



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

February 2010

Volume 39, Issue 399

UP AND COMING

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

Feb 6 Moncton Stamp Fair
100 War Veterans Ave 10am-4pm

Feb 9 Club Meeting
"Shades & Colours of the 8c Small Queen" - Jack Forbes, Auction

Feb 13 Exhibiting Workshop
Keshen Goodman Library, Halifax
Details on Page 4

Feb 13 Douglas J. Gray
Open House Show, Dartmouth

Feb 18 Friends of Philately
Bloomfield Centre, Halifax

March 9 Club Meeting
"What I Collect" - Panel
Members Stock

March 13 Douglas J. Gray
Open House Show, Dartmouth

March 18 Friends of Philately
Bloomfield Centre, Halifax

CSDA Spring National April 9-11
QE Bldg., Exhibition Place, Toronto

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Ernest Rutherford 1871 - 1937 Baron Rutherford of Nelson, New Zealand

by Michael Peach



Ernest Rutherford was one of the giants in the development of modern Physics. He was born in Nelson, New Zealand, second son of James and Martha Rutherford. In 1889, he was awarded a scholarship to study at Canterbury College (now the University of Canterbury), graduating with the M.A. and B.Sc. degrees. In 1894 he was awarded an 1851 Exhibition Science Scholarship to study at the University of Cambridge, as a research student with Prof. Sir J.J. Thompson, a leading physicist who reported the discovery of the electron in 1897 and was awarded the 1906 Nobel Physics Prize. In 1898 Rutherford left Cambridge to begin his teaching career and to take up the Macdonald Chair of Physics at McGill University. While in Montréal he continued his research on radioactivity, particularly the emission of alpha particles. In 1900, he was joined by Frederick Soddy, an Oxford graduate and the first of Rutherford's students to win a Nobel Prize (1921). Together they published several papers on radioactivity and nuclear disintegration. Otto Hahn, another Nobel winner (1944), joined Rutherford's group at McGill in 1905.

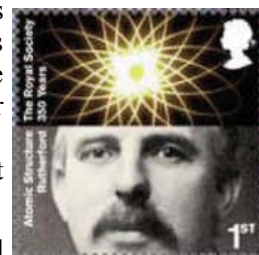
Rutherford returned to England in 1907 becoming Langworthy Professor of Physics at Manchester University, and in 1919 he succeeded his mentor, Sir J.J. Thompson, as Cavendish Professor of Physics at Cambridge University.

While at Manchester he was awarded the 1908 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for "Investigations into the disintegration of the elements and the chemistry of radioactive substances." He subsequently received many honours, was knighted in 1914, was appointed to the Order of Merit in 1925, and created Baron Rutherford of Nelson (New Zealand) in 1931. Many future Nobel Prize winners came under Rutherford's direct influence, Chadwick (1935), Blackett (1948), Cockcroft (1951), Walton (1951), as well as many others indirectly at the Cavendish Laboratory.

Sweden was the first country to issue a Rutherford stamp in 1968, as part of its Nobel Prize winners series. The countries associated with Rutherford have issued stamps in his honour. The centenary of his birth in 1971 was marked by his native New Zealand with a 1c and a 7c stamp, showing two of his major achievements, experiments to determine the structure of the atom and artificially induced nuclear reactions. Canada also issued a stamp in 1971, symbolizing the great energy that harnessing the atom has given.

As a part of the 2008 New Zealand alphabet series, 'R' for Rutherford honoured the centenary of his Nobel Prize. This month, Great Britain

Continued page 2



is finally issuing a stamp as part of the series commemorating 350 years of the Royal Society. Rutherford was President of the Royal Society from 1925 to 1930. Both of these stamps symbolically represent electron orbitals around a central nucleus.

He died in 1937, and his ashes were buried in the nave of Westminster Abbey, just west of the tomb of Sir Isaac Newton, and by that of Lord Kelvin.

In 1997 he joined the distinguished rank of scientists having a chemical element named after them. The element with atomic number 104 is named rutherfordium and has the chemical symbol Rf.



