



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

March 2007
Volume 36, Issue 7
Number 370

Up and Coming

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

March 3 Moncton Stamp Fair

March 10 Dartmouth Stamp Fair
and Auction, Burnside Motel

March 13 Club Meeting
Birds on Stamps, Circuit Books

March 15 Friends of Philately,
Bloomfield School, Halifax

March 16-18 Great Western CSDA
Stamp Show, Langley BC

March 23-25 Edmonton Stamp Club
Spring National

April 7 Moncton Stamp Fair

April 10 Club Meeting
Postal History, Auction

April 14 Dartmouth Stamp Fair

Imperial Penny Postage 1899 - England to Lagos

by Michael Peach

When checking out a dealer's stock at the Calgary Royal, I found the cover shown. It was mailed from Harlow Manor, Harrogate, an English Spa town, on 18 August 1899, to Lagos, arriving on 10 September 1899. The rate was Imperial Penny Postage rate, introduced on 25 December 1898, and paid with a 1d lilac stamp. There are some interesting features about this cover.



The addressee, His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, was Governor of Lagos from 1899 to 1902. A Scotsman, he had studied medicine at the Universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen, and worked as a doctor in both cities before joining the colonial service in 1872. After his first posting as a medical officer for the Seychelles, he made his way up the ranks, serving as Fiji's chief medical officer from 1875 until 1888. He became administrator of British New Guinea. In 1899 he was appointed Lt. Governor of Lagos. He served there until 1904, when he became Governor of Newfoundland and

Labrador (2nd far left). While in Newfoundland, his medical training helped to stop the spread of tuberculosis on the island. He was interested in Wilfred Grenfell's medical mission and was the first governor to visit the northern coast and Labrador. He was one of the few governors who took an active interest in native peoples, visiting both Inuit and Mi'kmaq settlements. His term ended in 1909. He became Governor of Queensland, Australia, in 1910 and remained there until he retired in 1914. He was the first Chancellor of the University of Queensland. He died in Aberdeen, Scotland, on July 3, 1919.



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Harlow Manor (left) was originally a private house built by the Leeds architect John Milling for himself in 1875. It opened as a hydropathic hotel in 1893, providing Turkish, Russian, electro and chemical and needle showers, hot and cold plunges

Continued on Page 2

Lagos... Continued

and medicated baths of every description, combining treatment and hotel facilities under one roof. The Air Ministry used the building until it was demolished in 1981.

Lagos was purchased by the British in 1861, and placed under the Governor of Sierra Leone. In 1874 it was detached and formed part of the Gold Coast Colony until 1886, when the Protectorate of Lagos was established. It was charted to the Royal Niger Company until 1899, when all the territories of this company were surrendered to the (British) Crown and formed into the Northern and Southern Nigeria Protectorates. In 1905 Lagos and Southern Nigeria were united to form the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria. Lagos issued stamps from 1874 until 1905 when they were superseded by the stamps of Southern Nigeria.

When the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria was established in 1914, Lagos was declared the capital. It remained capital until 1991, when the purpose-built capital city of Abuja was established.

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, US\$25 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
 Newsletter address as above.

Advertising rate for the newsletter or

What are the true purposes of stamp collecting? Part 1

Philatelic exhibitions may mask some complex realities which, when presented may appear contradictory. For example, many people think of this particular kind of event as nothing more than an opportunity for privileged collectors to display their rare possessions. It follows then that these people are led to believe that a philatelic exhibition is nothing more than a demonstration of expensive stamps and individual wealth.

For others, a stamp exhibition is viewed for the most part as a commercial venture aimed at bringing together the collectors on the one hand and the stamp dealers on the other. Consequently these people regard their visit to an exhibition as predominantly a stamp market, with the motivation being to make a good sale or to get a good deal.

