



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

January 2020
Volume 49, Issue 484

UP and COMING

January 14 Club Meeting "The Empire Airmail Scheme" by Gary Steele - Show & Tell—"Winter Blues"

Jan. 11 Moncton Stamp Fair

Jan. 16 Friends of Philately

February 8 Moncton Stamp Fair

Feb. 11 Club Meeting

Feb. 20 Friends of Philately

March 10 Club Meeting

Mar. 14 Moncton Stamp Fair

Mar. 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

HARMER, ROOKE & Co., BRITISH STAMP DEALER, WRAPPER by Michael Peach

I recently found the Post Office postal stationery wrapper shown (Figure 1). The wrapper conforms to the Post Office size 113 x 280mm with two corners cut off and buff paper. It was mailed on 24 November 1919 from Woolwich B.O. to Leeds. There are three different green halfpenny stamps: two George V ones, a letter press printed on the wrapper, a Mackennal head adhesive and an Edward VII one cut out from a postcard. Cut-outs, stamps cut out from postal stationery, were valid for postage from 1905 until 2012 and were often used by dealers during the early years of the last century. If undelivered it was to be returned to the philatelic auctioneers Harmer, Rooke & Co., of Fleet Street, a major stamp & coin dealer and auction house in London.



Figure 1

Why was the postage 1½ d? As the two stamps added are tied to the wrapper, they were definitely not added later. There is no Leeds cancellation, so it was not redirected in Leeds, presumably the writer noticed the wrong address and after crossing it out wrote the correct one. In 1919 the inland letter rate was 1½ d for up to 4 oz, and the printed matter rate was the same as the letter rate for above 2 oz. The folded wrapper is 78 mm high, so it is unlikely that it was used for printed matter weighing more than 2 oz. The blank back shows that it is definitely a wrapper and not a cover that has had the ends trimmed. As the sender was confused about the address, he/she may have accidentally have mailed it at the letter rate. Or is it just a philatelic item, doubtful?

In 1905 the Harmer brothers Ernest George (Figure 2) and Henry Revell purchased the business Martin, Ray & Company, stamp auctioneers, founded in 1901. In 1907 the company moved from Chancery Lane to 69 Fleet Street, London, the former premises of Perkins, Bacon & Company, the printers of the Penny Black and where the sales room and offices were all on the same floor. They had been joined by the Reverend Edmund Rooke in 1906. The firm was renamed Harmer, Rooke & Company in 1908, shortly afterwards Rooke left the company. Henry left in 1908 to found his own auction house, the still well known philatelic auction business, H. R. Harmer Ltd, of London. In 1920 the auction house Walter Bull & Company, which had conducted its first philatelic auction in 1888, was purchased.

Following Ernest Harmer's death in 1937, the Company was carried on by his three sons, Gordon, who purchased Scott Publishing Company in 1946, Guy and Kendrick. The UK operation was taken over by Stanley Gibbons Limited in 1959 and was renamed Stanley Gibbons Auctions Limited in 1966.

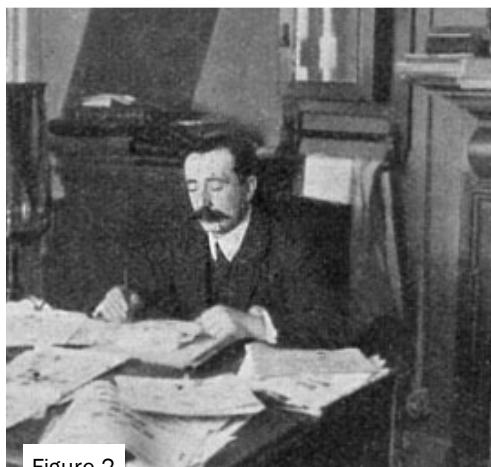


Figure 2



TWO RECIPES OF SUCCESS: A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR OF NOVAPEX 2019

by Joanne Hodder

I am not a collector, exhibitor, judge, nor have I outwardly participated in any aspect of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club (NSSC) other than being a paid member ... that is until the winter of 2019.

I clearly remember the request that caught my attention: "We have Committee Chairs, but we need someone to chair the overall Novapex 2019 show". The ask appealed to me, probably more than the typical activities of stamp collecting (the assembling, synthesizing, and disseminating of findings on a philatelic interest), because I like working within a community for collective success. So, I offered to chair the show. The fact that the NSSC Executive accepted my offer speaks volumes to the inclusive culture of the NSSC; culture which trickles down and was exhibited by each Committee Chair as they undertook their tasks without question and answered any questions I had. I could not have asked for a more supportive group of mentors.

