



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

September 2017
Volume 47, Issue 460

UP and COMING

September 1-3 BNAPEX 2017
CALTAPEX, Calgary, AB

September 9 BRUNPEX 2017
Riverview NB (See Page 4)

September 9 North Toronto
Stamp Club—Fall Postage Stamp
Bourse

September 12 Club Meeting

September 21 Friends of Philately

October 10 Club Meeting

October 19 Friends of Philately

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

NEW CENTREVILLE CANCELLATION

The Charles Macdonald Museum of Centreville Society is pleased to announce Canada Post's new cancellation featuring a graphic of one of Charlie's iconic concrete deer, surrounded by the words "Charles Macdonald Museum of Centreville, N.S." It was unveiled in a ceremony at the museum on Aug 8th and will be available at the Centreville post office.

Charles Macdonald was an artist, traveler, social entrepreneur and concrete pioneer whose legacy and artwork we preserve in our quirky little museum. We are thrilled that his work and memory will be honoured in the form of a cancellation, particularly as Charlie sent home to N.S. hundreds of letters and postcards from his time at sea, in the age of sail and steam. If you would like more information about Charlie or the museum, visit our website or find us on facebook.

Ruth Legge, Secretary

Charles Macdonald Museum
of Centreville Society

SIR FREDERICK G. BANTING, KBE MC FRS FRSC 1891-1941

by Dr. Michael Peach



Sir Frederick Banting was one of the most famous Canadians of his time, and was voted the 4th greatest Canadian in the 2004 CBC poll, the highest ranking scientist. Sir Frederick and his assistant Charles Best were able to isolate insulin for the treatment of diabetes. This was one of the most significant medical discoveries made in Canada, and has affected the lives of millions worldwide.

Banting was born on November 14, 1891, on a farm near Alliston, Ontario. After completing schools in 1910, he started at Victoria College, University of Toronto, in the General Arts program studying divinity. He failed the first year, but was accepted into the medical program in 1912. Due to poor eyesight in 1914 he was rejected for army service, but was able to join in 1915. After training during the summer he returned to school in the Fall. To get more doctors in the war, his year was fast tracked and he graduated in December 1916. He immediately enlisted in the Canadian Army Medical Corps and was posted overseas. In 1918 he was wounded at the battle of Cambrai and in 1919 he was awarded the Military Cross for heroism under fire.

After the end of the war Banting returned to Toronto to complete his surgical training and in 1919-1920 was resident surgeon at the Hospital for Sick Children. As he was not able to obtain a permanent position there he moved to London, Ontario and set up his medical practice. To boost his income he lectured part time at the University of Western Ontario. One of the required lectures was about the pancreas and this aroused his interest in diabetes. It had been noted that diabetes was caused by the lack of a protein hormone secreted by the islets of Langerhans in the pancreas. Banting determined to isolate this secretion, and discussed it with J.J.R. Macleod, professor of physiology at the University of Toronto. In May 1921 he started the research under the direction of Macleod with recent graduate Charles Best as a research assistant. After diligent trials they found that their extract, insulin, had been able to reduce the blood sugar levels in diabetic dogs. James B. Collip, a biochemist, was invited to join the team help purify the extract.



Testing on humans followed. On 23 January 1922 Banting and Best took their extract to the Toronto General Hospital where a 14 year old boy was dying of diabetes. They injected the patient with an extract purified by Collip from an ox pancreas. The boy recovered. The rest of the story is history. Banting sold the rights to insulin to the University of Toronto for \$1 so that it was universally available.

Recognition followed rapidly. He was named Canada's first Professor of Medical Research. He received letters and gifts from diabetics around the world. In 1923 the Canadian Parliament awarded him a life annuity of \$7,500 and he was elected to the new Banting and Best Chair of Medical Research, en-

Continued Page 2

FREDERICK BANTING

Continued

dowed by the Ontario Legislature.

Banting and Macleod were jointly awarded the Noble prize for physiology or medicine in 1923. For a long period, Banting, who was 34 when he received this honour, was the youngest recipient of a Nobel prize. He shared his award with Best and Macleod shared his with Collip. In 1934 he was part of a group of Canadians knighted by King George V.

In February 1941 he was on a secret mission to Great Britain when his plane crashed in Newfoundland. He was killed instantly.

Canada Post has issued stamps honouring Banting and the discovery of insulin. The 1971 stamp shows some of the chemical equipment that was used to isolate insulin. Banting is shown on two other Canadian stamps, in front of the old University of Toronto Medical building as one of Canadian doctors in the 1991 block as well as one of the greatest 20th century Medical Innovators in the 2000 Millennium block.

**The Nova Scotia Post**

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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. Send **new memberships** to...

