

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB



No. 154 Newsletter Vol. 17

Meetings : Nova Scotia Museum, Summer Street, Halifax, N.S.

Next Meeting : Tuesday, November 13th, 1984

NL Mailing Address : 1333 South Park Street, Apt 515, Halifax,
N.S. B3J 2K9

549. Program for the Next Meeting -- Ron Lewis :

The program for the November 13th meeting of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club will have as its main item the club's annual " Christmas Cheer Auction " and members are requested to bring in as many lots as you can donate to this worthwhile cause. All receipts are divided equally between two or more charities as decided upon by the Executive. Before the auction, a " Single Page Stamp Exhibition " will be held and for those who remember, this proved to be a popular item of programming twice last year . The idea calls for each member to bring to the meeting an interesting stamp, cover, or any other piece of philatelic material, mounted on a sheet of paper with a simple write-up pointing out the feature of interest. Some members will have an opportunity to talk for a couple of minutes on their exhibit and then all exhibits will be mounted for display so members can view them easily. Find something of interest in your collection and tell us about it. Remember, the November 13th meeting will consist of the following;

Single Page Stamp Exhibition

Christmas Cheer Auction

550. Executive Meeting -- Notes :

The October meeting of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club Executive was held on Monday, October 15th, with the following items of business being brought forward ;

--- Best in Show Award ; Marilyn Murphy tabled her report on the proposed terms of reference for this matter,. After discussions with previous winners, she suggested the following guidelines be followed;

- a. Not given yearly, only given when entry merits it
- b. Judges will decide who the winner is, if any
- c. Small trophy, certificate or wall plaque instead of tray
- d. President to give out the award

The Executive discussed these points and were in complete agreement with the report and requested Marilyn to officially draw up Terms of Reference. In addition it was decided to call the award the " President's Award " vice the " Best of Show ".

- Cost figures for new frames ; Peter Ineson stated that new frames with plexiglass would cost \$45.00 each while glass would only cost \$25.00 each for 20 frames. After some discussion re the requirements for additional frames and other related points, Peter was asked to find out the price for larger frames holding 16 pages per side like the Royal and RA Clubs have. This type of frame would replace 4 of our present ones. This information will be presented at the next Executive meeting.
- Advertising in Newsletter ; George MacKenzie and Claude Michaud stated that after discussions with some dealers, they felt the following rules in regards to advertising should be initiated ;
 - a. Single page, printed and supplied by the advertiser \$25.00 (one or two sided insert)
 - b. Small advertisement in the Newsletter 5¢ a word, minimum \$2.00, maximum 50 words
 - c. All advertising to be paid for when ad delivered to the editor
 - d. Rates to be reviewed by the Executive whenever postal rates increase.

Ed Note ; Single page insert size is 8½ X 11

- Membership deletions ; The treasurer, Archie Thomas announced that 27 members still had not paid their dues and will be struck off the membership list on October 31st, 1984. The editor announced that he will put a special insert in those member's Newsletters that it will be the last Newsletter they receive if dues aren't paid.
- Catalogue Auction Chairman ; The President is looking for volunteers for this position with the auction being held at our February meeting. Executive members provided names of members they felt would be good for the job but we are still looking for volunteers.
- 1985 Exhibition Chairman ; George MacKenzie announced that Bob Fear has accepted the position of Chairman for the 1985 Exhibition. A turn-over meeting between Bob and George will be held before the end of the month and then Bob will be looking for volunteers to act as Chairpeople for the different positions.

Finally, a stamp exhibition may reveal itself as an aesthetic experience. It is true that the artistic nature of philately has been neglected in the past. However, it is now recognized that the postage stamp is considered a true art object, a potent witness to beauty. It follows, therefore that a collection of such objects should be appealing to look at, bearing in mind that the presentation must enhance the philatelic content of an exhibit, leaving the stamp as the main attraction.

