



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

October 2017
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UP and COMING

October 10 Club Meeting

October 19 Friends of Philately

October 28 Stampex '17
South Shore Stamp Club
See Page 4

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

SCHOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

by Michael Peach

When looking through a dealer's selection of British covers, I found the cover shown. It was prepared to celebrate the 50th Anniversary, 1918-1968, of the Manchester Grammar School Philatelic Society. How many schools have a Philatelic Society that was in a position to prepare a cover to celebrate its 50th anniversary, and even have its own cancellation?

The unsealed cover has a brief history of the club on an insert card. The club flourished until the outbreak of WWII. The club activities were resumed in 1965.

Manchester Grammar School has been one of the leading schools in Great Britain for many years and currently there are about 1500 pupils, all boys.

A TALE OF TWO COVERS

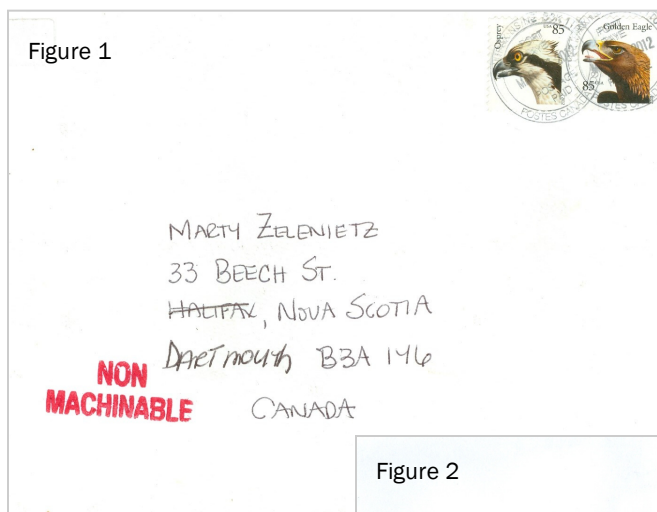
by Marty Zelenietz

Readers of the Post may remember that a few years ago I presented the interesting cover shown in Figure 1. Posted from the US as non-machinable mail, the cover is notable for two main features. The stamps were not canceled in the US, but on arrival in Halifax they each received a strike of the infrequently seen "Port Paye / Postage Paid" Halifax double ring cds. In addition, the cover was misaddressed to Halifax, rather than Dartmouth. It received a correction and arrived safely.

Excellent treatment for a misaddressed cover from a foreign country.

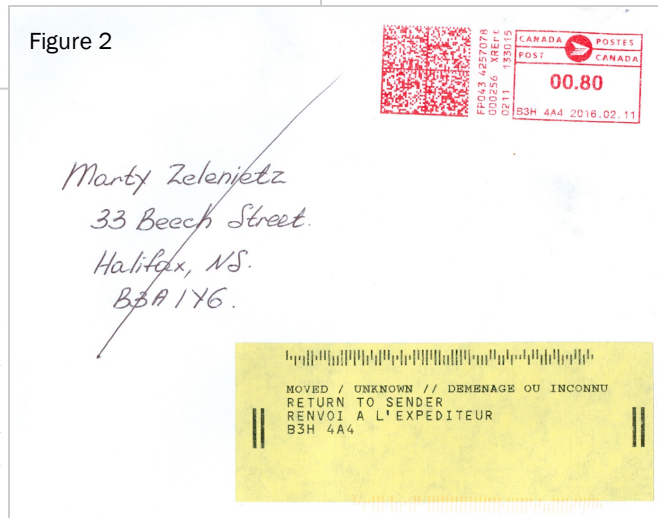
A recent local cover with the identical address issue did not fare so well (Figure 2). Mailed from Halifax, with the correct destination postal code, the cover was deemed undeliverable and returned to sender. All that was needed for successful

Figure 1



delivery was the same modicum of attention devoted to the foreign cover—the correction of "Halifax" to "Dartmouth". But it didn't happen, and the contents were delayed in reaching me. I can only speculate on why this happened—perhaps mail from abroad is given more attention than local material. It is curious...

