



# NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER BNAPS NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP



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## Welcome! Bienvenue!



Credit: [JerryUnderscore](#) from [Pixabay](#)  
Halifax skyline at night



### **BNAPEX 2023 Halifax BNAPS convention, exhibition, and bourse 15-17 September 2023**

Friday (10:00-17:00) Saturday (10:00-18:00) Sunday (10:00-15:00)

Best Western Dartmouth, 15 Spectacle Lake Drive, Dartmouth NS, B3B 1X7

[Hotel information and reservations](#)

Hosted by the [Nova Scotia Stamp Club](#) and the [Atlantic Regional Group of BNAPS](#).

#### **Important dates**

- 30 Apr - Last day for initial acceptance period for requesting exhibit frames
- 25 July - Last day for subsequent acceptance period for requesting exhibit frames
- 14 Aug - Last day to reserve hotel room at the BNAPS group rate
- 14 Sept - Exhibit mounting and bourse set-up
- 15 Sept - Exhibition opens: bourse and seminars
- 17 Sept - BNAPS Past-Presidents' Reception & Awards Banquet

#### **Saturday September 16, 10:00 – 11:30 – Newfoundland Study Group Session;**

- 1) Discussion on the Perkins Bacon & Co, 1932 First Resources Issue of Newfoundland, image sizes.  
John M. Walsh, FRPSC, and Robin Moore.
- 2) Newfoundland: An Analysis by X Ray Fluorescence for Metallic Elements Found In The Ink Used For Printing the 1d and 5d Denominations Of The 1857, 1860 and 1861 Pence Issues.  
John M. Walsh FRPSC and Richard H. Judge.

**FIRST FLIGHT COVERS**

by Dave Bartlet

The Handley Page team was in tight competition with Alcock Brown to be the first to cross the Atlantic. With their flight impending, stamps were obtained in St John's and covers cancelled 9 June and sent to the departure point of Harbour Grace. These covers were cancelled June 14, Harbour Grace. The flight never went due to engine issues and the covers made it by surface to England.



1919 (13 June) "The Cochrane" corner card cover franked with \$1 Trans- Atlantic surcharge, tied by St. John's machine departure duplex postmark, sent by engineer Pitman to his brother in England, with letter explaining the condition of the assembly and "a possible take-off, tomorrow ". This cover is not in perfect condition and has water damage as does the letter.



