

BNAPS Fancy Cancel Study Group Newsletter No. 10.

Dave Lacelle.
Dec, '92.

Finally another newsletter! May I take the opportunity to wish all of you the best of the season. This newsletter will be a "bits and pieces" production as I have received many comments and queries from our members. I also intend to introduce one new topic; "scarifying cancels", as well as provide some further examples of fancy cancels on Map, and Registered stamps.

●Group News.

We have only two new members this time; Mrs. S. J. Hundt, 6713 West Trail Edina MN 55439, and Mr. B. A. Gardenour 319 1/2 East Main St. Caledonia MI 49316. Welcome aboard. Our membership total is now 53, however this will shrink a bit as a result of the dues notice in this newsletter. Work on the book continues, I am now into the "S's", there is light at the end of the alphabet.

As already mentioned, I have had many letters and comments since the last newsletter. Frank Waite came up with some 1952 correspondence from the early days of the Small Queen Study Group. There was a sub-group at that time tracing cancels and he was able to give me 5 pages of these tracings. Mr. H. W. Lussey also provided some more of the original series of photos from the 1961 fancy cancel group which resulted in the D&S publication. Is there any more of this "old time" stuff out there? It is important to me as it helps me determine some of the duplications in the D&S publication, as well as provide new or more detailed dates of use etc. A special thanks to both of these gentlemen. Thanks for specific items, comments, or photocopies are also extended to; Jerry Carr, Peter Geoffrey, Dr. N. Escott, Ray Horning, Don Kolfage, Brain Noble, Les Porter, Dr. J. Sendbuehler, and Carl Usher. Hope I didn't forget anyone.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS:

●NEWSLETTER 1.

Crown Wax Seals

1. Addition: Everton(?) Ont., Stamp, 3 cent S.Q. Type 3.
2. Addition: North Ridge Ont.. Seal, B.S., My 84 Type 2.

3. Addition: Routhwite Man., as seal, B.S., no other details available.

●NEWSLETTER 7.

CDS Cork Inserts.

1. Addition: "Keewatin Mills Ont."

●NEWSLETTER 8.

Supplemental note; My deletions D35 and D37 are in the same style as Victorian Irish cancels. I have listed these examples as forgeries, they may be genuine Irish cancels on BNA. Alternatively, some forgers used the same cancels on several different countries stamps. D37 is definitely a fake as the stamps are also fake, D35 has never been seen since Tomlinson reported it in 1949.

●NEWSLETTER 9.

Initial Cancels on Registered.

1. Addition: D&S 437a, a "C" on F2.

2. Addition: D&S 466a, an "E" on F2. (Possibly for Erin Ont.)

CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES.

My comments about utilitarian objects such as bottle tops, coins, bolts, etc. being pressed into use as cancels has struck several peoples fancy (OK- enough puns). Thus the following four items:

1. This curious "keyhole" cancel is probably in **this** class, however neither Dr. Sendbuehler nor I can figure out what it was. He has suggested that it might be some kind of church marking, and that seems vaguely familiar to me. Does this ring any bells with any of you?



2. Claude Usher has sent in this item with the suggestion that it was a washer. It possibly might also be a small perfume or medicine bottle top. This is very similar to Jarrett #26 and #27.



4. This little hexagonal cancel appears on late Small Queens, Jubilees, and Map stamps. It appears to be a socket wrench head.



4. Peter Geoffroy sent in the North Ridge Ont. cover (see also "Revisions to Previous Newsletters") with a quartered cork cancel surrounded by an unusually wide and somewhat indistinct collar. It appears that a cork has been left almost flush with the neck of a bottle, and then used as a cancel. I was able to make a reasonably similar modern example using a hundred year old bottle. This will appear in green ink on your newsletter. This does not mean that Peters' cover is fake, it just duplicates an 1880's P.M.'s work. (1) (The bottle is 4.5 cm (1 3/4") diameter, 12.0cm long (4 3/4") and nicely fits ones hand).



5. Don Kolfage would like to know of any information on D&S 634 "NFB" used at Brockville Ont., Sept. to Dec. 82. The P.M. was J. Crawford, five covers are known, none giving the slightest clue as to the meaning of "NFB". Any ideas?



