

SIR ISAAC BROCK STAMP

Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, "Hero of Upper Canada", who died at Queenston Heights on October 13, 1812, leading his troops in the defence of Canada, is to be commemorated during the two-hundredth anniversary of the year of his birth by the release of a Canada Post Office stamp on September 12. Brock was born on the island of Guernsey on October 6, 1769.

The new issue, vertical in format, with dimensions of 24x40mm., was created by Professor Imre von Mosdossy of Agincourt, Ontario, whose previous designs for the Post Office include the popular 1968 John McCrae and hydro-logical commemorative stamps. The Brock issue has a brown base printed by the steel-engraving process, which is softened by the application of



two lithographic tints, red in the area of the portrait and yellow elsewhere. A stylized reproduction of the 190-foot Brock memorial column on Queenston Heights appears on the stamp slightly below the famous soldier's image. Thirty-five million Sir Isaac Brock stamps will be printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Ottawa.

BROCK IN CANADA

It was with anything but elation that Brock received orders for the transfer of his regiment, the 49th, to Canada in 1802; the undeveloped land of some 300,000 people was regarded as out of the main stream of world events. In the following ten years, he devoted great energy to familiarizing himself with Upper and Lower Canada, using his fluent command of French to good advantage in the latter region.

In 1811 he received his appointment as president and administrator of the Government of Upper Canada. In the following year, upon the outbreak of war, he had some 1,450 British regulars under his command; organizing militia units to bolster his strength, he sought and won the co-operation of the Indians, particularly the Six Nations on the Grand River. His meeting with Tecumseh produced an immediate reciprocation of respect, and from that time on the famed Indian leader led his people in co-operation with the British. The morale of the defenders soared when one of Brock's first orders led to the fall of Detroit; later, the General's insight led him to believe an assault would be made across the turbulent Niagara River under the heights at Queenston. When

the attack came, Brock fell mortally wounded while leading his men to recapture a gun. Some 12 years after his death, Brock's remains were removed to a vault under a 135-foot monument on Queenston Heights; destroyed by an explosion in 1840, the memorial was replaced by the even more imposing column that stands today.

VISITORS FROM DOWN-UNDER

A delegation of senior Australian and New Zealand officials arrived in Canada on August 8 to spend three weeks inspecting water-bombing techniques for forest-fire control.

This trade mission is sponsored by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in co-operation with federal and provincial forestry services and representatives of aircraft and aircraft equipment companies.

Canada, which has devised successful techniques to prevent, control and combat forest fires, has refined a water-bombing technology in which a low-flying aircraft can drop as many as 90,000 gallons a day in a burning area. At present there are some 130 water-bombing aircraft in service in Canada.

Mission members are meeting forestry officials and manufacturers of aircraft and equipment for water-bombing; and are being briefed on fire-control techniques employed in Canada. They will fly over affected forest areas to observe practical water-bombing demonstrations under actual conditions.

Canadian water-bombers are now being exported - four of an order of 10 are in service in France and one is being used as a demonstrator in Spain. Markets are also being developed in the Far East, Africa, South America and the United States.

MONTREAL'S MASS MARRIAGE

Thirty years ago, in an event unlike any other before or since, 105 couples were married simultaneously before some 25,000 relatives, friends and fellow members of the Jeunesse Ouvrière Catholique (Young Catholic Workers) at a baseball stadium in the east end of Montreal.

To mark the anniversary, the surviving couples were invited on August 10 to a celebration at Man and His World, Montreal's international exhibition. The celebrant was Msgr. Albert Sanschagrin, Bishop of St. Hyacinthe, who helped organize the 1939 event. He was assisted by Abbé M.G. Gendron, of the Pius X Institute of Quebec, and the Reverend Paul Bazinet, general chaplain of the Service de Préparation au Mariage, the JOC marriage course whose first graduating class included the 105 couples. After the mass a large picnic was held in Parc Notre Dame.

July 23, 1939 started with Holy Communion for the couples in St. James (now Mary Queen of the