

## **The Historic 1927 Attempted Transatlantic Flights**

### **By: "The Sir John Carling" & "The Royal Windsor Aircrafts"**

### **Synopsis**

Charles Lindbergh had just flown from New York to Paris and the Carling Breweries Co. Ltd of London, Ontario had offered a \$25,000.00 price to the first Canadian or British pilot completing the flight from London, Ontario, Canada to London, England.

A. Committee was set up to select the pilots, selecting Capt. Terrence Tully and Lieut. James Medcalf as pilot / navigator. The Committee also chose the Stinson SM-1 monoplane, christening it the "**The Sir John Carling**".

The Canadian government authorized the issuance of only 100 copies of the London to London stamp in Green & Yellow of which only about 8 - 10 mint copies exist today. One cover is known which was removed from the mail bag in London, Ontario and therefore was not flown aboard the aircraft. The flight left London for Harbor Grace, Newfoundland on Sept. 1st, 1927, arriving there September 5th, 1927 after two stops due to weather. The aircraft took off on Sept. 7th from Harbor Grace for London, England, never to be seen again.

A Black Plate Proof on Card of the London to London stamp is on the first page of this exhibit. "One other damaged proof is known." Original photos are also included to depict these historical events of both attempts.

"**The Royal Windsor**", also a Stinson airplane, was an attempt to fly from Windsor, Ont. to Windsor, U.K., which left Windsor, Ont. Sept. 1st, 1927 stopping twice at St. John, Quebec and Old Orchard, Maryland on Sept. 6th, 1927, due to weather and necessary refueling. Leaving the following day, the "Royal Windsor" arrived at Harbor Grace Sept. 7th, 1927. After repairs to "The Royal Windsor", Wood & Schiller", flew out over the Atlantic in search of Tully & Medcalf, to no avail.

Organizers of the "Royal Windsor" flight had invited 14 to 18 prominent members of the community to place letters aboard the flight to England of which 4 are represented in this exhibit. A Special boxed hand stamp "**Phil Wood & Duke Schiller, Royal Windsor Monoplane, Windsor, Canada to Windsor, England**" & also boxed in black "**Trans Atlantic Air Mail**" was applied on each envelope.

The "Royal Windsor" Returned to Windsor, Ontario, returning all mail to the senders, having flown from Windsor, Ontario to Harbor Grace, Newfoundland and return. Very little mail has survived with only 6 recorded.

