

CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 45

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Membership dues for the 2000/2001 season are \$12, plus an initiation fee of \$5 for new members. Send to the CPS, Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2L6. Notice of address changes or enquiries about missing copies should be sent to the Membership Chairman, not the Editor.

The CPS mailing address is Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6. The Web site is: <http://members.home.net/calphilso> All articles as hard copy only, mailed to Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or handed to Dale Speirs at meetings.

The CPS was founded in April 1922 by Dr. Edward George Mason. It is Chapter 66 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Chapter 1360 of the American Philatelic Society, and Chapter 91 of the American Topical Association.

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COMMITTEES

(see page 13 for list of committee chairpersons)

CANADA POST FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COUNTER

by Bob McClelland

Board of Directors, Canada Post

[Transcribed from a talk given to the CPS at its general meeting 2000-11-01. Since your editor does not know shorthand, this transcription is necessarily selective as I missed things while writing down others. Apologies to Mr. McClelland for any errors or omissions.]

150 Years Of The Mails.

The Canadian postal system will be 150 years old in 2000. It traces its roots back to Benjamin Franklin who was in charge of Canadian postal routes before that unpleasantness in 1776. In 1851, when the Canadian government took over control of the postal system from the British, there were 601 post offices. The height of the postal expansion was in 1911, when there were 13,324 post offices. Better transportation and urbanization reduced the need for so many post offices, and today there are only 7,100 of them. There are also more than 10,000 stamps only outlets.

Airmail service began in 1926. In 1969, the postal code system was introduced as part of the mechanization of mail handling. In 1981, the post office ceased as a government department and became a Crown Corporation.

Today's Mails.

Currently, Canada Post handles 38 million pieces of mail per day to and from 13 million addresses per day. 150,000 to 200,000 new addresses are being added each year as Canadian cities expand. 116 cities account for 92% of the mail. For comparison, in Australia, which has the closest similar geography to Canada (that is, mostly empty interior and most of the population clustered in cities) 91% of the mail is accounted for by 8 cities.

Only 10% of outgoing Canadian mail is for international mail. Canada takes 80% of the USA foreign mails out of that country. Backhaul is a serious problem. Unlike densely populated countries like the USA or in Europe, most Canadian mail trucks going outbound with mail come back empty. Toronto/Ottawa generate more mail to Calgary than in reverse, for example.

Canada Post also provides consulting services for 45 countries. In addition, it has taken over the postal administrations of Lebanon and Guatemala.

Today's Stamps.

Canada Post is the largest retailer in the country, with outlets in every community, a reach unmatched by any other company. 82% of all stamps are sold by Retail Franchises. Collectible stamps are aimed at the general public, as philatelists only constitute 4% of non-usage stamp sales. The 96% who buy most of the commemorative stamps are non-collectors who want the stamps for associational value. Chinese Lunar Year stamps, for example, are bought by Chinese. The hockey All-Stars sheets were mostly bought by hockey fans, not stamp collectors. It is that 96% which Canada Post is most interested in when selling new stamps not intended for use on the mails.

In 1899,	Canada issued	2 stamps	at face value of	\$	0.07
1950,	"	"	7	"	"
1975,	"	"	25	"	"
1990,	"	"	57	"	"
1995,	"	"	67	"	"
2000,	"	"	48	"	"

More than 500 topics per year for stamp designs are suggested by the general public to Canada Post's Stamp Advisory Committee. To accommodate this strong demand, greater use is being made of special envelopes, commemorative postmarks, and prepaid postcards (very popular with tourists).

Today's Rates.

As at 1999-01-01, when Canada's domestic postage rate was 46 cents, other countries domestic rates were:

USA	33 cents	=	47.7 cents Canadian
Britain	26 pence	=	63.9 "
France	3 francs	=	75.7 "
Japan	80 yen	=	91.1 "
Germany	1.1DM	=	93 "

[A very enjoyable talk, for which we thank Mr. McClelland for his trouble, and for which we were pleased to see a good turnout of about 70 members.]

POSTAL HISTORY IN THE MAKING: THE TRANS-CANADA CRASH
by Dale Speirs

Postal history isn't something that happened ten or a hundred years ago; it is an ongoing thing. A recent and tragic, example occurred on October 14, 2000, on the Trans-Canada Highway near Brooks, Alberta. An oilfield pup trailer truck hauling a full load of oil made a lefthand turn across the highway in dense fog. Four other trucks eastbound slammed into the tanker trailers, setting off an explosion and fire. One person died on the scene and others were injured. The inferno melted the asphalt off the eastern lanes and turned \$1 million worth of trucks into scrap metal fragments. The highway was closed for twelve hours.

