Number 118 May/June 2006

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2005 VIMY FLIGHT BNATOPICS ARTICLE

Bound to happen! Just when I was congratulating myself on my long article, The two transatlantic Vickers-Vimy flights, David Holbrooke of Vimy Restoration finds some errors! For the record, Page 26, flight time of the 2005 Vimy was 18 hours, 15 minutes not "17 hours." Also the subsequent leg from Ireland to England on 8 July, Page 27, was flown by Peter McMillan and John LaNoue. Mark Rebholz had returned to the U.S. at that point. As of this moment it appears Vimy Restoration may end up donating the plane to a British museum. My article with these corrections noted is now on the www.vimy.org website.

BNAPEX2006

This year's convention will be held in Sudbury, Ontario, from September 1-3. I don't think I will be able to attend this year and would like to hear from someone in our group who plans to go and would be willing to coordinate a Newfie Workshop. If so contact me right away. Email address below and my telephone # is (707) 763-2934. I would be glad to discuss potential speakers/subjects.

DEAN MARIO POSTS A WANT-AD

We provide this service on a space available basis at no charge (at least for now)!! Any WWI Newfoundland postal history including soldier/sailor mail; domestic (home front) usages etc. Covers related to the Newfoundland Regiment also of interest. I'm now seeking covers/cards from Newfoundlanders in the British Forces in WWII too. Priced copies: Dean Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3.

DISTURBING NEWS

I have been informed by an unimpeachable source that some of the lots listed as sold in the January Matthew Bennett sale #299 were not sold as bids did not reach reserves. I find this very alarming as I use PRICES REALIZED in my research under the assumption that the items listed as sold **SOLD!!** Please inform me of any other auctions houses doing this.

Chairman/Editor: Norris (Bob) Dyer, 1708 Granada Court, Petaluma, CA 94954 nrdyer@comcast.net Treasurer & Circulation Manager: Martin Goebel, 13 O'Mara Place, St. John's, Newfoundland A1A 5B7 goebel@nf.sympatico.ca

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1935 H. E. HARRIS & COMPANY CATALOGUE - The Editor

I found a beat-up old H. E. Harris catalogue while looking at an old stamp collection recently. The catalogue turned out to be more interesting than the stamps. The catalogue was for U.S. and BNA. I hope you can make out this extract below from Pages 50-51. I believe this was their first catalogue. The company already had 150 employees at that time. Dornier, anyone, for \$7.25?



Henry Ellis Harris founded his stamp company in 1916 at the age of 14! During the 1930's it was responsible for the "Ivory Stamp Club of the Air." 2,700,000 listeners sent in Ivory soap wrappers to become members, The radio show distributed over 400 million stamps and a million stamp albums to the American public. Henry was sole proprietor until 1973. The company bought other businesses and renamed itself Whitman Publishing in 2003. They still produce an annual catalogue for U.S., BNA and U.N. stamps. The 2006 edition sells for \$19.95 (U.S.) and weighs a kilogram! There is a history of the company on www.Whitmanbooks.com.

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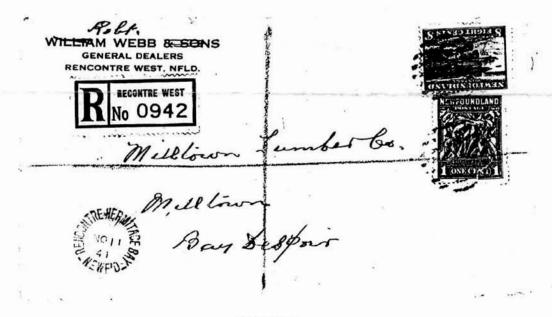
May/June 2006

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN - CARL MUNDEN

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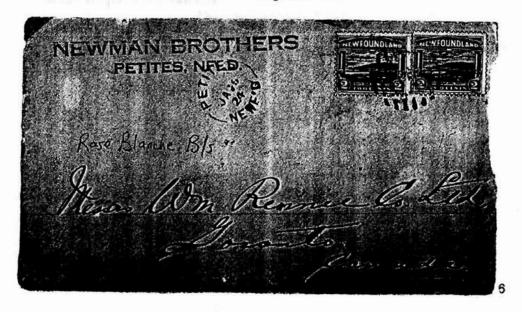
RENCONTRE WEST

Post Office opened 1914. Closed Aug. 7, 1970. Population 248.



