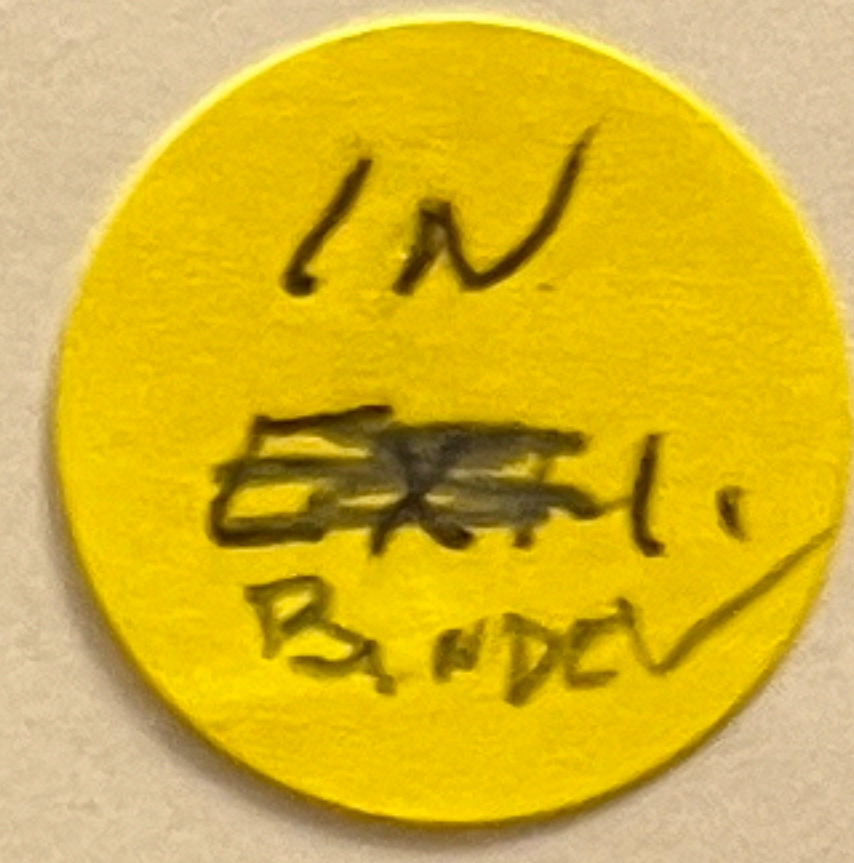
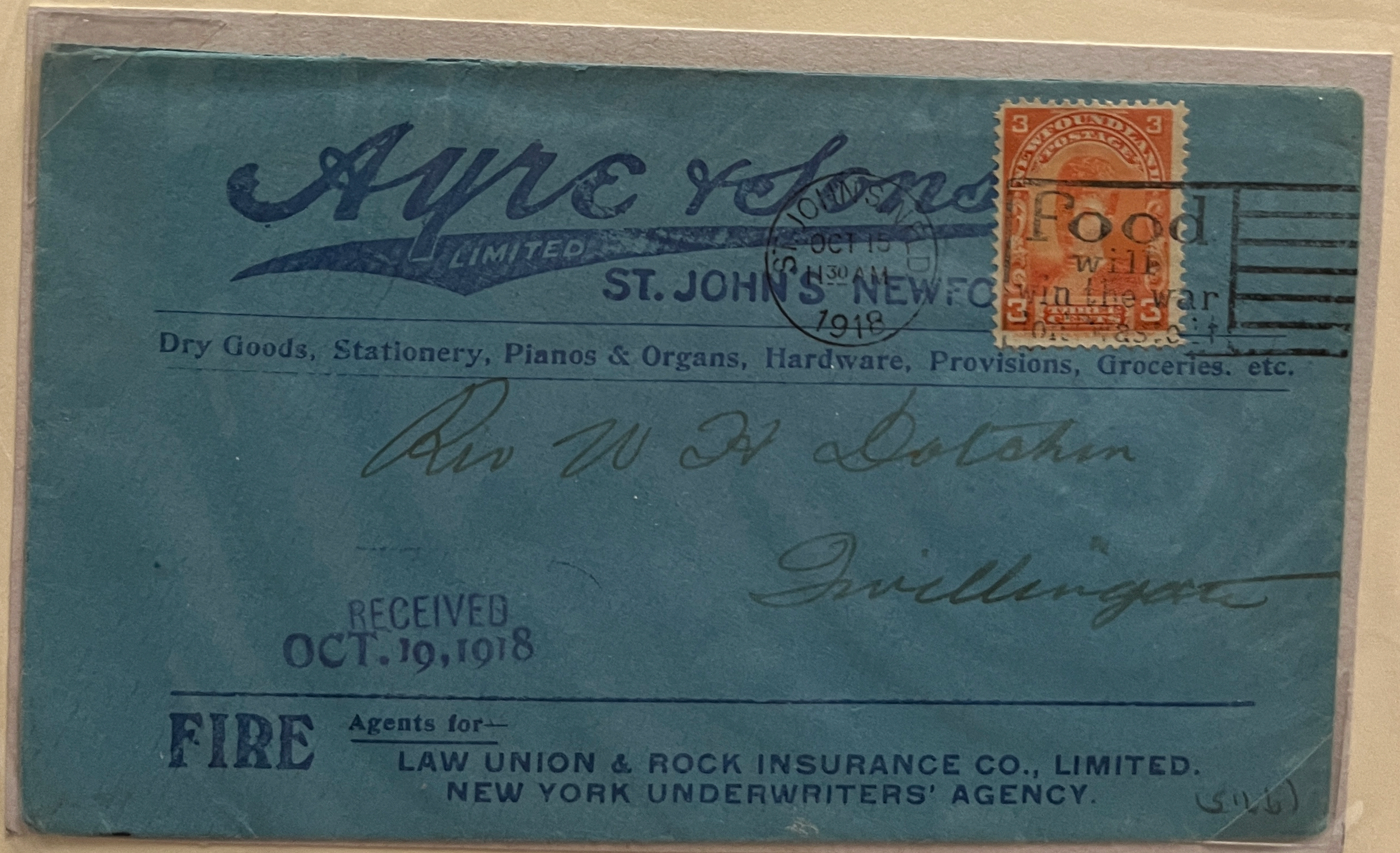


1918-1919 POSTAL SHORTAGE

A 1¢ war tax went into effect May 17, 1918. The greatest impact was on 3¢ stamps used for inland, Canadian and U.S. mail. Being too risky to order from London, the American Bank Note Co., supplier for stamps prior to 1910, was asked to print from an old plate they had of the 3¢ Queen Alexandra stamp.



A.B.N.C. specimens for 1918 printing, from left and right panes. Although both are of the reddish orange shade, the right pane's shade is less reddish.



1918 printing on October 10th cover with stamp from left pane.



age of *all* low values, and the  
of 100 of the 60¢ Cabot sta  
the surcharge was double  
e surcharge order was cancel

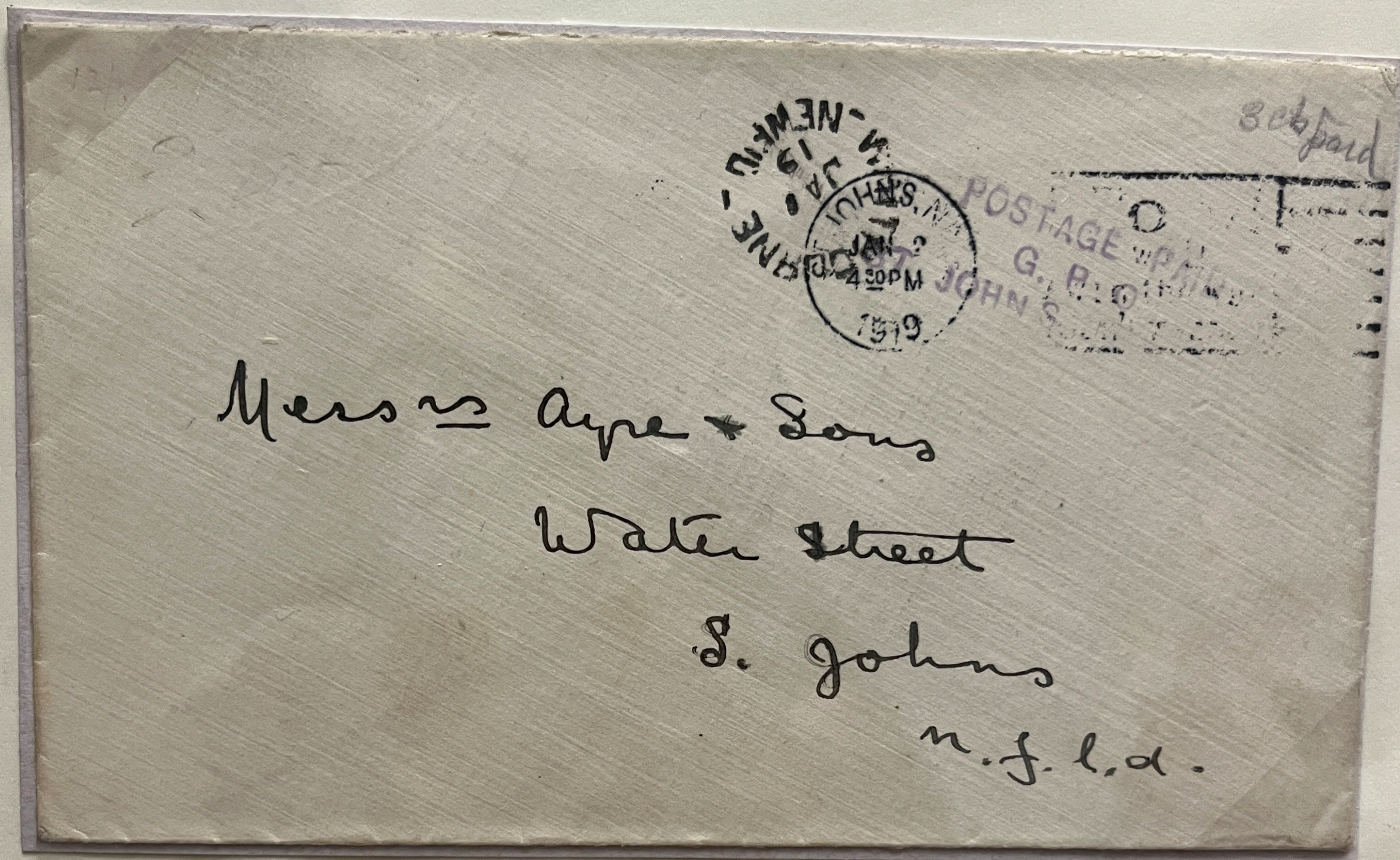


1897 60¢ Cabot



In late December, in lieu of low value stamps, postage was paid in cash, and a rubber stamp applied:

POSTAGE PAID  
G.P.O.  
ST. JOHN'S, NEWF'L'D



Inland letter from Whitbourne of JA 1 19 to St. John's, postmarked the next day there, and using rubber stamp.

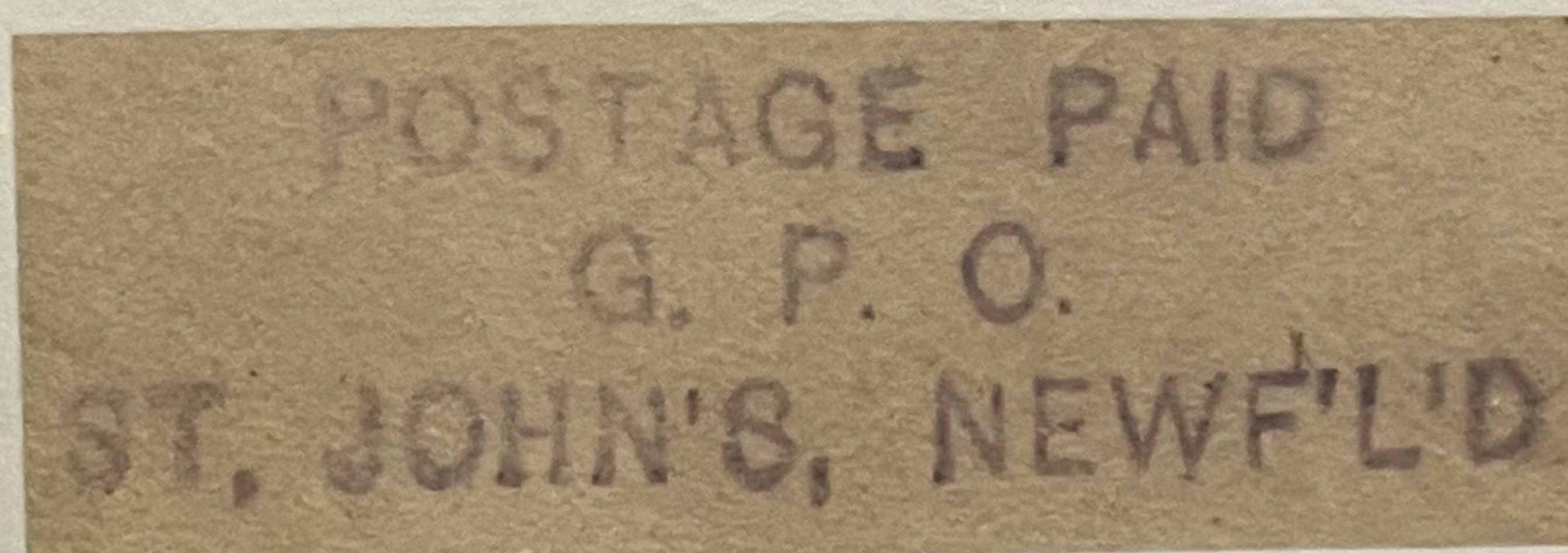


Low values of the Trail of the Caribou set, which became available on January 2, 1919. Although crisis was over, the hand stamp was still used until mid-January.



# NEWFOUNDLAND'S 1920 POSTAL SHORTAGE

**BACKGROUND:** *The 1919 Caribou set was popular, and the low values sold quickly. This, coupled with irregular steamers from London where the stamps were printed, led to a postal shortage and the need for provisionals by September, 1920. Three high values leftover from the 1897 Cabot issue were used for the creation of four surcharged stamps.*

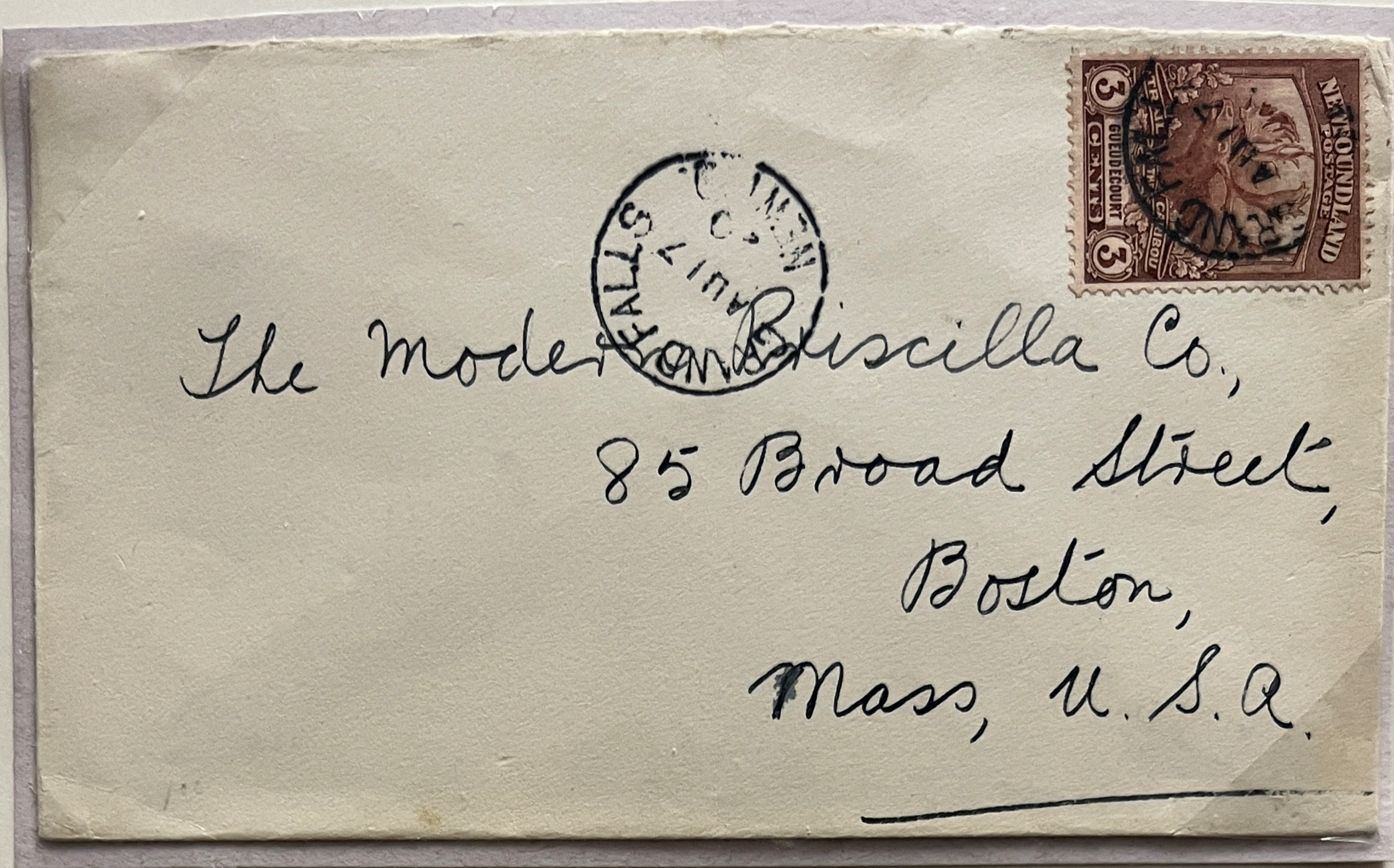


**POSTAGE PAID handstamp and the four 1920 provisional issues**

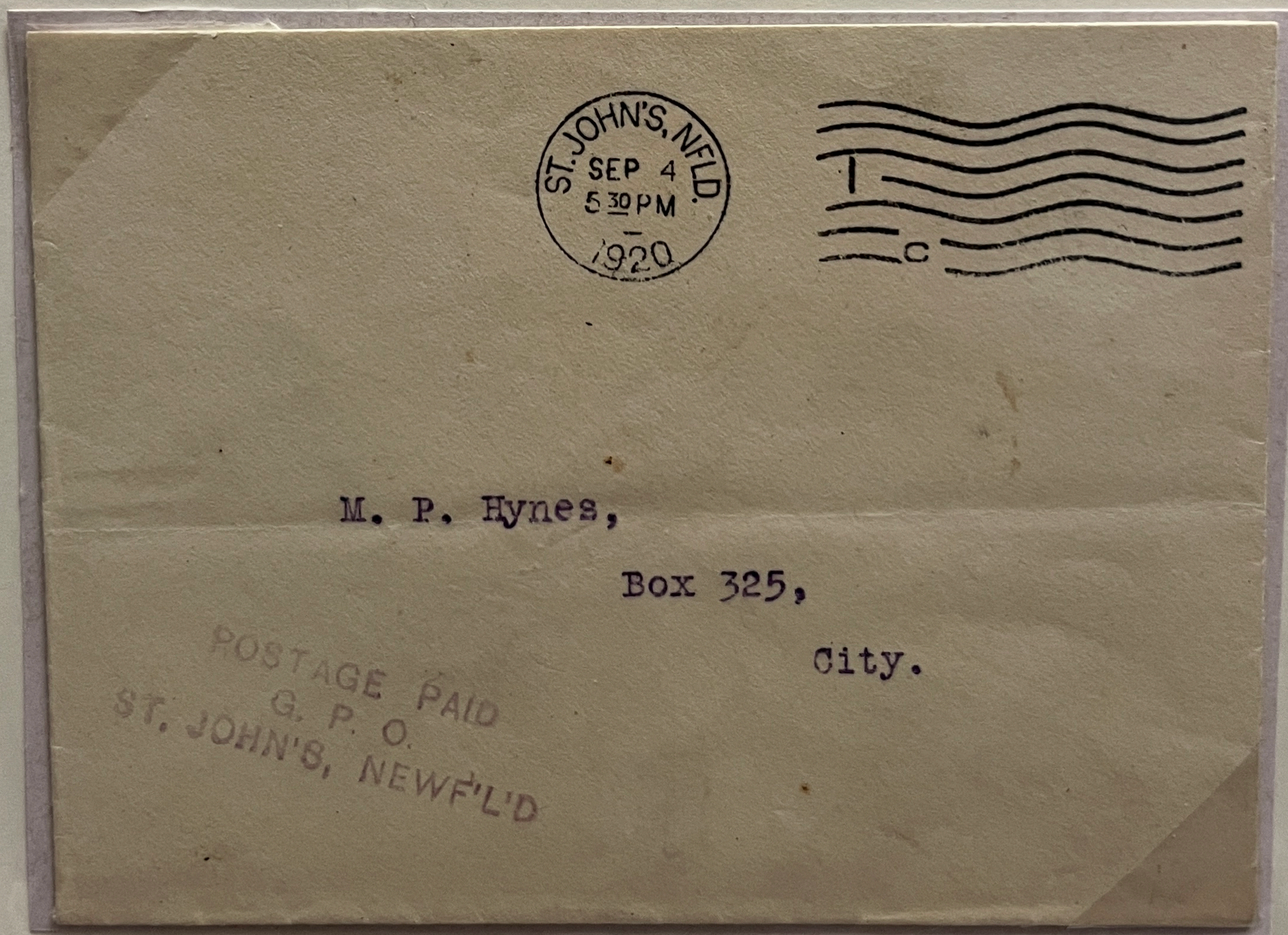
**PURPOSE:** This exhibit chronicles Newfoundland's 1920 postal shortage, and measures taken to relieve it. It includes a POSTAGE PAID handstamp, all three trial surcharges and full settings of the four provisional issues that followed. Earliest known usages of all four on covers are shown. Two provisionals are recorded with inverted surcharges. Other printing varieties are included, with original research regarding the so-called "Missing Three" type of the 3¢ on 35¢.

