

CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 126

April 2014



2014 is the Year of the Horse, not only in Chinatown but also as the theme for this year's Calgary Stampede rodeo.

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The CPS mailing address is Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6. The Web site is: www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

Articles or advertisements for Calgary Philatelist should be sent to the Editor, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Small ads are free to paid-up CPS members. Display ads are \$10 per full page per issue for hardcopy, jpeg, or pdf format only. Small ads and articles as hardcopy, plain text file, WordPerfect, or MS Word 1997 format. Mail to Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, handed to Dale Speirs at meetings, or emailed to opuntia57@yahoo.ca Please do not email club business to this address.

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.

A cumulative subject index from issue #1 to date for the CALGARY PHILATELIST exists but because of its length is too long to be published in this bulletin. A copy can be had for free from the editorial address at Box 6830.

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COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons

A PHILATELIST’S JOURNEY IN THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN SUDAN: PART 2

by Donald Wilson

[Photos are from the author’s family album of his childhood days in Sudan.]



Figure 8 (above)

Along with the railway, completed to Khartoum in 1899 and linked to the Red Sea at Port Sudan in 1906, the Nile steamer or post-boat was the main workhorse of the postal system (Figure 8).

It is illustrated by the 1901 postage due issue (Figure 9).

Figure 9

Figure 10



The camel issues were disrupted in 1941 by the bombing of the De La Rue printers in England and the blocking of the Mediterranean by the Italians and Germans. A beautiful issue depicting Tutti Island along the Nile, and printed in India was used until normal stocks could be replenished (Figure 10).



Figure 11 (left)

Air mail issues (Figure 11), began with the experimental flights from London to East Africa and London to Cape Town in 1931. Figure 12 is a canvas-covered biplane used by bush pilots of the Mission Aviation Fellowship. It is delivering mail and freight. I am the small boy in the centre of the photo with his back to the camera. I was about eight or nine years old at the time.

Figure 12 (below)



The overprinted provisionals were replaced by the beautiful design depicting the statue of General Gordon astride a camel. The stamp is shown at right in Figure 13.



Figure 13

Below in Figure 14 are several missionary airmail covers, including one from the 1950 pictorial set.



Figure 14

[to be continued]

[Editor's note: Recent events have shaken up philately as Canada Post makes what will be the biggest changes in its operations in decades. Prior to announcing the rate changes, Canada Post quietly withdrew all the Permanent rate stamps it could find. Subsequently, some of our members reported their adventures as follows.]

FROM: Peter Fleck

2014-03-05

The last issue of the CALGARY PHILATELIST reported that as of March 31 anyone posting a standard letter within Canada using *"numerical-value stamps will have to use \$1 worth of them."* Although incorrect, the misunderstanding is highly comprehensible. A strict reading of Canada Post's new proposed Lettermail prices would lead someone to that conclusion.

But Canada Post's Lorie Semanski is the first to admit, *"It's a little confusing, for sure."* The corporation's retail business manager for Calgary explained that for anyone mailing a standard letter *"as long as there is 85 cents worth of postage on it, you're good to go."*

After conferring with Jim Phillips, Canada Post's director of stamp services, spokesman Phil Legault agreed with Semanski. The Ottawa-based manager of media relations added that Canada Post is even planning on releasing a 22-cent make-up stamp so people can top up any 63-cent stamps they still have in stock. This new definitive will be part of the existing beneficial insect series and feature the monarch butterfly, Legault said.

Effective March 31, Canada Post is proposing new Lettermail pricing that will see three possible rates for domestic mail up to 30 grams. The top rate of \$1 applies to anyone visiting a post office looking to mail less than 10 letters. Anyone buying Permanent Post stamps in booklets or coils will pay just 85 cents per stamp. This 85-cent rate also applies to those using older inventories of postage.

