

BNAPS Fancy Cancel Study Group

Newsletter No. 8

Dave Lacelle.

Dec. ~~Nov.~~ 91.

Finally, I am able to get around to producing another newsletter. I hope that all of you have been weathering the current recession in satisfactory fashion - and making "lots" of good cancel purchases. Things have been rather hectic around Ottawa in the last few months with a series of Government strikes. The effects on me were not significant, and all seems OK now - Big Bad Government won, Big Bad Union lost.

● Group News:

We have four new members this time; Mr. B. Noble, 11 Trailsmoke Crescent, Etobicoke ON, M9C 1L9, Mr. C.A. Stillions, 5031 Eskridge Terrace NW, Washington DC, 20016- 3444, Mr. C. Usher, 29-3115 Trafalgar St., Abbotsford B.C. V2S 4N3, and Mr. R. B. Seymour, 9950 Richeon Ave, Downey CA., 90240. Welcome aboard. Oh yeah, some guy down in Toronto named Alan Steinhart also wants to join.

I presented a discussion on the fancy numeral cancels at the Vancouver convention and received many good questions and comments. There were at least 16 present (including two from the U.K.), this was more than at any other F.C.S.G. meeting. I am planing on attending the Chicago (St. Charles) Convention in '92. A tentative topic for my presentation at the meeting: "Canada's letter and initial cancels". Hope to see you there. At the current rate of production, the book will be near completion then. I am still working on the "letters and initial" cancels, and am now in the "H's". Now that winter is approaching there will not be as many excuses for me to "drop my H's", and I hope that I can accomplish some serious work.

Instead of a major cancel topic in this newsletter, I have two items I would like to present. Firstly, a mock-up of a page from the new book, and secondly a page of non-verified initial cancels. Any comments on these items will be greatly appreciated. I shall also include a small correspondence section, and would like to thank Gerry Carr, and Doug Murray, for sending along considerable detail on two topics. Thanks are also due to Frank Waite, Les Porter, Brian Noble, and Joe Smith for specific comments or information. Norm Brassler sent photocopies of all his "clippings" on Fancy Cancels. Some of these were from obscure sources back to the 1950's, and have provided me with some new insights. I hope I have not forgotten anyone, and apologize if so.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS:

●NEWSLETTER 1.

Crown Wax Seals.

1. Revision: Main River Nfld. now known as a cancel on cover Au. '01.
2. Addition (probably): a type 3 crown wax seal has been reported as a cancel on a registered cover from Saturna BC Fe '96. The cancel itself cannot be read but is probably Saturna.
3. Addition: Glenora BC Apr. '80 in violet ink on cover, but not as a cancel, type 3.

●NEWSLETTER 2.

Town names:

1. Addition: Mikado Sask., Type 1, 10mm on SC. 223.

●NEWSLETTER 4.

Toronto Two's,

1. New date, new number 36, D&S Type 17; 70-01-25.

●NEWSLETTER 6.

1. The Victoria-Esquimalt Crown, five more covers reported, four of which are from Esquimalt and are neither earlier nor later dates than those reported in the last newsletter. The Victoria example however is Oct. '91, nine years after the previous latest date. Assuming this is not a CDS error, or other error, the range of usage in Victoria is now Oct. '80 to Oct. '91.

●NEWSLETTER 7.

CDS Cork inserts

1. Additions: Alexandria Ont., and Mattawa Ont.
2. Misc. note, at least two different corks were used at Bothwell, the newest one has a "tic tac toe" game design.

CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES.

1. One of the photocopies sent by Norm Brassler had an interesting comment on the Victoria Crown (D&S 230). I quote from "Western Stamp Collector", Apr. '53; "... the 40 ray or Esquimalt crown... was in the post office until 1910, when it was picked up by a postal official from Ottawa and taken east. What happened to it after that is not known." This 1910 date does not appear to be correct, as I have recorded January and July 1911 covers, however *this was probably the ultimate fate of this hammer - to languish in Ottawa, some would say, a fate worse than death.*

2. I have recently had some correspondence with Doug Murray regarding PEI cancels, and fakes of same. Jarrett lists a "PEI" in bars cancel (Jar. 1068), I have a copy of this on a 3 cent Small Queen from about 1880. This is later than other reported dates but looks genuine. Does anyone else have any copies, and on which stamps?



3. Frank Waite has sent along the "VM" cancel illustrated here. Although I cannot find it listed anywhere, it seems vaguely familiar to me. This example is on a 3 cent Small Queen from about '94. Has anyone else seen one?



4. Brian Noble placed an inquiry in Topics about the Vernon "V", which D&S lists as an "A", D&S 359a on Plate C. I of course had already done the same. It is now changed to a "V", and all following numbers have been revised. This is a perfect example of the kind of thing I want to discover before these lists are finalized. It is also a fine example of a corollary to Murphys law ("Whatever can go wrong, will.") namely (Daves corollary?); "In any complete alphabetical listing the error will be in the 'A's'."



