

HONG KONG'S CENTENARY OF BRITISH RULE

By AXEL OLSSON

Sixty-six years ago this month Hong Kong issued a set of 6 stamps to celebrate the centennial of British rule (Sc 168 - 73) from 1841 - 1941.

Designed by a local ex-pat named Wm E. Jones employed with the Public Works Dept (who was a keen philatelist also responsible for the Hong Kong 1946 Victory Issue), the stamps each bear the portrait of HM King George VI set against various scenes around the capital city of Victoria and its harbour.

The 2c in vertical format features a typical crowded street scene while the 4c shows a Chinese junk and a modern liner. The 5c depicts the University while a cathedral appears on the 15c. On the 25c value is shown the Hong Kong Bank in vertical format and the top value portrays a primitive China clipper in full sail next to a seaplane.

The \$1 denomination is perhaps the closest thing Hong Kong has ever had to an air mail stamp, it's been pointed out, since that is what it was primarily used for.

Printed on water-marked Multi-Script Crown CA paper by Bradbury Wilkinson of London using just two colours each, I think you'll agree this set stands out as one of the best examples of stamp engraving and recess printing for that period.

These stamps were once very common in the US because large quantities were sold to dealers there as well as used on commercial mail sent there. As recently as 1980 a set could be bought for as little as C\$1, but no more.

Even before the sovereignty of the Colony to China in 1997, interest in this Centenary set has soared, with the current 2007 Scott Catalogue value at \$95 for MNH and used at \$21.60.

Hong Kong dealers have been paying close to full catalogue MNH sets with white gum since those that have been kept in the Far East for any length of time tends to have toned gum.

Also blocks with marginal Plate or Control



Numbers in the selvage and cachet FDC's with full sets and branch cancels command big premiums at auction with covers going for around C\$300 or more.

Commercially used 1941 Centenary covers are popular with postal historians studying the run-up to WWII and the Japanese Occupation with many different Censor marks and Instructional Markings, some of which are quite rare and valuable.

The following are the printed quantities for the HK 1941 Centenary set:

- 2c : 1.5 million
- 4c : 1 million
- 5c : 4.5 million
- 15c : 1.6 million
- 25c : 720,000
- \$1.00 : 480,000



Detained in Hong Kong by Japanese WWII



The Buffalo

PUBLICATION OF THE
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Application filed July to April

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RENEWALS

Lapsed memberships or late renewals (paid after September 30th of each year) are charged a \$1.00 reinstatement fee.

All new applicants must undergo a 60-day orientation before receiving full membership privileges.

The *Buffalo* is published monthly except in July and August. Deadline for article submissions and advertising copy is the 15th of each month preceding the month of issue.

WEBSITE:

WWW.WPS.MB.CA

COMING EVENTS

Doors Open 6:00 p.m. - Business Mtg. 8:00 p.m.
1st & 3rd Thursdays (except Jul. & Aug.).
Visitors always welcome.
Main Floor, Deaf Centre Manitoba, located
at the corner of 285 Pembina Hwy. & Nassau St.

2007

- Feb. 01 - Business Meeting
- Auction
- Feb. 15 - Business Meeting
- Presentation
Len Kruczynski "Paper Weave on the Small Queens"
- Mar. 01 - Business Meeting
- Auction
- Mar. 15 - Business Meeting
- Slide Show
"Scouting on Stamps"
- April 05 - Business Meeting
- Auction
- April 19 - Business Meeting
- Presentation
Alf Brooks "Siege of Paris 1870-71": Balloon Post
- May 03 - Business Meeting
- Auction
- May 17 - Business Meeting
- Annual Stamp Quiz

The first meetings of each month reserved for Auctions.
The second meetings of each month reserved for formal programs.

