

No. 198

Newsletter

Vol. 24 No.11

Meetings: Second Tuesday of the month at the Nova Scotia Museum,

Summer Street, Halifax, N.S. at 8 p.m.

No meetings July or August.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 9, 1989.

Newsletter Mailing Address: 831 Tower Road, Halifax, N.S. B3H 2Y1

COMMENT: It was a good show, wasn't it? Lots of participation from the club members, some great exhibits, new people, much enthusiasm from the Juniors, wonderful story telling at the banquet, all in all John Hall and his Novapex '89 mittee deserve a great deal of credit and our deepest gratitude for a job 1 done. More about Novapex '89 in this newsletter.

Had a very quick trip to Ottawa last week, but did have a chance to see parts of the new National Gallery of Art. Nova Scotia's painted room has a prominent location, one walks through it to get the full effect. An amazing feeling to be standing within the glassed great hall which echoes the Parliamentary Library and to be gazing out at the landscaping which embodies the effects of the Group of Seven. A quick visit to the National Postal Museum, which could not help me solve a problem, but I would love to get back to have a go at their Philatelic Library. However, their booklet points out that material is available through inter-library loan service. Address: 365 Laurier West/Ouest OTTAWA, Ont.

K1A ON3

<u>PROGRAMME NOTES</u>: The May 9, 1989 meeting will feature a slide presentation on Novapex 89.

 $\frac{\text{APRIL}}{\text{rise}}$ $\frac{11}{\text{observe}}$ At the opening of the meeting, Club Members were asked to rise and observe one minute of silence in memory of Eric Tizard, a valued member, who passed away the previous week.

rge MacKenzie provided the evening programme, Part 111 of Aircraft of Canada's Military on Stamps. In appreciation, Doug Allen presented George with a personal gift, a tetrahedron from those early days of experiment by Alexander Graham Bell on the Lakes of Bras d'Or, at Baddeck. Things have come a long way in the world of aviation, as George has so ably illustrated.

PHIL-A-TELIC:

At the time of writing this column we have been the recipients of more rainy days than sunny ones, and the old cliche "It never rains but it pours" seems to fit the mood especially for this column this month. Phil has received two, (not one but two) really good questions from members, and although I am tempted to put one in this month and save the other one for next month, it would not be fair to the members who took the time to write Phil.

Question 1: I have a France Scott #44, $20 \, \text{¢}$, which should be blue on bluish paper, however, mine looks bistre brown and is perf 12 rather than imperf. The $10 \, \text{¢}$ in the series is bistre. Is the stamp likely to be a changeling or perhaps a cliche of the $20 \, \text{¢}$ in a sheet of 10 stamps? And the mystery is the perf 12. Scott acknowledges an unofficial perf 14 but no perf 12. HELP!

Question 2: Could you please tell me where or how any information on this stamp overprint of Scott #78 can be found? It is the 3¢ Queen Victoria stamp but I can't find it in any catalogue. Enclosed is a 35mm picture of it.

Phil has an answer for Question 2. My specialists on the spot gave me this



reply: This is a forgery, there never was an overprint with a written out two, just the numeral. This Looks like a rubber stamp overprint but could be of another type of marker. This could be classed as an error, freak or oddity, (remember my EFO's). Maybe our error specialist would be interested in this, if so contact Phil and I'll tell you who has it.

These are the types of questions that Phil loves to receive, ones that some members may have the answer to and can provide the information to not only the member sending the question but to the rest of us. Keep those cards and letters coming please....PHIL-A-TELIC,

