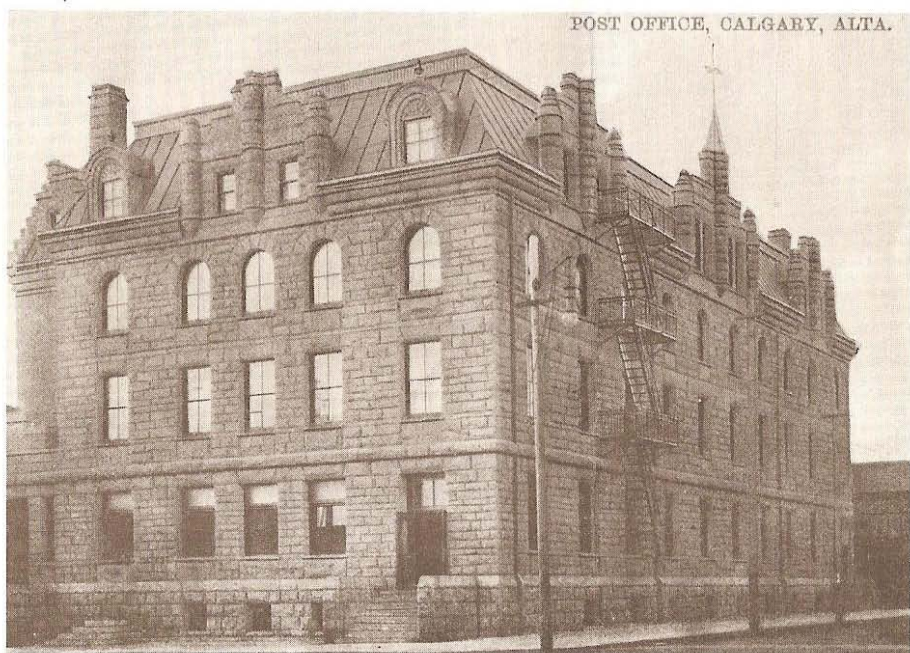




THE CALGARY STAMP E D E

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY — ESTABLISHED 1922



CALGARY'S 3rd POST OFFICE — 1905-1912

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY
BOX 1478 • CALGARY, ALBERTA • T2P 2L6

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The Calgary Stampede Bulletin is published and printed in Calgary five times a year, courtesy of Clyde Vincett Stamps Ltd.

Bulletin Issue Dates

Deadlines

August 20, 1982	August 6, 1982
October 15, 1982	October 6, 1982
December 17, 1982	December 1, 1982
February 11, 1983	February 2, 1983
April 15, 1983	April 6, 1983

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have just finished reading our most recent STAMPede bulletin, it is good to see so many contributors making this issue one of the most interesting so far. Our thanks go to all participants and to Keith Brown for his efforts as editor. If we can maintain a quality product, there can be some extra income from dealer advertising. Finding the best method of presenting the awards the club offers is still being studied by your executive to try to establish a set of guide lines for standards and timing of the presentations of the various trophies. We hope to come up with a formula that can become part of the club's constitution, saving future executives from spending too much time on this rather important item.

Another matter we are examining, is the idea of better name tags for the membership. Name tags would be permanent in the sense that they would be made of metal and show the club crest and possibly a membership number etc. If you would like to offer any suggestions in this area, please let me know.

One of the dividends we often receive from collecting stamps is the friendships made through common interests when two or more people get together and discuss some particular segment of the hobby in which they all share a mutual interest.

I was fortunate to come in contact with a couple of collectors in the U.S.A. who collect Australia and the Australian States just as I do; we have found much of joint interest through regular correspondence.

Many collectors in our club have similar associations and some have lasted years, interests sometimes go beyond the areas of philately thereby building lasting friendships. This benefit is often very practical, especially when travelling out of our own country. If you don't have a correspondent now, I recommend making the effort to find a partner preferably from another country. This always adds extra dimensions to the areas for discussion. Often this sort of contact can be invaluable in the search for much needed material; better two or more looking for those hard to find items. The best contacts are often found through philatelic clubs with an international membership list.

The highlight of our general meetings usually is the guest speaker for the evening. We are very fortunate to have some fine speakers who know their subjects well and can add facts and knowledge for the rest of us. There are, however, many collectors in the club who have interesting collections but don't feel they could speak at a meeting. Now this is an appeal to all those who have never given a short talk on their collecting interests to come forward and ask our program chairman to set up a night for you.