MEMBERS' ADLETS

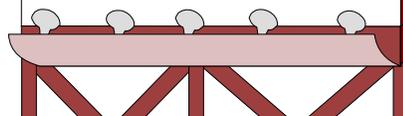
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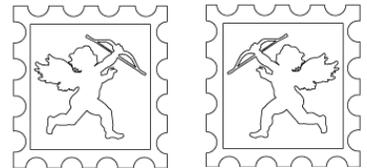
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Meets Saturdays from 1:00 to 2:30 PM,
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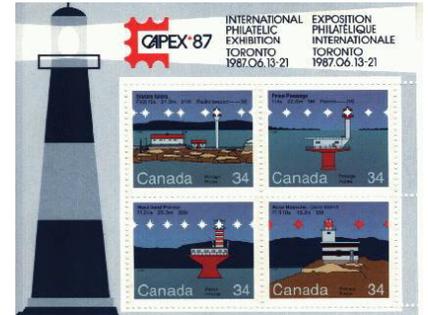
-payable to Winnipeg Philatelic Society
in one sum at time of agreement.

Twenty years ago this year Canada held its largest ever stamp exhibition at the then brand new Metropolitan Toronto Convention Centre with its famous CN Tower, the world's tallest free-standing structure at 1822 ft. Commencing on Saturday June 13th 1987 at 10.00 am CAPEX lasted for 9 days until June 21st Sunday at 6.00pm. Admission was C\$5 for adults & C\$2 for children & senior citizens.

Besides celebrating the 120th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada, it also marked the Centenary of the Show's sponsors, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC).

Over 800 exhibits valued at over C\$100 million from private and government collections were on display. In addition there were 133 stands occupied by dealers &

disappointing turnout in view of the significance of the event. Could it have been due to the closing time of 6.00 pm on weekdays which would have prevented those from the working class from attending? Altanasoff also blasted the CAPEX organising committee for the inadequate publicity because he felt they were too "stingy". A list of exhibitors was slow in forthcoming because it was included in the CAPEX \$20 Souvenir Catalogue, so for them to release the list might have affected the sale of those catalogues. The same thing happened with the list of CAPEX 87 prizewinners which was kept under wraps lest it reduced the number of those willing to shell out the C\$50 per head for the Awards Dinner.



postal administrations from the US, UK as well as the host country who made every attempt to make it a success.

Canada Post supported CAPEX 87 wholeheartedly with a stamp issue while the National Postal Museum showed priceless litho essay proofs of the 1851 3d beaver issue.

From HM The Queen's collection was a display of the 1860 New Brunswick 5c prepared but never issued because it depicted a then living person who was not a royal family member.

CAPEX 87 should have been a stunning success by all counts, but according to the noted American philatelic journalist Herman Herst Jr., it was not so. In the Sept 1987 issue of the PHILATELIC EXPORTER, Herst reported that the Managing Editor of the CANADIAN STAMP NEWS (CSN) had devoted an entire page of his magazine to criticising the Show and the organisers for their thoughtless treatment of the press corps.

Instead of the 50,000 visitors said to have attended CAPEX, the Editor, Don Altanasoff, suggested the figure was closer to 20,000 for the 9-day period, a most

Also disappointing was the discovery there was to be no press conference afterwards, no photos or interviews with the winners or basic press facilities like typewriters, or coffee & doughnuts found at other stampshows.

But perhaps the most glaring omission was the mysterious disappearance of the carpeting on the exhibition area so that visitors who had paid the C\$5 admission to get in had to end up pounding "the backbreaking, footwrecking concrete floor." (BUFFALO readers who have first-hand knowledge of what it was like at CAPEX 87 are invited to send in their comments, please, care of the WPS website or via snail mail. Thank you.)

Winnipeg Philatelic Society

Stamp Auction

Saturday, March 17, 2007

Deaf Centre, 285 Pembina Hwy.

Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Viewing of Lots: 9:00 a.m.

FREE ADMISSION

ALL ARE WELCOME

EDITOR NOTES

BY ALF BROOKS

What cost stamp collecting?

The young collector who first discovers this hobby of ours can do it cheaply at first, saving stamps from mail, soaking them, even looking up information and looking at images, either in books at a library or on the Web. But as the novice collector becomes more serious there is the need to organize. Dollars are spent on catalogues, on albums, on mounts, on that stamp that is hard to find. Web sites tempt collectors to buy new issues, souvenir sheets, presentation packs, First Day Covers. It takes either a large amount of disposable income or strong discipline to keep philatelic collecting under control.

