

THE NOVA SCOTIA POST

The Monthly Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

January 2025
Volume 54, Issue 536

UP AND COMING

NS Stamp Club - January 14, 2025
Presenter: Marty Zelenietz
Auction

Moncton Stamp Fair - January 11
10 - 3pm, 100 War Veterans Ave,
Moncton, NB

The Fundy Stamp Club will hold a Silent
Auction which will run from 10 a.m. to 1
p.m. and a Live Auction at 1:30 p.m.

South Shore Stamp Club - January 25
New Life Christian Church, Elm St.
Bridgewater, NS
Presenter: Jeff Parks "Vimy Ridge"

National level shows; part of the World
Series of Philately, and the last chances to
qualify for the annual APS (WSP) Show in
2025 (APS Exhibit entry due May 5).

2025 Edmonton Spring National Show
March 29-30
Central Lions Recreation Centre

Royal*2025*Royale / FILEX April 25-26
Fédération québécoise de Philatélie
See details on Page 4

ORAPEX 2025 - May 3-4
Nepean Sportsplex, Ottawa, ON

Check out the status of other events at
www.rpsc.org/shows.php or
www.csdaonline.com/shows

Member dues are now payable. It is in-
cumbent on each member to ensure that
your dues are up to date.

If you are unsure if you have paid please
contact membership at:

webnews@nsstampclub.ca

POSTAGE DUE IN PANAMA: A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY - PART 1 by Keith MacKay

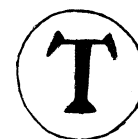
The cover in *Figure 1* came to me via an on-line auction in Tokyo and took me on a wonderful adventure summarized here. The first thing that caught my attention was the Truro N.S. cancellation dated June 20, 1918. That was due to my current interest in the history of the International Postal Supply Company's rapid cancelling machines in Nova Scotia. Truro was one of only seven Nova Scotia offices (Amherst, Glace Bay, Halifax, New Glasgow, Sydney, Truro and Yarmouth) that had International machines. They were in use for a limited time - in Truro's case, the earliest known was in March 1907 and the latest in November 1918.



Figure 1

The next thing was the franking: a combination of a Canadian War Tax stamp and Panamanian

postage due stamps. Within a day of their introduction on April 15, 1915, Canada's War Tax stamps became usable interchangeably with ordinary postage stamps for the payment of postage and the so-called 'War Tax'. For all practical purposes, the 2+1-cent Tax stamp simply paid 3 cents for postal service. But the Canadian one-ounce letter rate to Panama (a non-British UPU member) in 1918 was 5 cents. So, the Panama Postal Agency appropriately noted a 2-cent deficiency, applied a tax mark (*Figure 2*), and affixed a pair of 2-centesimo postage due stamps cancelled July 16, 1918 AM.



The tax mark is hidden by the right-hand PD stamp and was revealed by *Figure 2* 'lamping' the stamp, tracing a photo of the exposed 'T' mark on a light table, and then reducing it to its actual 30 mm diameter to produce the image in *Figure 2*.

That all seemed pretty straightforward. However, backstamps (*Figure 3*) indicated that the cover had been forwarded to Cristobal (the Atlantic terminus of the Panama Canal), so the cover beckoned onward.



Figure 3

The SS *Santa Luisa* was owned by the Grace Steamship Company ("the Grace Line", or just "Grace"). The Grace Line operated a mixed passenger/cargo steamship service between New York

UNDELIVERABLE TO SIBERIA, USSR, 1938

by Gary Steele

INSPECTION DIVISION
DEAD LETTER OFFICE

FE 1

39

+OTTAWA - CANADA+

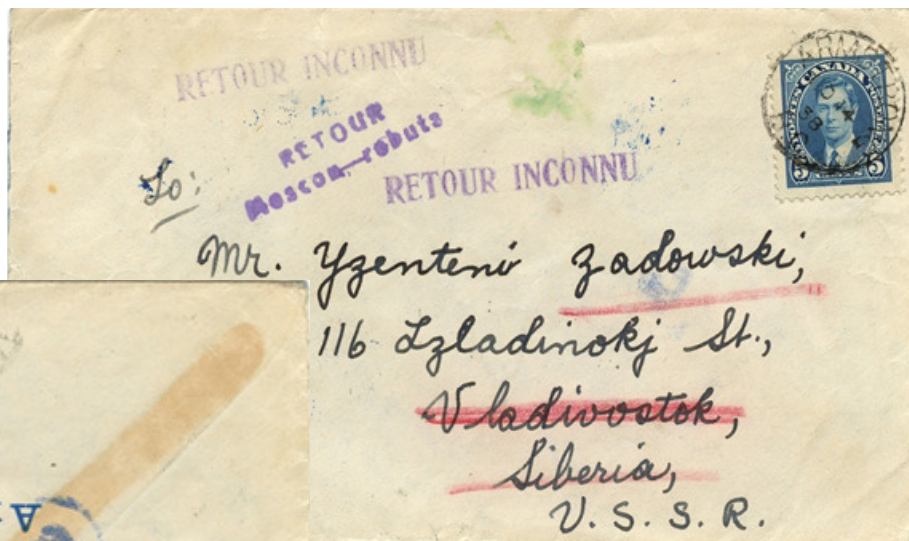
28mm diameter, sans-serif, all caps,
proofed FE 24 1937
Steel circle handstamp

Proof



Moscow Backstamp

Mailed from Armstrong, BC NOV 14 1938 to Vladivostok, Siberia, USSR receiver 2 12 38. This is another long sought-after destination of the 1937-1938 issue - Russia. One might expect that mail was suspended to Russia during the Second World



War, but this was not the case. The pre-war 5 cent surface mail franking was for a weight of up to one ounce.