- Page 2. Shortage and POSTAGE PAID cover from SEP 4
- Page 3. Trial surcharges and POSTAGE PAID cover of SEP 14
- Page 4-6 3¢ on 15¢, Type I
- Page 7-9 3¢ on 15¢, Type II
- Page 10-13 3¢ on 35¢
- Page 14-16 2¢ on 30¢ and end of crisis





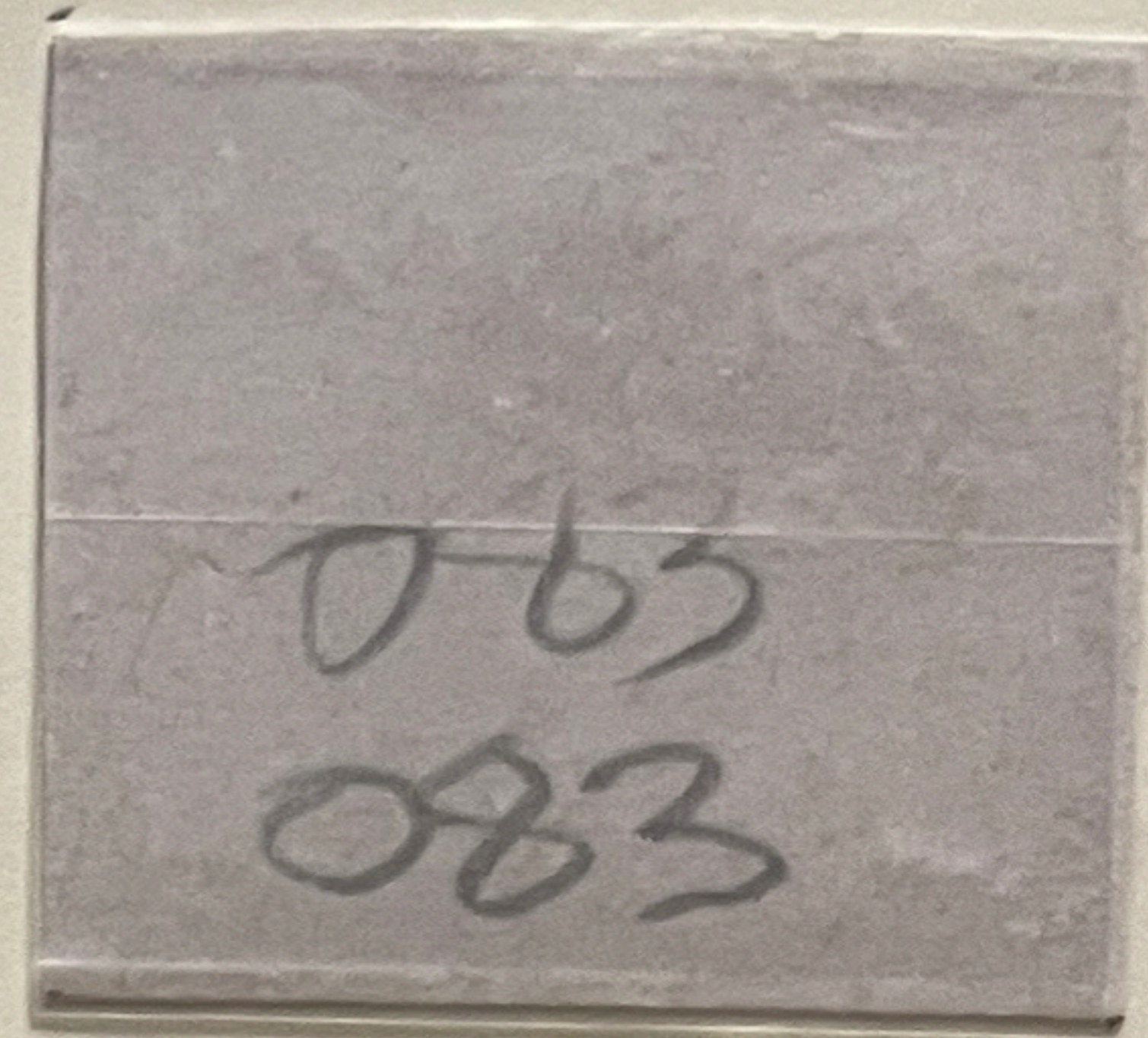
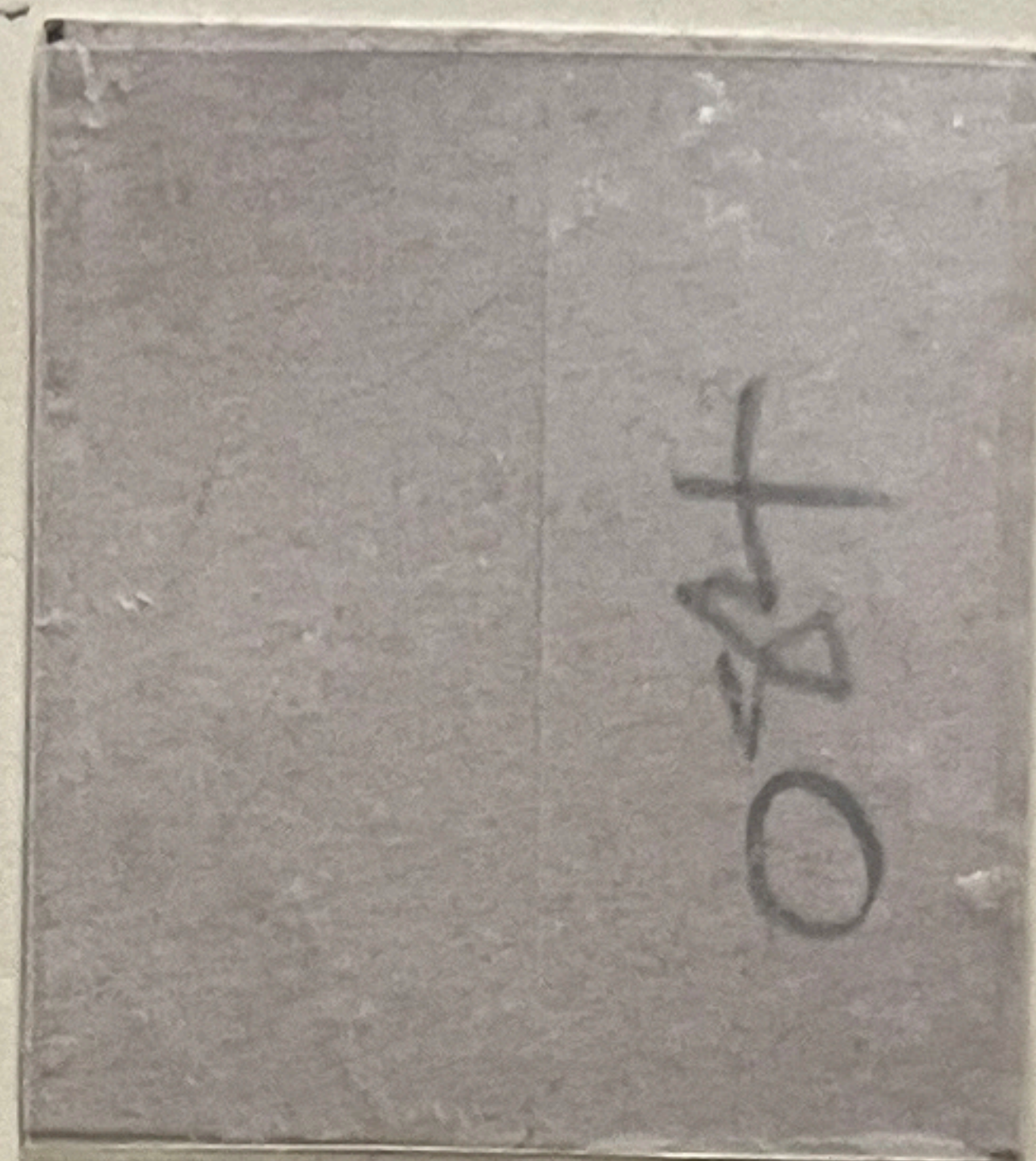
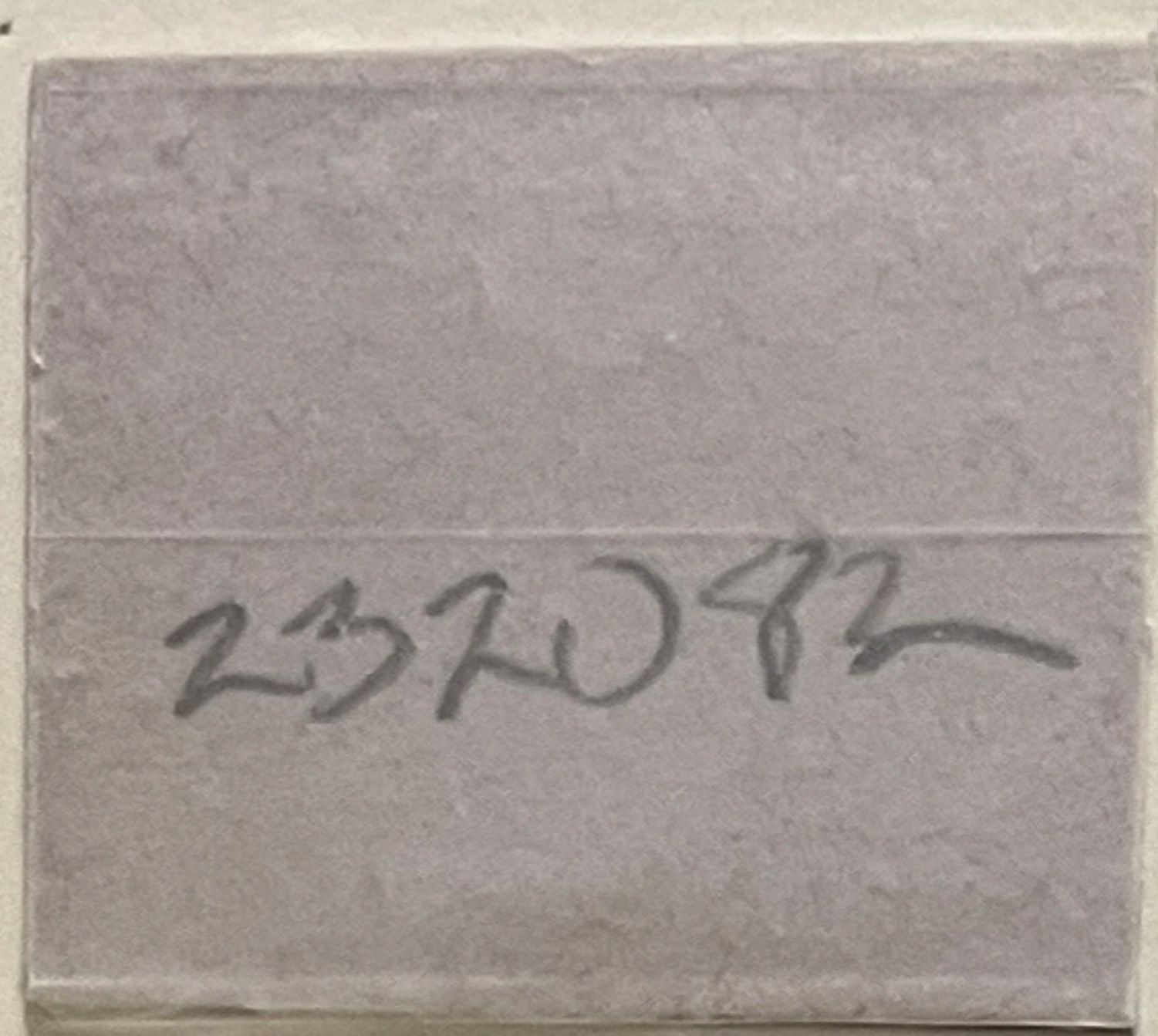
The last 3¢ stamps arrived on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Soon they were reserved for out-of-country mail, such as above, and were gone by September 8<sup>th</sup>. 3¢ was the letter rate for Canada, the U.S., Great Britain and the British Empire. The 2¢ stamps were also out and insufficient 1¢ stamps remained to stem the crisis.



In early September, the General Post Office (G.P.O.) started using a **POSTAGE PAGE** rubber stamp, in carmine, for 2¢ and 3¢ rates *within the colony only*.



# 1920 POSTAGE SHORTAGE



50 6¢ Cabot's were used for trials surcharges with THREE CENTS, 25 in black and 25 in red, but it was decided to reserve the value for foreign mail. 25 of the 30¢ Cabot's were also used, for a TWO CENTS red color trial surcharge, *RPS Certificate #113697*. The 30¢ value was later used, but with a more distinctive *black* surcharge.

IMPORTERS OF  
Dry Goods, Hardware,  
Groceries & Provisions.  
WHOLESALE & RETAIL.  
FIRE INSURANCE.  
LAW UNION & ROCK INSURANCE CO., LTD  
LONDON & LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE  
CO., LIMITED.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWF. 1920  
SEP 14  
3 PM  
2

POSTAGE PAID  
G. P. O.  
ST. JOHN'S, NEWF. L.D.

From.....

**AYRE & SONS, L<sup>TD.</sup>**  
231, 233, 235, & 249, 251, 253 WATER STREET,  
P. O. Box, 865. **ST. JOHN'S.**

The POSTAGE PAID handstamp would continue to be used after the release of the first provisional stamps at the G.P.O. on September 13, 1920 to the general public, to supplement their use for mail within the colony.

