



### NEW ISSUES OF WILDLIFE STAMPS



Five new 24-by-30 mm stamps, in denominations of ten- 15- 20- 25- and 50-cents were issued by the Canada Post Office on September 8.

All five, designed by Reinhard Derreth of Vancouver, feature examples of wildlife and terrain indigenous to various regions of Canada.

The ten-cent issue depicts the typical forests and lakes of central Canada. The thousands of clear, cold lakes dotting the region, which are largely the result of glaciation, are set in forests of spruce, tamarack, pine and fir, among jagged rocks and marshes, where an abundance of wildlife lives.

Canada's western mountain areas, inhabited by mountain sheep and other species, are represented on the 15-cent denomination. From spring to autumn, the surefooted bighorn wanders among the crags and rocky ledges searching for grass. With the advent of cold weather, the rams and ewes form a single band and move to lower altitudes for mating. The offspring are born in late spring. Dark in colour except for

lighter rump and under areas, the mountain sheep has dark, curved horns.

A prairie mosaic was chosen for the 20-cent stamp to show the vastness and diversity of the prairies. While wheat is the basic crop, other products such as oats, barley, rye, alfalfa and sugar beets also have their place. South and west of the main wheat-growing areas, ranching is important.

Symbolic of the Canadian North are the two polar bears that appear on the 25-cent issue. The polar bear, or ice or white bear as it is sometimes called, ranges from Victoria Strait east to James Bay.

A good swimmer, it will often travel great distances from its ice-floe home in search of the seals, fish, birds and young walruses on which it feeds. Polar bears, a traditional source of food and clothing for the Eskimo, have in recent years been regarded by many as an endangered species.

The 50-cent stamp depicts the natural splendour of the 60,000 miles of Canadian seashore, much of which is irregular, rugged and barren.