One of the trucks destroyed in the accident was a Canada Post mail truck, carrying 43 containers of expedited parcels. The parcels were sent from southern Alberta by various commercial customers. They were destined for Toronto and Montreal, but were completely consumed in the fire. The driver of the truck received second- and third-degree burns over 40% of his body.

Canada Post had to check the manifest of the truck to determine the mailers. A spokeswoman told the press that customers should wait a week to see if the parcels they were expecting had arrived. It might have been that the parcels went out on a different truck. If still no sign, then a claim could be filled over Canada Post's consumer line at 1-800-267-1177.

There wouldn't be any collectible covers out of this tragedy since the mail was consumed by the fire. The only written record would be claims invoices. This would be a case of invisible postal history, with only a few newspaper clippings to record that it ever happened.

Reference.

1] Crowson, Scott (2000-10-17) Charges pending in fiery pileup. CALGARY HERALD, page B4

THEY DON'T MAKE POST OFFICES LIKE THEY USED TO!

by Dale Speirs

While doing some non-philatelic research, I was scrolling through microfilm rolls of the DAILY BRITISH COLONIST, the newspaper of Victoria, British Columbia. In a number of issues, the advertisement shown below was conspicuous; the date on the one I made a hard copy of is September 19, 1875 (page 4).

At first glance it appears to be the trade announcement of an honest postmaster, but closer reading reveals it is a tavern called the Prop'r Post Office Saloon. Located on Government Street opposite the Hook & Ladder House, it presumably catered to thirsty bureaucrats and firefighters.

AUTHORIZED CERTIFICATE!

POSTAGE RATES THE SAME!

THIS IS TO CERTIFY TO THE PUBLIC
generally that

UNCLE FRANK RICHARDS

HAS BEEN APPOINTED

Post Office Proprietor!

He hereby gives us authority to thank his friends for their kind assistance towards his promotion, and notifies them and the public that he will have no stop keys while he has charge of the institution to shut them off: but will be glad to give them a hearty welcome, and will exercise his well-known courtesy and kindness to everyone.

F. G. RICHARDS,
Prop'r Post Office Saloon,
GOVERNMENT ST., opp. the Hook & Ladder House.
VICTORIA, Aug. 7, 1875. au7

PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEWS

by Leanteri Polvikoski

Scott Stamp Monthly, September 2000 (\$4 at Indigo Westhills or some newsagents downtown) Colour newsprint tabloid. This issue shows, in full colour, winning entries of the American First Day Cover Society's annual contest. FDCs have advanced tremendously in beauty and artistic merit over the past couple of decades. From the 1940s to 1970s, they were mostly cacheted with an enlargement of the stamp or a very similar design huddled in a box at the left side of the envelope. Since FDCs are now almost universally collected sans addressing, the new style of all-over artwork, using the entire envelope, is far superior. Instead of just repeating the stamp's artwork, which seemed rather pointless, the new style of covers supplement it with complementary illustrations that extend the theme. Home computers with scanners and colour printers, rubber stamps, and art stickers have enabled philatelists to prepare beautiful covers these days. Elsewhere in this issue are articles on newspaper and periodical stamps, topicals such as golf, Olympics, and archaeology, and propaganda stamps. Something for everyone, as well as lots of dealer ads, philatelic news, and new issue listings.

Rubberstampmadness, September/October 2000 (\$8.95 from Michaels Westhills, Paper Arts (Richmond Shopping Centre at 37 Street SW and Richmond Road), and probably a few other paper crafts dealers and newsagents in Calgary.) This is a thick, full-colour 146-page magazine devoted to rubber stamping. If you do FDCs, event covers, or art covers, then rubber stamps are an easy and delightful way to dress up the envelope. Many how-to articles, hundreds of dealer ads, and classified ads from mail artists wanting to trade covers. An excellent way to get into mail art.