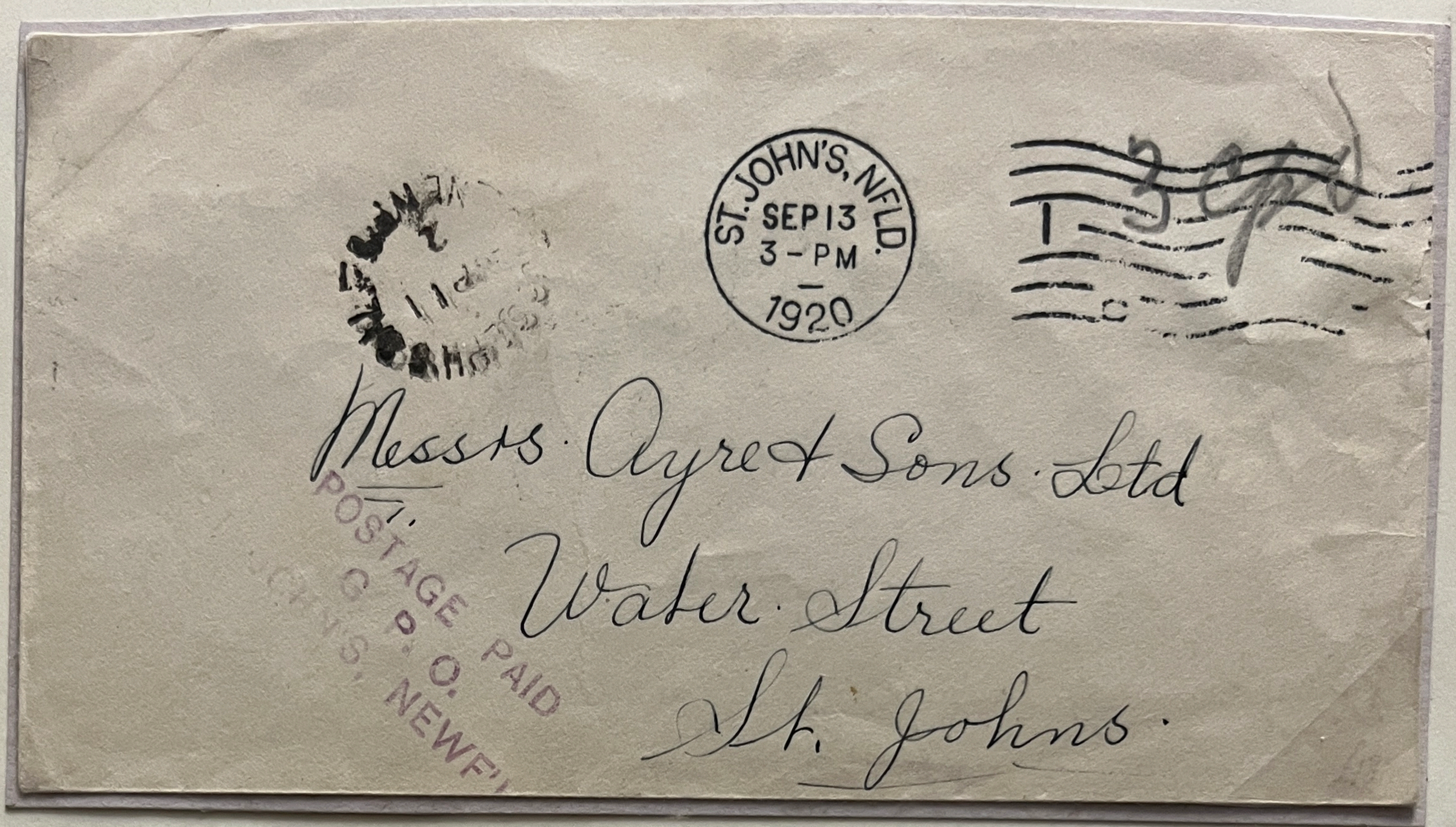


visional with wider spaced bars cov  
n Sept. 13, and exhausted by the fo



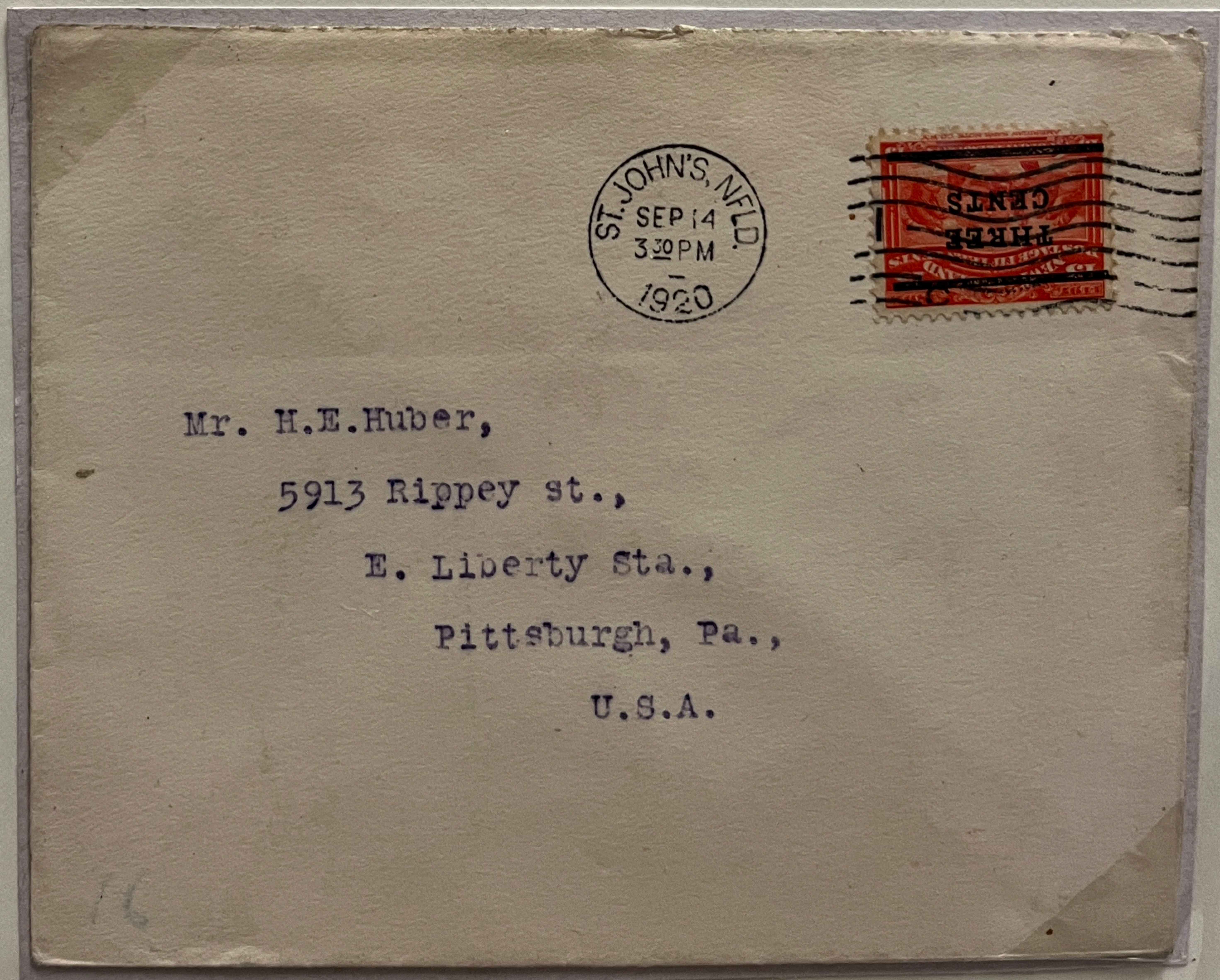


3¢ ON 15¢ CABOT, TYPE II



**POSTAGE PAID, G.P.O. September 13<sup>th</sup>, 3 P.M., 3¢ rate from Salmonier to St. John's (sent there with 3¢ cash) - possible evidence that there were no surcharged stamps at the G.P.O. then as it was still awaiting arrival of Type II's**

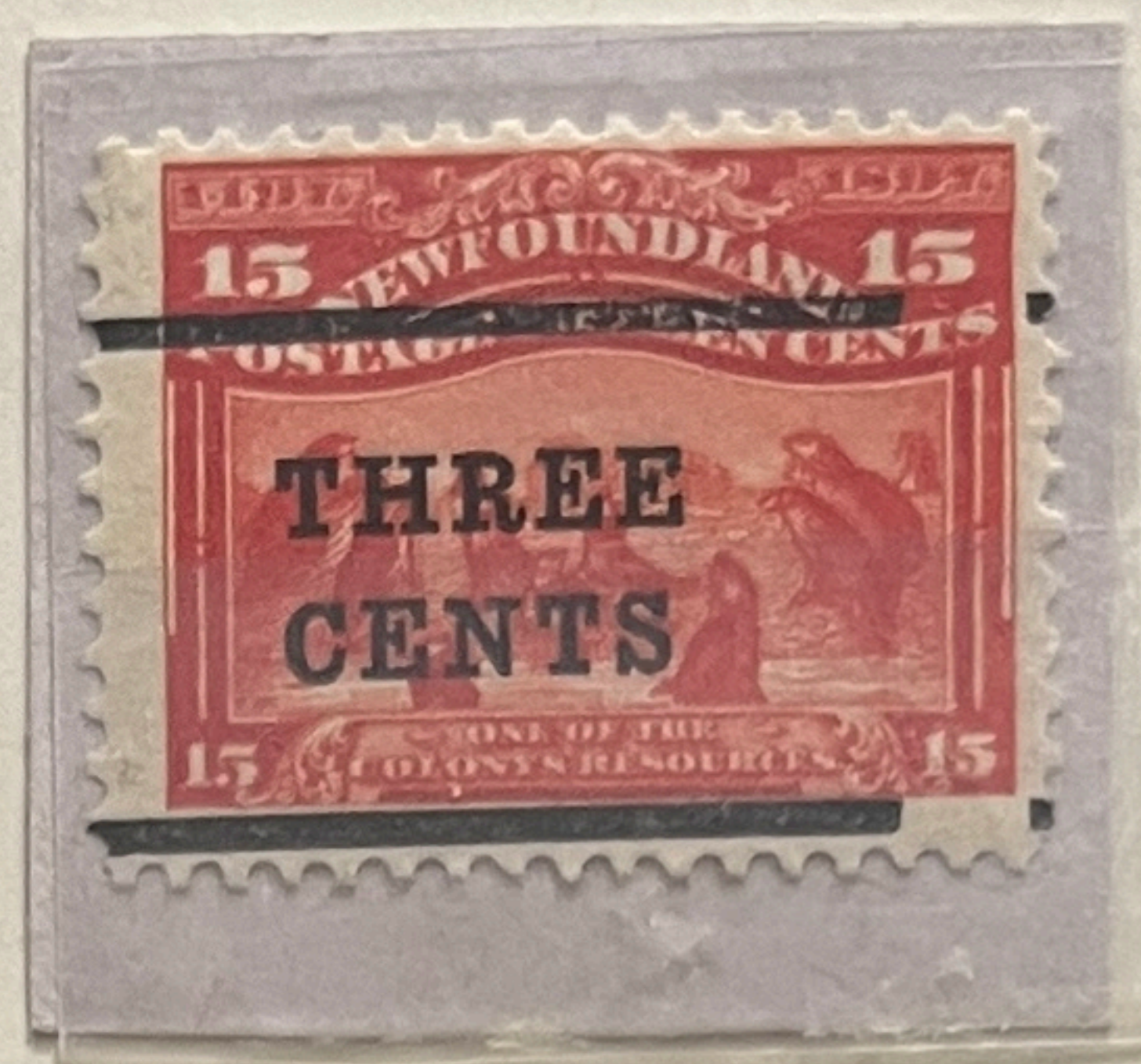
Experts do agree that the Type II's were sold out by the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup>.





# 3¢ ON 15¢ CABOT, TYPE II, COMPLETE SETTING

All the 1920 provisionals were surcharged in blocks of 25. On Type II, the raised E in THREE is always at position 24 – see ●.



Slanted surcharge – none of the four value tablets is obliterated

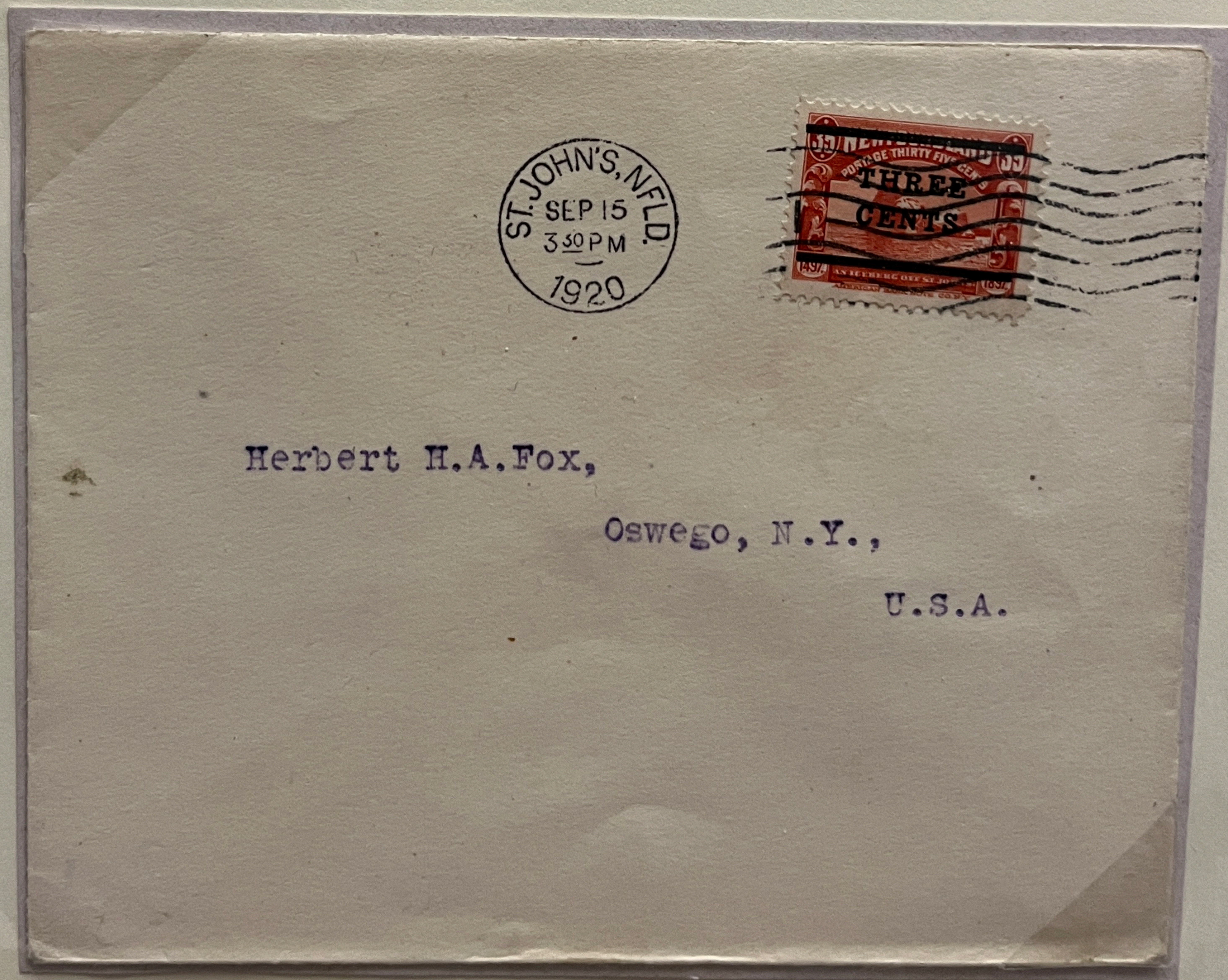




3¢ ON 35¢ CABOT



As the 3¢ on 15¢ Cabot (both types) was exhausted on September 14<sup>th</sup>, a new provisional was created. The Type II surcharge was applied to 50,000 of the 35¢ Cabot, and first used at the G.P.O. on September 15<sup>th</sup>.





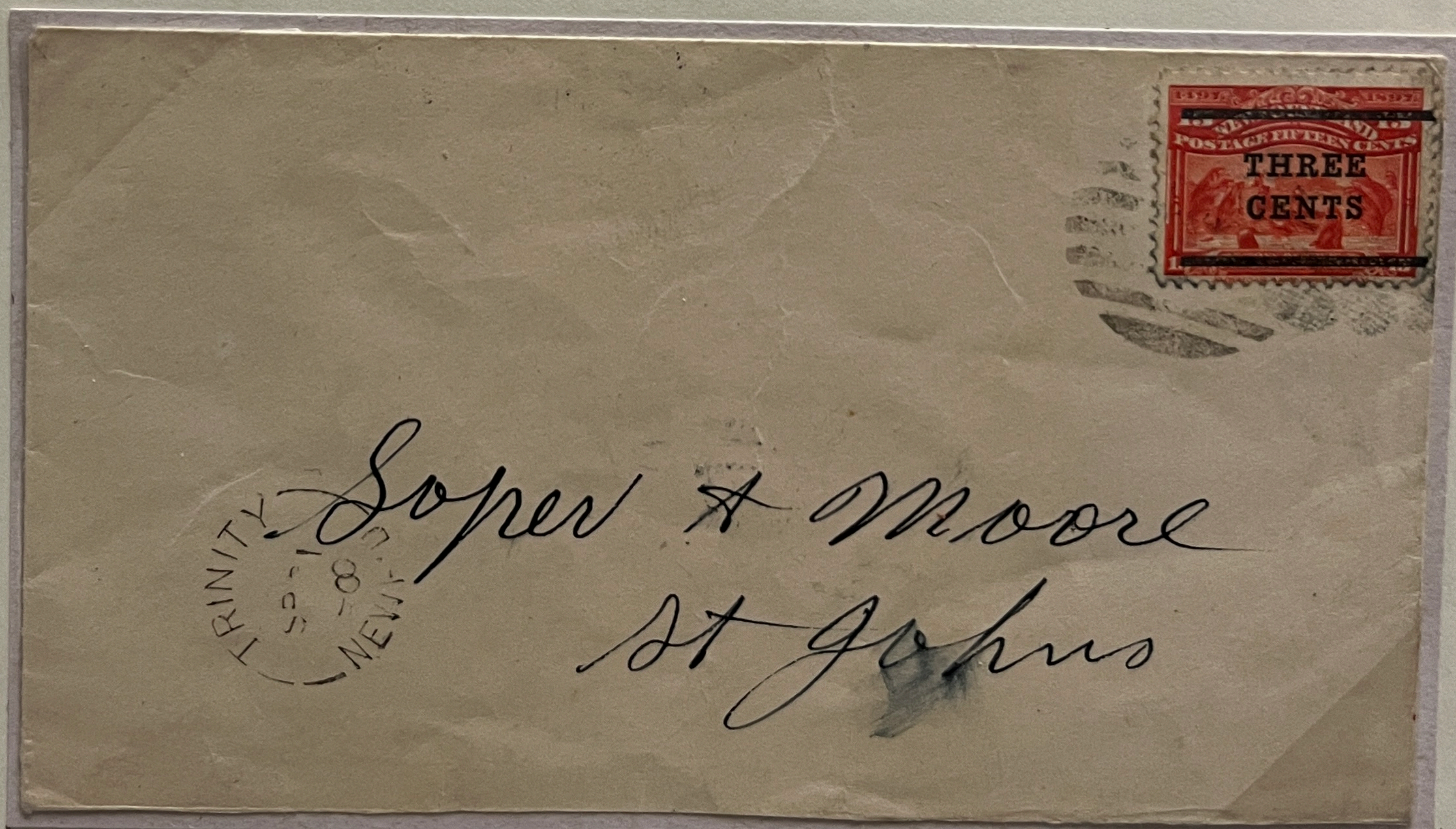
Supplemental material  
~~1871~~

3¢ ON 15¢ CABOT, TYPE II



Overinked

Shifted surcharge



Provisionals were needed at outports, also. This Trinity **SP 21 20** cover was cancelled with an eight-bar obliterator ("OB18" per John Butt), and backstamped the same day in St. John's.



2¢ on 30¢ CABOT

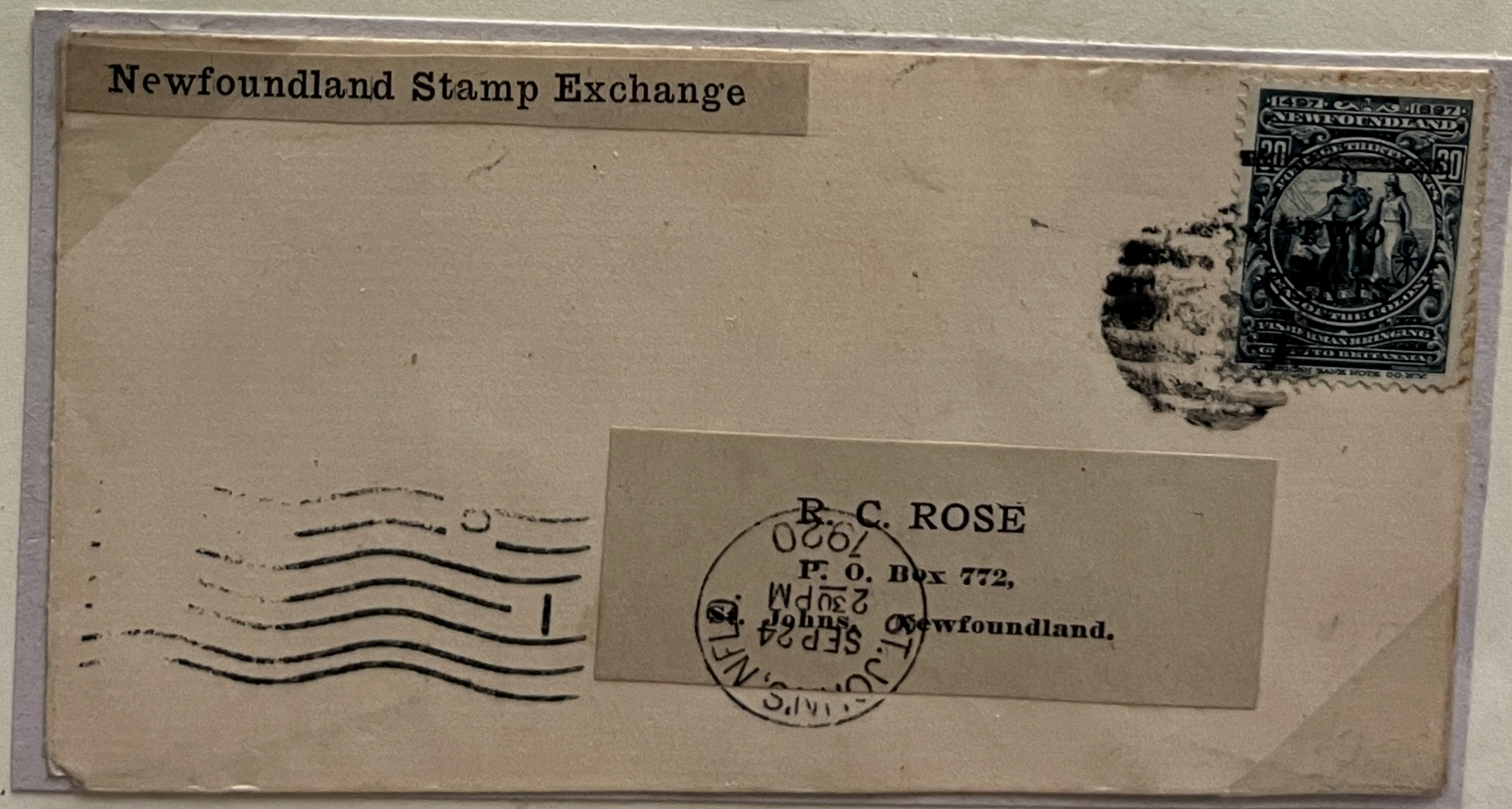
A 2¢ provisional that issued on September 24th, was intended primarily for dr covers. 50,000 of the 30¢ Cabot's were surcharged.