We of WPS have other costs, those related to supporting the organization. To meet with our fellow-collectors we need a space, and to rent a suitable space costs money. Your executive has reported that we face a rent increase here at the Deaf Centre, and has asked us to consider alternatives:

- Do we find a new space? Where we meet now is a good space, a good location. And what else is available at the price we are willing to pay? It appears that there is little or nothing.
- Do we meet less frequently? I say not, look at our great turnout for meetings.
- Do we pay more in fees and in other ways? Fee increase? 50-50 draw? Larger commissions on sales of circuits and auction items?

In my opinion paying more is the alternative, but let us be careful how we do it:

- 50-50 draw? I am against this one. Too mercenary. I attend meetings for stamps, not dollars. As an alternative enhance, modify, our "Ralph" draw.
- Larger commissions? Buyer's commissions? Careful here, let's not tamper with a good thing, our popular auctions.
- Fee increases? This appears to be the way to go. A reasonable increase will, I believe, be approved by the membership. However, two points:

1) Our last increase a few years ago raised the fee for both groups of members, older and younger, by \$5.00. That flat increase was more as a percentage for those paying the reduced "seniors" fee.

2) We have a number of life members who paid a one-time fee (at present \$250.00). Yes, they put up "big bucks" some years ago. But perhaps it is appropriate for them to examine this, calculate how much they have paid over the years compared to those who pay annually, and then contribute part of the difference.

- Willing a portion of an estate to the WPS? Be careful what you wish for.

Some suggestions

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Has someone done this? Would someone try it, please?

An item in the recent Gibbons Stamp Monthly tells of an easy method of soaking stamps: put them in a container of cold water and microwave them for a minute. The stamps detach instantly and smoothly, undamaged and unwrinkled.

I would try it myself (soaking stamps is tedious, I don't like doing it), but I don't have a microwave.

• •



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START PREPARING YOUR EXHIBITS NOW

WINNIPEG JUNIOR STAMP CLUB

BY GERRY BABIJ

The Winnipeg Junior Stamp Club set up tables at Grant Park, St. Vital and Garden City malls, during the months of August and September, to promote Stamp Collecting and to sign up new members. It became apparent that people were interested in more than the children's club. We ended up promoting not only the Junior club but also the Winnipeg Philatelic Society, the Scandinavian Club, the BNAP's club, the Creative Retirement Club and the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. We did not sign up too many members but many people were interested.

Due to the positive response, it would be beneficial to our stamp community if we set up booths in malls in the future to promote our hobby. Memberships would be available for all clubs. We need your support.

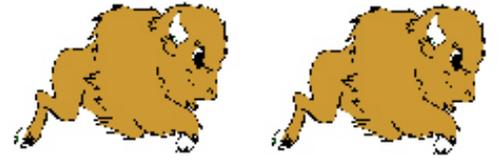


I would like to thank the volunteers who worked at the youth table at the malls and I would also like to thank all those people who donated stamps and supplies to the youth club over the last year and to all the people who soaked stamps off paper for the youth club. Thanks a bunch.



BUFFALO CHIPS

BY ALF BROOKS



Danish Windmills

With modern "clean-energy" demands windmills are making a giant comeback. Denmark, which produces half of the world's modern windmills, issued a set of four stamps picturing windmills. Pictured here is 'The Askov Mill', so-named because it was designed and built by Poul la Cour in 1891; he taught at the Askov Folk High School. The other three stamps of the series picture more-modern mills. Also illustrated is the first day cancel.



Year of the Boar

China has issued a stamp with a difference. Scratch the surface of the stamp and you will smell sweet 'n' sour pork; lick the gum of the stamp and you experience the taste of this popular dish. One report of this stamp noted that 2008 is the Year of the Rat.



Beatles' Stamps

The stamps and souvenir sheet recently issued by Royal Mail are forecasted to break world records for sales of a single issue. Not too surprising, given the lasting popularity of Beatles' music for fans of many age groups.

A KFC Stamp Controversy

American actress Pamela Anderson, best known for her role in 90s TV show 'Baywatch' has written an angry letter to the USPS Postmaster General criticizing Kentucky Fried Chicken's request to have company founder Colonel Sanders commemorated with a stamp.

