

# Additional Data on the Stamps of Newfoundland

By Robert H. Pratt, No. 1982

## III—THE PICTORIAL ISSUE, 1923-1924

The pictorial issue was the next to last issue produced by De La Rue. Preliminary negotiations started on the 7th November 1922 and on the 27th of that month nineteen designs in the usual photographic format were presented to the contractors. These designs were labeled "A" through "S". They exist today, and these essays portrayed the following values:

A—1c, B—2c, C—3c, D—4c, E—5c, F—6c, G—8c, H—9c, I—10c, J—11c, K—12c, L—15c, M—20c, N—24c, O—10c Air, P—15c Air, Q—2c Internal Rev. (King), R—2c Internal Rev. (Dog), S—2c Postage Due.

The designs for the 3c, 6c and 20c and 10c Air were later rejected and new designs for these values were submitted on the 15th of January 1923, being lettered 'T', 'U', 'V' and 'W' in that order.

This is the first issue emanating from De La Rue in which progress proofs of some values appear. The 8c, 10c, 15c and 24c are known in blue, green or black in obvious progress stages. The 3c, 5c and 12c also appear in near final state. Final state die proofs in blue should be available for all values, the 5c, 10c and 15c being so known. The 20c die proofs show up in complete state in two shades of green, which were rejected and the approved brown.

Although not mentioned by Mr. Strange, the 5c die was proofed in many colors on several papers and was undoubtedly used for color trials. Some exist trimmed to stamp size (which was normal for De La Rue color trials) but many are still available with the full impression of the die.

Plate essays were prepared from the designs P, Q and R. The 15c air mail stamp exists perforated and imperforate in several colors. The 'Dog' Internal Revenue exists in black and the 'King' Revenue in red, imperforate.

As with the 2c Coronation Issue die proofs, several sets of 13 die proofs of the 3c value exist in the same 13 colors. They were prepared in 1928 as color trials for the stamps of that issue. Most of them were trimmed to stamp size, but a very few exist with the full impression of the die.

Both dated perforated sheets and imper-

forate record sheets are now available for this issue. The imperforate sheets are considered first because most of them came from the first printing.

The one cent and the two cent sheets are the only ones in this group to be incomplete. They both had the lower left hand corner block missing, and a single marked in M/S "1 used for color scheme." The 1c was from the lower left corner and the 2c from the bottom of column 7. These probably reside in the De La Rue collection in the Royal Museum. The 2c sheet is marked in M/S "1926 last run" so this is obviously not from the first printing. As there have been imperforates of these two stamps available prior to this time, they are evidently from a later printing of the 1c and perhaps the first printing of the 2c. What did happen to the blocks? The 2c is the only gummed value as is true of the previous imperforates available. There was no 3c imperforate in the group.

It is unfortunate that many of the details concerning this issue are lacking, as there is definite evidence that imperforate proof sheets of the 6c and 24c and possibly the 8c and 11c were prepared in color of issue and in trial colors. Now for a list of the imperforate, ungummed record sheets.

- 4c—6 May 1923
- 9c—10 May 1923
- 1c—12 May 1923 M/S "color correct"
- 5c—13 May 1923
- 10c—8 June 1923 M/S "color correct"
- 15c—9 June 1923 M/S "color correct"
- 6c—11 June 1923 M/S "color correct"
- 11c—12 June 1923 M/S "color of this side of sheet correct"
- 8c—15 June 1923 M/S "color correct"
- 12c—15 June 1923 M/S "color correct"
- 15c—25 July 1923 M/S "correct for color and quality"
- 2c—1926 Last Run

The previously known imperforate sheets are the 1c and 2c (gummed), the 6c in dark blue M/S "before," (which meant before burnishing and hardening) and the 24c in yellow brown, dark blue and color of issue. The 8c and 11c, if in plate form, are in color of issue. (I have only seen singles cut to stamp size.)



Fig. 1

In another group, which came on the market at a London sale in January 1967, there are gummed sheets of the 1c, 2c, 4c, 5c and 11c all imperforate and the 24c perforated. There are not any marginal markings on these sheets. In total, therefore, there should be approximately 300 of the 1c and 2c, 200 of the 4c, 5c, 11c and 15c, and probably not more than 100 of the balance, imperforate, gummed and un-gummed stamps available.

Evidently the 15c sheet, which had been approved for color on the 9th of June (Fig. 1), was not approved for quality when De La Rue sent three sheets of each value to Newfoundland on the 25th of June. Another finished on the 25th of July. (Fig. 1a).

The perforated sheets, of which there were all issued values, contain groupings of common marginal notes. Unfortunately most of the sheets were not dated and thus, they cannot be assigned to printings. They will be grouped by like annotations.

- (1) "1 spec. book" in red ink. 5c, 6c, 8c, 9c, 10c, 11c and 15c.
- (2) "1 specimen book" in red ink. 1c, 3c and 4c, also 20c written in a different hand.