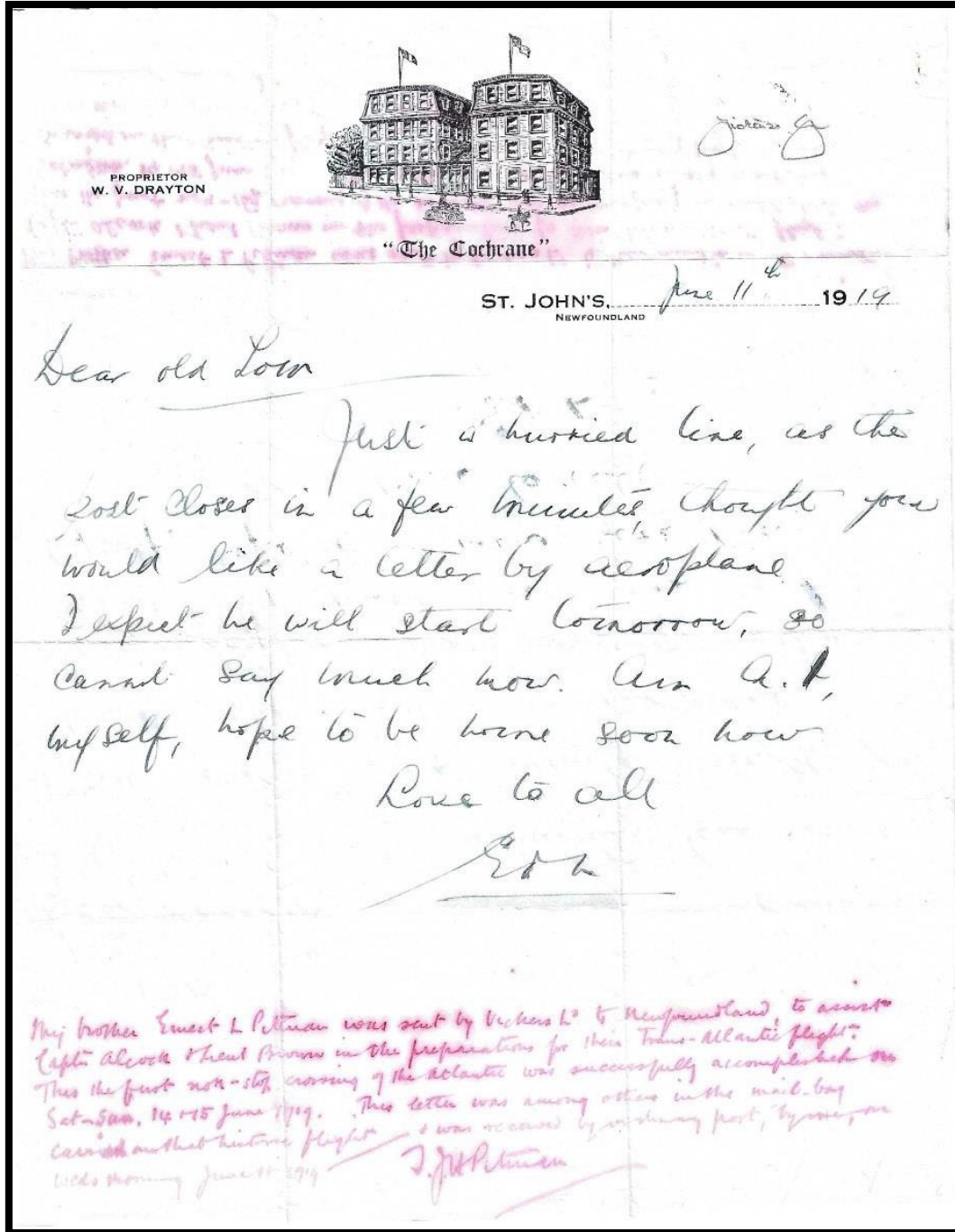


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**FIRST FLIGHT COVERS**

- continued



Dear old Lorn  
Just a hurried line, as the  
Post closes in a few minutes,  
thought you would like a letter by  
airplane  
I expect we will start tomorrow,  
so Cannot say much now. Am  
OK Myself, hope to be home  
soon now. Love to all  
Ernest

My brother Ernest L Pitman was  
sent by Vickers Ltd to  
Newfoundland to assist  
Captain Alcock & Lieut Brown  
in the preparations for their  
Trans-Atlantic flight.  
This the first non-stop crossing of  
the Atlantic was

successfully accomplished.  
Sent on Sun 14 + 15 June  
1919. This letter was among  
others in the mail bag

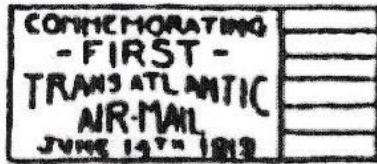
carried on that historic flight and  
was received by ordinary post, by  
postman  
Weds morning June 18 1919. T.J  
Pitman

**FIRST FLIGHT COVERS**

- continued

**D.2**      *1929: 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 1<sup>st</sup> Transatlantic non-stop Flight*

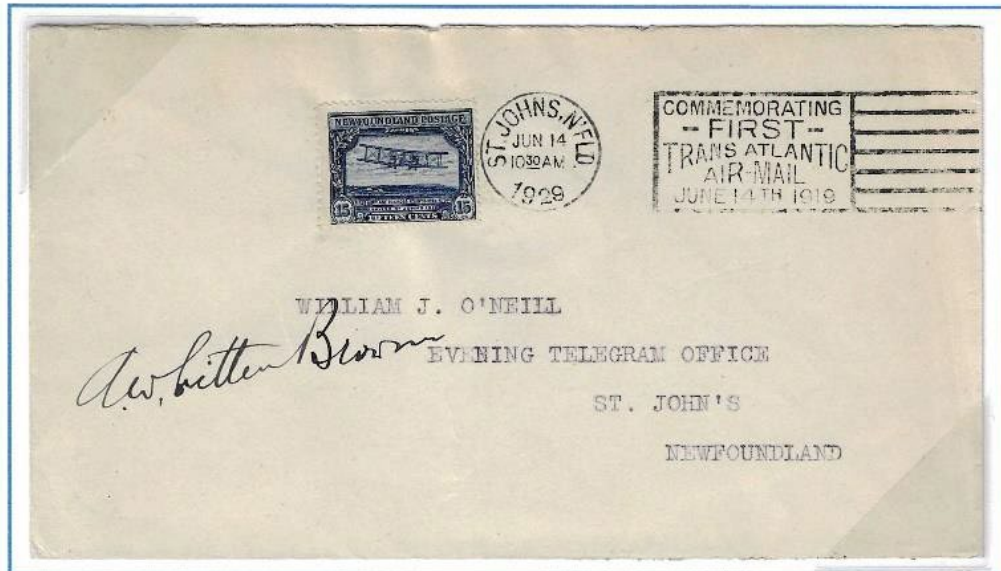
On June 14th 1929 – and only that day -, thus 10 years after the historical flight of *Alcock and Brown*, G.P.O. in St John's cancelled the mail with a special slogan cancellation as announced in the press.