5. John Fretwell has mentioned that he has a special interest in fancy cancels on the Registered stamps F1 to F3. I share this interest, the F1 is large and of a nice colour to show the cancels. These registered letters often had unusual travels and thus picked up a wide variety of markings. Some of the odd markings on them may be derived from stamps used in legal or banking offices. The fact that the letter was registered and therefore important may have lead some postmasters to be especially careful and neat when they cancelled it. Finally, there was a postal rule in the United States during the 1860's (I am not sure of the exact details) that P.M.'s were to initial registered letters. Some American P.M.'s created initial cancels for this purpose. I have never run across this "initialing" requirement in Canada, however some Canadian fancies are known to be used on registered material only. D&S 711, a Toronto "T" is an example of this. Could I ask if you could please send me a list or photocopy of your fancies on F1 or F2 (F3 if you should be so lucky)?



6. Joe Smith sent in some items for me to look at, among these were examples of D&S 654, an "O" cancel. I have seen this cancel described by one dealer as the "Napanee doughnut". It must have been of very soft material as it deforms very easily in all directions. "Doughnut" is not inapt in this case. Some of these cancels with a hole in the middle (ie. D&S 824 and 827) were designed to cancel the stamp, but not Queen Vic.



7. Finally, three comments on my Masonic corks - the "proof strikes" in the last newsletter. Firstly, I have not had any reports of either genuine or fake usage of these items. Secondly, two people have stated that there would be no reason for these to be used in any non-postal way by a Masonic lodge. Thirdly, a wine making friend informs me that they are not recent as they are quite dry. This however only means that they were not cut in the last five years (or so), they could be 96 or 6 years old.

NON-VERIFIED INITIAL CANCELS

The following page of initial cancels have all been reported in D&S. I have never seen any of them, and thus cannot verify any information in D&S, Jarrett, Boggs, etc. If anyone has any examples of these cancels, please send me a photocopy.

SAMPLE PAGE FROM THE NEW BOOK.

The next pages are samples from the new book. There will of course be a text portion describing the "history" of fancy cancels, major types etc. These illustrations, and their descriptions as presented on the sample pages are the "meat" of the book. The "deletions and miscellaneous" text will be placed at the back of the book, while the 1/2 scale illustrations will be on the appropriate page of illustrations. (I had originally tried to put this text on the same page, however the result was very cluttered.) A listing in this "deletions and miscellaneous" section is not necessarily the "kiss of death" for any particular cancel. For example, D31 is listed as it may be considered a "6" or a "9", D34 to show the modification of the hammer. I also intend to have several appendices listing such items as "British Numerals on BNA", and "straight line town name cancels" etc.

Text from "DELETIONS & MISCELLANEOUS" See following pages.

D28 Jarrett 937, a fake Nova Scotia "Baddeck provisional", probably by H. Hechler (see Argenti pg. 77). The "5" is an addition to a Nova Scotia hollow grid cancel. See also "Rate Marks", page .

D29 D&S 54a (plate A), spurious, a blurred bullseye cancel, not a "5".

D30 Jarrett 161, reported by in "Maple Leaves" Oct. '53, pg. 14 as; "...rarely seen", Aug. '61, pg. 234; "...never seen...", same comment in "BNA Topics" Dec. '61, pg. 308. Consider bogus or non-existent.

D31 Listed as a "9", see number 116, rather than as a "6".

D32 Spurious, this is a double strike of a small grid cancel with a nail head appearing in the middle. I have seen it listed in auction catalogues as a 6, 8, 9, or O. Jarrett 911.

D33 A fake cancel (by Fournier) used on Nova Scotia forgeries.

D34 The two ring six has a hole at the bottom to differentiate it from the nine. Compare # 95.

D35 Reported on Prince Edward Island Sc. 7, by Tomlinson in 1949. Apparently has never been seen since.

D36 A fake New Brunswick grid "8" (by Panelli) found on various Pre-confederation maritime fakes. Note the extra bar after the "8". Ref.; "BNA Topics" May '72, pg. 116, and, Mitchell Pg. 20.

D37 A fake cancel (by Spiro) on Pre-confederation maritime fakes. Ref.: "BNA Topics" Oct. '72, pg. 227.

D38 Listed by Jarrett (# 146), however copy in Jarrett sale was a heavy smeared strike of #92.

D39 D&S 7, a worn state of # 89. Was possibly cut up later to become # 92.

D40 D&S 11, a blurred strike of a "Kingston Nine" cancel, see #104

D41 D&S 12, dubious item, reported strike appeared to be a blurred strike of # 92.

NON-VERIFIED LETTER CANCELS. (D&S #'s)



358a



364



364a



373



366



383



394



416a



435a



446a



442



444



437a



453



459



456



460a



457a



458a



466b



480



482



495b



497a

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THE ITEMS ABOVE ?

