



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

February 2005
Volume 34, Issue 6
Number 349

UP AND COMING

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

February 8 Club Meeting
"Valentine Quiz", Auction

February 12 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

March 8 Club Meeting
Review of APS Atlanta Show
Circuit Books

March 12 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

April 9 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

April 12 Club Meeting
Collection Appraisals, Auction

May 10 Club Meeting
Aircraft on Stamps, Circuit Bks

May 27-29 Royal*2005*Royale
Sponsored by Middlesex Stamp
Club, London, Ontario

Tube Post or Rohrpost

by Michael Peach

Tubes can be used for the transportation of many things. One thinks of the water mains, gas lines etc.. The pneumatic system involves moving a canister along a tube, either by creating a partial vacuum at the front of the canister, or an increased pressure behind the canister. Systems such as this were a common feature of many larger stores for the transport of money from the counter to a central treasury and return of the customer's change. I am informed that the old Eatons store on Barrington Street had such a system, as well as the Robert Simpson store on Chebucto Road. Systems with somewhat larger canisters can be seen at the Atlantic Superstores for transporting photography order envelopes to and from the photography counter and the processing laboratory. Isambard Brunel (see the article in the September Newsletter) experimented with such a system for an Atmospheric Railway.

In the latter part of the 19th century, pneumatic tube networks were developed for the rapid transportation of mail. One of the first was built in London in 1853 linking the London Stock Exchange and the Central Station of the Electric Telegraph Company. It had a distance of 220 yards. There were similar installations linking the stock exchange and telegraph office, in Berlin, 1865, and Paris, 1866.

The Paris system became the largest in the world. The "Rohrpost" in Berlin with 400 Km. and 90 stations was

the second largest and operated from 1865 to 1976. The name "Rohrpost" is attributed to Heinrich von Stephan, General Post Director and one of the initiators of the Postal Union. The canisters were of varying size, usually about 3 inches and moved at about 40 Km/h. The mail had to be folded. Surcharges were levied for the use of this rapid system for individual letters. The mail was delivered immediately by postmen on bicycles. In Italy special stamps were needed to use the system. The illustration



shows an Italian Pneumatic Post stamp, Sc. D17.

Pneumatic networks were built in several cities, including Vienna, Prague, Munich, Rome, Naples, Milan, Marseilles, Rio de Janeiro, and in the USA in New York, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis and Philadelphia. A 1966 French stamp, Sc. 1168, commemorated the 100th anniversary of the pneumatic post. There is a map of part of the system, and on the right a tube with a canister.

In London a pneumatic underground railway was developed for the trans-

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Tube Post... Continued

port of parcels, which included mail bags. This only lasted from 1863 until 1873. An experimental installation, available for private letters, was part of the 1890 South Kensington Exhibition marking the 50th Anniversary of uniform penny postage. Ordinary communications cost 1d. (one old penny) and replies by tube letter were charged 3d., see special postmarks.

The pneumatic post system became the victim of advancing technology. The Prague system was still operational until the floods in the summer of 2002. It is being repaired, but



some parts of it may be too heavily damaged to be restored.

Private pneumatic systems are still used in various businesses for the rapid transmission of documents.

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<http://www.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) which is released on the first week of the month.

Dues are \$15 per person or \$22.50 per couple (\$20 US) payable to :

John Harvey, Treasurer

46 Farquharson St.

Dartmouth, NS B2W 4A8

The Newsletter mailing address is:

Jeff Parks

102 Birch Bear Run

Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Advertising rate for the newsletter or website is \$25 (CDN) per year



This cover (above/right) was carried by "Labrador Dogteam Mail", originating in Bonne Esperance, PQ (near Blanc Sablon on the Lab./Que. Border) and sent to Holt, Michigan. It is not clear at what point the letter stopped traveling by dog team but probably somewhere between Riviere-au-Tonnerre and Quebec. The back stamps tell an interesting story. The dog team route probably followed traditional winter routes along that coastal part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, however, the larger communities of Sept-Iles and Baie-Comeau are not noted. Today, roads (at least by the government map that I consulted) connect Quebec to Harve-Saint-Pierre.

The Registered Letter was posted on what appears to be Jan 24, 1941. The letter then passed through the following Post Offices.

Natashquan - Fe 14 (am)

Havre St. Pierre - Mr 3

Riviere Au Tonnerre - Mr 4

Quebec, PQ - Mr 12 (am)



- 2 different CD stamps and a rectangular stamp identifying P.O. 3
Levis & Montreal RPO - Mr 12 (1)
Mont. & Tor. RPO - Mr 12 (19)
Detroit, Michigan - Mar 13
Holt, Michigan - Mar 14

At some point, probably before entering the USA, the front of the cover was marked with the bilingual "Passed for Export" hand-stamp.

