

THE FLAG POLE



The Newsletter of the BNAPS Flag Cancel Study Group

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As I write this, BNAPS '94 in Burlington Vt. is only 4 weeks away. You may not receive this newsletter until the meeting. Our Flag Study Group meeting will commence at 1 PM on the Saturday Oct. 1st, and our guest speaker hopefully is Larry Paige, whom I hope will show some of his wonderful flag collection.

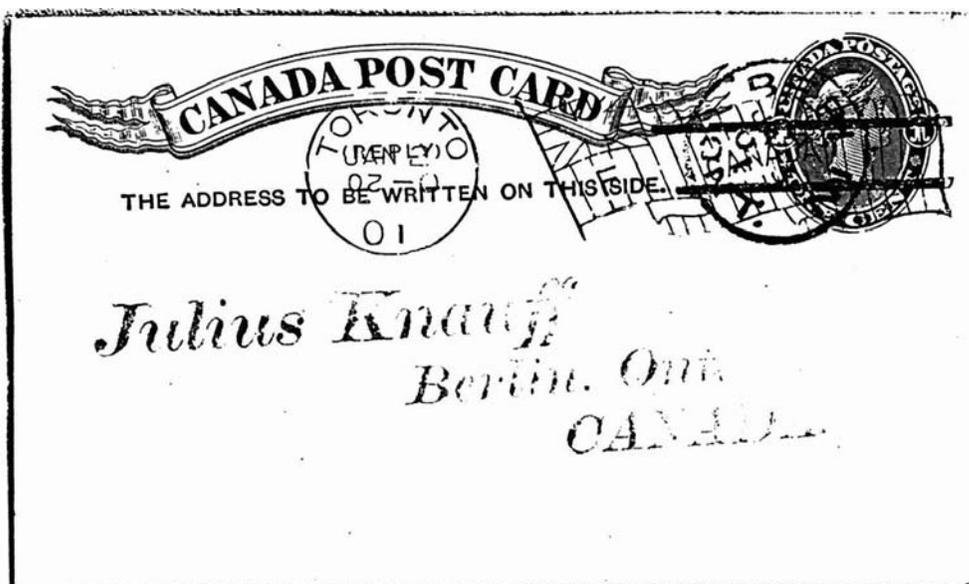
Dues are due, \$ 5.00 Can. or U.S. depending where you live and can be paid at our meeting.

Don't forget to bring all your flag trading material, Bob and myself both have quite a few covers and cards available for an equal trade.

EDITOR'S REMARKS

This issue marks the completion of two years as your editor I wish to than all those who have sent articles in for publication. It is getting more difficult to fill the pages so if you have anything that will contribute to the newsletter please send it.

A simple question such as Jeff's on a dater hub can open up a whole new area for study and David's request for reports on the more difficult flags will be followed up with results in a later issue.



Jeff Switt sends along a card with a question regarding Toronto Dater Hubs used with Type 8 flags early in 1901.

The Dater is noteworthy for the inverted time-mark but Jeff also asks why is the '1' of 01 was it a provisional use since the '1' appears quite short. In order to better identify the Dater note the break with tail at 9 O'clock. The short '1' was still in use with 8-22 until February 1.

Looking further I find this short '1' with 8-20 die D in March and April followed by use with 12-1 on May 15. Next use we find is with 11-2 (die C) May 29 to June 5 but by July 27 the dater on 11-2 has been changed. All my impressions are not very clear but it is possible that this dater hub is also used with other dies.

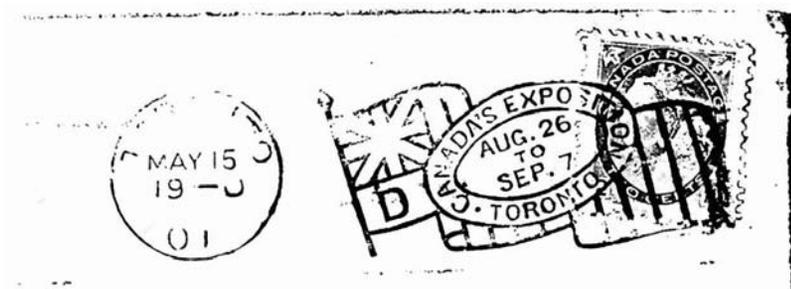
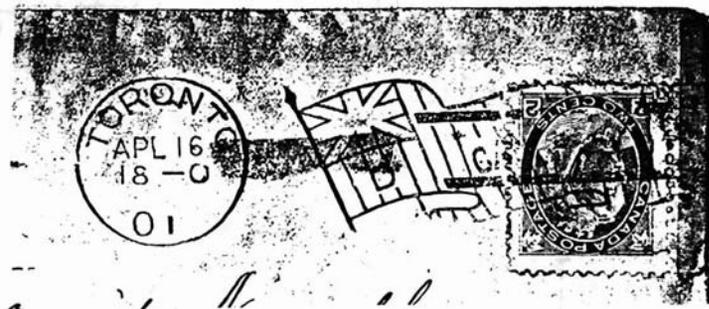
SHORT '1' DATER HUB USE

Jan 2 - Feb 1	with 8-22 die F
Mar 23 - Apr 16	with 8-20 die D (March impression poor, April clear)
May 3	with 10-1 die A (Lingard exhibit)
May 15	with 12-1 die D
May 29 - Jun 5	with 11-2 die C

There also could be other short '1' Dater hubs without with the 9 O'clock break with tail. Some impressions in the editor's collection are not clear enough to confirm the dater hub is if fact the same.