CHAPTER 1, NUMERAL CANCELS.



72



73



74



75



76



77



78



79



80



81



82



83



84



85



86



87



88



89



90



91



92



93



94

Deletions and miscellaneous. (1/2 scale)



D28 D29 D30 D31 D32 D33 D34 D35 D36 D37 D38 D39 D40 D41

CHAPTER 1, THE NUMERAL CANCELS.

D&S # Post Office Dates used Notes

THE PEMBROKE FOUR SERIES (#'S 72 to 77.)

72	49	Pembroke O.	? 89-FE 90	See page .
73	98	Pembroke O.	FE 91-JU 91	Jarrett 188, Jarrett says 1880.
74	--	Pembroke O.	OC 91-DE 92	May have been cleaned or recut.
75	50	Pembroke O.	AP 92-OC 93	
76	--	Pembroke O.	? 93	Unconfirmed late state of type 69.
77	--	? Pembroke O.	?	Unconfirmed as Pembroke, however found on S.O.'s of mid 90's, and similar in design to the others.
78	1	Hamilton O.	MR 70-ND 75	Duplex, Lee # DUN 16, and DUN 17. Two varieties, "fat 5, 'CW' in dater" (illustrated) up to Feb. 73, then, "thin 5, 'ONT' in dater." Apparently made from an old Berri duplex (see Canadian Philatelist Apr. 67, pg. 49.) . The killer has been reported used as an early precancel, see "BNA Topics" Dec. 59, pg. 314. Jarrett 162.
79	2	Hamilton O.	ND 75-MY 77	Duplex, Lee # DUN 18, cut version of # 78. Jarrett 163.
80	54	?	?	On S.O.'s, from '90 to '95.
81	3	London O.	AP 70-DE 74	Duplex, Lee # DON 903. The killer has been reported used as an early precancel, see "BNA Topics" Dec. 59, pg. 314. Green ink used in Dec. '74 (latest date). Jarrett 160.
82	36	St. John NB	JY 74- ? 76	D&S and Jarrett state use in 1881, Jarrett also in 1860, I have not been able to confirm these dates. Jarrett 173.
83	51	?	?	Part Nova Scotia (NS) cancel. On S.O.'s, about '72 to '75.
84	--	Mountain Grove O.	ND 86	New listing.
85	102	Simcoe O.	MY 92	This cork disintegrated rapidly, it has also been listed as a "3" (D&S 101, Jarrett 174, see also D24). One central bar breaks off in the late state, it has been reported with six, or ten bars, which are probably poor strikes.
86	--	Quebec & Campbellton Express	AP 94-MR 96	A R.P.O. "duplex" (Shaw Q-195D), clerk's number was soldered onto a regular hammer. Smythies ("Canadian Duplex") states use to 1898, I am unable to confirm this.
87	--	Quebec & Campbellton Express	FE 96	As above, not listed in Shaw. See also #'s 132, 139, and 140, 386, and .
88	--	Quebec & Campbellton Express	?	As above, Shaw Q-195, Jarrett 1659.

THE OTTAWA EIGHT SERIES (#'S 89 to 94.)

89	6	Ottawa O.	FE 70-MY 70	Also listed as D&S 7. Early strikes show thin file or saw teeth lines at a 45 degree angle. Jarrett 144 and 145.
90	9	" "	MR 70-MR 70	Note "crown" design at top.
91	10	" "	? 70-FE 71	Note "VR" (Victoria Regina) at bottom. Usage in 1871 may be extreme late state, or a revival. "VR" breaks off in late state.

The following three "8's" have not been confirmed on dated covers as "Ottawa Eights", however their usage on appropriate stamps, and similarity of design to the confirmed types has led me to list them here.

92	8	Ottawa O. ?	?	Probably a recut variety of type 89.
93	5	" " ?	?	
94	4	" " ?	?	

Finally three interesting little items: The wood carving advertisement is from "The Canada Directory, 1858". The "fancy bug" cancel is a fake with a story. this was produced by some BNAPSER's at the Atlantic City Convention in 1963 (?), and was presented to Doc Day (of Day and Smythies fame) as "The newest finding." I do not know Doc Day's reaction to this joke, however he put it in his collection with the note: "Alas... too good to be true" He later took a gentle ribbing in Topics when this item was referred to as "The Atlantic City Bedbug." This "cancel" sold in one of the Cohen sales, and I do not know who owns it now. Finally, if the little cartoon of "Hobbes" in the lower right corner of the page has a tick mark in the "Flying Saucer", then you owe \$5.00 dues for the year from Convention '91 to Convention '92. I wish you all a good and happy winter. Thank you Joanne for your help with these.

J. H. WALKER,
Wood Engraver and Designer,

OVER
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