

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB



No. 213

Newsletter

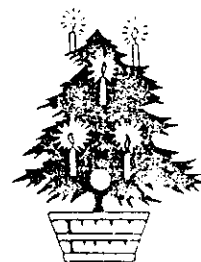
Vol. 26 #4

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 11, 1990.

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

Holiday Greetings



MINUTES, NOVEMBER 13, 1990



The regular monthly meeting of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club was held on Tuesday, November 13, at 8 p.m. at the Nova Scotia Museum with President Marilyn Murphy in the Chair. There were 38 members and one visitor present.

The President welcomed the members. The minutes of the October meeting were read. Motion of acceptance by Bob Vaison and John Hall. As a result of members' concerns, the minutes of the Annual Meeting will henceforth be read at the next regular meeting rather than held until the next Annual Meeting. Therefore the minutes of the September Annual Meeting were read. Motion of acceptance by Doug Allen and Doug Casey.

The auction at this meeting is the annual Charity Auction. The proceeds will be divided between the Salvation Army and Bonny Lea Farm as in the past. Coffee and doughnuts for the members are being prepared by Bill Grandy. Members will appreciate his efforts.

NEW BUSINESS:

Doug Casey asked for news on the proposed BNAPS show in Halifax. The President explained that the committee had looked into the various aspects and decided that the Club could not undertake the financial responsibilities at this time.

The Royal Philatelic Society has apparently lost Dave Cooper's application for accreditation as a judge. Fortunately Marilyn Murphy has made copies of the documents.

The Club has ordered a copy of the latest edition of the APS



manual on judging.

John Hurst gave a report on the sale of Navy League covers. There has been a profit to the Club of \$200. Covers are still available at \$5 each.

The German Stamp Club is moving their meetings to the Lutheran Church on Windsor Street. The membership has outgrown the existing meeting room.

Cliff Abram has offered to give a presentation about Barbados Post Offices at the December meeting.

John Hall introduced George MacKenzie who gave a talk about Novapex '91. The meeting adjourned at 8:45. Coffee and doughnuts were served, followed by the Charity Auction.

Dave Harvey, Recording Secretary.



EXECUTIVE MEETING NOTES, Nov. 26, 1990

The Club is making a donation to the Nova Scotia Museum as a token of thanks for our continued use of their facilities. The gift will be the four volume set of Carl Munden's POST OFFICES OF CAPE BRETON. However, we do not have Vol. 2, nor does Carl. If anyone has a copy that they would be willing to donate or sell to the Club for this purpose, please contact John Harvey.

A Chairman is needed for the Giant Auction. This plea has been made before, but there has been no progress made. It has now come to the point where someone will have to step forward if you wish to continue this annual February event. It is not a catalogue auction, but it is up to the Chairman to receive items prior to auction time, and to generally organize the evening.

Proceeds of the Charity Auction were \$201 to be divided between the Salvation Army and Bonny Lea Farm.

NEW BOOK: The Post Office on Prince Edward Island (1787-1990), by G. Douglas Murray. Softcover, \$17.95, postpaid \$18.95. Box 693, Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 7L3

DECEMBER 11 PROGRAMME: Cliff Abram, an aspect of Barbados.

ADVERTISEMENT:

FOR SALE: approximately 25 red UTILE HINGED LEAF ALBUMS, spring back type, Stanley Gibbons items. Phone Shirley Robertson, (Mrs. George Robertson) 423-2055