Dick Wilsey is our program chairman and he needs some help to find speakers. It is not important how much your material might be worth but rather what you have done, or are doing to build your collection. Think of some of the benefits; first you gain by researching your favourite topic a bit and looking out for some suitable material to present, second others get to know what you like to collect and that can open some unexpected doors for new material or new discoveries and third you get to meet some other members and add to the pleasure and satisfaction of the evening.

Often when asked to speak to a group, the response is "I am not good at public speaking" or "I don't have anything to show". Ours is a very informal meeting and no one expects a professional orator. In any case, I am sure if you ask any one who has done it before they will be most pleased to give a few tips on the presentation and content to make your talk successful; so, "give it a go" - surprise yourself - at the results and help out Dick at the same time.

Till next time - Good Collecting!

Don Fraser, President

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CALTAPEX '83 AUCTION SET TO GO
by Dale Speirs

As in previous years, an agreement has been reached with the Calgary Stamp Shop to handle the Caltapex '83 auction. The auction will be a combined floor and mail bid sale, unreserved, and held on October 14. Minimum value of lots consigned must be \$25.00 with a 20% commission.

Any member of the CPS wishing to submit lots for the auction should do so before August. Please deal directly with the Calgary Stamp Shop located at 613 Centre Street, South.

* * * * *

TRADE: Holland (Mint & Used); West Germany (Mint & Used).
Also looking for Canada, Holland & West Germany.
S. Werner Jost. Phone: 273-5041.

WANTED: Belgian Precancels - Especially Town Type. Dick Wilsey-242-0141.

TRADE: Mint U.S.A., Canada and Great Britain to trade for Used of same. Call Steve 286-8907.

WANTED TO BUY: Back issues of the following philatelic periodicals. Must be good, clean copies. Not interested in damaged or marked copies.

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Monthly - 1971 to late 1979.

BNA Topics - pretty well everything.

Canadian Philatelist - up to 1970, 1972, most of the '70's.

Maple Leaves - 1965 to date.

American Philatelist - all issues.

Phone 243-1752 or write "Box 6830, Stn. "D", Calgary, T2P 2E7".

FOR SALE: Canadian Stamps. Mint Blocks and Singles from 1960 and up at discounted prices or trade for older Canadian stamps. Contact Club Member 596 or phone 286-9718 after 6 p.m.

INTERESTED IN TRADING: Dutch stamps mint and/or used. Please contact Club Member 596 or Phone 286-9718 after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE: Stamps of Holland Mint and Used and F.D.C.'s for sale. Contact - Michael Teekens 281-9662.

* * * * *

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR KNOWLEDGE

by D. C. Speirs

Many of us, I am sure, have received a letter in the mail or seen one at a stamp bourse with an unusual cancel or other odd marking. It is easy to speculate how the cover came to have that marking by saying, "The cancelling machine must have ...", or "The postal clerk did such-and-such.". Such speculation has a way of becoming accepted dogma if repeated often enough or by a distinguished philatelist. The one sure way to find out is to write the post office or visit behind the scenes.

On 16 February, a group from the CPS led by Jon Johnson took a tour of the Calgary Mail Processing Plant. The plant is located at the old terminal part of the International Airport and was a most fascinating place to visit. Those of us on the tour certainly learned a lot, especially about the machines in use by the mechanized section. The automatic parcel sorters, the Culler-Facer-Canceller, the Group Desk Suite, the Optical Character Reader, and the Letter Sorting Machine are wonders to behold. Watching them in use was an education of the best kind. The plant handles 35,000,000 pieces of mail per month. Anyone who complains about the postal service should try and figure out for themselves how they would sort that kind of volume.

I would say that everyone on the tour enjoyed the experience. If you have a chance some time to go on such a tour, I strongly suggest that you do so. You won't regret it.

* * * * *

IS THIS YOUR PROBLEM? ODD-SIZED STAMP MOUNTS.

by D. C. Speirs

It's shortly after midnight and you are working on your stamp collection, preparing a few pages for the upcoming show. You have a good assortment of Hawid-type mounts but none the right size for your plate block of Jenny inverts. There are some mounts bigger than the plate block but using them as is would leave a black strip above the stamp. A mount with a too-small stamp looks awkward. Simply cutting off the excess from the top might help, but it will leave the top of the mount loose, allowing the stamp to slide around and possibly right out. A better method which I use is as follows. Cut the mount horizontally in half. Insert the stamp in the bottom half. Insert the top half over the bottom half, thus enveloping the stamp. Lick the gum on both halves and apply to album page, being careful not to shift the works out of alignment. To understand this method a bit easier, refer to the diagrams below.

