

Apr. 2009
Dave.Lacelle

- Group news

Number 50 (!), I never would have thought I would do so many newsletters! I must apologize to some of you who have recently sent in material, some will have to wait for the next newsletter as I have been extremely busy with other volunteer duties lately.

We have one new member, Mr. M. Vermeulen, Penshelling 6B8, Wenduine B - 8420 Belgium. Mr. Vermeulen has an interest in precancels, he would like to hear from any of our members with interest in this area.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Newsletter 4, 6, 16, 33, 38, & 46, the Palmer Cox "Brownie" aka "Officer Moveon" and "L 1454". Brian Hargreaves has sent in this example on a one cent S.Q. The "Brownies" were newspaper comics cartoon characters in the 1890's. Toy sets of rubber stamps were sold to children, thus the "cancel". Postal use has not been proven, a few are known on stamp, and there is one example as a backstamp on a Toronto Ont. cover, Oct. 1896.

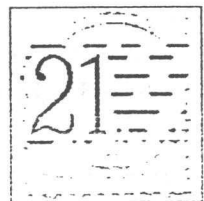
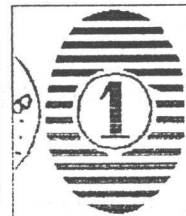
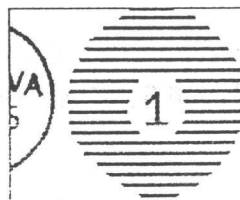


Newsletter 45, pg. 5. "House of Commons" item. Confederation (The Newsletter of the Large and Small Queens S.G.) has an example of the Ottawa Main P.O. cancel (L2) and 10 cent S.Q., both applied over the House of Commons marking on a cover to Trinidad. This confirms that the stamp was added (and cancelled) at the Ottawa Main P.O. when Government Free Franking could not apply. The House of Commons mark was thus not a cancel.

Newsletter 49, Paradise Lane NS "star". Ron Smith has sent in another example of this. The covers (a week apart) are remarkably similar. This is explained by the fact that both are to Henry Hechler, a Halifax stamp dealer in the 1890's. Hechler made quite a few philatelic items including some "cancels" and overprints - see the text for D90 in our Fancy Cancel book, and also D337, and D342. Hechler had a very elaborate penmanship, the addresses do not seem to be in his hand.

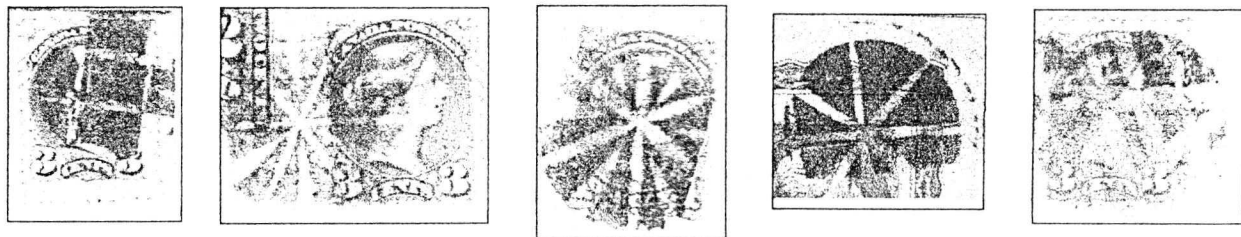
CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES

The three items at right are the only listed examples of fancy cancels used as precancels. They are, L1, from Ottawa Ont. in 1888, L5 from Saint John N.B. also in 1888, and L147, used at Montreal Que., 1880 to 1897. All of these were also used as regular cancels.