For the first time ever, Canada Post is also offering discounts to postage meter users. Standard letters can be sent for 75 cents and reduced rates are extended to overweight, non-standard, U.S. and international mail. This latest move is especially intriguing considering Canada Post President Deepak Chopra is the former president of Pitney Bowes for Canada and Latin America. Pitney Bowes is the major international manufacturer and supplier of postage meters. Questions have arisen whether Chopra stands to personally profit from this development. But Bret Evans, associate publisher and managing editor of CANADIAN STAMP NEWS surmised, *"I doubt he owns enough shares in Pitney Bowes to make it worth his while."*

Regardless, we are witnessing the advent of a two-tiered postal system with one rate for postage meter users and another for the rest of Canadians. The future of the postage stamp in Canada is arguably looking dimmer than ever. Another twist is that if customers can get away with putting anywhere between 85 cents and \$1 of stamps on their mail, for the first time ever a single first-class rate no longer exists.

According to Legault, *"98 per cent of people who buy stamps, buy either the coils or the booklets."* These customers will pay just 85 cents per stamp after March 31. So you would think that the \$1 price tag targeting just two per cent of post office clientele is a number hardly large enough to support a separate rate category. Evans explained that collectors and dealers using older postage stamps on their letters presents a *"relatively small problem"* for Canada Post. *"We're talking about a multi-billion-dollar company,"* he said. *"They can honour 85-cent postage and it's not going to make a difference at the end of the day for the bottom line."*

Auctioneer Tony Maresch of Toronto's R. Maresch & Son said for Canada Post, *"Second-hand postage isn't really on their radar."* But should the post office begin to put restrictions on the use of older mint stamps, he warned the corporation will do so at its own peril. The fact that stamps retain their face value is vital to the sale of new issues, he stressed. Should Canada Post ever change this, Maresch explained collectors will just say, *"To hell with you!"* To take effect, the new postal rates require federal government approval. But as of early March, Parliament had yet to do so.

FROM: Craig Allison

2014-01-21

I thought I would add my two-cents worth in connection with the problems I am having with the National Philatelic Centre in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. I have been on their mailing list for years to get their quarterly packs of mint Canadian stamps. I phoned them recently to see why I had not received quarterly packs 2, 3, and 4 for 2013. They informed me that they were held up as they had numerous calls for Permanent stamps after the price increases were announced on December 11.

I said what has that got to do with me not receiving my quarterly packs? Their reply was that there could be Permanent stamps in these packs, and the powers-that-be said "no more Permanent stamps to be sent out until further notice". I replied that this was ridiculous as anyone ordering quarterly packs will be collectors, and would not ever be using the Permanent stamps as postage. This did not make any difference to them as they were told no more Permanent stamps.

The latest word I have from them is I will not likely get those packs until sometime in April 2014. I had a few unkind words to say to them about this, I can tell you.

FROM: Murray Bialek

2014-02-16

In the Rexall Pharmacy flyer dated Friday, January 17-Thursday, January 23, 2014, Canadian permanent "P" 10-stamp booklets were advertised for sale at 5% off regular price, with a limit of three booklets per customer. When I showed up to buy these booklets I was offered other non-P booklets which contained 63-cent denominated stamps. I showed them the flyer, which even contained a photo of the P booklets, but the very young clerks in the store knew nothing about this. They appeared completely perplexed as to what the fuss was all about and were unable to help.

A week later, the Rexall Pharmacy flyer dated Friday, January 31-Thursday, February, 06, 2014 did the very same thing. It advertised Canadian “P” 10-stamp booklets, including photos of these P booklets, this time at 10% off the regular price with a limit of three booklets per customer. Of course they never had any in stock. This time I was able to speak with the manager of the store but all she could offer was a long distance telephone number of their head office in Ontario (and not even an 800 number).

SPRING STAMP BOURSE 2014

Kerby Centre, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, ground floor gymnasium

Free parking across the street. LRT platform directly in front of building

Friday, April 25: Show set-up at 17h00.

****Please note!**** No Friday evening events or bourse.

Saturday, April 26: 10h00 to 17h00

Sunday, April 27: 10h00 to 16h00

Auction on Sunday at 13h00.

The usual dealer bourse plus club tables for circuit and private-treaty books.