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

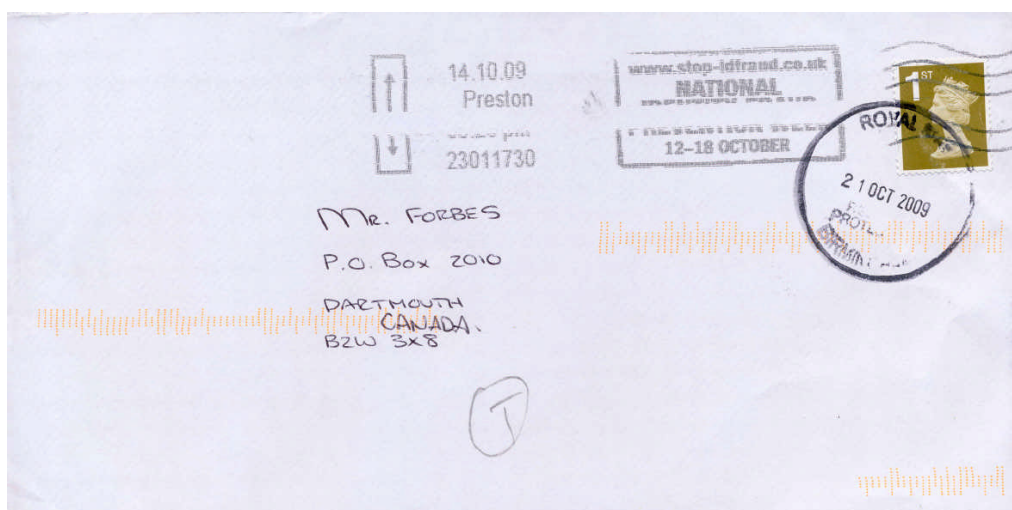
Advertising rate for the newsletter or website is \$50 (CDN) per year.

Cover Story

by J.A. Forbes Jr

This letter was received on January 7, 2010, despite the fact that it had been mailed in England on October 21, 2009. Apparently, as explained in the Royal Mail label on the reverse, the letter was insufficiently paid to provide Air Mail service; thus the long period for delivery.

One might chalk up this oversight in providing enough postage to ignorance of the proper postal rates or other similar excuses. However, one would have expected better from a stamp dealer, especially when the stamp dealer is Stanley Gibbons! As an aside, there is no identification of the Gibbons firm on the outside of the envelope....one wonders if this is done as a security measure to reduce the likelihood of theft.



A NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB NEWSLETTER FROM THE PAST

This newsletter to members of the NS Stamp Club was sent by the secretary, W. R. Pearce, from Halifax on May 7, 1923, and consisted of two typed legal-size sheets which read as follows: "The regular monthly meeting of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club will be held on Monday evening at 8 o'clock, May 14th, at the Church of England Institute, 414 Barrington St. "An auction sale will be held after, and below we give a list of some, those marked with an X are unused. The lots can be seen from seven to eight o'clock, at the rooms evening of May 14th."

This announcement was followed by the auction list which consisted of 117 items. This newsletter was found between the pages of one of the stamp albums of Wilhelmina Hechler, Henry's daughter. I will be donating same to the Club so that present members who may be interested may have a look at auction items and prices in 1923.