I have discussed over the years various types of similar Dead Letter Office handstamps. These types were used with known reports from 1921 to 1947; however, this particular version is

known to have been used from March 1, 1937 to November 30, 1947.

This style has the **I** in **INSPECTION** that is lined up with the **D** in **DEAD**.

A fair number of these DLO handstamps exist but being mailed to foreign destinations makes them particularly interesting.

This cover did reach Moscow on Dec 2, 1938, was marked **RETOUR INCONNU**, and **RETOUR / MOSCOW-REBUTS** (RETURN MOSCOW – REJECTS) finally arriving back in Montreal on Jan 28 1939. It was then forwarded to the **INSPECTION DIVISION DLO** in Ottawa on Feb 1, 1939 where it was placed in a Dead Letter Return envelope and returned to the sender.

it took two months to get back to Canada, the question remains whether it was forwarded via the Trans-Siberian Railway to Siberia and returned undelivered. No additional markings support this thought.

The Nova Scotia Post

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Jane Sodero - Editor
Jeff Parks - Graphic Design

<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>
webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Nova Scotia Stamp Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on every second Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at the Nova Scotia Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S. The club publishes a monthly newsletter (except summer) released in the first week of the month.

E-Membership is C\$10 per person or C\$15.00 per couple.

Print Membership is C\$15 and C\$22.50
Foreign mailings available at a premium.

Send membership applications to...
NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks
102 Birch Bear Run,
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL - 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

by Michael Peach

For almost thirty years Haligonians have seen a man in the three-piece suit with a bow tie striding in front of the old public library on Spring Garden Road. The man is Winston Churchill and the Royal Mail issued a set of eight stamps honouring him on the 150th anniversary of his birth. The statue had been erected on the initiative of Leonard A. Kitz Q.C., the first Jewish mayor of Halifax. Churchill was Prime Minister of Great Britain during the war from 1940 to July 1945 and later from 1951 to 1954. The war had ended on May 7, 1945 and VE Day declared on May 8, 1945.



Churchill was born on November 30, 1874 at his ancestral home Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire, England. He was the son of Lord Randolph Churchill and the American socialite Jeanette Jerome; hence he could have claimed to be either British or American, but was effectively British. He died on January 24, 1965.

Royal Mail issued a series of eight stamps on November 30, 2024 to mark the 150th anniversary of his birth. The stamps have a currently novel British design showing pictures of Churchill at a specific time in his life arranged more or less chronologically and starting with the lowest value, second class currently 86p, first class £1.65, £1.00 to the highest, £2.00. together with an appropriate quotation. The two second class stamps show him as a Hussar in 1895 and as a civilian in 1899. Two first class stamps along with a £1.00 and a £2.00 stamp show Churchill after he became Prime Minister in May 1940 during the war time. On these stamps he is depicted with Vice Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay on August 28, 1940; giving the famous "V for Victory" sign outside 10 Downing Street in June 1943; with his wife Clementine in January 1941 and working on a train in June 1941. The final two stamps (£1.00 and £2.00 stamps) show his post-war life – relaxing and painting in Florida in 1946 and in later life. There are no stamps commemorating his somewhat controversial life from 1900 to 1939.

**VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS - JANUARY 2025** Compiled by Ann Miller

You can register for the event via the host's website. Most of the groups listed have past presentations available to view through their websites, or YouTube. Times listed for the ATLANTIC (ADT) zone.

American Topical Association (ATA):

Jan. 11, 5 p.m., Jennifer Miller,
"Introduction to stamp collecting - topical style!"

Jan. 14, 8 p.m., David Ball,
"Public auctions and the topical collector".

Jan. 25th, 5 p.m., Jean Wang,
"Social philately, a window to the past".

Feb. 4th, 8 p.m., Alan Barasch, "The story of bread".

British Empire Study Group (BESG):

Jan. 9, 7 p.m., Adrians Pearson
"Crimean War Through Postal History, Part 2"

North Toronto Stamp Club:

Jan. 18, 8 p.m., Rick Barrett
"My America Grandpa was a Postmaster in...Ontario"

Postal History Society of Canada (RPSC):

Jan. 21, 7 p.m., Gray Scrimgeour and Ian Kimmerly
"Cable Repair in the Pacific, 1937-1942"

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC):

Jan. 13, 8 p.m., Stamp Talks, Christopher McFetridge,
"Collecting modern issues and modern Canada".