The above scenarios, which to oversimplify the concept of the exhibition and to identify money as the central issue, provide a distorted perception of an exhibition's purpose. From a purely philatelic viewpoint, the realities look quite different and some effort must be made to present this perspective. One will admit there is always the likelihood of finding philatelic "gems" of considerable value on display at such exhibits. It must also be realized that those "gems" will only be properly appreciated if the owners have dedicated the time and research to best presenting their particular philatelic qualities. The monetary value of a philatelic object or its scarcity cannot be a sign of success in and of itself at an exhibition; a valuable rarity which is not strongly related to the balance of the presentation may go unnoticed. Common material better presented on the other hand, will earn an award even if it does not include valuable rarities.

Generally speaking, a stamp exhibition should be capable of drawing those people who are not collectors but who, wish to familiarize themselves with this ever fascinating hobby. A stamp exhibition may also enable collectors to acquire new ideas and skills, to discover new areas of interest or even simply to take note of some items they are missing in their own collections.

A stamp exhibition gives the participants the satisfaction of having their work displayed and the experience of a friendly challenge with other philatelists. Success will be based on the exhibitors understanding of philately: a winning exhibit being chiefly the result of a skilful knowledge of stamps. To be continued in next edition

This article was originally published in Volume 17 No. 152, 153, & 154 (Sept - Nov 1985) of the NSSC Newsletter. It was felt that the article was worth repeating in an effort to stir some new blood to the ways of exhibiting and general interest to what an exhibition is about. The original author is unknown. -ed.

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Cover Story

This month's cover story is a short one - a mystery. If you have any further information please contact the newsletter or Jack.



This is a cover that originated in the Antigonish area some years ago. Maybe someone in the Club can come up with an explanation as to the use of this hand stamp. Thanks Jack Forbes.

Spring is in the air

Now that the unusually long stretch of cold weather seems to be behind us, it is time to look forward to Spring, when I, for one, start to set aside my winter collecting activities and start getting ready for spring cleanup and planting. Not to be outdone, Canada Post released a lovely pair of lilac stamps on



March 1. The stamps are available in booklet of 10 (4 pairs and 2 singles) and a souvenir sheet format or two perforated stamps.

The CP article about the stamps states that the images shown were captured at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa.



Stamp Oddities

Shorts

In 1924-25, **Italy** issued 19 stamps with advertising labels attached that were not separated by perforations. It was the intention to have them perforated prior to release, but that did not happen. International regulations forbade the use of advertising labels on stamps and therefore stamps used for foreign mail had to have the ad portion cut away before use. The user was left to decide whether to leave the label on or cut it off for domestic mail. Columbia record players and Singer sewing machines were among the products advertised on the Italian labels.

The design of the "Pun" stamp of **Liberia** was arranged to form a book (Latin *Liber*), with a picture of a native village on the front of the cover, the word "postage" is printed along the top of the leaves and the name of the country - Liberia along the spine.

When Lord Cobham visited **Samoa** in 1959, he was disturbed to note that an inscription on the tombstone of Robert Louis Stevenson contained a misquote of the famous author's words. The inscription read "Home is the sailor, home from the sea." Lord Cobham paid 50 Pounds from his own pocket to have the inscription altered to the correct quotation of "Home is the sailor, home from sea". In 1935, Western Samoa, issued a 1/- stamp depicting the tomb of Stevenson.

Queen Elizabeth I of **England** gave instructions that all masters of posts must have a rider ready to set out on 15 minutes notice, riders of the day were to proceed at 7 mph in summer and 5 mph in the winter months.

Mongolian stamps are all inscribed in English!!

Sirmoor, an Indian State, issued a stamp in 1895 showing an elephant with its hind legs bending in the wrong direction.

Some **Columbian** stamps have an "overprint" incorporated into the design.

The Commemorative envelop shown here was released by Canada Post on February 8, 2007, to celebrate Purdy's centenary in fine chocolate making in Vancouver. The item was issued in 10,000 units and is already sold out.

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Royal Mail Ups Rates

Royal Mail will be increasing first and second class stamp rates in April 2007.