In conclusion, a stamp exhibition should not limit itself to being a display of the collector's expensive rarities or proving to be a hermetic presentation accessible only to the initiated ; it should not be confused with a mere commercial venture designed to profit the bourse dealers. There is but one thing - the stamp; and all attention should be focussed on it. The exhibition must be a meeting ground where collectors may display their work and increase their knowledge, where the public can get acquainted with the many aspects of this fascinating hobby, and where the dealers and philatelists have the opportunity to get better acquainted with each other.

For all people, whether they be stamp collectors or not, a philatelic exhibition is an event not to be missed. When did you last visit one?

552. Easy Reference of Some Executive Members :

For those members who sometimes want to ask a question of the Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Program Director etc, the home phone numbers of some are listed as follows ;

George MacKenzie	Newsletter Editor	422-5514
Ron Lewis	Program Director	423-1780
Bob Vaison	President	422-4828
Archie Thomas	Treasurer	477-4442
Hugh Rathbun	Corresponding Secretary	861-2071
Peter Ineson	Recording Secretary	445-4452

553. Past President's Notes -- Dave Cooper :

Ed's Note ; This was supposed to be in earlier as President's notes but didn't make it until now - however, with Canada's release of stamps depicting railways, I feel it warrants space at this time.

One of the main or the main bond or cement that joined Canada together was the railway. One of the very interesting specialities of collecting Canadian stamps and postal history is that of the railway cancels. Post Card collectors collect trains on stamps, railway stations on stamps etc. Canadian National Railways, Canadian Pacific Railways, The Grand Trunk, The Alberta Railway & Irrigation Co., British Columbia Electric Railway, Canadian Northern Railway, Great

Northern Railway,, Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, the famous Intercolonial Railway, Michigan Railway, Michigan Central Railway, New York Central Railroad, Pere Marquette Railway, Southern Pacific Railway, Timiskaming & Northern Ontario Railroad, White Pass & Yukon Route; all issued private commercial PERFINs in Canada or on Canadian stamps.

I did not actually realize the extent railways were involved until I typed the above list. The railway freight companies and the railway express companies generally utilized postal stationary in advising their customers that goods were on hand for clearance and/or pick-up. The delivery of mail in those days was so excellent that no one had to worry about car demurrage or storage. The main purpose behind the above is that the railways, in their effort to stop losing millions of dollars have had to close down lines, consolidate services such as their servo-centers.

For those collectors of Canadian history, be it stamps, post cards, an era of Canada is rapidly coming to a close and unfortunately we are generally not aware of it. The days of mail trains, and clean comfortable passenger train service in this area has gone to the LRC trains between Ontario and Quebec. The Canadian Transport Commission, on December 14th, 1983, authorized the Canadian National to remove its agency positions from twelve towns in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and forty locations in Newfoundland. The New Brunswick towns are Cape Tormentine, Harcourt, South Devon, Woodstock, Centreville, Petitcodiac, Rogersville, Sussex and Sackville. The Nova Scotia towns are Pugwash, Oxford Junction and Amherst. In addition to the above closures the CTC order provides for the removal of various station buildings in all three provinces associated with the agency removal.

Agency removal means that a competent and responsible representative must be available to handle undeliverable freight, passengers. This could be a local store or other suitable means. The position of Station Manager is no more, as well, there are no longer any freight or express agents. For those collectors of postal history, why not photograph a NOW picture to go with your old postcard. My maternal grandfather rode the train between Black Rock, New York, and Toronto for years on the T.H.& B. and I for one feel a fine chapter in our history is closing.