6. Les Porter would like more information on this rather simple cork. It is apparently "the only known cork cancel on Nova Scotia stamps" (J.J. MacDonald), it is also listed in Jepcott Greene and Young. I have been able to determine that it was used into the early S.Q. period, one cover from "Port Williams Station" Oct. '70 is known. Two questions. Can anyone provide any further information? Were there any other corks used on Pre-confederation N.S.?



7. Brian Noble sends in this nice Newfoundland cork from Harbour Grace, Oct. '11, a rather late use for a fancy. If anyone has other Nfld. fancies, I would greatly appreciate receiving photocopies.



8. On the same topic, I have had trouble getting good illustrations of the Nfld. "N's" used '76 to '82. There are three types, the illustrations here will appear in the new book. Any comments on these cancels, dates of use, or my illustrations?



9. The solid Ottawa crown (D&S 225) is a scarce item, I recently had a chance to buy one from a cancel collection which had been "busted up". This cancel appears in the P&A proofbooks (Feb. '80), and precedes the more common "hollow" Ottawa crown (D&S 226) proofed Apr.' 80. There has been a considerable amount written about these cancels, the general opinion seems to be that the solid crown was either not used at all, or had very limited use. It is possible that all strikes of this solid crown are fake, and are based on illustrations prepared from the proof books in the 1930's. Imagine my chagrin when I more closely examined the back of my "new" buy, and found an old paper (self-ledge) hinge underneath remnants of two more modern hinges, with the word "UNUSED" in pencil on the paper hinge! Has anyone seen this D&S 225 cancel on cover? I have a photocopy from the P&A book, it differs from Smythies (and Jarrett's) illustrations, and I would appreciate photocopies of any examples.



10. Claude Usher sent in several on piece (no C.D.S.'s) examples of this intaglio star cancel which is similar to D&S 124a. This slightly larger version was reported in Topics Dec. '52 as originating in Toronto in the 1880's. Can anyone confirm this? Claude's examples were all on 1 cent commercial or judicial rates to Barrie Ontario, one was on a printed report regarding a "Toronto Stock" of some firm incorporated in 1878.



I thank you in advance for answers to the above queries. Please do not be shy, this is your newsletter, and is only as good as you make it. The free sharing of any kind of information makes us all better off.

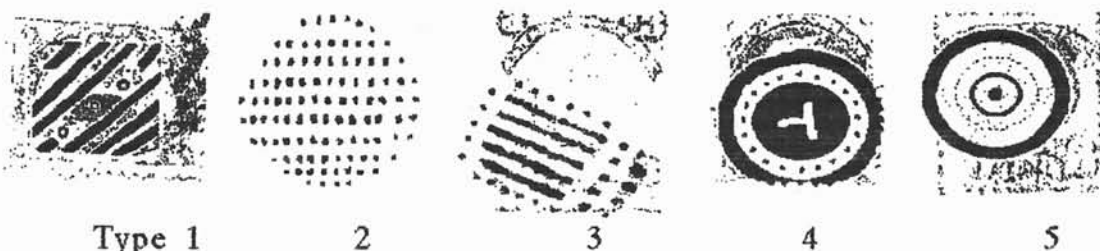
SCARIFYING CANCELS.

Scarifying cancels are at best border-line fancy cancels, although in some cases they may result in elaborate designs. To the best of my knowledge Canadian scarifying cancels have never been written up before. Perhaps this part of the newsletter should also appear in Topics?

Scarifying cancels are cancels with an attitude - namely sharp. They are designed to cut into, penetrate, or mutilate the stamp and thus prevent its reuse. Some thrifty people from the 1850's and later, were coating stamps with a thin layer of wax or shellac before use. If the stamp was only lightly cancelled or normal ink (2) was used, then the recipient would boil the stamp, the cancel would dissolve with the coating, and the stamp could be reused.