Fig. 1a



Fig. 2

- (3) "1 col. scheme" in black pencil. 4c, 5c, 8c, 9c, 10c, 12c, 15c, 20c and 24c. The 20c also bears a date 5 April 1924 which locates these sheets. The 24c has a companion dated 21 Feb. 1924.
- (4) Miscellaneous  
 a—3c block (M/S "1 color scheme")  
 b—3c block of 12 (M/S "sheet of 1925

supply in new colors"). This color was lighter than other blocks. (Fig. 2).

- c—Upper left and lower right corner blocks of 24c of a very poor printing dated 21 Feb. 1924 (Fig. 3).
- d—An unusual block of 8 from the 21 Feb. printing, which shows a paper crease printed into the stamps.

Probably items 1 and 2 came from the first printing, except for the 20c, which was not prepared until April 1924. The item 3 stamps are probably from the 1924 printings.

Arnold strange has given a full list of quantities ordered and a partial list of those supplied. If they were supplied as poorly as the Caribou issue, many different printings would result. The following list gives the numbers of orders and the total quantities of each ordered.

1c—5 Orders	11,000,000 Stamps
2c—6 Orders	17,000,000
3c—6 Orders	18,050,000
4c—5 Orders	4,000,000
5c—5 Orders	1,150,000
6c—1 Order	250,000
8c—1 Order	25,000
(Probably an error—believed to be 250,000)	
9c—1 Order	50,000
10c—7 Orders	760,000
11c—4 Orders	97,000
12c—1 Order	100,000
15c—4 Orders	130,000
20c—5 Orders	95,000
24c—2 Orders	25,000

Boggs in his **Postage Stamps of Newfoundland** reports the following:

9c—of 50,000 ordered 41,600 sent to Newfoundland, 6,662 sold by the Newfoundland commissioner in London, total 48,262.

12c—of 100,000 ordered, 90,000 sent to Newfoundland, 6,783 sold by the commissioner, total 96,783.

24c—of 25,000 ordered, 20,800 sent to Newfoundland, 1,720 sold by the commissioner, total 22,520.

No mention is made of the 6c and 8c, which also had only one order. A large remainder of the 6c must have existed because 1,000 sheets or 100,000 stamps were overprinted "three cents" to relieve the stamp shortage of August 1929.



Fig. 3

## The Canadian Stamp Collector

GLENN F. HANSEN, No. 2203, 375 Jefferson Ave., Winnipeg 17, Manitoba

Newfoundland, in common with the rest of British North America, issued no stamps during the short reign of King Edward VIII. Plans were laid in England for the issue by all crown colonies of stamps commemorating the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. Newfoundland had a three value set, of 2c, 4c and 5c values, engraved and printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. These bore the Crown Agencies design and watermark and were perforated  $11 \times 11\frac{1}{4}$ . Date of issue was May 12th, 1937.

On March 12th, 1937 a new long set was released. This had been ordered by the local Commission from Perkins, Bacon & Co., on paper watermarked with the Newfoundland Coat of Arms. This set comes perforated 14 and perforated  $13\frac{1}{2}$ . The eleven values, from 1c to 48c, were designed with the portrait of the King on one side of the long horizontal design. The designs on the balance of the stamps were, in the main, the same as those used on the 1932 issue. For the 1c and 3c values new designs were engraved and these consisted of a Codfish on the 1c and a map of Newfoundland on the 3c.

A new Royal Family set was ordered from Perkins, Bacon & Co., and was issued on May 12th, 1938. Many consider this set to be Newfoundland's Coronation issue. The 2c value bore a profile of King George

VI, Queen Elizabeth is shown on the 3c, Princess Elizabeth appears on the 4c and Queen Mother Mary on the 7c made the set complete. The Coat of Arms watermark appears on these stamps which were perforated  $13\frac{1}{2}$  although the 3c exists perf.  $14\frac{1}{4}$ .

Paper with no watermark was used by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. in preparing a stamp which was issued on the occasion of the Royal Visit in 1939. Late in the year this stamp was overprinted as 2c and 4c stamps. The original value had been 5c. A variety of the 2c overprint is known sans-serif while the 4c overprint has a "Centl" for "Cents" variation.

On December 1st, 1941 Newfoundland issued a stamp commemorating Sir Wilfred Grenfell. This 5c stamp was printed in Canada by the Canadian Bank Note Co., of Ottawa, unwatermarked and perforated 12.

During the period 1941-1943 the entire Royal Family set of 1938 plus the 5c, 8c, 10c, 14c, 15c, 20c, 24c, 25c and 48c values of the 1932 Pictorial Set were re-issued perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ . The 5c value is also known in  $13\frac{1}{2}$  perforation. The re-engraving done on this re-issue is not too apparent so the perforations are best guide. The 5c value was re-issued in the two dies of the original set with die I being perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and die II being perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$ .