

# THE NOVA SCOTIA POST

Monthly Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

March 2023  
Volume 52, Issue 517

## UP AND COMING

[Moncton Stamp Fair](#) - March 11  
100 War Veterans Ave, Moncton NB

[NS Stamp Club](#) - March 21, 7:30pm  
Museum of Natural History

[Friends of Philately](#) - March 21  
Note the Day Change until at least  
April. 3rd Tuesday of the month

### [RPSC Stamp Talks](#)

March 13 - Ken Snelson "The Human Side of Philately"

April 11 - Derwin Mak "Wonder Woman"

### [RPSC Stamp Panel](#)

March 20 - "Tools of the Hobby"

April 17 - French philately in Canada

[Halifax Stamp Fairs](#) - April 15 & June 3  
April details on Page 4

[BNAPEX 2023 Halifax](#) - Sept. 15-17

Check out the status of other shows at  
[www.rpsc.org/shows.html](http://www.rpsc.org/shows.html) or  
[www.csdaonline.com/shows](http://www.csdaonline.com/shows)

## NSSC 2022-23 PROGRAM

Mar 21 Jane Sodero "Aspects of Postal History focusing on Guysborough"

Apr 11 Jim Graham...TBD

May 9 Bill Burden...TBD

Jun 13 Closing Meeting.

Auctions occur at every meeting. Show and tell items are always welcome.

If you have a program or newsletter item that you want to share please let us know.

## MONCTON STAMP FAIR DATES

The second Saturday of the Month at  
100 War Veterans Ave, Moncton NB

April 8, May 13, June 10

## WHAT I COLLECT: CANADA - EARTH SCIENCES ISSUE 1972

by Jeff Parks

This issue has caught my interest since I first acquired it as a new collector in 1972. It was only after I completed degrees in geology and geographic information that that interest become more poignant and worth a closer look. I love the simplicity of the design, which my education helps me to better understand.

Canada Post released the Earth Sciences issue (Fig 1.) on August 2, 1972 to commemorate the four earth science world congresses occurring in Montreal and Ottawa in August of that year: 12th Congress of the International Society Photogrammetry in Ottawa, 24 July - 4 August; 22nd International Geographical Congress in Montreal, 9 - 17 August; 6th International Cartographic Conference - International Cartographic Association in Montreal, 16 - 18 August in a joint sessions with the Geographical Congress then moved to Ottawa, 21 - 25 August; and the 4th International Geological Congress in Montreal, 21 - 30 August (Fig. 2). These were some of the largest scientific symposia ever held in Canada with 15,000 delegates representing 125 countries.



Fig. 2 RoseCraft Cover with Congress logos

Four stamps, each representing one of the Congresses, were released in panes of 16 stamps representing 4 x 4 se-tenant stamps designed by Fritz Gottschalk. Sheets of 128 images (16 x 8 panes) were lithographed by Ashton-Potter Limited in 8 colours with 15¢ denomination, the international rate at that time. Some stamps were Ottawa tagged (GT2).

The layout is unique in that it is printed in an 4 x 4 array known as a philatelic Latin square - each of the 4 stamps appears exactly once in row and exactly once in a column. "Latin squares", a term coined by Euler in 1779 because he used Latin characters as symbols, were originally mathematical curiosities first documented in 13th century, but serious statistical applications were found early in the 20th century, as experimental designs. The stamp pane design could have several combinations that will achieve this array but adding in the complexity of each corner block of 4 (2 x 2 array) (Fig. 3) being unique produces this version. Think mini Sudoku! This was the first time Canada Post developed such a design, and possibly the first amongst postal administrations. This makes for some interesting collecting combinations which includes 6 panes (4 inscription and 2 counter panes), 4 vertical strips of 4, 4 horizontal strips of 4, 9 blocks of 4 of which 6 are 4 images and 3 have 3 plus one image repeated), 16 unique (H or V) strips of three, and 24 (H or V) pairs. The Canada Post official FDC (Fig. 4) has issued numerous combinations of 4, 2 and 1 which do not seem to be documented

Unlike the definitive stamps, these commemorative



Fig. 1 Earth Sciences - Scott 582-5



1	2	3	4
3	4	1	2
2	3	4	1
4	1	2	3

Fig. 3 Pane and Latin squares

Earth Science continued on Page 4

CANADA POST INTERNAL HANDSTAMPS #17

by Gary Steele

**South Edmonton  
Postal Station  
Alberta**

AUG 16 1954

**Letter Carrier  
Branch**

41 mm + 36 mm, fine double border sans serif, all mixed letters

Postal History covers are one of the most interesting of any collecting fraternity treasures in world. It is a shame that technology is trying its best to reduce most if not all of any semblance of these relics.

A quick glance easily shows the main topic here to be the Letter Carrier Branch / Depot handstamps. A letter carrier depot is termed as: Postal facility operated as a terminal for letter carriers. These facilities do not serve the general public. Whereas a Branch is for the pick-up, sort and delivery of mail, parcels, packages, and flyers.