Details from Walter Herdzyk at 238-7845 or Dave Freeman at 815-7085, or see them at the meetings.

CONNECTIONS TO OUR PAST: PART 1. JAMES M. MOIR

by Dale Speirs

The Calgary Philatelic Society was created in April 1922 and sooner than we think it will be time for our centennial. The men who created this organization are not only long gone, but all those who knew them personally have also sunk into the grave. The CPS is fortunate in that we have a complete set of records from the very beginning, including the minutes of the first meeting in 1922. But there are other traces that remain, best summed up by the Latin phrase *Litera scripta manet*, or, "The written word remains".

James M. Moir was CPS member #33, joining the club in 1924. He was the club's Recorder for the 1926/27 season but doesn't appear to have been active on the executive beyond that. I checked the Henderson's Directories for Calgary and his name doesn't appear until 1916, when he is listed as On Active Service. He lived a few blocks from Dr. Edward George Mason, the founder of the CPS, and who was a military officer during WW1. It is certain that they would have met in the army and discovered a mutual interest in stamps. After the war, Moir was a land inspector for the Soldier Settlement Board. He worked at various government jobs and in 1947 was with Alberta Fisheries.

Moir was a contributor to the British journal *STAMP COLLECTING WEEKLY* (SCW) during the 1920s.

During the summer of 1926, the publisher, F. Hugh Vallencey passed through Calgary, and Moir showed him the sights of the Rocky Mountains. In the 1925-12-12 issue of SCW, Moir had a poem published.

STAMP COLLECTING, DECEMBER 12TH, 1925.

Greetings from Canada.



COLLECTORS all, another year has swiftly passed away,
And now, within our chosen sphere, the past we do survey,
And unto all it doth appear there's nought to cause dismay.
We've seen the philatelic side of things both new and old,
And to our albums point with pride, knowing their pages hold
That which—it cannot be denied—we value more than gold.

We have secured some stamps of worth, culled out a lot of junk.
New issues came to us at birth, and quite a few we knew;
For rarities we've combed the earth—now, folks, that is quite true.
But now 'tis Christmas time, and so I wish for you
The best of health, wealth, and happiness, and know,
With all three things possessed, on your collections you'll bestow
A lot more zeal and zest.

Our favourite journal too has grown—and may it grow still more—
And unto them let it be known who knew it not before
That *STAMP COLLECTING* stands alone, supreme the whole world o'er,
And to its Editor I feel we owe a meed of praise—
'Tis for our welfare and our weal he ceaseless toils always;
So may success for him be real, and brighter all his days.

JAMES M. MOIR.

Calgary, Alta, Canada.

Moir also had brief notes published from time to time. He collected Admirals and discovered several varieties of these stamps. One of them was written up in the 1926-02-06 issue of SCW, shown below.

CANADIAN VARIETIES.

OUR Calgary friend, Mr. James M. Moir, shows us the following varieties of K.G. Canadian stamps:—

(1) 3c. red: long centre serif in “3” in both lower corners.

(2) 3c. red: short serifs in “3” in both lower corners.

(3) 2c. + 1 Tc. brown: white bar between words in oval (“CANADA” and “POSTAGE”).

Concerning No. 3 he writes:—

Enclosed is, I think, an unusual copy of a Canadian stamp. Some time ago I bought 6,000 copies of this stamp, as I am making a study of minor varieties of Canada, and the one on cover which I enclose is the most unusual of all, although this is an excellent stamp to study, and I have found varieties which I believe are unknown to anybody. This particular stamp has a white bar between



“Canada” and “Postage.” . . . I consider this one of the rarest flaws or errors in Canadian stamps.

