



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

June 2005
Volume 34, Issue 10
Number 353

UP AND COMING

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

June 4 Kermesse
Halifax Forum, Halifax
IWK Fundraiser
Stamp Tables and more

June 11 Stamp Fair/Auction
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

June 14 Club Meeting
Panel - Exhibiting, Auction

June 16 Friends of Philately
Bloomfield School, Halifax

September 17-18, 2005
Novapex 2005
Dartmouth Sportsplex

September 15-17, 2006
Novapex 2006
Dartmouth Sportsplex

Eldorado in Canada: Uranium

Ernest Rutherford (1871-1937) was an experimental physics professor at McGill University, Montreal (1898-1907), where he set up a nuclear science world centre for research into the structure of the atom and radio-activity. The stamp depicting a burst of energy contained in light (Sc. 534) commemorates Rutherford's achievements on the 100th anniversary of his birth. But Canada's nuclear industry did not take off until the 1930's.



Gilbert LaBine (1890-1977) was a prospector and mining promoter, who in 1926, with his brother Charles, started the Eldorado Gold Mine in Manitoba. When the mine petered out LaBine took his gains and with C.E. St. Paul headed north to explore around the Great Bear Lake, NWT

area. Prospecting in areas of showings as described in 1900, they discovered silver ore rich with pitchblende at Echo Bay (now Port Radium). The stamp shown here (Sc. 269) was released in September 1946 and shows the area where the deposit was found on Great Bear Lake.



The new Eldorado mine, which produced radium refined at Port Hope, Ontario, lasted until 1940 when it was forced to close because of a loss of European markets for radium. The potential for uranium at this time was unknown. By 1942, the war effort in the United States required a source of uranium and the mine was reopened. The Canadian Government took over control and secretly bought out the company in 1943. The mine was na-

MOODY BLUE STAMP COMPANY

*British Commonwealth
Canada
Newfoundland
Worldwide Topicals*

77 Stewart Harris Drive
Dartmouth, N.S. B2W 3Z8
Phone: (902) 434-8439
e-mail: sales@moodybluestamps.ns.ca
www.moodybluestamps.ns.ca



Continued on Page 2

Uranium... Continued

tionalized and renamed in 1944. LaBine remained as president of the "Company" until 1947. The crown corporation held a monopoly on the prospecting and development of uranium until 1948.

The cover (previous page) from the Eldorado Mining and Refining Company (1944) Limited is franked with a wartime KGV 4c (Scott 253) postmarked July 26, 1946 from Toronto. The 4c US rate was in effect until Oct 1946 when the rate was changed to 7c for a 1 oz. letter.

In the 1960's demand for weapons grade uranium waned and production then focused on fuel for nuclear reactors. The company became Eldorado Nuclear during this period and in 1988 merged with Saskatchewan Mining Development Corp. and later privatized to become Cameco Corporation, now the world's largest uranium producer.

Nova Scotia Stamp Club Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

<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

Canada developed the world's first atomic reactor outside the United States at Chalk River in September 1945. The internationally recognized



CANDU nuclear power reactor system began development in the early 1950's. The stamp shown here (Scott 449) depicts the first CANDU reactor at Douglas Point, Ontario (built that year) and promotes the peaceful uses of atomic energy in 1966.

Canada is a world leader in atomic reactors for electrical power generation and a top uranium producer (over 1/3 of the world mine output). In 1980 Canada Post issued a stamp commemorating Canada's uranium resources. This stamp (Scott 865) depicts the molecular structure of urinite (UO_2), one of the basic uranium minerals found in Canada.



SEASIDE BOOK & STAMP

*For All Your Stamp
and Supply Needs*

*Check our new features on the
website and new stock in house!*

23 Alderney Drive
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Phone: (902) 423-8254
1-800-37STAMP

Fax: (902) 461-0744

e-mail: seaside@seasidebs.com
Web: <http://www.seasidebs.com>

The letter (below), from David Harvey's collection, was sent by a British soldier H.M. Drummond, presumably an officer, stationed at Halifax to his sister (in-law?) Frances Drummond at Errol, Scotland. The backstamp is dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia on March 18, 1852. The receiving stamp on the front appears to be March 31, 1852 at Errol. The letter describes the winter scene in the basin and gives an account of curling. He compares his stay in Halifax only to Corfu for the amount of activity available and laments leaving.



backstamp



ORAPEX 2005

Several of our members had exhibits at Orapex 2005, held during the last weekend of April. Several youth exhibits were from Nova Scotia:

Kyle Miller – *Vermeil* – Helicopters. Kyle was awarded the Youth Grand Award – AAPE and Ottawa Philatelic Society Awards.

Angela Miller – *Silver* – Ballet.

Alex Faulkner – *Silver* – Transportation on Stamps.

Senior Awards:

Michael Peach – *Silver* – GB Penny Red Imperforate Cancellations.

Jane Sodero – *Silver-Bronze* – Postal Markings of the Guysborough Nova Scotia Post Office.

Congratulations to all.

Recent Passings

The St. John's Philatelic Society has lost two long standing members. Don Ryan was the dedicated editor of their newsletter for over two decades.