Nova Scotia Stamp Club
102 Birch Bear Run, Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

Membership renewals are sent to
NS Stamp Club c/o John Harvey
46 Farquharson St, Dartmouth, NS B2W 4A8

DLO HANDSTAMPS #31

by Gary Steele

**CALGARY, ALBERTA, DISTRICT
DEAD LETTER OFFICE.****Crown Circle Wax Seal**

Similar to regular post offices, Crown Circle Wax Seals also exist for some offices of the Dead Letter Office. Several, but not all used Crown Wax Seals with varying crown types.

Wax Seals also exist for the post confederation period up to July 1st 1898 decentralization of the DLO, however, they are oval and have a lion and unicorn instead of the large crowns.

The item shown is a very atypical example, not on a Dead Letter Office Return envelope and with various handstamps.

The beading around the top of the crown is similar to other DLO handstamps. This particular item was proofed April 1931 with this so far being the Only Known Copy (OKC) on an envelope. I do have one on a small piece used in 1944.

It appears a rather large envelope was mailed and a ten cent postage due charge was applied. This could have been for a forced registration fee if the item was containing something of value, that may have been only handled by the District Post Office Inspector.

**NOMINATIONS**

The following slate of officers is being proposed for 2017/18. Notice that the office of Vice President is vacant. If you would like to volunteer, or volunteer to be considered as the third director, let Keith McKay know or bring your name forward at the September Annual General Meeting.

President - Guy Jeffery
Vice-President - TBA
Treasurer - Marilyn Melanson
Director - Sean Weatherup

Past President - Keith MacKay
Secretary - Bob Boehner
Newsletter Editor - Marty Zelenietz
Director - John Harvey

STAMP TALK: NON-DENOMINATED STAMPS

by Marty Zelenietz

To define “non-denominated”, let’s start with “denominated”. A denominated stamp is one where the monetary value of the stamp is expressed through numerals or words. These are the stamps that most of us grew up with. Non-denominated stamps, in contrast, do not have the monetary value shown. They may, however, have an indication of the service they provide. In stamp catalog listings, the price of the stamp at the time of issue is shown in parentheses, e.g., (50p).

Non-denominated stamps are not a new phenomenon. For example, the early issues of Barbados (1852-1857) carried no printed values: the value or price of the stamp was indicated by its colour. Non-denominated stamps of Trinidad from the same era, printed in a variety of colours, were all valued at 1p.



These early non-denominated stamps were what we can call “fixed” value: they paid the same amount of postage over time. When Canada and the United States began using



non-denominated postage in the modern era, the stamps shared this fixed value characteristic: the Canada “A” stamp of 1981 sold for 30¢, and today still pays 30¢ worth of postage. Likewise, the 1995 Louisbourg and Flag issues sold for 43¢, and pay 43¢ worth of postage today. In the United States, the first non-denominated issue for Christmas 1975 sold for 10¢, and is still worth 10¢ in postage. The same holds true for the US “alphabet” stamps issued in subsequent years (the 1978 “A” stamp (15¢) still pays 15¢ postage, etc.).

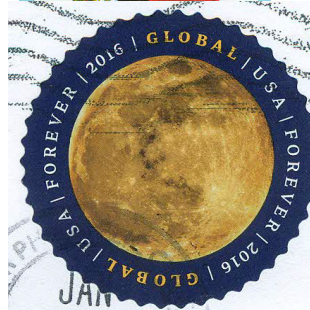


The 1975 US Christmas issue helps us understand why postal administrations can favour non-denominated stamps. In the fall of 1975, the US Postal Service anticipated a rise from 10¢ to 13¢ in the first class letter rate, but did not have regulatory approval. To be prepared for the Christmas mailing rush, they printed stamps without a denomination. The

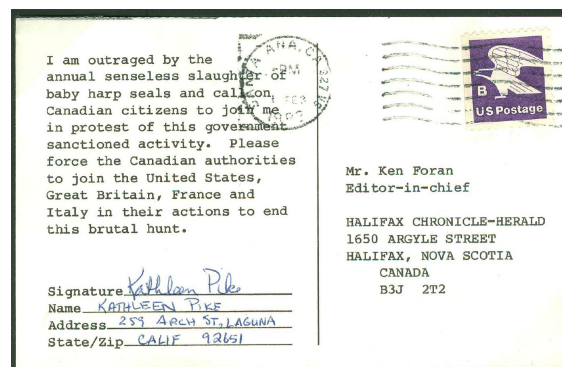
rate change did not become effective until 31 December, so the stamps sold for 10¢.

