



PROVINCE OF CANADA

With passage of Great Britain's Post Office Act of 1849, the British North American colonies won the right to control their own postal systems. On April 6, 1851 the Province of Canada, at that time consisting of what is now Ontario and Quebec, took over operation of its own Post Office. Canadian currency was based on the British system until 1859 when decimal coinage was adopted. Confederation made Canada a nation in 1867 and the first Dominion issues were released the following year.

The "threepenny beaver" was issued April 23, 1851. The busy dam builder symbolised the lusty, growing land. "V.R." denotes Victoria Regina, reigning Queen Victoria. Her Majesty and Prince Albert are depicted on the other two stamps of the series.

1851
Engraved
Laid Paper
Imperforate



Sc 1



Sc 2



Sc 3

1852-55
Engraved
Wove Paper
Imperforate



Sc 5

1855
Engraved
Wove Paper
Imperforate



Sc 7

1857
Engraved
Wove Paper
Imperforate



Sc 8



The French explorers led by Jacques Cartier sailed up the Saint Lawrence River to Montreal in 1534 and claimed the country for France. The six pence Queen Victoria and the ten pence Cartier stamps show both sterling (stg) and currency (cy) notations.



DOMINION OF CANADA

The dream of a unified expansion into the territories of the North and West was brought closer to reality by the growth of the Canadian railroad system bridging the barriers of distance between the provinces and making confederation a reality. The Quebec Conference of 1864 framed the resolutions forming the basis of the British North America Act which on July 1, 1867 united the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick into the Dominion of Canada.

The "Large Queens" were the first stamps issued by the new Dominion.



THE LARGE QUEENS 1868

Engraved
Thin Wove Paper
Unwatermarked
Perforated 12



1875

Perforated 11½ x 12



Laid Paper





THE SMALL QUEENS
1870-1882
Montreal & Ottawa Printings
Engraved
Wove Paper
Perforated 12





THE SMALL QUEENS

1888-1895

Ottawa Printing
Thin Wove Paper
Perforated 12





1897



DIAMOND JUBILEE

Celebration of Queen Victoria's 60th reigning year inspired Canada's first and longest commemorative series. The stamps each featured two vignettes of the Queen. The one from the famous Chalon portrait shows her shortly after her Coronation. The Von Angeli portrait shows her in later life. The letters "VRI" stand for "Victoria Regina Imperatrix" or, Victoria, Queen and Empress.



SCOTT'S OFFICIAL ALBUM PAGE



MAPLE LEAF SERIES
1897-1898

The leaves on this set were designed from leaves found on the grounds of Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Values were expressed only in words.





NUMERAL ISSUES
1898-1902

The French speaking Canadians of Quebec requested numerals of value be included in the design.



