



# Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

March 2006  
Volume 35, Issue 7  
Number 360

## UP AND COMING

Every Saturday 4pm Auction  
Seaside Book and Stamp

**March 4** Moncton Stamp Fair  
Park House Inn, Moncton

**March 11** Stamp Fair & Auction  
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

**March 14** Club Meeting  
Panel on Exhibiting; Circuit Books

**March 16** Friends of Philately  
Bloomfield School, Halifax

**March 24-26** Edmonton Stamp  
Club Spring National Show

**April 1** Moncton Stamp Fair

**April 7-9** AmeriStamp Expo  
QE Bldg, Exhibition Place, Toronto

**April 11** Club Meeting  
Postal Ephemera and Philatelic  
Collaterals - David Jones; Auction

**April 15** Stamp Fair & Auction

**April 20** Friends of Philately

**April 22** Valley Stamp Club Annual  
Exhibition and Bourse, Kentville  
Fire Hall

## BISECTS - Canada and Britain

By Michael Peach

By definition a bisect or split stamp is a fragment of a postage stamp used to prepay an amount of postage proportionate to the relation the fragment bears to the whole stamp.

The use of bisections of Nova Scotia stamps was legal. In the JJ exhibit there is a cover mailed on 20 May 1857 at Parrsborough, and then carried by the small local packet across the Minas Ba-

sin to Windsor and then on to Halifax, all in one day. The Royal Mail Steamer, the Europa from Boston, called at Halifax and picked up the trans-Atlantic mail, arriving in Liverpool, England on 31 May. The rate to Britain was 7½ pence, but as there were no stamps to make up this rate, it was permissible to bisect (diagonally) the 3 pence to make the correct amount.



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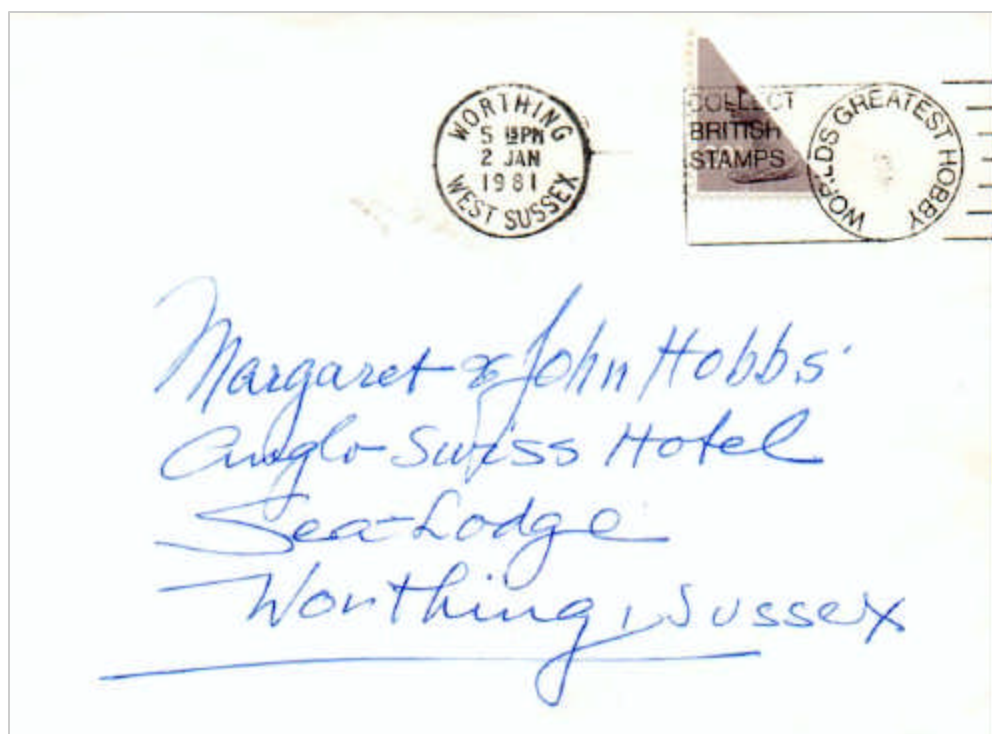
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Continued on Page 2

**Bisects... Continued**

When Nova Scotia joined confederation the stamps of Canada were used. The Canada Post Office Act of 1867 stated that *"a mutilated stamp or a stamp cut in half is not recognisable in prepayment of postage"*. Henry Hechler produced several covers with bisects, however, a careful examination of these covers shows that in most cases the bisect was additional to the postage required and is, in fact, a label. This is illustrated on the 1894 Hechler cover to the USA (previous page - from the RPSC Hechler slide show). The rate was 3c. A careful examination of the cover shows that in addition to the two black ½c small queens and the yellow 1c small queen, there was another stamp below the bisected dark green 2c. The cover appears to have had the correct postage and the bisect is in addition to the postage. The stamp below the bisect was apparently removed to make it appear that the bisect was part of the postage.

