

CALGARY PHILATELIST

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IN THIS ISSUE: The cartoon below by Herblock illustrates the consequences of postal madness when chain letters swept the world in May 1935. (From REGINA LEADER POST, 1935-5-27, page 4)

Unfortunate Result of the Flood of Chain Letters



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THE CHAIN LETTER FAD OF 1935 (PART 1)

by Dale Speirs

Introduction.

Chain letters have been around since the 1800s and probably earlier in different forms. They are a type of pyramid scheme where those who start them get the money and those who are only two or three links down seldom even make their initial investment back. Chain letters are essentially a type of lottery, where the money is distributed by chance, and this has been so established in law, no matter what chain operators may say. Chain letters are always operating quietly in the background, and surge into full flame every few years before sputtering back down to a low ember. The biggest and best-reported chain letter was one that occurred in May 1935 and spread throughout United States and Canada in days, but numerous others wax and wane over the years.

Chain letters expand exponentially and fail very quickly because the number of required participants soon exceeds the population. Various calculations have been done to demonstrate this, not that many people listen. One "good luck" letter was to be copied to nine other people, who would do the same in turn. A recipient got this letter when it had 99 names (ref. 4). He calculated that on its 11th link, there would be 31,381,059,609 people on the list. Another calculation showed that a person who was 200th on a list would need 200,000 others to reach the top of the list (ref. 6). Because people playing the chains only see their list of five or six people, they do not think this is true, and fail to realize that by the time they get a chain, half the population may have already participated. A postal inspector calculated that a twelve-link chain letter would involve 305,175,770 persons if unbroken, but only 3911 people in that chain would actually make money (ref. 18). Another calculation was that if a five-name chain was unbroken, and everyone followed instructions, within three months everyone in the world would have received 13,000,000 copies of the letter (ref. 132).

May 1935.

The Great Depression was at its most miserable. The Dionne quintuplets were almost a year old. RCA was about to begin the first field test of television. Pundits predicted a world war in 1937. Alberta was about to sweep Social Credit into power. The times were not happy ones, and people were only too glad to grab at straws and get-rich-quick schemes. One of those schemes was the chain letter fad of May 1935. This chain letter actually started in April and lasted until June, but its height was during May, when it swept the North American continent. It made its way across the Atlantic to Britain, where questions were asked in the House of Commons (ref. 37).

The Start of the Chain Letters.

The chain letter of 1935 appears to have started in Denver, Colorado, in April. The post office declared it illegal, but admitted that it could not stop the flow. To do so required a court order for each individual letter, and it was estimated that 67,000 chain letters a day were moving through the system (ref. 32). A Denver restaurant owner placed a newspaper ad pleading not to receive anymore chain letters; he had gotten 2300 of them to date and couldn't handle the flow. Chain letters could avoid postal harassment by going to person-to-person transfers in a hastily-rented room or storefront. One Denver chain-letter operator

admitted to handling 10,000 letters in two days, which would give a gross of \$5000, less his cost for twenty stenographers and notaries public and rent (ref. 38).

The Springfield Mob.

The height of the frenzy was in Springfield, Missouri. To avoid trouble from the postal authorities, this chain letter operated from rented rooms. The letters were initially sold by operators who required the buyer to use a notary public to swear an oath that the money had been sent to the top name on the list. The money was collected (less a commission) and two copies of the buyer's letter were then sold, with the buyer name at the bottom of the list. The name would move up the list with each subsequent re-selling, until the original buyer hit the jackpot. This solved the major problem of chain letters by guaranteeing that the chain would not be broken. It also allowed the operators to make good money from commissions, plus hiring out the services of notaries, clerks, and stenographers, all the while avoiding legal risk from the actual chain letter operation. One operator of a \$5 chain made \$1080 in twelve hours. The chain letter factories set up everywhere in Springfield. Beauty parlors sold letters to their clients, and bartenders did good business on them (ref. 39). The chain operations had fanciful names. A \$5 chain called itself "The Pot of Gold Club" and a \$3 chain was "The Cream of the Crop".