On positions 2,7,12, &17 (upper right stamp), O of TWO is over S of CENTS.



O over S  
at 200%



Postal clerk and stamp dealer, R.C. Rose, mailed this local cover to himself on the first day of the 2¢ provisional's availability at the G.P.O.



# 2¢ ON 30¢ PROVISIONAL

As with the other provisionals, the 30¢ Cabot issue was surcharged in blocks of 25. The O of TWO over the S of CENTS variety is found in the first four stamps of the second vertical row, see ●.



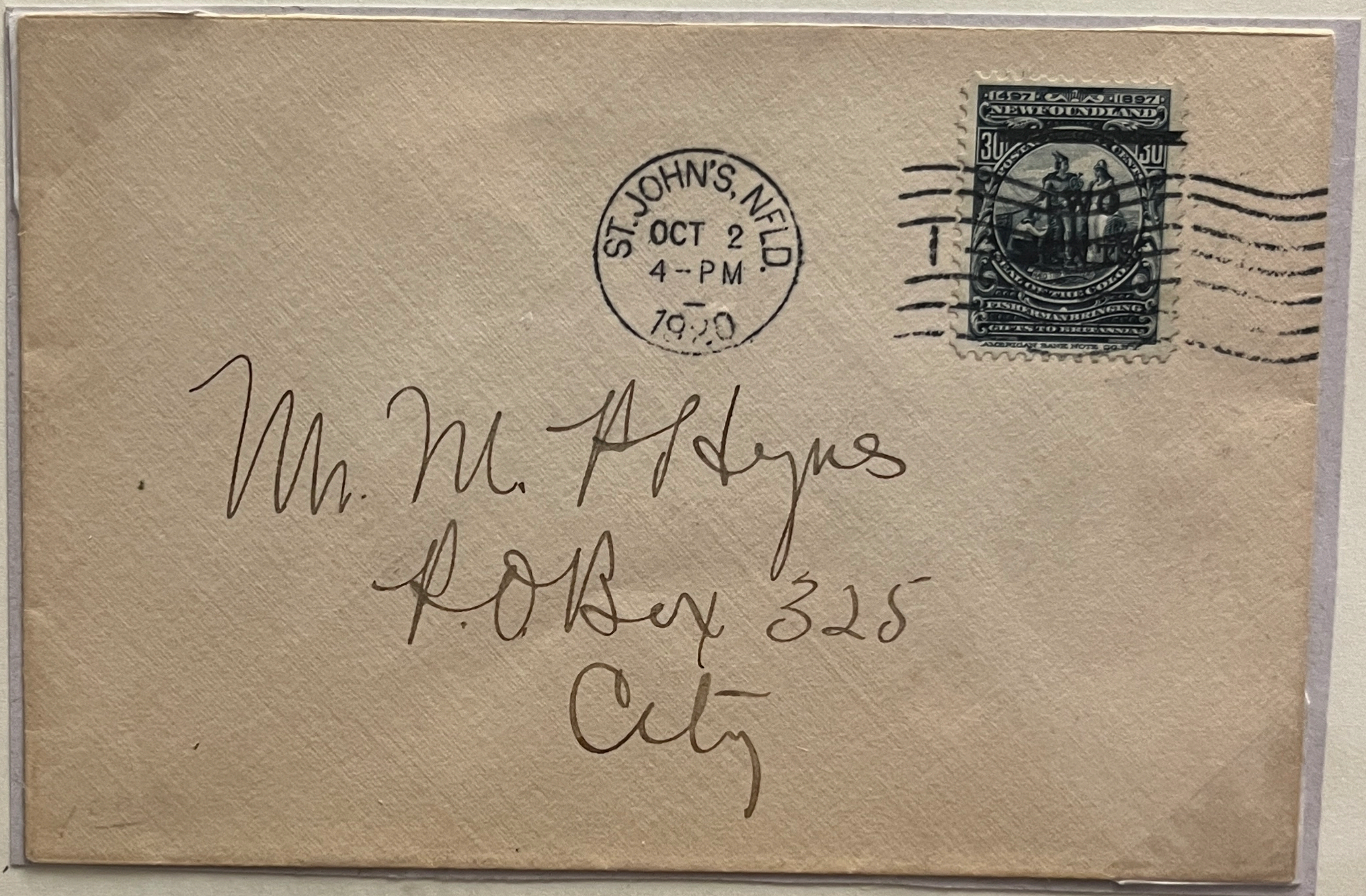


# 2¢ ON 30¢ PROVISIONAL, AND END OF SHORTAGE

232040

FACT

On two blocks (50) of the 2¢ provisional the surcharge was inverted.



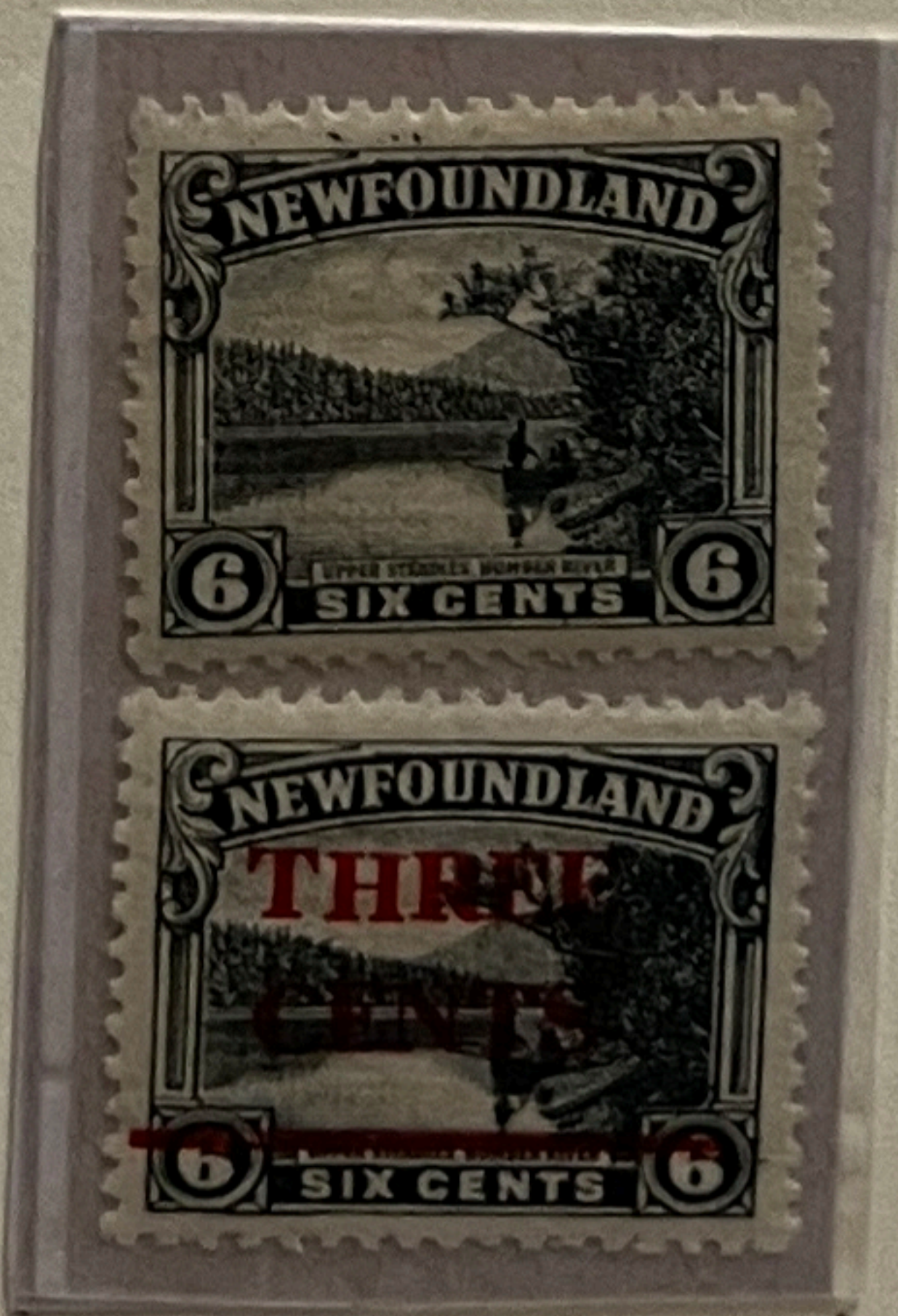
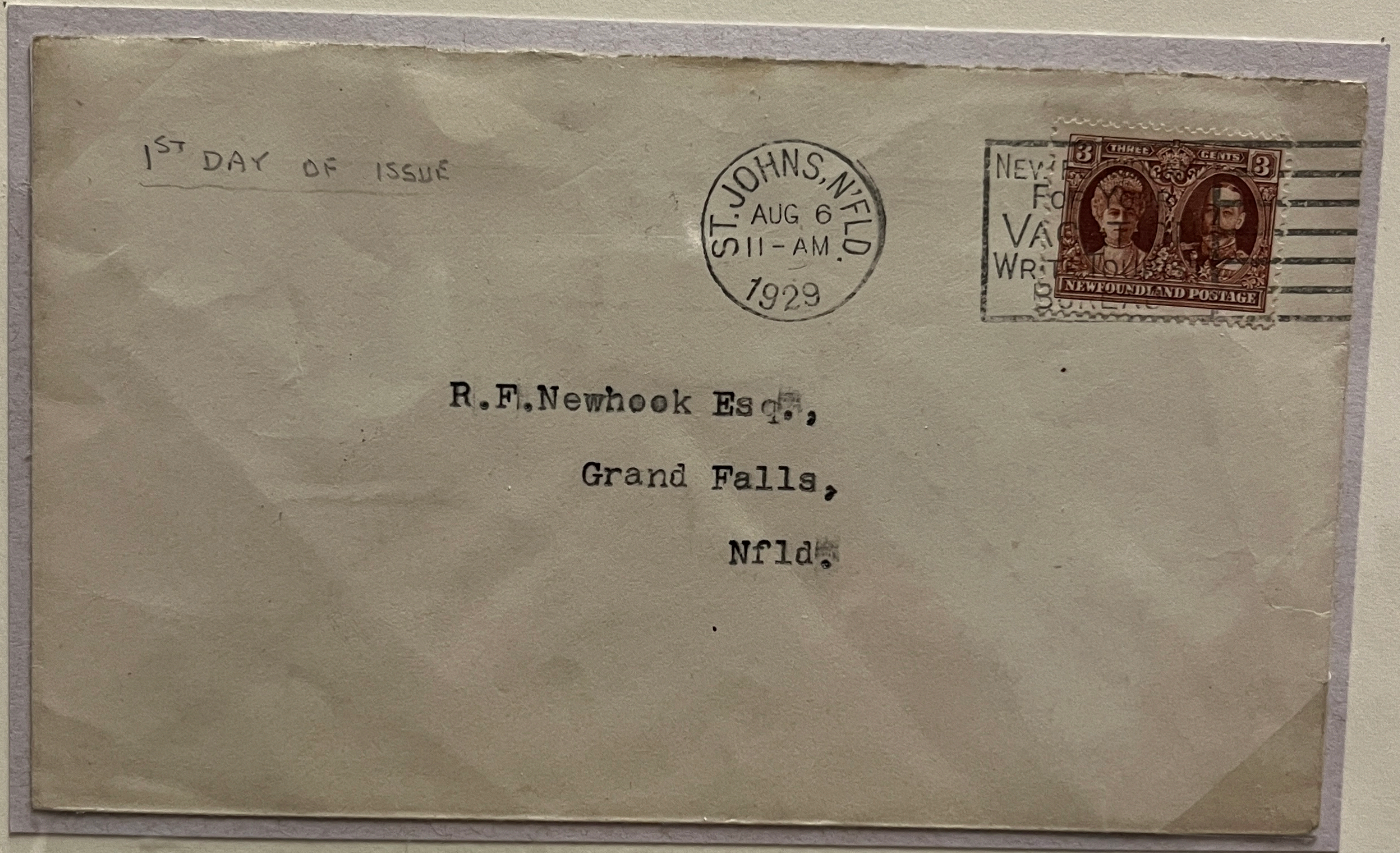
On September 28th, a new supply of 800,000 3¢ Caribous went on sale. 500,000 2¢ Caribou's and 300,000 of the 1¢ value would join them on Monday, October 4, 1920. This drop cover was sent on Saturday, October 2nd, last day of the provisional period.





1929 3¢ POSTAL SHORTAGE

In 1929, a new printer was used. With the old plates unavailable, Perkins, Bacon & Co. re-engraved the 1928 definitives. Only a small quantity of the 3¢ King George V and Queen Mary stamp could be provided on August 6, 1929 (new EKL as literature shows the 10<sup>th</sup>) and was exhausted in a few days. 100,000 of the Humber River 6¢ were then surcharged until more regular 3¢ stamps arrived.

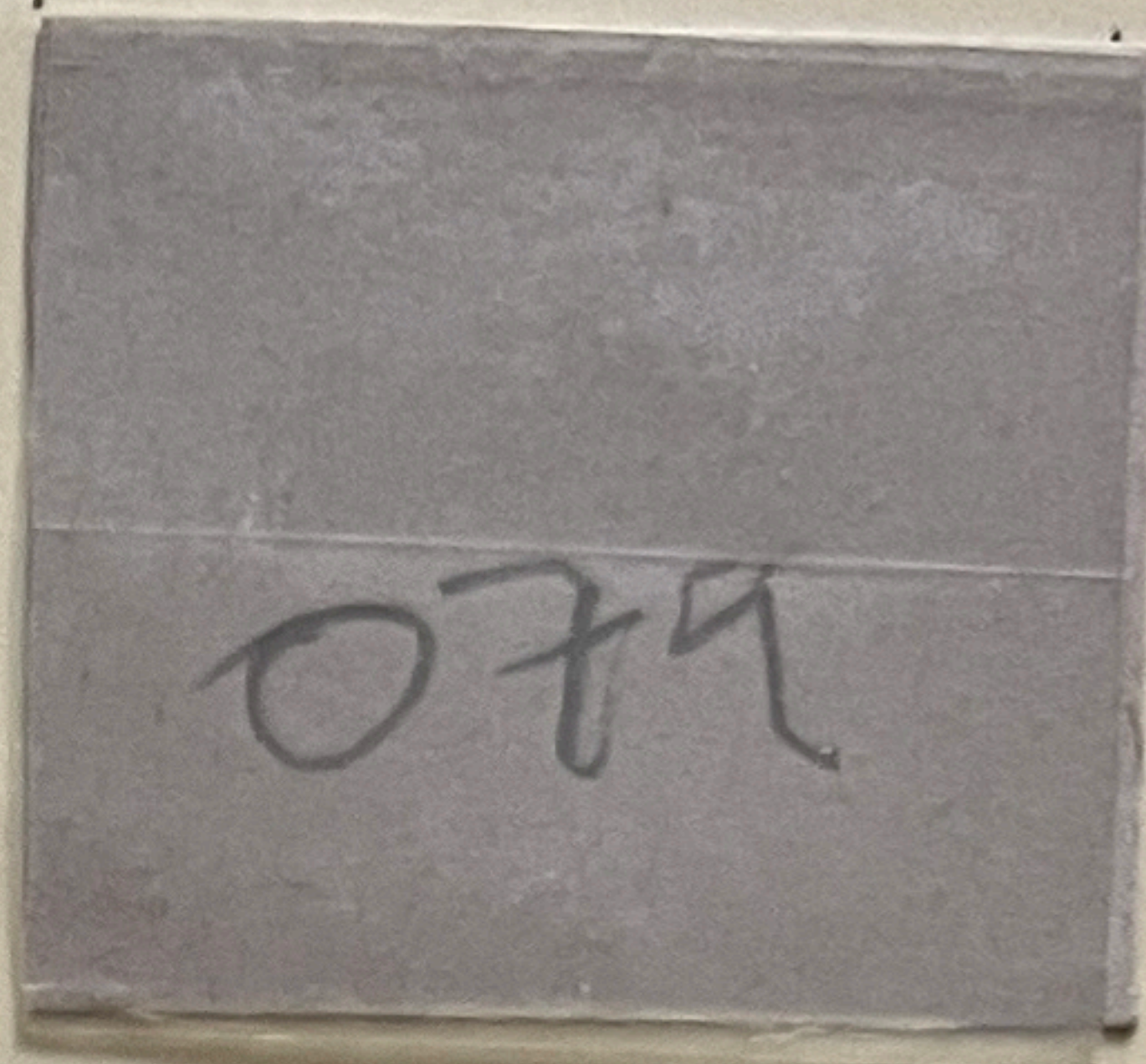
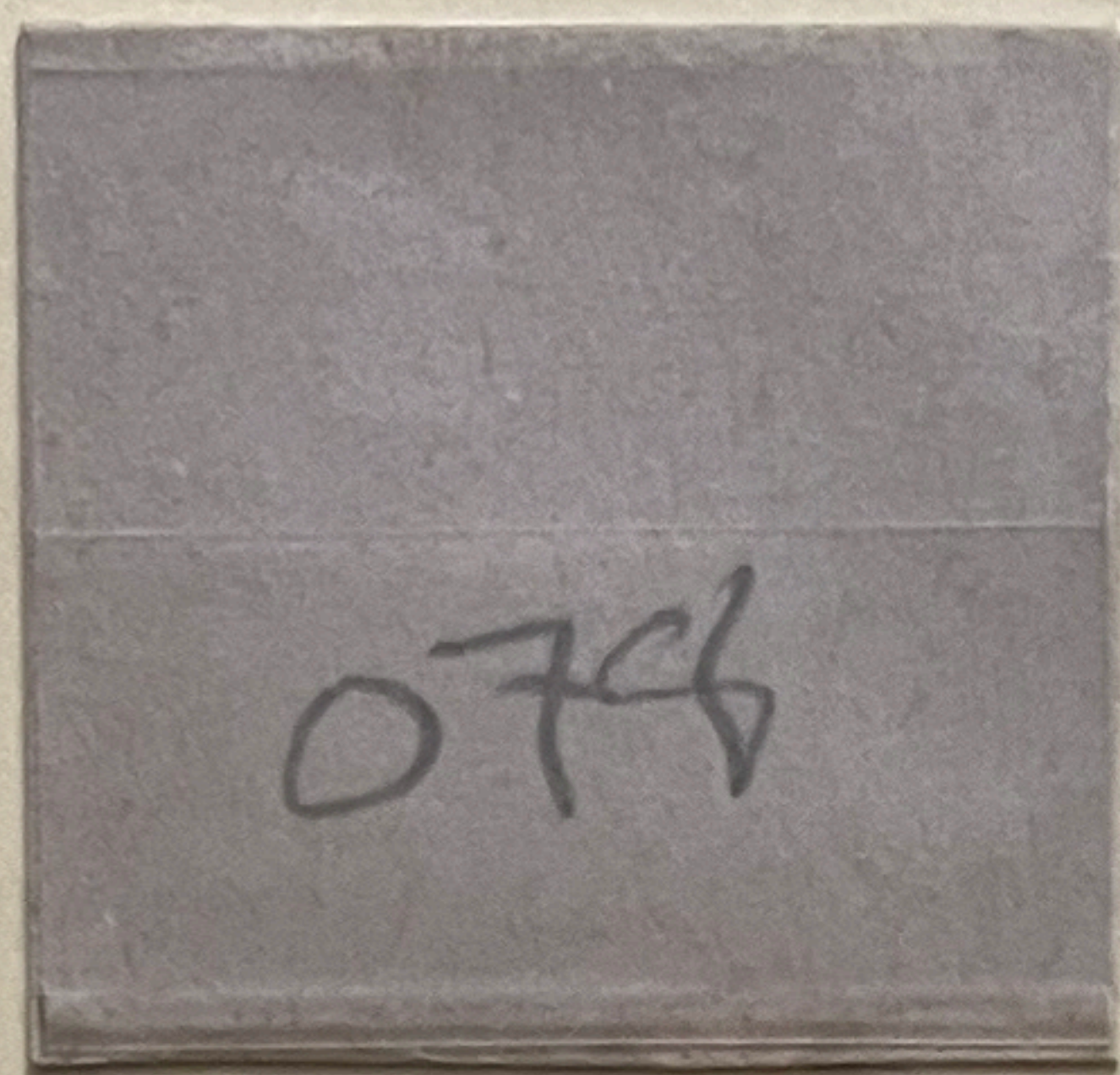


