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Calgary STAMPede

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The Calgary Philatelic Society was founded in 1922. It is Chapter 66 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, and Chapter 1360 of the American Philatelic Society. The C.P.S. may be contacted at Box 1478, Stn M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6.

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HISTORY OF THE CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY: PART 5. THE POSTWAR YEARS by Dale Speirs

In May 1944, the Canadian Philatelic Society sent a letter to the CPS suggesting that the latter affiliate with the former. After some discussion over the next few meetings, this was agreed to.

Attendance at meetings during the 1944-45 season averaged about ten or so. The minutes were not often kept, as both the President (A.B. Harris) and the Secretary (Sid Richardson) were absent on business. At the October 10, 1944, meeting, subsequently written up in the newspapers, a sheet of Confederate stamps was displayed. The usual Annual Dinner was held on December 11, with an auction. Attending the Dinner were several members of the Calgary Stamp Collector's Club, a rival club of which little is known. As a result of affiliation with the Canadian P.S., the Calgary P.S. began receiving circuit books. The club's own circuits seem to have died some time before.

The Annual Meeting for 1945 was postponed from its original date, and held instead on May 23. Everyone was out celebrating V-E Day! When the meeting was finally held, A.B. Harris announced that he would not be standing for re-election, as he was retiring from business and moving to White Rock, B.C.. In the election of Officers, Sid Richardson was named President. H.E. Beddingfield was made Vice-President, G.A. Morrison named Recorder, and H.V. Lewis voted in as Secretary-Treasurer. The Executive Committee was made of G.P. Snowdon, B. Horne, J. Learmonth, W.J.E. Wyllie, A. Sorby, and H.M. Turtle.

At the October 9, 1945, meeting, the subject came up of the possibility of a merger between the CPS and the Calgary Stamp Collector's Club. Ed Ryan had previously approached the latter club about the matter, but was unable to get a definitive answer. It appears that the other club considered the CPS as being too advanced for their membership.

The October 17 social evening, held at the High River residence of Dr. Beddingfield. A car party was formed up at the Royal Building corner, and left at 7 pm for the trip north.

Although the membership was growing, the Society funds were increasing to the point where it was decided to bank them, rather than just holding them as petty cash.

The November 13 meeting was a special night with entertainment supplied by the Canadian P.S., in the form of a letter from their President, Cyril Woodhead, two competitions, and a draw for prizes. Four days after the event, a letter was sent to Woodhead from the club Secretary (Harold Lewis) describing how the meeting went. An extract reads "Our President, Mr. S.T. Richardson acted as Master-of-ceremonies and he qualifies as a 'live-wire', at least in our club. As the meeting was held in an office downtown, it was not considered feasible to have the milk lapping contest ..."

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The Annual Dinner and auction for 1945 was held on December 11 at the Renfrew Club as in past years. The auction realized \$61.20. There were twenty-one people in attendance.

At the 1946 Annual Meeting on May 14, concern was again raised over the difficulty of getting new members and keeping the old ones involved and coming out for meetings. The elections reconfirmed Sid Richardson as President, and brought in Alan Sorby as Vice-President. Harold Lewis was returned as Secretary-Treasurer. It was voted to leave the position of Recorder vacant. Voted onto the Executive Committee were Brien Horne, G.P. Snowden, J. Learmonth, Ed Lynn, and W.J.E. Wyllie.

The Annual Dinner and auction were held December 10. Dr. Mason was unable to attend due to illness, and died in early January 1947.

Although membership was growing in early 1947, it became so difficult to find Officers for the club that the election meeting had to be postponed from May until November. At that time, Alan Sorby stepped up to President, Snowden made Vice-President, Lewis remained as Secretary-Treasurer, and the vacant position of Recorder was filled by G.A. Morrison. Although the Executive Committee still existed, the names were omitted from the minutes of the meeting.

