

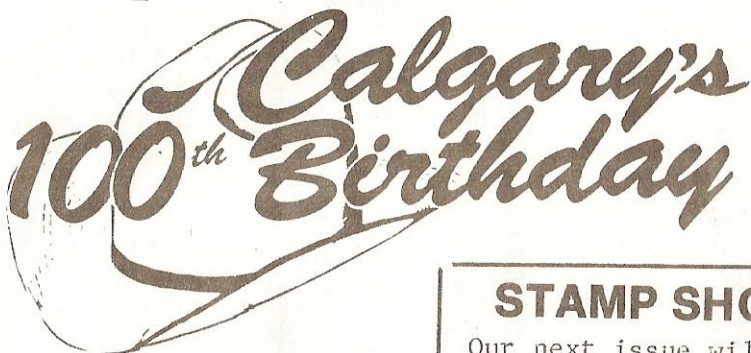


STAMP^{ED}E

Calgary Philatelic Society

Stamp to honor

FEBRUARY 1975



Mark it down right now, all fellow collectors! July 3, 1975, that is! That's the first day of issue of Calgary's 100th anniversary stamp which got its start with a resolution by the Calgary Philatelic Society over two years ago. Letters to Prime Minister Trudeau, the Postmaster General, M.P.'s and Mayor Rod Sykes followed.

The centennial stamp ball was carried by Mayor Sykes and Century Calgary in the past two years through an election and a change of postmasters-general. The former cabinet minister in that post gave us that old run-around about only approval for anniversary stamps being given to provincial capital cities. It seems to us that there have been exceptions, possibly Vancouver, in the past. Be that as it may, it took the persuasive

(CONT'D ON PAGE 4)

STAMP SHOW

Our next issue will feature in detail the C.P.S. centennial show on April 4 & 5. As much as possible the exhibits will be keyed to local postal history in honor of the city's 100th anniversary. All members are asked to prepare exhibit material for display or competition. The show will take place in Kirby Memorial Centre (old Mount Royal College), 7th Ave. & 11th St. S.W.

MEETINGS

MARCH 1975

- Mar. 4 - Program & Business Meeting, Downstairs, Central Library, Macleod Tr. & 6 Ave. S.
7:30pm Circuit Books & Trading
8:15pm Regular Business Meeting
8:30pm Talk on BNA Issues
9:00pm Circuits & Trading
- Mar. 17 Auction Night, CUPE Hall 104 - 13 Ave. S.E.
7:30pm Viewing Lots
8:00pm Auction

OF INTEREST

Cover-collecting has been gaining in popularity by leaps and bounds, especially in the United States in recent years. However, the same enthusiasm does not seem to exist in Calgary, gathering by the lack of interest in our own club. Covers do not sell well in our auctions or in the circuit books.

Ken Ford, a cover-collector for several years, recently came across something of a find in his hundreds of covers from all over the world. He was scanning a copy of the monthly bulletin of the Australian Post Office when something caught his eye. It was a photo of a cover that seemed familiar. It was a first day of issue of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth dated May 10, 1937. So what? It seems it was the first official or recognized F.D.C. issued by the Aussie P.O. Ford was sure he had seen one in his accumulation of Commonwealth covers, and sure enough, there it was. So it will be given a special spot in Ken's collection of Australian stamps and material, along with the article from the Australian Post Office bulletin. On Page 3 we have reproduced the bulletin's photo of the historic item.

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GOOD TALK

One of the best talks ever presented to the Calgary Philatelic Society was given by Member Ed Harris on Feb. 4. Expressing his personal preference for used stamps and covers, Ed spoke in some detail of the "character and quality" of items he has collected in these categories.

Many covers with a "personality" and history can be picked up inexpensively from so-called junk boxes or side tables in dealers' stores. Many collectors are in the habit of searching through

these jumbles for "goodies" priced at 10¢ or 15¢. Mr. Harris cited several examples from his own collection which he had acquired in this manner. One such item which intrigued the C.P.S. group was an old envelope dated in 1919 from a Canadian member of the Siberian Expeditionary Force. It was postmarked Vladivostok and has old prerevolution stamps affixed.

Other covers displayed and described by the speaker included a large envelope mailed by a Canadian priest in the Northwest Territories with the stamped cachet reading, "This mail was carried 150 miles by dog sled before posting." These can still be obtained by sending \$2.00 to the priest at his northern mission post.