1929-  
1939  
10,317

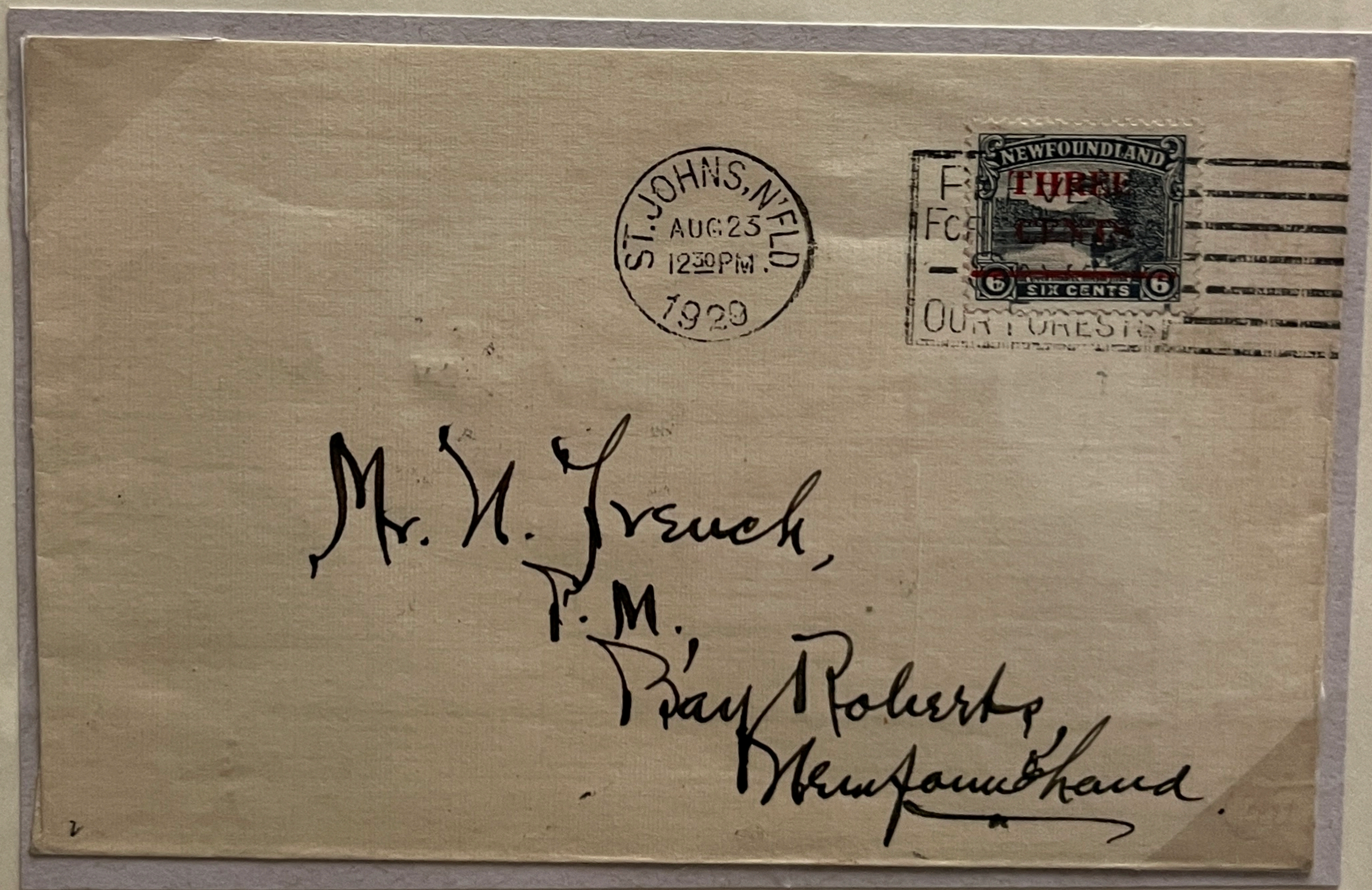


1929 3¢ PROVISIONAL

NEW



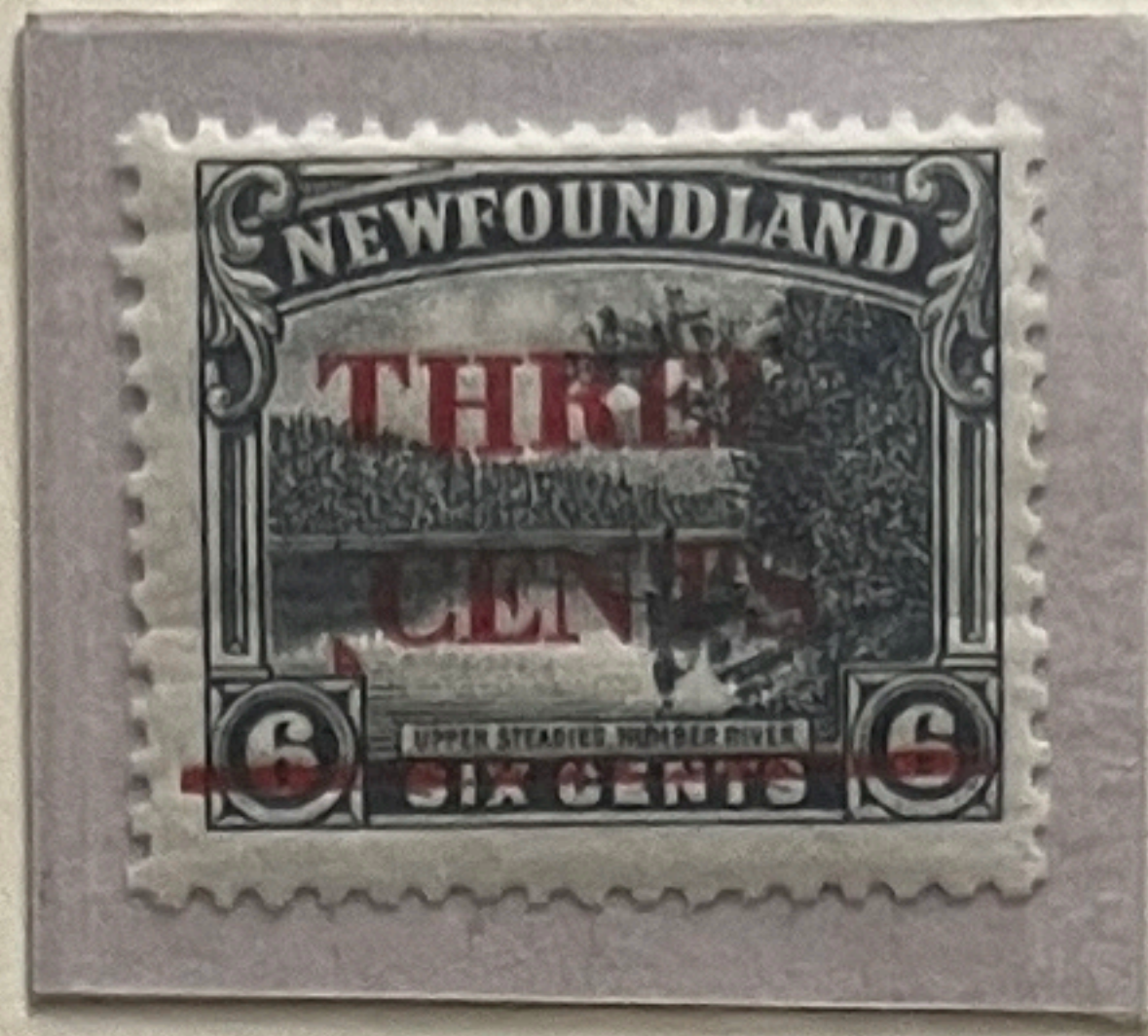
Trial surcharges were done with the THREE CENTS and bar in black. 50 had the THREE CENTS 3mm above the bar and 50 had it 5mm above (C). It was then decided to use a more distinctive red surcharge for the final version.



August 23, 1929 first day usage at proper 3¢ inland rate to Bay Roberts.

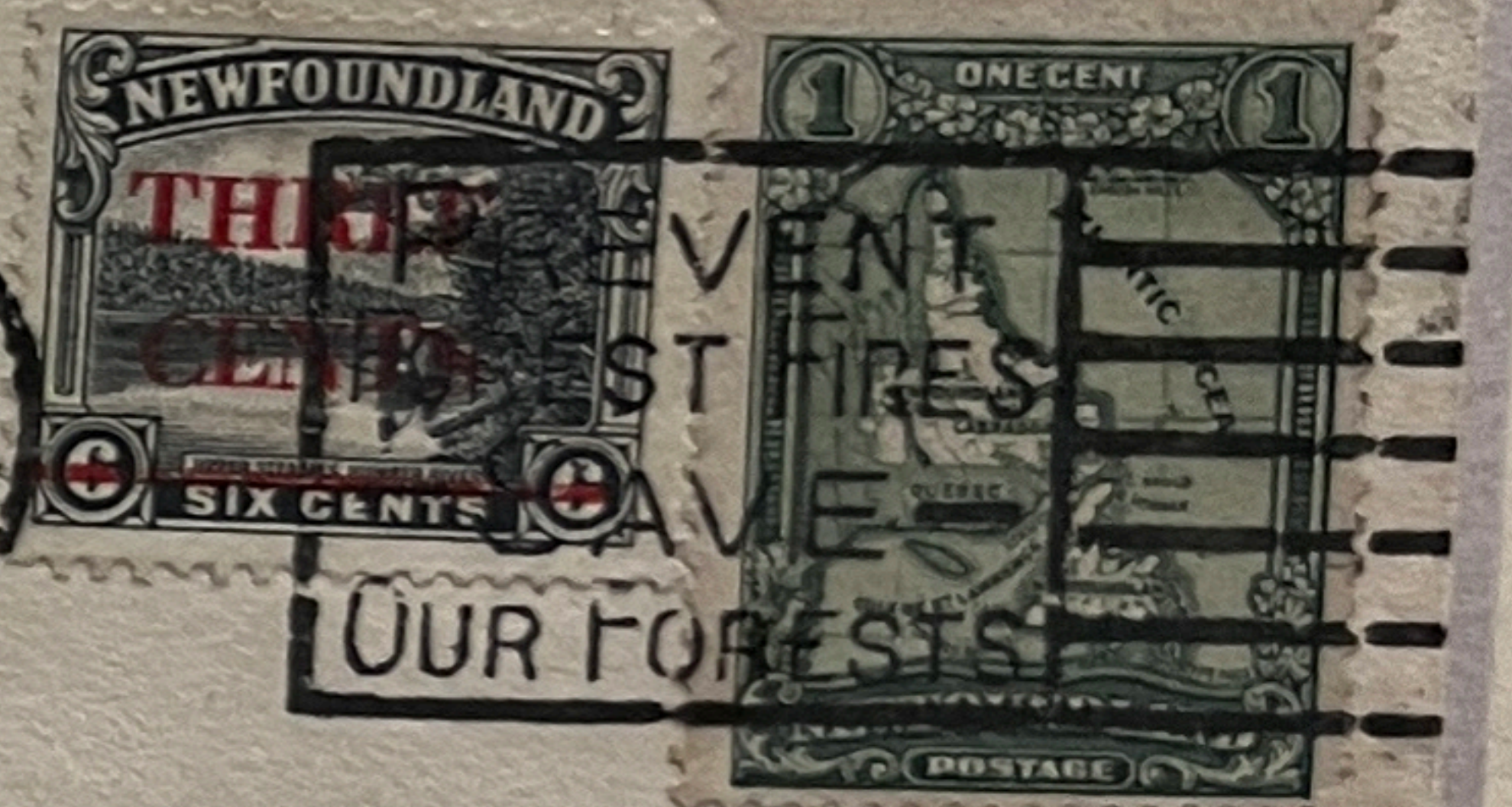
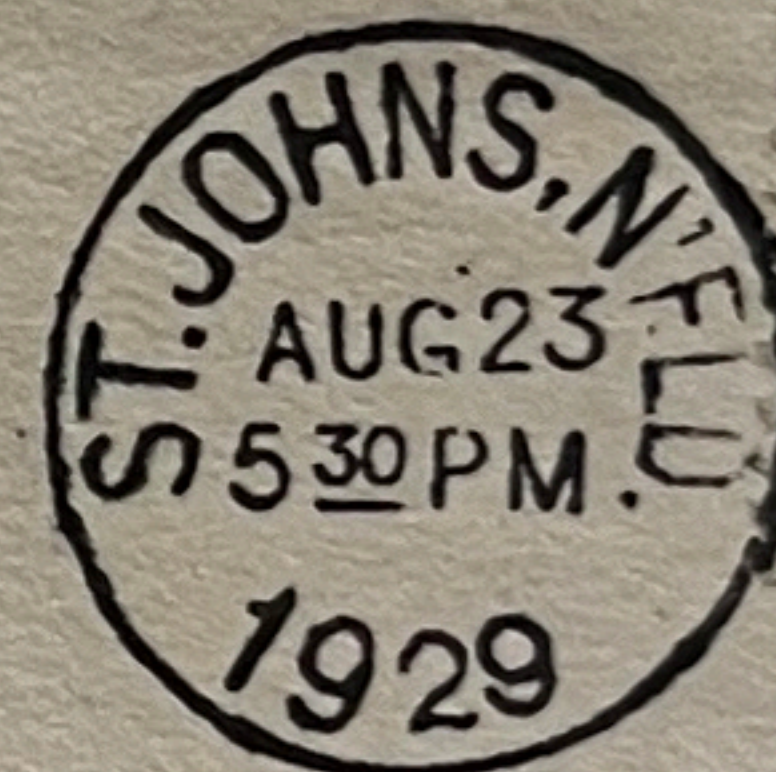


1929 3¢ PROVISIONAL



Other than the letter shifts, there is only one constant variety, a small red triangle to the left and slightly below the **C** of **CENTS**, at Position 7.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND STAMP EXCHANGE,  
BOX 1323 ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND.



*Mr G. R. Byham,  
Empire House,  
St. Martins-le-Grand.  
(Corner of Newgate St & Chapside)  
London, England.*

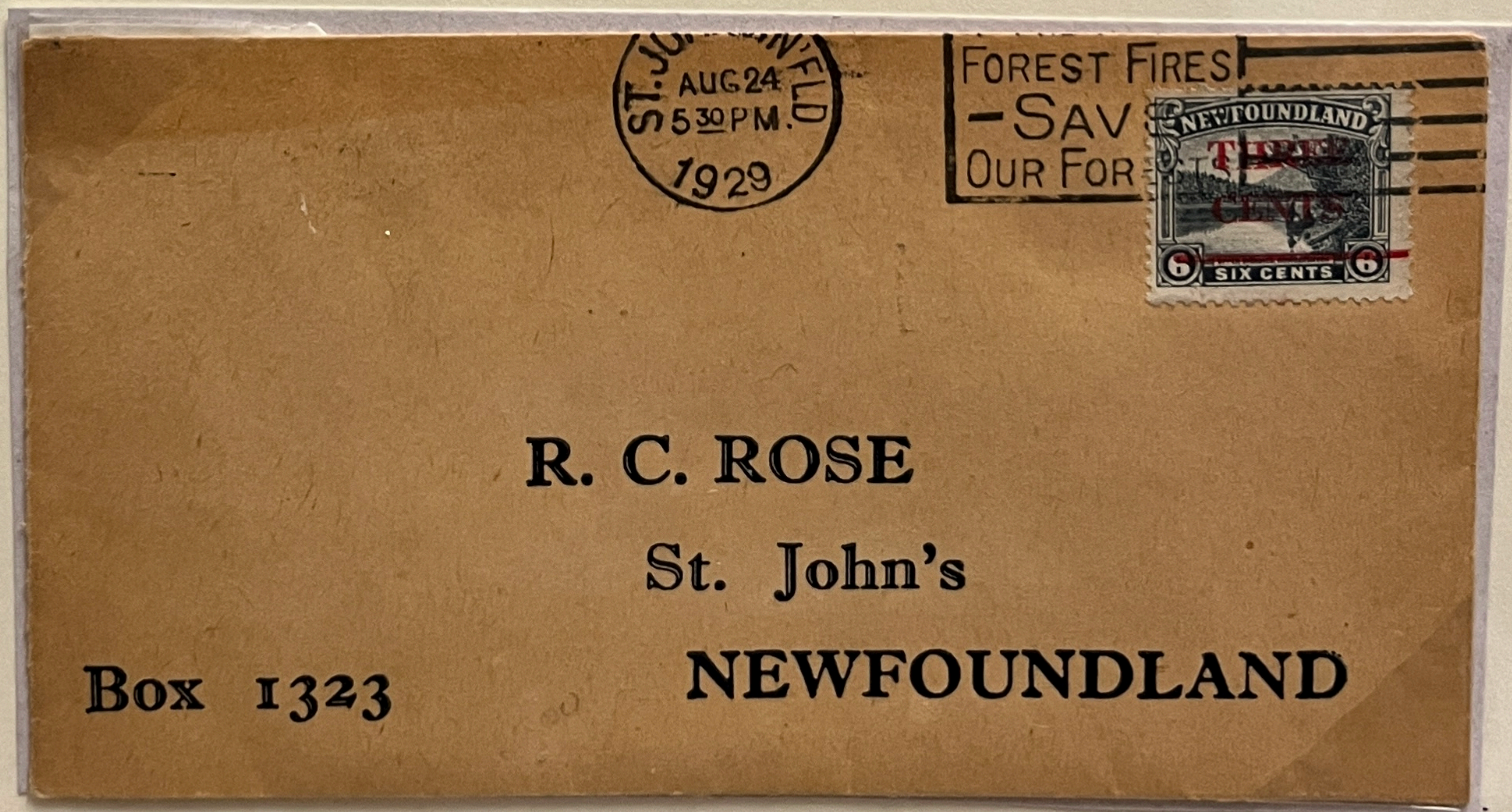
Another first day usage, this one at the 4¢ rate to Great Britain with 1¢ 1928 map stamp.



