



# THE NEWFIE NEWSLETTER

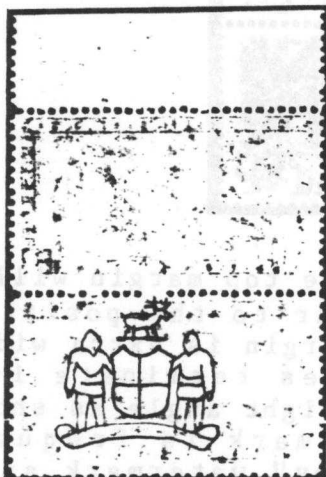
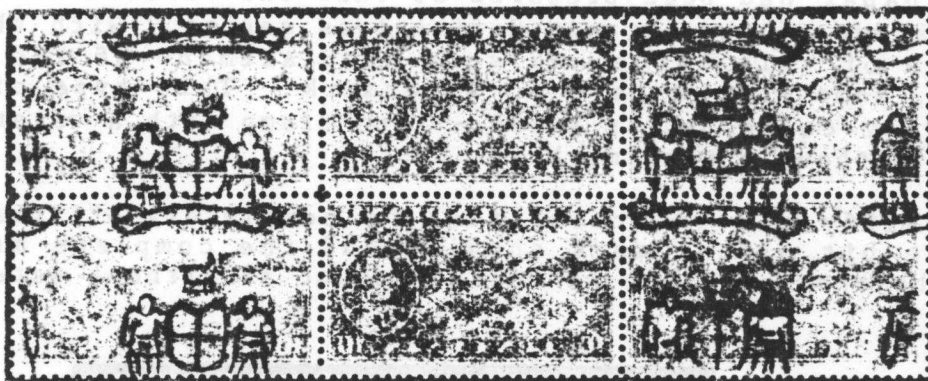
of the Newfoundland Study Group of BNAPS

Number 39

March/April 1991

## WITH AND WITHOUT WATERMARK ON 1937 CORONATION ISSUE

by C. A. Stillions



From 1931 until confederation with only a few exceptions the stamps of Newfoundland were printed on paper watermarked with the coat of arms of the original patent. Study Group member, John Walsh, in the May-June 1990 BNA TOPICS describes the layout of watermarks so that one coat of arms image would fall on each stamp in a pane. As far as is known the paper was produced by John Dickenson and Company. Dickenson and Perkins Bacon had a marketing agreement to market each others products overseas. It

is assumed that this agreement was maintained when Perkins Bacon went bankrupt at the end of 1935 and W. W. Sprague & Company acquired the business.

One of the considerations in awarding the contract for producing the additional values of the 1937 Coronation stamps to the Perkins Bacon Division of W. W. Sprague & Company was the fact that they had on hand one and threequarter tons of stamp paper. This paper had been prepared so that the watermark would occur on each stamp of the current definitives series. With the elongated design of this issue and some misplacement of the paper in the press, some stamps have no watermark. This type of variety is normally collected in pairs -- one stamp with a watermark and one stamp without a watermark.

To qualify the watermark must be completely off the stamp. Any little bit of the mark showing and the complete mark might as well be there because it doesn't count as without watermark.



Sometimes a with and without pair from the top margin will show two vertical lines about 7mm apart similar to the positioning lines described by John Walsh. When the margin is extra wide the full mark shows and the two vertical lines terminate in 4mm diameter circles and not in a line at a right angle as shown in the article by John Walsh. This watermark is frequently described as a "key" watermark. This "key" watermark and the watermarks in the sheet described by John Walsh certainly indicate that John Dickenson & Company produced paper with the Newfoundland Coat of Arms from two different dandy rolls.

This little discussion certainly indicates that there is much that can be learned about the paper used to produce the stamps of Newfoundland. Anyone wishing to add to this discussion is most welcome.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS

The 1991 edition of SCOTT'S SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS is out and there is not much new for Newfoundland collectors. The single biggest change is the addition of Newfoundland postal stationery to the catalogue. The listing mirrors the listing in the Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue of Canada and Newfoundland. But, it also has a listing for the formula registered envelopes and aerogrammes. While the catalogue has listed the reply coupons issued by Canada for several years now, reply coupons issued by Newfoundland are still not listed. Price changes are few and are limited to nineteenth century issues.

This is the most widely use catalogue used in North America. However, it does not provide very good descriptions for identification of Newfoundland stamps. The paper descriptions for the pence issues have no bearing on determining the proper catalogue listing, and there is no information provided to distinguish between the Perkins Bacon and the Waterlow imperforated 5¢ Caribou, numbers 1911 and 2571. Unfortunately this catalogue is too widely used for the Newfoundland collector not to have a copy.