Postal History Society of Canada Journal #103 (\$5 for sample copy from Roger Narbonne, 216 Mailey Drive, Carleton Place, Ontario K7C 3X9) A wide range of articles on Canadian postal history, starting off with a mysterious Ontario post office called Burk's Head Quarters, which existed for four months where the two ends of the transcontinental railroad were being brought together in the Algoma District. Also American airmail via Newfoundland during WW2, advertising slogans, a 1929 letter from a Mountie stationed in the Arctic, cross-border covers, and miscellaneous items.

Craft Stamper, September 2000 (\$10.95 at Chapters Macleod Trail and possibly a few other newsagents) British colour glossy monthly for rubber stamping, which includes a free rubber stamp taped to the cover. Lots of how-to articles and ideas for mail art.

THE CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY ONLINE

by Penny Borrowman

Since 1997, the Calgary Philatelic Society has had a presence on the World Wide Web. From the beginning, the site has provided visitors with information about our club, contact information, and a focus on stamp collecting. Over the years the site has grown to multiple pages, all inter-linked, and provides useful links to other stamp-related sites.

Whether you use Netscape, Internet Explorer, or another browser, just type: <http://members.home.net/calphilso> in the url line, or ask for "Calgary Philatelic Society" on any major search engine.

Our introductory screen provides a portal through which our site is accessed. On that same page is a link to the Web Ring of related stamp sites (which will provide a day's surfing in itself) and a link to Stampstop 50 (which lists at least a hundred other stamp sites). But let's click on the Enter button and visit the Calgary Philatelic Society today.

The Main page contains our purpose and mission statement, access to all the other pages, and access to our quiz. The quiz is an offshoot of Bob Monilaw's famous Christmas brain agitator; the difference is, the Web site offers great prizes!

Here the visitor will also find our email address, how to join the club, a people counter, and access to our guest book. Many visitors sign the guestbook, often indicating their collecting interest, and offering to trade material or information. Club members would do well to keep an eye on this valuable resource, and please sign the guestbook too, just to say hi or to share your own collecting interests.

The Main page also provides links to some great and useful Web sites, like Canada Post, BNAPS, APS, RPSC, and ATA, to name a few. The Calendar page lists upcoming meetings, events, speakers, auctions, and bourses. This information will be posted as it is learned by the Webmistress, so please keep me posted!

The Small Advertisements are as they appear in our CALGARY PHILATELIST, updated often on the day I receive my copy in the mail, and are intended to draw on a wider audience. Imagine selling your duplicates to someone in another country! And for a free listing, if you're a club member. What could be a better deal?

The Local Dealers page lists as many stamp dealers as want to be listed, many with e-mail links for easy access to information and materials. Some dealers have their own Web sites, and links to them are provided too. The Shows page gives as much information as is available and is updated often. Watch for a whole new look for this page coming in the New Year, promoting our Spring Stamp Show.

The Executive page is offered as a quick reference to anyone who wants to contact the club in a certain area, or who needs to contact an executive or committee member. This also is a duplicate of what is printed in the CALGARY PHILATELIST.

Our Web site is not flashy or particularly dramatic, but it does offer some valuable information, and links to much more information. It is kept current, and can be more so if you participate too. Just send e-mail to: calphilso@home.com with your ideas or suggestions. And remember to recommend our site to others, as there is no collector like a new collector.

THE CALGARY REGIONAL GROUP OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

This stamp club, most of whose members are also active in the CPS, meets on the second Wednesday of the month except July and August. For details about meeting places and times, contact Ed Harris at 274-0021.

The Calgary BNAPSers are interested in all aspects of Canada and BNA philately, from stamps to postal history, from Queen Victoria to Queen Elizabeth. Modern town cancels are a common topic at meetings as much as 75-year-old covers, so don't be shy about enquiring.

CALTAPEX 2000 PALMARES

Grand Award: Earle Covert Special Order Postal Stationery
 Jarabek Award: Jim Taylor St. Pierre and Miquelon
 (both the above also received Gold medals)

Gold:
 Randy Gombos Horses Through The Ages
 Kelly Liusz Christmas in Canada

Vermeil:
 John Powell Squared Circles of London Branch Offices
 Jim Karr Railway Post Office Ornaments of B.C.
 Dave Russum The First Stamps: Social Reform to Sales Gimmick
 Tatjana Yurich Ships and Boats