Special Slogan June 14th, 1929



Official Notice of the Commemorative Slogan and Cancellation (reproduction)

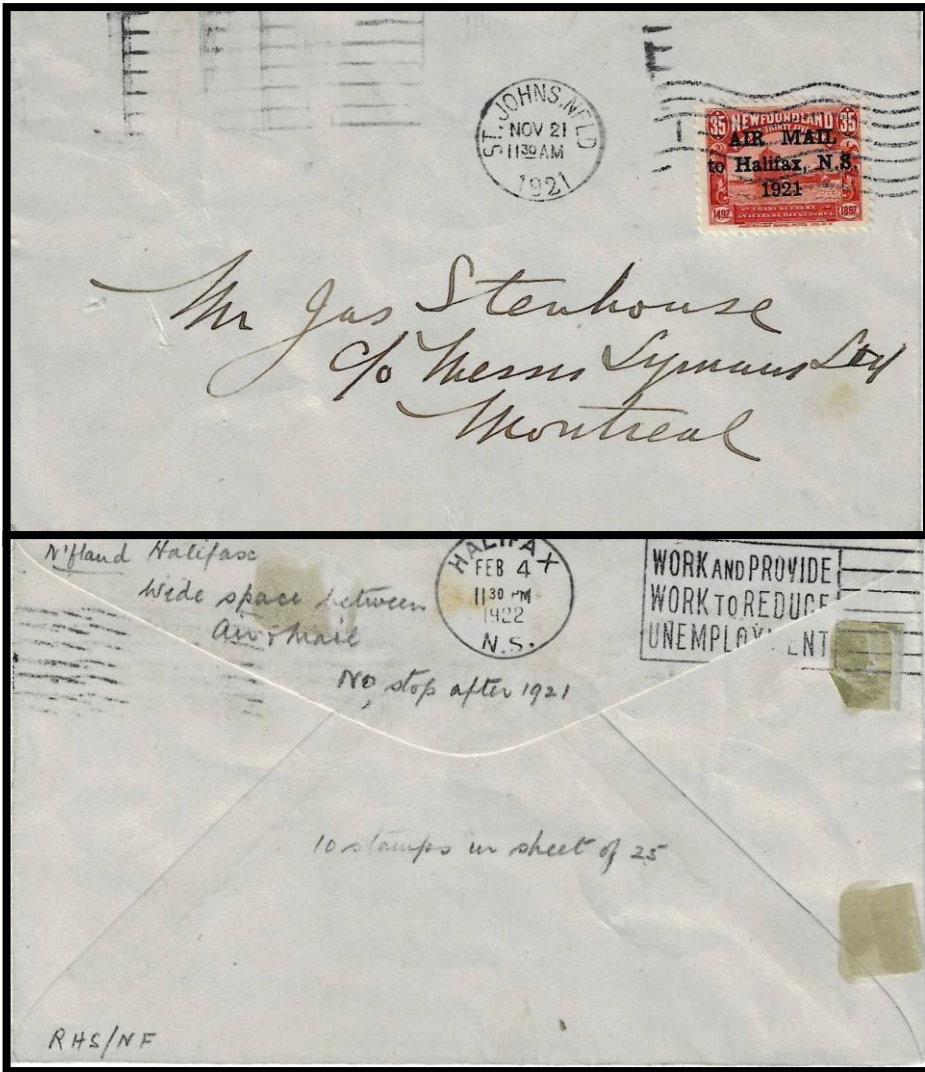


Cover sent to himself on June 24<sup>th</sup> 1929 by William J. O'Neil, Secretary of the Ministry of Posts & Telegraphs, care of the "Evening Telegram" newspaper, franked 15¢ (overpaid) showing the Vickers-Vimy plane of the Aviators who first successfully crossed the Atlantic non-stop 10 years before. Stamp out of place not cancelled by the machine cancellation showing the commemorative slogan used on that day only.

Signed by the navigator, Arthur Whitten Brown (ONLY KNOWN) (e)

**FIRST FLIGHT COVERS**

- continued



Flight scheduled to fly Botwood to Halifax on Nov 27, 1921.

Mail postmarked 15-26 Nov (this one 21 Nov) in St Johns. Flight delayed until Dec 10 and landed in Deer Lake with engine problems. Flight was abandoned and mail forwarded to Halifax via surface.

Halifax cancel on mail was Feb 4, 1922. Special stamp overprinted for the flight. This one has no period after 1921.

# NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER BNAPS NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP

## FIRST FLIGHT COVERS

- conclusion



In January an attempt to fly Halifax to St Johns was made.  
The rate was 34c and a special handstamp was made to  
cancel with which said

“FIRST - AIR MAIL – HALIFAX - TO - ST. JOHN’S – JANUARY – 1922”.

The plane crashed prior to the flight, and mail was  
forwarded by surface.

Cancels from Birtle MN Dec 3, 1921, Halifax Jan 20 1922,  
Gambo NFLD Jan 24 1922.

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**Carbonear Revisited; An Update to Carl Munden's Work**

by Brian Stalker

A post office was opened at Carbonear in 1851 and one remains open to this day. Carbonear is about 6 miles north of Harbour Grace on the western shore of Newfoundland's Conception Bay.