For Novapex 2019, the club Executive requested that we try something new, so we by-passed the formal closing dinner and ended with a small Awards Ceremony that took place in the exhibit hall with light refreshments and finger foods. It was a nice event, with about 30 in attendance including the

Bourse Exhibitors. There is nothing nicer than sharing accolades for a job well done, all the while enjoying some good food. So, for those who attended, and for those curious, following is the 'recipe' that many asked for:

Lentil and Currant Dip

1 can lentils (drained and rinsed)
1 chopped red pepper
Chives to taste
¼ cup of currants
¼ cup of dried cranberries
¼ cup of olive oil
1/8 cup of white wine vinegar
1 tsp of Dijon mustard
1 tsp of curry powder
½ tsp of cumin
½ tsp of cinnamon

Mix together to fuse the flavours.

Best made a day in advance and served with scoop nacho chips.

To all who worked to make Novapex 2019 a success, thank you!

LEST WE FORGET

by Jack Forbes

When we think of pain and suffering, we are inclined to identify problems that effect our own country, without regard for people on the "other side" who suffer in the anguish of war. A look at some covers at a yard sale in Czechoslovakia brought home the fact everyone has to face some degree of grief. Shown here are four mourning covers date March 13 & 14, 1944, and quite conceivably containing words of sympathy for a fallen Axis soldier. They are franked with 80h Hitler stamps of the German Protectorate Bohemia & Moravia (Czechoslovakia).



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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 membership applications**
and **renewal payments** to...

NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks
102 Birch Bear Run, Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

DLO HANDSTAMPS #47

by Gary Steele

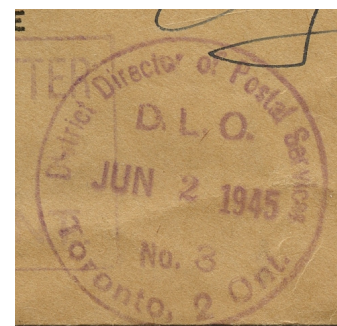


37mm diameter rubber circle
Only proof previously known
Purple ink

I would like to get back to some basics so that others, when looking at these types of handstamps, can separate them out with ease. Although most will feel they have seen this before, this is a fairly complex design requiring much examination.

This particular handstamp was previously only known being in the proof books as ONLY PROOF KNOWN. On speculation I obtained it and compared it to the proof: as a match it is found to be now the ONLY REPORTED COPY or ONLY KNOWN COPY (OKC).

It is a rubber circle type from Toronto thus TOR3a, TOR for Toronto, '3' for rubber circle, and 'a' for a single frame, 'b' would be for double frame and so on.

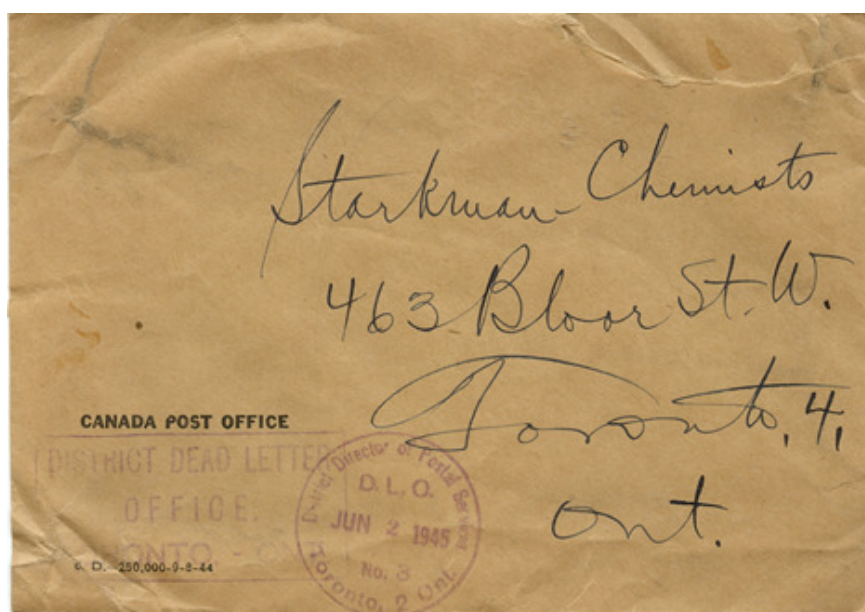


ONLY KNOWN COPY

There are many variables to examine: the wording, and lettering by sans-serif, seriffed, mixed or caps, whether there is a comma after 'Services,' or not 'Service', a "No." in front or not of the '3', a comma after 'Toronto,' or not 'Toronto' and a '2' before or after the comma in 'Toronto 2,' or 'Toronto, 2'. **In total there are 23 different types of handstamps and 56 sub-types both ONLY PROOF KNOWN and reported copies.**

Only 5 of the 22 proofed sub-types remain as ONLY PROOF KNOWN, 34 of the sub-types are NO PROOF KNOWN thus all reported copies.