1899
Surcharges

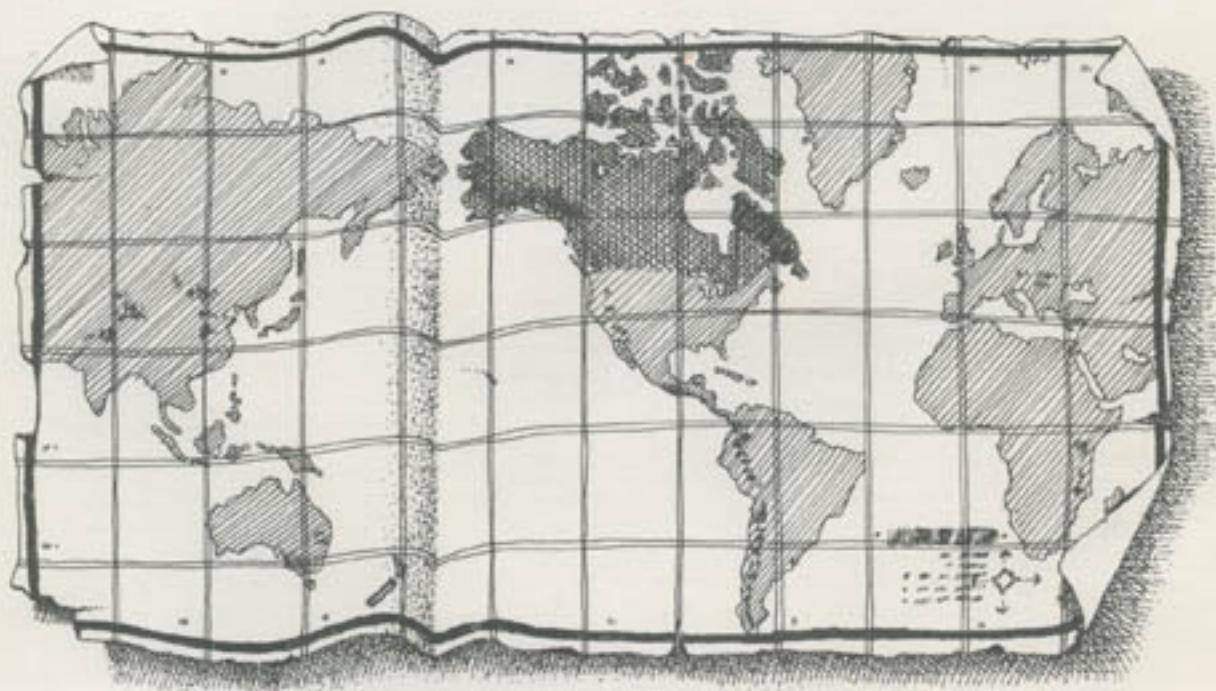




IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE

1898

To introduce the adoption of the Imperial Penny Postage rate going into effect on Christmas Day, Canada's first Christmas stamp design showed a map of the world on Mercator's projection with British Possessions marked in red. The motto, 'We hold a vaster Empire than has been', is from 'A Song Of Empire' written by Sir Lewis Morris to honour the 50th Anniversary of Queen Victoria's reign.





KING EDWARD VII
1903-1908

Queen Victoria died January 29, 1901, but the new series bearing the portrait of her son, King Edward VII, did not appear until Dominion Day, 1903. The stamp was designed by the Prince of Wales, later King George V, with J. A. Tilleard of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.





1908
QUEBEC
TERCENTENARY

On July 3, 1608 Samuel de Champlain, the 'Father of New France', established the first permanent white settlement in Canada at Quebec. This series marks the first appearance of the French language on the stamps of Canada.



King George V and Queen Mary
 as Prince and Princess of Wales



Explorers Jacques Cartier
 and Samuel Champlain



King Edward VII &
 Queen Alexandra



Champlain's Home in Quebec



Generals Montcalm & Wolfe



Champlain's Headquarters
 Quebec City in 1700



Champlain's Departure
 from Isle of St. Helaine



Cartier's Arrival at Quebec
 in 1535



**KING GEORGE ADMIRAL SERIES
1912-1925**

The death of King Edward made a new definitive series necessary. The vignette is King George V in the full dress uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet of the Royal Navy. Although King George succeeded to the throne on May 6, 1910, stamps bearing his portrait did not appear until January 1, 1912.





KING GEORGE ADMIRAL SERIES
1912
Coil Stamps
Perforated 8 Horizontally



1912-1924
Perforated 8 Vertically



1915-1924
Perforated 12 Horizontally





KING GEORGE ADMIRAL SERIES 1924

Imperforate



1926
Surcharges



1931
Perforated 12 x 8



131 IV
experimental
Toronto perf.



50TH YEAR
CANADIAN FEDERATION

1917



Fathers of the Confederation

Because of World War I, the 50th Anniversary of Confederation was celebrated with only a single stamp in 1917. The design is taken from the painting "Fathers of the Confederation" by Robert Harris and shows the meeting at the Parliament House in Quebec during the fall of 1864.

With the war over, the Post Office was less restrained and the 60th Anniversary of Confederation was celebrated in high style in 1927. Two separate sets of stamps were issued, one known as the commemorative series consisting of five stamps and a Special Delivery and a second set of three values called the 'historical' issue. Major political figures and settings of the Confederation movement are depicted.

60TH YEAR CONFEDERATION

1927



Sir John A. Macdonald



Sir Wilfred Laurier



"Fathers of the Confederation"
Similar to 50th Anniversary commemorative, but includes all of the figures from the original painting.



New Parliament Buildings at Ottawa, centre block, seat of Canadian Government. Destroyed by fire in 1916, rebuilt by 1920.



"Confederation Map". A map showing the boundaries of the first year of unity contrasted with those of sixty years later.



HISTORICAL SERIES

1927

Thomas d'Arcy McGee. Irish-born journalist who moved to Montreal in 1857. Preached the gospel of the 'New Nationality' in the press and then in the Legislative Assembly where he served from 1858 to 1867.

Sir Wilfred Laurier. First Canadian of French descent to become Prime Minister (1896-1911). Noted for his 'Free Trade within the Empire' policy.

