



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

July 2020
Volume 49, Issue 490

SUMMER SPECIAL

We haven't seen you in a while so we are sending out a special issue of the Nova Scotia Post to keep in touch with the membership. We all look forward to meeting again soon.

Don't forget to send in your dues PLEASE and THANKS... we still have to pay the bills!

Regularly planned activities have been cancelled, as have many philatelic shows in the near future as a result of the pandemic. We will update you as we learn more.

Keep an eye on the Facebook page and website for new info.

Stay Home! Stay Safe!

POSTAL STATIONERY: WHAT IS IT? WHY COLLECT IT? PART 5

by Marty Zelenietz

Having reviewed the various kinds of postal stationery issued by postal administrations, it is now time to consider why we should collect them. At first glance, the answer seems obvious: these are postal items, made to pre-pay the carriage of mail through the postal system. They are just like stamps- except they aren't. They are bigger and bulkier than stamps, taking up more space on album pages and in storage. Ready-made albums are usually not available, so collectors don't have empty spaces to fill. These factors probably dissuade many collectors. Nonetheless, there are some compelling reasons to add postal stationery items to your collection. In the first instance, including postal stationery in a country collection is a way to expand the collection, bring it closer to completion. A collection of modern Canada would be visually enhanced with the addition of the postal cards produced for the recent "Birds of Canada" three year series (Figure 23). And if postal history is your thing, interesting rates, routes and markings abound on postal stationery. But there is more...

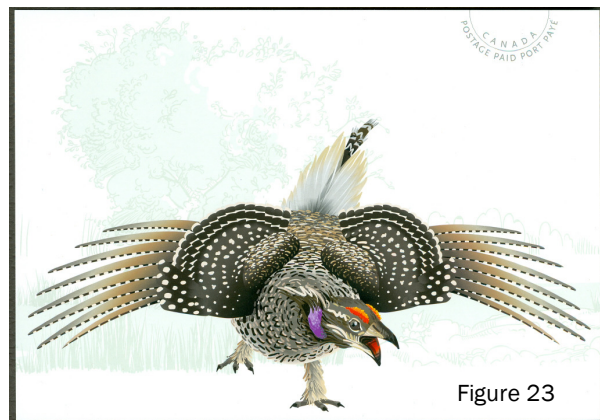


Figure 23

Design/Issue

Postal stationery can add to a collection based on a particular stamp design or issue series. For example, I have an extensive collection of the "Lakatoi" stamps of British New Guinea and Papua (Figure 24). The colonial authorities used the same design as the indicium on two British New Guinea postal cards in 1901 (Figure 25), and two Papua registered envelopes in 1917. As elusive as these items are (4558 1d and 2974 1 1/2 d cards were sold, and 1000 each of the large and small registered envelopes were printed [Roger Lee, *The Postal History of British New Guinea and Papua 1885-1942*]), they can be found and add depth to a collection.



Figure 24



Figure 25

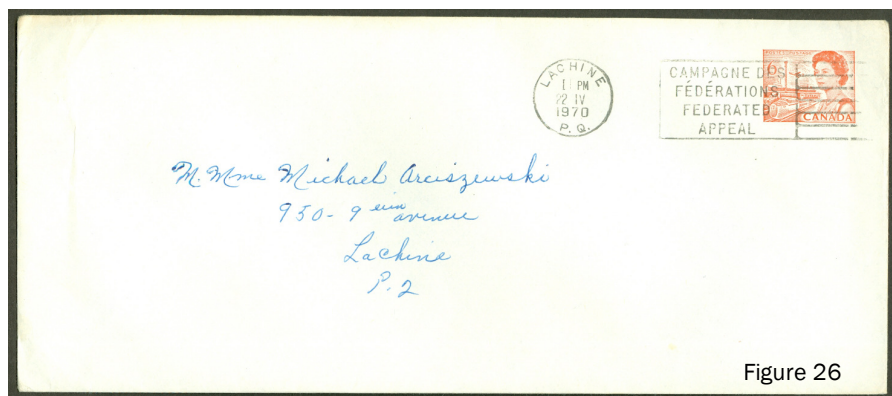


Figure 26

Another example is more recent, and more affordable. The Centennial issue is popular with collectors today. Including the pre-stamped envelopes (Figure 26), letter sheet, and postal cards imprinted with the same value and designs can easily expand a specialized Centennial collection. The basic PSEs are eminently affordable, either mint or used. It quickly gets pricier when you target the various revalued and surcharged envelopes- patience and deep pockets are recommended. The same holds true for the postal cards. However, if you are forming a highly specialized collection of a single denomination of the Centennial