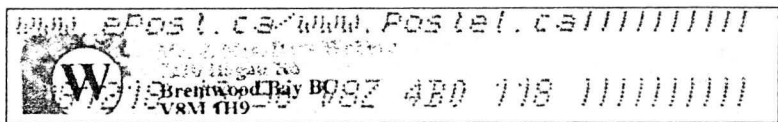
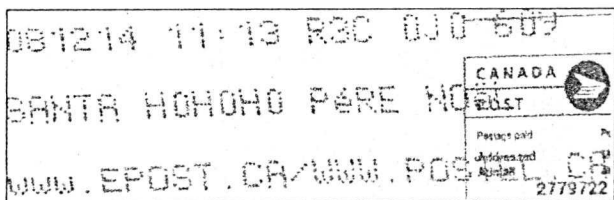


In the last newsletter I ran some items from Derek Smith's study of Saint John N.B. While I was looking through his material in chronological order, it occurred to me that there was a change in cancel "style" around the middle of 1876. I checked, and "sure enough" P.M. J. Howe retired (after a mere 39 years) June 30, 1876. His successor, J.V. Ellis was not nearly as creative. Some more of Derek's material is below. His first item, Saint John N.B., Apr. 1876 is a new listing, and is similar to L1070. His second, from Jan. 1880 is L1510 referred to in the Fancy Cancel book as "Very similar from Saint John N.B. Oct. 1879", thus a new late date. The third item appears to be the same cancel, however from Oct. 1885, according to a date on the enclosure. This is unlikely. Item four is L205, another "similar to" item, with the correct date of July 1881.

In Feb. 1880, P.M. Ellis was classified as a "removal" in the P.O. records. He was replaced with P.M. Stephen J. King - a scary name now - but the cancels became more fancy! The last item, shows how an apparent "cut down" cancel can occur when a P.M. overlaps his letters. The bottom part of the cancel has fallen on an overlapping envelope. Note, the outside metal rim of the cork holder is visible, both the cork and holder would have had to be cut, which is unlikely, and would probably destroy the holder if so. Note also, another sign of hurried work, the CDS is only 3/4 on the card. Mr. King had only been on the job for nine days.



David Dawes has sent in another odd inkjet, small case letters were used so that the accents would appear? I would like to add the item below, the inkjet did a fine job of cancelling the return address label on the left side (!), and missed the stamp on the right side.



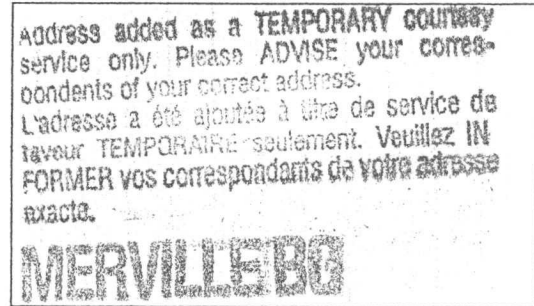
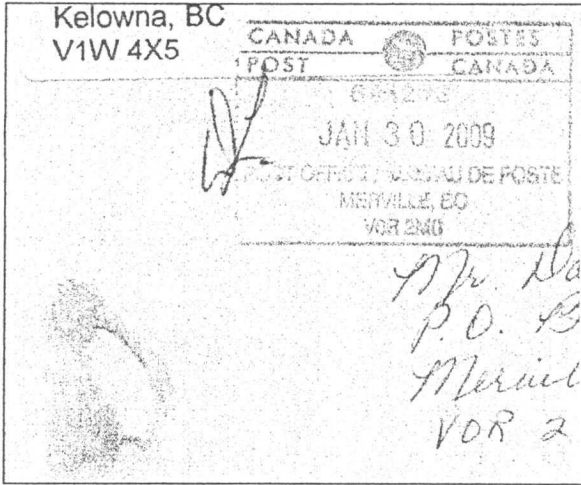
Ron Smith has sent in the "star" cancel at right, which is very similar to L1009. This is a new listing "La Presentation L.C." Jan, 1881.

I was recently in a "junque shop", and found a bunch of old lead type commercial printing blocks. They seemed fairly recent, however two of them seemed of an older style (pre 1950's at a guess), and had more use. One was this flag. I do not think it was postally used, yet it looks very familiar to me. Does anyone know what product or service this was used with? (Some food advert?)