#### NEW MEMBERS

James M. McCabe, 132 Snug Haven Court, Tonawanda, New York  
14150

Robert E. Thompson, 39002 212th Street S.W., Enumclaw, WA

William P. Taylor, 225 Jay Street, Johnson City, New York  
13790

Arthur W. Sprague, 216 South Park Road, La Grange, Illinois  
60525

#### NEWS FROM OTHER STUDY GROUPS

Transatlantic letters to and from Newfoundland is the principle subject of the March 1991 newsletter of the Transatlantic Mail Study Group (Newsletter no. 21). For more information you should contact the chairman of the group, Dr. J. C. Arnell, P. O. Box HM 1263, Hamilton HMTX, Bermuda.

A major re-entry on the 1865 Newfoundland 24¢ Victoria (Scott no. 31) is illustrated in the March-April 1991 newsletter of the Canadian Re-entry Study Group. The illustrations in this study groups newsletter are always fantastic. Ralph E. Trimble is the Chairman and Newsletter Editor. he can be reached at P. O. Box 532, Station 'A', Scarborough, Ontario M1K 5C3.

COMING EVENTS

BNAPLEX'91, August 29-31, 1991, Vancouver, British Columbia, Westin Bayshore Hotel, Annual convention and exhibition of the British North America Philatelic Society, Annual meeting of the Newfoundland Study Group. The program at the study group meeting is yet to be determined -- any volunteers?

MOVING MEMBERS

David A. Stark, P. O. Box 400, Annapolis Junction, Maryland  
20701-0400

John J. Kriz, 37 Strawberry Hill Road, New Canaan, Connecticut  
06840-4238

SUPPORT OUR DEALER MEMBERS

Gary J. Lyon, EASTERN AUCTIONS LTD., P.O.Box 250, Bathurst, New Brunswick, CANADA E2A 3Z2

Ed Wener, INDIGO, P.O. Box 308, Guelph, Ontario CANADA

John M. Walsh, WALSH'S PHILATELIC SERVICE, 9 Guy Street, St. John's, Newfoundland CANADA A1B 1P4

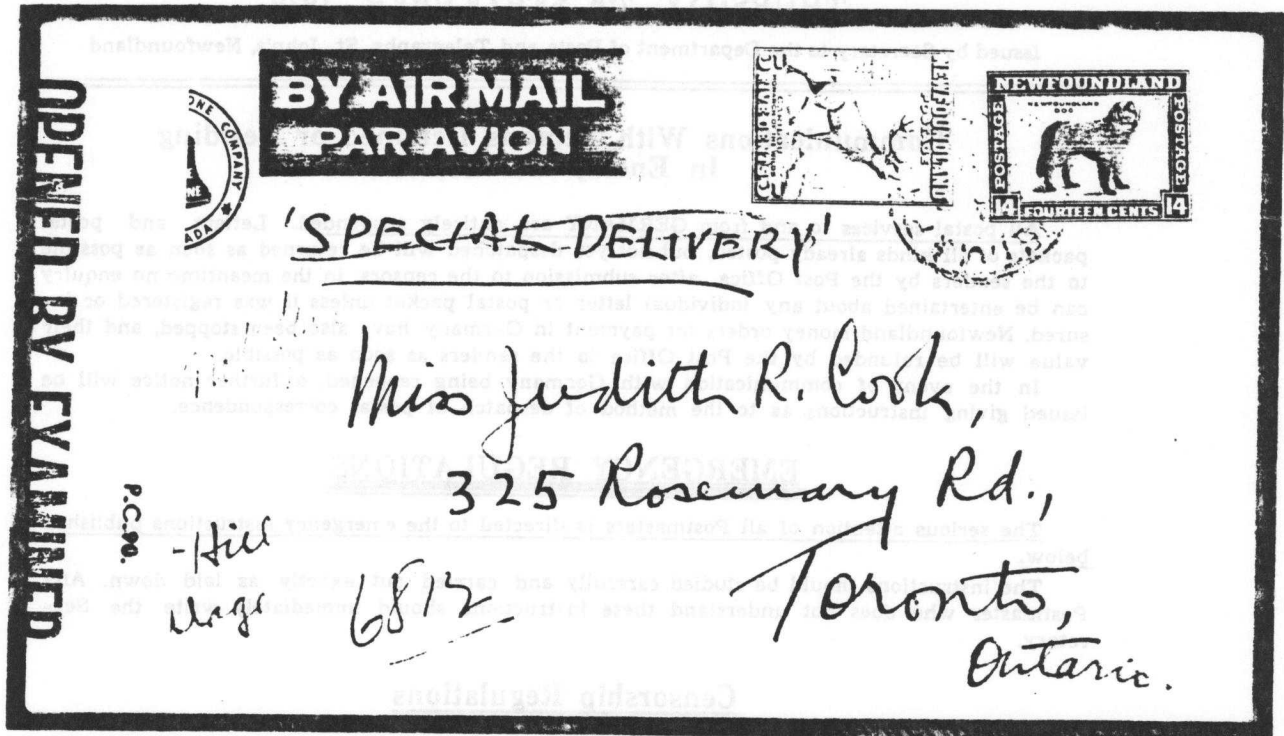
Robert J. McGillivray, STANLEY STAMP COMPANY, 1096 Richards Street, Vancouver, B.C., CANADA V6B 3E1