Most non-denominated postage that we encounter today can be classified as “floating” value: the stamp is designated to indicate payment for a specific service, and the monetary value of the stamp rises (or occasionally falls, as happened in the US in 2016) as the cost of the service fluctuates. In Canada, we have had “Permanent” stamps (always good to pay the domestic letter rate) since 2006. The US went with the “Forever” designation in 2007, later adding a “Global” designation for overseas mail in 2013. Great Britain pioneered floating value non-denominated stamps in 1989 with its NVI (nonvalue indicator) stamps for first and second class postage. A decade later they added a “E” (European) rate to the stable. They introduced NVI airmail stamps in 2006, and “pricing in proportion” NVIs in 2006.

A host of other countries have issued non-denominated stamps for domestic and overseas service, and for specialized services (registration, etc.). At least two



collecting challenges come from this plethora of issues. Before 1994, UPU regulations specifically prohibited using non-denominated stamps for international mail. You can build up an interesting collection of covers (like this US “B” stamp used improperly to Canada) showing the violation of this prohibition. You can also, with our current floating value “Permanent” stamps, find covers showing the same stamp used to satisfy different rates over time. Enjoy.



AMERICAN PHILATELIST CELEBRATES CANADA 150

by Marty Zelenietz

We knew it was coming: *Canadian Philatelist's* new editor Herb Colling gave us the heads up that the American Philatelic Society was preparing a tribute to Canada at 150. The July issue of the *American Philatelist* delivered that, and more. Almost the entire issue, from The President's Message to Worldwide in a Nutshell, is devoted to Canada and Canadian Philately. The contents include Richard Judge's exposition on the stamps of Expo '67, David Piercy's look at the railways and upscale hotels of the Canadian Rock Mountains, Gary Dickson's examination of first day covers of the 1950s Wildlife series, and more. Perhaps the best piece is the longest: Scott Tiffney's compelling look at organized philately and philatelic publishing in Canada. Scott is the Reference Assistant at the American Philatelic Research Library, and has used the available resources to write a comprehensive overview of the history of organized collecting in the Dominion. It is must reading to understand how we arrived at the collecting scene of today. If you haven't seen a copy of "The American Philatelist: Special Canada 150 Edition", find one! We thank our southern neighbours for this excellent publication.



NOVAPEX 2018

After considering a number of options for our 2018 national level show, the Executive agreed on a three day show, 14-16 September, 2018, to be held at the East Dartmouth Community Centre. Committees are being formed. If you want to volunteer, contact Guy Jeffery or John Hall.

CLUB NEWS

We open the year with the sad announcement of the passing of two club members over the summer: John Simms and Irene McCready. Our sympathies and condolences to their families on their loss.

Guy, Keith and Marty met over the summer to map out the program for the year. Our first meeting will be 12 September. It will be, as usual, our annual AGM, with the summary of club business of the past year and election of a slate of officers. The 12 September meeting will also feature a Show & Tell session—bring in a cover or stamp (maybe one you acquired this summer) to show the club and talk about for a few minutes. There will also be an auction. The 10 October meeting will be a presentation on Forces Mail Processing, organized by Keith. Details about this, and other programs, to follow.

The South Shore Stamp Club and Nova Scotia Stamp Club are holding STAMPEX'17 Saturday October 28, 2017 at Michelin Social Club, 221 Logan Road, Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. STAMPEX'17 is a regional-level stamp show. Exhibits of both postage stamps and postal history from the Nova Scotia and South Shore Stamps Club. Hours are 10 am to 4 pm. There will be a Stamp Dealer Brouse, stamp auction at 11:30 am, and an awards presentation. A canteen is available all day for refreshments. Admission is free and there is plenty of free parking. For details: stampguy48@eastlink.ca

Parking: Guy has communicated with the museum regarding the parking situation (many members received warnings for using the staff lot at the June meeting). We are waiting for the museum to clarify the situation, and will notify the membership as soon as we know.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues are now due. All collection of dues for renewals of membership are now being handled by John Harvey. You can pay him at a club meeting, or send a cheque (\$15 individual, \$20 family) payable to:

Nova Scotia Stamp Club c/o John Harvey
46 Farquharson St, Dartmouth, NS, B2W 4A8

MONCTON STAMP FAIRS

The Moncton Stamp Fair takes place on the each month at the Royal Canadian Legion, 100 War Veterans Ave., Moncton, NB 10 am to 4 pm. Silent Auction from 10 to 1, Live Auction at 1:30 Dates: Oct 14, Nov 18, Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10, Apr 14 and May 12.

BRUNPEX 2017

Sponsored by the Fundy Stamp Collectors Club, Brunpex 2017 will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on September 9th at Dan Bohan Family Center, 5 Fatima Drive, Riverview, NB. There will be several dealer tables as well as several auction tables with the auction to take place at 1:30. For further information please contact Mike Steeves (506-387-4462).