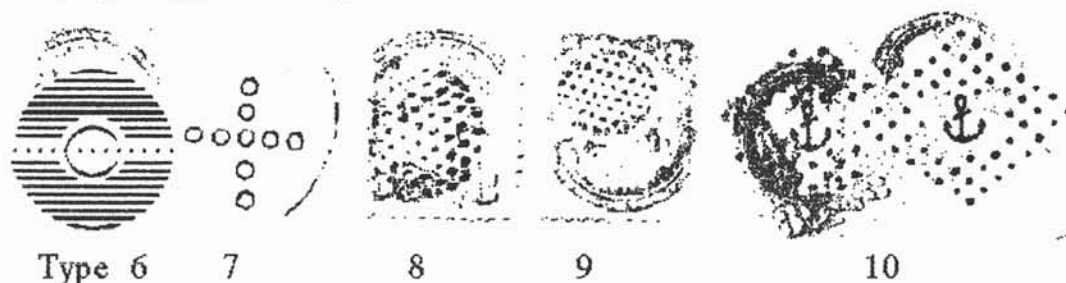
Item 1 below is an example of the early scarifying cancel used in Toronto in the 1860's. Three pins were inserted into a cork and actually stuck right through the stamp. It must have been relatively successful as several different positions of the pins are known (see Jarrett 903 y to 903 xyz). Item 2, a "cork dots" cancel was also used at this time. Similar types had rather large dots which were probably from a coarse piece of wire brush. Jarrett 1302 (Toronto), 1304 (New Brunswick), and 1305 (Toronto) are other examples. I suspect that this type did not work well as the ink did not always stick to the teeth of the brush. I have seen stamps where the "pins" went through, yet they had no ink on them.

Item 3 (Jarrett 909) was an early example of a commercially made (?) scarifying cancel, and was used in Saint John N.B. in 1869. Several United States firms were producing scarifying cancels at this time, and may have been the source. Items 4 and 5 are similar but later "patent scarifying cancels". Can any of our members confirm the use of these cancels on United States stamps?



Item 6 (Jarrett 1011) was a similar type, but was used "officially" in Ottawa (3) in 1895. It was not particularly successful, as it was abandoned after short use. I suspect that the pins were too short or wore too quickly, as I have seen many strikes which did not penetrate the stamps. Item 7 (D&S 166) may not have been intended as a scarifying cancel, however it certainly accomplished this. In one copy I have examined, one of the circles was completely punched out.

Items 8 and 9 are late use scarifying cancels. These were apparently brass hammers with raised points, they seem to have cancelled well, but not penetrated. Item 10 (D&S 299) is an example of a foreign scarifying cancel found occasionally on Canadian issues from the 1860's to '70's. It is a French Marine cancel and is also known (logically) on stamps from several other nations..



There are no doubt many other types of Canadian scarifying cancels, I would appreciate hearing details of any. Most often it appears that they did not work well, wore too fast, and/or clogged up with ink. It is also probable that when they did work well they so destroyed the stamp, that earlier generations of collectors have discarded the best examples.

FANCY CANCELS ON MAP STAMPS.

Ray Horning and Jerry Carr have been the major source of information on these. Fancy cancels were certainly not very common by 1898. Numeral cancels on the Maps are almost unknown with the exception of a four ring 45, two ring 14, 41, and 50, as well as Toronto duplex numerals such as D&S 872.



The Map stamp cancels are: D&S 65a, described by Smythies as "moss or coral", location unknown; D&S 107, a star cancel made by P&A in Ottawa, and used in several locations; D&S 176 and 177 types, crosses but in extreme worn states with one arm broken off; D&S 523, an "H" in very worn state, P.M.'s initial type for Mrs E. Hodgson of Como Quebec, 1900; D&S 556, a "K" for the town of Kentville N.S. 1899 to 1902; an unlisted "R" possibly for "Registration"; and a fancy "arrowhead" type cork.

The next page lists all reported star or cross cancels on registered stamps. The striking thing about this list is that there are very few examples, especially when one considers that several towns are listed more than once. I am not sure why this would be, there are over 180 different star or cross cancels recorded. Some of these cancels were made in bulk in Ottawa, and thus appear in several different towns. Thank you for your contributions to this list. The F1 examples below are: D&S 94x, not located, but believed used in '95; D&S 193, used in Sherrington Que. in 1881, and in several U.S.A. towns; and a lovely little crown, D&S 232, not located.

