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THANKSI		

Several members have sent first time articles to the newsletter, for which I give my sincere thanks! More are needed, but there was certainly enough for this edition.

COLIN LEWIS' PRIZE-WINNING EXHIBIT DEBUTS

Starting in this issue is the superb Newfoundland postal history exhibit of Colin Lewis, U.K. This is the first time in print. I asked Colin to provide some information on his philatelic interests.

"Our esteemed Editor, Norris "Bob" Dyer, has persuaded me to put finger to keyboard and write a few lines about my interest in the Postal History of Newfoundland. Many people ask me how I got started and why, when living in Wales, I opted for Newfoundland as my key area of interest. Well, like most collectors it started with the stamps as a schoolboy about 1946. My dear cousin, Vera, had married a Newfoundlander and lived on Bell Island in Conception Bay and it was her husband, Jack Rees, who used to visit my mother and father, who set me off on the path when he gifted me with a stack of nice Newfie stamps. Eventually, they moved from Bell Island and settled for the remainder of their lives in the Outport of Manuels that overlooked Bell Island from the mainland.

"It was many years later, about 1985, that I took an interest in Postal History and started to study the Rates and Routes that mail traveled. It was not until 1991 when I retired early from my job in Telecommunications that I decided to take a more serious approach to the subject. However, it was 1998 that I first ventured into serious competition. I put together a 4-frame (64 sheets) exhibit for the UK National Show in London and was pleased to receive a gold medal award. My next main competition was to be the London 2000 Stamp-show and my 5-frame exhibit was awarded a vermeil medal. I realized, if I were to again exhibit internationally, I would have to rewrite my sheets and follow more closely the rules. I did this and at the 2001 Ottawa BNAPS Convention my exhibit was 10 frames (160 pages) on the Postal History of Newfoundland 1857-1900. It achieved gold medal status and was also given the Meyerson Award as the best exhibit for Canadian Provincial material. My next aim was to exhibit internationally again and I applied for entry to the FIP Exhibition at Bangkok in November, 2003. My entry was accepted and I showed 5 frames. The exhibit was awarded a large vermeil that meant any future FIP entry would have to be increased to 8 frames. I have applied to show at Valencia-Spain in May, and have received notification of provisional acceptance. My long-term aspiration is to strike gold at an FIP International event, but at the end of the day that is up to the judges."

OUR DEALER MEMBERS

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SOME EBAYAUCTION RESULTS

Here are some eBay results. First I will list mint or unused **sets** in the \$25-110 range that were listed on eBay in late 2003. **DNS** means "did not sell", as the minimum bid was not met. **Scott** numbers are used, and prices are in U.S. dollars. I have not listed any sets with obvious faults. Because of the large number of viewers/bidders, I feel eBay prices reflect actual market value.

- 226-229, VF, NH, blocks of four \$24.95
- 212-225. LH \$35 DNS
- 163-171, LH/NH \$35.65
- 145-159, VF, LH \$40 DNS
- 131-144, F-VF, LH \$41.40
- 212-225, F-VF, LH \$41.41
- 233-243, F, NH \$43.24
- 115-126, VF, LH \$46.67
- 163-171, LH \$47 DNS
- 163-171, LH, VF \$49 DNS
- 212-225, VF, LH, \$49.95
- 104-114, F-VF, Hinged \$61
- C9-11, VF, LH \$63
- 115-124, F-VF, HR \$64.99
- 115-124, F-VF. HR \$70 DNS
- 104-114, F-VF, LH \$72.64
- C13-17, VF, LH \$76
- C13-17, VF NH \$77.79
- 172-182, VF, LH \$85 DNS
- C13-17, VF, hinged \$86
- 61-74 VF, LH \$95
- 61-74 VF, hinged \$110 DNS
- 104-114, VF, LH/HR \$120 DNS

Here are a few singles and covers - same "rules" as above, with upward \$ range a bit higher.

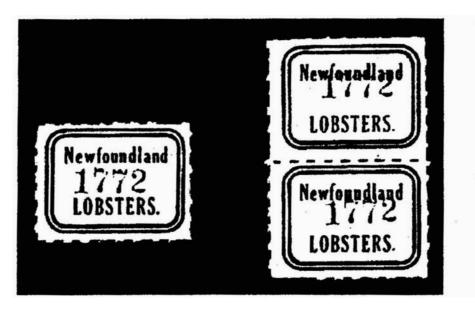
- 27, F, hinged \$40
- 82 & 85 on registered 1902 cover to Halifax, F-VF \$41.33 [correct rate]
- 1, VF, part gum \$46
- 27A F-VF, no gum \$65
- 40, Fine, LH \$70
- 15A, VF, no gum \$71
- 34, VF, no gum \$75
- 33, VF, no gum \$82
- C3b on cover, F-VF \$96
- 8, VF, no gum \$110.26
- C3a on cover, VF \$200 DNS
- C18, F-VF, LH \$206

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NEWFOUNDLAND LOBSTER STAMPS!!

