



# The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

December 2008  
Volume 38, Issue 4  
Number 387

## Up and Coming

Every Saturday 4pm Auction  
Seaside Book and Stamp

**December 9** Club Meeting  
*Christmas Seals, Anything  
Goes Auction, Christmas Social*

**Dec. 18** Friends of Philately  
Bloomfield School, Halifax, NS

**January 1 - Happy New Year!!**

**January 13** Club Meeting  
*How to Make a Stamp Exhibit,  
Circuit Books*

**Jan. 15** Friends of Philately

**Jan. 24** 60th Cathex  
St. Catherines, Ontario

**April 17-19** CSDA Spring Na-  
tional Postage Stamp Show  
Toronto, ON

## Our Canadian Heritage on Stamps - John Cook

by W. Horne

John Cook was born at Sanquhar, Scotland on 13 April 1805. Educated at the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh, he earned a Doctorate in Divinity and was ordained at Cardross in December 1835. Cook then served as a minister in the Church of Scotland. In 1836 he came to Canada to serve his ministry at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Quebec, a post he kept for 47 years.



A deep thinker and reasoner, and a man of noble presence and distinguished appearance, Cook was well suited to St. Andrew's, a church with a large and enlightened congregation in a city that was a beehive of commerce and industry. His sermons were "models of literary form and texture (notable) for their beauty of diction, clearness of thought and lofty eloquence".

Cook had a great deal of business sense and was a "prince of committeeman". He inevitably gravitated to leadership positions of the Church. He was elected Moderator of the Church of Scotland in 1838 and again in 1844, when despite his best efforts, a schism divided the Canadian Church. He soon began work to form a reunion. All the diverse Presbyterian Churches in Canada finally united in 1875, proclaiming Cook as the founding Moderator of the General Assembly for all his hard work.

Education was one of Cook's foremost

concerns. In 1840 he was named principal *pro tempore* of a Presbyterian college at Kingston. He was involved with securing funding and a charter for the college under the name of Queens College (now Queens University), which he served as principal (1857-59) when no one else would take the job. Queens bestowed an honorary Doctor of Laws on him in 1880 following his term as

its first chancellor (1877-79). He became principal of Morin College (1862) in Quebec, a post he kept until his death on 31 March 1892 at Quebec.

Mourned by Presbyterians as an educator, pastor, and national leader, Cook was praised by the francophone press as an "enemy of all fanaticism" and a man who had worked "to maintain between the two nationalities that spirit of good will which distinguishes the population of Quebec City."



Canada Post issued this stamp of Dr. Cook on May 30, 1975. The stamp was a se-tenant pair with the other design depicting Rev. Dr. S.D. Chown of the United Church of Canada.

[Reprinted from Newsletter Vol 15 No. 128 - March 1982 with some editorial corrections and enhancements. - ed]

Season's  
Greetings

## 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) 765-3272  
e-mail: aikido@ns.sympatico.ca



If you haven't heard from us in a while by email or you have recently changed your address, please forward your email address to [webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca) and we will put you on our list. We do not give out email addresses to anyone nor do we publish them without permission.

### Membership Report

Membership reports approval of the following member application.

#1026 David Eveleigh, Sydney, NS

### Resignations

#574 Margaret Bignell

#1025 Tyson Koops

### 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: [moodybluestamps@eastlink.ca](mailto:moodybluestamps@eastlink.ca)  
[www.moodybluestamps.ns.ca](http://www.moodybluestamps.ns.ca)

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

Advertising rate for the newsletter or website is \$50 (CDN) per year.

### Cover Story

This Mourning Cover (Fig. 1) was posted in Famagusta, Cyprus, as indicated by the Numeral Obliterator "982". The One Piastre stamp (Die I) has the Crown CA watermark, indicating use between 1882 and 1890. The addressee is Prince Alexandre Gagarine and reveals that he was a Consul-General for Imperial Russia. Apparently at the time of this mailing, he was serving in that capacity in Beyrouth. A Google search in Figure 2. Further searches did not provide any clues as to a death in the Prince's family that might have precipitated the sympathy card.

The Insignia on the envelope flap (Fig. 3) held further interest, and Google came to the rescue again when the word in the flash under the initials, EMMENEIN, was found to mean "stand fast" or "hold to one's beliefs" and is the motto of the Pierides family of Cyprus. The motto stems from the refusal of one Pierakis

Pierides to renounce Christianity and his subsequent decapitation at the hands of the Turks in 1821. The initials Z L P stand for Zeno Pierides (1839 - 1911) a descendant of Pierakis. The Pierides family is still very prominent in Cyprus, and operate a Museum containing many early items of historic significance to that country.



Figure 1



Figure 3

Figure 2

Prince  
Alexandre  
Alexandrovich  
Gargaine

1870-?





## RPSC Charts a New Course

At the Board of Directors meetings of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada held in Quebec City May 16-18, 2008, the board named a four-member Management Team. The Team was charged with responsibility for board decisions and operation of RPSC business until ROYAL\*2009\*ROYALE scheduled for St. Catharines, Ontario June 12-14, 2009.

The team is comprised of J.J. Danielski, Michael Peach, George Pepall, and W. John Sheffield who are all members of the Board of Directors.

A management team approach was necessary because of vacancies on the executive and the need to recruit new people to hold office.

Recognizing its responsibilities went beyond recruitment and housekeeping matters, the Team determined it had to examine the whole organization and establish a plan for what the RPSC was to be and how it would better achieve its objectives.

The process, which was launched during the summer, had the Team craft a RPSC mission statement, a motto, and a statement of purpose. Setting goals, defining directions, and developing a strategic plan were also part the work.