PETITES

This office began in 1891 and closed June 2004. It was the latest outport with a post office to abandon the community. Population at one time was 212. At time of closing was 14.



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GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN - CARL MUNDEN

ST. GEORGES, BAY OF ISLANDS, BONNE BAY

SANDY POINT

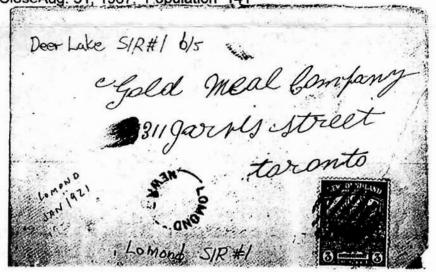
This location was home to the Rev. E.A. Butler, perhaps the most well-known Newfoundland stamp dealer of all. As such it had many different markings. The post office opened in 1900 and closed May 30, 1969. Population 336

REV. E. A. BUTLER
SANDY POINT, ST. GEORGE'S
NEWFOUNDLAND

Mr. Caul H. Fenshr,
1271 Melbourne Rd. Ohio.
East Cleveland, Ohio.
4. S. a.

LOMOND BONNE BAY

Lomond was a lumber town and was expropriated by the Federal Government to build Gros Morne National Park. Open 1920. CloseAug. 31, 1967. Population 141



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NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY JANUARY 1857- JUNE 1893 - COLIN LEWIS

Colonial

Page 11

Double Letter Rate 6 Cents Per Ounce

Mercani Thursday June 200 Comments of Grace.

St John's June 19th 1878

Note The earliest recorded of the six covers franked by a pair of the 3 Cents Roulette

Triple Letter Rate 9 Cents Per 11/2 Ounces



St. John's October 28 1873 Note: The only recorded cover with this franking Number 118 May/June 2006

TEA RATION STAMPS - An eBay Lot



Editor: In issue #105 I ran a one-pager on lobster labels. This time it's tea labels. The above item sold on eBay in November 2005 for \$99 U.S. The seller was Terry Harris. The photo shows part of the completed sheet. Harris' description is below. Label numbers on the full sheet ranged from 8 to 18.

This auction is for a rare piece of Newfoundland stamp memorabilia from the war years. You probably have seen the Newfoundland ration booklets that were issued to families in Newfoundland during the rationing of food during the war. Families were allowed to purchase certain items and were issued RATION stamps to present to the grocer. The item in this auction is the sheet the grocer used to affix the stamps to redeem them to the government for his supplies...This sheet is from Cuniew's or Curiew's Variety Store on the corner of Elizabeth Street and Freshwater Road in St. John's

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UPDATE ON NEWFOUNDLAND COLUMBIA STUDY - The Editor

Since 1995 I have been studying the Columbia stamps that come to market, and have provided several accounts to BNATopics on this on-going study. This is a brief update.

SAMPLE: 130. This is 43.3% of the 300 issued, but no one

knows have many of the 300 have survived.

BREAKDOWN OF SAMPLE: 95 – Mint (73.1%)

7 - Used (5.4%)

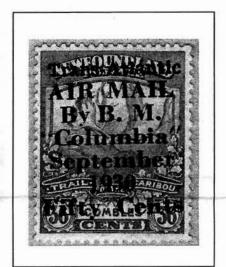
28 - On cover (21.5%)

CONDITION:

6 - Superb (4.6%)

45 - Very Fine (34.6%)

79 - Fine (60.8%)



PRICES REALIZED: This is very confusing as the Canadian dollar versus U.S. dollar has changed dramatically since 1995. I recently did a quick survey during an analysis of the 2006 NSSC and found that prices in U.S. dollars for VF hinged Columbia's averaged \$5,400 (2001-2005) and about \$8,500 for those on cover.