Honorary Life Member #5 was Sid Richardson, so named at the July 8 meeting. Richardson was being transferred to Toronto by his company. For the first time in many years, the membership totals were announced. As of the May 13 meeting, the CPS had 30 paid-up members; with Richardson, there were 3 Life members.

The Annual Dinner for 1947 took place on December 9 at the traditional site of the Renfrew Club. The auction realized \$44.34 and attendance was twenty-six.

By the May 11, 1948, meeting paid-up membership had declined to 20. For the elections, W.J.E. Wyllie was installed as President. H.G. Saxton was elected Vice-President, and Lewis and Morrison continued as before. Executive Committee members were Alan Sorby, N. Burford, Ed Lynn, C. Frost, and E. Ketcham.

Meetings followed a pattern of business, then informal stamp talk and trade. Interspersed between the meetings were social evenings at member's homes. The 1948 Annual Dinner went on December 16, with the usual auction.

Sometime during the past two years, the CPS had let its affiliation lapse with the Canadian Philatelic Society. This was a trend that had been going on for years and was to continue into the future. The main problem seemed to be that the club had to have a certain number of its members belonging to the larger society, and they were not always to be found in sufficient quantity. At the January 11, 1949, meeting the subject came up and it was decided to re-affiliate with the Canadian P.S.. The meetings of 1949 began to have programs again, but attendance was still the usual problem.

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The election meeting of May 10, 1949, put H.G. Saxton in the President's chair. H.M. Turtle was made Vice-President, while Lewis and Morrison continued as before. For the Executive Committee were Bedingfield, Frost, Elliott, Richardson (he had returned to Calgary), and Wyllie. Membership was 21.

In November, a joint meeting was held with the Calgary Stamp Collector's Club to discuss a merger. Held in the boardroom at the Herald Building, it was packed to overflowing. Nothing seems to have come of it, a familiar story. About the same time, a third stamp club, organized for juniors, was in existence under the name of the Foothills Stamp Club.

The Annual Dinner and auction were held December 13, 1949.

Mr. Turtle was not at the May 9, 1950, election meeting, and in self-defense had sent a message that he not be nominated for President. Sid Richardson took the President's post, H.E. Bedingfield was declared Vice-President, and Lewis and Morrison carried on in their former positions. The Executive Committee comprised Saxton, Wyllie, Turtle, Snowden, and Learmonth. Membership stood at 26 paid and 3 Life members.

Guest speaker at the September 12, 1950, meeting was a Mr. Bainbridge of Vancouver, who spoke on B.N.A. fakes and forgeries, of which he showed a large number of examples. The Annual Dinner moved to the Petroleum Club, and was held December 12. The banquet speaker was A. Kirkby, with the Canadian Post Office as Public Relations. He gave an address on the history and development of the Post Office. The Dinner's auction was a disappointment, with only 41 lots out of 100 being sold. Richardson brought this up at the next meeting, and it was decided to consider changing the date of the Dinner, possibly to October. Nonetheless the 1951 Dinner was held on December 6.

In early spring of 1951, Lewis died suddenly. As a result, no financial statement was available for the May 8, 1951, election meeting. Richardson and Morrison were returned to their positions, W.J.E. Wyllie was the new Secretary-Treasurer, and Jack Benningen was made Vice-President. For the Executive Committee were G.P. Snowden, Brien Horne, John Learmonth, T.G. Thorson, and C.H. Frost.

About this time, notice came to the CPS that a deluxe book on the King's stamp collection was to be published. It was proposed to share the cost of buying a copy with the other two Calgary clubs. This was done, and the book donated to the Calgary Public Library. It arrived in late 1952 and was borrowed for the January 13, 1953, meeting, at which time the members had a chance to examine it. The CPS had contributed \$15 towards the cost of the book, while the Calgary Stamp Collector's Club gave \$10, and the Foothills Stamp Club put up \$5.