MILITARY COVERS AND MARKINGS: Dave Cooper

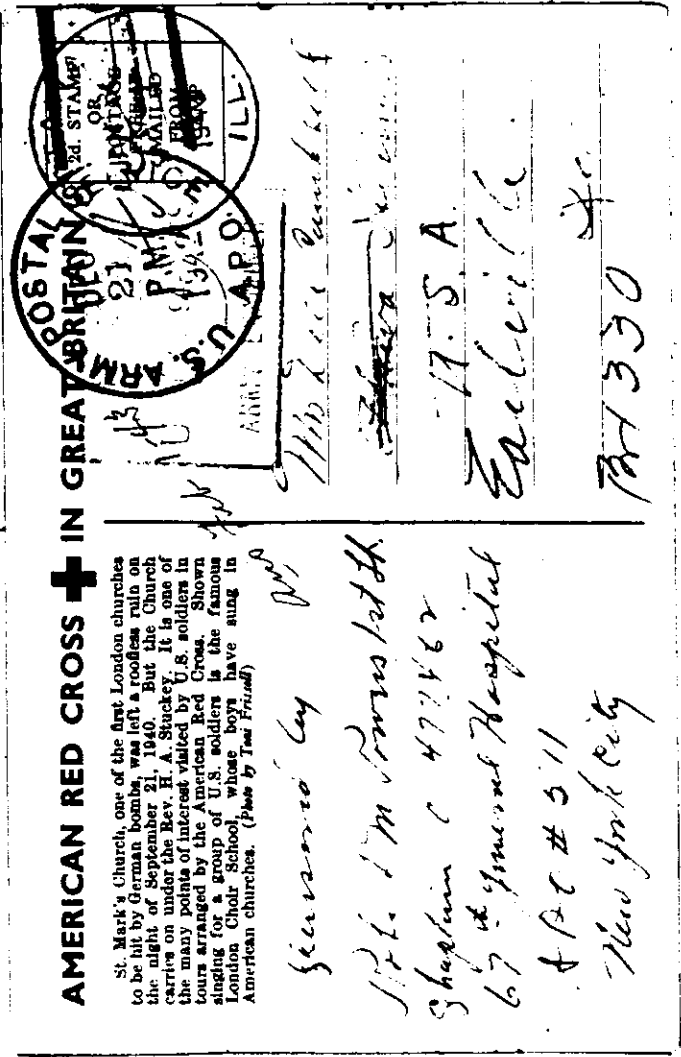
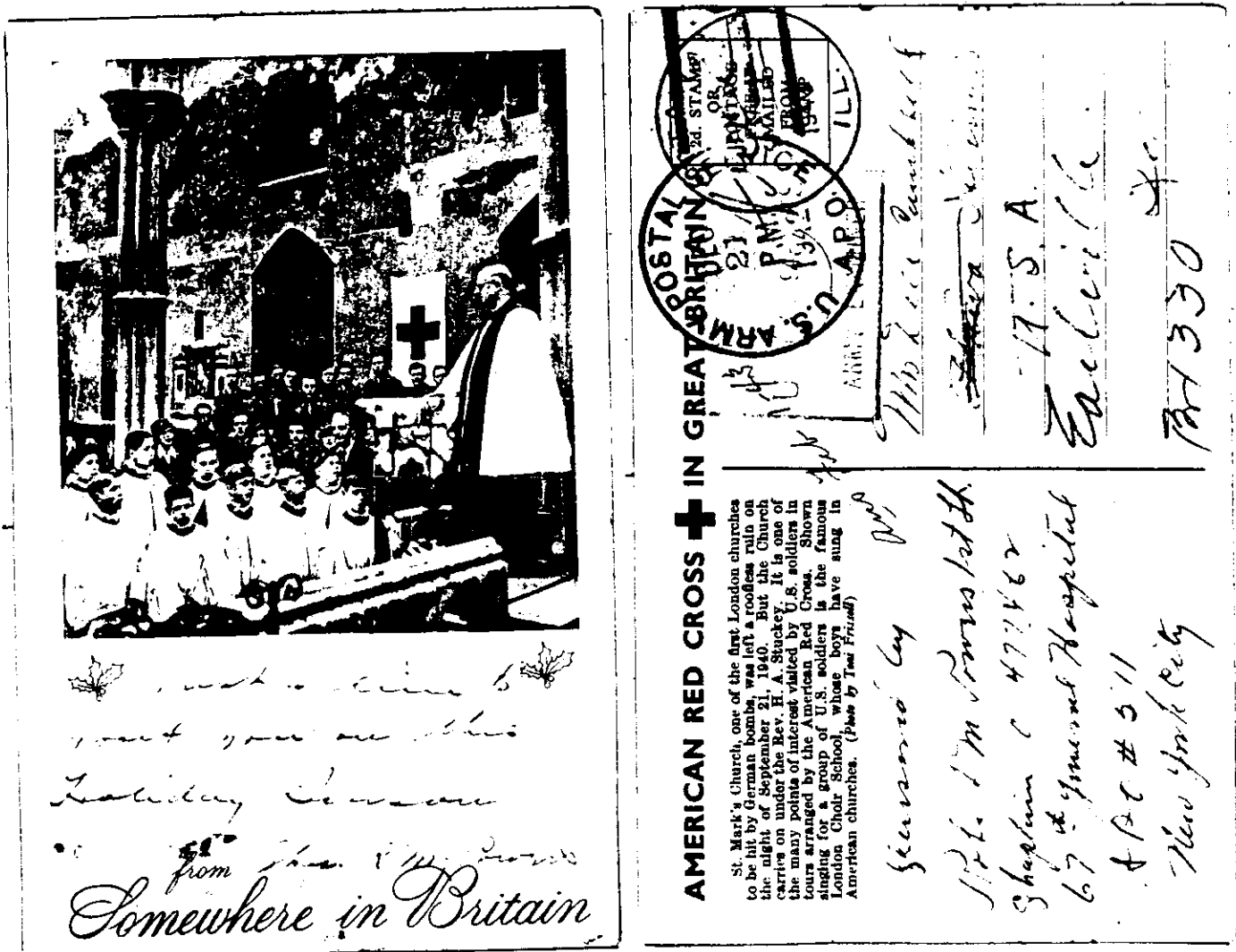
This card is of double interest to me. One is the obvious military interest, and secondly it is an U.S. military item used abroad in the U.K,

