

BNAPS Fancy Cancel Newsletter No. 5.

Dave Lacelle

≈ June '90

Finally, I am able to find time for Newsletter Five. I apologize for the delay with this newsletter, many "real life" (as opposed to "hobby life") events kept getting in the way. I am now nicely recharged after a month holiday in B.C., including 10 days in the wilds (West coast of Queen Charlotte Islands) - four mile sand beach, not a footprint on it!

● Group News:

Our membership has grown slightly to 53. I suspect that most Canadian Fancy Cancel Collectors are now members, however if you know of anyone who isn't, feel free to invite them. As mentioned in the last newsletter, unfortunately I will not be able to attend the Texas Convention, however Clinton Phillips allowed himself to be "volunteered" for a general type study group meeting. I have sent him some first drafts of the information and illustrations for the first 90 (or so) fancy numeral cancels from the new book to be presented at this meeting. Any comments on these, or for that matter any suggestions regarding the book would be appreciated. This newsletter will be printed, packaged, and mailed by Joanne Fraser. I owe her a big thanks for sharing the work load with me.

I recently sent in a fancy cancel circuit book, and discovered that Mrs. Drury does not have any other fancy cancel books on hand. The circuit is only as good as WE make it. It is also an excellent way to get rid of some duplicates, take advantage of other peoples "mistakes" (or learn from your own!), improve your collection, and maybe even make a bit of money. For further details contact: Mrs. E. M. Drury, Box 30076, Rexdale Plaza P.O. ON. M9W 6T1.

Twice recently I have received unsolicited, unpriced, and unregistered, cancellation material from two different sources. To my way of thinking (and I am sure most of you would agree) it should not be the responsibility of a potential buyer to set prices, nor should he/she have to accept responsibility for items of questionable value. In both cases, I returned the material as received, unsold. (I registered them, as I do not know what values the sellers would have attached to them) I am not against buying or selling, if any of you wish to send me material for sale would you please advise me in advance, and price your material. Enough said.

On a much more positive note: I would like to thank Mr. G. Carise, of Sudbury for a considerable amount of information on R.P.O. corks (RPO Newsletter Dec '83). Mr. C. Munden, Mr. N. Brassler, Dr. J.N.M. Sendbuehler, and Mr. M. Woods, have all sent in photocopies of specific items. Their willingness to share this information is greatly appreciated. Hope I didn't forget anyone.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS:

I was rather surprised at the lack of comments on my 'Toronto 2's' section in the last newsletter. The deletions of my D15 (D&S 74), and D6 (D&S 15, and 40) items have been questioned. D6 has also been reported on a two cent Small Queen (thus 1872), I have also seen this on; 3, 5, (thus '75), 12 1/2, and late 15 cent ('90's!) Large Queens. There may be genuine strikes of this item, but I prefer to leave it "deleted". I am still trying to find a copy (or photocopy) of my number 39, the 'large 2 in cut rings'. I believe I saw one once, but cannot remember where. This is the only Toronto 2 for which I cannot make a new illustration. Can anyone help?

Other revisions:

● NEWSLETTER 2.

Town Name Cancels.

1. New Listing: Bedford Que; 2, 5mm, Dec 97. As receiving cancel.
2. New Listing: Cyprus (Ont.); 2, 4mm, on Sc. 39, 6cent SQ.
3. New Listing: TORONTO CAN.; 1, 7mm, ? JU. '04. As a cancel.
4. New listing: _? acoma; 1. 3mm, in red on 5cent SQ, trace of a squared circle cancel. May be foreign or accidental marking.

● NEWSLETTER 3.

1. Revisions: Another, and better copy of D&S 591 (an "M" in a star) has turned up. This indicates that the "M" is quite deliberate, and should be listed in the alphabetical part of the new book.
2. Illustrations at end: The last illustration on pg 8 is D&S 234, not 235.

THE KINGSTON NINE SERIES

As the first new item; the Kingston 9's series. These evolved directly from the "Two ring 9" assigned to Kingston in 1868. In September 1869 this hammer was mutilated with four diagonal cuts (type 95). The "9" portion must have been removable, as it is not affected by these cuts. (This removable "9" may have been re-used later, several different types show a common weakness near the bottom tail of the "9".) The hammer was later further mutilated (re-mutilated?) with several other cuts (type 101).