Page 90 of Carl Munden's "Post Offices of Pre Confederation Newfoundland" (freely available on the Newfoundland Study Group Newsletters section on the BNAPS website – [www.bnaps.org](http://www.bnaps.org)) illustrates the following types of postmark used at Carbonear:-



Munden noted that other postmarks were known to exist. This update illustrates some of those "others".

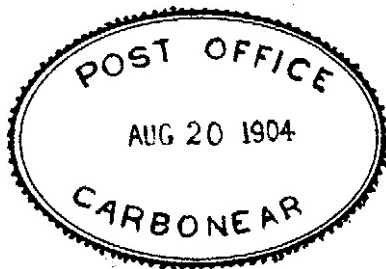
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### Carbonear Revisited; An Update to Carl Munden's Work

- continued

It seems likely that Munden's split ring No.2 was lost in the fire which engulfed the post office in the early hours of June 25 1904 and in which postmistress Miss Tryphena Nicholl perished, as reported in the St. John's *Evening Herald* of that date.

Pending receipt of a replacement steel postmark it also seems likely that a locally produced double oval date-stamp with a serrated outer oval was procured, as illustrated below:-



Serrated double-oval datestamp; not illustrated by Munden.

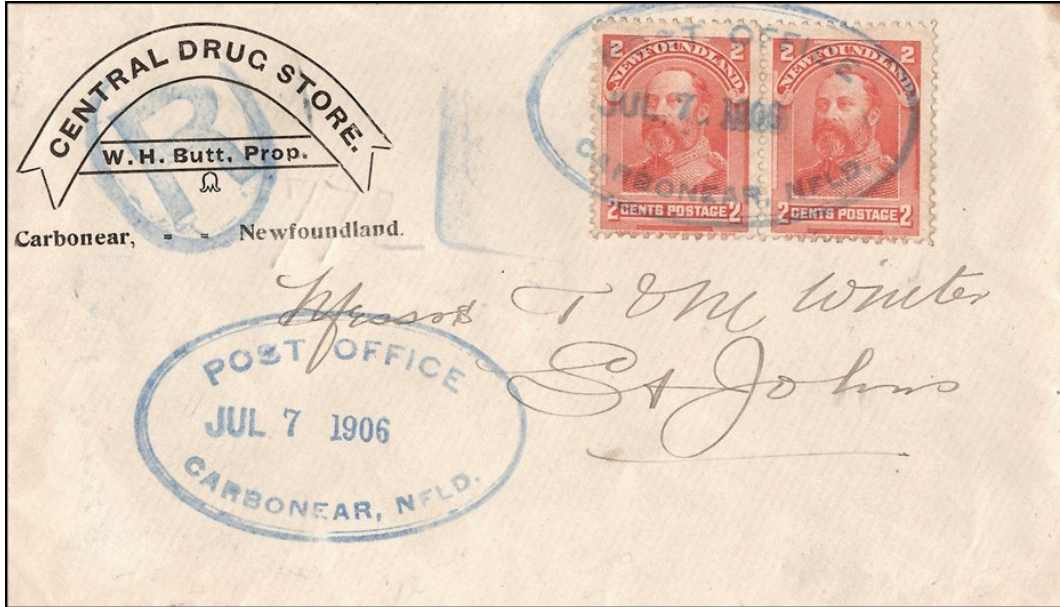
Munden illustrates a smooth edged double oval postmark dated AUG 20 1907; David Piercey has kindly provided a good strike dated JUL 7 1906:



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**Carbonear Revisited; An Update to Carl Munden's Work**

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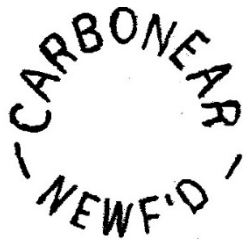


Scan provided by David Piercey.

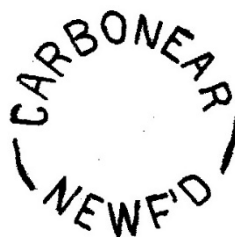
A similar double-oval postmark dated FEB 11 1909, shown below and not illustrated by Munden, has a comma after "POST OFFICE," and different spacing of the lettering indicating the relatively short lifespan of these rubber datestamps.



Moving on to Munden's split-ring No.3 – he shows a strike dated NO 29 22. However that was preceded by another steel split ring which has much shorter side arcs and for which we have several strikes dating from 1909. An enlarged illustration of the 1909 and 1922 split-rings follows:-



1909 split-ring



Munden's split-ring No. 3

Perhaps for convenience we could refer to the earlier one as split-ring 3.1 and the later one as split-ring 3.2?

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### BNAPS NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP

#### Carbonear Revisited; An Update to Carl Munden's Work

- conclusion

Finally, a wavy-edged boxed date-stamp from 1929 as a back-stamp on a registered cover from Ottawa to the Reverend Rusted who was then living in Carbonear:-



**Concluding Comments:-** this update to Carl Munden's monumental work should not in any way be construed as criticism. We have corresponded and shared "new finds" regularly with Carl over many years, as have many others, and together we have advanced our knowledge of Newfoundland & Labrador's outpost postmarks.