A film entitled "Stagecoach to the Stars" was shown at the Annual Dinner on December 6, 1951, courtesy of Kirkby from the Post Office. The auction was one of the best yet, realizing \$87.30 on fifty-six lots sold out of seventy-nine.

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The executive elected at the May 13, 1952, meeting was unchanged from the previous year. The Executive Committee comprised Brien Horne, T.G. Thorson, G.C. Elliot, J. Learmonth, and G.H. Moxham. There were 24 paid members. Two longtime members passed away in 1953, namely W.J. Selby Walker and Alf B. Harris. The Annual Dinner and auction moved to the Palliser Hotel, and included a small exhibit of pages from member's collections. The event was held December 2, and Arthur Kirkby again was the speaker, this time on the Universal Postal Union. The list of signatures of those attending was headed "Calgary Philatelic Society/Founded 1922/30th Annual Dinner". This was in error of course, since the first Dinner was in 1927.

[Interestingly, as a piece of foreshadowing, the CPS had trouble with dates in 1961 as well. Because the Society archives had been misplaced, no one could remember when the CPS was founded. Under the impression that it was started up in October 1921, the club had a fortieth anniversary dinner in 1961. There were red faces all around when it was later discovered that the actual date was April 12, 1922.]

G.A. Morrison resigned as Recorder on March 10, 1953, owing to ill health. This position was filled by G.H. Moxham at the May 12 Annual Meeting. Sid Richardson continued as President, Ed Lynn was Vice-President, G.M. Hill was Secretary, and the Executive Committee included Horne, Bedingfield, Moxham, Benningen, and Wyllie. There were 27 paid members.

When the CPS was first formed, membership dues were \$2 per year. This continued throughout the good years of the 1920s, but the Depression caused dues to be reduced to \$1 in December 1932. For the next twenty-one years, dues never changed, but on September 8, 1953, they were raised back up to \$2, where they had been thirty-one years ago.

At the September meeting, the idea was first suggested that Calgary and Edmonton have a joint meeting of stamp clubs. This meeting was held on October 23 in Red Deer, halfway between the two cities. It went off well enough that a repeat performance was discussed. The Annual Dinner and auction were held at the Palliser Hotel on December 8, 1953.

R.W. Lyman, after whom the catalogues were named, visited Calgary on April 21, 1954, while touring on behalf of the British firm Robson Lowe. He gave a talk to the CPS at the Palliser Hotel, the subject being George V collections.

For the 1954 election meeting on May 11, H. Moxham was elected President. Also elected were C. Rosete (Vice-President), G. Hill (Secretary-Treasurer), and H. Turtle as Assistant. The Recorder position was done away with. For the Executive Committee were Richardson, L. Leacock, Benningen, Lynn, and C. McLernon. Membership was at 30.

A second Edmonton/Calgary joint meeting in Red Deer took place on October 9, 1954. About twenty-five members went up to the event, and 40 frames were entered as exhibits.

A public display of stamp exhibits was staged by the CPS on November 13 at the MacIn Motors Auditorium. Kirkby gave a talk at the event, which was in support of National Stamp Week, November 8 to 13.

(to be continued)

ALBERTA KLUSSENDORF POSTMARKS

by Jim Karr

The Klussendorf postmark is new to Canada. Early in 1983, the Pitney Bowes Company informed Canada Post that they could no longer supply spare parts for their model D machines, some of which had been in service as long as fifty years. Canada Post looked at a number of other makes and models, and then selected the Klussendorf electric drive model 280-5, made by a company of the same name in West Berlin. Their style of postmark is new to Canada, but is frequently seen from various countries in Europe.

Canada Post ordered 320 of these machines, with 20 of them being assigned to Alberta post offices. Delivery commenced in November 1983, and finished by May 1984 to the following post offices.

Brooks	Leduc	Taber
Camrose	Olds	Three Hills
Drumheller	Peace River	Vermillion
Edson	Ponoka	Wainwright
High River	St. Paul	Westlock
Hinton	Spruce Grove	Wetaskiwin
Lacombe	Stettler	

Late in 1985, further machines were placed at Drayton Valley and Rocky Mountain House. It is thought that these two machines were from an early order used for test purposes and then later reassigned.

