

# Canada's tagged stamps a first

by LARRY McINNIS

Frankly, I don't know much about tagging on stamps except that it's a form of phosphorescence that allows ultraviolet scanners to automatically handle the mail, including sorting and cancelling.

Some collectors make a hobby-within-a-hobby of putting hundreds of thousands of cancelled stamps under their ultraviolet lamps trying to find stamps that missed being tagged.

"Tagging" is a chemical substance placed on the face-side of the stamp, usually in the white margins on each side of the design.

Some stamps are printed on phosphorescent paper, which serves a similar purpose as tagging, although, I believe, not as efficiently.

Canada is in the forefront of tagging, and 1987 marks the 25th anniversary of its introduction here.

More specifically, Jan. 13, 1987, will be the anniversary date.

But let's go back.

On June 10, 1954, a one-cent violet brown definitive (Scott 337) showing Queen Elizabeth II from a photo by Dorothy Wilding Studios of London, Eng., was issued. During the next eight years, more than a billion were printed.

On Jan. 13, 1962, this stamp was printed with the addition of a tag, known today as the "Winnipeg two-bar". That is, two wide bands of luminescent phosphor were run down each side of each stamp. It's listed as Scott 337p.

In all honesty, the one to five centers in that series came out tagged, on the same day, one (Scott 340) with what is known as the "Winnipeg side bar", which is a wide bar down either

the left or right side.

The event does not go unnoticed in catalogue valuation. The Scott valuation for the one-cent never used is 10 cents. The same tagged is \$1.25. Even a used tagged catalogue at \$1.25.

Within 10 years, the phosphorescent tagging was replaced by fluorescent tagging because the fluorescence glows more brightly and has no afterglow.

That's why good philatelic ultraviolet lamps come with two wavelengths, short and long wave. No, not for radio, but to detect phosphorescent and fluorescent tagging.

Since 1973, those stamps that are tagged - or should be - have fluorescence and are generally known as, what else? "general tagged."

Most good catalogues distinguish between taggings of stamps circa 1962-73, giving evaluations according to scarcity and such factors.

After that, it's rarely mentioned because most stamps were general tagged.

When an untagged stamp was issued, that made news, so to speak.

An example is the \$1 Fundy National Park issue that first came out Jan. 24, 1979 (Scott 726). Some are tagged, some are not.

On July 6, 1978, two definitives were issued, a 75-cent "old houses" street scene from Montreal (Scott 724),

and an 80-cent Maritimes (Halifax?) street scene (Scott 725). Neither is tagged. Nor is the \$2 Kluane National Park high-value definitive (Scott 727).

The Capex 78 souvenir sheet of 1978 is untagged (Scott 756a). The \$1.25 reproduction of Canada Scott No. 2 issued June 10, 1978 for Capex is not tagged.

Compare to that, the souvenir sheet (Scott 913a) issued May 19, 1982, for Canada '82, the International Youth Exhibition at Toronto: all the stamps within the sheet are individually tagged. That must have been a production nightmare.

The Heritage Artifacts definitive issue beginning Oct. 19, 1982 (Scott 917 to 922) is an interesting exercise

in the study of tagging. The 1-center, 2-center, 3-center and 5-centers are untagged. The 10 and 20-centers are

The \$1.50 Waterton Lakes (Scott 935) is

untagged. The \$5 Point Pelee (Scott 938) is untagged.

After 1973 or so, whether a stamp is issued tagged or untagged seems of little

interest. They're not noted in the stamp catalogues. But they provide an endless research subject for a small but dedicated band of philatelists.

By the way, Canada's

tagged stamps were the first in North America.

## LETTERS

Letters are invited. Please send enquiries to the writer at P.O. Box 40, Beauharnois, Que., J6N 3C1.

## SCOUTING AROUND



by HARRY BROWN

It's true! The largest parade involving Scouts, Guides and all their leaders in South Georgian Bay District and the Midland Area is almost here.

Led by the Legion Pipes and Drums, the parade will assemble at the First Street Municipal Parking Lot, and will march out to the Main Street, North to Hugel, and west on Hugel to the Church. We are going to St. Margaret's Church this year. As you will notice, it is a different church each year.

We hope to see you there on this happy event. To the Leaders, encourage the boys to come out to

this one Ecumenical service of the year when they may show their knowledge of 'Duty to God' and be proud of being together with all the members of the Founder's family of Scouting.

Last year's parade was held in Penetang. The Band was there, the clergy did a fine job, the message to the young people was right 'down to earth' at their level. We who were there had a good day.

This year it is to St. Margaret's Church, 2 p.m. service. There will be a good message, the Band will be there, and at the moment, the weather forecast is good. This Sunday, May 5 is the day. Will YOU be there?

ALLAN McLEAN — SIMCOE EAST

# COMPARE



Allan McLEAN'S  
**RECORD**  
of continued  
**SERVICE**  
and 19 YEARS of Elected  
**EXPERIENCE**  
to that of the other  
candidates.....

## THEN YOU DECIDE!

- ELECTED TO LOCAL AREA COUNCIL
- ELECTED AS DEPUTY REEVE
- ELECTED AS REEVE
- ELECTED AS WARDEN OF SIMCOE COUNTY
- ELECTED MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT
- ELEVATED TO MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

# YES

NOW ASK YOURSELF..... WHY THE OTHER CANDIDATES HAVEN'T FOUND TIME TO WORK FOR YOU?

RE-ELECT Allan

# McLEAN

SIMCOE EAST



PLAIN OLD FASHIONED HARD WORK!

RIDE TO POLLS — INFORMATION — ORILLIA 326-5200 MIDLAND 526-3732



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

TAKE NOTICE THAT a Public Meeting of the Liquor Licence Board of Ontario will be held at the CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS 84 COLLIER STREET, BARRIE, ONTARIO on THURSDAY, MAY 16th, 1985 at the hour of 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, at which time the Board will hear applications in accordance with the Liquor Licence Act, and Regulations thereunder.

The following establishments have applied for a licence of the class indicated, and the applications will be entertained at the aforementioned location and time:

### Application For New Licence

M/S Ste. Marie "1"  
Martyrs' Shrine  
Ste. Marie Dock, Midland Dock, Midland  
Lounge Licence  
Patio (Lounge) Licence  
Applicant: Midland Tours Inc.

### Application For Additional Licence

Midtown Tavern  
519 Hugel Avenue, Midland  
Patio (Lounge) Licence  
Licencee: Crews Inn Inc.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that any person who is resident in the municipality and who wishes to make representation relative to the application, shall make their submission to the Board in writing prior to the date of the hearing, or in person at the time and place of the hearing. (Copies of written submissions will be forwarded to the applicant).

Liquor Licence Board of Ontario  
55 Lakeshore Boulevard East  
TORONTO, Ontario, M5E 1A4

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AND  
COMMERCIAL RELATIONS  
THE LIQUOR LICENCE ACT