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Timmins Stamp Club Column

The Giant Bird of the Andes

Five new airmail stamps have recently been issued by Ecuador with the following values: 10c brown, 20c olive-green, 70c dull brown, 18 steel-gray, and 28 purple. The design shows a condor flying over a lofty peak of the Altar in the Andes Mountains. This great South American vulture has the distinction of being the largest of existing birds of flight, measuring four feet in length and nearly ten feet from wing to wing! Their favourite haunts are in the high elevations of the Andes, where they feed principally on carrion, but do not hesitate to attack and carry off sheep, goats and deer. It is said that they are able to go without food for more than 40 days. Condors are remarkably graceful when in flight and will soar and glide for hours without moving their wings.

"Aristocrat of Dogs"

Ever since the dawn of history, and possibly before, dog and man have formed partnerships for mutual benefit. The dog gets his board and keep, and in return the man has a guardian for his property, a protector of his life, a constant companion, and a sympathetic friend. In various parts of the world the dog is trained to herd cattle, hunt, draw polar sledges, and save lives, and in many a home an alert dog serves as night watchman.

A particularly fine specimen of dog originated in Newfoundland early in the 17th century and takes his name from that country. The modern Newfoundland is probably a cross between the native Indian sledge dog and imported European breeds. There are two main types of Newfoundland: the Landsker, a black and white dog named after the English artist who painted them so often, and the black Newfoundland which postal portrait appears on the 14 cent Newfoundland Coronation stamp. Both types are of great size and strength, measuring 27 to 30 inches in height and weighing from 110 to 130 pounds. The body is

thicket and covered with heavy, coarse hair, while the head is broad and massive, with a short, square muzzle, small ears set well back, and dark eyes full of intelligence and kindness.

The two principal industries of Newfoundland are fishing and sealing, and as might be expected of the favourite breed of dog in such a country, the Newfoundland takes naturally to the water. Just as the St. Bernard is trained to aid the mountain climbers of Switzerland, so the Newfoundland is taught to assist in rescues at sea. Newfoundlanders are trained by the coast guard to swim to sinking vessels with ropes in their mouths, which enables the boats to make contact with the shore. Cases are even known where these intelligent sea-going dogs have swum to the aid of drowning persons without previous training, as if they had figured out the whole situation for themselves. A popular painting by Sir Edwin Landseer shows a child rescued from shipwreck by a Newfoundland lying between his two great paws while he protects her from further harm. Newfoundlanders are also taught to hunt, pull carts, carry bundles, and act as watchdogs.

This intelligent animal, which the great Scottish poet, Robert Burns, called the "aristocrat of dogs," possesses the two traits which we admire most in our fellow men, courage and loyalty. Over the grave of his Newfoundland dog, Lord Byron erected a monument bearing these much-quoted lines:

"... the poor dog in life the firmest friend,
The first to welcome, the foremost to defend.

Whose honest heart is still his master's own.
Who labours, fights, lives, breathes, for him alone.

To mark a friend's remains these stones arise.
I never knew but one and here he lies."



Stamps From the Land of the Incas
Pictured above are three stamps from the beautiful 1936 Peruvian series that was recently re-issued in new colours. There are 18 different designs in the entire set and they provide an exceptionally vivid illustration of the history and commerce of Peru. The unusually elaborate borders of the stamps have been adapted from geometrical patterns left by the vanished Inca civilization—a civilization that is said to have equalled in artistic achievement that of ancient Egypt.

Appropriately enough, the picture of a "Chasqui," or Inca postal courier, is shown on the 10c vermilion stamp of this colourful series. He is seen swinging along one of the marvelous stone roads built by the great Inca chieftain, Manco Capac, and is apparently announcing his arrival by blowing on a curious reed whistle. In connection with the Inca postal service it is interesting to note that this otherwise remarkably advanced people had no written language and kept all their records by means of knotted cords known as "quipus."

On the 2c green stamp appears the picture of a mother guanaco and her young. For untold centuries millions of these birds have congregated on the small islands off the coast of Peru, where the complete absence of rainfall has made possible the accumulation of huge deposits of their excrement, or "guano," as it is called. Guano is exceptionally rich in nitrogen and is one of the most effective fertilizers known. Its value was not discovered until late in the 19th century and then the fierce competition among the guano traders, aptly described as a "bacchanal of greed, graft and blood-lust," nearly exhausted the immense supplies. Today the guano islands are under government supervision and the valuable little guanaco bird is rigidly protected.

The 20c slate-blue has an especially fine picture of that interesting South American camel, the llama. These graceful, long-necked animals were domesticated centuries ago by the pre-Inca inhabitants of Peru and are still the most common form of transport along the high trails of the Andes. Like their larger cousins, the camels, they can travel for a long time without water and require no shoeing and no shelter. Their thick pad of wool serves as a pack saddle, and their delicious flesh, or "charqui," is regularly eaten by the natives. To offset these excellent qualities they have an extremely

disagreeable cud which they accurately discharge upon the slightest provocation, and it is said that a llama will immediately lie down if burdened with a fraction more than his customary load of 100 pounds.