Stamp Oddities

The Tasmanian stamp depicting Dilston Falls, located at the mouth of Dilston Creek, is one of the 1899-1912 pictorials series. But the Falls do not exist.

Launceston (**Lon**-cess-ton), a small city at the juncture of the Tamar, North Esk and South Esk Rivers in the north of Tasmania, is where Steve Spurling was from in the 1890s. Mr. Spurling photographed the "Falls", which had developed as a result of a bank being built up at the mouth of the Creek during a heavy downpour. After two months the bank and falls washed away and the creek returned to its normal level.

Spurling sent the photo of Dilston Falls, along with others, to Hobart, the Tasmanian capital. Much to Spurling's surprise the photo appeared on the 6d stamp.

The stamp was released in 1899-90 (Sc. 93) perf. 14 on a multiple TAS watermark paper. Typographed and lithographed versions with various (11, 12, 12.5) and compound perforations on Wmk 13? paper were re-released in 1905-08 (Sc. 107), and a redrawn version with more coloured lines in the falls and river and more white dots on the trees was issued in 1911 (Sc. 116).



New Error Found

Every once in a while one is lucky enough to stumble across a real philatelic treasure. Club member Dan Brooking recently found two miscut books of 49c "Flag over..." stamps. The full booklet (right) has individual stamps cut through the text "CANADA 49" (note arrow locations for clarity). The second (below) partial book was found to have the cut marks near the bottom of the stamp image. Dan has been hush-hush about where he found these, although, he did let on that they were found fresh at a postal outlet. Congratulations Dan, on your find. Everyone else - keep your eyes peeled.



CANADIAN FLAG NOTE
DESIGN / COULEUR / GRAPHIQUE : Geminale Inc. 1911
PHOTO / Alberta Economic Development, Ltd. 1911

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Worldwide Cover Box

Covers are available at the monthly meeting in our "Worldwide Covers" box - a bargain at 50 cents each, or 5 for \$2. A second box of Canada and the USA covers are a deal at 3 for a loonie!! All proceeds from cover sales go directly to the club.

Newsletter Available Electronically

An online version of the newsletter is available on our club website www.nsstampclub.ca. The web version has a reduced resolution from the original and usually has a size of approx 300 Kb.

Newsletter Articles

We are always looking for articles and interesting tidbits for the newsletter. Many members have provided us with feature articles as well as one column submissions and images of interesting cancels, covers and stamps. One typed page will fill several columns - add images and descriptive text and the length can be shorter. Contact Jeff for details at: webnews@nsstampclub.ca

We're on the web
www.nsstampclub.ca

Check out our newly revised

Need a Lift?

Are you a member who no longer comes out to the monthly meetings because of an aversion to nighttime and/or winter driving. Do you miss the camaraderie and social aspects of belonging to the club or the auctions and the circuit books. Let us know. We will try to pair you up with other members in your area to offer drives to attend our monthly meetings. Contact the club by email webnews@nsstampclub.ca, or contact another club member or a member of the executive.

NOVAPEX

Novapex this year and next year will be held at the Dartmouth Sportsplex. **What would you like to see at Novapex?** Any suggestions and ideas would be most welcome, please contact Doug Gray or Michael Peach.

NOVAPEX 2005: 17-18 SEPTEMBER

Novapex 2005 will be held September 17 and 18. There will be the "normal" exhibition, with exhibits judged at the regional level and several dealers.

NOVAPEX 2006: 15-17 SEPTEMBER

Novapex 2006 will be held September 15-17, Friday to Sunday. Based on our experience at the Halifax Royal, it will be a regional/national show. This means that exhibits can be judged at the national or regional level. It is hoped that as many members as possible will be exhibiting at the national level. There will be space for 160 frames. It is expected that there will be several out of province exhibits. We hope that there will be several out of province dealers. It will be the only national exhibition in the east since Royal 2004. **Please make a note of the date.**

The 77th Convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada will be held in London, Ontario, May 27-29, 2005. The show will be hosted by the Middlesex Stamp Club. Check out the NS Stamp Club website for a link to Royal*2005* Royale.



Material Needed for Youth

Philatelic material is required for Youth Tables at upcoming Shows. If you have material to donate please contact Elizabeth Sodero for more information.

Unusual/Unique Mailboxes

This mailbox was spotted by David Harvey near Blockhouse, NS. It looks like the bike didn't quite make it to the curb. At least part of it has found a new life. Send us your photos of unique mailboxes.



Did You Know?

Copies of the Australian 2d George V red (Sc. 28 or 71?) and 2d Sydney Harbour Bridge (Sc. 130) stamps were forged by a group racketeers in 1932. The three men were operating a bogus sweepstakes and were using the faked stamps to mail out advertising circulars. A philatelist in Adelaide who detected the forgeries, notified police. They arrested the men and recovered 60,000 forged stamps.

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