

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The first meeting of the new season will be held in the Mobil
Oil Auditorium, 610 Eighth Avenue S.W., at 8 P.M. on Tuesday, September 4th.

Let's have a large turn-out of members!

Officers of the Society for 1962-1963 are:

President:	Dr. Rudolf Martin
Vice-President:	Mr. Eldon C. Godfrey
Secretary:	Mrs. R. H. (Kathleen) Lane
Treasurer:	Mr. H. N. Bennett
Auction Manager:	Mr. Jack B. Cotton
Circuit Manager:	Mr. R. G. (Bob) Monilaws
Editor:	Mr. R. S. (Bob) Traquair
Executive Committee:	Messrs. R. (Bob) Perry R.A. (Bob) Galli Brien Horne Jim A. McComb H.M. Hartney Sam C. Nickle

THE FOUNDING OF THE CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

It is only a year and a half ago that we thought the Society was forty years old and made this the occasion of a big celebration. A lot of research into the history of the Society resulted in the publication of a long description of "The First Forty Years of the Calgary Philatelic Society". However, no amount of reading of old minutes, no amount of questioning of old members turned up the founding date of the Society. The closest guess was October 1921.

Then, in May of this year, it happened! Mr. Syd T. Richardson, one of our Society's honorary members and an officer of the Society from 1941 to 1956 (including eight years as President) recovered from its hiding place in his basement, a cardboard box full of old correspondence relating to the Society. And among all the applications and the resignations and other colourless stuff, there was a small page torn from somebody's notebook, scribbled on in pencil....the minutes of the first meeting of the Society! Our faces were really red when we found out that the Society was actually founded on April 22, 1922, so that it is forty years old only this year instead of in 1961. The text reads:

"Moved by Dr. Mason, seconded by Gerald Howland, we form the Calgary Philatelic Society.

"Moved by G.R.Johnson, seconded by....., that a committee be formed consisting of Mr. Kelsey Hall, Dr. E.G.Mason, Mr. D.C. Howland, and be appointed to procure a Constitution & Bylaws for the Society."

Another letter shows that the founding meeting was held in Room 510, Lancaster Building, at 8:30 P.M. on Wednesday, April 12th, 1922.

Entering upon the third year of existence of the Society, Dr. Mason wrote on January 8, 1924:

"In May 1922 a few stamp enthusiasts, among whom were D.C. Howland, Dr. G. R. Johnson, Col. J. B. Potter, M. Thomas, W.K. Hall and myself, conceived the idea of organizing a stamp Society."

In less than two years, even the president had forgotten the month in which the Society was founded! No wonder then, that after forty years we find ourselves to be wrong by a whole year!

THE McCOMB AFFAIR

A very successful Junior Philatelic Meeting was organized by the Calgary Junior Stamp Club with the assistance of the Calgary Philatelic Society and the Recreation Division of the City of Calgary. The meeting took place on Saturday, May 5th, in the Recreation Building on Sixth Avenue just west of the 11th Street S.W. and included displays, competitions, auctions, quiz contests, talks by senior philatelists, and a film presentation by Mr. W.T. ("Spud") Murphy, Public Relations Officer of the Canada Post Office.

The meeting culminated many months of hard work by Jim McComb and his Calgary Junior Stamp Club and was not only an unqualified success, but far exceeded everybody's expectations. Over a hundred boys and girls (only 33 of them members of the Junior Club) were present, and 43 of these indicated their desire to participate in stamp clubs next season. Approximately 24 families were represented by adults other than members of the Calgary Philatelic Society.

Most of the material for the junior auctions was donated by

members of the Society and by Calgary stamp dealers. Gross receipts of \$78.57 were taken in, for a net of \$46.75, which will be distributed between the two Calgary Junior Stamp Clubs (Southwest and Northwest), the Boy Scouts Stamp Club and the Y.M.C.A. Stamp Club. It is estimated that between \$300. and \$400. catalogue value in stamps was auctioned or distributed as gifts and prizes for the various competitions.

The exhibition featured a total of 85 frames, 22 of which were entered for the Junior Competition. The 63 senior frames were directed toward the junior collectors and emphasized instructive more than philatelic qualities. It was extremely gratifying to note that many C.P.S. members contributed material who had never displayed stamps before. It is sincerely hoped that these collectors will also enter their frames at the forthcoming Annual Dinner Meeting, now that they have discovered that exhibiting is not such a chore after all. A total of eleven prizes were given to junior exhibitors in four different age groups (10 and under, 11 to 12, 13 to 15, and 16 to 20 years).

Bob McPherson was Master of Ceremonies and, assisted by Larry Thompson of the Boy Scouts, kept the program going at a fast pace. Sam Nickle as senior judge guided Dan McLafferty (Junior Stamp Club) and Eddie Holmes (Boy Scouts) in judging the competition. Mr. Hartney opened the meeting with a talk on "The How and Why of Stamp Collecting"; Mr. Bennett spoke on perforations and similar topics, and Mr. Murphy showed two Post Office movies of the printing of the St. Lawrence Seaway stamp and the Canadian Sports issue. It was a meeting to be remembered and will doubtless be repeated next year.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we begin a new year for the Calgary Philatelic Society, some of us would perhaps do well to remember the purpose for which our Society has been created. Clause 2 of the Constitution and By-Laws begins:

"The object of the Society shall be the furtherance of the science of philately, and the promotion of good-will and fellowship among its members."

It has never been the intent of the Society that it should primarily constitute a vehicle for the sale and purchase of stamps and other philatelic items. Nevertheless, a recent resignation has highlighted the existence of this misconception among the Society's members. This person complained of not having been able, at the Society's auctions, to obtain the high prices for his stamps which he felt entitled to receive. Many of us may have had similar feelings at one time or another, but most realize that the Society has not been set up for the mere purpose of dealing in stamps. "Goodwill and fellowship" are not promoted by purely commercial considerations, and while dealers are welcomed by our Society as members, it does not concern the Society whether their business flourishes or not.

It is an accepted fact that enlarging one's collection or disposing of one's duplicates by a mere exchange of stamps has severe limitations. Buying or selling, at prices arrived at through the law of supply and demand, has the effect of extending these limits. The Society has therefore many years ago instituted auction sales and circuit

books, and its members are free to exchange stamps for money instead of for other stamps at any time. We would be on the wrong road, however, if money and personal gain should become the main objective and philately should begin to take a back-seat.

A materialistic concept of stamp collecting is, most unfortunately, also evident from the bare-faced theft of stamps at several meetings of the Society during the past year. Two circuit books have disappeared, with a combined value of \$81., and stamps have also been stolen from material displayed at our meetings. This is an intolerable situation - one that has cost each of our members this year approximately one dollar, since the circuit books had to be paid for by the Society - and one that has benefitted only one or two unscrupulous individuals. We cannot guarantee that it will not happen again, but wish to express the hope that all members will co-operate in doing what they can to prevent such deplorable acts from re-occurring.