

CALGARY PHILATELIST

December 1995

Issue #15

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252024 Kyiv
Ukraine



Куди _____
ABIA
PAR AVION

Кому _____

John-Paul HIMKA

Індекс підприємства за коду і адреса відправлення

Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T
Canada



Пишіть індекс підприємства за коду місця призначення

Hyperinflation in post-Soviet Ukraine forced introduction of lettered stamps, since any numerical value would be outdated before it left the printers. More inside this issue.



CALGARY PHILATELIST

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Articles or advertisements should be submitted to the Editor, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Small ads are free to paidup members of the C.P.S.. Display ads are \$10 per full page per issue, for camera-ready copy (photographs extra charge). No partial-page display ads accepted.

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, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6.

Membership dues for the 1995-96 season are \$12, plus a \$5 initiation fee for new members.

1995-96 EXECUTIVE

President	Hugh Delaney	255-0422
Past-President	Don Wilson	284-4479
Vice-President	Isobel Attrell	294-0935
Treasurer	Andy Pucsko	241-2593
Secretary	Jason Ness	283-5367
Directors - ex officio	Don Wilson	284-4479
1st year	Bob Perry	282-4520
1st year	John Van Staden Jr.	285-1874
2nd year	Bruce Irvine	938-7027
2nd year	Ed Harris	274-0021

COMMITTEES

Archives	Dale Speirs	243-1752
Auction - regular	Doug Kollar	547-3838
Auction - silent	Gerry Vader	293-0158
Circuit books	Ernie Bell	288-3042
Editor	Dale Speirs	243-1752
Library	Penny Borrowman	247-1525
Membership	Al Gibbs	279-9508
Private treaty books	Dave Voss	266-6013
Programs	vacant	
Sergeant-At-Arms	Isobel Attrell	294-0935
Show chairman - CALTAPEX	Don Wilson	284-4479
- ROYAL 97	Hugh Delaney	255-0422
Sunday bourse	Walter Jackson	242-4128
Publicity	Peter Smith	284-4920

COMPUTERS AND PHILATELY (4)
by Steve Davis

It's everywhere; in the newspaper and on television. The Internet. What is it and what does it have to do with stamp collecting? I will attempt to answer some of these questions in this article.

The Internet is a network or web of computer networks all connected to each other. Think of it as a network of roads, hence the nickname 'information superhighway'. Look at a road map and select two cities. Next find more than one way to drive from city A to city B. This is the same principle of the Internet.

The Internet evolved from a network started by the United States Department of Defence back in the 1960s to enable communication to continue even after a nuclear holocaust. The basic premise was that if one road of the network was knocked out, the other way to get there would still be open to traffic. Today this network called the Internet has now become a road map to information. It has enabled links to people all over the world from your desktop computer.

Stamp collectors can now make contact with other collectors all around the world instantaneously from their own home. There is a discussion group or USENET group on the Internet dedicated to stamp collecting, called 'rec.stamp.collecting'. In this group are posted messages from collectors seeking information and trades from a worldwide community.

I have started trading with several collectors via this medium, and it has been most interesting. I am able to send a message to them directly using electronic mail or 'e-mail'. This is certainly not as nice as getting regular mail (or 'snail mail') with colourful stamps on the envelope, but it is immediate.

E-mail is the part of the Internet that will have ramifications on collectors, since in the future more and more correspondence will be conducted electronically, therefore fewer stamps will be postally used. In 1994, over 6,000,000,000 e-mail messages were transmitted on the Internet and that number will increase dramatically. I believe that stamp collecting will survive and even prosper in this electronic environment, since it will enable more information exchange among the stamp collecting community.

I hope this article will stimulate interest among those with computers and be food for thought as to the direction technology is taking us all. Should you have any questions or wish further information, please contact the writer.

[Editor's Note: Are there any CPS members willing to set up and maintain a Web page for the club? Or, if that is not possible, a BBS or some kind of posting service?]

ED'S LIST #1

by Ed Harris

I like lists. Lists seem to place information in a format that simplifies understanding and retention. Lists are explicit, get straight to the point, and provoke further thought. Anyone can author a list. You can limit the list to whatever the subject and length you want, just by making sure your title says exactly what you are listing.

