

THE NEWFIE NEWSLETTER
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS

Number 106

May/June 2004

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VIMY NOT CROSSING ATLANTIC THIS YEAR!!

In late March, I spoke to John LaNoue, Chief Engineer for the Vickers-Vimy aircraft, which is hangered a few miles from my home. John has installed new MT propellers and Orenda engines but it has been a tedious process and they are not fully operational. John is hoping for local test flights within two months. Current plan is to fly to St. John's sometime this year and winter the plane there with the anticipation of a cross-Atlantic attempt in 2005. I will keep in touch with John.

\$20,000 NEWFOUNDLAND VARIETY

C.A. Stillions, long-time Newfoundland specialist informed me of the rare variety that sold at auction last February (see Page 5). This has to be the most paid for a 20th century Newfoundland stamp, air mails aside. A version of this article appeared in **LINN'S STAMPS NEWS** on March 29, 2004 under my name. *It's never too late to check your 14¢ stamps (Scott #238).*

SAMMY WHALEY'S BOOK READIED FOR PUBLICATION

Sammy Whaley has written **NEWFOUNDLAND: 1865-1879 THE NEW YORK PRINTINGS – A COVER STORY**. In it Sammy lists 975 recorded covers (and provides illustrations of 750 of them) of Newfoundland stamps Scott 24a-40 (less 29 and 36 which were 1894 reprints done in Canada). This book is a significant update/ expansion of Robert Pratt's 1989 **NEWFOUNDLAND CENTS ISSUE COVERS**. Publication details are not final at this time, but one option would include some fiscal support by our Group along with matching money by members with whom I have spoken. Many of you will recall Sammy presented his material at the last two BNAPEX shows in workshops sponsored by the Group. There will be much more about this will in our next newsletter.

MORE ITEMS NEEDED FOR NEWSLETTER AGAIN!!!!

MEMBERS WIN AWARDS AT EDMONTON SHOW FOR NEWFOUNDLAND MATERIAL

Congratulations are due: David Piercey – *Newfoundland: The Postal Issues 1865-1908* (GOLD); Kevin O'Reilly – *A Pre-Confederation Postal History of Labrador* (GOLD); and, John Jamieson – *Newfoundland John Guy Tercentenary 1910-1911 Issue* (VERMEIL). Show was March 26-28th.

OUR DEALER MEMBERS

J-Claude Michaud, P.O. Box 31248, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3K 5Y1

R.L. McGillivray, Stanley Stamps, 1096 Richards St. Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3E1

John Jamieson, Saskatoon Stamp Centre, P.O. Box 1870, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 3S2