The Kingston 9's other than having similar origin, and period of use, have few other similarities to the Toronto 2's covered in Newsletter 4. The Duckworth's produced a fine article on the Kingston 9's in Topics, Nov. '76, I have been able to add only a few dates to their list. The Kingston 9's form a reasonably complete sequence (no major gaps) to February '71, and at least six types are known on Small Queens. There does not appear to be any overlap of usage between types, which indicates use by only one clerk. The cancels were not placed in a collar (as was the case with the Toronto 2's), there is neither evidence of outer rings, (1) nor any circular designs to expand the corks (2). Post Master General Reports do not provide much information,

with the exception of the item mentioned below, there are no references of payments for materials or services which could be related to these corks.

It is worthwhile to note that Kingston had a Post Office Inspectors office (P.O.I.) with four staff, as well as the regular P.O. with eight staff. There is some evidence that the Toronto 2's may have been used by the Toronto P.O.I., the same may be true in Kingston. Evidence for this is that many Kingston 9's were used as receiving marks on top (3) of (usually) poorly struck stamps. This is exactly the type of behaviour which might be expected from a bored P.O. Inspector. Evidence to the contrary is; the purchase of an "obliterating stamp etc." for P.O.I. Kingston in the 1870 P.M.G. report. The book will have more detailed information on these cancels, I have included a few specific comments in the footnotes (4).

I have started off the new book with the numeral cancels as most of the early fancies evolved from the 4 or 2 ring numeral hammers officially issued by the P.O. The sections in this, and the preceding newsletter (on Toronto 2's) have been an attempt to get new information from YOU, before I get too much written. The numeral series are rather dull, and I would now like to leap ahead to a more popular type of fancy cancel, the Bogey Heads.

BOGEY HEAD CANCELS

The bogey head (or pumpkin head) cancels probably resulted from playfulness on the part of the respective Postmasters. Some of them may have been used for Halloween (or all Saints Day). There is also the possibility that they had secret meanings within fraternal or "other" organizations (5). Some of the bogeys had very limited usages, and may have been used only when the P.M. knew the letter was going to a fellow "brother".

There are about 25 different Canadian bogeys, however only two had extensive usage; D&S 264,

and 274 illustrated here. Only six bogeys have been positively identified as to P.O. Since D&S was published, D&S 273 has been identified as Prince Albert

Ont, Nov. '75 and, D&S 276a (Plate J) is from Kingston Ont. also in Nov. '75. (Note; Halloween Oct 31st!) D&S 276a rarely appears as "neat and tidy" as in the D&S illustration as the cancel was obviously made of poor quality cork and wore quickly.

I have never seen the three bogey heads here; (D&S 266a, 266a (b), 270a), has anyone else? I would



D & S 264



D & S 274



D & S 276a

NON VERIFIED



D & S 266a (Pl. A)



D & S 266a (Pl.G)



D & S 270a

suggest that the next three be deleted. The first two (274a, and 269) duplicate other D&S listings (specifically 274b, and 292). The third item is a fake.

The fake (275a) is on an early rose (70's) shade S.Q., and is tied to a '96 cover. There is always the faint possibility that this stamp is a colour changing, however I think not. There are unfortunately other fakes of these cancels, this is inevitable with the higher priced simpler cancels. One scoundrel even wrote to a philatelic magazine; "...you want bogey heads, I'll give you bogey heads...don't you wish you knew who I am." Most of the fakes however are rather recent, and thus did not appear in D&S. One exception to this is the single known example of D&S 271, (I own it) which is probably an imitation (fake) of a cancel used in Waterbury Connecticut in the 1860's. I have also seen a fake bogey produced from a circular "blob" cancel by the simple expediency of erasing parts of the blob - wish I knew where I had bought it! The general rule for bogey head cancels: If it is impressive (usually pricey), and hasn't been recorded in the last 65 years, then it probably shouldn't be.

DELETIONS



D & S 274a



D & S 269



D & S 275a

A few miscellaneous items:

Mr. C. Munden has shown me a very impressive cover, the EM signet ring cancel of P.M. Emile Mouchet (D&S 475), on a postcard personally signed by Emile himself! The closest I can come to this is a Hagersville "H" (D&S 511) signed by a Mr. Hager, unfortunately not the Mr. Hager who was the P.M. Anyone else know of any other examples of these "personalized" fancy cancels?

Finally, Gerry Carr (and I) would like to present the following query. The circle and triangle cancel below must have had some meaning to someone, and appears to have been used mainly on registered (6) or "important" mail. The cancel is usually found on F1, or F2. Why this specific use? What does it mean? Where was it used?



Any Info.?



A Bogey ?