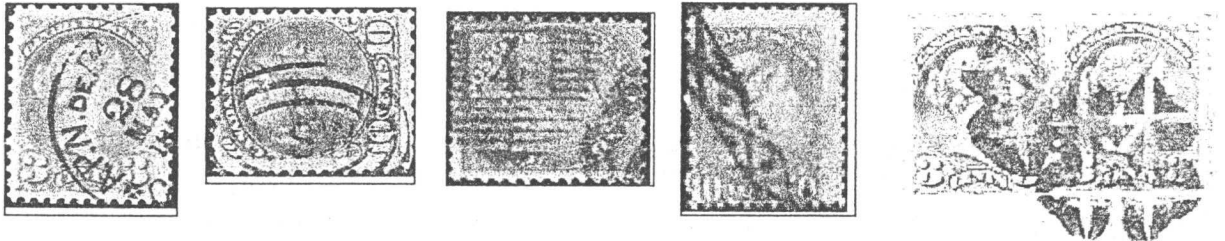


I would like to show the two items below. The first got stuck in one of the P.O.'s machines, and actually had a hole burned in it. The letter and cheque inside were also burned, with the cheque "hole" near the signature. In case there were problems with this, I asked our P.M. what the procedure were with "damaged" mail receipts. To confirm the damage she applied the rectangular Merville B.C. handstamp and initialed it. I do not know if this is the formal procedure or not.

While I was talking to her, I asked if she any "favour" handstamp, to be used when something is partly addressed, yet is delivered anyway. This resulted in the item at right, and also a strike of our Merville B.C. straight line marking.

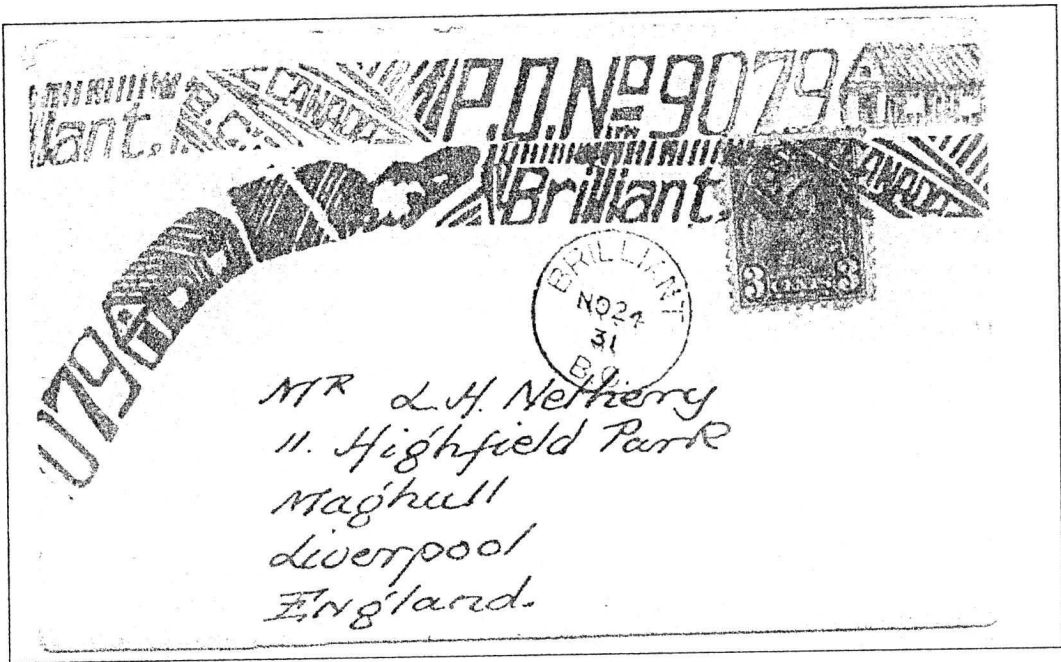


Brian Hargreaves has sent in the foreign cancels on Canada below. The first one I cannot identify, the letters appear to be ___?0*AP.N. de R___? 28 May 18???. Can anyone identify this? The second one is an NSW oval from New South Wales. His third item, a '4 in a clear box with bars' is also a puzzle to me. Anyone know? Some of the Scottish cancels are similar, however the overall Scottish cancel is rectangular, not oval as here. The last item is from Belgium.