In Great Britain the early use of bisects was not sanctioned, although some examples of the use of the bisect 2d blue in 1841 can be found. In late 1940 there was a shortage of 1d stamps on Guernsey during the German occupation and the diagonal bisection of 2d stamps was



**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 C\$15 per person (US\$20 US or International) or C\$22.50 per couple payable to :

Nova Scotia Stamp Club  
 102 Birch Bear Run  
 Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

[webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca)  
 Newsletter address as above.

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

authorised for local mail from 27 December 1940 until 22 February 1941. The cover (top) shows the use of a bisect of the 1940 2d Centenary of the Adhesive Stamp stamp used locally on Guernsey, 21 FE 41.

The last cover has a diagonally bisected 20p Machin used locally in Worthing. The cover was cancelled 2 JAN 1981, and there is also a slogan cancellation COLLECT BRITISH STAMPS WORLD'S GREATEST HOBBY. The second class rate at that time was 10p. The cover appears to have passed undetected through the post.

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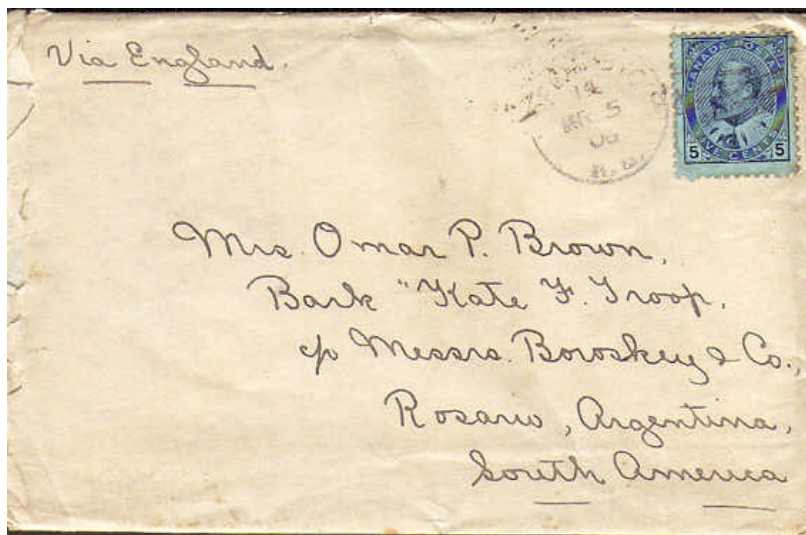
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## Every Cover Tells A Story

by Jeffrey Parks

While searching for interesting covers for this column on the internet, I came across this one (right) selling on eBay for \$125.00 USD, that included a letter from one of the Brown's children. I thought that it might tell a bit of a story so I



decided search the internet further to see if I could discover anything about the addressee, the ship or the company. Success on two fronts. The cover is a 5c blue (Sc. 91) KEVII- franked, UPU-rated cover sent from Fredericton N.B. to Rosario, Argentina. The stamp is cancelled with a faint duplex Fredericton N.B. Mr 5 1906. Routed through Montreal and England, the back-stamp shows Rosario de Santa Fe. Rosario - birthplace of Dr. Ernesto 'Che' Guevara (1928-1967), Marxist revolutionary and Cuban guerrilla leader - is the third largest city in Argentina after Buenos Aires and Cordoba.

Omar P. Brown was born in St. Martins, New Brunswick (near Saint John) about 1855 and, according to the shipping records available, was a ship master by at least age 23. He was sailing Troop family owned vessels as early as 1881.

The *Kate F. Troop* was a wooden barque of 1124 gross tonnage built by the Troop family around 1881 in Tynemouth, N.B. (now Tynemouth Creek near St. Martins) and registered at Saint John.

No record could be found in the on-line ship registry for the time period of the cover, so it is unknown when Brown might have taken over the *Kate F. Troop* or under what circumstances, accompanied by his wife, he took the ship to Argentina.

The accompanying letter is folded in the eBay ad but the Brown's daughter (presumed) speaks in the opening lines of writing to her parents weekly and trying to contain her writing to not incur more expense for the weight of the letter. She also mentions the weather and some Fredericton activity in late February 1906.

