



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

November 2012
Volume 42, Issue 425

UP and COMING

November 10 Douglas J Gray
Open House Dartmouth

November 13 Club Meeting
Program TBA

November 15 Friends of Philately
NS Museum Boardroom, Halifax

December 8 Douglas J Gray
Open House Dartmouth

December 11 Club Meeting
Program TBA

December 20 Friends of Philately
NS Museum Boardroom, Halifax

Travelling? Check out time and
place of other shows at
www.rpsc.org/shows.html

Bargain Basement in 1935

Return to Sender Printed Matter

by Michael Peach

The British overseas printed matter rate was ½d for 2oz to anywhere in the world from 1 July 1892 to 30 April 1949. The two 1935 covers shown, one to Chile and one to New Zealand, were returned to the sender in London. The window envelope to a hospital in Christchurch could not be delivered, left hospital rubber stamp, and was returned to British Felsol Co. Ltd in London. British Felsol was the supplier of Felsol, a powder used on the treatment of asthma. It can be assumed that the original recipient was a physician at the hospital. There was no additional charge. The cover would have gone twice through the Suez Canal.



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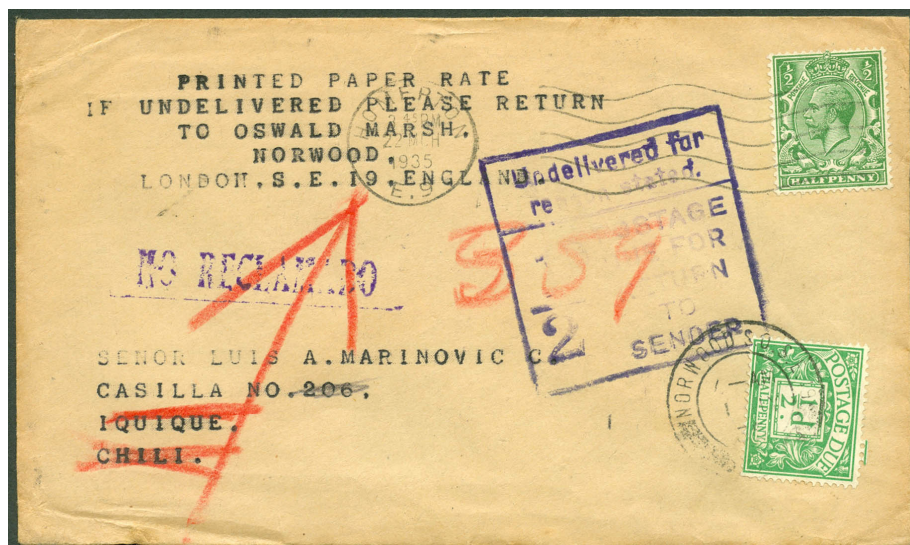
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e-mail: aikido@eastlink.ca
www.nickerson-stamps.com

The other cover from London stamp dealer Oswald Marsh to the Chilean port city Iquique (pg 2) went through the Panama Canal twice. It was charged ½d for return to sender in Norwood, with a ½d postage due stamp added in Norwood.

Both covers had covered a large distance before returning to London. Why was one charged postage due and not the other? In 1894 due to the large quantity of

newspapers being returned to the sender in the Post Office started charging for return postage, and the original charge for postage had to be paid again. This included all all printed matter mailed at the printed matter rate. All three countries were members of the Postal Union, and mail was redirected free to countries within the Union. Did the cover returned from New Zealand pass unnoticed through the Post Office in London, or was the cover returned from Chile wrongly charged postage due in Norwood?

The current printed matter rate for surface mail to non-European countries is £2.20 for up to 100 g, and the Air Mail for letters up to 10g is 87p. For comparison the old currency ½d is about 0.20p, and there was an increase of about 400% on the minimum charge, but it would be Air Mail.



COVER STORY

This interesting cover was recently for sale on ebay for \$500 - it didn't sell. It is from Sydney, Nova Scotia to Christmas Island, Big Bras d'Or Cape Breton (Nova Scotia) franked with a 3¢ Bill Stamp tied by a blue "SYDNEY N.S NO 24 74" split circle cancel. The Bill Stamp was not accepted as valid for postage resulting in 5¢ due as noted by the blue "5" hand-stamp in accordance with the Post Office Act of 1867 which required prepayment. Compulsory prepayment with stamps didn't occur until 1-Oct-1875. On the back are



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.

back the following transit stamps "SYDNEY N.S NO 24 74", "SYDNEY MINES C.B NO25 1874" double split ring cancel, "SYDNEY MINES C.B DE 3 1874", "SYDNEY N.S DE 3 74", "LITTLE BRAS.D'OR N.S DE 5", and "EAST BAY N.S DE 8 74". Of note is the lack of receiving stamp from



Christmas Island which opened in 1857. From these cancels one can surmise that there was no good over land route from Sydney to East Bay in 1874, a distance of 12 miles. Therefore the cover was sent through to Sydney Mines where it likely was held a) because of the franking or b) availability of a ship, until December 3. The cover was forwarded to Little Bras d'Or where it was shipped via the Great Bras d'Or, through Barra Strait and East Bay in the Bras d'Or Lake to East Bay, passing Christmas Island along the way then from East Bay to Christmas Island either by coastal road or returning ship to Christmas Island. The US seller states that this is "a very scarce use in an area of Canada difficult to find!" It most likely is.

