



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

April 2008
Volume 37, Issue 8
Number 381

Up and Coming

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

April 8 Club Meeting
RPOs S. Weatherup; Auction

April 12 Burnside Stamp Fair

April 17 Friends of Philately

April 26 Valley Stamp Club
Annual Show and Bourse
Kentville Fire Hall 10 - 4pm

May 10 Burnside Stamp Fair

May 13 Club Meeting

May 15 Friends of Philately

May 16-18 Royal*2008*Royale
80th RPSC Annual Meeting,
Hotel Gouverneur, Quebec City

June 10 Club Meeting
Closing Social; Auction

June 14 Burnside Stamp Fair

August 29-31
BNAPLEX+2008+NOVAPEX
Annual Convention of the British
North America Philatelic Society and
the Regional Exhibition of the Nova
Scotia Stamp Club
Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, NS

Percy Julian, 1899 - 1975

by Michael Peach

Annually since 1978 the US Postal Service has issued a stamp "to recognize the achievements of prominent African Americans." The 1993 stamp (Sc. 2746) marked the work of Percy Lavon Julian, a prominent research chemist.

Julian, the grandson of a slave, studied chemistry at De Pauw University, in Greencastle, Indiana, one of the few universities to admit blacks. He graduated in 1920 and was first in his class. He completed a masters degree at Harvard. With the support of a Rockefeller Fellowship he studied for his doctorate at the University of Vienna, graduating in 1931.

On returning to the USA, he continued research at De Pauw University. By 1935 with Josef Pikl, he had developed the total synthesis of physostigmine, used in the treatment of glaucoma, and now being studied for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. It was previously only available from its natural source,



Calabar bean. The report of the resultant findings, published in the Journal of the American Chemical Society, is undoubtedly the most significant chemical research publication to come from DePauw. He was unable to obtain a university

teaching position, and in 1936 he joined the Glidden Company as director of research at the newly created Soy Products Division.

Julian was one of the pioneers of industrial chemical synthesis, initially working with soy protein. In 1940 he changed direction and began synthesizing sex steroids: progesterone, estrogen, and testosterone from plant sterols. His work led to the large scale production of these hormones from soybeans. After the discovery in 1948 that natural cortisone could relieve rheumatoid arthritis, Julian set to work and was able to produce a synthetic cortisone substitute by October 1949. This was more readily available and much less costly than natural cortisone.

In 1950 he became Director of Research at the Glidden Company. 1953 he founded Julian Laboratories, later sold to Smith, Kline and French for \$2.3 million, but remained as its president.

In 1947 the NAACP awarded him the Spingarn Medal, its highest honour. In 1973 he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences, the second African American to be so honoured. 1996 he was inducted into the National Inventor Hall of Fame. In 1999 the American Chemical Society recognized Julian's synthesis of physostigmine as one of the top 25 achievements in the history of American chemistry.

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Valley Stamp Club

Annual Stamp Exhibition and Sale

Saturday April 26, 2008

10 am - 4pm

Kentville NS Fire Hall

Stamp Exhibits

Dealer Tables

Auction 2pm

Free Admission



The Nova Scotia Stamp Club and the Atlantic Chapter of BNAPS are planning the philatelic event of 2008 in Nova Scotia.

BNAPS+2008+NOVAPEX

Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax

August 29-31, 2008

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

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

POed at the PO

by Jeff Parks

Okay, I give. I have been collecting Canadian stamps since about 1972. Yes - I'm older than I look. Up until now it has been an enjoyable hobby. I try to get to the Post Office to buy a couple of each issue so that I can have one for my mint collection and, should none come through regular mail, one to use for my used collection. The postal rates were only 8c in 1972 and with a paper route, I could afford most of the items, including blocks, as they came out. The only thing that I regret not collecting then were booklets, but for the most part, they were only available from vending machines and you were never guaranteed of getting something different each time. Growing up in Liverpool, there were a lot of collectors, but as a young teen my knowledge of the larger world of collecting was, well - at best, limited.