INFOFINDER

There still are a number of copies available of Bob Pratt's INFOFINDER, the index to his book THE NINETEENTH CENTURY POSTAL HISTORY OF NEWFOUNDLAND. If you do not have one, you can get one by sending your check to me, C. A. Stillions, 5031 Eskridge Terrace, N. W., Washington, D.C. 20016. The price is \$5.00US to study group members or \$7.00 to nonmembers. Remember, Bob is donating all profits from the sale of the INFOFINDER to the study group.

MORE ON NEWFOUNDLAND SPECIAL DELIVERY

Canada special delivery specialist, G. H. Davis, reports obtaining the companion cover to the one on page 1 of the NEWFIE NEWSLETTER No. 26. But this time "SPECIAL DELIVERY" is crossout and the notation "Not Spec" has been added.



The cover to Toronto has a serial number, 6812, as if someone logged it in as a special delivery letter upon receipt in Toronto. However, someone thought better of the idea and marked through the notation, SPECIAL DELIVERY and wrote "Not Spec" on the cover.

G.H. has been unable to find any postal regulations permitting prepayment of special delivery fees in another country for services in Canada. Your editor's inquiries to Canada Archives in Ottawa and to the Newfoundland Provencal Archives in St. John's has yielded similar negative results. It appears that on occasion letters from Newfoundland marked SPECIAL DELIVERY were given special delivery service in Canada. It also appears that the occasions were few and far between.

# POST OFFICE CIRCULAR.



THURSDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER, 1939

Issued by Secretary to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, St. John's, Newfoundland

## Communications With Persons Detained or Residing In Enemy Territories

All postal services to and from GERMANY are entirely suspended. Letters and postal packets of all kinds already posted, but not yet despatched will be returned as soon as possible to the senders by the Post Office, after submission to the censors; in the meantime no enquiry can be entertained about any individual letter or postal packet unless it was registered or insured. Newfoundland money orders for payment in Germany have also been stopped, and their value will be refunded by the Post Office to the senders as soon as possible.

In the event of communication with Germany being reopened, a further notice will be issued giving instructions as to the method of despatch of postal correspondence.

## EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

The serious attention of all Postmasters is directed to the emergency instructions published below.

The instructions should be studied carefully and carried out exactly as laid down. Any Postmaster who does not understand these instructions should immediately write the Secretary.

## Censorship Regulations

In virtue of the powers conferred by the Defence Act of 1939 a censorship has been imposed in respect of all Postal Telegraph or other communications in Newfoundland and any item of mail or telegraph message is now subject to such censorship.

## Telegrams and Cables

Telegrams and cables may be accepted by the Cable Companies for transmission abroad and those received from abroad may be delivered to addressees in Newfoundland, provided these messages comply with the following regulations:—