Under study is *The Canadian Philatelist*, the society's journal; the annual convention, its purpose and objectives; and the ways the Society is managed, including its financing. The new plan for the Society will need to ensure, not only that the right things are being planned for, but that they will be performed the right way.

In a joint statement, the Team called what it is doing "a course correction" for the RPSC. They all agree that certain fundamentals must remain intact. The Society is dedicated to stamp collecting, and it is keen on helping new collectors get started. It is also important that established collectors have opportunities to communicate, to meet, and to discuss their hobby.

The statement included "It is evident that significant change is necessary to ensure the Society remains viable. Membership growth and development needs to be better managed and there needs to be a sustainable financial plan."

RPSC President Rick Penko is "happy" with the Management Team's early work, and "I am looking forward to more positive things in St. Catharines next year." He said "the Society needs this year of self-examination."

Information on The RPSC is available by: e-mail [info@rpsc.org](mailto:info@rpsc.org); telephone 1-888-285-4143; website [www.rpsc.org](http://www.rpsc.org); or, RPSC National Office, P.O. 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1.

For more information contact:  
Michael Nowlan 506-357-2698; or  
Margaret Schulzke 1-888-285-4143

## Stamp Oddities

Brought to you by the letter.... This month I continue a look at letters as overprints.

**K.P.** an abbreviation for "Kaganitang Pampamahallan" meaning official business, is a WWII Japanese overprint on Philippine stamps for uses as occupation Official stamps.

**L** overprinted on stamps of Columbia indicates usage on mail carried by LANSA (Lineas Aeras Nacionales Sociedad Anonima).

**M** overprinted on stamps of Belgium identifies it as a military parcel post stamp issued during WWII.

**NF** "Nyasaland Force" abbreviated N.F. was overprinted on stamps of the Nyasaland Protectorate for use during British occupation of German East Africa during WWI.

**O.B.** overprinted on Philippine stamps starting in 1926 for "Official Business". Prior to 1926 the letters were added in manuscript, applied by typewriter or by use of a rubber stamp. Stamps of the USA from 1899-1901 and 1903-06 were also known to have this overprint.

**P** in a circle with a star and crescent were hand-stamped on Straits Settlement stamps to indicate use in Perak.

**R** plus a surcharge on stamps of the French colonies were for use on Reunion Island.

**S** overprinted on South Australia stamps, prior to the 1874 use of "OS" for general Official use, indicated "Sheriff".

**T** overprinted on Peruvian stamps indicates stamps for the province of Huacho. On stamps of Tasmania, the T indicates an Official stamp. In South Australia, prior to 1874, the T was placed on stamps used by the "Treasurer".

**UAE** The first issue of the United Arab Emirates issued in August 1972 bore this abbreviation plus an Arabic inscription on the stamps of Abu Dhabi.

**V** overprinted on 1935-41 Belgian stamps indicated victory at the end of WWII. A "V" on 1941 stamps of Norway commemorate the invasion of the country by the

### 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.

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

**Dues - The final call.** Don't miss out on events and articles. Please pay your dues by the end of December to avoid being dropped from the roster. Your dues for the most part help publish the this newsletter and support our website, as well as providing monies for other programs. Thank you all for your continued support of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club.

### "Post Offices of Pre-Confederation Newfoundland"

Available from Carl Munden. CDN \$35.00. CD only MS Word compatible.

### Library Overdues

If you have one of the long overdue library books listed below please return it post haste. If you have already returned our thanks.

On Track: The Railway Mail Service in Canada

Canada's Three Cents Small Queens 1870-1897

The Canadian Revenue Stamp Catalog

Territorial Assiniboia and Saskatchewan - The Westhaver-Thompson Collection

Stamp Collecting for Dummies

### Newsletter Articles

Hopefully the garden tools are now or soon to be tucked away for another season. So...what to do with all that spare time? How about writing a short philatelic article or a couple of paragraphs on you favourite item. How about writing a serial or theme based column. It doesn't take much material to fill 4 pages - I do it every month - thanks to those who contribute - like you!!!

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)

Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. **The deadline for the December '08 issue is Dec. 24, 2008.**

## HELP REQUESTED

### BRITISH DIAMOND LETTER MARKS

Before he died, Dave Cooper and I, a silent partner, were working on an article on Diamond Letter Marks on mail in the United Kingdom, for publication in the Great Britain Collectors Club Chronicle. By searching through some of his vast collection Dave was able to find 28 covers. These are, presumably, still somewhere in his collections. I have only been able to come up with 5. In order to complete this article I need some more covers or postcards, colour copies or scans, specifically,

Mail from overseas mail coming into the UK (I do not have any covers in this area)

- OHMS covers
- Paquebot covers with diamonds
- Airletters, or aerogrammes
- Triangular cancellations with diamond markings

An example is shown below. The diamonds were not cancellations, but were used when mail, either outbound or inbound, was counted. The marks can be either on the front or back.

If you can help, please contact me, Michael Peach, 832-1662.



### NOVAPEX 2009

So now that we have all caught our breath following this year's successful combined BNAPS/Novapex, it is soon time to put our sights on next year's local show Novapex 2009. The show and bourse, under chairman John Hall, will be held on September 25 to 27 2009 at the Dartmouth Sportsplex, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. I am sure John would love to hear from you if you are willing to take on a particular role in helping to organize the event. Information concerning the stamp show will be posted in this newsletter and the website [www.nsstampclub.ca](http://www.nsstampclub.ca) as it becomes available.

### SEASIDE BOOK & STAMP

*For All Your Stamp  
and Supply Needs*

*Check our new features on the web-  
site 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](mailto:seaside@seasidebs.com)  
Web: <http://www.seasidebs.com>