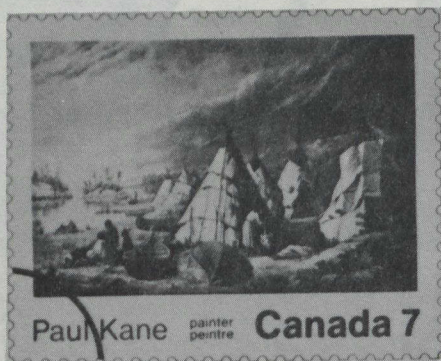


PAUL KANE STAMP

The Post Office pays tribute to one of Canada's most remarkable pioneer artists, Paul Kane, with the issue on August 11 of a seven-cent commemorative stamp commemorating the hundredth anniversary of his death.



The 40-mm-by-32-mm stamp, in four colours, features one of the vivid paintings of North American Indians for which Kane was renowned. The design is reproduced from Kane's *Indian Encampment on Lake Huron*, by courtesy of the Art Gallery of Ontario.

KANE - FRONTIER ARTIST

Born in Ireland, Kane emigrated to Canada with his family in 1819. He lived in York (which later became Toronto), where he obtained his first knowledge of Indians through his boyhood association with local members of the Mississauga tribe.

Kane began his career as a decorative painter of signs, houses and coaches. Later he travelled to the United States and overseas to continue his studies in Europe and Africa.

While in London, Kane met the American painter, George Catlin. Famous for his paintings of North American Indians, Catlin idealized the Indian as a noble red man, free of the alleged corruption and superficial sophistication of white society. When Kane returned to Canada in 1845 he wrote, "I determined to devote whatever talents and proficiency I possessed to the painting of a series of pictures illustrative of the North American Indians and scenery".

Kane made most of his sketches of Indian life during two journeys - the first in 1845 through the rugged terrain of the Great Lakes region, the second in 1846 to 1848 to the Pacific Coast.

On his return to Toronto in 1848 Kane painted the portraits, landscapes and compositional groupings for which he is best known. The fascinating journal he kept of his adventures and observations in the northwest was published later in England in 1859 under the title, *Wanderings of an Artist Among the Indians of North America from Canada to Vancouver's Island and Oregon through the Hudson's Bay Company's Territory and Back Again*.

In 1851, the Canadian Government commissioned 12 paintings from Kane, 11 of which except one,

which was lost, hang in the National Gallery of Canada.

The 100 large canvasses which Kane considered his best work, together with 300 of his pencil and water-colour sketches, were bought by Senator George W. Allan of Toronto in 1867. The Allan collection was later purchased by Sir William Osler in 1911 and donated to the Royal Ontario Museum, where they are now displayed in the North American Indian Section.

Since much of the territory in which Kane sketched is now in the United States, many of his works are in major collections there today. Most notable of these are the 200 water-colour and oil sketches acquired by the Lucher Stark Foundation of Orange, Texas, from Kane's descendants in Manitoba. Another 12 canvasses are owned by Harvard University.

MOTOR CAR SALES RECORD

Several records were set by the sales of new motor vehicles in May. Total sales passed 100,000 units for the first time in any single month, reaching 102,144 - 28.2 percent more than the figure a year earlier, and well above the previous record of 96,953 established in May 1967. Passenger-car sales jumped 26.1 per cent to 84,768, surpassing the May 1967 record of 81,259. Sales of commercial vehicles reached 17,376 units - the highest since at least 1961, and probably the highest ever.

While sales of North American passenger cars increased to 65,353 units, 21.5 percent more than those of a year earlier, those of cars from overseas continued to forge ahead by 44.6 per cent to 19,415 units, holding 20.0 per cent of the market both for the month and for the year to date.

Commercial vehicles made overseas increased their share of the January-to-May market to 7.95 per cent from 5.98 per cent a year earlier as May sales increased 76.2 per cent to 1,447 units.

May-to-May increases in passenger-car sales varied from 4.6 per cent (to 3,000 units) in Manitoba to 70.3 per cent (to 2,563) in New Brunswick; Ontario's sales increased 33.7 per cent to 35,089; and Quebec's by 15.6 per cent to 25,485.

FOREST FIRES IN JUNE

The Canadian Forestry Service recorded 2,025 forest fires in Canada during June.

This was 131 more than during the same period last year and a considerably higher number than the ten-year average of 1,504 for the month of June. The total forest area affected was 876,000 acres, which was well below the ten-year average of 1,052,000 acres for June.

The total number of forest fires in Canada this year to June 30 was 4,449 over a total area of 1,056,000 acres.