Comments may be '1st line sans-serif, 2nd line seriffed, all mixed, comma after' Toronto, before the '2 Ont.' to delineate the differences between various handstamps. Note the 'D. L. O.', date and 'No. 3' do not get taken into consideration for lines. Major differences in these will be noted.



I am trying to update (similar to my Canada Post Office Internal Departmental Handstamps) the page, line and column in the proof books by Lee and Hughes, to make it very simple to locate a particular proof for comparison if available.

Upon examination it is quite possible this DLO envelope, handled by the District Director of Postal Services at the District Dead Letter Office, was attached to a parcel being returned to Starkman Chemists as there is glue all over the backside. This may account for the scarcity of this handstamp with few examples surviving.

CLUB NEWS

by Marty Zelenietz

Thanks to everyone who came out for the annual Christmas Cheer Social and Charity Auction. We had quite a crowd, and we raised an astonishing \$388 for our charities. Thanks are due to everyone who brought food, items for the auction, and fat wallets for purchasing items. And thanks to our intrepid auctioneers, Jeff Parks and Stan Dunfield, for their yeoman effort, and Heather MacKenzie for her entertaining quiz.

Cheryl Grantham has a special request. Her husband's first cousin, Joe Norris, had his artwork features on a 1992 42¢ stamp, Scott # 1420. She is putting together an exhibit on the stamp and the artist, and would appreciate your help. If



you have the stamp used on cover (in-period or later as part-postage) and are willing to part with it, please contact Cheryl at ccgrantham8384@hotmail.com.

January's program, on the 14th, will feature a presentation by Gary Steele on "The Empire Airmail Scheme." The Show-and-Tell theme is "Winter Blues."

There will be an auction and a draw. Hope to see you there. Happy New Year!!

NEW YEAR'S GREETING FROM OKINAWA, SEPTEMBER 1945

by Marty Zelenietz

Cultures worldwide mark the coming of the new year. For most of us, tis the season now as the days begin to lengthen and we turn the page on our Gregorian calendars from December to January. But not all cultures follow this tradition. Jews usually mark the new year, or Rosh Hashana, sometime during the month of September. Why "usually" and "sometime?" The Jewish ritual calendar is lunar, with the first day of each month starting on the evening of the new moon. Every three or four years, an extra month is added to keep the lunar calendar more or less in synch with the solar calendar so that Jewish holidays (many based on agricultural practices) occur in their proper season.

Here we have a V-Mail form marking the Jewish New Year in 1945. The US military adopted V-Mail (based on the British Airgraph system) as the main way to move letters to and from servicemen active on many fronts during World War II. Letters were written, censored, then microfilmed. The microfilm was sent back to the US (a duplicate reel was kept behind in case of loss of the original), where it was printed, enclosed in window envelopes, and dispatched. Thousands of tons of shipping capacity required by regular letters were thus able to be allocated to carrying other materials.

Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, is not a time of celebration, as New Year's Eve is in Western culture. Rather, it is two solemn days of prayer and introspection. No wild parties, no countdowns to midnight. This attitude is reflected in the V-Mail my father sent from Okinawa to his future mother-in-law in 1945. The top line in Hebrew reads "L'Shana Tova Tikatevu," "May we be inscribed [in the Book of Life] for a good year." The central design shows what could be bivouac tents in a tropical (or at least palm treed) location. The bottom has "Our Prayer for the New Year: May the Lord give strength unto His People; May the Lord bless His People/ With a glorious Victory and a lasting Peace." My Dad added the hopeful note "May all of us be united during the coming year."

Jake Zelenietz, T/4, had been on Okinawa since 19 May as a member of the 1497th Engineering Port Construction and Repair Group. He sent the V-Mail on 1 September, the day before the Japanese signed the documents of surrender aboard the USS Missouri. The enclosing envelope was postmarked in the US 9 September. As Rosh Hashana began on the evening of 7 September in 1945, his greetings arrived a bit late. That proved no obstacle in his marriage to my mother the following June.

!!! DUES !!!

Last chance to pay dues. The newsletter will no longer be sent to you if you have not paid by Jan 15.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB CENTENARY

by Marty Zelenietz

Michael Peach has shared a couple of earlier show souvenir covers with us. Shown here is a cover from Halpex 65 (I didn't know we'd used "pex" in the show name back then), the 35th annual convention of the RPSC. The machine cancel indicates the show date (15-15 May), and the cancel's date slug indicates the cover was processed on the second day of the show. Note the five cent Mayflower (Nova Scotia's provincial flower) stamp used as postage.