Four French Explorers

A complete new series of 24 postage, 8 airmail, and 11 postage due stamps was issued in June to replace the separate issues of Chad, Gabon, Middle Congo and Ubangi. These four colonies are now grouped under a single administrative unit known as French Equatorial Africa, having its capital at Brazzaville. Among the new stamps are the portraits of four French explorers whose courage and resourcefulness won this vast tropical colony for France during the latter part of the 19th century.

The most famous of these picturesque bearded figures is (take a deep breath) Count Pierre Paul Francois Camille Savorgnan de Brazza (1852-1905), who explored the Congo and Ogowe Rivers, founded the colonies of Gabon and Middle Congo, established Franceville and Brazzaville, and was known for his humane treatment of

THE KING'S DAUGHTERS GO SWIMMING



Princess Elizabeth (left) and Princess Margaret Rose, leaving the Bath Club, London, after enjoying a swim. The King's daughters belong to a swimming class at the Bath Club. They wear the regulation navy-blue suits and wait their turn just like others. Princess Elizabeth brings great concentration to bear on the efforts, but Princess Margaret Rose never ceases chattering, so she often gets an unexpected mouthful of water. In spite of this she seems to enjoy her lessons tremendously.

BOY SCOUTS IN TIMMINS



There Was a Santa Claus

With pleasant taste of Christmas turkey, and plum puddings, mince pies and other Yuletide goodies, still in my mouth I came to the conclusion that there still was a Santa Claus. True, he appeared to be a different person to each of us but still he had that same spirit down inside of him. That spirit of loving kindness and good will to us all! No matter who we are have something for which to thank the spirit of "Ole St. Nick." He's been such a great fellow to us for the last we don't know how many years. As long as we can remember at any rate. Remember what a great thrill we got when we gave those poor youngsters those toys, as I remember the 2nd Pack did. That was the spirit of St. Nicholas in us. And the "kids" who received the favours were thankful to "St. Nick" for prompting the Scouts and Cubs into doing such a deed. You would be very surprised if you had been able to see the faces of all the youngsters in Canada whose Christmas was brightened through the efforts of Scouts and Cubs of which you were a part. If you could see the collective effort then, you would have every right to be pleased with yourselves.

Some of us may have been "Christmas Scouts." By that I mean boys enlisted in the movement by a Scout as a Christmas Good Turn. Bringing this lasting happiness to boys is a Good Turn that should not be confined to Christmas time. Let's make it our project for the year or next two years. Here's your challenge. Bring the Timmins Boy Scout Association up to 650 strong.

It's over three years now since Bessborough, our former Governor-General, challenged the Boy Scouts of Canada to bring their membership up, and, proportionately to the figure he set, Timmins' objective would be over 650. The whole total of 100,000 Scouts and Cubs was the figure he challenged Canada to raise by October 31st, 1935.

It is very pleasing to note that the Ontario has increased by 2,256 but still some 6,000 Ontario Scouts and Cubs. Timmins figure has raised by some 50 odd members and moved from 18th to 17th largest Scouting centre in Ontario in 1937. If each and every one of us bend our efforts to bring our troops and packs to a membership total between 25 and 30 Scouts or Cubs. In as many instances as possible complete our Scout Group family with a Rover Crew of 10 members. If Timmins does this and establishes another two Groups then we will be able to show our objective.

Every Scout or Cub who brings a new member to his troop or pack, or troops or packs, who are responsible for organizing new units from now until October 31st, 1939, will have their names

the natives as "the Father of the Slaves." His secretary, Paul Crampel (1864-1891), who is shown on the 15c blue, established the borders of French Congo and was killed near Lake Chad in an ambush prepared by the slave-raiding native sultan, Rabah Zobeir. The other two explorers are not so well known. Emile Gentil (65c blue) was the first Frenchman to reach Lake Chad; and Victor Liotard, (1858-1916), who is shown on the 5fr green, was Commissioner General of the Upper

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Toronto Christmas Worse Than in 1936

Two Killed in Traffic, 123 Auto Accidents, 28 Arrests

(From Monday's Globe and Mail)
A wild orgy of reckless and drunken automobile driving resulted in death for two, arrest for twenty-eight motorists, and injuries to sixty-seven people in Toronto over the holiday.

This year's Christmas "party" overshadowed the "Black Christmas" of a year ago and more than doubled the number arrested and injured. A record number of accidents were reported—123 in all.

The 1937 death toll included a blind newspaper vendor and his wife. They were struck down as they walked arm-in-arm across a street. Seven hours later the police arrested the car driver who allegedly killed them and sped from the scene.

Only two of the six hit-and-run drivers had been arrested Sunday afternoon. One was charged with manslaughter. He was James Sweetman, 41, of Marlton street, arrested in his home, seven hours after the blind newsdealer, Thomas Beedle, and his wife were fatally injured.

Struck at Intersection
Mrs. Beedle was leading her sightless husband from their home at 1 Nairn avenue to his newsstand at Lansdowne and St. Clair avenues. They were crossing the street with the green traffic signal. One car waited for the elderly couple to cross. Another, said to have been driven by Sweetman, raced across the intersection on the left of the waiting car.

