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The next meeting of the Calgary Philatelic Society will be held on the 5th December at our usual meeting place, that is the Board Room of Mobil Oil Company at 8 o'clock. The auction night which would ordinarily be held on the 19th December will be cancelled because of the festive season.

At the last meeting several suggestions were put forth regarding this newsletter. Firstly, it was suggested that the issues be numbered, which you might have noticed we have commenced to do, although the reference to "volumes" strikes us as being somewhat pretentious. Secondly, it was requested that these newsletters form part of the permanent records of the society. We had already made the necessary arrangements to file with the minutes each year, the newsletters for that year so as to provide future members with a record of the activities of our group. If all of you could have experienced the difficulties encountered by Rudy Martin in preparing his "History of the Society" you could appreciate how important this is. Lastly, some members seem to have not received one or two previous issues and requested replacement copies. We have a few extra copies of each issue and if you will let us know which issue you require, we would be pleased to mail you another.

While on this subject, we might mention that we are periodically getting complaints that a notice or newsletter was not received. Unless you have changed your address -- or not paid your dues -- this is the fault of the Post Office Department, as all members' names and addresses are on addressograph plates and mechanically printed on the cards and letters so it is not a question of us forgetting anyone. You must remember that the cards and letters are 3rd class mail and we are afraid that the P.O. department do not concern themselves with this type of mail as they do with First Class material.

As a result of mailing the last newsletter to 10 out-of-town collectors, with an invitation to take out an associate membership for \$1.00 per year, we have received 2 applications and are pleased to welcome the following gentlemen as members:

Jas. E. Hoskins,
Box 1426,
Wetaskiwin, Alta.

Collecting Interests:
Canada, including F.D.G.'s
British Empire new issues
Topical - Health on stamps

Ivo Canilleri,
c/o Canadian Imperial Bank of
Commerce,
Trail, B.C.

Collecting Interests:
Canada, including plate blocks
since 1947
Malta, mint and used.

We are sure that these gentlemen would welcome correspondence if anyone would drop them a note or send them material in which they are interested. Jim Hoskins, who has been a "regular" at the Red Deer meetings, is also a part time dealer in Canada and U.S.A. used and First Day Covers, British Empire and Netherlands new issues and Canadian plate blocks. Perhaps he may have one of those items that you have been looking for.

We will continue with our experiment to build up our out-of-town membership and mail invitations to another ten or so collectors in the western provinces. For their benefit I would point out that the Calgary Philatelic Society operates a Sales Circuit and monthly auction. While you may not be able to attend the auctions, we would be pleased to send you circuit books and we would welcome auction material to be sold. Entries in the Sales Circuit would also be most welcome. Membership is only \$1.00 per year. Circuit books may only be sent when a banking reference is given on the application form.

A rather distasteful matter must now be considered. At the last regular meeting we had available a number of circuit books of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, of which our club is a chapter. When accounting time came, one book was missing and to date has not turned up. While it is possible, and we truly hope that it was accidentally picked up and not yet discovered by the person so doing, the fact remains that the book has not yet been returned. This will cost the club \$37.00 which it can ill afford but what is probably more disconcerting is the possibility that someone in our midst may not be trusted. We are still hoping that it will be returned.

At the last meeting we were fortunate to have as a speaker Mr. Sam Nickle who talked about a collection of postal material relating to our city of Calgary, being formed by a number of collectors. While Sam has promised to provide us with a copy of his talk for publication in this newsletter, we have not yet received it. When we do, it will be printed for the benefit of those who could not be there in person. At the December 5th meeting Bob Traquair is to present an illustrated talk on "Petroleum on Stamps".

It may be of interest to some members to know what is being sold out of the circuits to our members. We propose reporting this for two reasons. To let the members know some of the interests of our fellow members and to serve as a guide to those preparing circuit books. From the last sale then, material from these countries was sold:

Russia (194 items for \$29.74)
Liechtenstein
Switzerland
Liberia

Austria
Barbados
Newfoundland
and of course, Canada.

While on the subject of circuits, we are desperately in need of new books. Please sit down some evening and prepare at least one book from some of that material that is gathering dust in your closet. The books may be obtained from Bob Traquair at a cost of 8 books for \$1.00.

At last month's auction which was a "Dutch" auction renewed interest was shown, perhaps as a result of a few changes in the rules being made at the previous business meeting. Jack Cotton reports that of 47 lots entered, 27 were sold to realize \$76.90. By the way, we mistakenly reported in the last newsletter that the club's commission on auction sales was 15%. This is of course incorrect and should have been 10%.

In the next newsletter we are printing a schedule of the auction rules as they were amended at the last business meeting. Please read them carefully as there were quite a number of changes which we are quite sure will improve our auctions.

You are all reminded that the annual exhibition and banquet is to be held on the 27th January in the Palliser Hotel. There is no time like the present to start working on those displays and auction material. Dealers - we expect to have tables available to you so might start setting aside some of your choice material for sale at that time. For any of you who may require frames for display material they may be borrowed or purchased from the Society. They cost \$10.00 for 3 frames, which is well below what it would cost you to construct them yourselves.

It was a pleasure to have our vice - president with us again at the monthly auction. Herb Akitt missed the previous meeting because of a seige in hospital.

In the last newsletter we threatened to report this month, the names of those members whose dues were in arrears. This threat brought considerable response - but, unfortunately, one which we did not expect! Many people complained bitterly about this threatened publicity with the result that your executive has asked that we do not print the names of those members being suspended for non - payment of dues. One threat we will carry out however is that they will be dropped from the mailing list immediately unless payment is received forthwith. One would have thought it would be easier to pay one's dues rather than complain about having one's name published.

Probably you have by now seen the miniature sheets now available at the post office in packages costing \$1.00. One type contains a sheet of 20 of the 5¢ value and the other type contains 2 sheets of 50 of the 2¢ value. These are also available from the Philatelic Bureau in Ottawa and, according to the bulletin issued by that department, the ones they send out have a slightly different package. We think that in every form these sheets, which are straight edge on all four sides, are a must for every collector of Canadian material. I'll even go out on a limb and predict that these sheets will add impetus to the growing movement of collecting those straight edges of the 1928 - 1930's and reconstructing miniature panes. It may even create further interest in the collecting of stamps with selvedge attached for the purpose of reconstructing miniature sheets.

Although perhaps somewhat premature, we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

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