Hopefully this article will encourage other Study Group members to re-examine their collections and report any further updates. In particular, it would be helpful to know if any of the pre-1904 date-stamps survived the fire of June 25 1904, also to know of dates before 1909 for the use of the previously unrecorded steel split-ring 3.1.

Please send updates to our editor, Malcolm Back [mback1217@rogers.com](mailto:mback1217@rogers.com), copied to me at [briantalker63@sky.com](mailto:briantalker63@sky.com)

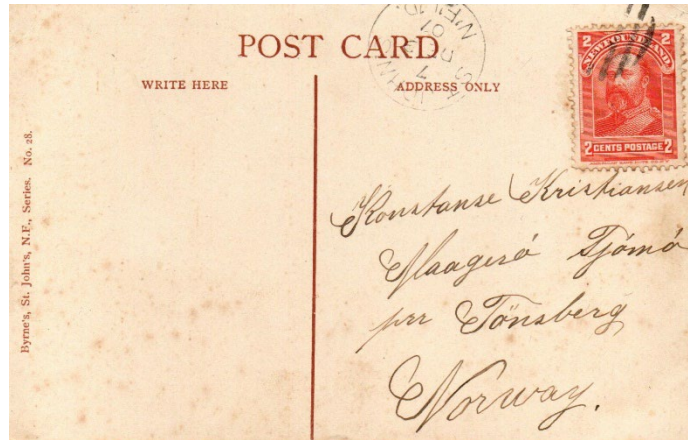
**Mail to Scandinavian Countries until 1940**

by Klaus Wehlt

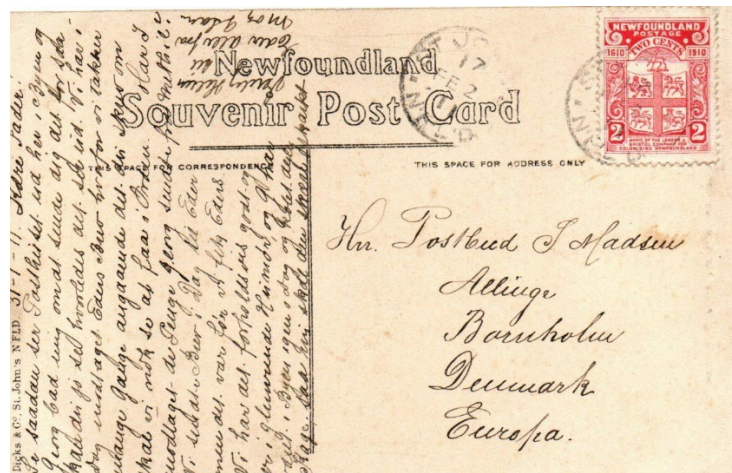
Mail from Newfoundland to Scandinavia is not common, although not as rare as the postcard to Iceland (ex. John Walsh)<sup>1</sup> recently shown by David Piercey<sup>2</sup>. Since I not only collect Newfoundland but also Denmark, I naturally maintain contacts with Scandinavian dealers. As a result, over the years I have been able to acquire a number of items from Newfoundland to Scandinavia for my collection.

To my knowledge, no early covers before 1880 are known, at least neither Robert H. Pratt<sup>3</sup> nor Sammy Whaley<sup>4</sup> mention mailings to Scandinavia. Up until the turn of the century, covers to Scandinavia remained rare. In his collection "Newfoundland Postal History 1857 -1899"<sup>5</sup> Colin D. Lewis had shown a letter to Denmark franked with a 5¢ seal stamp from 1897 and a 5¢ postal stationery envelope to Norway from 1898.

The oldest postcard to Scandinavia in my collection is a picture postcard without text from St. John's (motif: Log Cabin, Spruce Brook, N.F.) sent on December 9, 1907 to Tjömö pr. Tönsberg in Norway. The card was franked with a 2¢ Royal Family Issue 1897 (orange), foreign postcard rate.



My earliest postcard to Denmark dates from 1911. It is also a picture postcard (motive: General Post Office in St. John's) from St. John's to Allinge on the island of Bornholm in Denmark. The card was franked with a 2¢ John Guy Issue, foreign postcard rate.





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Mail to Scandinavian Countries until 1940

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A letter from stamp dealer Frank W. Wills of St. John's was also addressed to Denmark. It is possible that the recipient, V. Walter, was also a stamp dealer; in the past a number of stamp dealers had their shops on Klosterstraede in Copenhagen. The cover is franked with a 1¢ (green) and 4¢ stamp of the Royal Family Issue 1897, 5¢ foreign letter rate.



Then from the year 1925, here is a letter from the Danish Consulate in St. John's to the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Copenhagen. Franked with three stamps of the 2¢ Pictorial Issue, 6¢ foreign letter rate.