D & S 271

KINGSTON 9'S, DATES OF USE

New D&S DATE NOTES			New D&S DATE NOTES		
#'s	TYPE		#'s	TYPE	
95	30	69-09-10 From 2 ring	106	14	70-02- ? Also on 3cent S.Q.
96	17	69-09-16	107	32	70-02- ? From Duckworth.
96	17	69-09-18	108	26	70-02- ? From Duckworth.
97	20	69-09-29	109	24	70-02- ? From Duckworth.
97	20	69-10-02	110	22	70-03-16
98	27	69-10-07	110	22	70-04-03
99	15	69-10-13	111	29	70-04- ?
99	15	69-10-14	112	19	70-04- ?
99	15	69-10- ? From Duckworth.	112	19	70-04- ?
100	13	69-10- ? From Duckworth.	112	19	70-04-15
101	16	69-10- ?	112	19	70-05-05
101	16	69-11-03	112	19	70-05-08
101	16	69-11-04	112	19	70-05-16
101	16	69-11-08	112	19	70-05-25
101	16	69-11-09	112	19	70-05-27
102	28	69-11- ? From Duckworth.	113	23	71-01-28
103	25	70-01- ? From Duckworth.	113	23	71-02-07
104	33	70-01- ? Also on 3cent S.Q.			
105	18	70-02- ?	D4	31	Unknown Dubious item.
105	18	70-02-15	D5	21	Unknown Dubious item.

KINGSTON NINES.



95, D&S 30



96, D&S 17



97, D&S 20



98, D&S 27



99, D&S 15



100, D&S 13



101, D&S 16



102, D&S 28



103, D&S 25



104 D&S 33



105, D&S 18



106, D&S 14



107, D&S 32



108, D&S 26



109, D&S 24



110, D&S 22



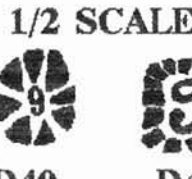
111, D&S 29



112, D&S 19



113, D&S 23



D40



D41

1/2 SCALE

D&S 31 D&S 21

Footnotes:

1. Type 101 (the mutilated 2 ring) sometimes has a portion of the edge of the hammer showing as an outside ring.
2. The variety of shapes of the corks would possibly indicate more than one type of hammer was used. Whatever its (their) design(s), there was either plenty of leverage, or a rather strong man using it - many of the cancels are very heavy, and show evidence of deformation from the "hit". Often the right side of the cancel is more deformed, which probably indicates a right handed PM.
3. This "double cancelling" is often regarded as evidence of a forged cancel. With the Kingston 9's, double cancels are not unusual, and are thus not necessarily evidence of faking.
4. Type 102 breaks at the left side, a copy is known where a piece of paper came between the cover and the hammer which creates the appearance of a break on the right side. The PM apparently "fanned" his letters, and then cancelled several at once. I have seen a cover with a third of a Kingston 9 cancel which occurred as a result of this practice. Type 104 has been incorrectly listed as an "8". Type 105 loses one ray at the right in the late state, and, types 110 and 111 may be the same cancel.
5. This was certainly the case in the U.S.A., some "death head" cancels were associated with Ku Klux Klan markings during the Civil War era.
6. There are other examples of this selective use of fancies with registered items, D&S 711, a Toronto "T" is a good one. There was regulation in the U.S. (in the 1860's) that P.M.'s were to initial registered letters, undoubtedly many U.S. initial cancels resulted from this. I do not know of any similar regulation in Canada.

Doonesbury fights illiteracy

Cox News Service

Garry Trudeau, creator of the *Doonesbury* comic strip, has come up with a unique book to help lick adult illiteracy — a stamp album.

In his first licensed *Doonesbury* project, Trudeau will donate all the proceeds from *The 1990 Doonesbury Stamp Album* to *Writer's Voices*, a successful and innovative national publishing program of the Literacy Volunteers of New York City.

Featuring 150 full-color stamps lampooning everyone from Donald Trump to Dan Quayle, Trudeau's

book — to be published July 10 — is also a celebration of his comic strip's 20th anniversary.

The humor is vintage *Doonesbury*. One series of stamps chronicles the amazing career of Uncle Duke from ambassador to hostage to zombie, while another "postal grouping pokes fun at Donald Trump's "bimbo limbo" problems.

Other highlights:

Stamps "celebrating the seasons" with the homeless.

President Bush stamps addressing "the leadership thing," "the vision thing" and "the wimp thing."

Late breaking news:
Bow City Philatelics sale
on Aug. 9 has about 85
cancel lots. Most are
squared circles, however
some are fancies. (None
are owned by me.)
Address ; P.O. Box 6444,
Sta. D, Calgary, Alta.,
phone: 403 237 5828 or
FAX: 403 263 1179.

Next: Doonesbury fancy cancels?

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