COVER PROJECTION: Using a statistical projection based upon those that have come to market I estimate some 59 covers still exist.

MARTINSYDE MANUSCRIPTED COVER – The Editor



Cherrystone Auction, March 8-9, 2006, estimated at \$45,000, but did not sell. My research shows 19 used examples of the manuscripted stamps are known. Sixteen are on the 3ϕ Caribou, and one each on the 2ϕ & 5ϕ Caribous and on the 12ϕ coronation stamp. The above cover was previously "auctioned" by Harmer of London in January of 1999 and April, 2000, but did not sell. Obviously the owner values it too much!

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RARE NEWFOUNDLAND STAMPS FROM LATE 2005 AUCTIONS

Cherrystone Sept. 2005

The most expensive regularly Issued Newfoundland stamp.



225 were used on covers, and about 70 were available mint.

LOT #1207 – De Pinedo surcharge [overprint], 60¢ black, pos. 42, well centered, h.r., v.f. example of this classic rarity, less than 66 unused examples known, with 1969 Diena cert., cat £28,000 (S.G. 163) [SCOTT \$32,500]. Went for \$33,500 + 10%, or \$36,850.

Prices in U.S. \$\$\$



In a November 17, 2005 auction, Matthew Bennett auctioned off this stamp. Robson Lowe and Boggs state that only 1,000 of the 1860 1s stamps were printed. The stamp was described as "unused, extra wide margins and bright color, handstamp on reverse barely shows through, Extremely Fine, Unitrade #15." It was signed "Senf" and had a 2003 Greene certificate. It sold for \$29,093, including the 18% commission. It is a key to a complete 19th century collection and rivals the 1927 De Pinedo for catalogue value (air mail errors excluded.)

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POLAR FLIGHT COVER - Pete Motson



Newfoundland 1931, Polar Flight (Michel No. 119 H), Newfoundland stationary with additional 3c Newfoundland definitive and German 2 RM Zeppelin Polar Flight issue. Newfoundland stamp tied by Malyguin 27.7.31 arrival postmark, German Zeppelin stamp tied by Berlin Staaken 25.7.31 postmark, red Zeppelin flight cachet and registration number on front; small corner crease at upper left, Very Fine. Unusual franking. Sieger No. 204 b. Estimate \$1,000-1,500

Lot 4263 Matthew Bennett Auction of January 20, 2006

Realized \$2,100

Editor: Pete Motson of our group bought this cover. His is his explanation. He'd like to know if anyone else has NF Polar Flight material. Let me know or email him at p.motson@btopnworld.com

Zeppelin Agent in N.Y., Wilhelm von Meister, dispatched Newfoundland card to Europe, ref. his reg'd stamp #50816 bottom left. The card bore Newfoundland 4¢ total franking (i.e., correct "Foreign" rate for postcards in 1931). Zeppelin flights were funded largely by stamp collectors, i.e., the Company received 1.85 of the 2 Reichmarks total "postage" charge. Most of the mail carried on this flight would have been European mail with 2 Reichmarks franking. Mixed franking was scarce, i.e., some U.S. covers were carried and a few Canadian ones. Newfoundland covers were very few.

Zeppelin POLAR FLIGHT Freidrickshaven to Berlin (25/7/31) to Lenningrad to Franz Josephs Land, originally to meet sub (Nautilus?) but sub sank and mail was transferred to icebreaker "Halyguin" 27/7/31. The Malyguin probably transferred the mail at the next (Russian?) port-of-call. The two red diagonal lines at bottom right denote "by surface mail", i.e., after the Zeppelin air-mail.

CONCLUSION: The card was flown as an unofficial air-mail. Newfoundland Postal Officials were not involved.

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NEWFOUNDLAND'S POSTAL STATIONERY 1873-1941 — Horace Harrison

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