The fly in the ointment, of course, is that chain letters accelerate exponentially, and very quickly outrun the available population. Those who came in late not only had to hustle to sell their letters, but also had to work hard on behalf of those to whom they had sold a letter, to ensure that the chain circulated long enough to move them up to the top of the list. By May 9, the Springfield chain was dead, and latecomers were left holding the bag, a serious matter if they had bought in at \$5, bigger money than it is today. The operators made money, but few others (ref. 40).

The Spread of the Chain Letters.

The chain letter madness quickly spread across the continent. American President Franklin Roosevelt got more than 200 chain letters at the White House, all of which were turned over to the Postmaster-General for possibility of fraud action (ref. 41). The letters were circulating in Ontario by May 8, as postal officials were already making statements to the press about their legality (ref. 1): "... *their transmission through His Majesty's mails is prohibited ...*". These letters were from a chain letter called the Prosperity Club, which was in Toronto already but extended all over North America. Calgarians began receiving chain letters from the Prosperity Club operation out of Spokane, Washington (ref. 42), and Reginans ditto the same day (ref. 43). The chain was already in Oklahoma City, where one smart promoter hired a taxi, bought a case of liquor, and sold letters after mellowing his clients (ref. 45). Winnipeg got its chain letters from across the border, sent to such people as the Fire Chief and an official of the Better Business Bureau (ref. 46). Kansas City, St. Louis, Fayetteville (Arkansas) and Pittsburg (Kansas) had chain letter shops by that day (ref. 47). From Regina, the letters reached Saskatoon by May 24, where police were investigating \$1 and \$5 letters (ref. 48).

The initial spread of chain letters was helped along by rumour and exaggerated accounts of early winners. Reports in Regina of people winning up to \$60 caused a reporter to spend time and energy trying to track down big winners (ref. 49), but the truth never matched up to rumour. One big winner, a beauty-shop worker, turned out to have gotten only one dime. At

the same time, Winnipeg reporters on the trail of "*a man in the Grain Exchange has made \$700 in three days*" and other stories could only find one \$5 winner and many who had yet to see a dime back (ref. 50). Some of the stories floating about in Denver were: "*A poor seamstress is reported to have received enough to purchase a sewing machine. A widow is reported to be paying off burial expenses for her husband. A mother is reported to have paid off hospital expenses for the birth of her child and to have had enough over to buy a baby carriage. None of these reports are confirmed.*" (ref. 18).

The Maritime Provinces.

By at least as early as May 10, the chain letter was in St. John, New Brunswick (ref. 44). The Prosperity Club letters reached Halifax via Montreal before May 13 (ref. 21). At about the same time, the letters arrived in Digby, Nova Scotia, and the local newspaper reported that there were willing participants there who acted immediately (ref. 133). About the same time, Weymouth, Nova Scotia, had the letters via Freeport and Westport (ref. 134).

Kansas City.

A May 17 report out of Kansas City told of some of the trials and tribulations of chain-letter operators (ref. 51): "*The front door knob fell off at the home of Mrs. George F. Bischoff. Women pulled it loose in their eagerness to get outside and canvass their lists. The Bischoff home has been the filing point for one chain since Monday. 'Look at this house', moaned Mrs. Arthur L. Wetsel, another chain headquarters where lists were filed. Each woman invested one dollar and was given a list of names. Re-sales theoretically built the profits up to \$27. It was a strictly friend-to-friend affair. Mrs. Bischoff said there had been about thirty pay-offs a day. 'My goodness, it'll take \$27 for me to break even', she said. A woman confided that each \$27 winner had been leaving \$2 with Mrs. Bischoff, adding: 'Look at that rug. It started to fray out last night. Just too much traffic.'*"

Regina.

