



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

February 2015
Volume 44, Issue 446

UP and COMING

February 10 Club Meeting
Illustrated Addressed Admail -
Marty Zelenietz; Auction

February 19 Friends of Philately

March 10 Club Meeting

March 19 Friends of Philately

March 21 Fredericton Stamp Club
Spring Show, Fredericton High

April 14 Club Meeting

April 23 Friends of Philately

May 2-3 ORAPEX,
RA Centre, Ottawa, ON

May 22-24 Royal 2015 Royale
London, ON

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

Sir John A. Macdonald

by Jeff Parks

As every natural born or aspiring Canadian should know, Sir. John Alexander Macdonald (1815-1891) was this nation's first Prime Minister. Born in Scotland, his family immigrated to Kingston Upper Canada when he was a boy. He became a lawyer, starting his practice before he was entitled to do so and was involved in several high-profile cases that brought him to prominence in Kingston. He obtained a seat in the colonial legislature in 1844 and was appointed Premier of the United Province of Canada in 1857 during a time of very unstable politics.

Macdonald was one of the architects of Confederation that led to the joining of Canada West (Ontario), Canada East (Quebec), Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to create the Dominion of Canada under the *British North America Act*.



Source: [Library and Archives Canada/MIKAN 2979083](#)

Sir John has been portrayed on seven Canadian stamps. Four as portraits and three within a group (although less than discernable unless you know where to look). The first ❶ is based on a painting "Fathers of Confederation" by Robert Harris. Macdonald is the person standing at the middle back, in front of the window. The 3c stamp was issued 15 Sep 1917 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Confederation. For the 60th anniversary in 1927, three stamps were issued depicting Macdonald. The portrait ❷ issued 29 Jun 1927 was based on a photograph by William James Topley.

Also issued on the same date was a 2c version (not shown) of the 1917 stamp and a 12c stamp ❸ with the same portrait as in the 1c but also with a portrait of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. A 5c stamp of Laurier was also issued.

Another high value stamp (13c) was issued on 1 Jun 1935 depicting the delegates of the Charlottetown Conference ❹ in 1864 based on a photo by G.P. Roberts. Macdonald is pictured sitting on the steps in the centre of the image. He is also depicted standing (left front) in the 26 May 1966 issued stamp ❺ commemorating the 100th anniversary of the London Conference (1866).

The pen and ink low value definitives issued 17 October 1973 have come to be known as the Caricature Issue because of their whimsical portrayal of seven Prime Ministers and the Queen. Macdonald was portrayed on the 1c stamp ❻ of this issue. Recently, on the 200th Anniversary of his birth (1815), Canada

Post released a Permanent stamp showing Macdonald ❼ based on a portrait (top) held at Library and Archives Canada by an unknown artist. The stamp was designed by Paprika of Montreal. To my mind it is one of the most uninspiring stamps of Macdonald that could have been created.



Winter Blues Cure for the Philatelist

by Sean Weatherup

If you are looking for something unique to fulfill your philatelic ambitions or curiosities then a solution is just around the corner. Why not take in club member Gary Lyon's auction this month. Gary is the president of Eastern Auctions, who will hold the auction at the Lord Nelson Hotel, February 19, 20 and 21). There are three viewing sessions (Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings) where you can view all the items up for auction and meet Gary and his excellent staff. They are friendly and very knowledgeable, Experts Yohann Tanguay and Bill Burden are usually on hand and they are more than willing to share their expertise and opinions. The best thing about an auction is the wonderful opportunity to view items you have never seen before, only read about. An excellent cure for the winter blues in the Maritimes, where as you all know we do not have an abundance of dealers. While the bulk of the material offered is Canadian and the provinces, there are also worldwide and US lots up for sale. Auction sessions will take place on Friday and Saturday afternoons (1:30 pm).

Eastern Auctions hold three public auctions each year in Halifax. One of the things that make Gary's auctions stand out are the high quality of the stamps offered, i.e. very well centered, original gum, no hinges - all features that contribute to the things discriminating collectors are looking for. Rarities are also a highlight of the auctions. The hammer prices can reach into the thousands. Last October's auction featured the rare 2 cent Large Queen on laid paper, one of only three known examples. (photo) The stamp opened at \$170,000.00 – the final price came to \$247,250.00 and went to (an undisclosed) Canadian collector, so the stamp will for the time being, remain in Canada. Of course, being sold to a Canadian, the government will also get a healthy share for doing what they do.



Gary Lyon, President of Eastern Auctions, holding the two cent large queen on laid paper just prior to auction at Halifax, October 18, 2014.

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.