They are one of the first lines of defense to sort and deliver mail to the proper destination when things don't go according to plan. Mailed from Harrow England to Eldorado, Sask. marked left... with various redirection markings to Alberta etc. it was then sent from Eldorado on August 12 to the Edmonton Letter Carrier Branch on the August 16. Further processing several times took place at each of the Letter Carrier Depots numbered 1 to 4 as can be seen by the four different circle handstamps dated August 19; 25; 31 and September 4. No order seems to apply to date used and the number of the depot.

Eventually the Pointing Finger handstamps were applied front and back to return to sender per the return address on the back of the envelope. If the return address had not been present, it would have been sent to the DLO.



**MORE INTRIGUING HANDWRITING!  
HOLKAR STATE**

by Elizabeth Sodero

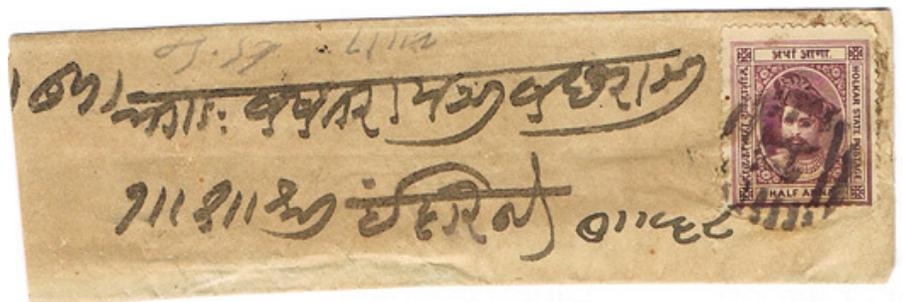
A small cover addressed to ? Translator needed!

Cover very slightly trimmed in order to open without damage.

Two back stamps, single black circles, one bearing INDORE.

HALF ANNA stamp in use 1889 to 1890, bearing image of Maharajah Shivaj Rao Holkar XII who reigned 1886-1902. Holkar, Indore State, now Madhya Pradesh.

No doubt very common in Indore but a 'just for fun' item picked up in London's Covent Garden Collectors Market.



**The Nova Scotia Post**

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Jeff Parks - Layout

<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>  
[webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@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.

Send new membership applications and renewal payments to...  
NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks  
102 Birch Bear Run,  
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

**FRITZ HECHLER'S FIRST STAMP ALBUM, HALIFAX 1892**

by Paul R. Young ([young\\_pr@msn.com](mailto:young_pr@msn.com))

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Henry Hechler in Halifax in late October, 1873. Only 20 years old and fresh from service in the German forces fighting France in the Franco Prussian War from 1870-71, Hechler arrived in New York in August of 1873 to join his younger brother who was already apprenticing there. After traveling to several other U.S. cities, he eventually made his way to Halifax where he decided to make his home.

Hechler spent the rest of his life in Halifax and is remembered as an importer and merchant, an officer with the volunteer 63rd Rifles, stamp dealer and collector, and as a founding member and 2nd President of the Canadian Philatelic Association (a forerunner of the RPSC). Due to his production of philatelic creations such as unofficial service covers and "Hechler bisects" debate raged in the Canadian philatelic press during the 20<sup>th</sup> century as to his legacy – as the venerable Fred Stuhlberg of Toronto posed the question in his title of a sympathetic 1973 article, was he "Saint or Sinner?"<sup>1</sup>



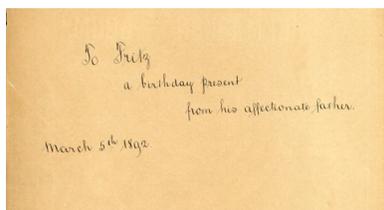
Henry Hechler with his young family photographed at Notman's Studio in Halifax, 1886. Fritz standing to Henry's right.

Soon after arriving in Halifax, Hechler married Catherine ("Cassie") Allen with whom he raised a large family. His first son, my grandfather, was born "Fritz William" on March 5, 1880. After learning book-keeping in his father's shop, young Fritz began a career in banking working first for the People's Bank of Halifax before taking a position with the Royal Bank of Canada where he would serve in successively more advanced positions at Edmundston, NB, St. John, NB and then as Manager of the bank in Grand Falls, NB. After the death of his first wife in 1918 he left Grand Falls and moved just across the border to Limestone, Maine where he became Manager of the Limestone Trust Company. He raised his family including my mother here and introduced my older brother David to the family hobby of stamp collecting.



The cover of Fritz Hechler's Schaubek Album

By the 1880s, dealers like Hechler were already sending stamps to collectors worldwide on approval. When he was old enough, young Fritz and his older sisters would help by affixing the



Inscription page from the album.

stamps to the approval sheets in an assembly line that was set up in the family kitchen. It is easy to imagine the seeds of his lifelong interest in stamp collecting being planted at this time and to imagine his joy at receiving a brand new Schaubek Album as a gift from his father on his 12<sup>th</sup> birthday March 5, 1892.