1.



Cross-section
of Hawid-type
mount.

2.



Cut mount
in half.

3.



Insert stamp
in bottom half.

4.

Insert top half over
stamp and bottom half.



BITS & PIECES
by Bob Monilaws

Cowries (Seashells) were used as currency both in India and Africa and the first stamps of the Uganda Protectorate issued in 1895 had the value expressed in the local coinage of Cowries. These stamps were type-written by the Reverend Ernest Millar and everytime he changed ribbons the stamps then had a new shade.

Demonetised Stamps. Stamps are demonetised when they are declared no longer valid for the prepayment of postage by the issuing government. Great Britain declared the stamps of Queen Victoria as demonetised on June 30, 1915, and the stamps of King Edward 7 on March 31, 1930.

A Safe that Floats. In 1921 the Netherlands issued a set of Marine Insurance Stamps. This called for the provision of a "floating safe" to keep insured mail in. The buoyant safe was carried on the deck of the mailboat, and in the event of a shipwreck it would survive. There was just the one issue and apparently the experiment was not successful.

"Germania" this is the name applied to the symbolic figure of the German Empire pictured on the 1900 - 21 definitive stamps of Germany. It was designed by Paul Waldraff from a portrait of Anna von Stratz-Fuhring, a Wagnerian opera star.

"Hohenzollern" was the family name of the former rulers of Imperial Germany and also the name of the yacht of Kaiser Wilhelm pictured on the colonial stamps of Germany issued in 1900 and known as the "Yacht" keytypes.

* * * * *

The following short story was sent to me in the mail the other day and I found it appealing. There is no indication of the date when the events took place but my guess is that it would be about 1930. The author is a well-known collector of Australian philately, Fred H Wilde, now deceased.

TALE OF THE TWO POUND ROOS

.....Visiting with my brother at a relative's home, the subject of stamps came up, and said relative--let's call him Jim---asked if I were interested in stamps. My reply made Jim turn to a cabinet drawer from which he took a handful of gold shipment tags. The cardboard tag is re-inforced with a metal backing turned over at three edges and clamped tightly down on the cardboard. The stamps are applied to the card and cancelled lightly, so that I have never been able to read a date on them. This is a nice consideration for the collector, but somewhat aggravating. On only one occasion, I found a printed form glued to the metal backing, showing very clearly the date of the mailing etc. Being gold shipment tags carrying 30 to 50 ozs. of gold necessitates the use of high value stamps. From the two pound to 5/- or less. Jim placed these tags in my hand and, as I looked at them casually, my breath almost left me. Asking where they came from I was informed that they paid the postage from Port Kembla to a bank at which Jim was an official and he just filed these away so they would not be carelessly dumped in the W.P.B.

Jim was not a stamp collector, but he sensed in interest or value in those high value stamps, but when I asked how much he would take for them he just said "Help yourself, I'm not selling them!". Realizing these tags had value back in 1934 or thereabouts and, not being to avaricious, I kept four tags and handed back the others which Jim placed back in the drawer. I noted at the time the pile in the drawer was about five or six inches high, which meant a lot of tags. Being somewhat of a novice in stamp collecting at the time, the stamps were taken off the tags, carefully you might imagine. Catalogued and mounted in my amateur collection, duplicates being held and later traded for similar items I needed.

At a later date and visiting where the tags still reposed, I asked Jim about them and was he prepared to sell them to me. "No," he replied and, opening the drawer again and taking out a bundle, he passed them to me again and said "help yourself". Again my thoughts were 'how can he give these away'. They are valuable, tho' for some reason or other I failed to tell him 'how valuable'. I probably thought I didn't dare or he would close up shop, so far as giving them away was concerned. So a second lot of tags came into my possession and were promptly relieved of the stamps thereon with repeat performance as for the first lot.