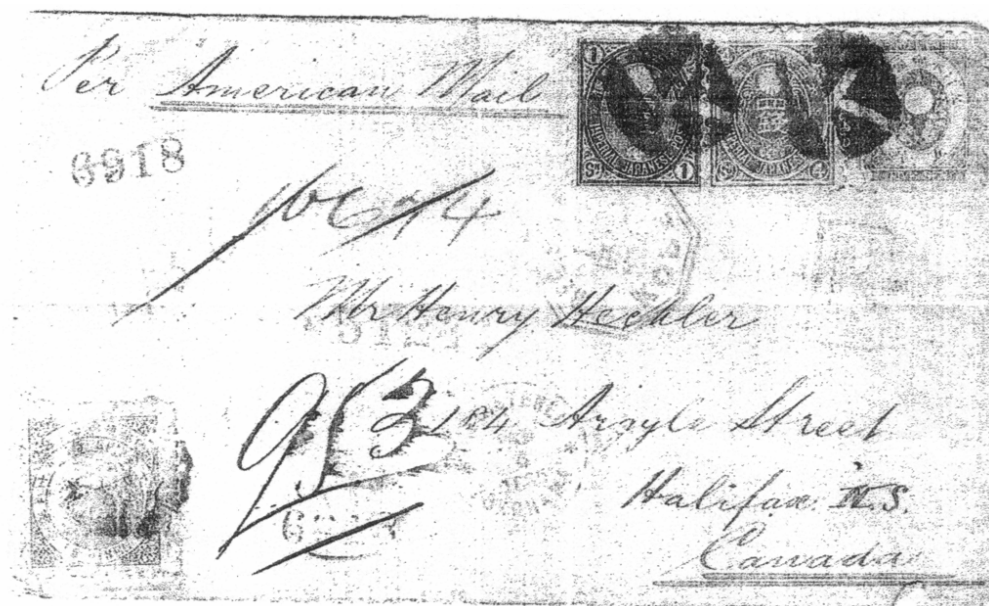
Lorraine Rasmussen

Stamp Oddities

Mysterious Words - A Solution Found? by Michael E. Ruggiero

[Reprinted with the permission of the author. Originally printed in Japanese Philately (JP) Vol 64, No. 2 April 2009 - ed.]

In a JP article (JP 62/20-21) published two years ago, I introduced a cover (Figure 1) with two "mysterious words" printed over a boxed "R" registration marking. The cover



was sent by registered mail from Kobe to Canada in 1884, addressed to Mr. Henry Hechler.

The owner of the cover, NS Stamp Club member Lorraine Rasmussen - Hechler's granddaughter, had specifically sought feedback on the rate structure of the cover, which had a total franking of 25 sen. The postage rate to Canada at the time was 5 sen for each 15 grams weight. Thus, if the cover and its original contents weighed over 30 grams, but less than 45 grams, the postage charge would have been 15 sen., and the additional 10 sen registration fee at the time would have made a total of 25 sen.

Questions have been raised however as to whether the cover contained a weight of 31-45 grams, based on its relatively small size. Another theory is that the 25 sen franking may include an A.R. (Avis de Réception or Acknowledgement of

Receipt) fee of possibly 5 sen. This conjecture was based on the interpretation of the words over the "R" registration marking (Figure 2) as "Return Receipt" and evidence that there was something attached on the back of the cover.

Upon reading this earlier JP article, Philip Kaye from England wrote me. He asked if I had read the article "A.R. in the British Isles" by Prof. David Handelman. This 25-page article appeared in the June 2007 issue of the London Philatelist. I sought this article out and found it to be most informative, which should be read by those interested in A.R. mail. I decided to send Prof. Handelman a copy of JP 62/20-21 and asked for his comments. In his reply he wrote:

"...offering A.R. service was obligatory among UPU members from 1879 (and between original members from 1875), and since Japan was certainly a member of the UPU at the date of mailing, it was obliged to offer this service. Hard evidence for the fact that it did indeed offer the service can be found in the US postal guides of the 1880s, which list *incoming* rates to the US from foreign countries for various services including

return receipt (the term used in the US). For Japan, the 1883 postal guide gives the A.R. fee as 5 sen (the foreign A.R. fee was almost certainly destination independent, so it would have been the same to Canada".

Prof. Handelman has a colour copy (scan) of the cover in question, and continued:

"However in this case, it is marked Return receipt - such marking was not compulsory under UPU rules, but it is clear evidence that the cover was sent with A.R. In the period 1875-1892, the A.R. form could have been sent attached to the cover, or sent separately (in the same mailing) - this depended on the jurisdiction involved. Moreover, the stamps paying the A.R. fee were on the forms (rather than the covers) for all pre-1892 examples of which I am aware. So it is most likely that the A.R. fee was included in the postage on the cover, thus, I agree with your rate analysis, 10 sen registration plus triple UPU rate.

[To Be Continued in the March 2009 issue of The Post]

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Club Member David Jones of Ottawa will be joining us at the Feb. meeting. He was kind enough to send along a list of auction items and noted reserves he plans to enter in our auction.