Anderson, a committed animal-rights activist and member of PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) has been vocal in her criticism toward Kentucky Fried Chicken and the way in which the company treat chickens.

(From the Stanley Gibbons website)



From left to right:
two chicks and a Colonel....
stamp licking good....



Dear Phil,
A recent news item in the *Globe and Mail* makes me angry. Here is Canada Post, attempting to make money and to promote the use of postage stamps by making available personalized postage

stamps (I love them, by the way; my grandchildren appear on most letters I mail), and then some narrow-minded bureaucrat rejects two designs submitted by one Frederick Potter of Alberta picturing his wife. OK, I can agree that the one showing her topless goes too far, but the other, picturing her with two strategically-placed maple leaves, looks fine to me. It even is patriotic, and in this day and age, given what we see in the media every day, I submit it is not in any way titillating.

- Angry



Dear Angry,
Shakespeare said it best: "Methinks thou dost protest too much." Buy Playboy.

- Phil

MINUTES OF THE WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JANUARY 04, 2007

BY JUDY LIPSEY

- Bob Stanley called the meeting to order at 7:55.
 - Bob S. announced we had a new member, Ken Anderson and we had some juniors as guests.
 - Bob S. also said that our lease at the Deaf Centre is up for renewal, there will be more details next meeting.
 - Michael Zacharias announced that there were some Canadian Stamp News available for the taking. And Gloria Pappin is doing fine, she wishes all Happy New Year.
 - Bill Voort put a large puzzle in the charity auction and then discovered an errant piece at his house. It was a picture of a lighthouse, about 1000 pieces. He has the piece if you have the puzzle.
 - Robert Zacharias says that the next big auction will be March 17, 2007, 10 lots maximum per member with a \$2.00 minimum bid. The November auction sold around \$3,000.00. He will take lots at the next three meetings only.
 - Robert Z. Also reminded us that there will be an exhibiting workshop at the Scandinavian Club Jan. 21, 2007, 1 to 4 p.m. Seasoned exhibitors and/or judges are welcome to help.
 - Michael also let us know how the charity auction went. We made \$735.00, and thank you to guest auctioneer, Michael Goodman.
 - Sid Kroger announced that the Red River Bourse will next be held Jan. 14, 2007, 9 am-4 pm. at the Best Western Charter House Hotel. Also, Sid will have his stock available at his office on the first and third Sundays of the month.
 - Russ Thompson announced that at the next meeting, Dick Johnson will give a presentation of large numerals on Canadian postage dues.
- Draw:** Bob Elias, Ken Kristjanson, Peter Farenhorst, Jack Price, Don Fraser, Robert Harris, Judy Lipsey.
Adj. 8:05

MINUTES OF THE WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JANUARY 18, 2007

BY JUDY LIPSEY

- Bob Stanley called the meeting to order at 7:53.
 - Bob S. An executive meeting was held January 7. We discussed how we might generate more funds. We thought of having 50/50 draws in lieu of the present ticket draw for prizes.
 - The room rent at the Deaf Centre is going up, from \$1050 per year to \$3050 per year. For that reason, we are giving up the ½ suite upstairs. That will save \$87.00 per month. They now want to charge \$100.00 per meeting. The library will leave the building by mid-February.
 - We can look for new premises but it must be centrally located, be close to bus routes, and have adequate free parking in the vicinity. The neighbourhood has to be good, and the facility must have a room big enough for us, that we would be the sole user on Thursday nights, with no bumping.
 - Alf moved that we thank the executive for doing the work, look for new facilities, and we leave the decision by next meeting.
 - Robert Zacharias says that the next big auction will be March 17, 2007, 10 lots maximum per member with a \$2.00 minimum bid. The last meeting in Feb. Will be the last night he takes lots.
 - Robert Z. There will be an exhibiting workshop at the Scandinavian Club Jan. 21, 2007, 1 to 4 p.m.
- Draw:** Mike Goodman, Russ Thompson, Judy Lipsey, Jim Yurikowski.
- Tonight's presentation** is by Dick Johnson, Canadian postage dues, with large numerals.
Adj. 8:47



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