There is nothing new in lists. Lists have been drawn up since the beginning of recorded history. Someone even wrote a book containing only lists, and strangely he called it "The Book Of Lists". Woody Allen wrote a famous short story on somebody's Laundry List, and a recent Academy Award went to "Schindler's List". There is an exciting mystery book titled "The List Of Adrian Messenger". David Letterman has his "Top Ten" list on television five nights a week. The list of possible lists is endless.

So with that introduction, I offer the first of my lists. The subjects will always be connected in some way with philately. Sooner or later errors will show up, and I expect feedback. Amendments will be reported. If you want a particular list, suggest it to me and I'll see what I can do. If you want to make a list for this space, send it in and if we print it, you'll get full credit.

One current list I'm working on is Famous Albertans who have appeared on postage stamps. Any help out there? At any rate, here's my "Ed's List #1".



The Penny Black:
It set the standard.



Brazil's famous
Bull's Eyes.

ED'S LIST NO 1

Countries issuing their first adhesive postage stamps in the decade of the 1840's
with their dates of issue and other useful information

Country	Denomination	Colour	Date of Issue	
1 Great Britain	One Penny Two Pence	Black Blue	May 6, 1840	World famous Penny Black May 8, 1840
2 Zurich	Four Rappen Six Rappen	Black Black	March, 1843	Swiss Canton local
3 Brazil	30 Reis 60 Reis 90 Reis	Black Black Black	Aug 1, 1843	Brazil's famous Bull's Eyes - First country to issue three stamps at one time
4 Geneva	10 Centimes	Yel Green	Oct 1, 1843	Swiss Canton local Two fives joined as a ten
5 Basel	2 1/2 Rappen	Blk, Crims & Blue	Jul 1, 1845	Swiss Canton local, Dove design. First multicolored issue
6 United States	5 Cents 10 Cents	Red Black	Jul 1, 1847	None are known cancelled on day of issue
7 Mauritius	One Penny Two Pence	Orange Dark Blue	Sep 21, 1847	So called "Post Office" error. One of the "greats" in philately
8 France	20 Centimes 1 Franc	Black Vermillion	Jan 1, 1849	Ceres design
9 Belgium	10 Centimes 20 Centimes	Brown Blue	Jul 1, 1849	King Leopold I with Epaulettes
10 Bavaria	1 Kreuzer	Black	Nov 1, 1849	Numeral design

It is interesting to note that of the eighteen stamps listed above, nine bear a portrait, six depict the numeral of denomination and only two are of other subjects, the Coat of Arms of Geneva and the Dove of Basel. Compare these simple clean designs with our modern issues which are almost exclusively photogravure and carry intricate political or other messages.

HYPERINFLATION IN POST-SOVIET UKRAINE

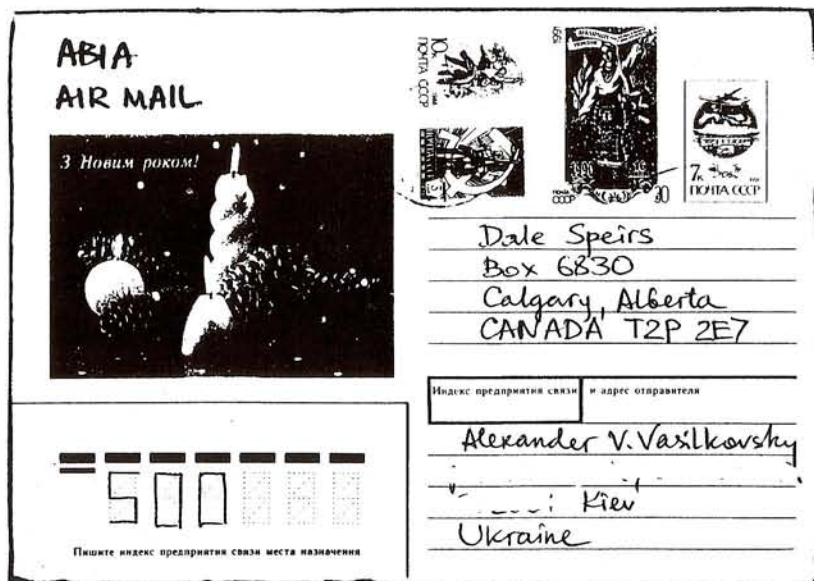
by Dale Speirs

When Ukraine regained its independence on 1991-8-24, its government failed to establish good economic policy in the chaos that followed. As a result, the currency began to inflate, slowly at first, then shifting into hyperinflation.