Later Jim and his wife, Betty, had moved to a more salubrious area upon his retirement from banking and later my brother and his wife, Betty's sister, moved to a location a few miles away from Jim's new home. During a visit to my brother's home, they informed me they were going up to see Jim and Betty and invited me to join them. "Of course I'll go," I replied as stamps and gold shipment tags came to mind. This was a few years later than my first windfall and I had learned a little about collecting, how to handle and not to handle valuable philatelic items. As conversation lagged, I took the opportunity to ask Jim if he had brought the tags with him when they had moved. "Why yes," he replied but made no move to get them; whereupon, Betty shortly suggested "Why don't you give them to Fred? You're not going to use them.". After a short time Jim said, "Let's go to the den and take a look at them.". This time the tags were in a paper sack, along with a large bundle of envelopes franked with British coils of the period and a considerable package of single stamps on piece-residue from bank correspondence and business, none of which I had any previous knowledge of their existence.

As I was gloating over this accumulation, Jim took out five tags and gave them to me, putting back the rest of the intriguing tags. As we entered the house Betty asked, "Well, did you give them to Fred?". I showed her what I had and, again she asked, "Why don't you give them to him, Jim? You will never be a stamp collector.". However, I told her I did not expect such generosity and the matter ended there, temporarily. This third lot of tags have retained the stamps thereon, the metal backing is taken off and some of them are mounted in my current album. One went back to a friend in N.S.W. and another reposes in an S.A.S.'s collection. This did not however end the tale.

Jim passed away, as did Betty's sister and, figuring that Betty would soon sell her home and move back to her original home in Mass., I drove up with my wife to see Betty. I did not even mention stamps until just before leaving when I said, "Oh, yes." I was going to ask about the stamps. Betty chimed in before I could finish my question. "Yes." I replied, "would you care to sell them to me, setting your own price?". "Well",

she replied, "I don't know just where they are.". "You don't?", I replied, "I know just where they used to be. Could we look there?". Somewhat reluctant Betty said, "Well, I'll look around there to see if I can find them.". She returned from the den with three tags and a few odds and ends of stamped envelopes. This, after she had pleaded with Jim to 'give them to me'. She led me to believe these were all that were left but before we left she asked my wife if she had ever seen the den and on replying "No, I'd like to see it.", we all went down there. I'd been out there several times with Jim, so went to look at some new pictures they had placed on the wall, passing by deliberately a stack of about 10 tags lying on the bar. Very shortly Betty noted my position relating to the tags and rushed to pick them up and hurriedly shoved them back to where I had known for several years they had been kept. On reaching home, I examined the envelopes and decided that they were more or less junk, wrote and told Betty they were useful for some youngster just beginning collecting and would dispose of them in that manner, which I did.

I asked her about the rest of the G.S. tags and after some delay received three, together with a few more (useless) envelopes and the sad report 'these are the last'. Betty did not sell the home and return to Mass., so those tags are probably in the same spot as I know they were, waiting for a hurried clean out of the home and den. A fire, a burglary or could such a miracle happen -- an offer to myself at a fair price. Oh yes, incidentally, I sent Betty a cheque for those last three tags, hoping it might change her mind about the balance, but beyond stating in reply that she thought that I had been over generous, nothing more was said about the Roo tags. One unfortunate condition about the Roos on these tags - I have been unable to find any way of deciding whether they are Scott #129, 102 or -- never mind, I'm betting they are not #15 or #59 and their respective sets of one pound, ten and five shillings.

Nothing I have used or know of will penetrate the cardboard tag sufficiently to show the watermark, so I mount them and assume they are #129 or #102. Occasionally a tag comes with one or more of #139-44 then the two pound is usually missing. If somebody can tell me a method of checking watermarks on these tags without taking off the stamps, I'd be much obliged.

* * * * *

BUY THE BOOKS BEFORE YOU BUY THE STAMPS
by D. C. Speirs

The above title sums up what I am going to discuss and, if you are in a particular hurry, then you can skip the rest of this article as long as you don't forget the message.

This message unfortunately is unheard or ignored by too many collectors. These are the same collectors who stand in line at the Post Office and buy sheets of stamps, thinking that many years from now the sheets will put Junior thru college or pay off the mortgage. No prizes for guessing what happens many years from now.

Some slightly (and I emphasize the word slightly) more advanced collectors do realize that stamp collecting cannot be done in a vacuum. They

therefore take up membership in the local philatelic society and buy the annual stamp catalogues. They use the catalogues, but not correctly.

When Messers. Scott, Gibbons and Lymans publish their catalogues, they all include explanatory notes on the stamps and prices. As far as the slightly advanced collector goes, they might as well print those explanatory notes in Hebrew, for apparently no one reads them. Any dealer can tell stories of indignant collectors who can't understand why no one wants their \$500 collection of used worldwide (with specialization in Iron Curtain and Sand Dune C.T.O.). Auctioneers know that for the average auction, there is nothing unusual in seeing lots go unsold or at a fraction of catalogue value.