DEAD LETTER OFFICE HANDSTAMPS #52

by Gary Steele

Branch Dead Letter Office

NOV 12 1920

HALIFAX, N.S

42mm x 29mm

Proof date Nov 12 1920

Proof Strike

There are approximately 103 Dead Letter Office Proof handstamps that have yet to be recorded as actual known copies. The below item was one of these handstamps, now down to 102.

A similar Halifax DLO rectangle handstamp exists. However, it has sans-serif lettering in the first and third lines, was proofed 8 years later and is of different dimensions.

It seems amazing to me that of only two rectangle Halifax DLO handstamp types known, one proofed in 1920 and the other proofed in 1928 this is the first time being noticed for the 1920 proof handstamp. This is not uncommon for DLO handstamps, thus creating extra interest in these type of postal history items.

Dimensions are

42x29mm, purple ink, serifed lettering, 1st line mixed and 3rd line all caps.

This letter was originally mailed from Charlottetown, PEI on Jul 28, 1921 with a 2 cent Admiral stamp. Marked **RETURNED FOR POSTAGE** and **RETURN FOR / DEFICIENT POSTAGE** it was forwarded to the Halifax Branch Dead Letter Office Aug 1, 1921 per the steel circle DLO receiving handstamp (reverse). A notice was sent to the addressee in Boston, Mass, note the Drawer File # 633 to pay the 1 cent deficiency. Upon receipt the letter was retrieved, a 1 cent Admiral stamp applied and cancelled with the rare DLO handstamp.

Note that since the Charlottetown Local Dead Letter Office was closed in the early 1920's Halifax subsequently handled their DLO mail.



DUES

You action is requested to pay your dues promptly. Remittance address is below.

The Nova Scotia Post

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<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>
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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

TOM MOORE, HERO OF OUR TIMES

by Jane Sodero

In early April 2020, a World War II British Army veteran set out to raise money for the National Health Service (NHS). Captain Tom Moore initially declared he would complete 100 laps (a 25 metre loop) of his Bedfordshire garden before his 100th birthday on April 30th, 2020 but after he achieved his goal, under the watchful eye of the 1st Battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment, on April 16th he decided to do another 100 laps before his birthday.

Moore, who had previously been treated for a broken hip and skin cancer, set a fundraising goal of £1000 but, in the middle of the COVID-19 crisis, his quest caught the attention of the public and his goal was quickly surpassed. Other goals were set and broken and by the end of the campaign, his birthday, Moore had raised over £32 million for the NHS.

Among the many honours Moore received as a result of his fundraising efforts was his appointment as the first Honorary Colonel of the Army Foundation College in Harrogate, Yorkshire, a training centre for soldiers under 18. His birthday triggered a nation-wide celebration with greetings from the Queen, the Prime Minister and celebrities as well as a fly-pasts by the Royal Air Force and the British Army.

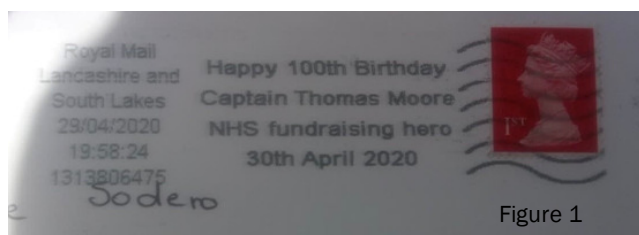


Figure 1

Royal Mail recognized his efforts by creating a slogan cancel to be used on all mail posted in the UK from April 26, 2020 until May 1st, 2020 (Figure 1). Moore received

POSTAL STATIONERY: PART 5

CONTINUED

issue, it would be hard to ignore the postal stationery with the matching indicium.