The currency is 100 kopyok = 1 karbovants. At independence, 1 karb equalled 1 ruble, but karbovantsi rapidly inflated worse than the ruble. By 1994, there were about 40,000 karb to the dollar, and about 140,000 karb to the dollar in 1995.

Hyperinflation is reflected in the postage rates. This article uses the rate for airmail letters from Ukraine to Canada as an example. Other rates, domestic and foreign, increased in a similar fashion.

The cover shown below is paid by a variety of CCCP stamps at the independence rate of 50 kop (= 0.5 karb). CCCP stamps and envelope imprints were and still are being used, although once Ukraine began issuing stamps this usage declined.



The old Soviet postage rates were ridiculously low by any standard, and Ukraine soon increased them. On 1992-1-1, the rate to Canada increased by ten times to a more realistic 5 karb. By now the first Ukrainian stamps were becoming available; the cover below was mailed in June with a definitive.



One characteristic of hyperinflation is that it starts off low but soon accelerates to blinding speed. The covers shown on the next few pages reflect how fast it can get out of control. The 25 karb rate was brought in as of 1992-7-17. On 1993-1-1, it went to 85 karb. That is, in one year, the rate went from 5 to 85 karb. On 1993-8-30, the rate jumped to 300 karb. Hyperinflation was now underway, and by December 1993, rates were calculated daily. One reason why Ukraine has been plagued by so many local overprints and provisionals is that it was physically impossible for the printing presses to keep up with the postage rates. By the time a stamp appeared, its rate was obsolete, in fact often not even good for pocket change. Finally, Ukraine brought in definitives with no values, just letters. (Similar to American and Canadian non-denominated stamps, albeit for a different reason.) The letter stamps can be sold at the daily rate at the post office.

[continued next page]

ABIA
AIR MAIL

Цягуцце картусы



SULCORERUTIA TORABACENSIS
СУЛКОРЕВУТІЯ ІЗ ОРЕВНОСТЕЙ ТАРАБУКО

500

Пішите индекс предприятия связи места назначения



Куда

Dale Speirs
P.O. Box 6830
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 2E7
CANADA

Кому

Индикс предприятия связи и адрес отправителя

Alexander V. Vasilkovsky
Kiev-1
UKRAINE

Cover paid at 2522 karb in December 1993. Stamps plastered on front and back of envelope to make up the rate.

ABIA
PAR AVION



Dale Speirs
P.O. Box 6830
Calgary, Alberta
CANADA T2P 2E7

Alexander V. Vasilkovsky
Kiev-1, UKRAINE

Front
of
cover

PER LUCHTPOST
PAR AVION



Куда

DALE SPEIRS
BOX 6830
CALGARY ALBERTA
T2P 2E7

Кому

CANADA

Индикс предприятия связи и адрес отправителя

Alexander V. Vasilkovsky
Kiev-1
UKRAINE

500

Пішите индекс предприятия связи места назначения



Reverse
of
cover

25 karb
as of
1992-7-17

85 karb
as of
1993-1-1

By December 1993, the first definitive series was obsolete. A new set, known as the ethnographic series, was introduced, with values in the hundreds of karbs. These too, became useless in the face of hyperinflation. They were then re-issued with letters instead of numerical values. This allowed postal clerks to sell them at the daily rate. The cover below shows both the numerical values (10 x 200 karb) plus a B stamp to make up the rate.



There is a club devoted to the study of Ukrainian stamps, past and present, called the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society. Membership is US\$20 from UPNS, Box 11184, Chicago, Illinois 60611. This includes two excellent periodicals. TRIDENT-VISNYK is the newsletter covering fast-breaking news and society news. UKRAINIAN PHILATELIST is a perfect-bound periodical of major studies and summaries on Ukrainian postal history and stamps.

CUMULATIVE SUBJECT INDEX TO 'CALGARY PHILATELIST' #1 TO #15

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NON-PHILATELIC ART FOR PHILATELISTS

by Dale Speirs

Review of ETERNAL NETWORK: A MAIL ART ANTHOLOGY, edited by Chuck Welch. Published by University of Calgary Press, 1995. ISBN 1-895176-27-1. Available for \$39.95 at the University of Calgary Bookstore.