First class stamps for small letters will increase by 2p to 34p - second class will rise to 24p from 23p. Large letters will cost 48p, up 4p, while second class will cost 40p, a 3p increase.

The decision to increase prices is being defended by Royal Mail to bring service more in line with the actual cost, a service which lost £237m in the last fiscal year or 6p on every first and second class stamped letter..

Cover Box

Covers are available at the monthly meetings. In our "Worldwide Covers" box - a bargain can be found at 50 cents each, or 5 for \$2. The Canada and the USA covers are a real deal at 3 for a loonie (\$1)!! All proceeds from cover sales go directly to the club.

New Exhibit Award

Memorial donations collected in memory of Honourary member George MacKenzie will be used for a new exhibit award in the field of *aerophilately*. The award, which has been sanctioned by the NSSC executive on the advise of his family, is currently being designed and the parameters of award are being drafted. More details will be provided when available. It is expected that the award will be ready for Novapex 2007.

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National Level Shows

There will be two major national shows in the early summer:

Orapex 5-6 May at the RA Centre in Ottawa and Vanpex 8-10 June at the Richmond Curling Rink.

Exhibits from members of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club would be welcomed.

I have more details about Orapex, including the prospectus and entry form for exhibits. The deadline for exhibits is early April. Please contact me, Michael Peach. I am planning to attend Orapex, so I can take any exhibits with me.

Details about Vanpex can be found on the British Columbia Philatelic Societies website, <http://www.bcphilatelic.org/>. The deadline for exhibits is 1 May. Jane Sodero will be one of the judges, and is willing to take any exhibits from this area with her. Please contact Jane 902-678-6945.

I will have the forms available at the next club meeting.

Michael Peach.

Meeting Briefs

The Regular meeting of NSSC was held on February 13. Following the regular business meeting and after considerable technical difficulty, President John gave a very knowledgeable presentation on Centennial stamps. A fifty item auction followed. No executive meeting was held in February, but at time of writing is scheduled for March 6.

Membership

An application for membership has been received from Bud Audas of Halifax. Mr. Audas collects Canadian and Nova Scotia stamps.

The membership of Robert Soper (#1018) has been approved at our last regular meeting. Welcome Bob.

We are always looking for ideas on how to increase our membership. If you have any leads pass them on.

NOVA PEX 2007

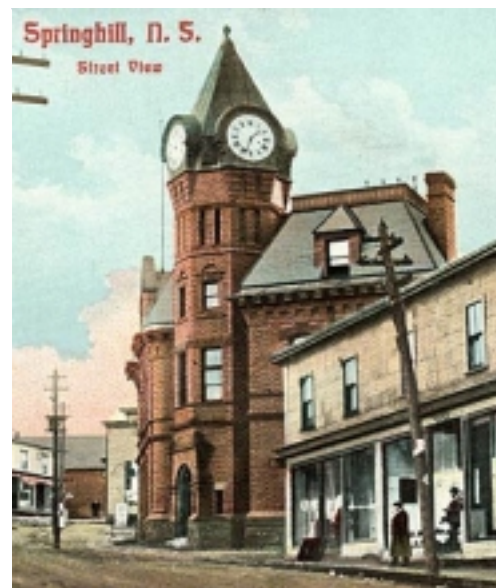
September 14-16, 2007

Novapex 2007 will be held in September at the Dartmouth Sportsplex. This will be a Regional show only. Planning is in the works and more details will be provided as they become available. If you are interested in being on the Novapex Committee let us know. Information regarding the committee and prospectus / entry forms is available on the website at:

www.nsstampclub.ca/novapex07.htm

Royal*2007*Royale will be held in Toronto, Oct 12-14, 2007. The entry forms and prospectus are now available on the show website at:

<http://www.gtapa.org/Royal/>



Springhill Post Office - circa 1910

Constructed of brick and stone on the corner of Church and Main Streets in 1901 on the present site of the Town hall, the tower boasted four clock faces.

Newsletter Articles

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

webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. **The deadline for the April issue is March 30, 2007.**