

THE NEWFIE NEWSLETTER
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS

Number 123

March/April 2007

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

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Horace Harrison



RESEARCH HELP NEEDED – “I am in the process of writing a book on ‘The Post Offices of Pre Confederation Newfoundland.’ There were approx. 1200 offices at one time or other. This will be a job of monumental proportions and I will need all the help I can get. I have all of the available splitting ring proofs (probably about 30-40% that will be required). I’m also shy of many rubber Box and Postal Telegraph Ovals and some Large Double Circles. Scans only will be required. I would like to solicit the help of anyone interested in this project. All credits will be duly given. Please contact me at carl.munden@ns.sympatico.ca Snail mail to Carl Munden, Apt. 227, 27 Brookdale Crescent, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B3A 4N5, Canada.”

ANOTHER RARE 1937 PERF. VARIETY – 14¢ DOG “Yup, there is another one,” states C.S. Stillions. Clarence checked the 1968 Harris Sale and the Victoria Sale of 2004, and this is the third one he has recognized. “It will be interesting to see if this one brings the realization as the one in the Victoria Sale, which was hammered down at \$20,700 U.S.” The third one is in the Mareschal Auction of 2-28-07. I’ll report on it next issue. The 1937 sheets were of 100 – has someone found a multiple and slowing releasing copies to try to maintain the price level? Looks like a risky investment to me! The stamp has a comb perforation of 13.3 X 13.2.

HIGGENS COVERS – Note Doug Hannan’s clarification of which Higgens the covers (NN #120) should be associated with (Page 2). Meantime, Jon Cummings reports a nearly identical cover addressed to Mrs. H. Higgens, Monkstown Road, St John’s, Newfoundland. Markings – Postmark Army Post Office B 29 JY (?) 18 S.11. Backstamp St. John’s NFLD Aug 24 10:30 A.M. 1918.

BUTLER MATERIAL – I am still looking for material relating to E.A. Butler to help me write a comprehensive article on the gentleman for BNA TOPICS. See Page 6-7 on this famous stamp dealer. There are at least two Butler covers from late 1922 with a rubber-stamped corner card. Got an earlier one? I seriously need any pricelists from 1940-1946. I have 1939 and 1947. Were any lists published in that period ? Also, anyone know when he died? – The Editor

BNAPLEX2007 – NEWFIE GROUP MEETING

BNAPLEX2007 will be held in Calgary from August 31-September 2nd. The organizing committee wants me to tell them in **March (!)** if there will be a Newfie study group meeting, so they can complete the official program **I therefore request those who would be interested in such a meeting to email me right away, or telephone me at 707-763-2934. I don’t need a topic right away – but would have to move to have the meeting in the program – Bob Dyer**

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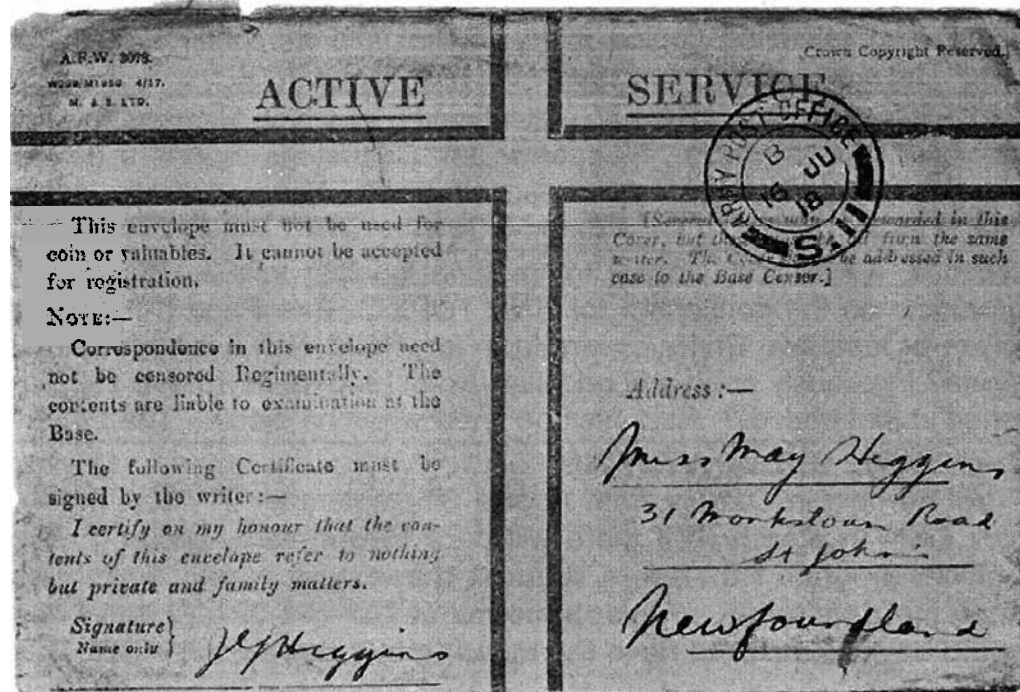
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CLARIFICATION ON 1918 WAR COVER – NN 120, PAGE 6 – Doug Hannan