Topical/Theme

Postal stationery can enhance and expand a topical or thematic collection. My own interest in postal stationery grew out of my developing interest in birds on stamps. Aerograms often feature birds in the indicia, as an added design feature, or both. The birds can symbolize flight (as on this 1979 Barn Swallow aerogram from Finland, Figure 27), or not: the Helmeted Guineafowl

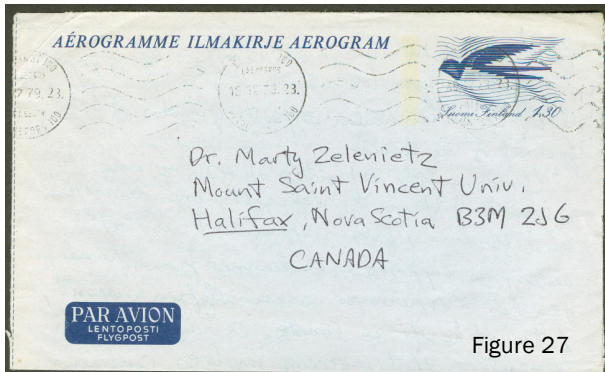


Figure 27



Figure 28

ever seen! A colourful PSE or aerogram can make an eye-catching addition to an album page (Figure 29, South Africa 1986). And sometimes, the only way to find a bird for my col-



Figure 29

lection is on postal stationery, as on the 1989 Australian PSE featuring a bird called the Bell Miner (Figure 30).

It is not just the theme of birds that can be found on postal stationery and used to expand a topical collection. Richard Hall's "Swiss Stamp Scene" column in the Febru-

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REGISTERED COVER: NEW BRUNSWICK TO NEWFOUNDLAND

by Thomas Reyman

This registered cover posted on May 24, 1948 (Figure 1) was sent on a three-day journey from Smiths, New Brunswick (NB) through Nova Scotia (NS) to St. John's, Newfoundland (NF) and was handled by several Post Office personnel in that time as noted by the many backstamps (Figure 2). Smiths, NB, which had a post office from 1859 to 1966, is now part of Shediac Cape (a village north of Shediac). From Smiths, the mailing arrived in Shediac and then to Moncton, NB the same day (backstamps: May 24).

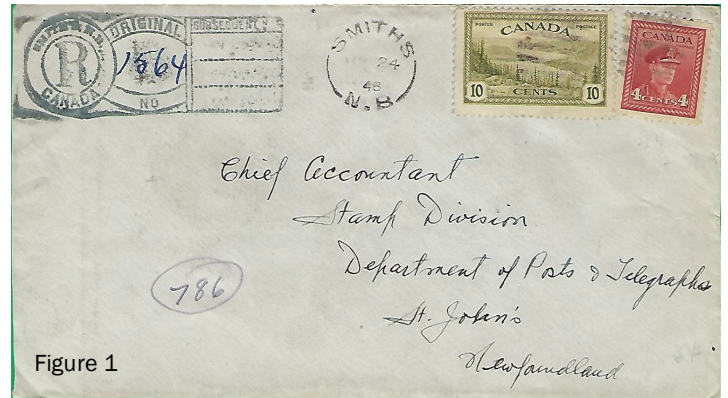


Figure 1

At Moncton, the mailing was placed into the Railroad Post Office (RPO) system on the Halifax and Campbellton line, now part of the Canadian National Railroad (CNR), to travel approximately 175 km/107 mi to Truro, NS (backstamp May 24). At Truro, the envelope was transferred to the Sydney and Truro CNR line RPO to travel to Sydney, NS, about 285 km/175 mi.

