

# NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB



No. 203

Newsletter

Vol. 25 #4

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, December 12, 1989.

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

\*\*\*\*\*



## Holiday Greetings

A brief dusting of snow makes it believable - Christmas is fast approaching - and to all we extend wishes for peace and happiness. The college football season has finished for another year, the leaves have been raked and preparations are being made for the "Holiday Concert" at the elementary school down the block. We had a picnic at Terence Bay a few days ago - cold and clear-- near the cairn built in memory of the hundreds of people lost in the shipwreck of the S.S. Atlantis around 1870, there must be a philatelic aspect to that story. Many club members attended the launch November 10 at the Maritime Museum, and a gala affair it was, held in the main part of the Museum amid the small boats and Queen Victoria's Barge. A naval band played on the upper level, World War II period uniforms were worn by members of the present day service, speeches made by representatives of Canada Post, the Navy and the Museum, and a video interpretation of Canada by Canada Post - all contributed to this special occasion, one of three for this particular issue. Canada Post was on hand to sell first day covers, the long lines indicated a great interest from those attending. And yes, the food was sumptuous, smoked salmon, open-faced sandwiches, pate, cheese, tarts, truffles and florentines accompanied by a glass of wine.

\*\*\*\*\*

CONVOY COVERS : Contrary to Perforations article there are Convoy Covers available. These covers produced by John Hurst in conjunction with the Navy League of Canada, Nova Scotia Mainland Division, will be available to Club members from the Treasurer, John Harvey, at the December 12 meeting. They are \$5 each, and remember that a portion of the profits will go to the Club.

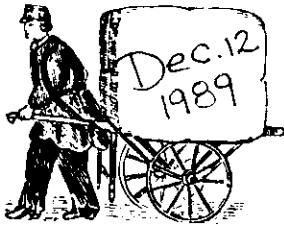
\*\*\*\*\*

NOVEMBER 14 MEETING: The President read a letter from the Novapex '90 Chairman, George LaFontaine. He will give a presentation at the January meeting

but reminds members that it is never too early to start preparing your exhibit. The rules and application will be sent out in the newsletter, and there will be three major categories, competitive, non-competitive and one-frame. He still needs a Programme/Adverting Chairman, and a Banquet Chairman. If you are able to look after either of these as an individual or a group, please call George 864-1824.

The programme part of the evening was devoted to a discussion concerning the possibility of the Club hosting the BNAPS '93 convention. Concern about the costs involved dominated the debate. A letter will be sent to Dr. J.J. MacDonald expressing these concerns, and a decision will be made upon receipt of his clarifications.

\*\*\*\*\*



#### DECEMBER 12 PROGRAMME:

Programme Chairman, Stan Dunfield announces a one-page exhibit. Bring in a one-page item, a group of stamps, one single stamp, a cover, or covers, perhaps an item that could never be turned into a show exhibit but is of interest. If you would like to give a little talk about your page, you are welcome to do so. If not,

that is OK. The pages will be put up on the large announcement board at the front of the meeting theatre. If you do not want a thumbtack through your page, please provide it with a clear plastic covering that can be tacked or taped, a good idea to bring some tape with you.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### GIANT AUCTION:

Tuesday, February 13, 1990. Your Chairman is Phil Melanson, and he will receive lots at the December and January meetings. The limit is 15 lots per person, and when you submit these lots you are asked to describe them as well as you can. Assistants will be required that evening in order to make the auction run as smoothly and as quickly as possible.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### EDWARD STANLEY GIBBONS

Edward Stanley Gibbons was a pioneer in the fantastic world of stamp dealers. In 1856, at the age of 16, he launched his amazing career as a stamp dealer in a corner of his father's pharmacy in Plymouth, England. Eighteen years later (1874) he left the pharmacy business, already a well-known stamp dealer, and moved his shop to London. Today, Stanley Gibbons Limited is one of the largest stamp organizations in the world with a listing on the British Stock Exchange.

