

AMERICAN REVENUER



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January 1973

THE LIQUOR STRIP STAMPS OF CANADA

By Serge A. Korff (ARA 110)

In Canada, both Federal and Provincial or Territorial liquor strip stamps are in use. A start in describing these has been made by Terry Hines*. Some more are described in this article. The information is certainly incomplete, and we invite any reader who has additional data to submit it.

FEDERAL:

An orange strip, reading CANADA EXCISE, bearing a serial number in blue, the design 126 mm. long by 10 mm. wide, imperforate. Usually cut with margins from one to three mms. In 1938, the year appeared in the same color as the stamp. In years subsequent to 1940, the year appeared in dark blue on both ends of the strip.

A smaller strip, in blue, the design 102 by 8 mm. with serial number and year designation in red, also inscribed CANADA EXCISE.

In addition, private bonded warehouse seals, inscribed with the name of the manufacturer, in various colors, and mostly inscribed EXPORT.

ALBERTA:

Orange strip inscribed ALBERTA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD, and black serial number on one end. Design 126 by 12 mm. Both perforate and imperforate exist.

BRITISH COLUMBIA:

A strip, in blue, and also in green, design 131 by 12 mm, inscribed BRITISH COLUMBIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD with a serial number in red, imperf.

LABRADOR:

No information known to present author. Mention by Hines.

MANITOBA:

A brown paper gummed tape inscribed GOVERNMENT LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION, OFFICIAL SEAL, printed in red-brown ink, the printing about 146 by 26 mm. Imperf.

NEW BRUNSWICK:

Blue, 111 by 14 mm design, imperf. Inscribed NEW BRUNSWICK LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD. Imperf.

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NEWFOUNDLAND:

Illustrated in Hines article. Dark green, inscribed NEWFOUNDLAND BOARD OF LIQUOR CONTROL. Imperf., about 142 by 14 mm, or in olive green, 129 by 14 mm.

NORTH WEST TERRITORIES:

No information known to present author.

NOVA SCOTIA:

Blue, 125 by 12 mm, inscribed THE NOVA SCOTIA LIQUOR COMMISSION, serial number in same color as stamp, or also in red. Also in green with serial number in red. A larger strip, in black, design 163 by 18 mm; with serial number in green, probably earlier than the previously cited smaller ones. Also, a gummed brown paper strip, printing 137 by 37 mm in black.

ONTARIO:

A strip, 160 by 18 mm, in black, with red serial number, inscribed LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD ONTARIO. Rouletted. A smaller strip, 147 by 14 mm, black with red serial number. Perforated. An older strip, 162 by 18 mm, black with red number, rouletted.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND:

A gummed brown paper strip, with black printing inscribed **WHOLESALE VENDORS BRANCH, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**, printing about 140 by 25 mm.

QUEBEC:

A black strip, 169 by 11 mm, with red serial number on one end and price rubber-stamped on other end. Inscribed in French and English **QUEBEC LIQUOR COMMISSION**. Imperf. Other seals, see Hines article.

SASKATCHEWAN:

A blue strip, 125 by 14 mm, inscribed **LIQUOR BOARD, SASKATCHEWAN**. Light blue with red serial number. Imperf.

YUKON TERRITORY:

A strip, 152 by 18 mm, inscribed **GOVERNMENT LIQUOR STORE, YUKON TERRITORY**, printed in black (looks grayish). Imperf.

Any further data will be welcomed.

—
*Reference: article by Terry Hines, *American Revenuer*, vol. 26, pages 143-44, November 1972.

CIRCUIT NOTES

The column this month takes the form of an editorial. Circuit and auction information will be reported next month.

What follows is unbelievable, at least to me.

Two members have written that they wish to be removed from the circuit roster, and to receive no further circuits. The reason? The members who mailed them the circuits had not used nice looking stamps (sic) but had employed metered mail. Alas.

It is interesting to note that one of the letters of complaint bore a small 8c Ike coil.

The question to be answered is this: Are we in the sales circuit business for the purpose of obtaining needed revenue material for our collections, or merely as means of sending "nice looking stamps" to each other?

Personally, when mailing circuits from Sales HQ, I employ commemoratives whenever I can as a courtesy only. However, there are occasions when the PO is out of them, and I

am forced to use regular issues instead. I have no feelings for what the commems are worth in used condition. I have seen offers at the rate of 20c to 35c per hundred. To me it's just not worth the bother.

Since I do not collect them in used condition, all those received on ARA mail are shipped in bunches to the local Vet's hospital, for use by the disabled GI's. And in return, a nice letter of appreciation does more for me than a dozen 35c sales. And a letter of that nature is always received.