1333 South Park St., Apt. 515, Halifax, N.S. B3J 2K9

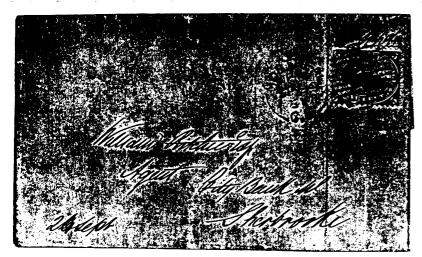
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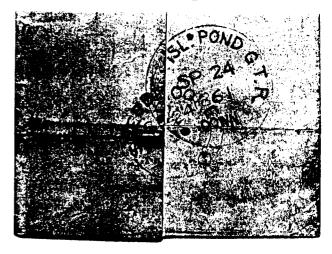
Dave Harvey pointed out an article in the Financial Post, Friday, March 24, 1989, Rejuvenated Penny Mine Firm Issuing Shares To Buy Arabian Stamps. The item, by Dan Westell, reports that Wall Street Ventures Inc. of Vancouver proposes to issue millions of pieces of paper - in the form of share certificates valued at \$38.6 million (U.S.) - for millions of pieces of paper - in the form of postage stamps. This is a rejuvenated company of junior resources that traded at about 50¢ (Canadian) in December, before a reverse takeover put it into the hands of a recently formed private company called Congor Minerals Inc. set up to market and popularize stamps, particularly from Arabia. The shares are to be exchanged for two large collections of "South and Southeastern Arabian" stamps. The company said these stamps are worth \$386 million (U.S.) on the basis of assessments is a stamp catalogue put out by an organization called Minkus. Dick Sine, of the Scott catalogue says that they do not list any of the stamps. "We question their legitimacy." While they may look, smell and taste like stamps, "they just don't quack." These are known as "sand dunes" because they were produced for

former British protectorates in Southern Arabia, which subsequently became the 'ted Arab Emirates.

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A COVER FOR THE COLLECTOR OF R.P.O's OR TRANSPORTATION POSTMARKS:





This cover was posted in Montreal using a MONTREAL C.E. (Canada East) split ring cancel, dated P.M. SP. 24 61 to Sherbrooke via rail. Backstamped MONT.& ISLd. POND G.T.R., dated SP 24. 1861 DOWN., enclosed in a large 32 mm single circle cancel, also a Sherbrooke L.C. cancel using a double split ring dated above. Ludlow #88. (Ed. note - The cover has been reduced in size, the kstamp is actual size, and I traced over some of the letters for a clearer impression, the photocopy has a dark background unfortunately).

DID YOU KNOW?

In a past newsletter the spelling of Cornelius Krieghoff was mentioned. The 8¢ stamp features one of his best known works, The Blacksmith's Shop...... but DID YOU KNOW that the date 1815 is incorrect, it should read 1812 - 1872. A little more trivia - the picture portion of the stamp was printed by Saults and Pollard of Winnipeg, a printing company owned by Canada Bank Note Company. The Canada 8¢ was done in Ottawa by the British American Bank Note Company.

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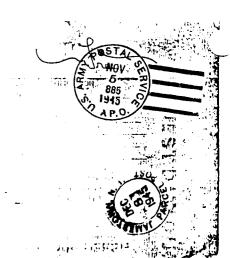
PENPAL

A request from a Russian collector, llchyshyn Roman, Soviet Constitution St, 20/36 Lvov-71, 290071, USSR. There are technical rules for stamp exchange, if you are interested ask the editor for a copy of his letter, which includes the exchange address in Kiev.

SOVIET CONGRESS: Doug Casey gave me an article from Linn's, April 10, 1989, in which it is reported that stamp collectors have a place of their own in the new Soviet Congress of People's Deputies. On March 20 the Soviet Society of Philatelists elected its current president, Gen. Viktor Gorbatko, as a delegate. ormer astronaut, he appears on a Soviet stamp commemorating Soyuz 24, issued in 1977. One of his priorities is to sort out the bureaucratic maze that Soviet collectors must go through to swap stamps with foreign enthusiasts.