Mail art, also known as correspondence art, began as a movement in the 1960s and has since developed to an estimated 20,000 participants. The idea of mail art is to avoid the art gallery scene, where art is a commodity, in favour of trading art by mail without cost other than postage. Mail art has many different aspects, from postcards to cacheted envelopes with all-over art to artistamps (what philatelists would call cinderellas) to simply enclosing art in an envelope or parcel. One sub-branch is devoted to mailing art without an envelope or wrapping. The item in question has the postage and address attached directly to it. The whole fun in this is to convince the posties that the item, such as a chair, can be legally mailed as such. In recent years as postage soars, mail artists have been moving to the Internet, particularly World Wide Web, where it is much cheaper and easier to spread one's artwork.

Mail art developed as a reaction against the idea that art is money, that art is a commodity to be peddled in galleries and shown in pretentious museums. In philately, of course, stamps and covers are valued in money as a matter of routine. When artists began producing sheets of cinderella labels, this naturally caught the eye of stamp collectors. Mail art postcards and envelopes are often quite attractive and innovative; this too catches the attention of postal historians. However, almost all of mail art is retained in private collections of artists or learned institutions, and thus philatelists have not been too aware of what is going on. The hostile reception given to philatelists by mail artists is understandable, since the former represent everything the artists are reacting against.

ETERNAL NETWORK is an anthology of articles covering the history of mail art, the philosophy behind it (with particular emphasis on networking), and its future. Interspersed throughout are numerous examples of mail art, whether covers or cinderellas. There are surveys of mail art by category or by country (Canada, Poland, etc.). The talk of moving to Internet to avoid postage rates and censors is moderated by the fact that for much of the world, Internet is still a fantasy, and the mails will continue to be used.

This book is of great interest in examining the use of the mails for the same purposes as philatelists but for artistic reasons, and with little or no connection to the philatelic world. Certainly mail art surpasses philatelic cacheted envelopes in originality, with an unlimited subject matter, as opposed to routine FDCs or show cachets. I recommend this book for those interested in a unique branch of postal history largely unknown to philatelists.

CALTAPEX 95 PALMARES

Court of Honour: Bill Pawluk (Canada Rates 1897-1911)
Jim Taylor (St. Pierre & Miquelon 1882-1950)

Grand Award: Ed Harris (Pioneer Post Offices of the Prairies)

Gold: R. Powell (Cetaceans)
Sarah Funk (The Rain Forest)
Kelly Liusz (Christmas in Canada)

Vermeil: J. Powell (Canadian Mail and Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force)
Jim Karr (Unofficial Duplex Cancellations of Canada)
S. Sheffield (Muskoka 1880-1914 Postal History)

Silver: Coralee de Waal (The Cat Family)
Kelly Liusz (Bears)

Silver-Bronze: Dale Speirs (Xerophytes)
J. Powell (Lake Hazen, NWT, Postal History)
J. Hosang (Hunting Revenues of Canada)
Alex Malycky (Lysenko Envelopes of Ukraine)
Ursac Mircea-Mitchell (Stamps of the Winter Olympics)

Bronze: A. McIntyre (The Philatelic Dilettante)
Jan Grasmeyer (Christmas Canadian Blocks)
Alex Malycky (Canadian Meters With Ukrainian Themes)
Alex Malycky (Shevchenko)
Ursac Mircea-Mitchell (The Appeal of FDCs)
Ursac Mircea-Mitchell (Indians of North America)

TREASURER'S REPORT
by Andy PuczkoCalgary Philatelic Society Balance Sheet as at June 30, 1995

<u>Assets</u>	1995	1994
Current - cash	\$17,868	\$12,879
- Accounts Receivable	193	-
	<u>18,061</u>	<u>12,879</u>
Fixed Assets	18,568	-
Investments	-	19,321
Other	500	500
	<u>\$37,129</u>	<u>\$32,700</u>

[continued next page]

Liabilities

Current - Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ 176
- Circuit Book Owners	1,892	536
	<u>1,892</u>	<u>712</u>
Members' Equity - Beginning of Year	31,988	31,284
- Prior Year Adjustments	-	915
- Current Year Adjustments	2,129	-
- Excess of Receipts/Disbursement	<u>1,120</u>	<u>(211)</u>
	35,237	31,988
	\$37,129	\$32,700

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
For The Year Ended June 30, 1995

