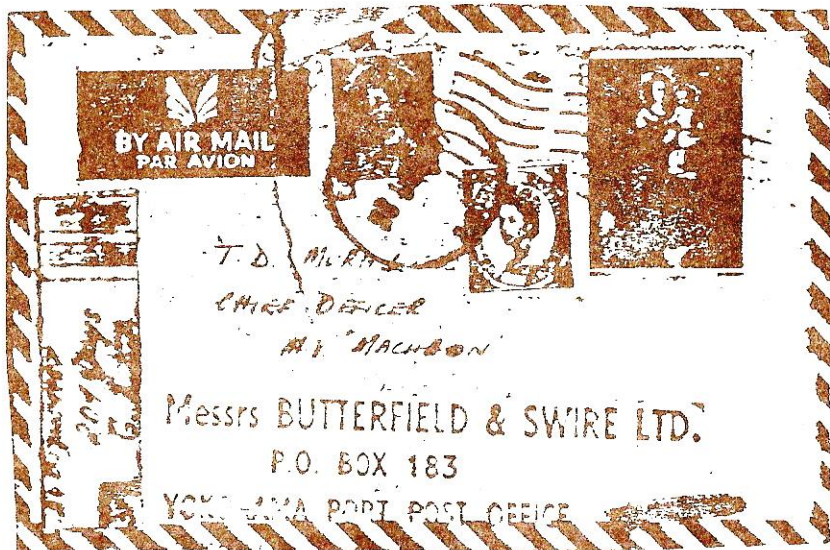


STAMPede

Volume 7

Number 4

September 1986



This cover was mailed from the Suez Canal, and was sent from a ship trapped as a result of the Six-Day War. For details, see inside this bulletin.



The Calgary Philatelic Society was founded in 1922 and is Chapter No. 66 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. The C.P.S. may be contacted at: Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2L6.

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Articles or ads should be submitted to the Editor at: Box 6830, Stn D, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7.

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SUEZ CANAL STAMPS

by Clive Brown

The title to this article may be considered a bit pretentious; however, a title was needed to introduce a strange and possibly frivolous story which originated with the Egypt-Israel war of 1967.

As a result of the warfare during 1967, the Suez Canal was deliberately blocked at both ends by the combatants to prevent use of the canal. The blockage was caused by sinking vessels across the channel. In the course of this process, many ships belonging to noncombatants were trapped between the blockades, and were forced to endure a long captivity. There were ships of several nations in limbo, including several from Great Britain. The crews were retained on board, although their numbers were reduced to just skeleton crews, in order to maintain and care for the owners' interests until they could be relieved. The boredom must have worn heavily on these men and as Christmas of 1967 approached, they devised, amongst many other social, sporting, and general interest activities, their own 'postal stamps'. They felt the stamps would be accepted as the legitimate stamps of their little enclave.

The stamps, being issued just prior to Christmas, were drawn up in the form of a Christmas tree on a 24.8 cm by 21 cm sheet of flimsy paper. Each sheet had on it a total of nine stamps, all drawn to represent candles, decorations, and gifts on and around the tree. The denominations were as follows: four 2d, one 1d, two 3d, one 4d and one 5d. (See Figure 1).

Each of the stamps and the sheet were inscribed with the name of their enclave, G.B.L.A.. G.B.L. signified Great Bitter Lake. Unfortunately I am not sure what the A. signifies (EDITOR'S NOTE: Association?). The stamps are in several colors (green, mauve, orange, yellow, and blue) and are not perforated.

I am fortunate in having a cover with one of the stamps on it. Since the Universal Postal Union did not accept G.B.L.A. stamps (or, no doubt, the rates), the cover also has a total of one shilling and nine pence of Great Britain stamps. The letter had been sent by an officer on one of the ships to a friend of mine while he was stationed on another vessel, fortunate in not being trapped in the canal. It had been forwarded by the shipping company, after the correct acceptable postage had been affixed, to my friend's ship via Yokohama, Japan. (See front cover)

Unfortunately, I am short of any further details on this strange affair. I would be grateful if anyone has any information which could add to my knowledge. (Telephone 403-239-7774 or write care of the Editor).

THREE-PENNY BEAVER AWARD

The above award is presented by the C.P.S. each June to the speaker who gave the best program during the preceding year. The winner was Greg Sereda, for his program on Liberia, given at the April 2 meeting this year.



FIGURE 1

STAMPede IN PIPEX, WINS BRONZE

This bulletin, Calgary STAMPede, was entered into PIPEX 86, held June 13 to 15 at Victoria, Bennett Columbia.