Patriotic covers from Canada and other British Common-

wealth countries are other favorites of Mr. Harris and he brought several interesting examples for the edification of C.P.S. members. These had multicolored pictures of the old Canadian flag and the Union Jack, together with patriotic comments like, "May it ever wave!" and "Keep the old flag flying."

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ATTIC "FIND"

Attic searches sometimes yield interesting articles but not many compare with a 20-foot banner covered with more than 7,000 stamps found in an attic of the House of Commons.

Mr. Lavoie said the find was a "strange discovery" but not necessarily a valuable one. As catalogued, the stamps would fetch about \$70,000 or \$10 a stamp. The problem was that Mr. Lamanek trimmed all the perforated edges from them, greatly diminishing their value.

(From "The Calgary Herald - Aug. 13, 1974)

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Literature

The Philatelic Bulletin of the British Postal Service is one of the best buys in all philately. It is the logical and acknowledged way of keeping up on Great Britain's new issues, design details, slogan cancels, etc. And at 75d or about \$1.50 in Canadian money, you can't beat it for 12 issues a year.

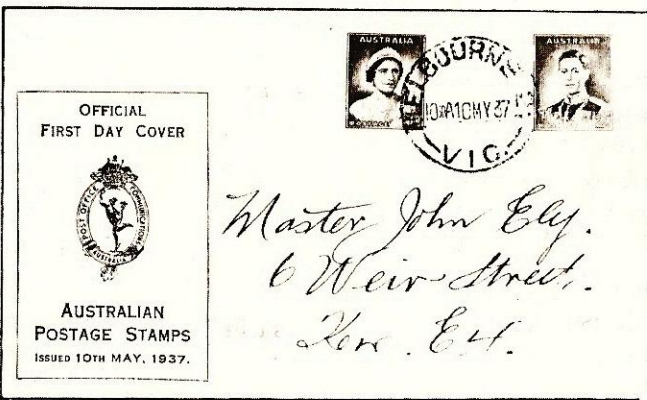
The editorial material is well selected and written and the illustrations are usually in sharp and beautiful color.

The most recent issue at hand (December, 1974) features an article on the British Royal Court Post Office from 1897 with pictures of the various Royal cancellations. The magazine also has story and photos of the experimental charity stamp which was issued on Jan. 22, 1975.

Subscriptions should be sent to the British P.O. Philatelic Bureau, Lothian House, Lothian Road, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH3-9BB.

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First official cover issued by Australian P.O. on May 10, 1937.



"Coronation" cover.

powers of Mayor Rod Sykes, a fellow philatelist, to budge the powers-that-be. We believe he did it the day the new Postmaster-General, Bruce Macasy was in Calgary last fall for the official opening of the new \$12-million postal terminal at the airport. In making the centennial stamp announcement, he referred to the previous capital city rule but said he was going to break it. Present at the post office ceremonies, among others, was Sam Nickle, Jr., well-known local collector and member of Canada's postal design committee. Sam also had urged the Postmaster-General and other officials at Ottawa to give Calgary its stamp. So don't forget July 3, which is opening day of the Stampedes as well as "first day" for the Century Calgary stamp! No word on design yet, but we hope it has a replica of the old Fort Calgary instead of the inevitable Mountie on horseback.

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Philately honors oil industry

Postage stamps are said to be a picture gallery of a nation's glories, depicting in miniature its famous men, great events of history, its industries and natural wonders.

More than eighty nations, including Canada, have depicted the petroleum industry on almost 1,000 postage stamps. This is remarkable, in view

of the fact that the first postage stamp was issued only 130 years ago and that the petroleum industry is only about 100 years old.

Most countries (including many that no longer exist) have issued stamps honoring the oil industry. More are being issued each year.

Canada has issued five oil stamps. The first, in 1950, was a green 50¢ value that depicted oil as an important Canadian resource. Its design shows oil derricks, tanks and an oil-well fire in Alberta. The next was the 1955 blue 5-center issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Saskatchewan and Alberta, with three oil derricks to symbolize Alberta.

In 1958 an unusual stamp showing a kerosene lamp and a refinery outlined in two drops of oil was issued to commemorate the centennial of the oil industry. In this case, Canada had the jump on the United States in both first commercial oil well and the first oil centenary stamp. James H. Williams dug the first successful oil well on the continent at Oil Springs, Ont., in 1858, so the centenary stamp beat the Americans' by a year.

(From "OILWEEK", Feb.7/72)

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