It is not enough to read over the catalogue notes. If you are to collect intelligently then you must have the various handbooks and periodicals in your library. The periodicals should not just be the stamp newspapers either. You should at least take the Canadian Philatelist and, if you specialize, the appropriate specialized journal. For example, if you collect postal history, then you should be reading Maple Leaves, BNA Topics or the Postal History Society of Canada Journal. If you collect flowers-on-stamps, then membership is needed in the American Topical Association, as well as a subscription to the quarterly Biophilately.

Handbooks and checklists are valuable compendiums but become out-of-date and, more often than not, may not be revised for several decades. The periodicals will take up the slack by publishing supplements and revisions. One should also keep an eye out for back issues, which contain the proverbial wealth of information. Visit the secondhand bookstores regularly. Check the auctions and mail-bid sales. Ask around. Put ads in the trade papers. Write or visit dealers.

When you have all those handbooks and periodicals, read them. Not once but many times. Someday you will be offered a philatelic item at a fancy price and you will be able to say "Too overpriced" or "It's a forgery". Then you will be glad you bought the books before you bought the stamps.

Philatelic literature is more than just useful for investment advice or detailed flyspeck studies. History is recorded in those back issues, sometimes interestingly so. For example ...

At a recent auction I bought a bundle of old periodicals dating from 1950 to 1964. Some were Maple Leaves, published by the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, and containing learned studies on Canadian stamps and postal history. Another batch contained Popular Stamps, put out by an Ontario publisher and leaning towards news and views. An interesting point to me was that this periodical had struck a deal whereby it was the official journal (sent free to members) of the Canadian Philatelic Society, now the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. When the CPS first made the agreement, it was not large enough to support its own journal. But by September 1950, the agreement was terminated and the Society began publishing its own periodical, the Canadian Philatelist. In that month's issue of Popular Stamps an anonymous columnist, "Scotia", had this to say.

"Personally, I think it most ill-advised and am gratified to find this opinion shared by some of Canada's leading philate-

lists, with whom it has been my good fortune to become acquainted. I have deep misgivings about the permanence of the Canadian Philatelist. Will it be as ephemeral as the many other philatelic publications which have fallen by the wayside in the past several years? What will be the effect on the fortunes of the C.P.S. of this change? Time will tell."

Today the Canadian Philatelist is a major periodical. Popular Stamps has vanished from the Canadian scene. So much for sour grapes!

In the June 1964 issue of Maple Leaves is an interesting page of classified advertisements. Two Wanted-to-Buy ads running one after the other read as follows:

"Railroads, Numerals, Registered Covers, Duplex, Squared Circles, Stampless, towns to 1905 - Buy or Trade. Siverts, Box 425, Wilmington, Delaware, U.S.A."

"Don't send Siverts any Registered covers -- I'll do as well or better. Send him that other stuff and send the Registered to me. H. W. Harrison, Box 5780, Pikesville, Maryland, U.S.A."

I wonder if Siverts and Harrison ever met each other?

* * * * *

UP-COMING EVENTS

Stamp Show

Altapex Stamp Show
Saturday and Sunday
May 7 and 8, 1983
Calgary Centre Inn
202-4th Avenue, S.W.
Calgary, Alberta

Shop Opening

Stamp and Coin Shop at Sears
Opening Monday, May 2
Lower Floor - Sears Store
Chinook Shopping Centre
Macleod Trail, South
Calgary, Alberta

MEETING DATES

1982

September	1	General Meeting
	21	Deluxe Auction
	22	Auction
October	6	General Meeting
	19	Deluxe Auction
	27	Auction
November	3	General Meeting
	16	Deluxe Auction
	24	Auction
December	1	General Meeting
	21	Deluxe Auction
	22	Auction

1983

January	5	General Meeting
	18	Deluxe Auction
	26	Auction
February	2	General Meeting
	15	Deluxe Auction
	23	Auction
March	2	General Meeting
	15	Deluxe Auction
	23	Auction
April	6	General Meeting
	19	Deluxe Auction
	27	Auction
May	4	General Meeting
	17	Deluxe Auction
	25	Auction
June	1	General Meeting
	21	Deluxe Auction
	22	Auction

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