Jan. 20, 8 p.m., Stamp Panels, Gregg Redner, Steve Johnson,
John Wilson, "Through the eyes of a philatelic judge".

Royal Philatelic Society of London (RPSL):

Jan. 7, 11 a.m., Sandeep Jaiswal
"Some of my Favourite Indian States – Part 2"

West Toronto Stamp Club:

Jan. 7, 8 p.m., Learning Workshop, "Everything and anything philatelic that starts with the letter 'I'".

Jan. 21, 8 p.m., Discussion Group, "Unusual and/or interesting postal rates" (to anywhere, from anywhere, any time period).

POSTAGE DUE IN PANAMA CONTINUED...

and the West coast of South America and one of its ships was among the first commercial vessels to transit the Canal in 1914. Built in 1918, the *Santa Luisa* was one of five new vessels Grace commissioned for that service.

In light of Grace's long-standing presence in the area, Panamanian postal authorities undoubtedly would have known that it had offices in the port of Cristobal, so later that day they backstamped the cover July 16, 1918 PM and sent it on accordingly. The Cristobal, C.Z. cancel indicates that it was received there the next day, July 17. The magenta straight-line date was most likely applied in the office of the recipient, indicating that the cover was delivered later that same day.

So far, so good, but that still didn't tell the whole story - because the cover is addressed to "Panama Agencies Company", not to Grace Line. On-line searching for the Panama Agencies Company's location proved unfruitful, turning up only promotional information about an unrelated present day yacht service. However, the missing piece showed up unexpectedly in an on-line postcard dealer's website: a postcard from the 1940s or 50s (judging by the cars) showing Grace's building in Cristobal (*Figure 4*).



Figure 4

Prominently displayed on a side of the building facing the camera are the words "Panama Agencies Company" (*Figure 5*) !

So, the philatelic denouement appears to be that the sender either didn't realize, or didn't remember, that the Canal Zone was a political territory administered by the United States, distinct from the Republic of Panama. If the cover had been addressed to 'Panama Canal Zone' rather than just 'Panama', the Canadian postal service would have directed it into the American postal system, and, in that case, the Canadian war tax stamp would have paid the 3-cent rate applicable to the United States and its territories at that time and there wouldn't have been any postage due. It seems unlikely that this would be the only instance of such a mistake, and it would be interesting to see other examples of it.

The story could have ended there, but the addressee's postnominal letters "D.S.C." were too intriguing to leave the cover's social history unexplored.

Part 2... continued in February 2025

BITS AND PIECES

What Our Members Collect

A reminder to submit your list of collecting interests to the newsletter. Please let the editor know what you collect, if you wish your e-mail address to be published or if you prefer members connect with you at meetings.

From Jeff Newbery

- Europe: various countries
- Africa: various countries
- topicals: maps, foxes, horses, Antarctic, James Cook
- whatever random item grabs my interest :)

NSSC 2025 Program

There are program openings for the 2025 season. Topics may include anything of philatelic interest and of about 25 +/- minutes in presentation length. If you have a newsletter item that you want to share please let us know. Serials are welcome. Topics to consider: "Cover Story": a short write-up on a unique or interesting cover; feature article: about a page in length that addresses a philatelic topic, theme, or you collecting interest. Original work only please.

WINTER STAMP FAIR

Sunday, January 19 2025

9 am - 3 pm

Dealers / Club Table

Live Auction at 1:30

**East Dartmouth
Community Centre**

50 Caledonia Rd., Dartmouth

Free Admission / Free Parking

? Want to Help ?

! Volunteers Always Needed !

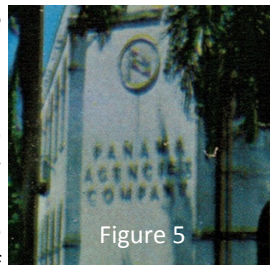


Figure 5

NATIONAL
EXHIBITION
IN 2025

April 25th and 26th 2025.

Friday : 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Saturday : 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.
The 60th anniversary banquet will be held on Saturday.

At Plaza Universel :

5000, rue Sherbrooke Est, Montreal.
Free admission. Parking available.
A few minutes walk from the Viau metro station.

Convention themes will be :

- 60th anniversary of the founding of the FQP.
- 50th anniversary of the beaver as the national animal.
- 100th anniversary of the first philatelic exhibition held in Quebec.

For more information : filex2025@outlook.com

EXPOSITION
NATIONALE
EN 2025

Les 25 et 26 avril 2025.

Vendredi : 9:00 à 17:00. Samedi : 9:00 à 16:00.
Le banquet du 60th anniversaire sera tenu samedi.

Au Plaza Universel :

5000, rue Sherbrooke Est, Montreal.
Entrée gratuite. Stationnement disponible.
À quelques minutes à pied du métro Viau.

Les thèmes de l'exposition seront :

- Le 60th anniversaire de fondation de la FQP.
- Le 50th anniversaire du castor comme emblème animalier national.
- Le 100th anniversaire de la première exposition philatélique tenue en sol québécois.

Pour plus d'information : filex2025@outlook.com