Mail to Scandinavian Countries until 1940

- continued

I finally acquired my first letter to Sweden dated in 1934. The letter was simply addressed to Schullström & Sjöströms in Sweden, the Swedish post office in Malmö then added Högsjö to the address. The company was based in that small town between Gothenburg and Stockholm.



The following letter is again addressed to Denmark, to a law student in Copenhagen. The letter was franked with a 3¢ and a 4¢ First Resources Issue stamp, 7¢ foreign letter rate and was posted on June 10, 1934 at St. John's.



### Mail to Scandinavian Countries until 1940

- conclusion

The last letter I would like to show you was sent to Norway. According to the sender information on the back, it was sent by a seaman on board the MS Heranger<sup>6</sup> of the shipping company Westfal & Larsen from Bergen on December 17, 1939 from Botwood to a young lady from Bergen. World War II had already broken out at this point, but Norway was still neutral at the time. The letter was franked with a 7¢ Second Resources Issue stamp, foreign letter rate.



- 1) Newfoundland 1897 Royal Family, Dead Letter Seal and Map Stamps, an Exhibit by John M. Walsh, BNAPS Exhibit Series #43, 2006
- 2) Postal History Society of Canada, Under the Covers, Zoom-Meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by David Piercey: Collecting and Exhibiting Early Newfoundland Postal History <https://www.postalhistorycanada.net/php/Library/av/index.php>
- 3) Robert H. Pratt: The Pence Issues of Newfoundland 1857 – 1866, 1981
- 4) Sammy Whaley: Newfoundland: 1865 – 1879 / The New York Printings / A Cover Study, 2004
- 5) Colin D. Lewis: Newfoundland Postal History 1857 – 1899 / an Exhibit by Colin D. Lewis FCPS, BNAPS Exhibit Series #42, 2006
- 6) MA Heranger, see: <https://www.warsailors.com/singleships/heranger.html>



**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition sequence from  
 First Resources printer Perkins Bacon & Co to Perkins Bacon Ltd then to selected Second  
 Resources printer Waterlow & Sons who did 1941**

**“Blitz Printing” pre-contract 2¢, 3¢, 4¢; then to the official 1942 issue subcontract**

by John M Walsh, FRPSC

Newfoundland had two stamp series named **Resources** issue. The *First Resources* series was issued in 1932 - 1938. The printer Perkins Bacon & Co did this work to pre 1936 and then went through new ownership 1936 - 1939 carrying the same business name. It was then sold and renamed as, Perkins Bacon Ltd from 1939 - May 1941. The original Perkins Bacon & Co printing equipment continued in use by the new companies. On 10 May 1941 during WWII the printing plant was destroyed by German bombing. When this happened, the Newfoundland stamp procurement contractor, John Dickinson & Co Ltd, was forced to find another qualified security printer. The printer selected was Waterlow & Sons. Initially they were pressed into service to fill existing orders from the Perkins Bacon Ltd subcontract. In February 1942 they were officially subcontracted to print Newfoundland’s 1942 *Second Resources* series until termination in 1949.

Robert H. Pratt in *The Essay-Proof Journal Winter 1965 Vol. 22 No. 1. Whole No. 85* reports of his interviews held with Alfred John Hubbard who previously was the chairman of the Perkins Bacon Ltd board. In it Hubbard states that the company was able to recover and salvage many stamp dies and stamp plates from their wrecked business premises. These were turned over to John Dickinson & Co Ltd for use by their selected printer, Waterlow & Sons. He said some Perkins Bacon printing plates were damaged and refurbishing had to occur. These and undamaged plates were then retrofitted to Waterlow & Sons presses. Both processes are time consuming. Denominations in critical demand would take priority. This allowed Waterlow & Sons to assist Perkins Bacon Ltd fulfill its curtailed Newfoundland stamp orders.

John Ayshford’s research in the Waterlow & Sons company archives resulted in his twenty page book *The Last Stamps of Newfoundland* London, Robson Lowe, 1978. It provides dates as to when the officially subcontracted Waterlow & Sons stamp orders were printed. The initial order and, if needed in this study, the next order produced for each Waterlow & Sons Resources issue denomination is listed. While from Winthrop S. Boggs *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Newfoundland USA*: Chambers Publishing Company 1942 page 127 are provided his observed earliest known use (eku) dates. The *Walsh Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue* ekus found by many researchers, some are listed.