Regina had chains operating in early May, but for some reason they didn't fully expand into the usual mob frenzy until the last week of the month. By May 22, the chain letter market was supposedly weakening. The REGINA LEADER POST ran a mocking headline in that day's paper (page 3): "*Letter Mart Crashes! Bears Rush Exchange! Dime Donors Despair!*". It reported that while one woman had managed to make \$23 in a week (impressive money for the Great Depression), "... *by Wednesday as the chains widened, buyers were becoming scarce.*". Unfortunately the editor spoke too soon, for a week later the chain operators were going flat out. The Prosperity Fraternity syndicate was a \$5 chain whose operators made money by charging a 10% commission to the players (ref. 52). There were at least six syndicates going by May 28 and one of them had moved to bigger quarters to handle the influx (ref. 53). But the following day, some operators reported a slight decline in business, even as business offices and government supervisors were issuing bans on playing the chains during working hours (ref. 54). A postage stamp chain letter made its appearance, imported from Ottawa, and other oddball chains showed up. After May 30, the saturation point was reached. \$10 and \$20 chains were dead or stillborn by June 1 and a couple of days later even the small-amount chains were gone (ref. 55 and 56).

Edmonton.

According to the Edmonton postmaster, A.R. MacKenzie, the initial chain letter influx was from the United States, and it wasn't until middle May that local chain letter traffic picked up (ref. 151). MacKenzie kept track of mail volumes once the chain letter fad was noted, and reported as follows (ref. 152 to 155):

Average day	= 30,000 letters
May 13	= 33,051
May 14	= 36,633
May 15	= 36,507
May 16	= 36,200
May 17	= 38,653
May 18	= 42,825
May 19	= Sunday, no service
May 20	= 51,172
May 21	= 43,372
May 22	= 38,682
May 23	= 42,048
May 24	= Victoria Day, no service

Bill Edmond, a grocer in Edmonton's Borden Park neighbourhood, was foolish enough to allow himself to be quoted by a newspaper reporter that he welcomed chain letters and would keep them going (ref. 137). His initial idea was publicity, but ten days later he was asking the newspaper to publish a retraction. He was besieged by hundreds of letter-mongers at his store. Since he had given his word, he was out a considerable sum in stamps and dimes keeping the letters going.

Southern Alberta.

The chain letters arrived in Lethbridge the week of May 8, from Spokane, Washington (ref. 141). By May 9, the craze was increasing local post office business notably, although the Postmaster was quoted as saying that he was not yet planning to hire more staff (ref. 142). Although volume was up, stamp sales had not increased. This may be due to people using up their existing stock of stamps on hand. The fad dwindled away by the end of May in both Lethbridge and Medicine Hat (ref. 147).

Crime Follows The Trade.

When chain letters hit the headlines, thieves were among the interested readers of the news. In Oklahoma City, a gunman who held up a chain-letter club paused long enough to lecture the players on the foolishness of the fad (ref. 45). He was, more than likely, the only one besides the operator to make money from that chain. Police then had to provide protection for chain clubs in that city, as the Attorney General remained silent on whether or not to prosecute. The Internal Revenue Service did not remain silent, and began to investigate the operations.

The local postal workers began to go about armed, and Special Delivery letters were refused for night delivery if carrying cash. In Springfield, burglars broke into the post office and tore open letters looking for chain cash (ref. 47). On May 14, three Denver boys began

ransacking apartment building mailboxes for chain letters containing money. The dime chain was the favoured letter at that time and place, and the boys had a hat full of silver by the time they were apprehended (ref. 57).

The posties were not always without sin themselves. One New York City letter carrier was charged with opening chain letters (ref. 58). In general, postal sorters had too much mail to handle in too quick a time to be checking for chain letters containing cash. Sorting plants were also monitored by watchers in secret passages in the ceilings (ref. 140). With the rush of mail flowing through a city post office, it seems unlikely that posties could get any kind of scheme going to make it worth the risk and consequences. In a small rural office or on the letter carrier route, there would have been more opportunity for theft, but the amounts would necessarily be small. From a practical point of view it is difficult for posties to spot chain letters in the rush and heavy flow of sorting. Local posties could not be expected to catch even a fraction of chain letters (ref. 148).