Silver:
 Joseph Smith Jubilee Postcard Rates, Regulations, Usages
 Ursac Mircea Romanian Mails 1870-1944
 Jim Brown Airmail Stamps With Aircraft Overprints
 Sheri Lyn Hardman The History of Chess
 Jean-Paul Montambault Volcanoes of the World
 Franciska Yurich Sports Played on Different Surfaces
 Michelle Gombos Birds, Birds, and More Birds

Silver-Bronze:
 Jim Brown U.S. Foreign Air Mail Route #2
 Jim Brown British Columbia Airways, Ltd.
 Ursac Mircea Summer Olympic Games
 Earle Covert Excise Taxes on Matches
 Tatjana Yurich Bridges

Bronze:
 Zoltan Tauber Fruit And Vegetables
 Zoltan Tauber Cosmos In Russian Philately
 Dale Speirs Cichlids on Stamps
 Alex Malycky Bilingual German-Ukrainian Cancells of Austria
 Andrew Avramenko Postal Stationery Envelopes of Ukraine

CALTAPEX EXHIBITS COMMENTS

by Don Wilson

There were 114 frames of exhibits compared to the normal 70 to 80 in past shows, with 53 exhibits in total. Of these, there were 7 Juniors, 19 Open Class, and 27 one-frame BNAPS exhibits.

The new venue had lots of free parking, was fairly central, and easy to access. There was a concession stand for lunch and coffee. A good Junior table as usual.

IN MEMORIAM: BRIEN HORNE

Brien Horne passed away September 18, 2000, at the age of 96 after failing health. He was predeceased by his wife Jean in 1990, and is survived by a son and daughter, as well as two grandchildren and numerous nephews and nieces.

He was Honourary Life Member #10 of the CPS, an award given only for long and faithful service to the club. He was President in 1938/39. His longest stint of service was as a Director, serving in 1923/24, 1936 to 1948, 1951 to 1954, 1957 to 1960, and 1962 to 1964. He also served as Programme Chairman in 1961/62.

IN MEMORIAM: BOB PERRY

Bob Perry died suddenly of a heart attack on October 6, 2000, while travelling in Japan. He was 78 years old. Bob was predeceased a few years ago by his wife Mary, who had also been a CPS member.

Bob was Honourary Life Member #19 of the CPS. He was a Director from 1962 to 1963, and again from 1995 to 1997. He served on the Auction committee for many years, helping with the paperwork. He was also on the Show committee in a variety of positions, again for many years. In addition to the formal committee positions, he also helped out behind the scenes at various other jobs.

THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING WAS EXTRAORDINARY!

by Penny Borrowman

On September 13, the CPS, in conjunction with the local Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society, held an extraordinary meeting to welcome, meet, and share ideas with Hans Karman. His exhibit "Australian Privileged Mail 1830 to 1920" is a world-class, gold medal 8-frame display that he carried half way across the planet, just to share with us!

The evening was most enjoyable. I picked up Hans and his wife Dorothy at their motel and took them to Hy's restaurant, where we were met by Bruce and Joan Irvine, Andy and Pat Puczek, and my husband Kelly. After a fine dinner, we repaired to the Kerby Centre where we found a fine group of expectant philatelists in the well-appointed Dining Room.

Hans gave a fine talk on his exhibit, explaining the uses of postage-free and franked mail, legal and illegal. He had letters to and from government officials and military personnel. Convicts were also allowed to send mail free, but as they were subject to censorship, most of them elected to pay for their postage via other channels. Notification of changes in rules travelled slowly, so many territories were still using postage-free mail long after it was cancelled. According to what Hans has learned, some areas just ignored the rules and carried on as always.

After this interesting and entertaining talk, Hans answered questions, chatted with us about his exhibit, accepted our gifts and souvenirs, and enjoyed our hospitality. As he had contracted a cold somewhere near Juneau, I think he was glad to get back to his motel bed and rest up.

Very special thanks go to the many people whose input made the evening flow flawlessly. These include:

- 1) Thanks to Bruce Irvine who helped me plan and suggested things I hadn't thought of.
- 2) Thanks to Bob Monilaws who greeted attendees, made sure the facility was ready for us, and helped set everything up. Also, Bob, thanks for your contribution of souvenirs and for presenting them so graciously.
- 3) Thanks to Donna Trathen and Jan Brookes, who brought and arranged the refreshments so nicely. Their job was made more challenging by the fact that someone hid our box of supplies, and they made do with Kerby's facilities without cost or inconvenience to the Kerby Centre. Good job!
- 4) Thanks to Larry Tweedale and Minaz Ramji for seeing to the frames back and forth.