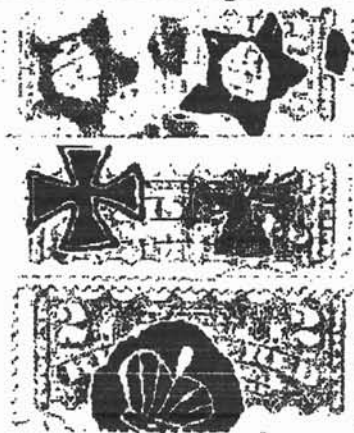
The last two pages are firstly from the 1952 material provided by Frank Waite, and give some indications of the original source of D&S illustrations. Secondly, I have also borrowed a page from another Frank, Frank Campbell. This is from a seven page mimeographed production of his from 1963, which detailed a box of 145 cancel devices given him by a stranger in 1962. I will run some more of this in the next newsletter. Finally if the cartoon below has a check mark at the end of the caption, then your dues are due. Dues are \$5.00 Convention to Convention. Thank you.

FOOTNOTES:

1. There is one further item of interest to this cover, (as well as the fancy cancel, and crown wax seal backstamp) it is registered, and is addressed to the County Treasurer. The wax seal hints that this might be official P.O. business, and may have been sent by the P.M.

2. Official P.O. cancelling inks have always contained oil to enhance the ink penetration and to foil the use of ink removal chemicals which were commonly available in the straight pen era. Linseed oil was used, however other types (fish oil?) may have been tried. The only person I know who had the opportunity to open a hundred year old container of cancel ink said that it "smelled awful".

3. The thin bars in the early (ie; Type 1) squared circle cancels may have been designed to cut into the stamps.



WHAT do you mean, "You DIDN'T MAIL IN my F.C.S.G. dues?"?!?!

D&S #	DETAIL 1	# STRIKES F1/F2	LOCATION	PROV. DATE USE NOTES
83	4 PT. STAR	F1	TORONTO	O 70-75
87	5 PT. STAR	2 F1	STELLARTON	NS 88-90
88	5 PT. STAR	2 F1	BROMPTON FALLS	Q 75
94x	5 PT. STAR	F1	UNK.	UNK. 95
98d (*)	5 PT. STAR INTAGLIO	F1	UNK.	UNK. UNK.
99	5 PT. STAR	F1	UNK.	UNK. UNK.
103	5 PT. STAR	2 F1	STELLARTON	NS 81
103	5 PT. STAR	2 F2	STELLARTON	NS 81
105	5 PT. STAR	2 F1	BROOKLYN	NS 81-94
107	5 PT. STAR	F1	BROOKLYN	NS 81-91
110	5 PT. STAR	F1	STEWART BAY	O 88
116	5 PT. STAR, SEGMENTS	F1	HAWKESVILLE	O 72-73
123a	6 PT. STAR	F1	UNK.	UNK. UNK.
139a	6 PT. STAR	F1	BASS RIVER	NB 79
144a	6 PT. STAR	F1	LENOXVILLE	Q 74-76
152	CROSS INTAGLIO	F1	ONSLOW	Q 82
159	CROSS	F1	GOULD	Q 88
171	CROSS, SEGMENTS	F1	CHARLOTTETOWN	PEI 83
189	CROSS	2 F1	HAGERSVILLE	O 80
193	CROSS, RUBBER STAMP	F1	SHERRINGTON	O '81
195	CROSS, MALTESE	F1	ST. CATHARINES	O 78
201	CROSS IN CIRCLE	F1	LOWER FORT GARY	M 78-83
202	CROSS IN CIRCLE	F2	STE. HELENE	Q 80
203	CROSS IN CIRCLE	F2	PENETANGUISHENE	O 81
209	CROSS IN CIRCLE	F2	ST. CATHARINES	O 82
213	CROSS ROADS	F2	OWEN SOUND	O 76-78
213	CROSS ROADS	F1	OWEN SOUND	O 76-78
214	CROSS ROADS	F1	OWEN SOUND	O 77-79
215	CROSS ROADS	2 F1	OWEN SOUND	O 80
216	CROSS	F1	OWEN SOUND	O 82

(*) Provisional numbers, these do not appear in D&S.

TABLE 1. STAR & CROSS CANCELS ON REGISTRATION STAMPS.



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