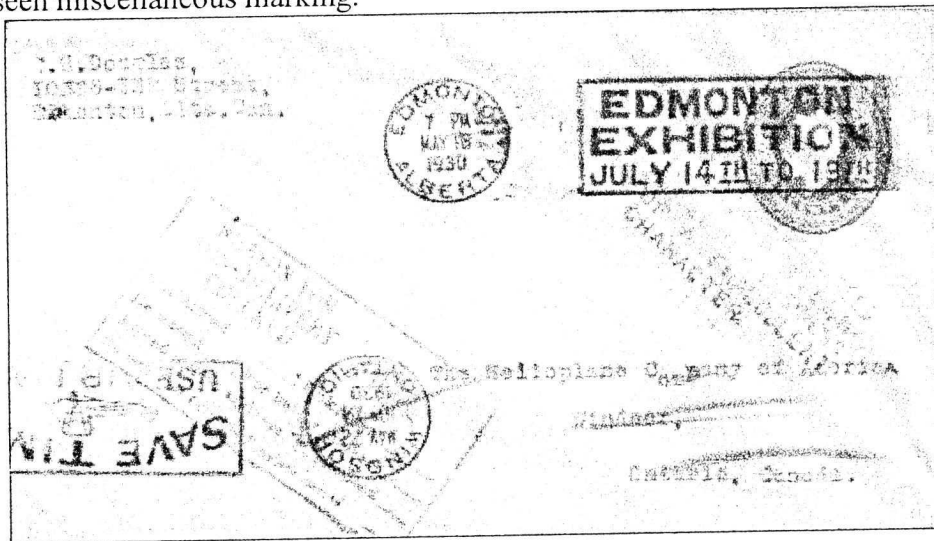


Ocean Park Stamps (Sale 12, Feb. 22) had this example at right of L1109 on cover, with a new location, Victoria B.C. Nov. 1872. This cancel was apparently produced by Pritchard & Andrews in Ottawa, and was used by at least six different P.O.'s between Aug. 1870, and Jan. 1875. Three of these P.O.'s were in B.C.

John Burnett has sent in the cover below with L310, from the Doukhobor community of Brilliant B.C. This was in use from Jan. 1929 to Jan. 1933. Most uses are philatelic. There was another similar cancel also used at Brilliant, see L311.

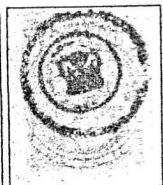
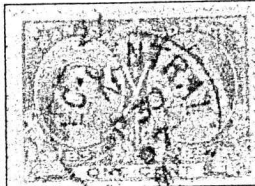


Arnie Janson has sent in the well traveled cover below. He is preparing an article on this so I shall be brief. The marking .."Fraudlent Character" (Jarrett 826) is certainly not a very commonly seen miscellaneous marking.



THE PERSON ADDRESSED IS BELIEVED TO BE ENGAGED IN A BUSINESS OF A FRAUDULENT CHARACTER.

Wally Gutzman has sent in the items below. They are; L136, a "13" railway clerk numeral attached to a CDS hammer, a similar item L687, with initials "OT" attached, and a third item I am not familiar with, a "27" attached. He has also sent this fine example of L276, a "B", and an overly elaborate fake crown. The crown and inner circle are red ink, the outer circle is black. See the text for D440 for more information on similar fakes.



+ Good collecting,
D. LaCelle