Bill Longely, Longely Auctions, P.O. Box 620, Waterdown, Ontario L0R 2H0

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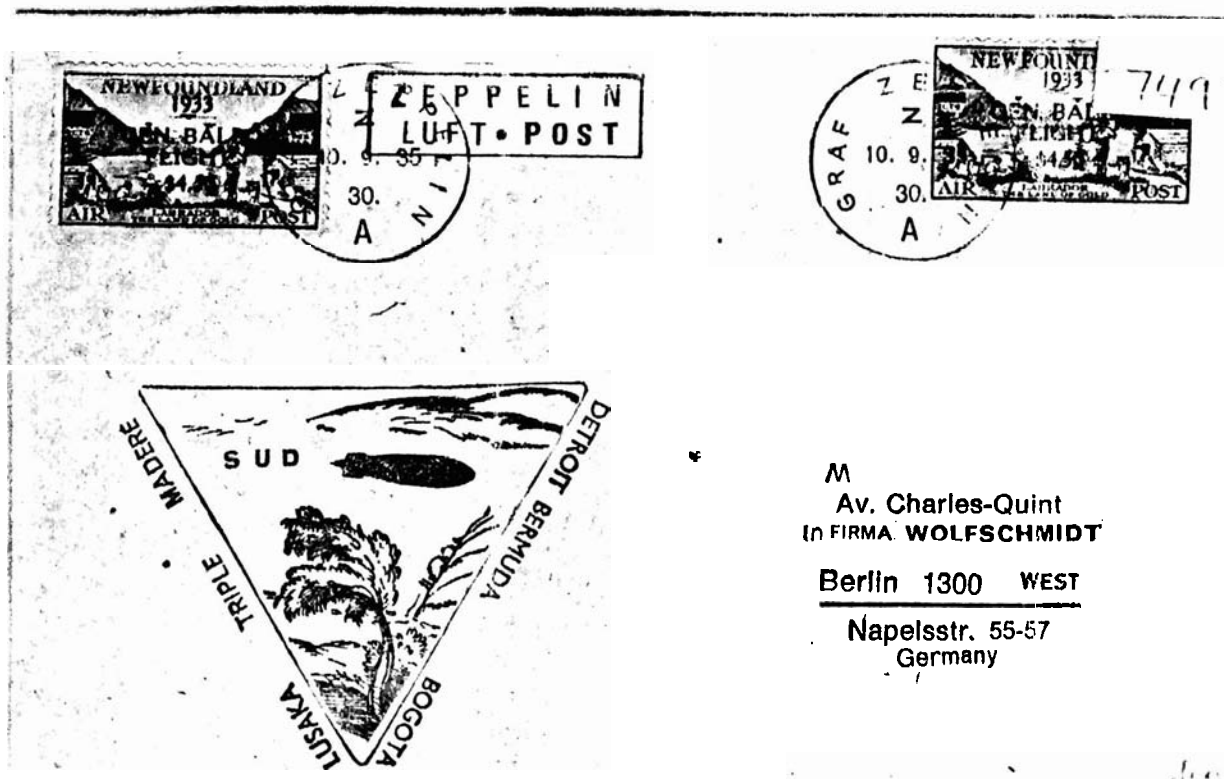
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BEWARE STRANGE-LOOKING BALBO COVERS!!

Dean Mario



The cover shown above was sold in a U.K. auction around May of 2001. The auctioneer described several lots:

The following items (14) come from a bizarre series apparently produced in the 1970's combining 'real' stamps with perforated reproductions of Zeppelin [sic] stamps together with specially produced etiquettes, handstamps and labels but need to be seen to be believed. One of the most clever things I have ever seen produced.

The cover was Lot 749, described : "Env. With pair of repro Newfoundland 1933 Gen Balbo Flight stamps tied GRAF ZEPPELIN cds with DETROIT BERMUDA BOGOTA LUSAKA Zeppelin [sic] Cachet." The estimate was £6.00.

Editor: Considering what it was, the price was not high – however, this is the sort of thing to be feared, as the person who bought it might try to turn it around and sell it as an actual Balbo cover.

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UPDATED LIST OF EARLIEST KNOWN USAGE – NEWFOUNDLAND STATIONERY

Robert Lemire & Bill Walton

This is an update of the list provided us by Rob Moore in Newsletter #103 with some new dates. In #102 Rob had provided a picture of an early date on P2. Lemire & Walton now acknowledge that below. They have also included registered envelope formulas not on the previous list. If you have even earlier dates, let the Editor know.

Envelopes

EN1	3¢ violet, 170 X 79mm	Feb 17, 1890
	a. same, 120 X 95mm	Jan 8, 1890
EN2	5¢ blue, 170 X 79mm	Jan 21, 1891
	a. same, 120 X 95mm	Jan 8, 1890

Post Bands

W1/1a	1¢ green	Dec 10, 1890
W2/2a	2¢ carmine	Sept 23, 1893
W3/3a	3¢ brown	Jan 25, 1895

