

BNAPS Fancy Cancel Study Group Newsletter 29

Mar. '02
Dave Lacelle

- Group News

I have two main topics for this newsletter, however I need more input from the members in order to provide variety. One member has sent in most of the "new" cancel material - thanks Brian - in this newsletter. I am sure that some of you have items you would wish more information about. Please send in material: (Dave Lacelle, Box 233, Merville B.C. V0R 2M0 or <lacelle@mars.ark.com>)

We have three new members, Dr. M. Berner, 3767 Notre Dame West, Montreal Que., H4C 1P8 (He is the gentleman studying two ring numeral dates), Mr.G. Vadeboncoeur, 22 rue du Solstice, Hull, Quebec J9A 3E2, and Mr. T. Averbeck, 3040 Vincent Ct., Edgewood KY, 41017-3240 U.S.A. Welcome aboard. I have recently adjusted the membership list to remove those who have not paid dues for the last two years. We now have 64 members, of which five are "required mailings" to BNAPS officers. I have had to drop six members for non-payment of dues, unfortunately four of these are long standing members whom have contributed to the group in the past. I shall send these people letters to determine if their collecting interests have changed. Total dues collected to convention '02 are \$261.00 Special thanks to the four of you whom have paid for future years or have donated to the study group. I would also like to advise our overseas members that I have access to a foreign currency centre, and can also accept Canadian postage for dues.

Two of you have written regarding the possible merger of our group with the Miscellaneous Cancel Study Group (which is having trouble finding an Editor), both responses were favourable. This is not a decision to be made by us alone, I shall seek some clarification from the BNAPS Officers. This would normally be raised at the Convention 'Study Group Directors Meeting', however I will probably not be able to attend the Convention this year. Does anyone wish to volunteer to hold a Study Group Meeting in my absence? I hope to have some direction from the Officers regarding the "Fancy and Miscellaneous Cancel S.G." (to give it a name) before then, and will advise in the next newsletter. Any other comments on this merger from our members?

I have some further news on the first part of the sale of my reference collection by R.M. Lee Auctions. The sale was delayed, and occurred on March first. How Mr. Lee knew that this was my birthday (!) is beyond me, but it was a nice touch. He also knew that that odd (miscellaneous cancel) "RIFF'S, Montreal" which I had never been able to figure out (I even checked old Montreal business directories) was "SHERIFF'S OFFICE".



REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Newsletter 1, "Crown Wax Seals",

Another out of period use of the type 1 seal, Lacelle 1270, (this type was issued in 1840's-1860's) has been reported. It is from Gananoque Ont., as a back stamp, on a Dec. '97 cover.

Newsletters 20, 21, "Star Card Co., and type names".

I had mentioned that the Star Card Co. provided it's salespersons (usually children) with a typeset example of their names. In at least one case the typeset name was used on a stamp, and could thus be mistaken as a cancel. I have recently purchased "Agent Sample Book No. 3", produced by 'The Champion Card Works' of Unionvale Ohio (circa 1900). I am a little off topic here, but believe the following items may be of interest to some of our members.

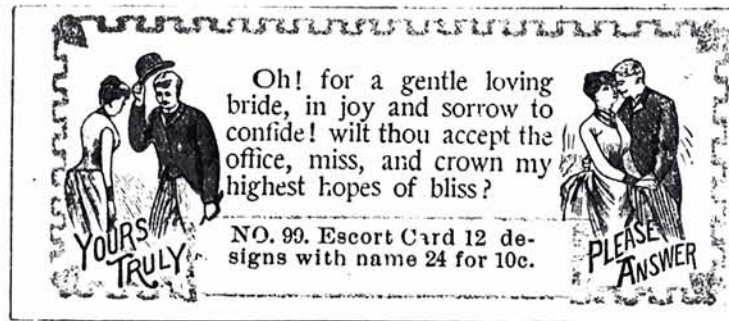


We have selected styles of type No. 68 and No. 69 for our card work the coming season. There are the finest specimens used in the trade. Order the styles you wish by the number above it.

68

69

Jennie Emerson. Emma L. Ramsy.



I note that the "Escort Card" series has 12 designs, presumably this one is number 12. If there is one past this I don't think I want to know the details.

I note also they will accept "United States or Canadian stamps in payment... but prefer the cash."

CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES

Further to my comments on late use of the two ring numerals cancels in the last newsletter, I would like to present the following cut from my letter to Mark Berner, (Note this is more of a "miscellaneous cancel" item, however I shall include it here as I am not aware of the current status of the M.C. S.G.).

"Over the years I have also noted several late use, philatelic, or fraudulent strikes of two ring numerals, presumably from the old hammers. My notes (in no particular order) state:

2R59, strikes on S.Q.'s prepared in 1980's, usually in blue, but black also noted. Heavy ink penetration at back.

2R40 reused Aug. '35 from St. Regis Que. On cover, no other indication of philatelic play.

2 R's in use after '97 are #'s 19, 30, 38, 40, 45, & 49.

2R43, extreme worn state (Windsor N. S. July 80) has been erroneously described as a fancy "clover leaf" cancel.

2R14 on map stamp Appears OK.

2R11 reported with taller "11", probably paper distortion.

2R40 report on use on cover (location not stated) in '37.

2R50 still in use in Feb. '00. Appears OK.

2R40 reused (or copy) Sept. 1975, Cornwall Ont. On cover. (!)"

Do any of you have other examples of late (or other shall we say 'unusual') use of the two ring numerals?

I have received an Email from James Caserta, he is doing some research on PEI fancy cancels. This is a very complex and confusing area of study for two main reasons. Firstly, there were many PEI "remainders" (unsold postage stamps) when PEI joined Canada. These remainders were sold to stamp dealers and unfortunately some were subsequently "cancelled" with fake or bogus PEI cancels or CDS's. (An odd situation had occurred, used examples were scarcer than the mint remainders!) Secondly, a 1960's book on PEI philately unfortunately included several Canadian cancels (which were picked up on PEI material as receipt markings) as if they were PEI fancy cancels. I have included some examples of the above items below. Any other comments would be appreciated.

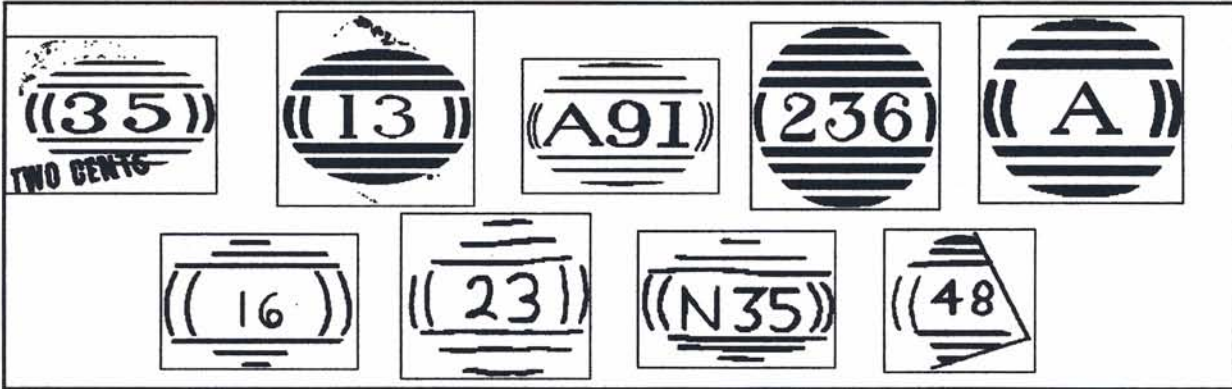


The first two items are genuine stars, fakes (at various scales) exist on remainders. The next two have been described as PEI, they really are a Halifax receipt cancel, and an Allen Line mailboat transit cancel. The next item is a fake of the preceding, noted on remainders. Next is genuine, appears as a solid triangle in late state, and probably has Masonic significance. The final item is completely bogus on remainders.

I have also been corresponding with Mr. S. Whaley who has been extensively researching the Newfoundland "235" cancel, my 175. He has recorded 50 covers and his work is so impressively detailed that I was only able to provide some minor date information from my notes. He would appreciate data on use of this cancel.



The St. John's Nfld. 235 above is a typical U.K. barred numeral cancel. They were sometimes reissued to other areas, and sometimes incorporated letters. There are some Canadian cancels which mimic this design. Some of these appear on the next page.