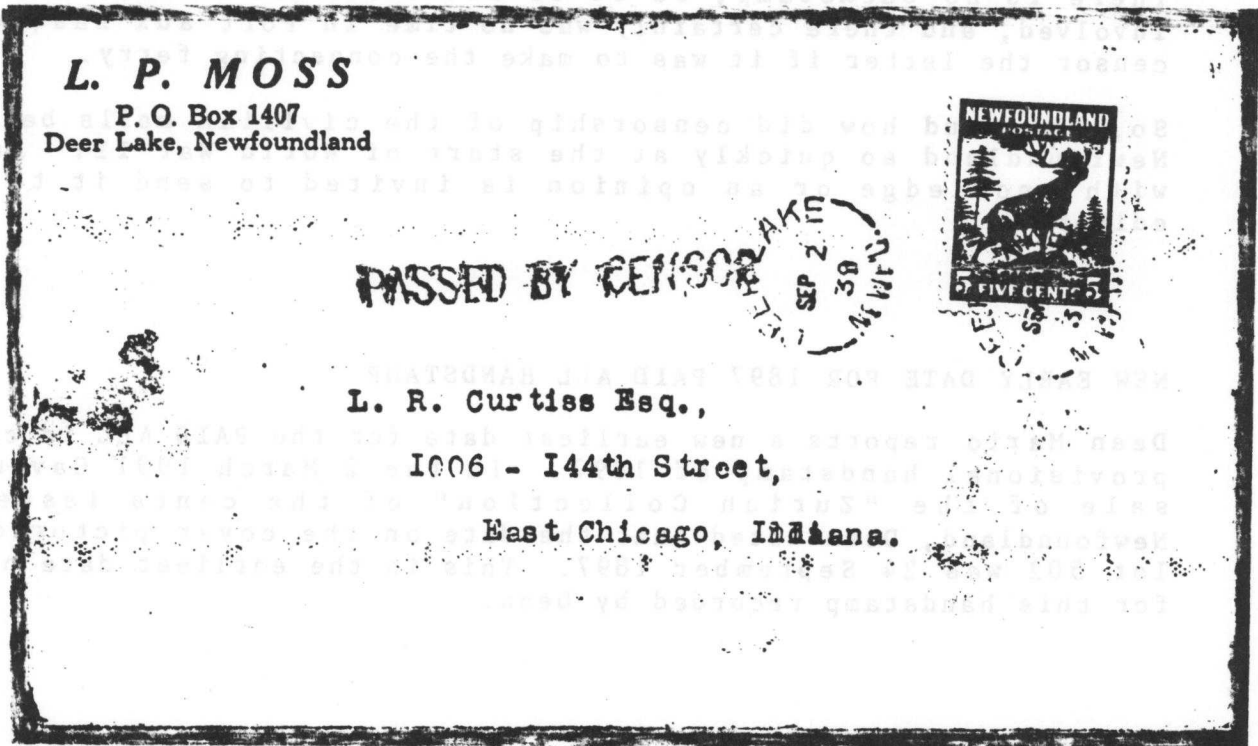
- (1) The use of code or cipher is prohibited.
- (2) Messages written in the English and French languages only are permitted.
- (3) Messages must bear the surname of the sender at the end of the text.
- (4) Abbreviated addresses will not be accepted.
- (5) No message may contain anything which might possibly work to the disadvantage of the State.
- (6) The Authorities will not be responsible for delays, stoppages or other interference imposed by the exigencies of censorship.

In order to make the Censorship of letters and postal packets, which is rendered necessary in the present emergency, as effective and economical as possible the public is earnestly invited to conform to the following rules in regard to correspondence with places abroad:—

- (1) The name and address of the sender should be stated on the envelope.
- (2) Correspondence should be conducted in English, if possible; the language should be plain and the letters as clearly written and as brief as possible.
- (3) If English is not employed the name of the language used should be endorsed on the envelope.

WORLD WAR II CIVIL CENSORSHIP IN NEWFOUNDLAND, WHEN DID IT BEGIN?

asks G. Palmer Moffat



Palmer Moffat recently acquired this cover. The DEER LAKE split circle date stamp is common enough, but when the 2 September 1939 date and the PASSED BY CENSOR were put together, wheels began to turn.

Germany invaded Poland on 1 September 1939. Great Britain (+ Australia, India and New Zealand) and France declared war on Germany on 3 September 1939. Canada joined the Allies on September 10. Post Office Circulars were always issued on Thursdays and in 1939 they were issued weekly. A copy of the first page for the September 7th is on the opposite page.

September 2 was a Saturday. The first train west stopped at Deer Lake at 1:15am Monday and was scheduled to arrive at Port aux Basques at 8:45am Monday, September 4. The ship to North Sydney was due to leave Port aux Basques at 9:30am. The next train would have arrived at Deer Lake at 11:10am Wednesday, arrive at Port aux Basques at 8:00pm Wednesday, and the ship to North Sydney was due to leave at 9:30pm.

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The censor marking "must" have been applied in Newfoundland as neither Canada nor the United States was involved in the war yet. How Deer Lake happened to have a PASSED BY CENSOR handstamp which would have had to be applied on Sunday is another question. There is no backstamp, so it is doubtful that the RPO clerk was involved, and there certainly was no time in Port aux Basques to censor the letter if it was to make the connecting ferry.

So, when and how did censorship of the civilian mails begin in Newfoundland so quickly at the start of World War II? Anyone with knowledge or an opinion is invited to send it to your editor.

NEW EARLY DATE FOR 1897 PAID ALL HANDSTAMP

Dean Mario reports a new earliest date for the PAID ALL in circle provisional handstamp of 1897. In the 2 March 1991 Cavendish sale of the "Zurich Collection" of the cents issues of Newfoundland, Dean noted that the date on the cover pictured for lot 502 was 24 September 1897. This is the earliest date of use for this handstamp recorded by Dean.

WANTED

Articles for the Newsletter. If you have any items you want to showoff, questions about something you don't understand, or opinions you would like to express, this is the place. So send a photocopy of your favorite item, your question, or your essay to me and I'll use it in the newsletter.