Sir John A. Macdonald. First Prime Minister of Canada (1867-1873). Served again from 1878 until his death in 1891. Very active in the formation of the Confederation.

Robert Baldwin and Sir Louis Hippolyte Lafontaine. Leaders in Ontario and Quebec in the struggle for representative government. Joint leaders of the 1848-51 'Great Ministry' that established responsible government in British North America.



Thomas d'Arcy McGee



Sir Wilfred Laurier
Sir John Macdonald



Robert Baldwin
Sir Louis H. Lafontaine



**KING GEORGE V
SCROLL SERIES
1928-1929**

Pride in her social, economic and political growth and the beauty of her natural wonders inspired the handsome definitive series which replaced the 'Admirals'. These were Canada's first bi-lingual stamps and, except for the 'beavers', the first pictorial definitives. Scenes are from the country's different provinces.



Mt. Hurd
Western Provinces



Rail Bridge
Quebec



Harvesting
Prairie Provinces



Schooner Bluenose
Maritime Provinces



Parliament
Ontario

**1929
Coil Stamps
Perforated 8 Vertically**



SCOTT'S OFFICIAL ALBUM PAGE



**KING GEORGE V
ARCH AND MAPLE LEAF SERIES
1930-1931**

In the new pictorial series the maple leaf was used prominently in the upper corners on all values and an arch was used as a frame on lower values. From this has come the name 'Arch and Maple Leaf' series.





ARCH AND MAPLE LEAF SERIES 1932



The Old Citadel
at Quebec City



Harvesting Tractor,
Western Canada



Grand Pre,
Nova Scotia



Mount Edith Cavell,
British Columbia

KING GEORGE V Surcharges



1930-1931 Coil Stamps Perforated 8 1/2 Vertically





1931
SIR GEORGE ÉTIENNE CARTIER

Statesman and leading advocate of railway construction. Premier in Cartier-Macdonald ministry. Leader of the movement that carried French Canada into federation.



1932
IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE



Canada was recognised as a completely independent member of the British Commonwealth of Nations by the Statute of Westminster in 1931. Her equality was demonstrated when Ottawa was chosen as the site of the Imperial Economic Conference the following year. A set of commemoratives was issued in honour of this very important world event.

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

1933

STEAMSHIP ROYAL WILLIAM



The Executive Committee of the Universal Postal Union met in Ottawa in 1933. An imposing view of the Parliament Buildings at Ottawa is on the commemorative issued for the event. The Universal Postal Union was formed in 1874 to coordinate international mail.



In August of 1833, the 830 ton Royal William steamed out of Pictou, Nova Scotia and arrived at London twenty-five days later. Although sail equipped, she crossed the Atlantic entirely under her own power and was the first steam vessel to do so.

WORLD'S GRAIN CONFERENCE



The World Grain Conference was held July 24, 1933 in Regina, capital of Saskatchewan, the central province of the three Prairie Provinces.



**KING GEORGE V
MEDALLION SERIES
1932-1935**

The bas relief (with the design raised slightly from the background) of George V was used for the definitive series known as the "Medallion Issue."



Old Citadel, Quebec



**1933
Coil Stamps
Perforated 8½ Vertically**



NON OFFICIAL SCOTT ALBUM PAGE



1934

JACQUES CARTIER



Heroic Jacques Cartier and members of his crew preparing to land on Canadian soil in 1534.

NEW BRUNSWICK



Great Seal of New Brunswick. Established as a separate colony in 1784 through the efforts of the United Empire Loyalists.

UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS



Statue erected in Hamilton, Ontario in tribute to the Loyalists from the thirteen colonies who, in 1784, pioneered and settled in Toronto, Hamilton and Niagara.



SILVER JUBILEE 1935



Princess Elizabeth



Duke of York



Prince of Wales



King George V
and Queen Mary



Windsor Castle



Royal Yacht
Britannia



**KING GEORGE V
DATED DIE SERIES
1935**

Beginning with this issue many of Canada's stamps have a 'secret date' hidden within the design. On the low values of this set it is in the portrait oval just to the right of the left hand maple leaf. It appears in various locations on the higher values.



Royal Canadian
Mounted Policeman



Confederation Conference
of 1864 at Charlottetown



Canadian Horseshoe Falls,
Niagara



Parliament Buildings,
Victoria, British Columbia



Champlain Monument,
Quebec

**1935-1936
Coil Stamps
Perforated 8 Vertically**





KING GEORGE VI SERIES

1937



The Prince of Wales ascended the throne upon the death of King George V in January, 1936 and became King Edward VII. Stamps were being prepared, but had not been issued when he abdicated in December, giving the throne to his brother, the Duke of York, who became King George VI. The design planned for King Edward was used for the new king. This issue was the first Canadian series to depict the king in civilian attire.