1929 3¢ PROVISIONAL

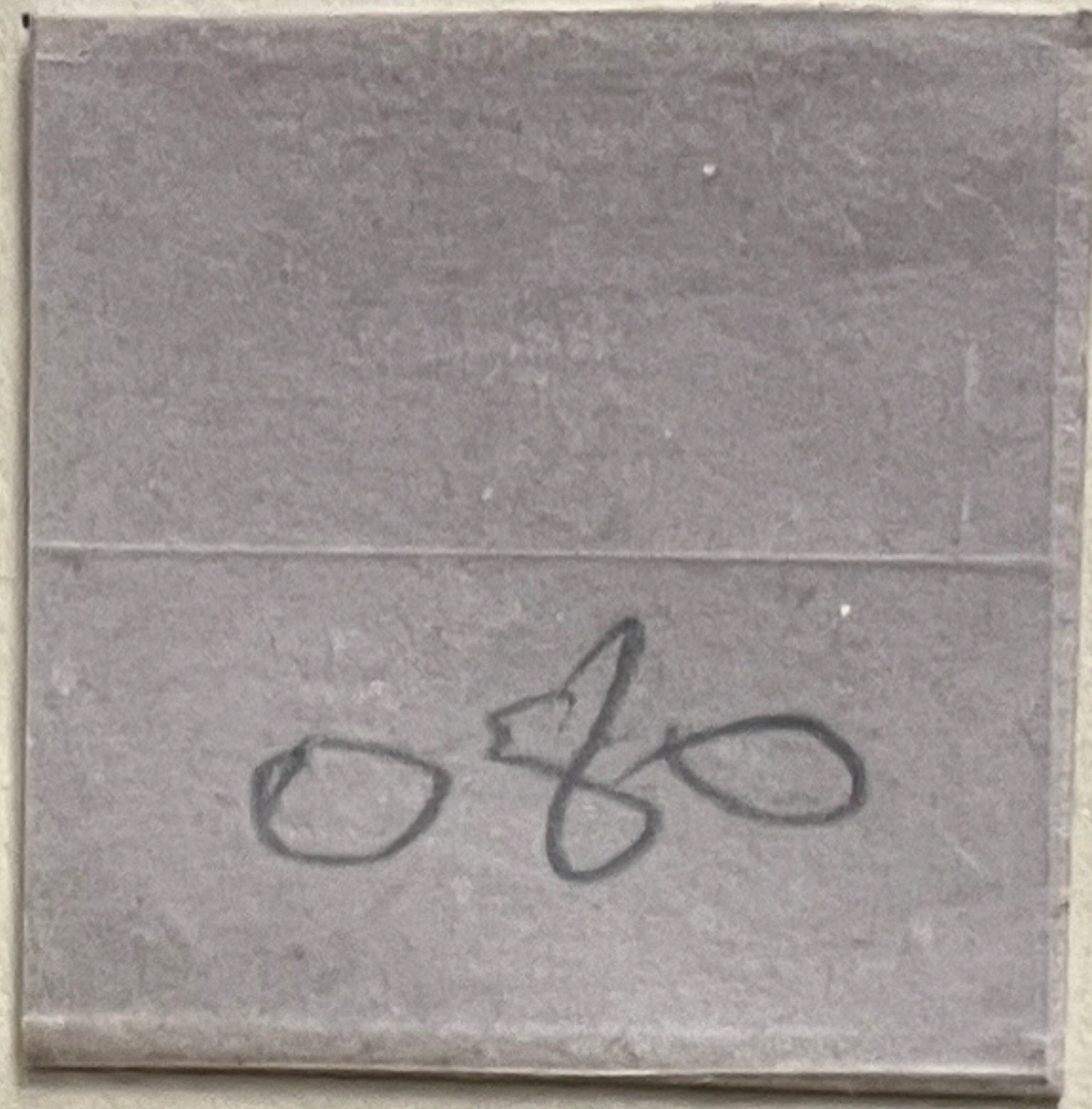


Complete setting of 25, with several constant surcharge varieties, the most apparent is where the T of **THREE** is directly over the C of **CENTS**. This occurs at Pos. 1, 15 & 23 – see ●.

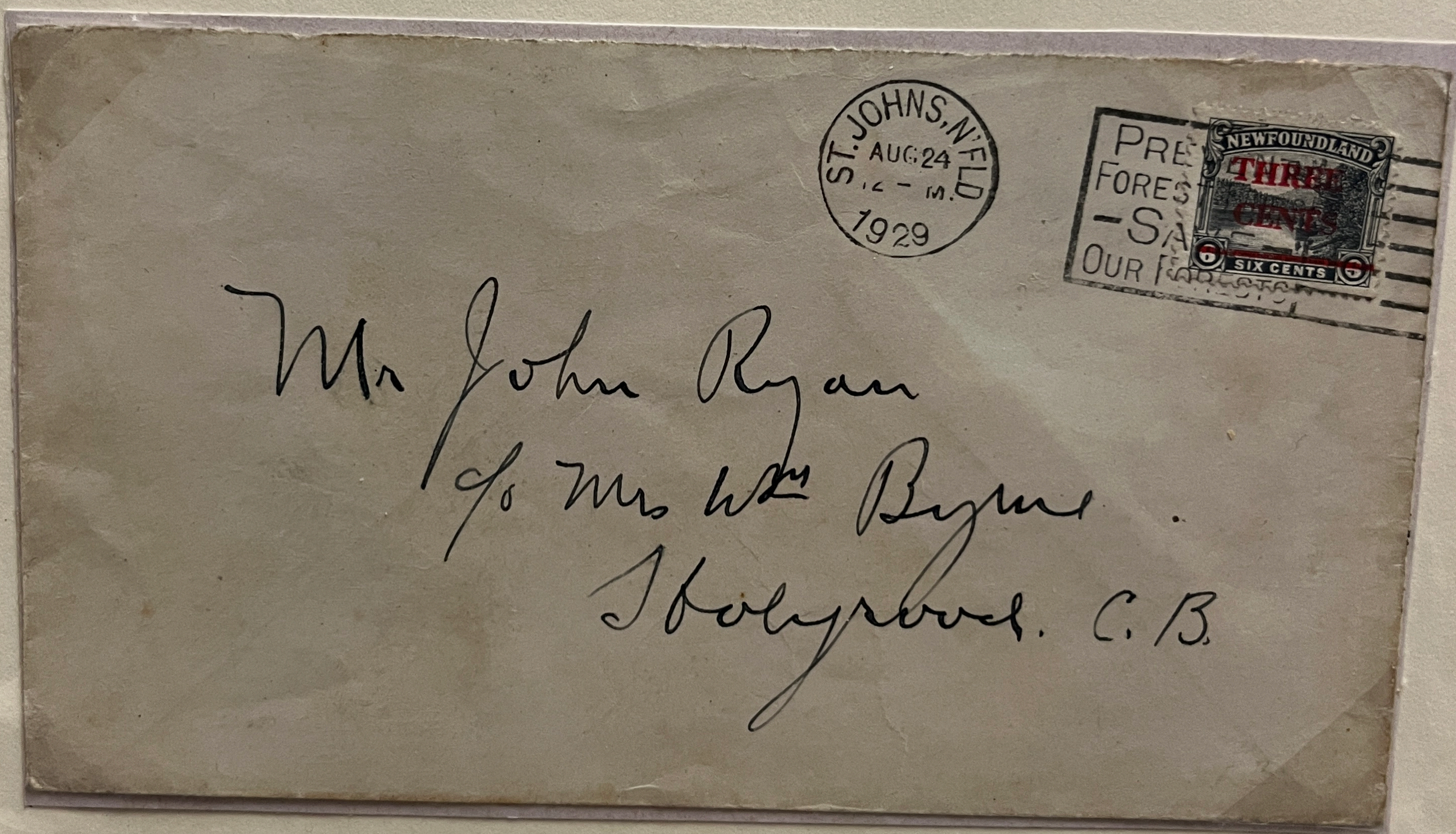


Local cover, overfranked by 1¢, 2nd day of usage, T over C of **CENTS**, Pos. 15.





75 stamps (three blocks of 25) had inverted surcharges. **C**



Mr. John Ryan  
c/o Mrs W<sup>m</sup> Ryan  
St. John's, Nfld. C.B.

The surcharged stamp was available at the G.P.O. on Friday, August 23, 1929. 70,000 were sold to speculators, so sale was restricted by the 24th. The regular 3¢ arrived several days later, making this provisional period less than a week.



## 1933 15¢ SHORTAGE

In 1932, the cost of a registered letter increased to 15¢ for most out-of-country mail leading to a shortage of the 15¢ seal pup definitive by early 1933. 70,000 of the 15¢ air mail stamp, in blocks of 25, were overprinted **L. & S. Post**, converting them for use for "Land and Sea." This was done on Feb. 9, 1933.



Registered letter of **JAN 21 1933**. Days later, the 15¢ seal pup stamp was sold out.





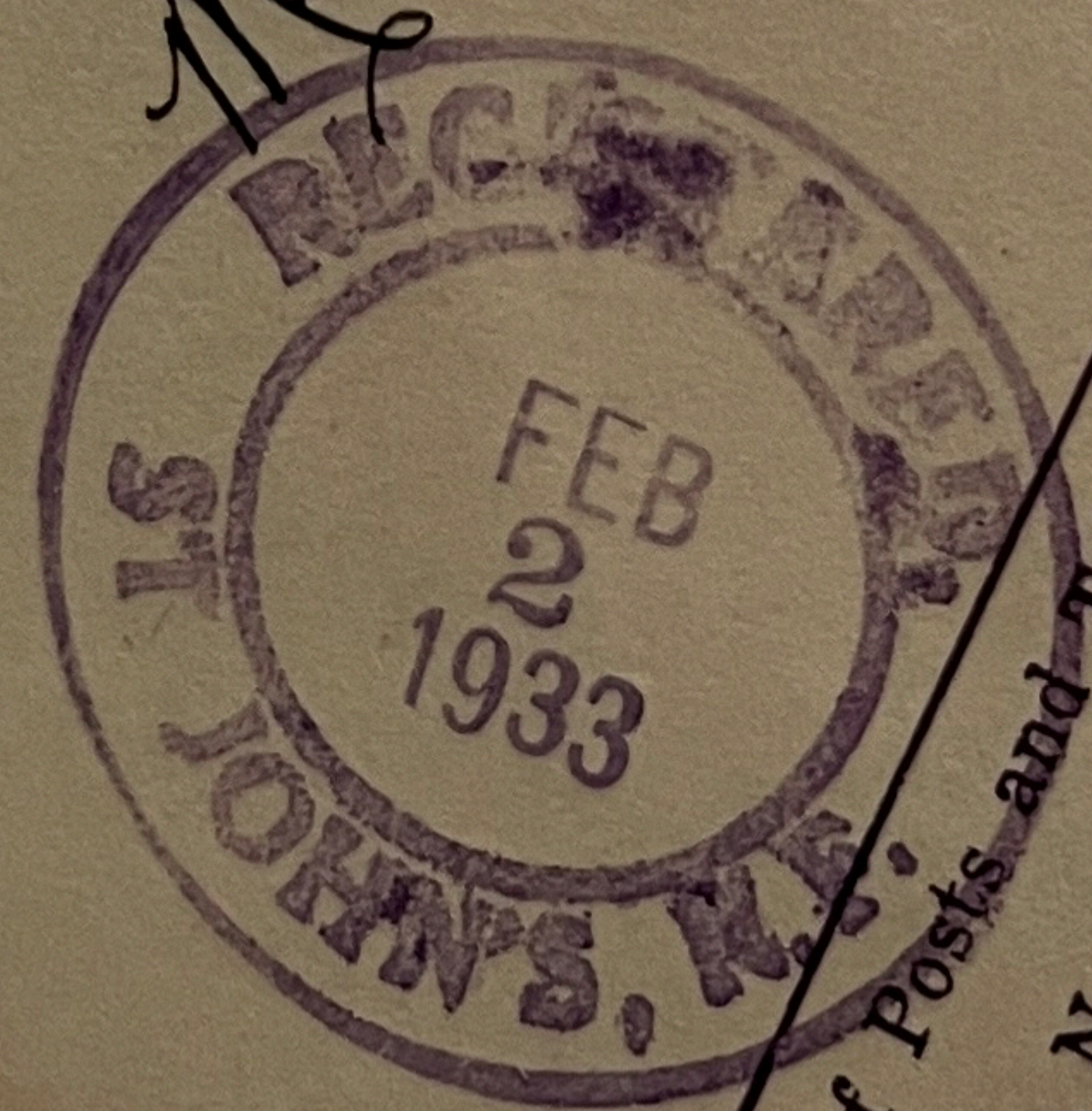
75-



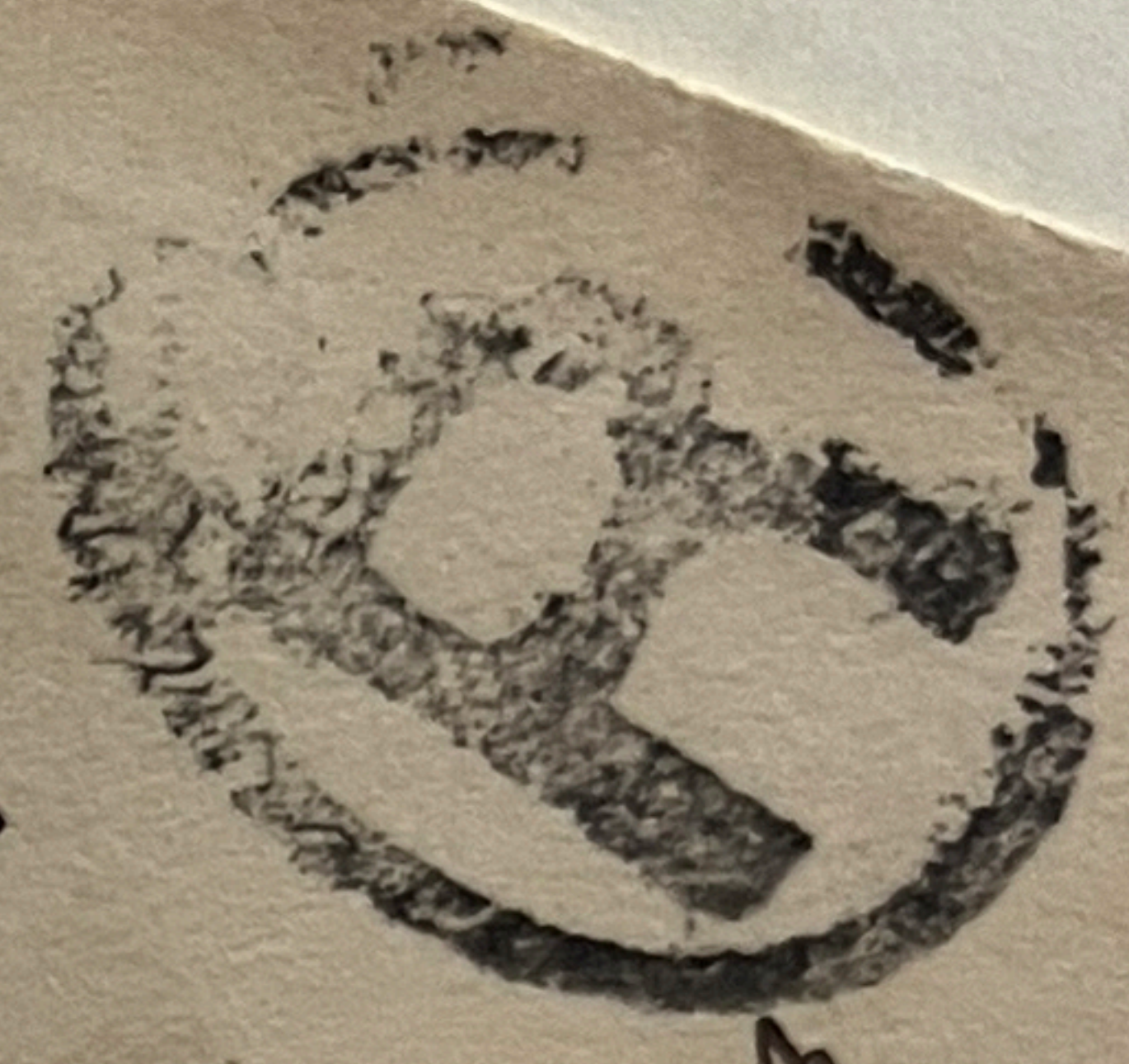
B304

O. H. M. S.

Mr. C. Winfield Caswell  
Box 52,  
East Rockaway, L. I.  
New York, U.S.A.



Department of Posts and Telegraphs,  
St. John's, Newfoundland.





# 1933 15¢ SHORTAGE

The supply of overprinted air mails came in two different perforations.



Perf. 13.8 X 13.8



Perf. 14.1 X 14.1



The fourth horizontal row is unwatermarked on some settings.



AYRE perfin. Only seven copies recorded.



# 1933 15¢ SHORTAGE

Complete setting of 25 (perf. 13.8 X 13.8). As with previous provisionals, collectors speculated on them. When this one's value did not increase, many eventually found their way onto registered letters, the original intent.







m to the right, resulting in o



1933 15¢ SHORTAGE

Covers from first day of usage, February 9, 1933, paying 15¢ registered letter rate to the United States, and Scotland.





**1936-37 SHC**



Due to  
Decem  
King C  
1936,



## 1939 POSTAL SHORTAGE

War activities with the threat of U-Boats delayed shipments of 2¢ and 4¢ stamps from London, so the remaining 250,000 copies of the 1939 Royal Visit issue were surcharged, and made available for use on November 20, 1939.