I am writing to you to correct some inaccurate information published on page 6 of issue Number 120 in September/October 2006. The interesting 1918 war issue cover which you copied directly from eBay was purchased by me after having studied it carefully and doing a bit of research in volume 1 of "The Book of Newfoundland" by Smallwood. I also did an on line search of the Library and Archives Canada to obtain what information I could.

In examining the cover the signature is that of J. G. Higgins. This was not perfectly clear at the onset but my research confirmed it. The Honorable Chief Justice was William J. Higgins thus this letter was not sent by him. My on line search provided me with a Biography/Administrative History of John Gilbert Higgins. John Gilbert Higgins, Rhodes Scholar, lawyer, politician, was born in St. John's on May 7, 1891. In 1913, Higgins set up his law practice in St. John's, Newfoundland, after being called to the Bar of England and the Bar of Newfoundland. In 1916 he served in England and France with the St. Francis Xavier Hospital Unit of the Canadian Army. Higgins became one of the leading members of the Responsible Government League which believed that "Newfoundland should retain self-government before any negotiations should be begun with Canada before joining Confederation". Higgins married Alice Casey on August 13, 1925. They had three children. John Higgins died on July 1, 1963. He had a lengthy career in politics and was a Senator representing Newfoundland at the time of his death.

The self censored letter on an Active Service Honor envelope from Army Post Office S11 on June 16, 1918 was posted in France. APO S11 was the large BEF / CEF Reception & Holding Area / Base at Etapes, France, for reinforcement troops arriving from England. It also had quite a few of the BEF / CEF Stationary and General Hospitals for treating casualties in transit to England. The Post Office was in operation there Jan. 22, 1915 – Jan. 18, 1919. The No. 9 Canadian Stationary Hospital, Canadian Army Medical Corps, which was raised by St. Francis Xavier University, was located there April 20, 1918 – Sept 9, 1918. This letter was addressed to his sister.



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QUESTION POSED ON QUEEN VICTORIA SPECIMEN



Colin Bulloch writes:

I recently came across the above Q.V. specimen and it appeared to have irregular perfs, at the top and upper right margins.

I believe this may be one of a set comprising 1865/77 2¢/13¢/24¢ and 1868/73 1¢/3¢/5¢ and 6¢ which were handstamped **SPECIMEN**, Samuel Type NF1, released by the Postmaster General of Newfoundland, John Delaney to inform the U.S. postal authorities about Newfoundland stamps. If this is the case why have the perfs. been trimmed?

Robert Pratt considered only three sets exist – one of which was sold recently at Sotherby's, New York from the collection of Sir Gawaine Baillie in May of last year. I would be pleased to have advice from a group member regarding this odd stamp.