If you were to ask what made John Walter Scott and Stanley Gibbons stamp collecting pioneers, one could say that to these two young men, each and every stamp had a soul. They treated their stamps with love, respect and appreciation. They were serious researchers. Their customers were important people, not only because they supported the embryo business, but also because they were part of the vista that continues to bring endless pleasure to millions of people the world over.

(Continued from the article submitted by Alice Moore, acknowledgements p. 5 November 14, 1989 Newsletter).

REGISTRATION: Cliff Abram

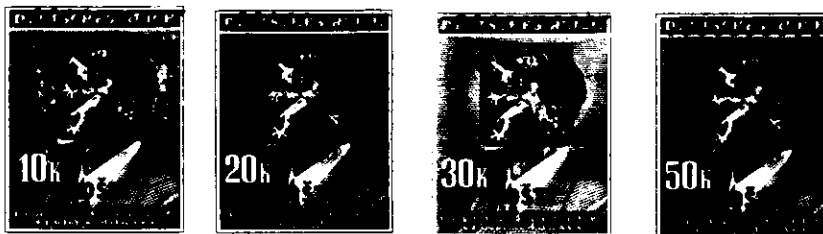
The Registration Service is merely an "arrangement" by which, in return for a modest fee, the Post Office undertakes to take special care of an article. The plan that every letter or article is signed for in passing from hand to hand affords almost absolute security of transmission (bar acts of God and Kings'/Queens' enemies) and forms the safest means of conveyance known. The Post Office does not entertain any claim, however, when a registered or insured article is delivered in the state in which it was originally posted. The Post Office cannot ascertain what are the contents of a sealed article, and there can be no absolute guarantee that the sender's statement of the contents is correct. Legally the Post Office is only responsible for compensation where the entire registered packet is lost. Probably the most intrinsically valuable single article ever entrusted to the Post was the "Cullinan" diamond, dispatched by registered Post from South Africa to London, on which the ordinary postage and a registration fee of 4d. was paid. Had the diamond been lost, compensation to the extent of L2 only would have been paid by the Post Office. Doubtless its value was covered to some extent through insurance brokers and companies.

\*\*\*\*\*

PHIL-A-TELIC:

Phil has received a challenge and as is Phil's mode of operation he passes it on to you the members. I received a letter the other day and was told by its sender at the Truro show that he had another good query but only if I provided an answer to this one will he submit the second one. So here is a chance to do your part for Phil and the Club.

Dear Phil: I don't give up very often when it comes to finding the catalogue info on a stamp. I must admit the enclosed "group" of four has gotten the better of me. They came in one of those "famous Coburg Road box lots" about 18 months ago, and I have had them ever since. They have claimed a position on my desk and every so often when my desk is clear (which, by the way, is not very often) I again attempt to locate their origin without success. Help. Please provide any information which will solve my problem.



In case the photocopy doesn't come out well, Phil provides the following info - black overprint at top covers the words Deutsches Reich, can't tell what black Posta Cechoslovenska at bottom covers, colours of stamps are as follows:- 10K green, 20K purple, 30K red, 50K blue.