In a turnabout-is-fair-play sting, a man arrested in a gambling club raid in Woodville, Texas, was found to have in his possession a chain letter. One of the names and addresses was for his brother, who was wanted for escaping prison. Police had a simple task to check the address and the brother went from a chain letter to a chain gang (ref. 136).

Authorities Condemn To Little Avail.

During the May 1935 chain letter boom, the Montreal district Director of Postal Services, Victor Gaudet, said: "*Don't send chain letters unless you are willing to take a chance of spending your vacation in a nice, cool jail cell on a charge of fraud.*" (ref. 19). Four days later, the Regina postmaster Leo LaBelle got chain letters from Crossville, Tennessee, and Rock Springs, Wyoming, which took a lot of gall on the part of the senders. Needless to say, he did not continue the chains (ref. 20). Halifax posties were forwarding suspected chain letters to the Dead Letter Office in Ottawa for inspection and destruction (ref. 21).

In New Westminster, British Columbia, police raided the Tri-Mutual Club, which had over 800 subscribers exchanging chain letters (ref. 139). The operator of the club was run in for keeping a common gaming house or lottery, and bail set at \$100.

Postal authorities pointed out one obvious flaw in chain letters, and which made them fail as often as simply breaking the chain. There was nothing to stop people from mailing out thousands of letters with their own name at the top (ref. 22). Indeed, one Davenport, Iowa, chain letter agency was closed after it was revealed that the names of the promoters and their friends were in advantageous positions and recurred often and early in the chain, and would have produced excellent profits (ref. 6).

Declarations by American postal officials that chain letters were illegal were made as the boom started in 1935 (ref. 23) but had no discernable effect on the fad. The Great Depression created a lot of disrespect for the government. When three Denver men were charged for chain-letter sending, a grand jury refused to indict them. However, the threat of legal action was usually enough to close up many letter operations, even if fresh ones immediately sprang up elsewhere like dragon's teeth (ref. 24). The people indicted for chain letters usually had some sharp practice going, such as the Minnesota school teacher who mimeographed 100 chain letters with his name at both the top and bottom of the list (ref. 25).

Newspapers cautioned and denounced but had no effect. The *GLOBE AND MAIL* titled a

leader "The Chain Letter Humbug", and as most editorials did, briefly explained how the letters worked and why they would leave the majority of people out of money (ref. 26). The *NEW YORK TIMES* pointed out that for everyone in the United States to get to the top of a chain would require a world population of 4,000,000,000,000 (ref. 27). The editor of the *CALGARY ALBERTAN* got a chain letter from the Prosperity Club, to which his response was an editorial "Fishing for Suckers" (ref. 28). The *LETHBRIDGE HERALD* took the opportunity to sideswipe the socialist C.C.F. party (ref. 143): *"Can it be possible that, in spite of all our C.C.F. friends have been telling us, the profit motive is still the great force which stirs the genus homo to activity? Here we were, almost convinced that the day was at hand when the word 'profit' was to be taken out of the dictionary ... and then comes this chain letter craze and smashes our hopes to smithereens."* Putting a local slant on its editorial against the letters, the *CALGARY HERALD* stated: *"It is a manifestation of the popular unrest ... This puts Social Credit in the shade."* (ref. 29). The editor failed to stop both the chains or the Socreds, who were swept into power that year.

Chain Telegrams.

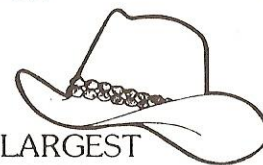
A faster, albeit more expensive, method of running a chain system was to use telegrams. These showed up as early as May 8, 1935, from Chicago, where the ante was as high as \$5 (ref. 60). On May 30 a Montreal man had wired a \$5 chain letter to Regina, a 102-word telegram (ref. 61). The Mayor of Pittsburgh got one such telegram, which had the courtesy to ask him to wire back collect if he did not plan to extend the chain (ref. 59). The Mayor gave this the contempt it deserved and did not reply. Chain telegrams appeared in Lethbridge by the end of May as the fad was dying out (ref. 146). The 1935 chain telegrams ended, as did the letters, in tears. In the aftermath, the Western Union Telegraph Company was sued for violating an 1877 gambling law (ref. 62) According to a detailed list of telegrams sent, \$26.5 million dollars was handled in New Jersey alone (ref. 63).