The first item, "35", is a British Columbia pre-confederation numeral cancel, this 35 is the most common one as it was assigned to Victoria. From 1 to 36 were issued, the location for many has never been identified. Fakes (poor) exist for number 35, the hammer for number 27 may have gone astray in the 1980's and had philatelic (or worse) use - see Topics Apr. '87, pg. 24.

The second item, "13", was used at Charlottetown PEI Oct. '67- Jy '72.,

The third item, "A91", is a Cunard Line Mailboat cancel. Cunard used A90 to A98, and the Allen Line used B17, B18 and, B27 to B31. A91 apparently "came ashore" in the 1860's, as it is known used from Halifax on domestic mail.

The fourth item "236" is strange. It is somewhat similar to the U.K. design, yet was used at what was then a small nearby town to Ottawa, New Edinburgh. Why "236" is a mystery. I have located the building I believe to have been the P.O., the street number is not 236.

The fifth item, "A", is a rather dubious cancel. It has been reported on PEI (see also preceding notes) possibly on remainders, or possibly as a foreign transit mark.

The four items at bottom are all fake cancels used on forgeries of various pre-confederation issues, or remainders. The scales are somewhat uncertain. They are by; Fournier, Unknown, Pannelli, and Spiro. These individuals used these "cancels" on various issues, including in some cases non- BNA.

Jerry Carr has sent in these two items, the first possibly a "K", and unlike any in the book. The second "trisected triangle" has been reported as having some Masonic significance.



Mr. Averbek has sent in a cover with a cancel very similar to my 1129 (illustrated), but with an outer circular ring. His is from Oshawa Ont., July '79. Some fancy cancels show an outer ring, as the cork was inserted into a metal collar on the cancelling hammer, and the collar shows with heavy, oblique, or worn strikes. In some cases the cork was (re)inserted into a bottle, if in too deep, the bottle neck shows as a wide ring. His example appears to be on top of a weak "smudge" cancel. Otherwise it looks OK and was thus possibly a receiptal cancel. (Armadae Ont.) on an otherwise poorly cancelled item.



Brian Hargreaves has been very busy, and sent in a "bunch of stuff" Thanks. (With the exception of the first, and last items, the illustrations are from my 'standard' files. There would be printing problems (contrast) otherwise.)



The first item is the first type of the "Toronto Two" cancel series, Lacelle 18 to 54. I have an example of this on top of a two ring numeral cancel - possibly one of the last uses of the two ring two cancel. After about three weeks this cancel developed two radial splits (at 35, and 270 degrees) and self destructed.

The second item is Lacelle 88, a "7" cancel. Although the cover CDS is a little strange (probably double-struck), it is from Mountain Grove Ont., Nov. '86.

Item three is Lacelle 161, noted on large Queens, however still not located. (Paris Ont. used two ring 57, so this is a possibility).

The fourth item is a double struck example of my 1254, a tree or plant. This is on cover, so it is now located. Hawksville U.C., July '70. Lovely item.

Item five is the fancy carved town name "Spence", Lacelle 795. His is on a 5 cent Large Queen, an appropriate use, the stamp used in '75 and '76, the cancel from '74 to '77.

Finally item six, certainly fits my definition of a "miscellaneous cancel". It reads "Third Del." In first line, and "Indore" on the second line. There is no such place as Indore in Canada., I suggested it might be "Ignore", but this is apparently not the case. "Retour" seems more unlikely. Is this a foreign marking, a commercial mark, or what? Come in "Indore" Are you out there somewhere? Any comment?

Bob Turkowski has sent in this example of a leaf cancel on postal stationary from Smithville C.W. Dec. '77. I have not seen the original, so I cannot be sure if the CDS, and cancel inks agree. It would be a new one for the book. Does anyone have another confirming strike?



That's it for another newsletter. Thank you for sending in material. Please keep sending, and, Good Collecting.

Dave Lacelle.

Just as I have finished this text prior to printing this page... I have received 18 photo copy pages of cancel information from Bill Clark dealing with his area of interest - Elgin County Ont. He mentions that he has had this speciality for more than 30 years. Many of our members collect specific areas (even specific towns), I have always found this to be a balanced approach to stamp collecting. One can thus collect all the different aspects of postal history in one's specific area. I will of course run some of Bill's material in the next newsletter.

D.L.