Postal Cards

P1	1¢ green	Oct 1, 1873
P2	2¢ vermilion	July 26, 1879
P3	1¢ green	Feb 12, 1881
P4	2¢ vermilion	Oct 12, 1880
P5	2¢ on 1¢	May 14, 1889
P6	2¢ & 2¢ carmine red (second setting)	Jun 10, 1892
	a. same, deep scarlet (first setting)	Mar 16, 1892
P7	1¢ green Edward	Apr 13, 1904
P8	2¢ vermilion Alexandra	Dec 6, 1905
P9	1¢ green George V	Feb 23, 1911
P10	2¢ red Mary	Jul 25, 1914
P11	1¢ green, POST CARD in white	Jul 12, 1913
P12	1¢ green, NEWFOUNDLAND in white	Jun 9, 1915
P13	1¢ green, die 1	Oct 9, 1930
	a. same, die 2	May 22, 1936
P14	2¢ green	Jul 20, 1933

Registered Envelope Formulas

Rounded Flaps

RE1	Size A 152 X 95mm	Mar 29, 1938
RE2	Size B 200 X 123mm	May 12, 1938
RE3	Size C 227 X 102mm	Dec 24, 1938
RE4	Size D 291 X 151mm	Dec 2, 1939

Square Flaps

RE5	Size A	Oct 9, 1944
RE6	Size B	Mar 6, 1944

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HOLY SURCHARGE – LOOK AT THIS!!! - The Editor



This appears to be a block of eight (reattached vertically) of a surcharge on a 1942 caribou issue

I wanted to capture your attention with something you have *never* seen before since I just created it using two blocks of the 5¢ caribou and a **transparency of a trial proof of a 1946 surcharge provided me by C.A. Stillions**. I simply slipped the two blocks under the transparency and scanned the result. Newfoundland *almost* created stamps like this in March, 1946 when it ran out of 2¢ stamps. This trial was done on March 19, 1946 according to notes on the margin of the trial surcharge sheet. One day later, on March 20th, they went to a **TWO CENTS** double-lined surcharge applied to the 20¢ Memorial University College stamp. Long-time subscribers may recall Stillion's article in Newfie Newsletter #22, March/April of 1989, in which he provided a picture of the proof sheet (without stamps, of course). He wrote, in part:

Why wasn't the 5¢ Caribou definitive used for the surcharge? The rumor was that it was not used because the printing was not sufficiently clear. However, the note at the top of the proof impression explains why it really could not be used. It says "**Proof for 2 on 5 surcharge which could not be used because stamp curled too quickly to be fed to the press.**"

No legitimate copies of the 2¢ trial on the 5¢ caribous have ever surfaced.

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EXTREMELY RARE NEWFOUNDLAND VARIETY COMES TO MARKET

By C.A. Stillions



Comb perf. 13 Scott 238b, \$4,250 & S.G. 262c £5,500 Auction Estimate \$3,500

I don't know whether you are aware but there appears to be another find of this rare 20th Century Newfoundland stamp. Victoria Stamp Company of Ridgewood, NJ is offering it as lot #751 in their Public Auction Sale #17, on 7 February, 2004. I think there is a story here for this newsletter. [Ed. – this was written in late January. Stillions was the first editor of the Newfie Newsletter.]

The stamp is featured in color on the auction cover and it looks very much like the Sidney Harris stamp that was sold by Stanley Gibbons in October, 1968 as lot #1037. It has very similar centering. The Harris stamp is believed to be the original find by BNAPS original member, Dan Meyerson. The story is Meyerson found the stamp, but the dealer, Robson Lowe, did not believe him and asked if he could see it. Meyerson sent it off to Robson Lowe in London. After a little time had passed, Meyerson received a check from Robson Lowe for an unbelievable large amount. Meyerson did not really want to sell it but the amount was so large and it had taken so little effort to find it that Meyerson accepted the check thinking he could easily replace it. Meyerson never found another example. Until the Victoria auction no other example has been found, at least on this side of the Atlantic. Over the years when I was actively collecting this issue, I had heard rumors from various British dealers of other examples, but until now there has been no documented proof of a second example.