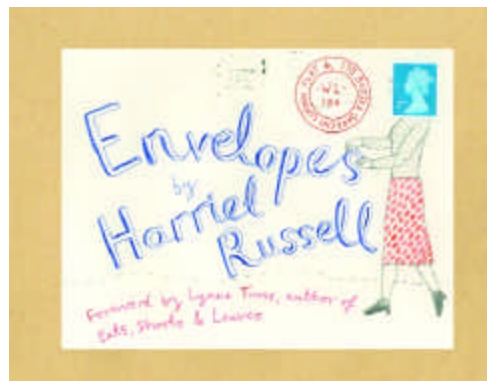
I could not find out who Messrs. Boroskey & Co. were - presumably a shipping agent in Rosario, Argentina. The postcard shown here is a view of the rubblework wharves at Port of Rosario (date unknown - 1920s maybe?).



## Stamp Oddities

Some members of the NSSC create their own covers. Dave Cooper once created bisects with the Capex '78 stamp-on-stamp issues through the mail. Hugh Rathbun creates lovely cachets of Nova Scotian events.

Harriet Russell, a British illustrator, has taken this "art form" to new heights and published a book about it - *Envelopes: A Puzzling Journey Through the Royal Mail* (Random House, Nov. 2005). Over the years Russell has sent herself covers created in an elaborately decorated way to illustrate her address including puzzles, mazes, maps, anagrams, dot-to-dots, unique fonts and word-play, just to see if they would arrive. She writes in her preface that she is "sure that the patience of many a postman has been severely tested." She reports that the majority of the envelopes were delivered with a Royal Mail postmark to prove it. The book is available in Canada for \$23.95.



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### Meeting Notes

The February meeting was held Feb 14, 2005. Although this was Valentines Day it was nice to see so many members come spend the evening with their true love...stamp collecting, of course.

Reports from treasurer, membership and Novapex 2006 were heard. Tena reported that the club's finances are currently in the red. We are being sustained from other reserve funds until such time that an investment comes due. Marty "strongly suggested" that the membership be **seriously** thinking about entering an exhibit in Novapex 06. Arm twisting to follow...

Doug Gray presented the second part of his talk on Appraisals focusing on the communication aspects, what to expect from an appraiser and how it all works. Doug spoke candidly about appraisal cost which in this editor's opinion was surprisingly inexpensive. Materials from the presentation will be made to club members at a later date.

Six monthly draw items net about \$50 for the club. An auction of 36 lots closed the evening. No executive meeting was held in February.

### Covers Boxes

Covers are available at monthly meetings. The "Worldwide Covers" box is a bargain at 50 cents each, or 5 for \$2. The Canada and the USA covers are a deal at 3 for a loonie!! All proceeds from cover sales go directly to the club.

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### Appointed to Order of Canada

Bruce S. Oland, the longest serving NSSC member (#199), has recently been appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada for voluntary service. Announced on Feb. 3, Mr. Oland will be invited to accept their insignia at an induction ceremony to be held at a later date.

NSSC member Roderick MacLennan (#990) was invested as a Member of the Order of Canada for Voluntary Service in September 2005.

The award, established in 1967, is Canada's highest honour for lifetime achievement in a variety of fields. Our hearty congratulations to both members.

Former Life member Fred Jarrett (HL90) was inducted in the Order in 1974 for his study of philately. If there are others that have been named to the Order over the years please bring them to the editor's attention.

### Membership

Jim Hanifen #1015 has been accepted into the club.

Resignations: Peter LeClaire #744 and Doreen Crick #998

Struck from the role for non-payment of dues: Michael Colborne #944, Patrick Burns #995, and Nigel Simpson #1000

A full report of the year's membership activities will be made at the AGM in September.



Canso Post Office - 1911

# NOVA PEX 2006

**NOVAPEX 2006  
Sept 15-17, 2006**

### Dartmouth Sportsplex

Novapex 2006 will be a regional/national show. This means that exhibits can be judged at the national or regional level. It will be the only national exhibition in the east since Royal 2004, and we hope that as many members as possible take this opportunity to exhibit at the national level. There will be space for 160 frames, and we expect that there will be several out of province exhibits. We already have some out of province dealers coming. **Please make a note of the date.**

### Exhibiting at NOVAPEX 2006

It is not too early to think about your exhibit(s) for Novapex 2006. We already have about 40 frames allocated, many are from out of province exhibitors. Exhibits can be submitted at the **National** or **Regional** level. For exhibits at the national level, the exhibits must have received at least a silver award at a regional show. Further details are given in the Prospectus which is available on the website, club meeting or by writing the stamp club (page 2). In accordance with standard procedures, there is a frame charge for national level exhibits, detailed in the prospectus. We hope that as many of you as possible will have exhibits at Novapex 2006, particularly at the national level. We need to make Novapex an outstanding success.

Any queries, please contact Marty, [zen@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:zen@ns.sympatico.ca) or 463-0687

### Newsletter Articles

If you have an item (article, cover, show & tell) for the newsletter please contact Jeff for details at:

[webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca)

or by mail (page 2). Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed as received. Several newsletters in advance are already being laid-out. The deadline for the April issue is March 29.