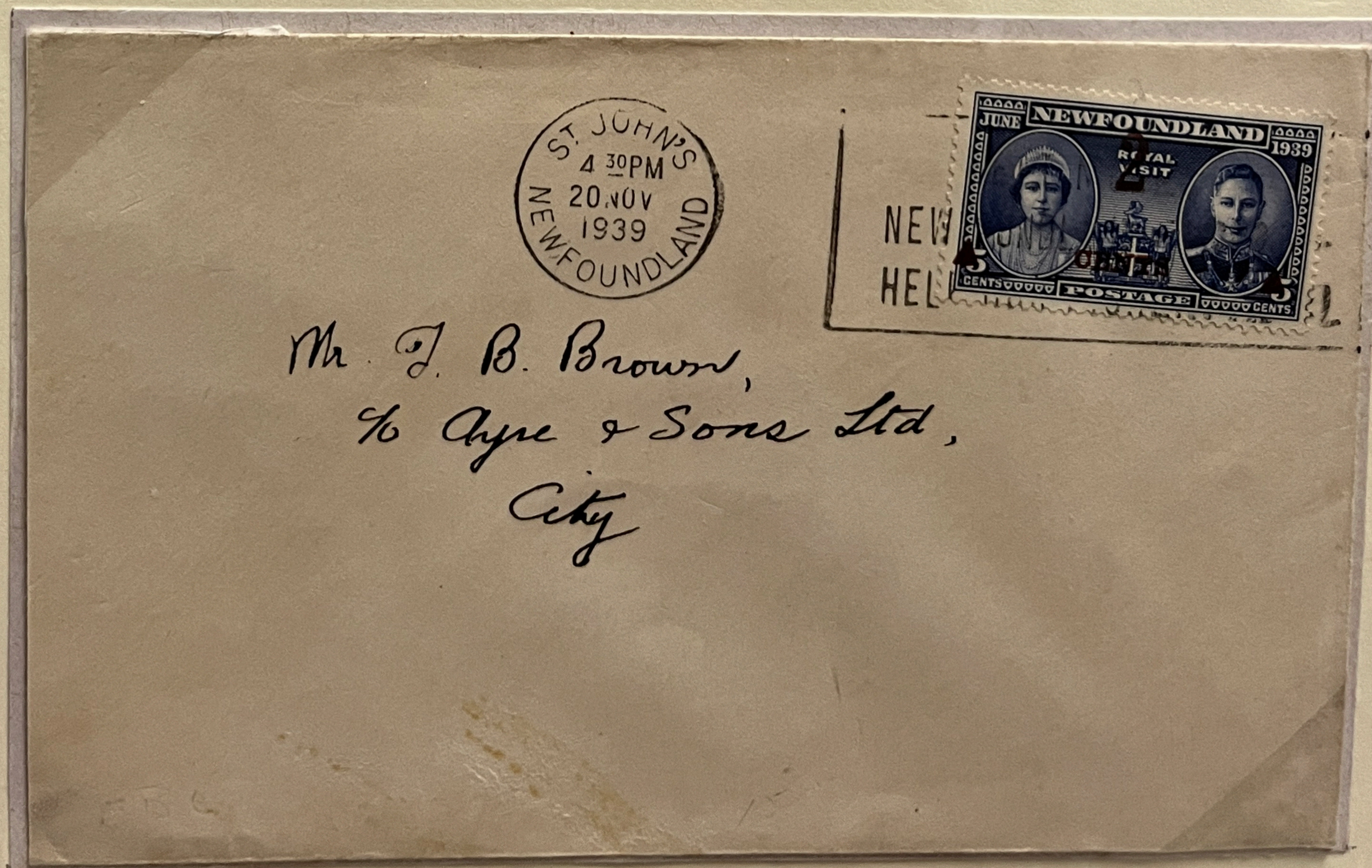


# 1939 POSTAL SHORTAGE



Imprint inscription blocks

2¢ paying local rate on first day of usage, **20 NOV 1939**





# 1939 POSTAL SHORTAGE



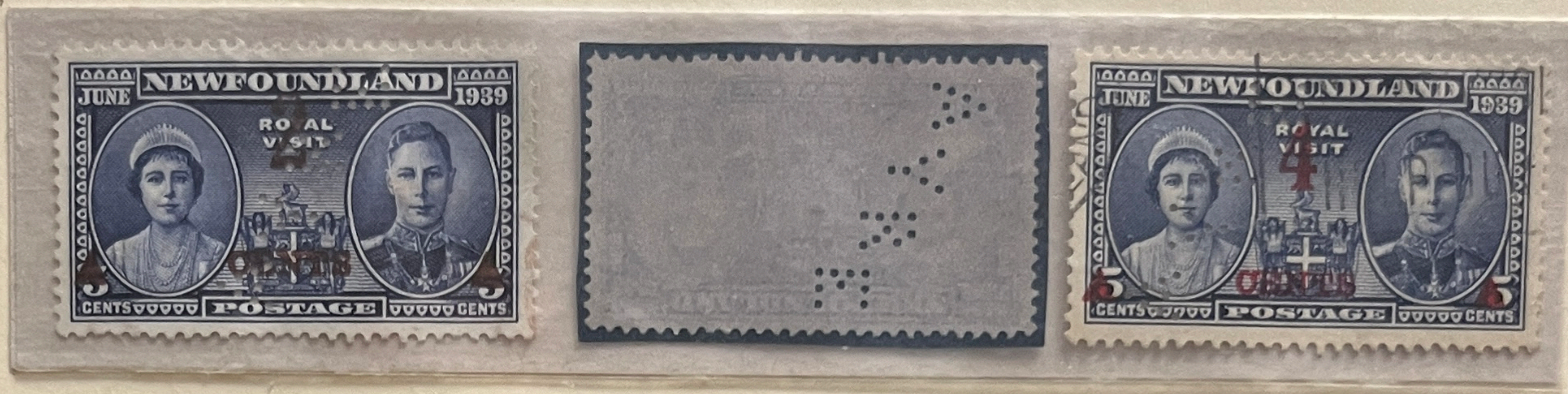
There are many minor printing varieties. Upper left 2¢ has no serif on tail (Pos. #23). Upper right 4¢ has the most famous variety – a broken S in CENTS, creating CENTL (Pos. #43)



Above printing varieties (250%).



# 1939 POSTAL SHORTAGE



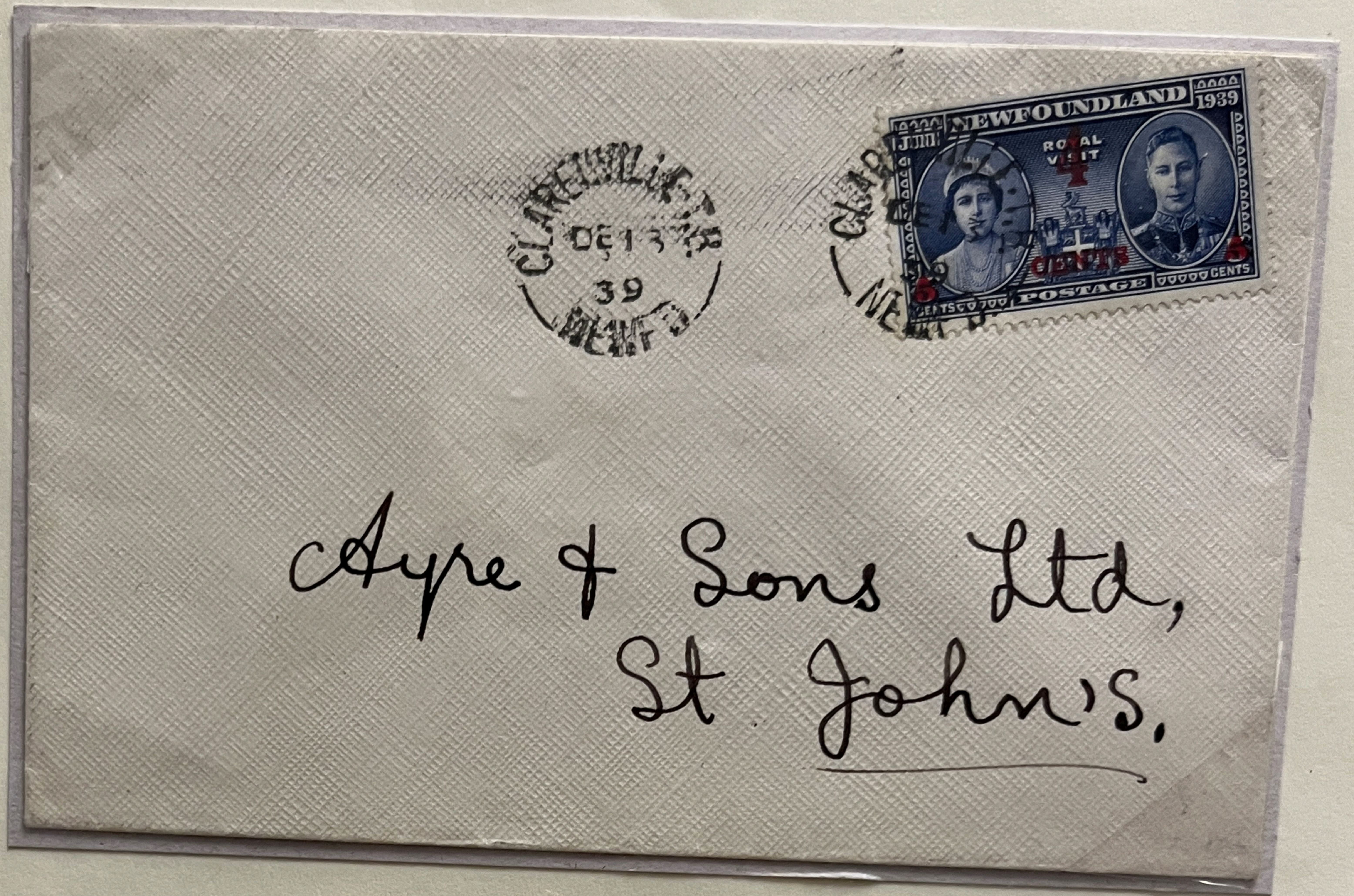
The 1939 surcharges are the only *surcharges* found with a perfin – from **AYRE**. Only eight off-cover copies of the 2¢ are recorded and 29 of the 4¢. The back of the 4¢ is seen at the center, *with image reversed*, to show the perfin.



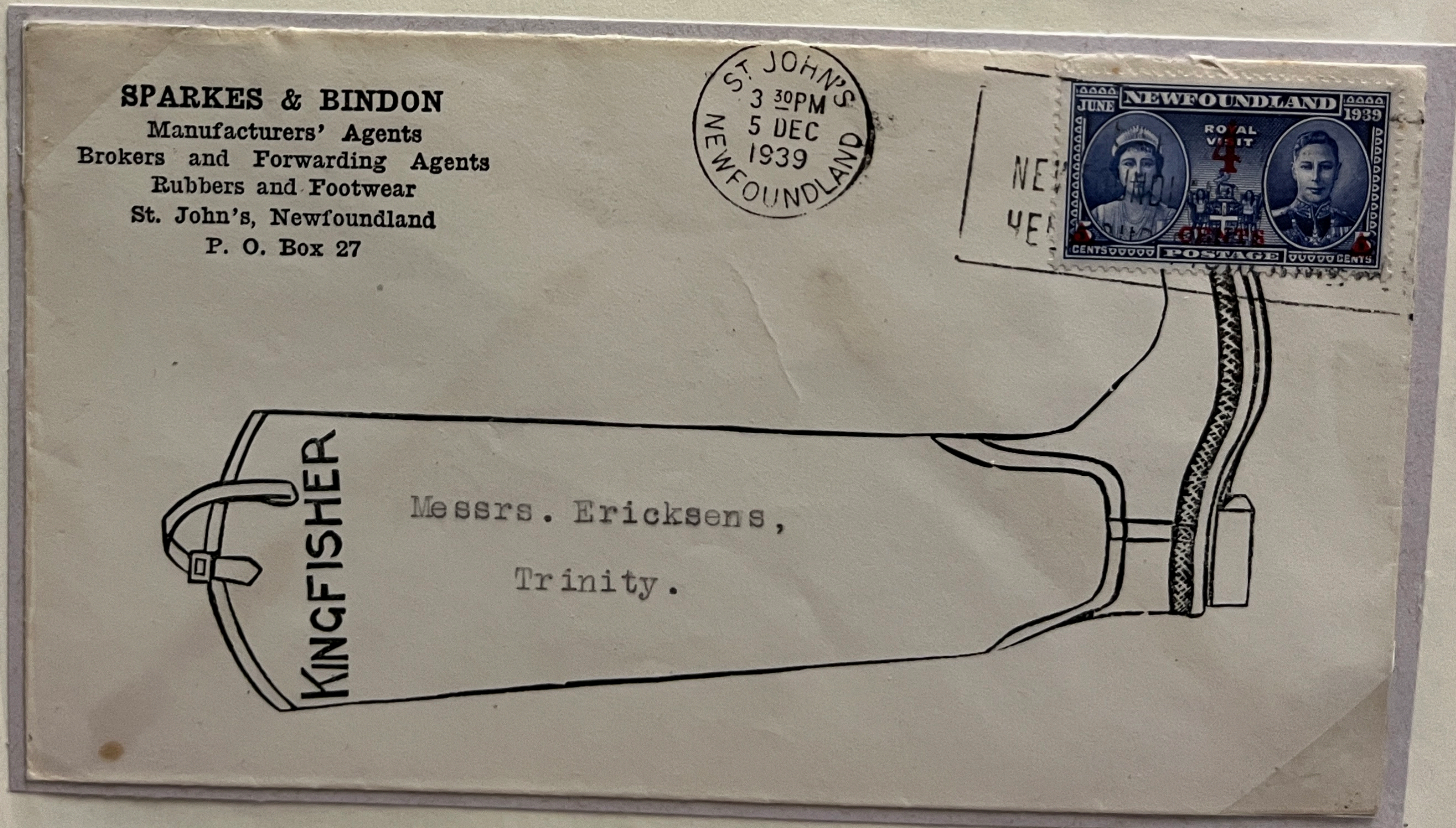
4¢ perfin on December 2, 1939 cover from the AYRE company in St. John's, reflecting its intended usage. There are only two 4¢ perfins recorded on cover. No example of the 2¢ perfin on cover is known.



1939 POSTAL SHORTAGE



The inland rate was 4¢. December covers to and from St. John's.

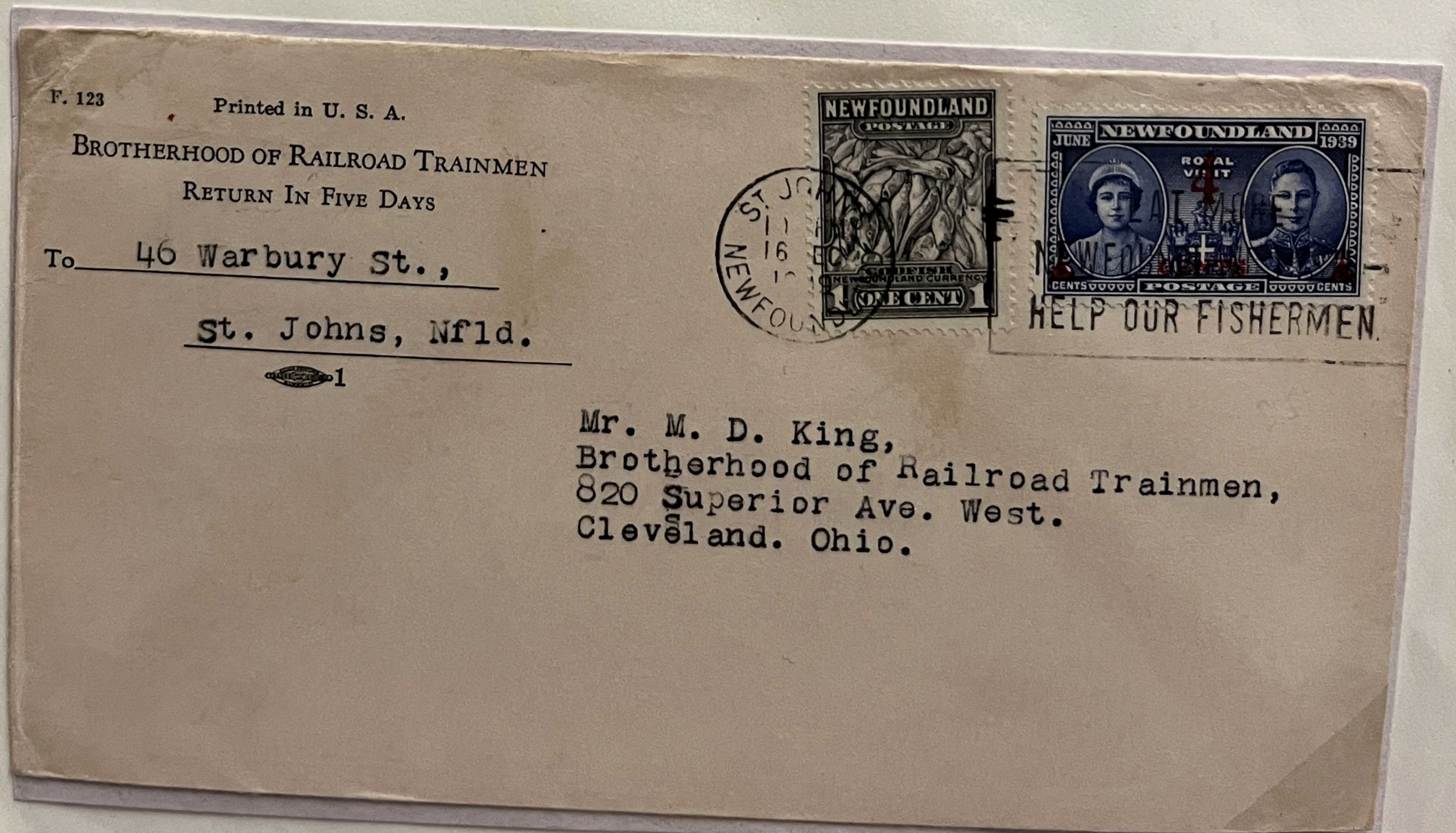




1939 POSTAL SHORTAGE



Two December 16, 1939 letters to U.S. when the last of the provisionals sold out at the G.P.O. 16¢ worth of provisionals above, overpaid registered rate to U.S. by 1¢. The 5¢ letter rate was covered by 4¢ provisional and 1¢ codfish.



#5



# 1939 POSTAL SHORTAGE



*Confusing Your Postal Clerk.* The registered letter rate to Canada was 15¢ in 1939, as on August cover above. The December cover below with the 4¢ provisional is 1¢ short. Used to the above, the clerk probably just misread it. Although collectors liked them, the provisionals were a nuisance to others.

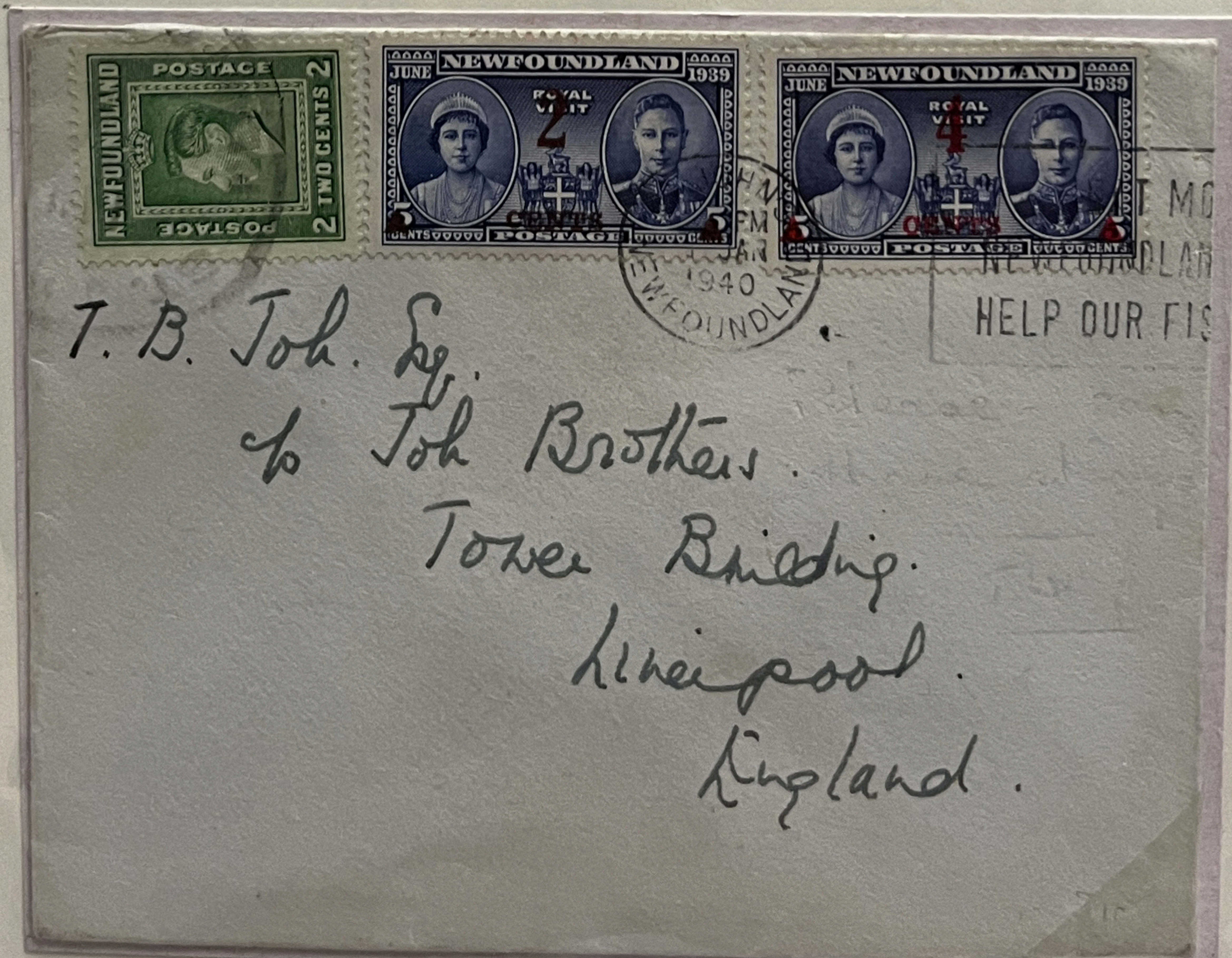




1939 POSTAL SHORTAGE



The 2¢ paying the Christmas card rate to the U.S., and both provisionals plus a 2¢ King George VI franking an overweight letter to Liverpool, January 1, 1940. The latter was obviously after the new 2¢ stamps had arrived.