I have complied with the wishes of the two members and have deleted their names from the roster.

But I still don't believe it.

Anyone else care to comment?

—G. M. Abrams, Sales Mgr.

Charles A. Reed

STATE REVENUE STAMPS

4059 Garrett Dr.
Columbus, Ohio 43214

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bruce Miller, Secretary-Treasurer
1010 S. 5th Ave., Arcadia, Cal. 91006

New Members

- 1476 **GOTTLIEB, Dr. Lawrence I.**, 9 Kingsbury Court, Madison, WI 53711, by Secretary. US revs and newspaper stamps.
- 1477 **PHILIP, Van Ness**, 155 Benedict Rd., Dongan Hills, Staten Island, NY 10304, by Louis S. Alfano (ASDA). Primarily US secondarily Canada, other for'n.
- 1478 **TORREY, Gordon H.**, 5118 Duvall Dr., Washington, DC 20016, by Michael P. Rosenberg. Russia, Persia, Turkey, Balkans, Middle East.
- 1479 **CORDRAY, Howell F.**, 11002 E. Lorene St., Whittier, CA 90601, by Secretary. US Scott and non-Scott.
- 1480 **STUART, Dr. John G.**, 8015 Lynnfield Dr., Alexandria, VA 22306, by Secretary.
- 1481 **CANTOR, David A.**, 40 Trident Ave., Winthrop, MA 02152, by Margaret Howard. Any US revs, revenue exempts.

Reinstated

- 1387 **SCHWARTZ, Dr. Carroll J.**, 3321 S. 2nd St., Springfield, IL 62703
Singles and pairs of all general US revs.

Address Changes

- Jack F. Beach, 6315 W. 83rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90045
- Leif A. Bergman, Larsbergsvägen 21-V, S-181 Lidingö, Sweden
- Dr. John B. Kaiser, Suite 540-542 "The Towers," 1111 S. Lakemont Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789

1972 Membership Directory— Correction

- 1418 **Bergman, Leif A.**; Change collecting interests to: Revenues, stamped paper, locals of Sweden, Scandinavia, world.

Previous membership total -- 566
New members ----- 6
Reinstated ----- 1
Current membership total -- 573

IMPORTANT! Final notices for payment of 1973 dues were mailed to all members in arrears on **January 1**. Those who have not paid by **FEBRUARY 1** will be dropped from the rolls. If you intend to renew your membership, please do so **NOW**, in order to avoid missing an issue of the **Revenueur**. Many good things are coming up, including the Spring auction. Don't be left out!



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QUIPS LITTLE LINES

Your Editor's Sounding Board

SALES CIRCUITS AND METERED MAIL — Gerry Abrams' column this month indicates that members are dropping out of the Sales Circuit because they have been getting circuits franked with postage meter tapes instead of with "nice looking stamps." If this isn't the epitome of pettiness, we'd like to know what is!

Perhaps the people involved fail to realize that circumstances virtually necessitate the use of meters in the forwarding of circuits from certain quarters. It is our belief that most of the membership consists of working people whose business schedules are from approximately 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, about the same hours as those of the Post Office. If our contention is correct, it logically follows that circuits received by these members must almost certainly be forwarded during their lunch periods.

In large metropolitan Post Offices, the busiest hours are from about 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., everybody's lunchtime, so one must often wait in line for 20 minutes or more before being served. The postal clerk is being harassed to rush things along, and other patrons are lined up behind you. Is it fair for you to ask the clerk and everyone else to wait while you blithely affix two dollars and seventy-four cents' worth of four and five cent commemoratives to all sides of the parcel? Will you be late returning from lunch, thereby jeopardizing your livelihood? Are the purposes of the ARA Sales Circuit to alienate the community and to place half of the membership in the unemployment line?

To the above three questions, our reply is a hearty and resounding NO!

Since it is difficult to determine what the precise amount of postal and insurance charges will be on any circuit parcel, we recommend a procedure which should serve to palliate

those members who are offended by the use of meters: Prior to your visit to the Post Office, affix a few commemoratives to the parcel. Upon presenting it to the postal clerk, he will affix a meter tape covering the balance of charges due.

If this method is followed, none concerned should have cause to complain. The recipient will get his few cents' worth (net retail) of used commemoratives, others in the Parcel Post line won't threaten to pugilize your proboscis, and your employer will not imply that your services are no longer vital to the efficient operation of his establishment.

