

Whitehead-Morris Newfoundland Postal Stationery Master Die—1912

BILL and DAN MEYERSON



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

Fig. 3

We have recently unearthed an item in the field of Newfoundland's Postal Stationery of which we have had no previous knowledge or record. It is the Master Die Proof in black on thick white card of the design used by Whitehead Morris for the 1913 and 1915 1c Post Card and the 1912 2c Letter Card with Paid Reply. As can be seen from the accompanying photograph (Fig. 1), the tablets are blank to allow for the insertion of the 1c or 2c values as needed. This Die was in use for the postal stationery until 1930, at which time the Die was re-engraved to provide for the 1c Card and used again for the new 2c Card in 1937. It is quite simple to differentiate between the original Die (Fig. 2) and the re-engraved Die (Fig. 3) by comparing the shading on the forehead and neck. In the original Die the lines are full and unbroken whereas in the reengraved Die they are incomplete and only extend part way.

Emergency Date Stamp

E. G. LLOYD

I know of only one instance when this "Emergency Date Stamp" was used. Here is the story.

Sutton West, Ontario, was broken into on May 22, 1944 and all Post Office valuables, including the date stamp, were stolen. Until a new "Sutton West" date stamp could be made, this office used for cancelling a circular stamp of the usual size (about $\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter) with the wording on it "Toronto District Emergency No. 1". The date in the center was the usual for this type cancelling stamp. I believe this emergency date stamp was used by that office until June 16th, 1944 when a new office date stamp was provided and the emergency stamp recalled.

It would be interesting to learn if any other offices used this, or a similar type, of date stamp. Their use should be very limited as they would only be used if the regular office stamp were stolen or destroyed by fire or in any other way damaged beyond use. Even then, their use would be for a very short time, a matter of days, before the regular replacement arrived.

I'd appreciate hearing from any of the readers who might specialize in such unusual postmarks.

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Trail of The Caribou

Freres MEYERSON

Following is the first column of what I hope will be a continued series of such columns by the Meyersons. I know, and I'm sure others have learned, that the Freres Meyerson are about the best informed 'team' on Newfoundland collecting in any of its phases. This bottomless well of knowledge and information is now yours to tap—any questions on Newfoundland, you know now where to send them—Freres Meyerson.—ED.

Current Newfoundland stamps are now being issued with plate numbers. Heretofore, just the 30c Memorial College, the 5c Grenfell, and the 7c Airmail had been issued in that fashion. Henceforth, it was authoritatively learned, all current stamps will have plate numbers. The numbers appear in each corner of each sheet of 100 stamps; thus making 4 numbers to the sheet. It is easy to see that the hobby of reconstructed sheets will soon be in vogue for Newfoundland collectors. For want of a better term, the numbers are referred to as plate numbers, whereas they are probably job numbers which formerly appeared on the sheets but were removed in the cutting. Call them what you will, they will serve as identifying numbers and will serve to keep the records straight for philatelic posterity. Arthur Moll would have been that much further along in his study of the 5c Caribou stamp had these numbers been in vogue then. Eh, Arthur?

The following values of the current set have already been issued with numbers:

Value	No.	Issue Date
1c	42430	29th Dec.
2c	43078	22nd Dec.
3c	43066	22nd Dec.
8c	41601	22nd Dec.
20c	41796	30th Dec.
25c	41791	30th Dec.
48c	41793	30th Dec.

Subsequently issued will be recorded here in a future issue.

The 5c Cabot Commemorative has also been recently issued with the number 43476. The date of issue is unknown at present.

Edward Booklet Pane— A Bargain

JOHN S. SIVERTS

Bargains are still to be found if one is lucky and persistent enough not to give up too easily. Last year produced such a bargain for me.

I was going through a West Coast dealer's stock, but not finding much more than a railroad cancel here and there. The Edward Issue was well represented including large blocks of the 1c and 2c unused. Upon closer examination of the 2c blocks, I found a straight edge pair staring me in the face! The pair was brought out from behind all the other 2c's but this pair turned out to be an overgrown pair including four extra stamps and a tab. Yes!! I had found a very fine pane of six of the rare 2c Edward booklet. The price tag was \$15.00! I showed my find to the clerk along with the price tag. He took it back to the boss for final approval, and I figured that was the end of the \$15.00 price. He said, "This item has gone up recently, but...well...go ahead and take it at the \$15.00." My elation was hard to control until I got safely out of range.

You'd better rush right down to your favorite dealer for an Edward pane...who knows...he might even have the Victoria pane to go along with it...but, I can't guarantee at that price!

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