The face of the card shows a church service and the bottom printed writing reads "from Somewhere in Britain".

The back of the card shows it is from the AMERICAN RED CROSS + IN GREAT BRITAIN. The card was again free franked and the block indicates "2d stamp or postage free if mailed from Camp".

The card bears a faint rectangular marking Passed by U 09494 S ARMY EXAMINER and then was cancelled by a duplex cancel of the U.S. Army Postal Service A P O on Dec 21 P.M. 1942

The card was addressed to Ottawa, Illinois and redirected to Earlville, Ill. The front of the card was signed by Chap. R.M. Powers and Robert M. Powers, 1st Lt. Chaplain of the 67th General Hospital, APO 511, New York City censored the card himself.



WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT? Doug Allen

The hobby of stamp collecting is, at the same time, both complex and simple. It can be as much of either as one wants to make it. It can be relatively cheap relaxation or extremely expensive investing. It can involve a small amount or a great deal of time. It can be just plain enjoyment or a very serious business. It may be indulged in as a child or when elderly. Interest in the hobby exists at every level of financial worth. There is a tremendous amount of philatelic literature available yet most of this is unknown to the general public nor found in our libraries. It is one of the best known of hobbies, but non-collectors really know very little about it. When non-collectors become aware you are a stamp collector they invariably ask one or both of these questions: "What is the most expensive stamp you have?" or "Are used stamps more valuable than unused?" Then they may or may not add. "I had some stamps when I was a kid, but I don't know what happened to them". Very few of us haven't heard these quotes many times!

We, as collectors, are continually having to justify our hobby to others, including family members. How many of us have intentionally downplayed our expenditures on stamps to our spouses in order to maintain harmony? Many years ago I told my wife that some day my stamps might help pay for our daughters' education. Well they both got college educations and one has her PhD. I still have my stamps! They continue to provide me with great pleasure even after 60 years and my collection is still growing, albeit a bit more slowly. I remain of the opinion I get just as much satisfaction from finding an elusive item costing under \$100 as does a wealthy collector who pays \$100,000 for a great rarity.

We are participants in a wonderful hobby which has stood the test of 150 years. We should not hesitate to brag about our hobby and try to induce others into the fold. Stamp collectors have nothing to be ashamed of and we should be trumpeting its virtues, but above all we should enjoy our hobby to the fullest, work with our stamps, write up our album pages, making them a thing of beauty and vow to display our efforts at our annual exhibitions.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE P.E.I. STYLE:

Cliff Abram sent this anecdote from the P.E.I. Stamp Club:



Our club president, as most of us do, bids on philatelic auctions. Recently he was successful on one bid, but it seemed a long time before he got his bid package. It did of course show up, carried to the door personally by a gentleman who happened to live on the same road. It seems that the other gentleman also collects stamps, but was at this time unaware that there was a stamp club on the Island. He, too, had been successful in a bid at the same auction, it figures, of course, that he received the bid of our club president. The outcome is that we have a new member. We like to feel we used an unconventional, albeit, successful method to get new members, may we suggest the N.S. club gets cracking at all available auctions, "It works!"

MAIL DELIVERY IN BARBADOS 1852-1989: contributed by Cliff Abram.