MORE ON THE REVENUE CATALOGS

In response to our announcement of the planned series of world revenue catalogs, to be published by Robson Lowe, correspondence has been received thus far as follows:

1. Peter Feltus has volunteered to spearhead the effort for the Egyptian area. Members who can assist Mr. Feltus are requested to write him direct at 4970 Desmond St., Oakland, Calif. 94618.

2. Joseph D. Hahn, of PO Box 522, State College, Pa. 16801, has offered to get started on El Salvador. Assistance is desired, and eager helpers are asked to write to Mr. Hahn.

More later.

—Gerald M. Abrams

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The Romance of Fiscal Stamps

By Carlo Buttafava, translated by Domenico Facci

(Editor's Note: This series of articles appeared originally in Italian in *La Voce Del Collezionista*.—LSA)

Part II

Following our line of observations about the fascination and interest which fiscals offer to the collector, it would be good to indicate above all, as compared to postage stamps (late cousins of fiscals), the profound diversity of documented history existing about them; as much for the extraordinary remote origin of hidden and visible fiscal indicators, such as imposts, taxes, tributes, contributions, commercial notes, etc., as to examine the early needs of a state during its political and financial evolution (such as a need to counterstamp under disparate fiscal headings the documents which required the use of labels, tags, adhesive stamps, etc.), and to register in chronological order the situations and history of the economic evolution of a country.

Even so, a collecting interest in favor of fiscals remains a little sparse. The postage stamp, because of its instructive ability and its elementary geographic distribution, as well as its availability, had such a rapid good fortune as to relegate its fascinating sister, the fiscal, neglected and forgotten, to the attic of philately, treated as family with equal rights and less interest.

With the passing of years, the postage stamp catalogues have become veritable manuals. The base of a vast world commerce, they represent today a quotative picture of market values which bring a living even to small nations with a quantity of issues.

The genuine spirit of collecting adventure of our green years, when the search and exchange were the true dispensers of our happiness, has been fatally overdone. Not so, however, for the friends of the "beautiful" sister, the fiscal. On the occasion of the First International Philatelic Exhibition at San Remo in 1964, we dedicated

an article entitled "Cinderella," where a small part of her "vestments" were shown. He who has the good luck to see a collection of fiscals of say 10-, 20-, or 30,000 pieces will remain literally stupefied.

Fiscals are generally of good manufacture and of large size. For exquisiteness of design, of engraving, of their pleasing aspect, many of them have nothing to lose next to the most beautiful of postage stamps.



Among those known to philatelists for their beauty and picturesque engravings are the fiscals of Lombardy-Venetia and of Austria of the Series of 1854-1875. The eye of the philatelist can do nothing but blink in marvel upon viewing a page of "Life Policies" of Great Britain; or "Law Stamps" of Canada; or "Beer Duties" of Australia; or the large revenues of the United States or Mexico; of exotic fiscals in many colors from the Indian States with their portraits of maharajahs; of the first issues of Finland, of Russia, of Brazil, of the German States; even the fiscals for documents or notes of Italy with their white portrait of Victor Emmanuel II in relief (the same head use for the stamps of Sardinia); and the Passport revenues of Sardinia and Romagna which are difficult to find.

To the collector, fiscals offer everything that the postage stamp can no longer offer. He can discover fiscals both rare and interesting and still put together in a relatively short time, and at modest cost, a discreet collection of 10-, 15-, or 20,000 pieces with the certainty that it, in the passing of time, will acquire a discreetly higher value.

The march of stamp collecting in this field is slow but sure. As for this progressive advancing, made by many interesting notices, we would like to continue entertaining the reader. We know that the fiscalist retains by reason a privilege in the philatelic Olympus. Paradoxically, he derives this privilege from the fact of being misunderstood and, by postage stamp dealers, considered undesirable and even importune. The dealer naturally admires the useful.

The difficulty of acquiring material, the lack of modern catalogues as a vehicle of commerce, but above all the risk of taking his clientele away from an otherwise easy and fluent philatelic trade makes the dealer hostile toward any other attention.

But not for this is the fiscalist misunderstood. My dear friend, recently and immaturely passed away, Leone DeMagistris, a singular collector and profound student of fiscals of the world, assured me that big and little collectors of fiscals scattered throughout the world are numbered in the tens of thousands. It is an army of tenacious pioneers of a discipline that faithfully attends the advent of its never-losing popularity with the editorial reprise of the world catalogue begun in 1915 (Catalog de Timbres-Fiscaux by A. Forbin).

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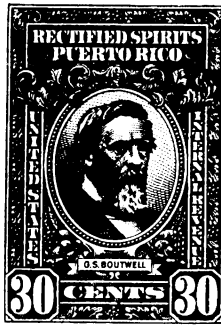
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