The SCW carried brief news of Cowtown philately thanks to Moir. In the same issue as his poem is a report by him entitled “Calgary Commerce”, which reads as follows: “*Recently the Board of Trade here has received letters from several small dealers abroad asking for information as to opportunities here for starting in the stamp business. There are six resident dealers in Calgary, and their business is mostly with members of the junior societies. Adult collectors get most of their wants from British dealers, and one constantly sees approvals from certain of these. A feature of these approvals is that whoever get them sent always endeavour to get buyers if they do not want them*

themselves. I am building three collections, my own and those of my two daughters, and occasionally buy mixtures, but find advertisers of these do not always abide by the truth in their ads. One dealer, for instance, says his mixture is not mission or kilo stuff made up on the continent. A half-pound I had from him recently had a larger percentage of Europeans than anything else. In British Colonials high values, in his mixture they were perforated initials or fiscally cancelled.”

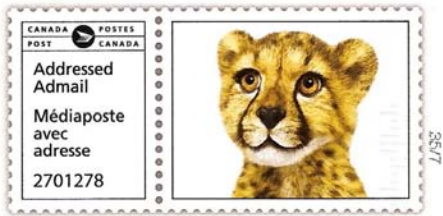
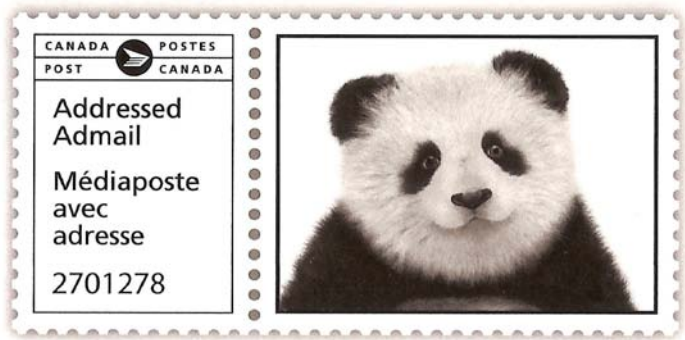
In the 1926-01-03 issue of SCW is a reminder by Moir to British dealers advertising in that periodical that if they want trade from North America, it is not enough to quote Gibbons catalogue numbers. He points out that across the ocean the Scott catalogue is the standard reference, and that at the very least the dealers should quote the year of issue of the stamp and a brief description. An editorial footnote suggests advertisers take heed if they wished to gain foreign sales.

WATCH YOUR JUNK MAIL!

by Dale Speirs

Postal history isn't something that happened fifty or a hundred years ago; it is still being made. Canada Post recently allowed bulk-mail permit users to make them pictorial, and some have leaped at the chance. The better quality pictorial permits use shading around fake perforations to make it look as if it were a real stamp. There have been numerous studies to show that recipients are more likely to open their mail if it is stamped rather than metered. These pictorial permits will also be of great interest to topical collectors.

Below are some pictorials from Telus, printed on their addressed brochures. The panda imprint was received December 2013 and the cheetah in February 2014.



Alberta Treasury Branch celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2013 with a pictorial permit.



Keep your eyes open!

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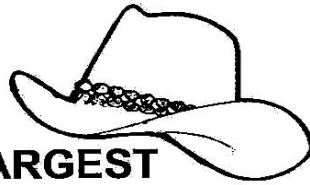
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SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paid-up CPS members, and will also appear on the CPS Website at no additional cost. Mail your ads to Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7, or hand them to me at meetings.

NOTE: Unless stated otherwise, telephone numbers are area code 403. Alberta is on Mountain Time. Any advertiser can be reached through the CPS e-mail at calphilso@shaw.ca, but please allow time for forwarding to offline members.

FOR SALE: Remnants of collections, used and mint. Newfoundland - approximately 145 different stamps, est. catalogue \$3,065. Canadian - 220 stamps, est. catalogue \$14,400, USA - 95 stamps, est. \$2,400, all arranged in lots. Fiume - mounted on quadrille pages, 94 stamps from 1918, est. \$475. Yugoslavia collection from 1918, 1315 used stamps, plus Serbia 110 stamps, Bosnia 195 stamps, Croatia 85 stamps, Montenegro 135 stamps, Slovenia 125 stamps, est. for group \$700. Will sell in bulk or individually, prices negotiable. Call Andy at 241-2593.