Figure 2



MYSTERY COVER

by Michael Peach

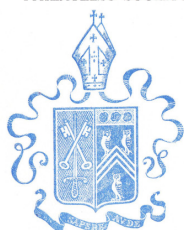
I have been assembling some covers for an article/exhibit on Diamond Marks. I recently purchased the cover shown

There are several interesting features. It was mailed from the USNS Gen. Wm. O Darby (T-AP 127) and went via Frankfurt am Main (Nachträglich) 12.10.65 to Warrington, Lancashire. It has six orange red 1/2d Wilding definitive stamps, only cancelled on the corner with a black diamond census mark. The 3d postage would cover the inland postage from October 1957 to May 1965.

During the period 1956-1965 the General William O. Darby, a transport

Continued Page 2

MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL
PHILATELIC SOCIETY



50th Anniversary
1918 - 1968



CANADA POST INTERNAL HANDSTAMPS #4

by Gary Steele

POSTMASTER'S OFFICE

APR
21
1893

✠ WINNIPEG, CANADA ✠



Sometimes the story is not just about what is on the cover but about obtaining the cover. Weeks and weeks ago I received another item in the mail, not this cover unfortunately. After weeks of waiting this was finally mailed off to me replacing the first item sent.

Postmaster's Office handstamps are assumed to be at a separate desk or department within certain post offices throughout the country. Based on proofs and known reports there are 57 different cities and towns, with 15 reports of

150 different handstamps. There is still tons of sleuthing to do from collectors and dealers to obtain better statistics on known population numbers. Sub-directories such as Secretary, Assistant, Postage Stamp Branch, and Accountant's exist.

Prior to 1900 several similar double ring handstamps similar to a Barrel cancel were produced. These are not Barrel cancels as Barrel cancels had a special barrel type device within the hammer. The dimensions of this item is 27 + 32mm in diameter, all capitals with Maltese Crosses on each side of '✠ WINNIPEG, CANADA ✠'. Most similar handstamps that I have seen are usually blue or green ink and on internal mail.

As can be seen the internal handstamp was placed on the O. H. M. S. cover first from the Postmaster's Office, once in the mails it was handstamped with the Winnipeg cds #3 on the same date, on the reverse is a light partial U.S. handstamp dated APR 23 1893 in Minnesota.

If anyone has any similar Canada Post Office Internal Handstamp material please contact me at gwsteele57@gmail.com

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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

MYSTERY COVER CONTINUED

ship, was sailing on the New York to Bremerhaven route. Hence the possibility of being mailed on docking in Bremerhaven and going via Frankfurt to England.

The cover was presumably one to the passengers. Why the British stamps? Did the ship stop at one of the British naval port en route to or from New York? The cover has not been opened and there are no contents, so it is presumably a philatelic item.

Any suggestions?



STAMP TALK: SEMIPOSTALS

by Marty Zelenietz

As I was preparing to write this explanation of the term “semipostal”, I came across an article in the July 10th issue of *Linn’s Stamp News* that provided the perfect, concise definition. According to author Michael Baadke, a semipostal stamp is one which serves “the dual purpose of paying for postage and collecting funds that will benefit a designated cause.” In other words, every stamp purchase makes a contribution to some fund (without the benefit of a tax receipt for you!). Semipostal stamps are also referred to as “charity issues”, and are cataloged by Scott’s with the prefix B. They often show two values (e.g., 12 +2), with the first being the postage, and the second the added “donation”.



The first semipostals to appear came from Down Under. The colony of New South Wales issued two stamps in 1897 to raise funds for the Consumptives Home in Sydney. They were pricey for the times: the stamp that cost one shilling sold for 12 times its postal value (one penny - see above), as did the 2/6 stamp,

which paid 2 ½d postage. Victoria soon followed suit with two stamps of similar denominations (but without indicating the selling price) with the proceeds directed to a Hospital Fund, and Queensland issued two “Patriotic Fund” stamps for their Boer War contingent in 1900, selling for a shilling (1d postage) and 2/ (2d postage).