Membership is C\$15 per person (C\$20 US, C\$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.

Gary's auctions also abound in the hard to find stuff exhibitors are seeking out. Things like die proofs on stock or paper, trial colour proofs, essay proofs usually are well represented in the auctions. Scarce and unusual postal history abounds. Each auction generally features large collections (broken down to manageable lots) of well known collectors and this month's auction is no exception. The Friday sale will feature an impressive semi-official Canadian airmail collection along with a worldwide semi-postal collection.

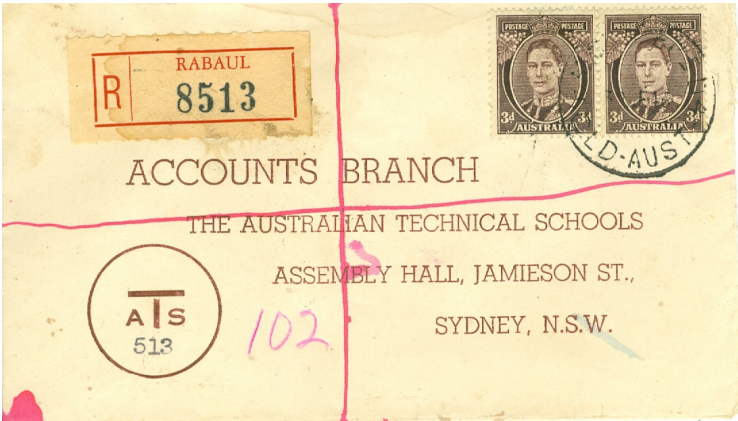
Back of the book items, revenues, and moderns errors are also featured. If this is your bag then bargains are to be had here. If you are looking for something to pass the time over the winter, there are several large lots available that could fill hours of enjoyment.

As mentioned, the best part of the auction is being able to look at and hold items you may never see again except at a major exhibition. Or finding that elusive item you have been searching for to fill a hole in your album or exhibit. It is also worth seeing the auction itself and watching the dealers from across the country vying with each other and individual collectors for the stamps they would like to have. So if you need a lift this winter, a live auction may be just the thing to raise your spirits.

Tortured Journey

by Marty Zelenietz

Many of us stamp collectors eventually broaden our interests by paying attention to the envelopes carried through the mails by our stamps. Interesting covers open to us the fascinating field of postal history. The duty the stamp did becomes important, as does the manner in which it was done. We become aware of the various postal markings that tell us how and where the cover travelled: we can reconstruct its journey and the cover’s story can be told. For example, the humble cover shown in Figure 1 tells of the



struggle to reconstruct the civilian post office in post-war Papua & New Guinea. After Japanese occupation, Allied bombing, and eventual liberation, the post office in Rabaul reopened on 24 June 1946. But New Guinea stamps were unavailable, and post office materials destroyed. The cover shows two 3d Australian stamps used to pay postage and registration, cancelled by a “P.M.G’s DEPT. D.4-QLD-AUST-” circular date handstamp of 30 December 1946, with a Rabaul registration label. The back carries two strike of the D.4 handstamp, and a Sydney Registered mark. We can know much about this post-war cover with just a little study. What of modern material? Has the move towards digitization of postage and handling helped or hurt the postal historian? Take the simple cover in Figure 2. It hardly seems worthy of note - no stamps, just a computer-



generated label to cover postage and tracking. No interesting postmarks- as a matter of fact, no postmarks of any kind. Boring. The simple nature of the cover is reinforced when we put the tracking number into Canada Post’s on-line tracking system: Figure 3 shows the results.

Date	Time	Location	Description
2015/01/21	14:48	DARTMOUTH	Item successfully delivered
	04:15	DARTMOUTH	Item processed at local delivery facility Learn More
2015/01/20	15:53	HALIFAX	Item processed
2015/01/17	05:00	MONTREAL	Item processed
2015/01/15	05:15	USMIAA,USA	International item has left originating country and is en route to Canada
2015/01/09	20:55	28412,USA	International item mailed in originating country

The tracking reveals a straightforward journey from posting in North Carolina, movement to Miami, and then up to Montreal, with final delivery in Dartmouth. It took a while (six days) to make it from Wilmington to Miami, but there is nothing really remarkable about the cover. As I said, boring.

But maybe not. I wanted to understand the slow passage from Wilmington to Miami, so I plugged the tracking number into the USPS website. I was not prepared for the amazingly tortured journey that was revealed (see Figure 4).