FOR SALE: Fine used modern Canada and Australia. Please contact Michael Teekens at 805-4442 or michateekens@gmail.com

FOR SALE: Extensive collection of Alberta postmarks uniquely filed in 28 binders. Supplemented with historical data items of postal relevance. Contact Al at 282-1030 or dorandal@shaw.ca

WANTED: Used GB Machin Queen stamps with any selvage attached. Cash or trade (many countries). Call Georg at 547-0409.

WANTED: I volunteer at the Mennonite Community Centre store in Calgary. They raise money for worldwide disasters, and are looking for donations of old albums and pages, covers, and bulk stamps. To donate, please contact me, Greg Lang, at 282-1644.

FOR SALE: various QEII Canada plate block sets between Scott #727 and #1070, various QV to KGV Canada VFNH singles and pairs between Scott #51 and #300. Contact Les at 278-3511.

FOR SALE: Large accumulation used off-paper, mostly pre-1990s commemoratives. Canada, USA, GB, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and kiloware. Phone Roland 243-1637 or decaenr@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: Major collections of many countries at liquidation prices. Call John at 474-1212.

FOR SALE: British colonies KGV to QEII, New Zealand and Australia, very reasonable. All mint, LH or NH. Phone Felix at 464-3252.

WANTED: Canadian military covers and postcards with hospital ships (white with red crosses). Contact Jon Johnson at 253-8411 or jcjperfins@hotmail.com

CLUB NEWS

The guest speaker at the February 5 meeting was Jon Noad, who collects dinosaurs on stamps. He estimated there are about 5,700 dinosaur stamps and cinderellas, not including varieties and overprints. At the March 5 meeting, Sandy Freeman spoke on her experiences with Brasiliana 2013, where she won a vermeil for her Bolivian airmails exhibit.

CPS members publishing articles in philatelic periodicals included Earle Covert on “special service” mail in modern Canada and Dale Speirs on the postal history of Morley and the Nakoda lands, both in the 2014 Q1 issue of BNA TOPICS. Dale Speirs also had an article on the postal history of Waterton National Park in the Mar/Apr 2014 CANADIAN PHILATELIST and the Onefour-Wild Horse post offices in the February 2014 issue of POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL (USA).

Don't forget the Spring Bourse on the weekend of April 26 and 27. There are some changes this year. The show set-up will be Friday night at 17h00. Of particular note, the auction will move to Sunday due to concerns from the dealers.

COMMITTEES

Archives	Dale Speirs	701-0174
Auctions - regular	Doug Kollar	547-3838
- silent	Jim Senecal	547-7681
Bulletin - Editor	Dale Speirs	701-0174
Circuit books	Larry Tweedale	282-9726
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Membership	Julius Szekrenyes	282-7982
Private Treaty books	Gerry Vader	293-0158
Programmes	Penny Borrowman	686-2662
Webmaster	Dave Bartlet	829-3580

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2014

March	19	Auction
April	2	General meeting
	16	Auction
	26 and 27	Spring Bourse
May	7	General meeting
	7	Deadline for June bulletin
	21	Auction
June	4	General meeting
	18	Auction
	18	Deadline for July bulletin
August	6	Deadline for August bulletin
September	3	General meeting
	3	Deadline for October bulletin
	17	Auction
October	1	General meeting
	15	Auction
	17 to 19	CALTAPEX 2014
November	5	General meeting
	5	Deadline for December bulletin
	19	Auction
December	3	Christmas social

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at the Kerby Centre, Room 205 (Lecture Room), 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 19h30. Auction lots should be in before 19h30 to allow bidder viewing.

SPRING BOURSE is at the Kerby Centre gym. Contact Walter Herdzik at 238-7845 or Dave Freeman at 815-7085.

CALGARY REGIONAL GROUP of the BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY meets second Wednesdays. For details about meeting places and times, contact Dave Bartlet at 829-3580.

CALGARY ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELIC EXHIBITORS meets fourth Wednesdays. For details, contact Jim Taylor at 238-3698.