Don Wilson was a staunch and vocal supporter of his club. Also a NSSC member (#663), he had contributed many items to his clubs auctions. There will be a tribute to Don in the St. John's newsletter in June.

NSSC Club Member Allan McKewen (#1001) of Halifax had only recently joined the club.

Yarmouth, Nova Scotia
Post Office 1931



Stamp Oddities

Over the past several years NSSC member George Mackenzie has been sending self-addressed stamped covers to numerous Post Offices in the United States and Canada. In doing this, he has also requested that if the cancel on the stamps was not clear then would the Postmaster/mistress place a clear cancel to the left of the stamps.

Over time, he has sent out over 150 covers and has had excellent results from everyone, with the exception of Lincoln, Nebraska. Their cancel was really unclear but did not provide a good cancel to the left as requested. The Postmaster did advise George that if he wanted another cancel he would have to affix another 60c (US) as per an attached photocopy of regulations with a handwritten note (below). Not very philatelic friendly of them.

Since George already had a very nice cancelled cover from Lincoln, New Mexico, he didn't bother them again realizing that if he had sent another cover he would probably receive another unreadable cancel.

Text from regulation:

323 First-class postage

Philatelic cancellations may be applied to items submitted in person or by mail only when postage amounting to domestic First-Class letter rate has been affixed.

Handwritten addendum to above:

60c is the rate for Canada and the cancellation has been fulfilled. Please affix additional postage of 60c for an additional cancel.



Facsimile cancellation

Joint Issue Awards

The *International Philatelic Society of Joint Stamp Collectors* have chosen the following issues as their top-picks for 2004.

1st prize goes to Canada Post, Post Greenland and Norway Post for the Otto Sverdrup (1854-1930) stamps (3 designs and souvenir sheets) issued March 26, 2004.



A 2nd showing was awarded to Poland and Slovakia for the Raftsmen on the Duna-

jec River stamps (1 design) issued September 3, 2004.

3rd place was awarded to China and Greece for the Olympic Games issues (2 designs) of August 13, 2004.



NICKERSON STAMPS

Worldwide Stamps
Bought and Sold.

Service is our Specialty.
Albums, Supplements and
Supplies also Available.

9 Old French Road
Kingston, Nova Scotia
Phone: (902) 765-4685
e-mail: aikico@ns.sympatico.ca

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 cov-



NOVA PEX 2005

NOVAPEX

Novapex 2005 and 2006 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: Sept 17-18, 2005

This will be the "normal" exhibition, with exhibits judged at the regional level and several dealers.

NOVAPEX 2006: Sept 15-17, 2006

Based on our experience at the Halifax Royal, 2006 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.

Great Summer Reading from the Stamp Club Library!

by Heather Mackenzie

It's not a good idea to take your stamps to the beach, but there's no need to go into philatelic withdrawal during those lazy (and we hope sunny and warm!) days at the cottage. Check out some of the great new books recently added to the Club's library collection and do some summer reading. Maybe you'll get an idea for an exhibit for Novapex 2005!

Here are some suggestions:

1. For post card collectors, (and Nova Scotia postal history buffs) we now have a complete set of the "Post Cards of Nova Scotia Counties" series by Ken MacDonald. Ken's meticulous research makes these books really a definitive work on this topic.

If post cards are your "thing" you may also be interested in *The Canadian Picture Postcard Catalog* (1992 ed.), by W. Gutzman.

2. If you want to venture into the online world of stamp collecting, but are not sure where to start, take a look at *Linn's Guide to Stamp Collecting Software and Collecting on the Internet*, by William F. Sharpe. You'll learn how to search cyber-

space for the perfect stamp!

3. Everyone loves a good auction, and you can look back at some great ones with our new collection of philatelic auction catalogues. Have a look at some of the world's most outstanding (and expensive!) philatelic material with this collection of catalogues from major auction houses including **Spink, Christie's, Harpers and Robson Lowe**. One notable sample from this group is **Stamps and Covers from the Royal Philatelic Collection** (Spink auctions, May 17, 2001).

4. We have several new titles dealing with aspects of early Canadian postal history, so if this is a topic dear to your heart, you may want to check out **Upper and Lower Canada Steam-Boat Mail to the 1860's**, by F. Stulberg or **Canada Post Offices 1755-1895**, by Frank Campbell. (To name but two!)

This is just a very brief sample of some of the new titles available, so stop by the club library at the June meeting and stock up for the summer! (Please shake out that beach sand before bringing them back in September!)

And what will your club librarian be reading this summer? I think I'll retire to the porch with some ice tea and **Stamp Collecting for Dummies!**

Happy Summer Everyone!

Newsletter Articles

Haven't got your summer plans worked out yet. How about writing an article or something of philatelic significance for the fall newsletter. A typed page will fill several columns - add images and the length can be shorter. Contact Jeff for details at: webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Douglas J. Gray
Philatelic Services
 CSDA - RSPC - BNAPS - APS

*Choice Canadian and
 British Commonwealth
 for the Serious Collector.*

Large Collections bought and sold.
 Estates appraised and liquidated.
 Complete line of supplies
 at discount prices.

PO Box 24105 Micmac Blvd.
 Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
 Phone: (902) 461-0528
 e-mail: DJGPS89@accesswave.ca