554. Questions & Answers -- Phil-A-Telic :

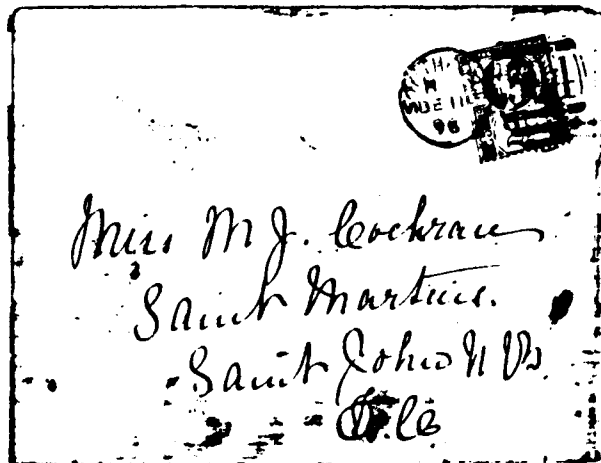
This month, Phil-A-Telic would like to pursue an issue not raised in any recent letters. Simply, it is the question of the new numbering system used in the " Lyman's Standard Catalogue of Canada - BNA Postage Stamps "--39th Edition. Considerable controversy has been raised about Canada having its own numbering system which would be something other than Scott's system. Scotts have been issuing catalogues and price lists since 1863. An example of the new numbering system would be to change the Bluenose 50¢ from 158 to 141 and the Grand-Pre 50¢ from 176 to 159.

Without saying anything further, so as not to prejudice your opinion, Phil would like to hear from members of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club. Do you favor Canada having its own numbering system?

What are the advantages? - What are the disadvantages? Your comments and opinions will be published in future issues of the Newsletter (name withheld if requested) Lets share with each other our feelings in this important issue. Write Phil-A-Telic, 5890 Pine Hill Cres., Halifax, N.S. B3H 1E5.

Ed's Note ; Keep the questions coming, give Phil something to do so he won't feel unimportant.

555. Cover of the Month -- Dave Cooper :



This cover shows the proper payment of the Colonial rate of 2½d per ½oz for Canada, Newfoundland, Malta, Gibraltar, Cyprus and Heligoland. The stamp is the 2½d purple on blue paper of the Jubilee set and is from Southport on Dec 11/96 and is the duplex cancel of Southport showing the number assigned to Southport, ie 594.

There are several backstamps ; one St Martin's NB DE 22 96, St Martins is slightly east of the Saint John airport, one English backstamp of Ainsdale B De 11 96 and a Saint John NB receiving stamp PM DE 21 96.

556. Grading Descriptions -- Saskatoon Stamp Centre :

Ed note ; One of the Executive gave me an ad from the Saskatoon Stamp Centre, run by a John Jamieson and one it was printed their grading descriptions - thought you might be interested.

GOOD (G) Perfs cut or touch the design

VERY GOOD (VG) perfs at least clear the design

FINE (F) Perfs well clear of design

VERY FINE (VF) Better than fine ; well centered (but we do not expect mathematical centering) ; if used, reasonably cancelled

EXTREMELY FINE (XF Or EF) An extremely well centered stamp, fresh as the day it was printed and free of any detracting flaws (whether natural occurances or not) A stamp that would rate SUPERB to almost any collector or dealer. A finer example may exist .. but we doubt it.

SUPERB Perfection - absolutely perfect in all respects. Perfectly centered, fresh original colour, an exceptional and unimprovable stamp. The finest that exists. We seldom use "SUPERB" for a perforated stamp (where personal subjective evaluation of the relative perf lengths, etc., may vary). We do use the term occasionally for Imperforate Issues and proofs where Perforation variations do not pose a problem.

MINT, ORIGINAL GUM , with or without hinge

UNUSED Not cancelled ; may have some original gum (OG) or no gum (NG)

NH Never hinged

LH Lightly hinged

557. Membership :

The following has been accepted for membership in the Nova Scotia Stamp Club ;

800 Theresa Irene MacDonald

The following applications for membership have been received ;

Reginald Cote, Lower Sackville, N.S. Reginald collects Bermuda, British and Canadian from 1967 and up, also Canadian First Day Covers.

J. Rod Glover, Armdale, N.S. Rod's main collecting interest is the UK.

Anna E. Morris, Halifax, N .S. Anna's main collecting interest is Canada

ADVERTISING

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