Mel Boone



I have enclosed a photocopy of what I supposed could be classified as Nfld revenues. In the pas have shown them to Van Dam and, of course, he is reluctant to list them without more details information (and unless I gave him one!).

I have collected Newfoundland stamps/coves, etc. for 44 years now and have accumulated lots material. However, I have not been able to find any more of these.

They are rouletted. I obtained them from a gentleman about 30 years ago. He described them a stamps that were used similar to unemployment stamps — they were placed on a sheet 6" X 3.5" a book of [an] unknown number of sheets. Each stamp was worth "X' number of lobsters caug during the year/season and when one or more sheets were completed, they could be turned in the proper government authorities and were used as a "credit" towards something similar unemployment insurance, thus payment was given to the individual in the off season in the san manner as UI. This was his explanation to me about 30 years ago. Alas, he has since died. So have no way of verifying this and since you were looking for interesting articles for the Newslette thought this might spark some interest.

Apparently, they were used in the late 30's here in Newfoundland. They are bla letters/frame/numbers on a white background. If anyone can shed light on them it would I helpful.

Mel Boone is a member of our group, retired in Clarkes Beach after serving 30 years in the Roy Canadian Air Force/Canadian Armed Forces. He collects used Nfld with readable CDS cance ANYTHING from "Clarkes Beach" or "Cupids" (4 miles away). His address is P.O. Box 79 Clarkes Beach, Nfld A0A 1W0. If you have information about the "lobster stamps" please le the Editor know.



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Colin Lewis' award-winning Exhibit

POSTAL HISTORY JANUARY 1857 - JUNE 1893

The postal history is studied principally through rates but where appropriate routes and instructional markings are examined. It commences 1 January 1857, when postage stamps were first issued, to 30 June 1893 when the basic ½-ounce weight step to Canada and the Provinces was increased to one ounce. The major event of the period was the change from Newfoundland and Sterling currencies to cents on 7 April 1865.

The structure is chronological within geographical boundaries commencing with Colonial, then moving through Maritime Provinces, Canada, USA, Great Britain, Mainland Europe and the rest of the world. The exhibit has 24 items that are the only example recorded at a particular rate, destination or franking while the most significant of these can be viewed on sheets: 6, 18, 20, 25, 39, 40, 41, 44, 51, 75 and 80.



Newfoundland is Britain's oldest Colony situated off the Eastern Seaboard of Canada in the North Atlantic Ocean. Its population in 1857 was 124,000 and by 1891 had risen to 202.000.

During the Pence Period rates were charged either in Newfoundland Currency or Sterling, depending on destination. Colonial, Provincial and Canadian rates were charged in Newfoundland Currency whilst the rest were charged in Sterling The currencies were convertible on the basis that 3 pence Currency was equal to $2\frac{1}{2}$ pence Sterling. Upon decimalisation they both converted to 5 cents.

The recorded information is taken from the Pence and Cents Censuses compiled by Robert H. Pratt and the current census revision being lead by Sammy Whaley

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NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY JANUARY 1857- JUNE 1893 - COLIN LEWIS

Act 19 Victoria Cap IX 12 May 1856

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Rates Applicable upon the Introduction of Postage Stamps

1 January 1857 to 6 April 1865

Colonial

Single Letter Rate 3 Pence per 1 Ounce



St. John's January 28 1864

Too Late Handstamp use



St. John's August 21 1858

Note: Initially unpaid 3 Pence collect. Too Late for despatch;

3 Pence adhesive applied and collect handstamp deleted.

The only recorded cover with this usage.

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WAYZATA COVER?

Submitted by Dr. Colin Bulloch



A Wayzata cover from 1956? Note it was addressed to a stamp dealer

This is clearly 24 yrs out of date from printing (August 1932) and presumably a philatelic hoax, with under dealing, says Colin.

Editor – The Wayzata stamp was never authorized by Newfoundland but 25,000 survived after repudiation. Mint copies still sell for only \$10-15. Below see a blow-up of the slogan cancel on the stamp.



The slogan reads:

"N'est pas admise a la poste, l'envelope de moins de 4 X 2 ¾ PO"

According to Steve Friedenthal, of BNAPS' Slogan Cancels group, this cancel was used during 1956-57 in Montreal per the Coutts Catalogue, Page 125. Says Steve, it means "that envelopes smaller than the size mentioned are not mailable." At first we thought the cancel meant the stamp was not valid, however, it does appear that the cover did go through the mails!