The normal volume of the model 280-5 is up to five thousand pieces of mail per day. Camrose, Leduc, and Wetaskiwin soon found that the Klussendorf could not handle their volumes, so they were replaced in 1986 by the new high-speed International Peripheral Systems Inc. model MST. The Camrose machine was sent to the Edmonton Foothills Division office, where it is kept as a spare machine for breakdowns. The Leduc machine was reassigned to Innisfail, where the earliest known date of use is 21 VII 1987. The Wetaskiwin machine is in Calgary as a spare machine. Currently in Alberta there are twenty post offices using the Klussendorf machine.

Across Canada, philatelists became very interested in the Klussendorf postmarks. A study group sponsored by the British North America Philatelic Society was started in December 1988, and now publishes a bimonthly newsletter 'THE KLUSSENDORFER'. These newsletters have information on the assignment of machines, serial numbers, time marks, use of slogans, and date errors. Earliest Known Dates and Latest Known Dates are researched where use of a machine has been discontinued. Anyone with an interest in collecting the Klussendorf postmarks would benefit greatly from the information shared by members of this study group.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: For information on the Klussendorf study group, or the Calgary Regional Group of BNAPS, contact Jim Karr at 287-0897.]

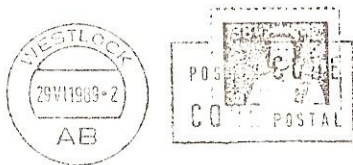
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A collectable postmark is that of Westlock, Alberta. The Klussendorf postmark below shows a date of 09 VI 199. The '8' of '1989' is omitted in error.



This error continued every day through to 29 VI 1989. The corrected date is shown below.



BNAPS AND PHSC

Serious collectors of Canadian stamps and postmarks should belong to both the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) and the Postal History Society of Canada (PHSC). Both publish excellent journals. For information on BNAPS, write to Chris McGregor, 6312 Carnarvon Street, Vancouver, BC, V6N 1K3. Data on the PHSC can be had from R.F. Narbonne, 216 Mailey Drive, Carleton Place, Ontario, K7C 3X9.

1989 CALGARY STAMPEDE POSTCARD AND CANCEL by Dale Speirs

The 1989 Calgary Stampede, the world's largest rodeo, has always had the interest of Calgary philatelists because of the temporary post office operated on the exhibition grounds during the rodeo. This postal service had not been operating in the past few years, so I was rather surprised to walk past a tent by the pin trading centre and discover a postal booth hidden away inside.

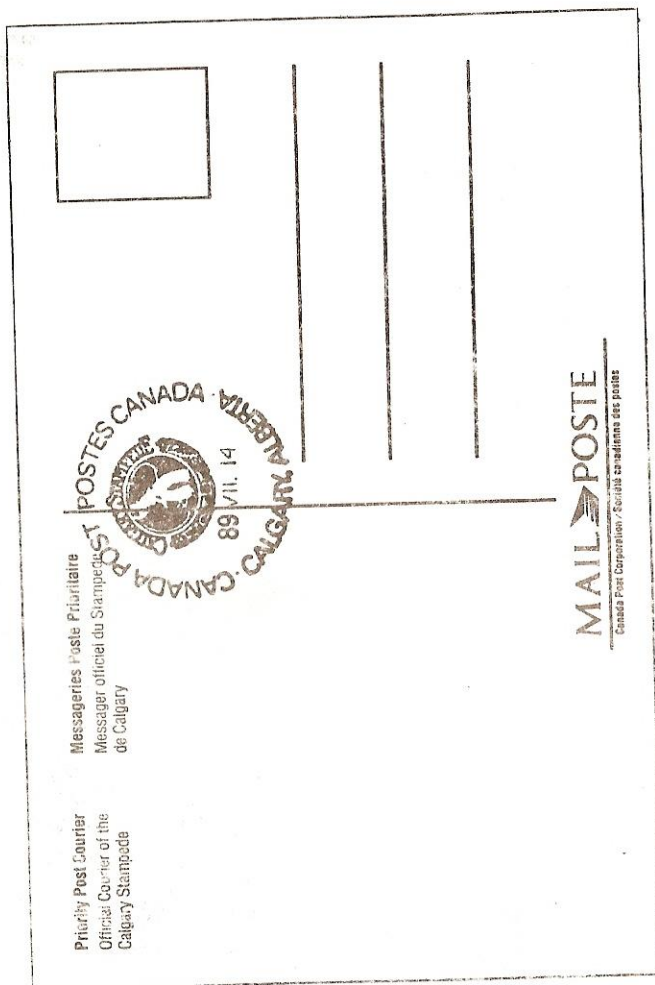
The postal facility had free post cards as a giveaway.