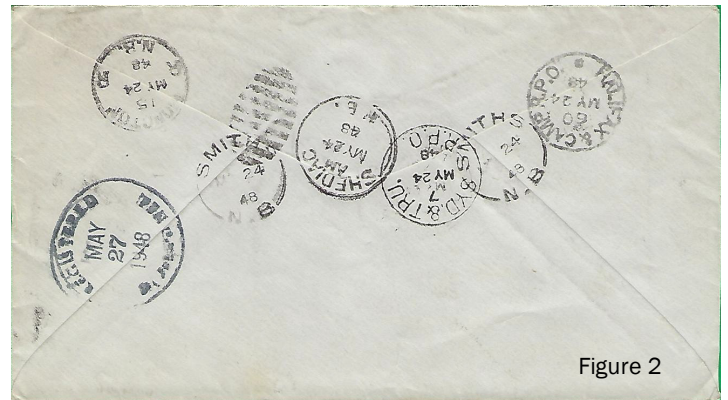


Figure 2

This former Intercolonial Railway line became part of the CNR system in 1918. It later became the Cape Breton and Central Nova Scotia Railway under several American interests, but is now abandoned.

When the railroad reached the Strait of Canso, a CNR ship ferried the railroad cars (Figure 3) across the Strait which separates the mainland of Nova Scotia from Cape Breton Island (the Canso Causeway across the Strait was completed in 1955 with road and rail beds). In Cape Breton, continuing on the CNR line, the mailing arrived at Sydney, NS and the railcars were placed on a second ferry to Argentia, NF, currently a 12 hour journey. The overland route from Argentia to St. John's is about 130 km/80 mi, arriving at the St. John's Post

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POSTAL STATIONERY: PART 5

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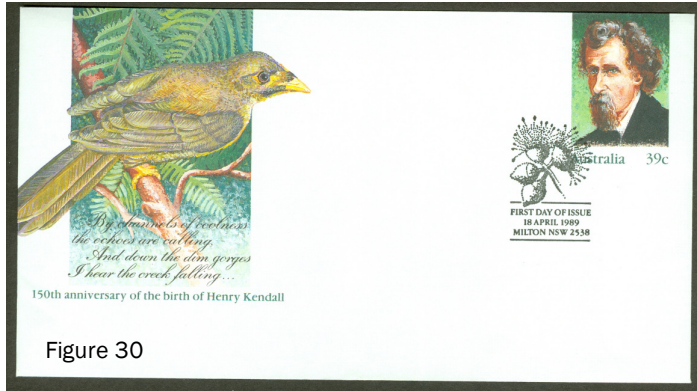


Figure 30

ary 17th, 2020, issue of *Linn's Stamp News* makes this very point in its title "Swiss picture postal cards are a topical collector's dream." Swiss views, history, animals, and even golf are to be found. Most of my grandsons are railfans, and in hopes that I can interest one or more of them in stamp collecting, I'm putting together an accumulation of rail stamps and stationery. Canadian PSEs from the 1980s fit right in (Figure 31).



Figure 31

I hope that I've piqued your interest in collecting postal stationery and the ways it can fit into your collection. The final instalment of this series addresses the question of "How does one collect postal stationery?"

PENNY BLACK MASKS-UP FOR CORONAVIRUS STAMP ISSUE

From Gibbon's Stamp Monthly, supplied by Michael Peach

The many stamp issues on the theme of COVID-19 include a new joint issue from Togo and Sierra Leone. This miniature sheet features six Penny Black stamps with Queen Victoria wearing a variety of facemasks. Unlike most of these special issues, this one does not appear to have any charitable connection.



REGISTERED COVER

CONTINUED

Office on the 27th of May ("Registered" stamp). Delivery to the recipient would have occurred after that. The distance travelled for this mail over the three days was about 675 km/412 mi mostly by rail (RPO) and included two ferry trips.

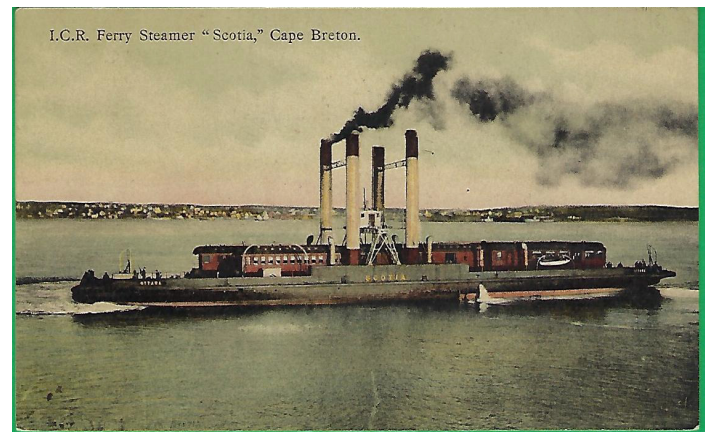


Figure 3: The Intercolonial Railway (later CNR) ferry, "Scotia" circa 1910, was used to move rail cars across the Strait of Canso between 1903 and 1955. It was joined by "Scotia II" in 1915 (to 1955).