Coil Stamps
Perforated 8 Vertically



1938



View of Harbour,
Halifax



Memorial Chamber,
Parliament Building, Ottawa



Fort Garry Gate,
Winnipeg



View of Harbour,
Vancouver



Chateau de Ramezay,
Montreal



**CORONATION
1937**



King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited Canada in May and June, 1939. To mark the historic occasion of the first visit to Canada of a reigning monarch, a special set of stamps was issued. These were the first bi-coloured stamps since the Penny Post of 1898.

**ROYAL VISIT
1939**



Princess Elizabeth and
Princess Margaret Rose



War Memorial,
Ottawa



King George VI and
Queen Elizabeth



**KING GEORGE VI
WAR EFFORT SERIES
1942-1943**

Canada committed itself to the Allied cause on the outbreak of World War II and declared war on Germany on September 10, 1939, just one week after Great Britain. A war-time definitive replaced the then current issue.



FOOD FOR THE WAR EFFORT



Grain Elevator



Farm Scene



Parliament Buildings



Army "Ram" Tank



Army "Ram" Tank



Navy Corvette



Army Field Gun



Navy Destroyer



**KING GEORGE VI
WAR EFFORT SERIES
1942-1943**
Coil Stamps
Perforated 8 Vertically



1948
Perforated 9½ Vertically





PEACE SERIES

1946

At the end of the war the high values of the War Effort issue were replaced with peaceful, industrious scenes.



Farm Scene,
Ontario



Great Bear Lake,
Northwest Territories



St. Maurice River,
Quebec



Tractor Combine,
Plains Provinces



Lumbering,
British Columbia



Train Ferry,
Prince Edward Island





1947-1949

CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

Passage of the Citizenship Act gave Canadian citizenship to those residents who qualified on July 1, 1947. Prior to that date all Canadians were British subjects. The design is a symbolical Canadian greeting the new day.



ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL

Issued to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Alexander Graham Bell. Dr. Bell worked out his theory and gave his first successful demonstration of the telephone while living in Brantford, Ontario. He died in 1922 at his summer home in Nova Scotia.



PRINCESS ELIZABETH

Issued to commemorate the November 29, 1947 marriage of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten of the Royal Navy.



RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT



Celebrating 100 years of Canadian Responsible Government with freedom from control by the Home Office at London.

NEWFOUNDLAND ENTRY INTO CONFEDERATION



John Cabot and his crew of 18 men in the small ship 'Matthew' are credited with landing in Newfoundland in 1497. On April 1, 1949, Newfoundland joined the Confederation.

FOUNDING OF HALIFAX



Halifax, capital of Nova Scotia, founded in 1749, is the leading commercial and cultural city of the Province and a major Canadian port. Stamp depicts the original settlement.



KING GEORGE VI PEACE SERIES

1949-1951

Portraits of King George VI in civilian dress superseded the military portraits of the wartime series. Higher values, showing Canada's artistry, industry and natural resources were designed by Canadian artists.



1950

POSTES-POSTAGE OMITTED





KING GEORGE VI
PEACE SERIES
1950
POSTES-POSTAGE

Coil Stamps
Perforated 9½ Vertically



1951



1950
POSTES-POSTAGE OMITTED





NATURAL RESOURCES SERIES 1950-1953



Art & Architecture



Wildlife



Fur



Forestry



Petroleum



Fishing



Textiles



1951



Right Honourable Sir Robert Laird Borden, Prime Minister from 1911 to 1920. Directed the mobilization of resources in the war effort. One of the architects of dominion autonomy.

The Right Honourable William Lyon Mackenzie King, Prime Minister 1921-1926 and 1935-1938. Great war-time premier. His guiding principles were national unity and respect for French-Canadian identity.

PRIME MINISTERS

Issued to commemorate Prime Ministers who had not been honoured on previous postal issues.

1952



The Honourable Sir John Joseph Caldwell Abbott, Prime Minister from 1891 to 1892.

The Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister from 1873 to 1878. The Supreme Court of Canada was established during his administration.

1954



The Right Honourable Sir John Sparrow David Thompson, Prime Minister from 1892 to 1894. One of the arbitrators in the Bering Sea seal fishery dispute. Died suddenly in 1894 at Windsor Castle.