Receipts

	1995	1994
Membership dues and fees	\$1,942	\$2,290
Auctions	1,453	1,282
Interest	765	1,204
Circuit books	1,238	1,139
Stamp Day	(5)	283
Private Treaty	141	278
CALTAPEX	1,164	1,140
All others	<u>251</u>	<u>47</u>
	6,949	7,663

Disbursements

Advertising	193	297
Christmas Social	675	740
Library	558	498
Name tags	617	84
Office	58	366
Postage	537	442
Printing	715	2,242
Rent	2,025	2,275
All others	<u>451</u>	<u>930</u>
	5,829	7,874
Excess of Receipts/(Disbursements)	\$1,120	\$(211)

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paidup CPS members. Mail your ads to Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or hand them to me before the meetings start. Next deadline is January 3 for the February bulletin.

WANTED: China and Asian countries commercial covers and stamps, paper money and bonds. List to George Tsang, Box 20229, Calgary, T2P 4L2.

FOR SALE: Calgary Olympic FDC (not sold by Canada Post) with OLYMPEX 88 show catalogue. Articles on sports philately, Olympic and Calgary postal history. Price is \$5 at meetings from Dale Speirs or \$6 by mail, payable to the CPS, Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7.

WANTED: Coil singles or multiples used on cover, any era. Price individually, as a batch, or ask for my offer. Will give generous trade of MNH Canada for items I need. Call Ed Harris at 274-0021 or see me at any meeting.

FOR SALE: "History of the Calgary Philatelic Society" book for \$2 each. From Dale Speirs at meetings. Mail orders add extra \$2 for postage and remit to CPS, Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7.

FOR SALE: Good used and mint collection of German States, cat. approx. \$2600, sell for \$400. British Colonial Q.E. mint sets 1959 LH, 50% of catalogue. Canadian used plate blocks at 1/3 catalogue. See Bob Perry at meetings or phone 282-4520.

FOR SALE: "Postal Cancellations and Markings in Switzerland" by Felix Ganz (1994). Published by the American Helvetia Philatelic Society. A superb publication put together by a foremost student of Swiss philately. 245 pages (8½ x 11) in soft binding, a postal cancellation history of Switzerland the like of which cannot be purchased anywhere. This is by far the most thorough book on the subject I have seen. It is not available on the philatelic market. Price \$22, only one copy available. To view, see Gordon Hill or call 249-1094.

FOR SALE: In building my Canadian coil collection, I have accumulated some duplication. What I have varies dramatically, but I do have a number of covers, some going back to 1912, mint and used singles, pairs, and strips of 4 or more, and some varieties, mainly modern, and some unreported. If you have an interest, please contact me. I'll trade for Greece cancellations on large Hermes heads, modern used Canada, or maybe even cash? Gordon Hill 249-1094

FOR SALE: Canadian first flight covers. Over 360 from 1928-1940, very little duplication. Better frankings C1, C3, C4. Lots of NWT and western flights. Stamps alone catalogue for \$2000. Price \$600 or best offer. Call Doug at 547-3838.

WANTED: Town postmarks of western Canadian provinces on cover or piece. Phone Al at 282-1030.

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

1995

December	3		Sunday bourse
	6		Christmas social

1996

January	3		General meeting
	3		Program: "How To Exhibit" by Ed Harris
	3		Deadline for February bulletin
	7		Sunday bourse
	17		Auction
February	4		Sunday bourse
	7		General meeting
	7		Program: "St. Pierre & Miquelon"
			by Jim Taylor
	21		Auction
March	3		Sunday bourse
	6		General meeting
	6		Program: "Ottoman Empire" by Ghazi Karim
	6		Deadline for April bulletin
April	3		General meeting
	3		Program: "Stamps of Great Britain"
	14		Sunday bourse
	17		Auction
	28		Stamp Day
May	1		General meeting
	1		Deadline for June bulletin
	15		Auction
June	5		Election meeting
	19		Auction

SUNDAY BOURSE is at Westgate Community Hall, 4943 - 8 Avenue SW, from 10 am to 4 pm. Table bookings from Walter Jackson at 242-4128.

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at Kerby Centre, 2nd floor, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 730 pm. Auction lots should be in before 730 pm to allow bidder viewing.

Calgary Regional Group of British North America Philatelic Society meets second Wednesdays at the Museum of the Regiments (enter at south end of building), located east side of Crowchild Trail off the Flanders Avenue interchange. Details from Arno Kolster at 284-4239.