The End of the 1935 Fad.

Chain letters ultimately fail because of the exponential growth. A secondary cause of failure is that a successful chain letters must keep the money circulating at high velocity. This is stymied when someone breaks the chain or, as happened when the chain spread too far geographically, the money leaves town. Winnipeg, for example, had too many letters circulating with U.S. addresses on them. As a result, more money left town than came in (ref. 50).

In Oklahoma City, unsuccessful letter buyers sued operators for \$35,840 in breach of contract for failing to get their names to the top of the list before the chain collapsed (ref. 59). It was always someone else's fault, of course, if the gullible marks got in too late.

(to be continued in the next issue)



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THE CHURCHES OF CANADA'S 1997 90¢ CHRISTMAS STAMP by Alexander Malycky

This article discusses some details about the historical background of the two Alberta churches whose stained glass windows are depicted on this stamp and on its booklet. Both of these churches serve Canadians of Ukrainian origin who, according to the last available figures (the 1986 census), numbered close to a million persons. Of these, 44% were of only Ukrainian origin and 54% of partially Ukrainian origin. About a quarter of them, close to 240,000 people, resided in Alberta.

Calgary's St. Stephen's Ukrainian Catholic Church, whose stained glass window appears on the 90¢ stamp, is not, as sometimes erroneously stated, a Roman Catholic church. It belongs to one of the Eastern rites of the Catholic Church, the Byzantine Rite, while the Roman Catholic Church constitutes the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church (it, being by far the largest of all the many Rites, is often erroneously equated with the whole Catholic Church). St. Stephen's Church was founded in 1967, originally as a mission of Calgary's Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption. Located in the Glamorgan district of Calgary, at 4903 - 45 Street SW, it soon became independent. In 1968 it erected its first parish centre, in 1981/82 its magnificent church building (winner of the 1986 Governor General gold medal), and in 1986/87 its large new parish centre. Most of its parishioners hail from, or are the descendants of Ukrainian immigrants from the western province of Galicia (Halychyna in Ukrainian). The church accommodates approximately half of the Ukrainian Catholics of Calgary, where the population of Ukrainian origin (fully so or in part), attested here since the 1890s, approximates now some 50,000 persons.

The other church whose stained glass window is depicted on the booklet of the 90¢ Christmas stamp is St. Michael the Archangel's Ukrainian Orthodox Church at the locality called Sochava (spelt also Suchawa) which is 5.5 km south of the town of Andrew. This is in the centre of the Ukrainian bloc, and within the latter, in the centre of the Bucovinian bloc, within which 60% to 70% of the population is of Ukrainian origin. The Sochava area was settled mainly, from 1898 on, by Ukrainian settlers hailing from the northern part of Bucovina (Bukovyna in Ukrainian) which is now the province (Oblast) of Chernivtsi, in southwestern Ukraine. Like nearly all inhabitants of Bukovina, these settlers were Orthodox. They named their area after the Bucovinian Suchawa, an ancient district town that was also a pilgrimage site with its grave of St. John of Suchawa. Already in 1900, these settlers organized here their church congregation, as such one of the oldest Bucovinian Ukrainian Orthodox congregations in Canada. In 1904 they constructed their first church building at NW¼-9-56-16-W4, which burnt in 1914, their second church in 1915, which burnt in 1978, and in 1979 their third church, which contains the stained glass window depicted on the booklet of the 90¢ stamp.