Waterlow & Sons archive	W. S. Boggs	NSSC 2022 eku’s as provided by
¢ value; order date, (quantity)	1942 eku	C A Stillions, Eric P Yendall,
John Ayshford 1978 research		Anthony B Thompson, Brian C Bursey
<b><i>(Walsh: post May 1941 - pre Feb 1942 Blitz Printing is 21 mm line perf. 12.5 x 12.5 with 2¢, 3¢, 4¢ seen)</i></b>		
1¢	May 1942, July 1942 (5,000 M)	<b>Aug. 14, 1942</b> (ABT) (21 mm, perf. 12.5 x 12.5)
2¢	February 1942	<b>Nov. 14, 1941</b> (21 mm, perf. 12.5 x 12.5)
3¢	February 1942	<b>Oct. 15, 1941</b> (21 mm, perf. 12.5 x 12.5)
4¢	February 1942	<b>Oct. 01, 1941</b> (21 mm, perf. 12.5 x 12.5)
5¢	February 1942	<b>unknown for</b> (21 mm, perf. 12.5 x 12.5)



**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition**

- *continued*

*(Walsh & Moore show: pre 1941 dated 5¢ die I & II size 21 mm in comb perfs. 13.3 x 13.3 & 13.5 x 13.5 exist printed from Perkins Bacon presses before Blitz Printing by Waterlow & Sons)*

7¢	July 1942 (500 M)	(Jan. 1942)	March 06, 1943
8¢	February 1942, July 1942 (600 M)		September 26, 1942
10¢	July 1942, March 1943 (500 M)		March 03, 1943 (BCB)
14¢	July 1942, March 1943 (200 M)		January 08, 1944
15¢	July 1942 (100 M)		July 17, 1943
20¢	July 1942, March 1943 (400 M)		January 08, 1944
24¢	July 1942, March 1944 (300 M)		April 24, 1943
25¢	July 1942, March 1943 (150 M)		April 24, 1943
48¢	July 1942 (100 M)		January 24, 1943

When printing quantities of Waterlow & Sons production are examined it is remarkable that it took so long for their new stamp format on the other denominations to become noticed. It would seem plausible that earlier dates will be found.

The initial observation of the stamps printed by Waterlow & Sons showed that they were wider on the stamp short size than the previous Perkins Bacon stamps. The known measurements for Perkins Bacon stamps were between 20.2 and 20.5 mm compared to the 21 mm for Waterlow & Sons same design imaged-stamp. Another observable difference was the perforation gauge used on the stamps. Perkins Bacon utilized several gauge sizes. Their main perforation was the comb perforation gauge of 13.5 x 13.5 with occasionally gauges 13.3 x 13.3; 13.7 x 13.7; 14 x 14; 14.2 x 14.2 utilized. Several of these are line perforations. Stamp collectors initially observed that Waterlow & Sons utilized the 12.5 x 12.5 line perforation gauge. This is further confirmed by Ayshford when he researched the Waterlow & Sons printer archives.

However, Walsh in *BNA Topics Vol. 46, No. 6 November-December 1989 Whole No.434 page 6* reported the 12.8 x 12.8 discovery, with later perforation observations for this same issue being found as 12.5 x 12.8 and 12.8 x 12.5 perforations. This makes four different line perforations available to be found from the Waterlow & Sons Resources issue printing.

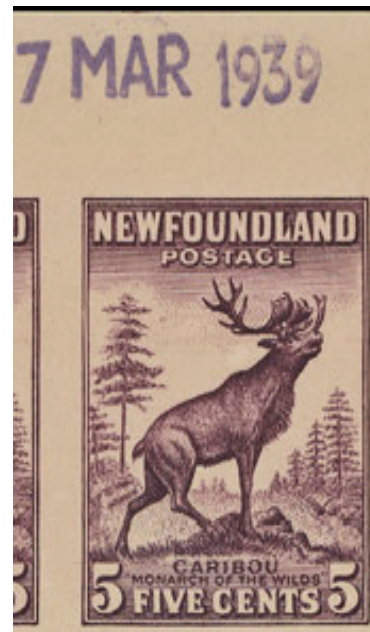
Over the years many stamp catalogues and collectors have assigned the observed 21 mm stamp sizes that have perforation gauge 13.3 x 13.3 and 13.5 x 13.5 as being produced by Waterlow & Sons Ltd. One stamp catalogue, *Walsh Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue*, has consistently ignored this manner because its author did not believe this happened because Waterlow & Sons utilized a different printing press.

Pratt in his 1965 interview made an observation that 1932 - 1939 Newfoundland imperforate and perforate sheets were present in Hubbard's possession. When stamp assets were later sold from the Hubbard estate they were acquired by Kasmir Bileski. He noted that many of these imperforate black and in colour of issue printed Resource issue imaged- stamps were in the 21 mm size. Because of this size observation and with everyone back then knowing that the Perkins Bacon printed 1932 Resources issue stamps were in the <20.5 mm size, Bileski immediately reported them as being from the Waterlow & Sons 1942 issue. He proceeded to sell them as such. His sale notes did state the written dates that appeared on many of these sheets. Shown is a dated wove paper, unwatermarked, no gum, imperforate 5¢ Caribou part sheet, dated 7 Mar 1939 with a die II designed image! A digital cut shows the grass is into the left frame line and in size 21 mm. It seems this visual appearance of a die II image was lost by Bileski, his buyers and other reporters. Even then it was factually known that the 5¢ die II was not printed by Waterlow & Sons. The results of Bileski aggressive sales pitch of these imperforate Resource design stamp-images in 21 mm size and also those 21 mm images issued in perforation 13.3 x 13.3 and 13.5 x 13.5 caused them to be listed as originating from the Waterlow & Sons printing presses. Sadly, this incorrect assignment continues to be perpetrated to date.