Let's slip back to the present. I still collect Canada, new and used. The "paper route" pays much better these days - a lot more disposable income than when I was 10. Okay, so what's my beef? - booklets...Booklets...BOOKLETS @&#! Now if I collected booklets or had a lot of stuff to mail (other than the newsletter), this wouldn't bother me so much because the postage would get used up for the "two of each method" that I have been using for 35 years. But I don't, so I buy

a booklet and it takes me some time to use up the other six or eight stamps that I don't need for my collection.

So, finally, my point. I received the recent issue of Canada Post's *Details* magazine and 8 of the next 11 stamp issue dates are booklets! I haven't yet used up the booklets from the last quarter. Come on folks; shouldn't we be showing some constraint here? Are we really that lazy that we can't lick the back of a stamp? Shouldn't we, in this age of conservation, be cutting back on our consumption? It takes twice as much paper to create a self adhesive booklet (printed stamp side and backing paper). It takes twice as much ink as a pane (decoration on the backing paper) and therefore twice as much actually printing time - more electricity, more job costs... more...More...MORE! But really, is all this waste necessary? No wonder it costs 52c to mail a letter.

Yes, they have us hooked; we keep buying. If Canada Post really wants to show some leadership and reduce, they can start by scrapping booklets. Okay, I admit that for the general populace a booklet is an easy package to buy and store. They don't, for the most part, care what the image is or what it commemorates. So keep the flags, queens and Christmas issues for them in booklets and give the collectors a break. If you want us to be impressed, keep doing the nice panes. I'm more likely to buy a whole sheet of those!!

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Where in the World!?

by Jeff Parks

Russian Independent States

The name “**Kolomyia Issue**” was given to some of the first issues of the Western Ukraine, a short lived independent state, issued in December 1918. Austrian stamps were overprinted with “Укр. Н. Р.” and a surcharge. A primitive registration stamp using the same overprint was issued in 1919. Forgeries are well known for this series of stamps. A 100 sheets of Austrian stamps in all values were brought to Kolomyia in August 1919. They were cancelled there and later overprinted them in Cernauti. In September 1919 a couple of speculators managed to get hold of the original dies and cancelled a lot of unused Austrian stamps. After that the three dies were destroyed.



The Far Eastern Republic issued a number of postage stamps during its brief existence for local usage only in the coastal provinces. This area of eastern Siberia was formed into an nominally independent state in April 1920 as a matter of external politics to form a buffer between Russia and the western occupied territories of Imperial Japan. In November 1922 it was absorbed into the Soviet Union.



The first issues in late 1920 consisted of the Imperial Russian Arms issue overprints and later four stamps of an original design. Other areas continued to use locally issued stamps well into 1921. The Chita central government issued a definitive set in 1921-1922 which was widely used throughout the

Russian Far East up to February 1924. Some of these stamps were produced in quantity, however others are quite rare. Rarer still is evidence of legitimate use on cover for some issues, and somewhat scarce for most. Far Eastern Republic stamps should be treated with caution because there is no evidence they some were ever postally used. These include the so-called Nikolaevsk-on-Amur issue and the 1923 Vladivostok Airmail issue. Forgeries and fantasy issues abound.



Cover Story

by Jeff Parks

Ruby Keeler, actress, singer, dancer - a Hollywood starlet in the 1930s - was born Ethel Hilda Keeler in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia on August 25, 1909. Her father, a truck driver, thought that he could make more money in the United States, so when Ruby was 3 the family packed up and moved to New York. With six children, times were still tough. A school dance teacher recognized her potential and asked her mother if she could take lessons but was denied based on familial monetary shortfalls. The teacher prevailed and Ruby took class lessons on Saturdays. She and a friend lied about their age to get into an audition as chorus girls in a tap dance number.