Like most of the early Ukrainian Orthodox churches in Canada which, lacking their own Ukrainian Orthodox jurisdiction prior to 1918, ended up being wooed by and eventually absorbed into the jurisdiction of the Russian Orthodox Church, already in existence in North America since

its beginnings in the then Russian Alaska. St Michael the Archangel Church has been, in spite of its members being overwhelmingly of Ukrainian origin, for most of its duration under the Russian ecclesiastical jurisdiction, interrupted only by a short period from 1920 to 1924 when it was served by clergy of the newly-founded Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church in Canada. The latter was, however, ultimately unable to retain this parish within its jurisdiction. This was due likely to a number of reasons: a strong conservatism of this congregation attached firmly to the ways that evolved in it while under a prolonged Russian jurisdiction, and attachment to Church Slavonic as the language of liturgy and not the vernacular Ukrainian.

THE PHILATELIC UNDERGROUND OF STAMP EXCHANGE CLUBS by Dale Speirs

[A review of STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB DIRECTORY, compiled by Victor Pawluk, Box 44601, Phoenix, Arizona 85064-4601. Available for US\$1 cash or 75¢ in mint Canada commemoratives.]

It is the nature of collectors to trade what they don't want for that which they could use. Stamp collectors have for more than a century congregated to wheel and deal via exchange packets or circuit books. Such exchanges are best known when operated by public clubs such as the Calgary Philatelic Society or the American Philatelic Society, but formal organizations such as these are not the only source. There are many stamp exchange clubs operating quietly, seldom if ever advertised. Indeed, some are closed to new members or are invitational, desiring to carry on underground. Stamp exchange clubs are not for the specialist whose want list has things like inverted Pence issues with original gum and perfect centering. The clubs operate for the mutual benefit of collectors who take philatelic issues on a worldwide basis.

Victor Pawluk has compiled an 8-page listing of stamp exchange clubs. These include 65 American clubs, 12 Canadian, and 23 overseas, plus 4 related miscellaneous. No doubt there are others in hiding as well.

In looking over these listings, it seems as if no two clubs have the same method of operation. Commissions are calculated in several ways, whether on stamps entered or those traded. Minimum balances and membership fees vary considerably. Sheet sizes range from 16 stamps to 24 to 42. Some clubs have newsletters, others have websites.

The actual exchanges are usually calculated by catalogue value, Scott being the standard in North America, of course. One club lists 950+ members worldwide, another is: "... closed to new members. Inquire later?".

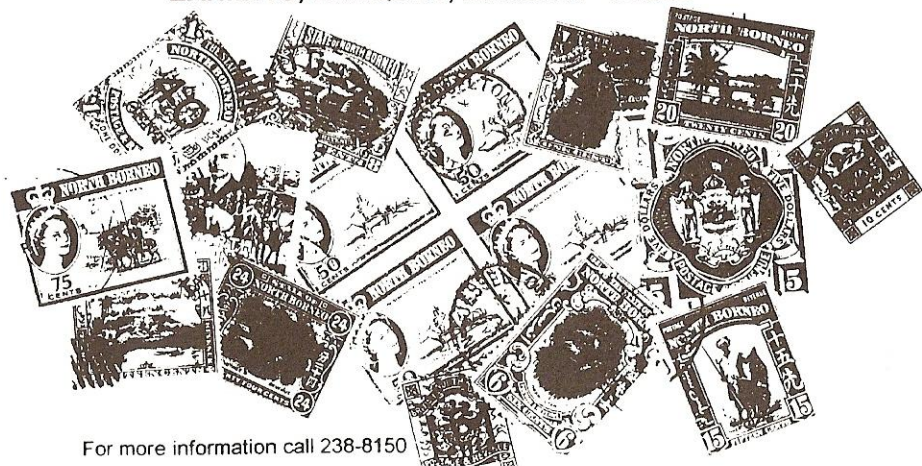
Pawluk notes that: "... commissions, fees, or the lack of them seem to have little to do with member satisfaction or the quality of stamps available.". Most club listings point out that CTOs are not wanted; don't expect to unload packet-grade material here.