## 1946 2¢ SHORTAGE



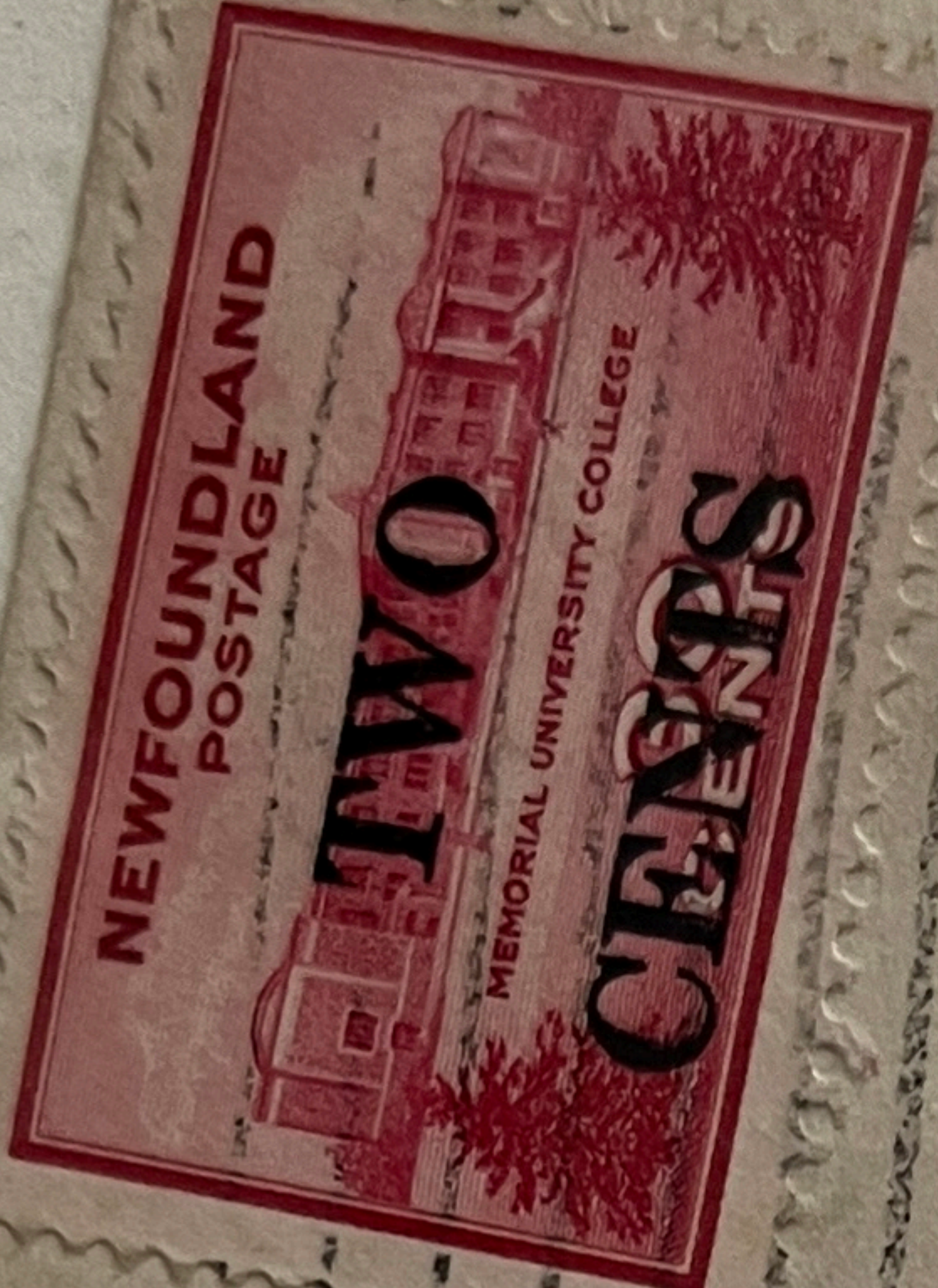
In 1946 a temporary shortage of watermarked paper delayed production of the 2¢ King George VI definitive. A supply of the 1943 30¢ Memorial University College issue was surcharged 2¢ and went on sale on March 21, 1946.





*Final Day cover*

NEWFOUNDLAND  
21 MCH 1946  
7:50 PM  
S. R.



*Mr. T. B.*

*Mr. T. B.*

*St. John's  
Newfoundland*

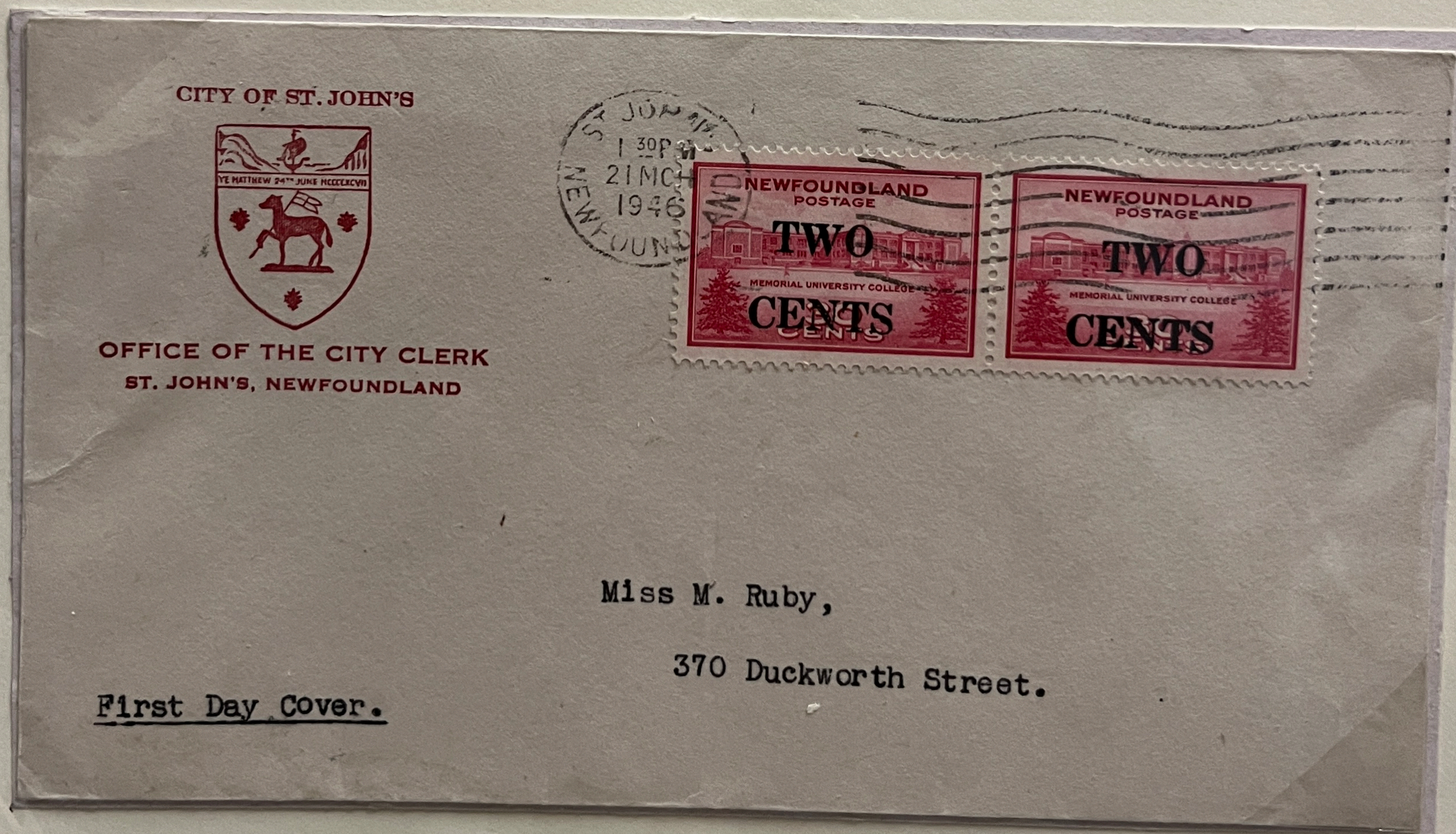




# 1946 2¢ SHORTAGE



In first printing, **O** is over **T** in first three vertical rows, and over **TS** in last two. Speculation caused immediate sell out of first printing. A second printing was quickly made. Since the original setting had been defaced the second printing is slightly different, with the **O** over the **TS** on all stamps.



First day cover with spacing pair from first printing, 1¢ over local rate



# 1946 2¢ SHORTAGE



Folded sheet from first printing showing O over T in first three vertical rows, and over TS in last two rows. There were 500,000 stamps in the first printing, as well as in the second one.



1946 2¢ SHORTAGE

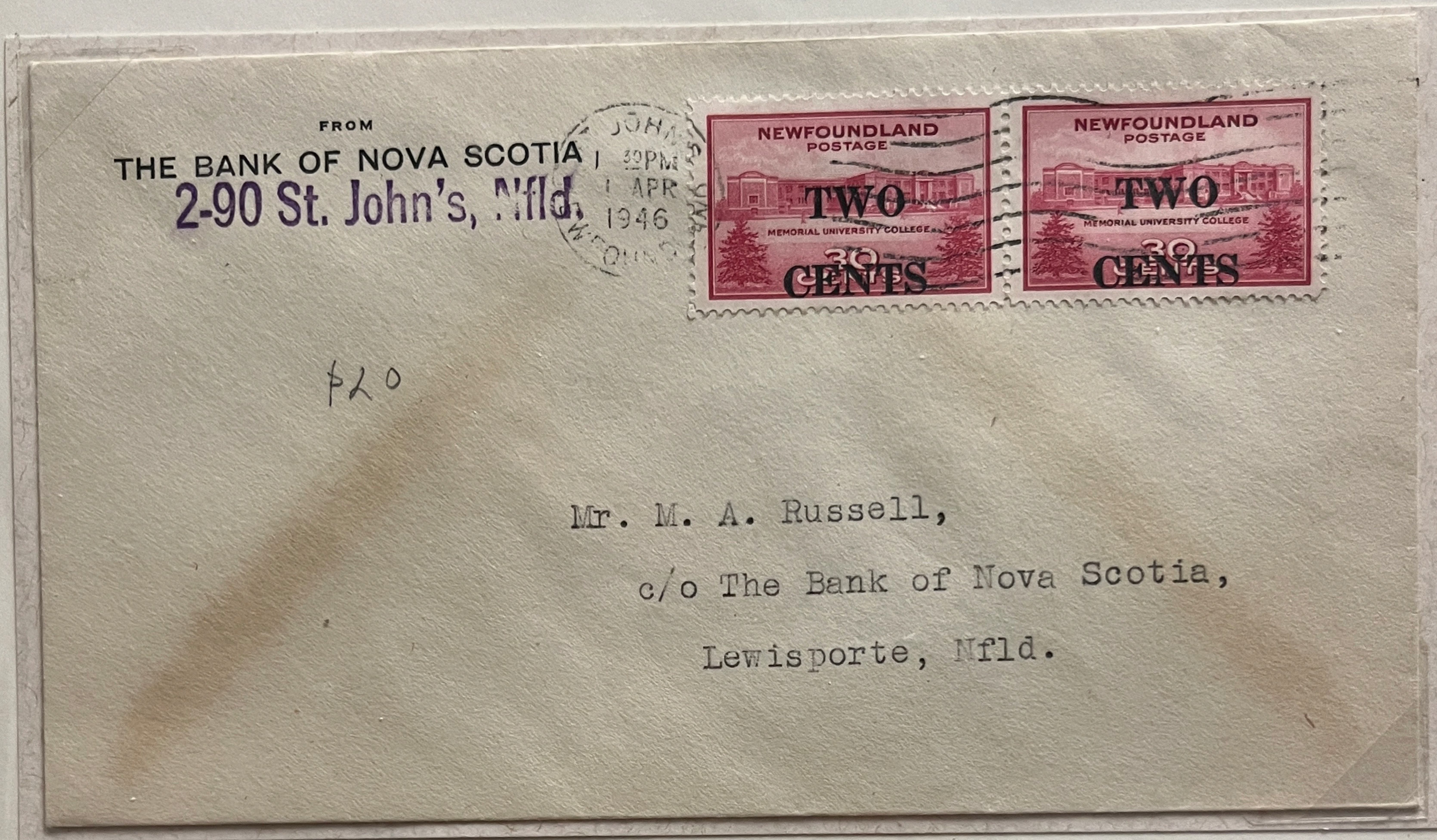
CANADIAN BANK NOTE CO. OTTAWA N91



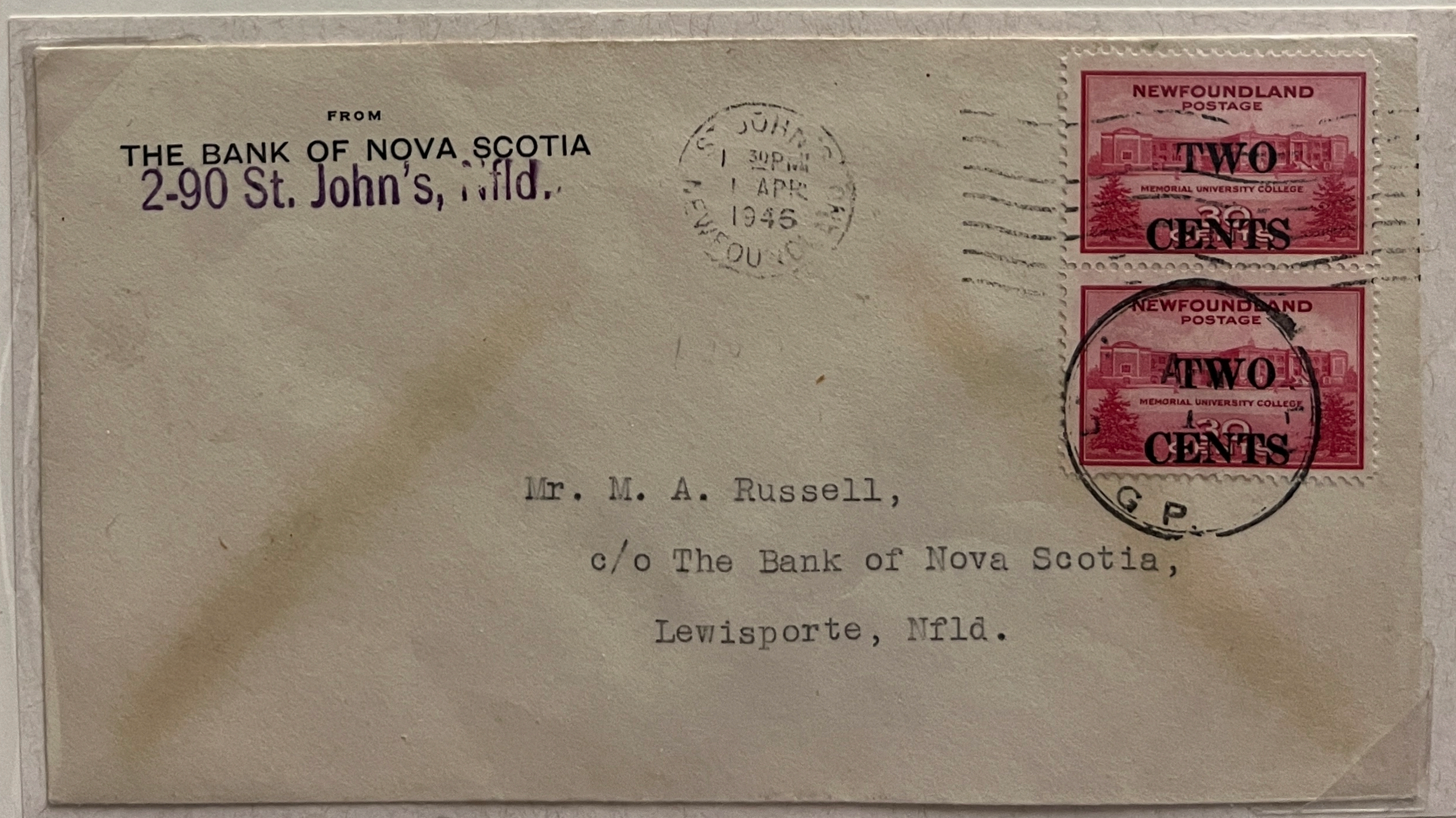
Folded sheet from *second* printing showing **O** over **TS** on all stamps



1946 2¢ SHORTAGE



Two inland covers at proper 4¢ rate at end of provisional period, 1 APR 1946, from St. John's branch of Bank of Nova Scotia to Lewisporte. The pair above has the O over T, while the pair below has the O over TS.





1946 2¢ SHORTAGE



Constant flaw, broken T in TWO, Pos. 26, left pane, first printing, upper left in this block.



Lower left corner block, left pane, both printings, had printer's number and inscription.



Provisionals from first printing, with 3¢ definitive, covering 7¢ air mail rate from Carbonear to Montreal, April 5, 1946. A new supply of the 2¢ definitive had arrived at St. John's around April 1, 1946, with the surcharged stamp taken off sale there at the time. It was still used at outports for a few days longer.



## 1889 2¢ POSTAL CARD SHORTAGE

The 2¢ Queen Victoria postal card below, covering the standard rate between U.P.U. countries, was exhausted in spring of 1889. The new shipment was delayed due to consolidation of British American Bank Note facilities in Ottawa. A local printer was used to surcharge the current 1¢ Prince of Wales card to 2¢.





1889 2¢ POSTAL CARD SHORTAGE



Only 700 1¢ cards were surcharged, in May of 1889. First Clerk George Le Messurier, Jr. sold almost all the cards to two stamps dealers. The lower card shows wear in the left arm of the T in **CENTS**. This was progressive.