Switzerland was an “early adopter” of the semipostal idea: beginning in 1913, they have annually issued “Pro Juventute” stamps to raise money for projects focusing on youth. The stamps are usually designed in multi-year themes, such as this European Goldfinch stamp (left), one of 12 bird stamps released in sets of four between 1968 and 1970. Switzerland also issues semipostal stamps for the Red

Cross, sports, patriotic endeavors, etc. Many other European countries (such as Germany) have a rich history of raising funds through selling semipostal stamps. New Zealand has issued Health semipostals annually since 1929.

Semipostals have not proven as popular with postal administrations and the public in North America. Canada’s first foray into issuing semipostals came in 1974 to benefit the Montreal Olympics of 1976. In total, 12 stamps in four themes (Olympic Sym-

bols, 1974; Water Sports, February 1975; Combat Sports, August 1975, and Team Sports, 1976) appeared (below). Twenty years would pass before Canada Post issued another semipostal stamp, this one in support of literacy. Today Canada Post fol-



lows a conservative policy of issuing semipostals: the most recent one is for the Canada Post Community Foundation for Children.



Even more conservative is the United States, which has issued four semipostal stamps to date. The first, still available, was in aid of breast cancer research (below). Originally issued in 1998, it sold for 40¢: 32¢ postage, and 8¢ for the fund. Today the stamp sells for 60¢ (49¢ postage, 11¢ research). A challenge for contemporary postal historians is to form a collection of covers with the stamp paying the various domestic letter rates since original issue. So far, sales of the stamp have raised over US\$80 million for breast cancer research.

Semipostal issuing in the US is mired in turf wars between Congress and the Postal Service. Only three other semipostals have come from the US: a 2002 issue to raise money for families of first responder victims of 9/11; a Stop Family Violence stamp of 2003, and Save Vanishing Species design of 2011.



If you are looking for a new collecting interest, additional material for a topical collection, or want to expand on a basic Country Collection, semipostals just may fit the bill.

Have a question about collecting or a term that you are not clear on? Stamp Talk can help! Send it in, and we’ll see what we can do to help.

A NEW ITEM FOR MY 8 CENTS SMALL QUEEN COVER COLLECTION

by Jack Forbes, FRPSC



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

Recently I purchased the illustrated cover for my collection of "Combination Covers Featuring at Least One Eight Cents Small Queen". This letter combines the eight cents stamp with four three cents Small Queens to pay three times the UPU rate to Switzerland (fifteen cents) and the registration fee of five cents. Triple rated covers to European destinations from this period a quite scarce, and the fact that it is registered adds to the attractive nature of this item.

Originating in St. George de Beauce, Quebec, on December 20, 1897, this item is addressed to Immensee (stated to be near Lucerne), Switzerland, and passed through London, England as indicated by the 30 DE 97 London Registered handstamp on the front. There is a manuscript notation that the letter should travel via France, but there is no transit mark to reflect this. Similarly, there is no receiver cancel for Switzerland.

The stamps are obliterated using a Jarrett Type 1 seven ring brass instrument, an item in general use since April 1851!

The reverse provides evidence of the efficiency of old time postal systems. Two St. George de Beauce, Que. cancels are accompanied by two Quebec, Canada transit marks as well as a partial Montreal Central Ry (NO) mark all dated DE 20 97. One could speculate that in today's conditions, it would likely take at least three days to complete a similar routing.



STAMPEX'17

Exhibition and Auction

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28

10:00 – 4:00

Michelin Social Club

221 Logan Rd Bridgewater

Stamp Auction 11:30

Stamp Dealer Bourse

Canteen Service Available

Free Admission

Lots of Free Parking



Exhibits of both
postage stamps and
postal history from
the Nova Scotia and
South Shore Stamps
Clubs