The category was obviously that of philatelic literature, and the 1985 issues, constituting Volume 6, were on trial. The judges were kind enough to award a bronze medal, about what the Editor was expecting.

The printing quality of this bulletin is quite reasonable for the price that the CPS can afford, and a tip of the hat to our printers, the Printing Class at E.P. Scarlett High School.

The only major difficulty facing the bulletin editor is the lack of original articles from CPS members. Another tip of the hat to those who have written for this publication. If you are not amongst this minority, why not put some of your thoughts on paper. The Editor, Dale Speirs, is a good proofreader and is willing to touch up your material if you are not sure of your skill as an author.

Articles can be given to Dale Speirs at meetings or auctions, or mailed to: Box 6830, Stn D, Calgary, T2P 2E7.



PIPEX '86

BRONZE

A
W
A
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D

At the time of writing this article, the August sun is still quite hot. Like most of you, I have not done very much with stamps for the past two months or so! My odds-and-sods box is full of material waiting to be soaked off and dried, some new issues are stored in a dark corner waiting to be set into a more permanent home, and there is some correspondence from collector friends needing attention. With CALTAPEX 86 just a few short weeks away, it is time to get some of these jobs tackled. This year, I am sure that the show will be a great success just as it has been in the past. The key to a memorable show is to have lots of participation by as many club members as possible.

A few weeks ago, I was looking thru some old newspapers from Melbourne in search of information for my album pages when I spotted the column devoted to shipping news. For those of you who have delved into postal history of the Atlantic during the steamship era, you will understand why I got caught up in reading details from this section of the newspaper. Our modern newspapers do not have anything like this to ponder over. Absorbing the departures-and-arrivals information from an international airport is rather colorless by comparison. In fact, it makes positively dull reading; we get just the bare bones account of comings and goings of these sleek aircraft with never a word about passengers or freight on board. This is not so in the old papers that I was reading.

Just as the sea traffic on the North Atlantic route was daily news on this continent, the same keen interest was shown by the Australian public in the timetables of ships across the Indian Ocean. With so many of the white settlers in Australia originating from the British Isles, news of relatives and friends from home was anticipated with longing, and sometimes impatience over the long delay. The daily newspapers reported the expected arrivals of ships from England that meant tons of mail to be read and enjoyed by a population that often felt cut off and isolated from the rest of the world.

The column headed 'SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE' was not just limited to arrivals and departures. The section also offered the tide table, reporting the times for high and low water marks in the bay, and sea and weather conditions. Reading this column, I felt that I got a glimpse into the society of the day. There is no mention of highjacking or terrorist attacks, and not even a deep concern for security. Britannia truly ruled the waves. In 1851, gold was discovered in Victoria. The colony was experiencing boom times, and as you will see from the following article, gold was often part of the exports. What follows is an extract from the Melbourne Argus of Monday, June 18, 1858.

ARRIVED

January 15 - Valiant, brig 142 tons, Henry Richards, from Port Frederick, V.D.L. 7th inst. No passengers. Capt. Richards agent.

January 15 - Black Swan, ss 143 tons. A.T. Woods, from Launceston 14th inst. Passengers: cabin - Messrs. Farquhason, Gibbons, Huxtable, Emerson, Kane; and seven in the steerage. Wm. Baylos and Co. agent.

January 16 - Columbian, E. & A.R.M. steamer, 2400 tons, N. Stewart commander; captain F.H. Stevens R.N. From Sydney 13th inst. Passengers saloon: For Melbourne, Mr. Brett, Miss Appleton, Mr. W. Richardson, Mr. John Burton, Mr. G. Bridgeman. For Alexandria: Mr. F. Ford, Mrs. F. Ford, Miss Garnam, Mr. Sirea, Mrs. Sirea, Master Sirea (2) child and female servant. For Malta: Mr. Maitland. For Southampton: Mr. Wills, Mr. Paul. For Point de Galle: Mr. Mellis.

(continued next page)

POSTAL BIDS SALE
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STORE HOURS: MON.-THURS. 10-5, FRI. 10-4, SAT. 9:30-3

 TEL. (403) 237-0823 

CLEARED OUT

January 16 - Anna Lange, Bremen ship, 980 tons, J.D. Raschenpe, for Hong Kong. Wilkinson Bros. and Co. agents.
 January 16 - Admiral Prinz Adalbert, Prussian ship, 899 tons, C. Sonntag, for Ceylon. R. Towns and Co. agents.