U.S. MILITARY COVER,
Dave Cooper

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(Cover reduced from 9½x4 inch original). Dave writes that this is a Free cover from the Second World War. The correspondence within confirms that this letter was mailed from Delhi, India, while the corner address shows the indication as APO 885, c/o PM NY NY. Of even more interest is the fact that Capt. Jones had just received his promotion to Major in the U.S. Army and was responsible for the disposal of surplus U.S. Air Force equipment that had been used to fly over the Hump. The correspondent, Stan Jones enclosed his promotion order for his Uncle Jack who had been a sergeant in the Spanish American War, as well as a map of his trip to Assam and Burma, "an experience I'll never forget", "rugged and then some". He advises a brother to apply for a job with the Army and Navy Liquidation Commission, to hold out for \$5000 a year plus \$8 a day and to sign only a six-month contract. To quote Dave, "Just a little indication of what you can find when you either turn over the card or read the enclosures."

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BORNISH

For those of you familiar with Carl Munden's quest for Bornish, and those of you who may be dubious about its existence, or perhaps under the impression that it, like Brigadoon, appears only once in a hundred years, Carl has further proof of that community. Situated on top of River Denys Mountain, the church built in 1841 is the only structure still standing from that thriving farm community. However, each March for the last ten years, a church service has been held at St. Margaret of Scotland, Bornish, attended by snowmobilers and skiiers, a congregation of approximately 100. Father John Angus Rankin of Glendale conducts the service wearing a surplice over his snowmobile suit, for there is no heat in the building. A second service is held in August and that is conducted in Gaelic, as a tribute to those early settlers. Now all Carl has to do is find the remains of that Post Office.

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MISSING SIGN:

Bill Burden is missing his MAC'S STAMPS sign. It disappeared at the 1988 Novapex at the Lord Nelson. Any information could be directed to Mr. Burden.

MEMBERSHIP: Granted to #872 Peter B. Bowen

_plication received: Joan Harris, 290 Main Ave., Apt. 905, Halifax, B3M 3V3
Collecting interest: General

Stephen St. Martin, P.O. Box 185, Cherryfield, Me. 04622-0185 USA. Dealer and collector

Richard E. Bedford, P.O. Box 776, Lewiston, Me. 04240 Philatelist and deltiologist

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LIGHTHOUSE donated a number of substantial prizes to Novapex '89. They are currently offering Elephant Stockbooks, ROM model for \$19.95 plus \$2 postage and handling, the previous price was \$54. Maria Botman, 210 Ave. Victoria Ave., Westmount, Montreal, Que. H3Z 2M4

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LET'S COLLECT STAMPS, The Sunday Times Magazine, courtesy Rod Glover. (Exerpts from a five-part series which began January 15, 1989).

Week One: The giveaway - a First Day Cover for the set of four bird stamps. All you need to do is buy the stamps and post it, January 17 in a First Day of Issue Box. The first article, entitled "An Escape Into Ecstasy", goes on to say that you don't have to be mad to collect but that it probably helps. It is both a drug and a therapy, neither 'agist' nor 'classist', young and old, rich and 'so-rich can and do get hooked. There are 4 million collectors in Britain, howest of whom gave it up for twenty years, and then made an impassioned return in the middle years. The first British collector was the woman who put an advert in The Times in 1841 for used Penny Blacks - to wallpaper her dressing room. In 1854, Stanley Gibbons, then 14, used a bit of counter in his father's shop to buy and trade. In 1863 he bought a bag full of Cape Triangulars for £5, sorted them into lots which he sold for £500. Eleven years later he produced 'Stamps of the World', and in 1874 moved to London to set up shop.

In Britain the top ten themes are in order, Music, Flowers, Animals, Chess, Art, Boy Scouts, Heraldry and Uniform, Medicine and Birds. The writer says that a psychiatrist friend started by collecting stamps showing lunatic asylums. The writer now collects Penny Blacks, not the plating or original gum but the letters. He says that most Penny Blacks are still dead cheap, but a few months ago one sold at Phillips in London for £65,000. The writer referred to is Hunter Davies, the author of 'The Joy of Stamps', published by Robson Books, L6.95.

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POSTAL HISTORY NOTES, APS Journal. Censor mark: A cachet impressed upon an item of mail, either civilian or military, during periods of war or civil unrest, to denote that its contents have been passed by an official censor.

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