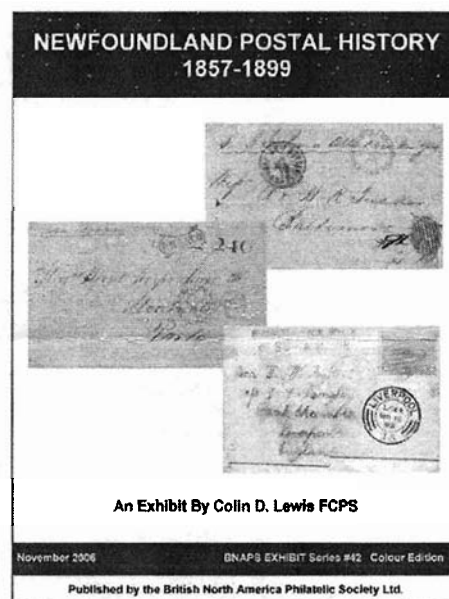
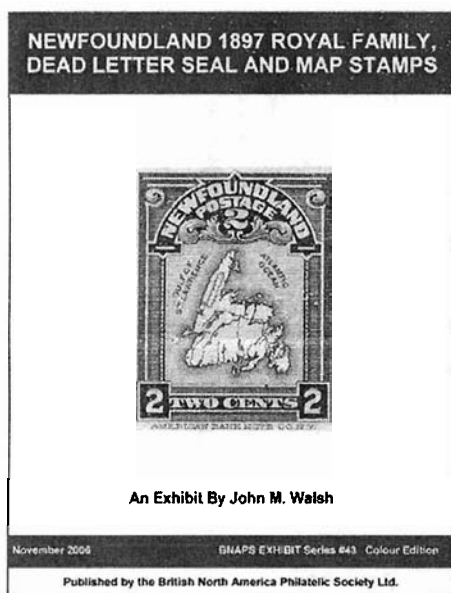
Address comments to the Editor

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THE TWO NEW NEWFOUNDLAND BNAPS EXHIBIT BOOKS – The Editor



JOHN WALSH'S EXHIBIT BOOK

This is the leading exhibit of this topic in the world, and includes many rare/unique trials and die proofs from the 1990 ABNC archival sale. Also included are large blocks of the ABNC specimens which must also be unique. Perhaps I should have said "was" as the exhibit was sold last September and has subsequently been broken up. The book, then, is very important to anyone seriously contemplating collecting the Royal Family/Map/Dead Letter stamps, and related postcards. Coverage of rates is excellent. John knows that as another specialist in this area I do have some concerns about a small number of contrived or out of period covers but even these are quite interesting. The book has been quite well packaged and the colour is surprisingly true and vibrant, and more accurate than in any of the current colour catalogues. This is another plus. John's research on the wording of the watermark of the Newfoundland Officially Sealed Dead Letter Office stamp is reflected in the latter part of the exhibit.

SUMMARY – Probably best compilation of subject ever as much of this material was not available until 1990.

COLIN LEWIS' EXHIBIT BOOK

One can only wonder where Colin Lewis found so many rare examples of 19th century Newfoundland rates. Colin is the current expert on the subject as a whole, and his exhibit reflects his scholarship in this area. This subject, by definition, is much more expansive than John Walsh's above. Colin won a Large Vermeil at the FIP show held last year in Washington. The eight frames he showed there are in the book plus a bonus frame on "significant items that do not form part of the main exhibit." The format is easy to follow and some of rates/frankings unique. The book's paper and binding are solid although some of the colours are a bit more muted than in Walsh's book. As you know we have been privileged to show pages from this exhibit in the newsletter for the past several years. The book offers our readers the opportunity to see the full picture with each rate and ranking in context.

SUMMARY – Great survey of 19th century postal history.

Internet orders can be placed at www.iankimmerly.com/books/ Walsh - \$33.95 B&W, \$90 Colour – Lewis \$35 B &W and \$100 C. (Click on the price at the end of the book description and you will be taken to the check out page.)

Prices given above are the retail prices in Canadian Dollars. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices. Shipping is extra. Credit card orders (Visa, MasterCard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus \$2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order, add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas (overpayments exceeding 25 cents will be refunded in mint postage stamps). GST is payable for Canadian orders. No Provincial Sales Tax applies.