The Sidney Harris example has a 1959 BPA certificate and the photo in the Gibbons catalog showed the cert. # as 35564. Mrs. Phoebe MacGillivray, proprietor of Victoria Stamp Co, reports that the comb perf. coronation stamp was found in a stock book of the Frederick A. Bell estate, without any cert. After checking it, Ms. MacGillivray submitted it to the BPA for authentication. It came back as genuine with BPA cert. #60159. It will be interesting to see what the stamp brings [**it went for \$18,000 U.S.+ a 15% commission!**] The example in the Harris sale was hammered down at 133% of the £150 estimate. Oh Yes, the Meyerson/Harris example is owned by a study group member and was displayed at BNAPEX 98 in Orlando, Florida.

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NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY JANUARY 1857- JUNE 1893 - COLIN LEWIS

Page 3

Colonial

**Single Letter Rate 3 Pence Currency Per ½ Ounce Paid in Cash
The Currency Handstamp Marking in Red Indicates Prepayment**



St. John's May 18th 1861

**Single Letter Rate 3 Pence Currency Collect Fee Per ½ Ounce
The Currency Handstamp Marking in Black Indicates Unpaid**



St. John's February 2nd 1857

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NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY JANUARY 1857 – JUNE 1893 – COLIN LEWIS

Page 4

Colonial

**Double Letter Rate 6 Pence Currency Per Ounce or
Single Registration Rate 6 Pence Currency Per ½ Ounce
Paid by Use of the 5 Pence Sterling Stamp**



Old Perlican October 7th 1863

Note: The 5 Pence Sterling stamp was accepted to pay the 6 Pence Currency Colonial Rate.
There are no complete Colonial covers with this franking.

Double Letter Rate 6 Pence Currency Collect Fee Per Ounce



St. John's March 23rd 1857

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MYSTERIOUS CANCEL FROM BLANC SABLON, LABRADOR

Submitted by J.E. Croker



Please find enclosed copies of two Newfoundland postcards [one shown above with close-up of stamp below it] used in July and December, 1908 with Blanc Sablon, TY postmarks with a cancel on the stamps I have never seen before...I looked through my copy of Kevin O'Reilly's book on Labrador and can find no reference to this mark.

(Concluded next page)

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Mysterious Cancel

The Editor contacted member Kevin O'Reilly and sent him photos of these items by email. Kevin responded:

I have found a reference to a Thomas Morel as the postmaster at Blanc Sablon during the summer of 1906 and I suspect he was still postmaster when these two items were sent. The fancy cancels appear to be an impression from a wax seal or a ring. I have not seen an example of this before from this office.

A paragraph from a book describing a woman doctor's (Dr. Alfreda Withington on behalf of the Grenfell mission) visit to Blanc Sablon reads as follows:

My first day "On the Rock" Mr. Thomas Morel paid a call. He was the last representative of the Jerseymen who had controlled the fisheries for over a hundred years, the proprietor of the only remaining Isle of Jersey room [a parcel of land on the water from which a fishery is conducted] on the coast. In addition he presided over the post office and telegraph. His plant [area of foreshore with structures for landing and curing fish] was across the bay, about half a mile around by land, in fact the only settlement which could easily be reached by any other means than by boat.

Page 115, MINE EYES HAVE SEEN, A WOMAN'S DOCTOR'S SAGA, 1945

This would seem to confirm that the cards were likely sent by Mr. Morel or a family member. I hope this is of some help.

Can anybody figure out the cancel or read those initials? Contact the Editor if you can.

AND QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS LABEL

J.E. Croker also submitted this label. He wrote:

I would like to know if any member knows the printer and date when this label was available.

Please let the Editor know.



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NEWFOUNDLAND'S POSTAL STATIONERY 1873-1941 – Horace Harrison

Page 37

IMPRIMATUR ITEMS FROM THE DE LA RUE ARCHIVES
BOTH SIZES OF THE FIVE CENTS ENVELOPES
INITIALED & HANDSTAMPED "SPECIMEN" IN RED