TOM MOORE

CONTINUED

over 150,000 birthday cards via the post which were put on display at a local school¹. The volume of mail led to Royal Mail to reprogram the sorting system at the South Midlands Mail Centre².

For Moore's birthday, Royal Mail repainted a postbox near his home the shade of blue used by the NHS, with a golden balloon and inscription on the side³ (Figure 2).



Figure 2

A happy little story with a philatelic connection in this time of uncertainty.

1 <https://metro.co.uk/2020/04/22/sorting-office-set-captain-tom-moores-90000-birthday-cards-12596690/>

2 <https://www.royalmailgroup.com/en/press-centre/press-releases/royal-mail/tens-of-thousands-of-birthday-cards-sent-to-hero-fundraiser-captain-tom-moore/>

3 <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-52472132>

DANIEL M. FINCH

Club member Daniel Finch, 70, passed away on June 5, 2020. Daniel's collecting interests were nautical - sailing ship themed stamps, according to his member application from Dec 2013, and he was in regular attendance at our meetings. He was originally from London, ON but moved to Halifax some years ago to work for the Peoples Gospel Hour, and Halifax became his new home. A graveside service was held on July 2nd at Mount Hermon Cemetery, Dartmouth.

THIRD ANNUAL CSN COVER CONTEST NOW ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS

Canadian Stamp News has officially launched its Third Annual Cover Contest, pitting clubs and collectors from around the world against one another in a fun competition focused on philately, design and postal history.

All philatelic organizations – at the local, regional and national levels – are invited to submit a cover promoting National Stamp Collecting Month, which takes place this October in Canada. For the second year in a row, an “individual” category is also open to collectors, who can submit a cover to vie for top bragging rights among individuals.

“The competition continues to grow year over year, and CSN is eager to see even more covers come in the mail before this October,” said CSN Publisher and Editor Mike Walsh.

“This year, we’re putting out a call to clubs across the country plus some in the U.S. and overseas. The more the merrier—but with the contest going worldwide, get ready for some competition.”

Altogether, there are six prizes (three for both categories), and both clubs and collectors are permitted to submit more than one design.

SEPT. 25 DEADLINE

All covers must be mailed to and received by CSN by Sept. 25, complete with a postmark to prove the deadline date was met. The CSN address is **PO Box 25009, Rose City RO, Welland, ON L3B 5V0**.

Designs can promote their club, their individual hobby or the month-long philatelic celebration of National Stamp Collecting Month, which has fallen to the wayside since its inception about 40 years ago.

All submitted entries will be posted on canadianstampnews.com on Oct. 1. People around the world will then be invited to vote for their three favourite submissions from clubs and collectors throughout October.

On Nov. 1, CSN will announce the three club covers and three individual covers that received the most votes. The top three covers in each category will win \$100, \$50 and \$25, respectively.

TWO YEARS RUNNING

In last year’s cover contest – the first to feature collectors’ covers – Toronto’s Harvey Shuter won the first-place prize in the individual category.

The club category was topped by the Calgary Philatelic Society, which was followed by the Waterloo Region Stamp Club in second place and the Kelowna and District Stamp Club in third.

To see the full results from last year’s contest, visit canadianstampnews.com/2019covercontest. For more information about this year’s contest, visit canadianstampnews.com/2020covercontest or contact CSN reporter Jesse Robitaille at reporter@trajan.ca or 1-905-646-7744 (ext. 236).

HOW TO PARTICIPATE - IN THREE EASY STEPS!

1. Design a cover!
2. Mail the cover to CSN (it can be mailed inside another cover/package/parcel for protection—as long as there’s a postmark on or before Sept. 25, 2020)!
3. Watch the votes pour in through October, and wait for the results on Nov. 1!