**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition**

- *continued*



*Figure 1 5c Caribou part sheet with date in margin of 7 March 1939. The enlargement at right shows that the stamp images are die II. Sheet is imperforate, on wove paper, unwatermarked.*

In January 2021 access to a full series of the imperforate and perforated Resource issue imaged stamps sold by Bileski from the Hubbard holding enabled a detailed study to be undertaken. The revealing results found by Walsh and Moore were published in *Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain Maple Leaves Vol 37, #1, Whole #359 {Jan 2021}; Vol 37, #3, Whole #361 {Jul 2021} and Vol 37, #8, Whole #366 {Oct 2022}*. Titled as Newfoundland: Discoveries in the Design Sizes of the 1932 First Resources; 1933 Gilbert; 1937 Long Coronation and 1938 Royal Family Issues {January} and Newfoundland: Discovery Design Sizes Found on the 5 cent, 2 cent Die II, 4 cent Rose Lake and 8 cent values of the 1932 Perkins Bacon & Co Issue (Further Proof of Their Different Printing Press Uses and Capabilities) {July} and Newfoundland: Further Exciting Discovery Findings in Design Sizes of Perkins Bacon & Co; 1932 First Resources Issues {October}.

In 1938 a new issue was printed for Newfoundland. To satisfy the ordered requirements it had images for the 2¢ King Monarch, 3¢ Queen Monarch, 4¢ future Queen and 7¢ previous Queen printed. These denominations would be in great demand to fill postage rate orders. Other denomination image requirements seemed not to be in such a need. Looking at the 1932 Resources, 1933 Gilbert and the 1937 Long Coronation issues it is observed that many higher denominations had been printed and forwarded to Newfoundland ready for future needs.

From the stated *Maple Leaves* articles, dates placed by the printer are even shown on printer samples of the larger 21 mm size stamps. It is obvious that Perkins Bacon presses were in the process of producing some of the needed postage requirements utilizing the dry paper press. Those studies proved that the Perkins Bacon printing presses had the ability to print the Resources same imaged-stamp designs as two distinct 20.2 - 20.5 mm and 21 mm sizes. These sizes were even found for each of the two different 5¢ Caribou dies. The two printed 5¢ dies were found as mint in each of the 13.3 x 13.3 and 13.5 x 13.5 comb perforations and both found postally used on pre-May 1941 dated envelopes. Many preproduction items of the 5¢ Caribou were made by the Perkins Bacon printing presses and saved. This is seen from the Hubbard estate sale. The stamp pairs sample quantities of this preproduction 5¢ Caribou stamp base is most important as a study for this transitional change into the different printing presses. The pairs demonstrate the different stamp spacing as seen occurring from the different image sizes. Other 1932 - 39 denominations were also present. Found in these larger 21 mm size were images not given to Waterlow & Sons for printing. Definite proof Perkins Bacon printing presses could print size 21 mm images.

**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition**

- continued

These existing development quantities of the different 5¢ Caribou in die I and die II sheet samples found in the Hubbard possession enables a concluding interpretation. These samples show that the Perkins Bacon presses were being manipulated to determine a process to speed up postage stamp printing. The 5¢ denomination, being most in demand to fill the mandated postal rates, was the choice to use. These 21 mm sized development samples in colour and in black prove that they were successful with the dry printing process. The black plate proof samples found for the rest of this issue proves that the dry paper printing process for any denomination was a success.

To further confirm and show the capability of the Perkins Bacon presses to do printing in the 21 mm size and still in perf. 13.5 x 13.5 this 1932 4¢ red King image NSSC # 180 on an envelope dated June 06, 1934, is provided (fig.2) A digital cut is also presented where the 1938 4¢ Princess 20.5 mm, perf. 13.5 x 13.5 along with the three 5¢ Caribou images from the 1932 die I and die II and the 1942 Caribou die I are matched against the 1932 4¢ red King stamp, (Walsh NSSC#180d) size 21 mm (fig.3).



Figure 2



Figure 3

As well this 5¢ Caribou die II size 21 mm perf. 13.5 x 13.5 is presented along with its digital cut compared against the same three different 5¢ Caribous (fig.4). These different stamped denominations and images in size 21 mm and existing in 1934 and 1936 definitely prove the image size capabilities of Perkins Bacon printing presses prior to May 1941 destruction.

*Editor's note: This article first appeared in The Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, Maple Leaves Vol. 38 No. 1, Jan 2023, and is reproduced here with the kind permission of the author. It will conclude in the next issue of this newsletter.*



Figure 4