Ruby was hired for George M. Cohan's *The Rise of Rosie O'Reilly* (1923) which set her career on its stellar path. In 1928 she started appearing in Ziegfeld shows. She had just married Al Jolson that same year. She was 19. He was 42. By the early 1930s, Ruby was discovered by Warner Brothers. Jack Warner, on the strength of her performance in the musical *42nd Street* signed her to a long term contract, casting her in many hits through the remainder of the 30s. After a difficult marriage, the Jolson's divorced in 1940 and she remarried John Lowe in 1941.

Happy in her second marriage and no longer desirous of a movie career she retired from show business and went on to raise five children. Lowe died of cancer in 1969. In the 1950s she began to reappear in and she came out of retirement in 1971 and was again in the Hollywood limelight for a period of time. She passed away in on February 28, 1993, age 82, in Rancho Mirage California. She has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

The commemorative cover shown was post marked Aug 25 1936 HALIFAX N.S., on the occasion of Ms. Keeler's 27th birthday. The cover is franked with a 3c King George V Medallion issue. The origin of cover is unknown, but if you any information please let me know and I will pass it on.



Stamp Oddities

Sayed Darwish (1892-1923) was a renowned Egyptian composer, who in his short lifetime composed 26 stage musicals for the stage and about 260 songs. He was regarded as the greatest Arab composer of the 20th century who introduced the piano into Arabian music.

On the anniversary of Darwish's death, he is usually commemorated in a great ceremony in which Egypt's great writers, poets and thinkers eulogize him for he was rightly called "The People's Musician".



In 1957 a stamp commemorating him was issued by Egypt, and a street in Cairo bears his name. The Alexandria municipality erected two statues of Sayed Darwish and named the greatest stage and street after him.



Inverness Post office, Circa 1965

"Post Offices of Pre-Confederation Newfoundland"

Are available on CD only from Carl Munden. Price CDN \$35.00. This project was completed using MS Word and may not be compatible with a Mac.

Membership

No changes in membership to report. Our membership now stands at 111. The lowest in five years.

Estate Planning

One of the biggest questions asked by a collector is: What happens to my collection when I'm gone? This question has been asked of RPSC and some recent articles and thoughts on the subject are offered on their website. You will find *Estate Planning and Advice for the Disposition of Collections* by Joel Ruimy, where he provides 10 tips for sensible philatelic estate-planning. Other articles and topics are being added as they are available. For more information visit :

www.rpsc.org/estateplanning.htm

Novapex 07 souvenir postcards with the stamp and show cancel, the cost is \$2 each plus shipping, are still available. Contact the Newsletter for you copy.

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 May '08 issue is May 2, 2008.**

New Brunswick Law Stamps

These stamps are legalized by virtue of an Act passed in March- April Session of the General Assembly of 1884, entitles "An Act respecting Law Stamps". There appeared some time later a set of four stamps printed in blue on white paper perforated 17 by 26, design is a figure of Justice holding scales in right hand and a sword in the left. Towards the end of 1887 the 20 cent was changed to red. Unused specimens can be easily obtained at their face value. The used specimens are difficult to procure as the papers upon which they are placed are made matters of record and cannot be removed from the court files.

Article by H.R. Donahoe. Reprinted from the *Halifax Philatelist* April 1888.

One Frame Competition 2008

The NS Stamp Club is aiming to repeat last years success of the team one frame competition. The team from the members of the British Collectors Club of Nova Scotia (BCCNS) were the eventual winners.

Teams are already being organized again this year. Exhibits can be entered either in the BNAPS part of the show (BNAPS members and area only) or the Novapex part. Entry forms can be found on the web,

<http://www.asch.ndirect.co.uk/bnapex2008/default.asp>

or

<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/pdfs/novapex08entry.pdf>

We hope that you will be able to participate. John Creighton is organizing the NSSC team, so speak to him about getting on the team. You can contact John at 823-3419 or through the newsletter.



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