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NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY JANUARY 1857- JUNE 1893 – COLIN LEWIS

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Switzerland

Single Letter Rate 5 Cents Per ½ Ounce



St. John's January 23rd 1895
Glasgow February 4th 1895
Zurich February 6th 1895



St. John's October 27th 1897
Devonport November 8th 1897
Geneva November 10th 1897

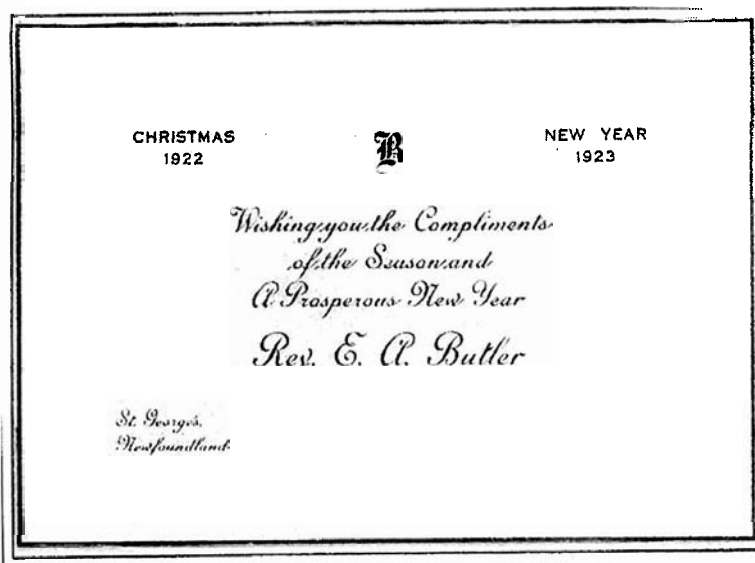
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REV. E. A. BULER – EARLY EMPHEMERA - The Editor

As you may have guessed from my recent request for Rev. E. A. Butler pricelists, I am gathering material on the famous Newfoundland clergyman/stamp dealer (or should it be *stamp dealer/clergyman*?) I hope to write a long article on the man for TOPICS in the near future. The items pictured here are from the collection of Judith (Edwards) Viney. I have also been in contact with C.R. McGuire who had written the most expansive article on Butler to-date for the PHSC Journal 50 & 51. In Butler's 1932 price list he states he has been supplying Newfoundland stamps "during the past 16 years" which would mean he started dealing around 1915 but early material related to him is scarce. Judith has a cover from him clearly dated in December, 1922. Neither McGuire nor I have seen an earlier one. Here is a Christmas card from 1922.



The original of this card is in a nice shade of yellow. Note there is no mention of Sandy Point. That would start in the late 1920's.

This is a subscription form for Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News. Note that Butler gets "credit" if you use it and offers **Extra Premiums**. See next page for reverse that suggests this may be from circa 1925.

DO NOT MAKE REMITTANCE IN POSTAGE STAMPS

EXTRA PREMIUMS

To all persons using this form Mr. Butler offers a **Special Newfoundland premiums** as follows:-

Yearly Subscription 1918, 10c Cach., cat 40c
Six Mos. Subn.
1920, 4.5, 10c pict., cat 27c
Three Mos. Subn.
1920, 1.0c pict., cat 15c
These are Extra Premiums

There is No Hobby So Interesting, So Educational,
So Financially Profitable as Stamp Collecting

THIS FORM FILLED OUT, WITH 25c (CANADA OR 40c) FOREIGN

ENTITLES YOU TO THREE MONTHS SUBSCRIPTION TO

Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News

BEVERLY, MASS., U S A.

AND ONE OF THE PREMIUM OFFERS DESCRIBED
On the Reverse Side, FREE!

Write Plainly
Name and Full
Address of New
subscriber Here

Mail This Subscription Form

Giving Name and Address Plainly

With 25c (Foreign 40c) NOT Postage Stamps, direct

To:- Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News
BEVERLY, MASS., U. S. A.

DON'T OMIT NAME OF

Credit

Subscription to

REV. E. A. BUTLER
SANDY POINT - ST. GEORGES
NEWFOUNDLAND

THIS OFFER IS GOOD ONLY FOR ABSOLUTELY NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS

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REV. E. A. BULER – EARLY EMPHEMERA - Concluded -- The Editor

Three Months Premiums REMIT 25c. (Canada or Foreign 40c.)