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BOOK REVIEW: THE PAISLEY ROCKETEERS
by Dale Speirs

Back in the 1930s, amateurs began experimenting with homemade rockets, confident they were taking the first steps to space travel. Some of them did in Germany, inventing the cruise missile (the V-1) and the ballistic missile (the V-2). Others in the USA and Europe never got past their amateur status, but their stories are nonetheless quite interesting. Rocket mail was often used to subsidize the cost of launching, and is a recognized branch of postal history. Such rockets never bridged more than a waterway or international border, but the mail they carried is often more legitimate than, say, modern FDCs from philatelic bureaus cancelled ahead of time and nowhere near the first-day site.

THE PAISLEY ROCKETEERS is a nicely produced book, profusely illustrated, covering the history of the Paisley Rocketeers Society, Scotland, from its origins in 1933 to present date. Much of the mail sent on their flights is illustrated (some in colour), as well as original notebook pages, and correspondence with bureaucrats determined to put a stop to original thinking. Although perhaps the latter were not entirely unjustified, given the number of explosions and off-course rockets in the history of the PRS.

The first launch, on 1935-11-24, with a rocket that cost 7d to build, reads in part: "... there was a vicious hiss and the rocket shot into the air. As it whizzed around, the centre rocket somehow worked loose and shot off at a tangent. The rocket dived down and stuck for a moment in a small shrub but once more shot into the air then landed on the path. We began to advance towards it, thinking it to be finished. There was a whoosh! and again it rushed up ... then descended with a thud. ... the hinged nose had been torn off and the small bundle of letters lay on the ground."

Some of the reports are rather unnerving: "It was found a short time later in the street, where it appeared to have struck a building, rebounded on to the road, and been run over by a motor." One marvels that PRS members were not regularly detained by the constabulary!

The 'stamps' used to frank the PRS rocket mails were often quite primitive, and many of the surviving covers show burn marks or water damage as a result of rocket accidents. But this was genuine stuff, not the immaculate and lifeless FDCs one sees about today.

A fascinating read, and well recommended. You can classify it as either rocket mail or Scottish local postal history.

Price £6.50 from Stenlake Publishing, Ochiltree Sawmill, The Lade, Ochiltree, Ayrshire KA18 2NX, Scotland. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

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FOR SALE: "History of the Calgary Philatelic Society" for \$2 each from Dale Speirs at meetings, or add an extra \$2 for postage and send to CPS, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2E7.

WANTED: Calgary Go-card postcards. I will pay for those I don't have. Phone Julius at 282-7982.

WANTED: Would like to buy larger German, Canadian, or worldwide stamp collections. Phone Willi at 239-2273.

WANTED: Energy-related covers and stamps, especially covers from defunct Calgary oil companies. Call Dave Russum at 284-4775.

WANTED: Postmarks of Canada on cover, piece, or stamp. Phone Al at 282-1030.

CALGARY REGIONAL GROUP OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY meets second Wednesdays of the month at the Museum of the Regiments (Crowchild Trail off Flanders Avenue). Call Ed Harris at 274-0021 for details.

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

1998

September	2	.....	General meeting
	2		Deadline for October bulletin
	14		Executive meeting
October	7	.....	General meeting
	16 to 18		CALTAPEX '98
	21		Auction
November	4	.....	General meeting
	4		Deadline for December bulletin
	18		Auction
December	2	.....	Christmas social

1999

January	7	.....	General meeting
	7		Deadline for February bulletin
	21		Auction
February	4	.....	General meeting
	18		Auction
March	4	.....	General meeting
	4		Deadline for April bulletin
	18		Auction
April	1	.....	General meeting
	15		Auction
May	6	.....	General meeting
	6		Deadline for June bulletin
	20		Auction
June	3	.....	Election meeting

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at Kerby Centre, 2nd floor, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 19h30. Auction lots should be in before 19h30 to allow bidder viewing.

CALTAPEX is at the Chinese Cultural Centre, 197 - First Street SW. Contact Walter Herdzyk at 238-8150 or Bruce Irvine at 938-7027 for details.