IMPORTS

January 16 - Valiant, from Port Frederick, V.D.L., 59000 ft. lumber, 22000 ft sawn, 15000 pallinges.
 January 16 - Black Swan, from Launceston: 1 package, Cptn. Kay, 828 bags bran W. Bayles and Co.; 2 casks nuts, Webster; 7 horses Emmerson; 15 bundles of canes, 3 bags sage, 3 coops poultry, 513 packages fruit.

EXPORTS

January 16 - Admiral Prinz Adalbert, for Ceylon 1 case of boots and shoes and 13 cases of liquers.
 January 16 - Anna Lange for Hong Kong: 1 chest opium, 2 boxes gold dust, 1 box sovereigns.
 January 16 - Columbian, for Suez: 43 boxes containing 46539 ozs 17 dwt of gold and 9 boxes containing 34700 sovereigns.

You can imagine the risks if today's passenger lists and cargo contents were made public in the daily newspaper! But that was the past and it is left to us to enjoy picturing the scenes on a busy wharf in the 19th century. Just another encounter in the name of philately.

C.P.S. MEMBER TO B.N.A.P.S. PREXY

Congratulations to Ed Harris, our Program Director, who recently stepped up to the position of President in the British North America Philatelic Society. He has been a member of that organization since 1951, as well as being a life member of not only the Calgary P.S. but the Edmonton P.S..

BNAPS has all the usual benefits of a national society and publishes an excellent bimonthly digest 'BNA Topics', which is typeset and illustrated thruout with photos. For further information, write to: Earle Covert, Box 1070, Hay River, NT, XOE 0R0.



DUES ARE DUE

Membership in the Calgary Philatelic Society runs from September to June. Annual dues are \$7.50. New members pay a one-time initiation fee of \$5.00. For further information, write to: C.P.S., Box 1478, Stn M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6.

The C.P.S. meets first Wednesdays at the Kerby Center, starting at 730 pm. Auctions at the same place and time, on third and fourth Wednesdays. No smoking is allowed in the meeting room.

SHOULD STAMP COLLECTIONS BE DONATED TO MUSEUMS?

by Dale Speirs

I recall reading somewhere that one reason why Transvaal is not more popular with collectors is that most of the good material is in a museum. One collector of well-to-do means bought up most of the good stamps for a reference study. The study was never published and so might as well as never been done. The collector gave the collection to some provincial museum in South Africa, where it now reposes gathering dust.

Donating stamp collections to a museum will not guarantee that the collection will be preserved for posterity. For large, specialized museums there may be no problem. Most museums are not set up to handle philatelic collections and do not have properly-trained staff to look after the material. There are too many stories of collections being eaten by vermin or ransacked by persons unknown. This does not happen only with stamp collections but other subjects such as antiques or coins. Museums often find these collections a major headache and prefer to sell the collection over the objections of the donor or heirs. Past history has taught museums to accept donations only on unconditional terms, so that they can sell or trade without bother.

Why do people donate their collections? Ego, that's why. Joe Bloake donates his collection because he wants people to see the Joe Bloake Philatelic Collection. Such collections are not always the best for display. Look at the Drumheller museum (the old one downtown, not the new Tyrell museum). Next to a priceless dinosaur collection is a room filled with bricabrac donated from an oldtimer. Most of the items displayed belong in a flea market.

Donations for tax purposes are often overvalued, but the friendly people at National Revenue Taxation are cracking down on this scam.

What to do with the stamp collection? Sell it. If you think it to be a major collection, most auction firms will feature it in their catalogs. If not, your ego may hurt but then why expect undue praise? Sell it while you can spend the money or specify in the will that it is to be sold and the money used for some good purpose.

Who will buy the stamps? Another collector will, for the enjoyment of future collectors. Stop and think what would happen to the hobby if everyone tied up their collections in museums and left the next generation to today's wallpaper.

CALTAPEX '86 STAMP SHOW

One of Western Canada's Largest Stamp Shows "CALTAPEX '86" in Calgary *(Alberta, Canada) will be held this Oct.17-19,1986.

*(Calgary is the home of the famous "Calgary Stampede" and the Host of the 1988 Winter Olympic Games.) This years stamp show is even larger than previous "CALTAPEX" annual shows, sponsored by "The Calgary Philatelic Society" (established in 1922.) Many volunteers have worked numerous hours to make this show one of the largest in Western Canada. "CALTAPEX '86" promises to be extremely interesting for all collectors. Most will be able to find material for Specialists, as well as the general collector. No matter what your collecting requirements are, there will be an extensive assortment material and supplies at this years CALTAPEX '86 show. There will be approximately 25 stamp dealers present at the Calgary show, from most parts of Canada, bringing a vast array of stamps, covers, postal history, and postcards.