Left to right: Dot (Hechler) Browne, Cyril Hechler (two of Fritz's children) and the album with cousin Lorraine Rasmussen in 1986.

The earliest stamp album was developed by Justin Lallier in 1862 in Paris and by the 1870s there were multiple lines being produced by names still familiar today including Scott and Gibbons. The first Schaubek album was published in 1871 in Leipzig based on a model also created in the early 1860s and resold several times by a series of booksellers.<sup>2</sup> The Schaubek given to Fritz by his father is the 9<sup>th</sup> edition printed in 1887. It contains a healthy collection of early worldwide stamps but except for a couple of

items virtually none of the early Canadian stamps one would hope to find. I assume my grandfather may have sold these and other parts of his collection before his death in February 1965. Also before his death, he gave his cherished Schaubek album to his youngest son, my late uncle Cyril Hechler (named for Fritz's younger brother) who preserved it for many years.

I was only four when my grandfather passed away and my memories of him are faint. But my older brother David spent many hours with him learning the hobby and so the love of stamp collecting was passed on to me. We're lucky to have his first stamp album still in the family in this sesquicentennial year of the establishment of our philatelic roots in Halifax.



1908 cover addressed in Henry Hechler's distinctive handwriting to his son Fritz ("Lieut. F. W.") who like his father served in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Volunteer Halifax Rifles Battalion and was working at this time in St. John, NB.

Hechler continued on Page 4

**THE NEW KING CHARLES III DEFINITIVE STAMPS**

The image of HM The King based on a portrait by Martin Jennings which will be used for the new coins. The colours for all four values will be the same as the Machin definitive stamps:

- 1st Class – Plum Purple
- 2nd Class – Holly Green
- 1st Class Large – Marine Turquoise
- 2nd Class Large – Dark Pine Green

The Royal Mail will continue to sell the remaining stock of Machins so as not to create environmental or financial impacts. The new stamps may be pre-ordered starting on March 4, 2023 and go on general sale on April 4.



<https://www.royalmail.com/hmkingcharlesregister>

**HECHLER CONTINUED...**

<sup>1</sup> Fred Stuhlberg, "Henry Hechler: Saint or Sinner?", 39th American Philatelic Congress Book, 1973, pp. 203-211. For a good summary of the history see also Michael Peach's article "Early Philately in Nova Scotia" in the Canadian Philatelist, Vol. 54., No. 6, Nov/Dec 2003, pp. 336-339.

<sup>2</sup> "The Evolution of the Stamp Album from Lallier to Mekeel" by Lewis Quackenbush in the Philatelic Journal of America, April 1894, pp. 155-169.

**SPRING STAMP FAIR**  
 Saturday, April 15 2023  
 9 am - 2 pm  
 Dealers / Club Table  
 Auction at 1:30  
**East Dartmouth Community Centre**  
 50 Caledonia Rd., Dartmouth  
 Free Admission / Free Parking  
 !!Help...Volunteers Needed!!



**James P. McCorry 1944-2023**

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Jim McCorry (NSSC# 1088) at his home in Dartmouth on Thursday, Feb 23, 2023. A native of Liverpool NS, Jim was a long time member of the South Shore Stamp Club, who moved to Dartmouth a few years ago and quickly became a member of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club. He had been in regular attendance at club meetings and often helped out the "reception table" at the Club Stamp Fairs. His primary philatelic passion was "Scouts on Stamps."

In his youth he enjoyed Scouting, being outdoors, stamp collecting and reading, all things that continued to be his passions and hobbies for the rest of his life. As an adult he picked up photography and golf, which were passions he was able to pass on to his children. Jim spent over 60 years in the various levels of Scouting, as a participant, leader and administrator for various local groups in Liverpool and Bridgewater. In 2012 he was honoured with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal for his years of dedication and service to Scouting and his other areas of community involvement. Our condolences to his wife Sandra and their extended family.

**EARTH SCIENCE CONTINUED...**

stamps have a fairly short shelf life, so usage is hard to come by. The Centennial Issue definitive - 15¢ Bylot Island was released Feb. 1967, although the 15¢ rate did not come into effect until 1 Jul. 1971, and the Landscape definitive (15¢ Mountain sheep) was issued 8 Sep. 1972. The 15¢ Radio Canada (Jun. 1971) commemorative preceded and the Christmas issue (1 Nov. 1972) followed, so the window of use for the Earth Sciences issue is only 3 months. A couple of examples are shown right (Fig. 5).

I have a small collection of uses so if you find any more let me know!



Fig. 4 CP Official FDCs



Fig. 5 Single usages of the Photogrammetry stamp on Postcard (left) to Estonia (USSR) and the Geology on Airmail envelope (above) to Finland.