Lot	Country	Details	Reserve
2	Canada	Unitrade Canada Catalogue 2008 edition	10.00
3	Canada	NHL All-Stars Souvenir Sheets. Cat \$31.50	12.00
4	Canada	Unitrade Canada catalogue 2003 edition	4.00
5	USA	Nice lot of USA on paper	1.00
6	Canada	Centennial Plate Blocks 461 – 465b Cat \$87	15.00
7	Finland	The 1930 – 1946 definitives	3.00
8	Canada	Full sheet 593	8.00
9	United Nations	Large lot of vintage UN stationery	15.00
10	World	Nice lot of world on paper	3.00
11	Canada	“Of ships and ice” – a small FDC portfolio by Charles Lundgren, published by Fleetwood	2.00
14	Cuba	Automobile souvenir sheet	No reserve
15	UK	1956 Stanley Gibbons “Two Reigns” catalogue	5.00
16	world	6 miss. Mint souvenir sheets	1.00
17	Canada	Millennium Keepsake	3.50
18	Canada	Novelty cover – postal strike	No reserve
19	world	6 Judaica cards and covers	2.00
20	Canada	Series of the Century stamp, coin and phone card (retail \$29.95)	15.00
21	Cyprus	MNH Specimen collection	2.00
22	Kiribati / Nauru	MNH sets	3.00
23	Canada	Canada Stamp Issue posters in English and French versions for the 1953 Elizabeth issues	10.00
24	Aland	Booklets (4) and souvenirs	4.00
25	Hrvatska	MNH Singles	5.00
26	Jamaica / Belize	MNH Sets and Singles	4.00
27	Cyprus	MNH Specimen Sets and Singles	10.00
28	Barbados / Jamaica	MNH Sets and Singles	3.00
29	Greenland	MNH Sets, singles and souvenirs	3.00
30	Canada	1970 Trans-Canada Flight Commemoration – 19 fresh covers	2.50
31	Canada	Publication: First report of the Finance Committee, Post-Office Department 1836 (retail 13.95)	3.00
32	Canada	Publications: Nine mint, vintage and uncirculated official Canada Post publications including “From wampum to postal code” and “Mail through 5,000 years”	10.00
33	supplies	(7) Full sheet albums	10.00

The Nova Scotia Post Needs You!!!

Still looking for new Writers. Send me your articles and cover stories now. webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. **The deadline for the March 2010 issue is Feb 26, 2010. By the way, March will be issue No. 400!!**

St. Pierre et Miquelon Expo 2011

Hosted by Club Philatélique, SPM, June 2-4, 2011. Multi-frame, one-frame and youth classes.

<http://www.clubphilatelique.com>

Membership Comings and Goings

Ahhhhh! The sweet sound of a relaxed membership chair that no longer has to chase people to pay their dues. However, July is only 6 months away.

We have received applications from Brainard and Doreen Fitzgerald of Port Williams, NS. Brainard collects Canada on cover, Christmas seals, and postal stationary. Doreen is a collector of United States - Presidential material, and Digby Postcards. Both are members of the Valley Stamp Club.

Interim Report Our current membership (including the applicants) now stands at. Member - 92 Family - 14

Total 111 Honourary - 2 International - 3

This number has remained fairly steady in the last few years in the range of 110 - 115. Our demographic does suggest, however, that this number could drop off in the future years. Recruit the young!!

Novapex 2010, a National level show, will be held September 24 to 26, 2010 at the Dartmouth Sportsplex. A silver award at the Regional level is required to enter, however the regional show will be available for new entries. It is a good time to start planning your exhibit. If you are interested in assisting with the planning and development of the show, please let the Club executive know. Details available on the club website... www.nsstampclub.ca/novapex10.html.

NOVA PEX 2010

Filling holes: If you are a collector of mint Canada, this January was a bit of a shock to the pocket book. Tallying up the FDCs, definitives in various formats and the latest “Year of” stamp, the bill came in around \$100 - OUCH!! And this is only January!!

Help on Paper Types Requested

Member Martin Farrell is looking for help in learning to distinguish early Canadian stamps printed on Laid paper and Wove paper. If you have some of good examples of these to show or a little knowledge to impart upon Martin please contact the newsletter and we will put you in touch.

EXHIBITING WORKSHOP 2010

Saturday 13 February 1.00 – 4.45 pm
Keshen Goodman Library

330 Lacewood Dr., Halifax (near Home Depot)
Novices: start from scratch session, preparing an exhibit from a series of covers.

Preparing the pages: how to make the pages, demonstration and tips.

Where to get information: bring along your laptop, as the library has wireless access.

Judging: How judges score an exhibit

We will attempt to answer your questions.

Everyone welcome - regardless if you are a beginner or just want to improve your exhibit.

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