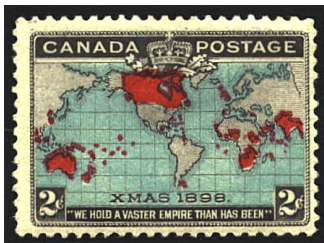
Stamp Oddities

Mathematics can be a joy to some and a fear of others. It is not a subject that most would consider in philately, but I hold in my hands a book on the subject from 1978 by William L. Schaaf called *Mathematics and Science an adventure in postage stamps*. Schaaf was, at the time of publication, a Professor Emeritus of Mathematics, Brooklyn College, The City University of New York. He states in the preface that “my boyhood enthusiasm for stamp collecting was rekindled, and before long the persons and subjects depicted on the stamps appealed to me far more than the nations that issued them”.

The book is a strange mix of mathematics who's who and history from 3000 BC to 1975 AD, using stamps to illustrate concepts, instruments, events, achievements, and the men of science themselves.



For instance, in the section Mapmakers and Stargazers (1500—1650), Schaaf shows Canada's first Christmas stamp to depict Gerhard Mercator's map projection—The Mercator Projection in which the map is drawn. Mercator himself has been depicted on many



stamps. The one shown here issued by Germany earlier this year would have been a nice addition to Professor Schaaf's collection.

A little closer to our own timeframe - Yesterday and Today (1940 to 1975) - the topics range from the nuclear age, computers and automation, to the challenges of outer space. Some of these themes are depicted below (l to r) Enrico Fermi and the anniversary of the first self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction (USA 2001), The Year of Information Technology (Sri Lanka 1998); Ice on Mars (Great Britain Oct 2012). All three stamps were issued



after publication of the book.

Mathematics plays an integral part of many other sciences, thus

the diversity in subject matter. The book also gives a list of mathematic applications to science on stamps, however not exhaustive and I am sure that some 35 years on, given these few examples the subject has been greatly expanded.



Canada Post did not issue a remembrance stamp per se in 2012, however in October it did issue three booklets and this souvenir sheet honouring the 150th anniversaries (1862-2012) of three regiments: The Black Watch (RHR) of Canada; The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (Wentworth Regiment); and, The Royal Regiment of Canada.

Classifieds

Amanda Lewis has begun a business selling stamps and supplies - more details will follow in future editions. You can contact Amanda at ARL1964@yahoo.ca.

STAMP SWAP: Available - Better worldwide and Canada for trade by want list:

penny.auction.stamps@gmail.com

Douglas J. Gray Supplies Sale

While supplies last! (tax included)

Vario Sheets: 4 packs for \$20.00

Hinges: 2 packs for 5.00

All mounts: 20% off cat.

Call me with your order at 461-0528 and I will bring them to the next meeting.

For Sale - Frames

I have 6 of the old club 8 page wooden frames in good condition for sale.

Price \$10 the lot, or \$2 each.

Please contact Michael Peach, 832-1662.

Scott's Specialized Albums – FREE

I have 13 various volumes of the Scott's Specialized albums from 1st issue to 1970. No stamps within.

They are hard cover and pages can be added.

I'd like them to have a good home (**no charge**) as I can't bear to put them out curb side for recycling.

Contact Peter Ineson 443-8552

DUES DUES DUES

The dues campaign is going quite well and at time of writing there are only about 19 outstanding members. A final invoice will be sent out in December if you are one of these. But please pay soon.

Membership cards have been distributed and will continue to be via post as payment arrives.

Deadline for payment is Dec. 15, 2012.

Contact me at 876-0099 or webnews@nsstampclub.ca or if you are unsure if you paid.

Orapex 2013

Dear Philatelist:

I am writing to you to provide information on ORAPEX 2013. ORAPEX is one of the four national level philatelic exhibitions recognized by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. In 2013, we will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of Formalized Postal Service in Canada (1763-2013).

Three documents: a description of ORAPEX, rules for exhibitors at ORAPEX and an entry form for exhibitors are available through your club contacts. I extend an invitation to you to consider exhibiting in our show.

Please note we have established some new rules for 2013.

Of course, all your members will receive a warm welcome at the event whether or not they are presenting an exhibit. ORAPEX will take place at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, on Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5, 2013.

Yours sincerely,
Brian Watson
ORAPEX Exhibits Coordinator
Ottawa. (Oct 30 2012)

St. Pierre & Miquelon will be hosting an International Exhibition from September 10 -14 in 2014.

Application forms will be available through Charles Verge. There is a limit of 30 frames per country with a maximum of 5 frames per exhibitor.

Their web site will be available in the new year.

Newsletter Articles

Send me your articles and cover stories now. Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. Thanks for all those who have contributed in the past we look forward to hearing from you again. **The deadline for the November issue is November 23, 2012.**

Appointments and Awards

NOVAPEX 2012 palmares is now available on the club website.

The CSDA National Show is on the Remembrance Day weekend. It is not known if any club members are exhibiting yet.

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Membership

George MacLean #1057 and Douglas Moss #1058 have been accepted as club members. In an oversight last month George's name was not posted. Mr. MacLean is from Bridgewater and while he did not indicate his collecting interests stated that he did enjoy the articles and information from "The Post". Thanks George. The roll now stands at 113 members.

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