The pedestrians were tossed high in the air by the car. They were terribly injured. The husband died almost immediately, the wife twelve hours later. Sweetman, the police said, was not drunk.

A complete picture of the awful havoc wrought on the streets of Toronto could not be secured until Sunday afternoon, when overworked policemen completed the scores of accident reports. During the height of the slaughter Christmas Eve the police and city ambulance switchboards were swamped with calls.

Police stations in the east and north ends of the city were besieged by drunken motorists demanding ignition and car keys which alert constables had taken from them. It was estimated that, at least, thirty intoxicated drivers were caught before they stepped into their cars.

Citizens Make Reports

Except for four isolated instances, liquor was evident on all those arrested. Apparently alarmed by the high injury and death toll, citizens were calling the police switchboards Christmas Day, giving the license numbers of swerving automobiles. Four drivers were arrested as a result.

One of the alleged hit-and-run drivers was involved in three smashups before the police caught him. He was John McLaughlin, charged with drunk driving. No one was injured in the collision. Police said they found a bottle of wine in his truck.

Bruce Syer, 29, of Avenue road, was charged with criminal negligence following a collision on University when a young boy, Fred Pendergast, was knocked off his bicycle.

Horton Knapp, 21, of Keele street, gave himself up to police in Markham

Death of Sir Douglas Hazen at Saint John on Monday

A despatch this week from Saint John, New Brunswick, says that Sir Douglas Hazen, retired chief justice of New Brunswick, who served as Conservative member in the House of Commons from the time of Sir John A. Macdonald to that of William Lyon Mackenzie King, died on Monday. He was 77.

Stricken by pneumonia, induced by other ailments, Sir Douglas became seriously ill Christmas Eve. He lost strength steadily and died at his home.

Death brought to a close more than 50 years of public service during which Sir Douglas served as premier of New Brunswick, Canadian minister of marine, fisheries and naval affairs, mayor of Fredericton and a member of the provincial legislature for a quarter century.

Sudbury Journal:—The Meanest Man (title western division) recently changed hands, when 30 bulbs were stolen in the night from a Christmas tree for the poor.

AT THE Timmins Theatres

MATINEE DAILY AT 2.30 p.m.

EVENING 7.00 and 8.50 p.m.

Special Matinee at Goldfields Theatre—Every Saturday at 11.15 a.m.
ADMISSION—All Children 10c

Palace

MIDNIGHT SHOWS EVERY FRIDAY AND SUNDAY

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, DEC. 31st AND JAN. 1st

Joan Blondell, Fernand Grayet and Edward Everett Horton in
"Romance in Paris"

SUNDAY MIDNIGHT, MONDAY & TUESDAY, JAN. 2-3-4

Bobby Breen with Basil Rathbone, Marion Claire and Henry Armetta in
"Make a Wish"

WEDNESDAY & THURS., JAN. 5-6

Tyrone Power and Loretta Young in
"Second Honeymoon"

also Lewis Stone, Barbara Read and Tom Brown in
"The Man Who Cried Wolf"

FRIDAY, FRIDAY MIDNIGHT and SATURDAY, JAN. 7th and 8th

The first picture of the South Seas ever filmed in Technicolour!

"Ebb Tide"

starring Oscar Homolka, Frances Farmer and Ray Milland.

Notice—On double feature programmes coming to our theatres, we request our patrons to attend the theatre not later than 8.00 p.m. for the Second Show if they desire to see the full show.

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- Azalias
- Pointsettias
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- Sweet Peas, Etc.
- Corsages

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TIMMINS

street station Saturday. A young delivery boy, Ralph Pelton, of Reynolds avenue, was the victim. The youth was taken to the General Hospital Christmas Eve. He did not know what or who hit him.

Two were hurt by another hit-and-run driver at Duke and George streets. The victims were Victor Cook, 40, of 113 Broadview avenue, and Mary Kelly, 47, of 49 Duchess street. Both were seriously hurt. The driver is still at large.

Daniel Gallacher was the victim of a hit-and-run driver, whose car carried the 28-year-old man thirty feet before he slithered to the pavement. He was found by a policeman, lying unconscious in the devil strip on Bay street.

Globe and Mail:—Mussolini, it is said, hates Hitler because he imitates him. If Duce has now another imitator to hate, if he ever hears of him.



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MIDNIGHT SHOW Every Sunday at 12.01 (midnight)
Special Matinee Every Saturday at 11.15 a.m.

THURS. AND FRIDAY, DEC. 30-31

John Wayne and Sheila Bromley in
"Idol of the Crowds"

SATURDAY, SUNDAY MIDNIGHT and MONDAY, JAN. 1-2-3

George O'Brien in
"Hollywood Cowboy"

TUESDAY & WEDNES., JAN. 4-5

Double Feature Programme

Chas. Quigley and Rosalind Keith in
"Find the Witness"

also Ann Sothern and Jack Haley in
"Danger—Love at Work"

THURSDAY and FRIDAY, JAN. 6-7

Fred MacMurray, Frances Farmer and

CHAS. RUGGLES in

"Exclusive"