRAPHS/DATE/TOWN  
 I.G.A./DATE/TOWN, NFLD (52mm x 23mm)