Since the Post Office was inaugurated in Barbados (1852), mail has had quite a variety of methods used to effect delivery. Initially, the Police were used, this had been proposed a number of times before actually being put into practice. With ten outlying Post Offices and thirty letter receiving houses, it was decided to utilize mounted policemen, with the mailbags slung across the horses' backs. However, a committee, appointed in 1869, reported that the horses were injured by the weight of the bags on their loins, also that inconvenience was caused to the mercantile community by the slow rate at which the mails were carried, and the impracticability of despatching replies to letters the same day they were received.

The recommendations of the committee were acted on, and three four-wheel carts were purchased, with the mails being carried in these carts drawn by police horses. It required the services of three policemen for this work, by 1874 though, these carts having been constructed from light materials, were no longer fit for service. In 1880 two-wheeled carts were built of sturdier material and were constructed to carry one person with room underneath for the mails.

In 1881/2 the Post Office tried out the system of carrying its own mails. Departmental mail cart drivers were placed under police discipline, and forbidden under heavy penalties to carry anything but mails. It was soon proven that the old system was better and cheaper. In consequence, all the carts and animals were sold by the end of 1882 and a contract signed for the conveyance of mails to St. Lucy (northern tip) only, mails for the Windward (Atlantic) side of the Island being sent on the newly constructed railway, where mail carriers would take them to the respective Post Offices.

In 1924/5 the contract horse and mule carts were replaced by small motor vans which again were replaced by larger vans of the latest "Ford" type in 1933, the vans were painted post office red with black lettering, "POST OFFICE MAILS" under a crown. Six of these vans were provided with four being used on the four daily services to and from the outlying parishes to the G.P.O. in Bridgetown. Each van had a posting box, and the driver would also sell stamps to the public at specified stopping places on the run to the G.P.O.

Today the method is little changed except for maintaining the vans or trucks to modern standards. The rail lines are long gone (just like Canada).

The letter carriers, of course, are still delivering the mails in the time honoured way (on foot) in urban areas, but some small changes have taken place in rural areas, the advent of the bicycle saw the first move for change and today there are several carriers that use scooters, these being provided initially by the Post Office and a system whereby the letter carrier can buy them on an outgoing basis from the Post Office.

* Some of the data for this article is from the late Herbert Bayley's "The Post Office in Barbados".



MEMBERSHIP: Granted to #883 Stan M. Smith
#884 E.M.C. Morrissey

Application received: Richard W. Russell, 1722 Robie St., Halifax B3H 3E8
Collecting interests: U.K., U.S., Canada, cards, covers

EXHIBITION WATCH, George MacKenzie

The first meeting of the Novapex '91 Stamp Exhibition Committee was held on Tuesday, Nov. 20 at the Nova Scotia Museum. The Chairman opened the meeting by announcing that the Exhibition would be held at the Lord Nelson Hotel on April 13 and 14, 1991 and that the Committee members are asked to look at ways to increase receipts and at the same time reduce expenditures as our costs continue to rise each year.

As the majority of the Chairpeople are repeat performers, a review of each person's responsibilities was carried out and pertinent points discussed by all concerned. To date only the following can be put forward:

General Chairman: The Rules and Regulations will be the same as last year and will form part of the end January 1991 Newsletter. There will be an admission fee of \$1 per adult, children free.

Senior Exhibits: All members are invited to enter a display in the Exhibition either competitive or single frame or both. Names have been put forward to be invited to take part in the Court of Honour.

Junior Exhibits: Nothing will be done until after Christmas but the usual 14-16 frames are expected by April.

Bourse: Numerous dealers will be invited once again and hopefully 15-16 will attend. Canada Post is expected to rejoin the fold but Steve St. Martin will be missing due to a naval posting further afield.

Banquet: The banquet will be held as usual on Saturday night, April 13. Names for a guest speaker have been given to the Chairman and hopefully we can hold the price to \$20 even with the GST.

Layout/Design: Set-up takes place commencing at 6 p.m. Friday, April 12, we can always use help at this time.

Exhibition Chairman - George MacKenzie
Senior Exhibits - Heinz Kircher
Junior Exhibits - Marilyn Murphy
Bourse - Ken MacDonald
Club Table - Dave Cole
Layout/Design - Dave Harvey
Program/Advertising/Publicity - George Lafontaine
Judging - Claude Michaud
Banquet - Russ Saulnier
Facilities - George MacKenzie