5) Thanks to Ed Harris for being responsible for Hans' exhibit, picking it up from Hans, getting it into the frames in plenty of time for the presentation. And thanks for presenting Hans with the gold-plated tongs.

6) Thanks to Dale Speirs for donating a presentation copy of "The History Of The Calgary Philatelic Society", along with an almost complete set of club bulletins (some fine reading there), and for presenting them on behalf of us all.

7) Thanks to Don Fraser, who spotted Hans' Web site and started the whole thing.

8) Thanks to everyone who helped in every capacity, and thanks to all who came out. I know you had a great evening. About 35 people turned out to hear Hans.

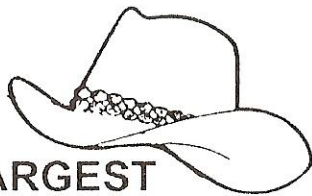
I have sent a thank-you letter to Hans and Dorothy and signed it from all of us.

ABOUT THE COVER: Artist unknown from the 1876-01-01 issue of PUNCH. Caption entitled "Christmas in the crow's-nest: Affectionately dedicated by Mr. Punch to all friends in the Arctic regions."

DUES ARE DUE: Please ensure you have paid up for the new season to continue participating in CPS activities and receiving the bulletin. Memberships can be paid at meetings or via the CPS mailing address at Box 1478, Calgary, T2P 2L6. Please do not send to the editorial address at Box 6830.

COMMITTEES

Archives	Dale Speirs	243-1752
Auction - regular	Doug Kollar	547-3838
Auction - silent	Ernie Bell	288-3042
Bulletin - Editor	Dale Speirs	243-1752
- Advertising	Hugh Delaney	255-0422
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Membership	Isobel Attrell	294-0935
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NOTE TO INTERNET VIEWERS: Unless stated otherwise, telephone numbers are area code 403. Alberta is on Mountain Standard Time.

WANTED: Northern Rhodesia covers from 1925 to 1964. Will buy outright or trade for whatever. Call Walter Herdzyk at 238-3171.

WANTED: Calgary Stampede philatelic memorabilia. I collect all phases of this fascinating field. You may have just the cover or cancel I need. Cash or generous exchange. Call Ed at 274-0021.

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, Canada, T2P 2E7.

FOR SALE: Long-time collector selling complete collections in order to reduce workload and focus on a few specialty areas. Clean, organized, and unpicked. Catalogue values are Scott 2001. Norway used/covers \$2830. Australia mint \$4430, used/covers \$3230. GB mint \$960, used/covers \$4070. Bermuda mint/used/covers estimate \$400. Worldwide/Canada mint/used/covers including better singles, estimate \$5720. Details/offers to Rhys Harrison at 270-4007 or rhys.harrison@home.com

FOR SALE: Ukrainian and Russian stamps new and used. Also Ukrainian FDCs and special cancels from 1991 to date. Call Andy at 236-2037.

FOR SALE: Recent fine used stamps of Australia. Contact Michael Teekens at 286-7927.

TRADE: Stamps from many countries, including new issues, to trade for same. Call Joe at 284-3907.

WANTED: Private collector pays cash for larger stamp collections. Phone Willi at 239-2273.

TRADE: Need automotive work done on your car? Let's trade my labour for your stamps that I need. I am a licenced mechanic with 20+ years experience (just ask Penny). Phone Doug Kollar at 547-3838.

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2000

November	15	Auction
December	3	Sunday bourse
	6	Christmas social

2001

January	3	General meeting
	3	Deadline for February bulletin
	17	Auction
February	7	General meeting
	21	Auction
March	7	General meeting
	7	Deadline for April bulletin
	21	Auction
April	4	General meeting
	18	Auction
	28 to 29	Spring Stamp Show
October	12 to 14	CALTAPEX

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL is at the Kerby Centre, main floor gymnasium, 1133- 7 Avenue SW, at 20h00.

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

SUNDAY BOURSE is at Palliser Community Centre, 2323 Palliser Drive SW, from 10h00 to 16h00. Details and table rentals from Bill Szaroz at 337-3260 or Phil Wolf at 259-8750.

CALTAPEX and SPRING STAMP SHOW are at the Polish Canadian Club, 3015 - 15 Street NE. Contact Doug Kollar at 547-3838 for details.