This is a period where more research could produce a multitude of new die/dater hub varieties. Look into your collection for this one dater hub and send in your reports.

SHORT '1' DATER HUB



DIE 'D'



DIE 'C'

HOW FAR HAVE WE COME

FLAGS



619
Toronto. Postal Stations A, B, C, D, E, F



620



621



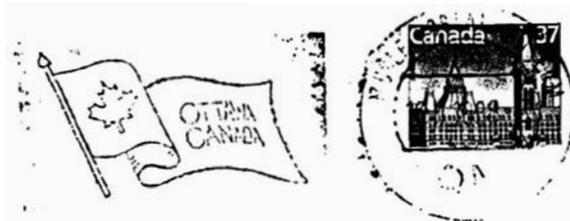
622
a. V.R. in block letters, no dates at either end, Canada omitted



624

Special cancellations for Jubilee Issue, applied in Ottawa and Montreal with electric cancelling machine, the first introduced, June, 1897.

Since we are in the process of reviewing Flags with the intent of publishing the updated handbook, reproduced here is the Flag Section from Fred Jarret B. N. A. Book Published in 1926. Flags had been around for 30 years by then and he numbered Flags among other Cancellations.



By Comparison we illustrate the Latest Flag Cancellation reported From the Postal Museum's Klusendorf Machine, the LKD 123-3 Feb 16, 1988.

Will there be a 1996 FLAG?

THE FUTURE

I have a blank page in front of me and will fill it with rambling.

The Flagpole has been published on a regular basis since the Flag Cancellation Study Group was revived in 1988. Since then we have reviewed the complete spectrum of Flags from 1896 to 1988.

I hope to be able to continue to put out 8 pages a quarter until 1996. I have a few pages of Classic material that can be put into the Flag Pole but between now and CAPEX '96 (WILL THERE BE A 1996 FLAG) there are 7 issues or 56 pages to fill. HELP!

After 1996 what happens to the Flag Group?

Is there enough new Flag material coming along to sustain the group?

Should there be a winding down of the Group?

Should we begin to republish the whole spectrum of flag data with whatever updates have appeared since last publication?

Should we cut back on the newsletter to once a year?

Should we incorporate more machine cancellation news? David Session's survey includes early machines? Does anyone want more information on the machines that followed the Bickerdikes? The Internationals, Columbia, Universals, Perfects, Revised Pitney-Bowes Universals, IPS, Klusendorfs, Toshiba or even today's Spray-ons? (Let me know the ones I missed)

Should we list the near flags? Banners for the CNE, Western Fair; designs incorporating flags 1943 Victoria or ??; the first day cancellations with flag motifs; hand cancellations?

Should we review the History of Flag Cancellation Collectors Pike (Doug told his story), Jarret (I put my earliest notes by him in this issue), Holmes, McCready, Richardson, Peters, Langford, Sessions, Paige, Newman, Heasman, ??.

Should a merger with the Slogan Group be considered?

Should we publish pages from members collections?

Should we try more trading pages? Two attempts have produced little response.

I know we all like Flags better than other slogans or machines but new data in this field is rare since Flags are a mature area of specialisation.

There will of course be a flurry of new Flag collectors following the publication of the new handbook and some new data will be forthcoming but will it be enough to sustain the Flag Pole.

For our overseas Members David Sessions will be presenting "Classic Flags and other Machine Cancel (1896-1902)" to the Royal Philatelic Society in London this December. This will add to the prestige of Canadian Flag Collecting and expose our specialty to International Philately.

What will happen at CAPEX '96 can we look forward to Flags like we saw at CAPEX '87 when we saw exhibits from Paige, Sessions and Heasman? Can we dare imagine an International Gold?

EARLY SURVEY

David Sessions is trying to establish the true rarity of some of the Good Flags and request you find time to fill out the survey sheet which constitutes the final two pages of this issue. Photocopy the sheet if you wish but please try and get an answer off to David so he will have data available for his presentation to the ROYAL in December. Even reports from study group members who have only one or two of the cancellations are of interest.

SO JUST HOW MANY ARE THERE?

You have one of the scarce flags and you'd just love to know how many more there are about - wouldn't you?

Well, here's your chance to find out; only with your help will it be possible.

It would be of great mutual benefit if we could arrive at a reasonably accurate estimate of the number of examples known of each of the scarcer flag and other machine cancels of the classic period. This can only be achieved if members of the study group will co-operate in completing the questionnaire included with this issue of 'Flagpole'. Replies will be treated in confidence and only the numbers of each item will be published.

As material passes from hand to hand, it will help to avoid duplication in any subsequent reporting if covers and pieces included in the return can be identified. To this end the addressee is included in the questionnaire; the name of any advertiser on the cover would also help. This will not help to identify pieces, normally; all one can ask here is for a note of the stamp cancelled by the postal marking in question.

I have photostat records of a number of the scarcer items, some of which may have passed out of the circle of study group members. These can be added to the returns, but only if duplication can be satisfactorily eliminated, here again, identification is necessary.

The data requested has been reduced to the minimum felt necessary to obtain accurate results. Where there is insufficient space to accommodate your holdings, please use a separate sheet of paper for the additional items. The group has, over the years, relied on a few members to contribute to 'Flagpole' for the general benefit of all; now is your chance to contribute to the work of the group.

Please complete the form and return it as soon as possible but, in any event, before, to:
David Sessions, FRPSL, FCPS, 99 Offington Ave., Worthing, W. Sussex, England, BN14 9PR.