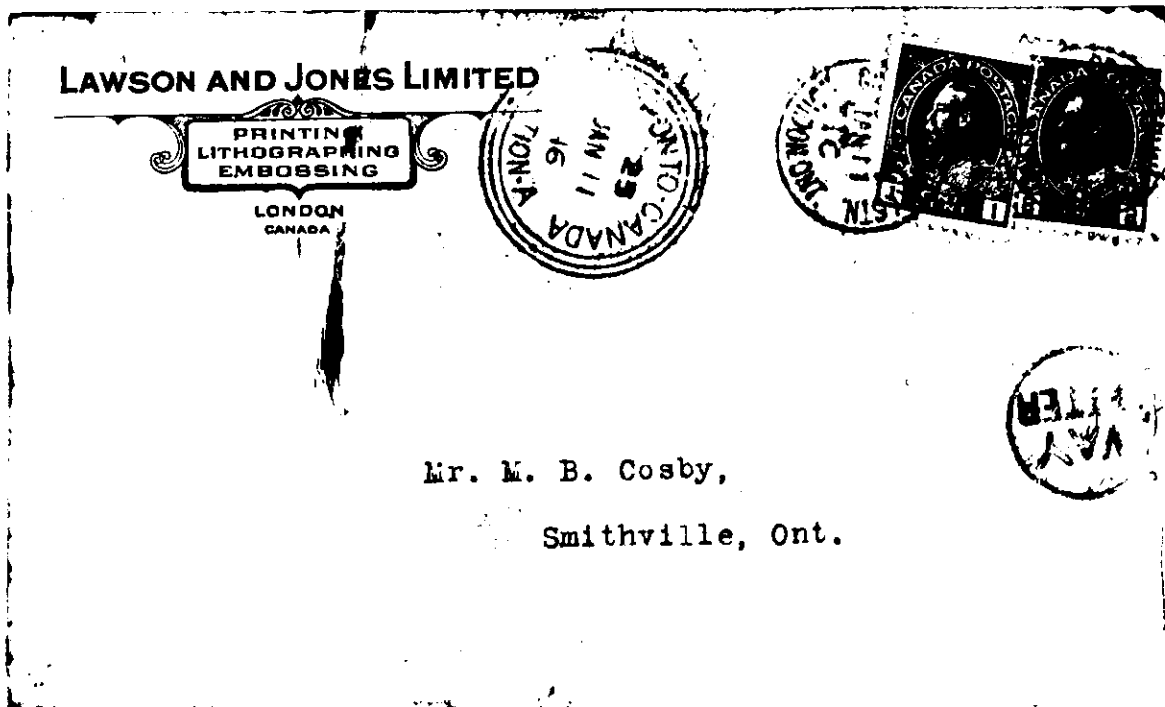
\*\*\*\*\*

Phil's address: 1333 South Park Street, Apt. 515, Halifax, N.S. B3J 2K9

ADMIRALS ON COVER:

A Railway Way Letter: Depot cancellations are postmarks emanating from railway stations administered by the Railway Mail Service. These offices operated for only a portion of each day; they were not regular post offices and provided no registration or money order service.

This cover is cancelled GRAND TRUNK RY. STN. LONDON. ONT. PM JAN 11 16, also marked WAY LETTER enclosed in a circle. On arrival in Toronto it came under the control of the Postmaster General and was postmarked TORONTO.CANADA.STATION-A. 23 JAN 11 16 enclosed in a triple ring hammer. Thence to Smithville where it was backstamped SMITHVILLE ONT. JAN 12 16.



\*\*\*\*\*

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO: from the American Philatelist, August 1989.

From "The Canadian Convention" by W.C. Stone.

Your representative left Boston, Monday, July 29, on the steamer New Brunswick, in company with W.H. Goodrich, of the Eastern Philatelist. After a very rough and foggy passage, we arrived at Annapolis Royal, about an hour late, on Tuesday. From Annapolis (Port Royal of colonial times) we proceeded by the Windsor and Annapolis Railroad to Halifax, 130 miles distant. The road runs through a very pretty country, and passes very near the site of the old Acadian town of Grand Pre, where Evangeline lived. We reached Halifax at ten minutes past twenty. At the station to meet us were W.L. Emory, who had come by direct boat a day or so before, and several members of the N.S.P.S. The Convention opened Wednesday morning, at the Y.M.C.A. building, with President Henry Hechler in the chair.....(He) addressed the Convention as follows

Ladies and gentlemen, in calling this, the Second Annual Convention of the Canadian Philatelic Association to its deliberations, I cannot refrain from expressing the gratification felt by the Nova Scotia branch at having the opportunity to greet so many members of our Association from the sister provinces. We also gladly welcome our friends from beyond

the borders of the Dominion. Though they are foreigners to us in their national allegiance, we meet them here on - I will not say neutral - but on common ground as philatelists. As such, we extend them a most hearty, cordial and brotherly greeting.....