Your item departed a transfer airport in Dorval, Montreal, CANADA on January 16, 2015 at 9:26 am. The item is currently in transit to the destination.		
January 16, 2015 , 6:06 am	Departed	Montreal, CANADA
January 16, 2015 , 3:59 am	Departed	Louisville, UNITED STATES
January 16, 2015 , 12:08 am	Departed	Louisville, UNITED STATES
January 15, 2015 , 9:44 pm	Departed	West Palm Beach, UNITED STATES
January 15, 2015 , 10:01 am	Arrived	Miami, UNITED STATES
January 15, 2015 , 5:15 am	Processed Through Sort Facility	ISC NEW YORK NY(USPS)
January 15, 2015 , 3:03 am	Departed USPS Facility	MIAMI, FL 33112
January 14, 2015 , 1:45 pm	Arrived at USPS Facility	MIAMI, FL 33112
January 14, 2015 , 1:45 pm	Arrived at Sort Facility	ISC NEW YORK NY(USPS)
January 10, 2015 , 4:20 am	Departed USPS Facility	FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28302
January 9, 2015 , 10:10 pm	Arrived at USPS Origin Facility	FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28302
January 9, 2015 , 8:55 pm	Accepted at USPS Origin Sort Facility	WILMINGTON, NC 28412
January 8, 2015 , 3:49 am	Shipping Label Created	WILMINGTON, NC 28412
January 7, 2015	Pre-Shipment Info Sent to USPS	

From Wilmington the cover went to Fayetteville, NC. The next stop was New York. So far, so good- the cover is working its way north. But then, it goes from New York to Miami!

Classifieds

Wanted: 1-Cent Small Queens cancelled on Aug 28/97 and Oct 8/97. keithmackay@eastlink.ca / 902-421-1376.

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.

Edmonton Spring National

Dear Exhibitor,

You are invited to exhibit at the Edmonton Spring Regional and National Show March 29-30, 2015, at the Lions Centre (11113 113 Street) in Edmonton, Alberta, sponsored by the Edmonton Stamp Club.

The show prospectus as well as an entry form can be found on the Club website at www.edmontonstampclub.com/about_us_spring.html. All information can be submitted electronically, except for the entry fee. This can be mailed to the address on the prospectus with a signed copy of your entry form.

Non-competitive Club exhibits are also being solicited. Club exhibits are intended to showcase the stamp clubs and the interests of its members. They are intended to encourage exhibiting among club members. The Exhibit is a single frame from each club (one per club only). The title page of the exhibit will introduce the club and the remaining pages will be supplied by each club member (up to four pages max per person).

If you would like more information about the show, or help finding accommodations in the area, please let me know. You can also contact the Show Chair, Ed Dykstra. His email address is: eddykstra@shaw.ca.

If you require additional information about exhibiting, please email me and I would be happy to answer any of your questions.

Please note that our show is a regional and national show, first time exhibitors are welcomed and encouraged. Entry forms are due by 1 March 2015.

Thank you,

Kelly Liusz Moser (liuszmoser@gmail.com)

Exhibit Chair and Awards Coordinator

Edmonton Stamp Club

Phone - (780) 569-0044

Tortured Continued

At Miami, it is rerouted back to New York. Back on track? No, back to Miami, and then to West Palm Beach, and then northwest to Louisville, Kentucky! Finally on to Montreal, and then Nova Scotia. So, the journey looks like this:

Wilmington → Fayetteville → New York

→ Miami → New York → Miami

→ West Palm Beach → Louisville

→ Montreal → Nova Scotia!!!

This apparently boring cover has quite the story to tell, but nothing other than the tracking number reveals the long journey. How long the information will remain available on line is unknown. A quick check of registered and tracked letter mail showed that the USPS website still has information from October 2014 accessible. Postal historians of the future must have access to the digitized data of today, if they want to really understand the seemingly straightforward covers that pass into their hands.

Newsletter Material - WWI

I am looking for your material - cover, stamp or other philatelic related items that have some link to 1914 to 1918. A short write up or even some notes that can be edited will be satisfactory for this endeavour. Please forward any material to the editor. If you were interested in the next instalment of this material, sorry but the well ran dry, and I hope that you can admit that some other fascinating material was brought forward.



Membership

We have received applications for membership from Wendy Harris (Halibut Bay) and Donald Church (Halifax). Wendy did not indicate her collecting interests. Donald collects Canada (singles and plate blocks); Iceland, Greenland and Faroes.

DUES. If you have not paid your 2014-15 dues yet, please do so ASAP. Dues are payable for the period July 1 to June 30 to: Nova Scotia Stamp Club, c/o Marilyn Melanson, Treasurer, 28 Birch St, Halifax, NS B3N 2V1