Also available was a commemorative cancel.

The design of the postcard is seen here. On the next page is the reverse side, with a postmark.



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CALTAPEX 89 PALMARES

Grand Award: J. Powell (Fiscal stamps of Iraq)

Gold: D. Warren (British West Indies Key Plate Issues)

D. Wilson (Australian States)

H. Powell (Horses)

J. Johnson (BNA Perpins)

L. Hopkin (Yachting)

J. Powell (Fiscal stamps of Iraq)

Silver: R. Skrepnek (KG VI Officials of Canada)

P. Smith (Vanuata postal history)

F. Rummens (Netherlands Vending Machine Booklets)

R. Powell (Cetaceans)

A. Smith (Whales and Man)

Bronze: J. Miller (Hawaiian Stamps 1850s to 1900s)

D. Speirs (Xerophytes)

T. Davis (Horses)

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paid-up CPS members. Mail your ads to the Editor, Box 6830, Stn D, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or hand them to Dale Speirs at the general meetings. Deadline for the January 1990 bulletin is January 3.

WANTED: 1978 souvenir collection. Call Merv Wood at 242-3453.

FOR SALE: Everything philatelic that I have accumulated over sixty years, at clearance prices. Phone John Jarvis at 282-7248 for more information and an appointment.

WANTED: Bicycle stamps, any depiction of a bicycle, all countries. Please call Denis at 285-4557.

FOR SALE: 1982 to 1985 Canada souvenir books for face value of stamps. Call Brenda Rosvick at 274-4712 or see me at meetings.

WANTED: Town-dated singles, blocks, and plate blocks of Canada, especially pre-WW2. Telephone Ed Harris at 274-0021.

FOR SALE: OLYMPLEX 88 show catalogue. Illustrated, with articles on Olympic philately, winter sports philately, and Calgary postal history. Price is \$6 each, postpaid anywhere in the world from the C.P.S., Box 1478, Stn M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6.

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

1989

Nov 15		Auction
22		Auction
Dec 3		Sunday bourse
6		Wine and cheese party

1990

Jan 3		General meeting
17		Auction
24		Auction
Feb 7		General meeting
21		Auction
28		Auction
Mar 7		General meeting
21		Auction
28		Auction
Apr 4		General meeting
18		Auction
21		BNAPS Calgary Regional Group meeting
22		Stamp Day
25		Auction
May 2		General meeting
16		Auction
23		Auction
Jun 6		Election meeting
20		Auction
27		Auction

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at the Kerby Centre, second floor, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 730 pm. Auction lots should be in before 730 pm to allow bidder viewing.

SUNDAY BOURSES are at the American Women's Club, 1010 - 14 Avenue SW, from 10 am to 430 pm. For table bookings, contact Walter Jackson at 242-4128.

ARTICLES and SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS should be mailed to the Editor, Box 6830, Stn D, Calgary, T2P 2E7, as far in advance of deadlines as possible.