The Convention voted that the ruling of the Executive Committee, published in the March 1889 Halifax Philatelist, by which only one member was allowed in each foreign country, be declared null and void, as it was in direct violation of the Constitution. The ballot for the place of the next Convention resulted in forty-seven votes for Montreal and three for Niagara Falls, the time being left to the Executive Board.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved: That this Association expresses its emphatic disapproval of such postal contracts as have been lately entered into by certain Central American States, and urges its members to do all they can to discourage the collection of such issues of stamps, etc.

\*\*\*\*\*

ROYALE \* 1991 \* ROYAL:

Cliff Abram forwarded an article from the Montreal Gazette, Sunday, Sept. 11, 1989, by Bill Brownstein.

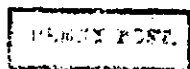
The problem with philately is that people assume "it's an indictable offence - not some sedentary hobby," says Ray Ireson, President of the Lakeshore Stamp Club which is hosting the Royal in 1991. He began collecting as a child in Lancashire, England, but took up the hobby in earnest while working for the Royal Bank of Canada in Colombia. "The real beauty of stamp-collecting is that you can learn alot about a country by its stamps. And Colombia proved to be a hotbed - there are so many different kinds of stamps there. Some of them are the rarest and most expensive in the world, too," he says, pointing out a replica of a rare 1920 stamp worth more than \$11,000. He has serious traditional collections of Colombia, Jamaica, Bahamas and Britain, and thematic collections centred on Caribbean marine life, the Panama Canal and the history of stamps.

Cliff adds that he is a man with a delightful sense of humour and should do a marvelous job hosting the Royal.

\*\*\*\*\*

LET'S COLLECT STAMPS: cont'd from London Sunday Times, courtesy Rod Glover.

The Hobby of Kings and Queens: The undoubted strength of the Royal Collection built up by King George V is its completeness. It contains virtually all of the British Commonwealth stamps, from the penny stamp which can be bought at the local post office, to the greatest rarities such as the 1847 1d. and 2d. Mauritius which are almost beyond price.



*Dr. J. J. J. J. J.*

George V was an enthusiastic and astute collector. He recognized rarity and made every effort to obtain the rarest stamps at the first opportunity. His flair as a collector was amply borne out by the fact that as early as 1904 he had acquired both the aforementioned Mauritius stamps. He would often recount the 2d.'s background and somewhat romantic history, as it had been found in a Hampstead schoolboy's collection, and when put up for auction it fetched L1450. The King took great delight in telling how a member of his household asked who the unmentionable fool was who had paid L1450 for a little piece of paper. "I was," the King would laugh.

One unique item in the collection is the Edward VII 2d. Tyrian plum stamp on envelope, addressed to the Prince of Wales and delivered May 6, 1910, the very day he became King, also the anniversary of the Penny Black.

George V was very interested in stamp design. The designs were returned to him from the printer for inclusion in the collection. He also began the fashion for collecting unused blocks of four. After his death in 1936, the collection was continued by George VI and, today, by the Queen.

The above information comes from John Marriott, keeper of the Royal Collection since 1969.

\* \* \* \*

For those of you who are doing the London trip, a selected portion of this collection will be on display at the Alexandra Palace for STAMP WORLD LONDON 90. The Queen is patron of the Royal Philatelic Society.

\*\*\*\*\*

PENPAL: Alejandro M. Murray, Casilla 328, Antofagasta, Chile.  
Letter is in Spanish, though he says: "Puede escribir en Ingles-Frances o Espanol."  
Letter can be had from editor.

\*\*\*\*\*

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN: If you can offer your services speak with George MacKenzie.

\*\*\*\*\*

PAMPHLET: The National Archives of Canada has produced a pamphlet on the 1949 stamp issued to mark Newfoundland's entry into Confederation - the 4¢ green picturing John Cabot's ship the Matthew. Write to the Canadian Postal Archives, 365 Laurier Ave. W., Ottawa.

An aside -- Joey Smallwood was born on Christmas Day, 1900.

\*\*\*\*\*

ADVERTISEMENT: HOUSE OF STAMPS

STAMPS BOUGHT AND SOLD. PAYING TOP DOLLAR. SELLING AT AFFORDABLE PRICES.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR STAMP CLUB MEMBERS.

PHONE 423-1780