The Right Honourable Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Prime Minister from 1894 to 1896. Saw vigorous expansion of the Canadian West leading to peaceful conquest of the great new country.

1955



The Right Honourable Richard Bedford Bennett, Prime Minister from 1930 to 1935. Largely responsible for the 1932 Ottawa Economic Conference.

The Honourable Sir Charles Tupper, Prime Minister from May 1 to July 8, 1896. Held high offices in Canada for over forty years. Last survivor of the "Fathers of the Confederation."



1951
CENTENARY OF THE FIRST
CANADIAN POSTAGE STAMP

An International Philatelic Exhibition, "CAPEX," was held in Toronto September 21 to 26, 1951 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the British North American Postal Administration. Four stamps were released on September 24th, Canada Day, showing old and new methods of transportation and a replica of the 1851 three penny beaver.



Three Penny Beaver
of 1851



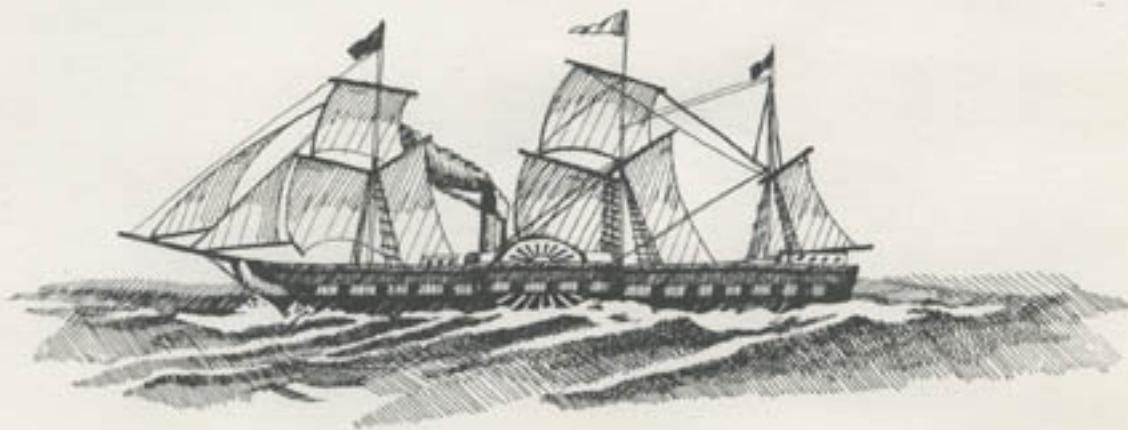
Mail Trains
1851-1951



S/S City of Toronto
S/S Prince George



Mail Coach
& Airplane





**1951
ROYAL VISIT**



The first royal visit to Canada by Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh was celebrated by a stamp bearing their portraits.

**1952
RED CROSS**



Issued to publicize the 18th International Red Cross Conference held July 26, 1952 in Toronto. The first modern Canadian stamp to use a combination of lithography and engraving.

**1953
CORONATION
QUEEN ELIZABETH II**



Medallion Sculpture of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Designed for the Coronation Issue by Emanuel Hahn, R.C.A., SSC, Toronto.

**WILDLIFE SERIES
1953-1957**

The Canadian Wildlife Service tries to conserve one of Canada's most valuable resources. This series was issued to enlighten the public of the need for preserving endangered species.



Polar Bear



Moose



Whooping Cranes



Bighorn Sheep



Walrus



Beaver



Musk Ox



Caribou



Mountain Goat



Loon



1967
CENTENNIAL SERIES
Perforated 12



'Alaskan Highway'



'The Jack Pine'



'Bylot Island'



'Quebec Ferry'



'The Solemn Land'



'Summer's Stores'



'Imperial Wildcat No. 3'



1972-1976

PRIME MINISTERS SERIES

Perforated 12, 12½ x 13



PICTORIAL SERIES

Perforated 12½ x 12



Perforated 11



CANADA



1977-79

Perforated 12 x 12½



Perforated 12½ x 13



Perforated 13 x 13½



Perforated 13



Perforated 13 x 13½



Perforated 13½



Perforated 13



Perforated 13½





AIR POST STAMPS

1928
SCROLL SERIES



Allegory of Flight

1930
ARCH AND MAPLE LEAF SERIES



Mercury, messenger of the Gods.

1932

IMPERIAL
ECONOMIC CONFERENCE



Allegory of Flight



To expedite official and personal mail of delegates to the Conference, a special air mail service was inaugurated between Ottawa and Belle Isle.