- 300** all different Foreign stamps
- U. S.** 100 different precancels
 - " 1916, 3c No. 489, pair cat. 16c.
 - " 1916, 3c No. 493, strip 5, cat. 25c.
 - " 1918, 6c Aero, No. 520, prec. Fed., Md.
 - " 1923, 2c Harding, imperf. pair cat. 16c.
- * **Airmail Stamps**—25 different, all unused
- Africa**—Collection 50 different
- Animal Packet**—20 different
- * **Bahamas**—3d No. 312 cat. 25c.
- * **Bahamas**—3d No. 316 cat. 20c.
- Canada**—25 all different
- * **Cayman**—1917, No's 103, 104, cat. 20c.
- * **E. Africa-Uganda**—No's 41, 42, 62, cat. 30c.
- Iceland**—10 all different
- Italy**—Collection of 50 all different
- * **Jamaica**—3d War, No. 311 mint
- Japan**—10 all different
- Malta**—10 different
- Newfoundland**—15 different
- * **Panama**—No's 18 and 183 maps, cat. 25c.
- * **Phil. Id's**—Aguinaldo '98 R. K. K. 5 blks of 4
- * **Salvador**—1897, 1, 5c cat. 16c four colors
- * **St. Helena**—1d 1 Id No. 202 cat. 20c
- * **Trinidad**—1916, 1d Red Cross
- * **Turks Id's**—3d, No. 111, cat. 35c.
- Uruguay**—10 varieties, a fine packet

Six Months Premiums REMIT 50c. (Canadian or Foreign 75c.)

- Any Two** 3 months premiums listed above
- 500** all different Foreign stamps
- U. S.** 6c, Aero, No. 520 cat. 20c.
- " 16c, Aero, No. 521 cat. 30c.
- " 3c, 1918, No. 535 pair cat. 40c.
- * **Cayman**—1917, No's 103, 104, 106, cat. 40c.
- * **Mesopotamia**—1918, No's 26, 27, 28, cat. 38c.
- " —1918, No's 28a, 29, 30, cat. 45c.
- * **Nauru**—1916, 1, 1, 2, 21d cat. 43c.
- " —1916, 3d, 4d, cat. 43c.
- * **Somaliland Prot.**—No's 64 to 68 cat. 38c.
- * **Turks Id's**—1919, 1d, 3d, War, cat. 47c.

* Means unused. Check a second choice.

This is the back of the subscription form which I have reproduced in a larger format as it is interesting. Note the premiums for subscribing. Latest items are U.S. from 1923. This leads me to estimate a publication date of 1924-1925. Best premiums – in retrospect – would seem to be copies of U.S. C1 & C2 (apparently mint) which Scott designated as 520-521 back then.

Mrs. Viney also sent me subscription forms for Stamp Topics and Weekly Philatelic Gossip both of which also offered free stamps from Butler if one purchased a subscription. He diplomatically called Stamp Topics "THE BEST Monthly Paper that I know" – both Mekeel's and Weekly Philatelic Gossip published only on a weekly basis, you see.

In the next *Newfie Newsletter* will feature Butler's earliest known price list – from 1922, on a single sheet, predating his booklets by five years.

I am still looking for Butler material – any cover from him earlier than December 1922 or later than March, 1947 – and price lists. I now have booklets from 1928, 1932, 1934, 1936, 1938, 1939 and 1947. Again were any price lists published between 1939 and 1947?

The Editor

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN – CARL MUNDEN

NOTRE DAME BAY

EXPLOITS

Located on Exploits Island Open as a way office Apr. 1871, this mark was proofed Mar. 9, 1881 Closed Aug. 6, 1968 population 296



EXPLOITS HARBOR

A different location on the same island. Open 1907 closed 1912 population 520



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The perfin corner by Barry senior

Here are a couple rare perfins on Newfoundland air mails – only recorded copies!



AYRE perfin Position #2 on 1931 50¢ air mail



AND perfin Position #4 on 10¢ Labrador from 1933

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NEWFOUNDLAND'S POSTAL STATIONERY 1873-1941 – Horace Harrison

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