This years show will be held at the 'Marlborough Inn' 1316-33 Str. N.E. in Calgary on:

Oct.17, 1986 Friday 4:00pm-9:00pm

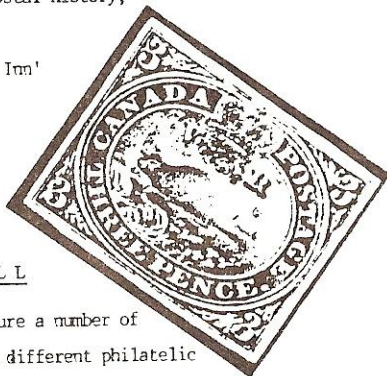
Oct.18, 1986 Saturday 9:00am-6:00pm

Oct.19, 1986 Sunday 9:00am-5:00pm

FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL

Over the three day event, CALTAPEX '86 will feature a number of very interesting exhibits, seminar's and work shop on different philatelic topics and interests. Don't forget to bring the kid's, there will be a junior's table, also stamp literature and DOOR PRIZES!

SPONSORED BY



NEW AUCTION RULES

In order to reduce the number of unsold lots there will now be a minimum 50c commission on all lots, whether sold or unsold. Consignors are urged to be realistic if placing reserves on their lots, and not overprice the lots. Most items sell at about half catalog.

All auction lots must be correctly described. If catalog value is cited, then the name and year of the catalog must be stated, as well as currency. Small lots and bundles must be openable for inspection by buyer. Where buyer disagrees with description, the auction manager arbitrates and makes the final decision.

NO SMOKING AT MEETINGS AND AUCTIONS

Nicotine addicts are reminded that no smoking shall be done in the meeting room. Those desperate for a toke should step out into the hallway where the smoke will not bother anyone in the room. This is a reasonable compromise which should keep the peace between the two sides.

BULLETIN DEADLINES

The next few deadlines for the STAMPede are as follows. Articles or ads should be mailed to the Editor, Box 6830, Stn D, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7. For the November issue, copy must be received no later than November 5.

February 1987	January 21
April	March 25
June	May 6
October	September 2
December	November 4

BULLETIN ADVERTISING

DISPLAY ADS are \$10 per full page. Partial-page ads not accepted. Camera-ready copy only on 8½ by 11 pages with 1 cm margin on all sides. During printing, copy is reduced about half in size and darkens, so take this into account when preparing copy. Five consecutive issues reserved in advance receive 10% discount. Payment in advance by cheque or money order payable to Calgary Philatelic Society.

CLASSIFIED ADS are free to paidup C.P.S. members. Maximum of ten lines, including name and address. Ads must be related to philately.

All advertising should be directed to the Editor, including payment where required.

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS - 1986

October 1	General meeting
15	Auction
17 to 19	CALTAPEX 86
22	Auction
November 5	General meeting
19	Auction
26	Auction
December 7	Sunday bourse

MEETINGS AND AUCTIONS are held at Kerby Center, 1133 - 7 Ave SW, starting at 8 pm sharp. Auction lots should be placed before 730 pm to allow bidder viewing.

SUNDAY BOURSES are held at American Women's Club, 1010 - 14 Ave SW, from 10 am to 430 pm. For information and table bookings, phone Perry Holinshead at 289-6286.

AUSTRALASIAN STUDY GROUP meets third Wednesdays. For more information, call Leanna Johnson (282-9775) or Don Fraser (274-7411).

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY Calgary chapter meets second Wednesdays. For information, call Phil Wolf (251-4109).

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paidup members of the CPS who want to buy, sell, or trade philatelic material. Limit per issue is ten lines, including name and address. Submit ads to Editor, Box 6830, Stn D, Calgary, T2P 2E7. Next deadline is November 5 for the issue appearing in late November.

THE STAMP GALLERY - 409 Grain Exchange Building, 815 First Street SW, Calgary. Telephone 290-1020.

WORLD STAMPS at Beddington Heights Mall, 80th Ave North and Center Street, Sundays 10 am to 4 pm. Contact Bob Perry.

BUYING AND SELLING stamps, collections, and large accumulations. Call or write Dwayne Miner, Box 865, Cochrane, Alberta, T0L 0W0. Phone 932-2947

WANTED - Canada 1935 issue used, blocks, covers, booklets, coils, perfins. Also Canada used plate-blocks and used blocks larger than four with CDS. Telephone Ed Harris at 274-0021.

WANTED - All types of cancels or postmarks from sub-post offices of towns and cities of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Phone Jim Karr 287-0897.