1935
DATED DIE SERIES



'Daedalus In Flight'

1946
PEACE SERIES



Canada geese

1938
AIR MAIL SERVICE IN THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES



Seaplane and Hudson's Bay Company stern wheeler 'Distributor' at Fort Wrigley on the Mackenzie River.

1942-1943
ALLIED WAR EFFORT SERIES



Thousands of pilots were trained in schools across the country under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, which was administered by the Royal Canadian Air Force.

As early as 1918, several private companies flew mail between Montreal and Toronto, Calgary and Edmonton, and Toronto and Ottawa. Other routes soon followed, and during the 1920's, a number of private aviation companies had been formed to carry mail to the remote mining districts that had opened up as well as between large cities. Many of these private companies issued special labels to pay the air mail fee.

The first official Air Mail stamp of Canada was issued in 1928 when a regular Montreal-Albany (New York) flight was established.



AIR POST SPECIAL DELIVERY

A class of mail new to Canada was introduced in 1942. Air mail and Special Delivery charges were coupled in one stamp to expedite important mail.

On July 1, 1948 the Canada Post Office introduced "All Up" mail service and airmail stamps ceased to have a postal purpose. All Domestic First Class mail not exceeding eight ounces is now carried by available air service provided air transmission will speed up delivery. Air mail service to other parts of the world are still charged a premium rate.

1942



1943



1946



1947



AIR POST OFFICIAL STAMPS

1949



1950





SPECIAL DELIVERY

Stamps indicating an additional fee has been paid to ensure that the letter or package to which it is affixed will be delivered to its destination immediately upon arrival at the local post office.

1898



1927
60TH YEAR
CONFEDERATION



1922



1933



1930



1935





SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS

1939



1938



1939



1942



1946



SPECIAL DELIVERY OFFICIAL STAMPS

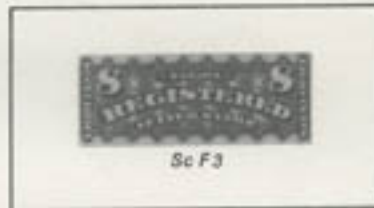
1950





1875

REGISTRATION STAMPS



Sc F3

A special fee stamp for use on letters and parcels providing for a receipt and compensation in case of loss. Canada's registration stamps appeared in 1875 and remained in use for only eighteen years. Ordinary postage stamps are now used for this service.





POSTAGE DUE STAMPS

1906-1928
Perforated 12



1930-1932
Perforated 11



1933-1934
Perforated 11



1935-1965
Perforated 12





WAR TAX STAMPS

During World War I a temporary levy on correspondence was introduced.

1915

Perforated 12



1916



Perforated 12 x 8



Coil Stamps
Perforated 8 Vertically





OFFICIAL STAMPS 1949-1950

Stamps designated for use only by government departments were perforated with the initials "O.H.M.S." (On His Majesty's Service.) These stamps were not generally sold to the public.

The overprint "O.H.M.S." converted definitive issues to government department use.



208 OFFICIAL ALBUM PAGE



OFFICIAL STAMPS 1950-1953



Definitive issues were overprinted "G" for Government.





OFFICIAL STAMPS

1950-1953





OFFICIAL STAMPS 1953-1963



Sc O46



Sc O47



4

CANADA



Sc O49

The use of official stamps was discontinued in 1963.



UTILITY STAMPS





EXCISE STAMPS



REGISTRATION STAMPS





Bill Stamps



Law Stamps



Custom Stamps



AN OFFICIAL SCOTT ALBUM PAGE



War Tax Stamps



Cigarette/Tobacco Stamps



AN OFFICIAL SCOTT'S ALBUM PAGE

NEWFOUNDLAND

1890-1896
Perforated 12



SILVER JUBILEE CABOT ISSUE 1897

Newfoundland had a double celebration in 1897, for, in addition to Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, it was also the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the island by John Cabot.

Perforated 12



When these stamps were issued, a notice was sent out by the General Post Office, St. John's, stating: "The only stamps on sale at the Postal Department are those issued to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the island of Newfoundland by John Cabot." There are 14 varieties. All previous issues of Stamps, Newspaper Wrappers and Stamped Envelopes are withdrawn from sale . . ."

NEWFOUNDLAND

1897

Stocks of 1¢ stamps were soon exhausted and the 3¢ of the 1890 issue was surcharged to meet the demand until new stamps could be printed.

Perforated 12



1897-1901

Perforated 12

A short set of low values replaced the surcharged stamps.



1908

Perforated 12



Map of Newfoundland