Newfoundland mint *stamps* continue to be valid for use in Canada. Was some postal clerk conned into accepting this stamp for postage??? A "\$1" dollar stamp – looked like a quick profit, perhaps? Mercí!!

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NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR "COMPANY TOWN" POST OFFICES

Carl Munden

Most of these post offices were very short-lived and were set up for the postal needs of the workers. Pre-Confederation projects usually involved forestry and mining. After Confederation there were also schemes involving large construction that required many people.

The following is a sampling of four such post offices, one Pre-Confederation and three Post. Hammer strikes with a "P" are illustrations from "Full Circle Proof Strikes of the Maritimes", J. Paul Hughes, published by Robert A. Lee. Opening and closing dates are from Postmaster record cards PAC in Ottawa. Various but incomplete references are noted for each offices.

GRAND VILLAGE

This area in Labrador was settled around 1850. Between 1901 and 1910, the Dickie Lumber Company of Stewiacke, Nova Scotia set up operations for a large camp and renamed the townsite **GRAND VILLAGE**. After 1910, the company pulled out and the settlement reverted to its former name of **MUD LAKE**. *Ref: Central Labrador Economic Development Board*



Unfortunately, there is not a complete strike but the last four letters of bounced strike are **LAGE**. There is also supposed to be another oval hammer from this location that reads **NT** (as in Blanc Sablon **NT**y.)

GULL POND/GULL BRIDGE

This was a mining settlement set up by Gullbridge Mines. It was located off the TCH at Gull Pond between Badger and Springdale. Ref: Exploits Valley Economic Zone

The **GULL POND** post office opened on Jan. 19/67. The hammer was proofed on Dec. 23/66. The name of the post office was changed to **GULL BRIDGE** on May 1/67. Thus **GULL POND** was only in existence for a little over three months. We do not know when the **GULL BRIDGE** was proofed as it was a bad proof strike. **GULL BRIDGE** closed on Jun. 24/72. The postmaster was listed as Gullbridge Mines Ltd. (John H. Spence) **Continued Next Page**

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"Company Town" Post Offices - Carl Munden (Continued)



Does anyone out there have a strike of **GULL BRIDGE**?

TWIN FALLS

A power plant was constructed here in the early 60's to provide electricity to Labrador City/Wabush. This was the first large scale power development for Labrador. **Twin Falls** was located a little west of present day Churchill Falls. The plant was closed in July 74. *Ref. History of Churchill Falls - Churchill Falls Labrador Corporation*.

There is no opening date for **TWIN FALLS** post office but a CDS hammer was proofed on Mar. 25/64. The post office was closed on Aug. 31/72.



Also of interest here is a CDS hammer proof for **TWIN FALLS SUB 1**. on May 14/67. There are no records whatsoever of this office. One wonders why a location this small would have a sub office.

Has anyone out there seen a strike from TWIN FALLS SUB 1?

Concluded Next Page

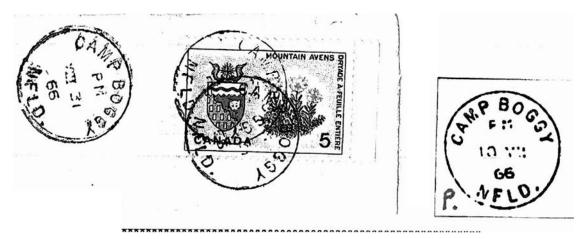
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"Company Town" Post Offices - Carl Munden (Concluded)

CAMP BOGGY

Located at the head of the Bay d' Espoir, this construction camp was set up to build dams for a hydro project on the Island Pond/Salmon reservoirs. Ref. NFLD hydro projects

The CDS hammer was proofed on Jul. 10/66 and the **CAMP BOGGY** post office opened on Jul. 20/66. After a run of 14 months it closed permanently on Sep. 26/67. The postmaster was listed as Foundation Lundrigan Co. Ltd.



Collecting town cancels of any area can be an ongoing life-long pursuit. Many will be unique and others simply do not exist. Many factors can contribute to this, such as population, period of office open, literacy of the population or just plain luck of the draw.

I have put all of my collection in a database and have scanned all postmarks on a slide scanner, which conveniently takes 4 X 6 prints and is ideal for covers, piece or stamp. I intend some day to burn all of this onto a CD for quick reference and also for theft purposes.

Anyone in the Group who has an interest in Newfoundland town cancels and would like to further discuss this topic are invited to get in touch.

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NEWFOUNDLAND'S POSTAL STATIONERY 1873-1941 - Horace Harrison

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1689 ENVELOPES

FROM THE DE LA RUE ARCHIVES

DIE PROOF IN VERMILLION DATED 17 AUGUST, 1889

