

Confederation

The Newsletter of the Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 19

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Bob Cumming Corrects and Clarifies

I received the issue of *Confederation* last night, and enjoyed reading it. I think though I should comment on three points:

1. The date in paragraph 6 of my article should be 1895, not 1893.

2. The enabling legislation for using postage stamps for registration did occur before the 8c was commissioned. I found the information about it in the archives, but can't find a reference to it in my notes.

The information was not important to my study, but I remember it particularly because it was a relatively long time before the 8c was issued, like 1890. You may be looking at a copy of postal regulations that repeat earlier regulations.

3. Ron Ribler's column sent me to my small store of 8c perfins. I have three ICR and seven WJG. I have not seen or heard of any other types. Of the ICR's, two are straight and one is reversed. Of the WJG's, I have a pair with one vertical from the right and one inverted reverse. With the others, I have two that are reversed, one straight, and one invert reversed. The last is vertical from the left. All of the WJG were cancelled with parcel post hammers.

Bob Cumming

Let's Go to Ottawa

Ron Ribler

Getting ready for the BNAPEX meeting in Ottawa? I have been preparing for a long time and we are looking forward to a good turnout and a fine meeting of our Study Group. Lots of dealers and lots of members will be there.

We will have a Study Group session where members will make presentations and get to know one another. If anyone wants to take 5 or 10 minutes to present an aspect of Large Queen/Small Queen collecting, please let me know as soon as possible so we can arrange our schedule. John Burnett and Richard Morris will each make presentations and then the meeting will be opened for questions and discussion.

We will close with a trading session, so bring along your surplus Large and Small Queens. We have an hour and a half scheduled for the meeting and, if things go as usual, we will be talking Queens on into the night, so come prepared either to participate or simply to enjoy.

Personally, I am looking forward to meeting many of you whom I know only by name or reputation. If some of you who will not be able to make the meeting have material you would like

to trade, sell or whatever, if you will send me descriptions and wants, I will be happy to play intermediary. If you are an e-mail user, that will facilitate communications both ways. I hope to see you in Ottawa.

Roy and I are gratified to see the Study Group membership growing steadily and we hope more BNAPSers will find it a good place to be. As more of you contribute substantive articles and share experiences with the topic, interest will also expand. Keep your articles and letters coming so we can all share in the new discoveries and insights of the group members.

Some of the most useful and interesting inputs are the questions raised by members. By asking and answering questions, we share our knowledge and expand the knowledge base of the hobby. Don't be bashful. Write articles and send in questions. I am sure everyone has at least one question they have been unable to answer themselves. Maybe we, as a group, can help. Let's get some dialogues going. It is still fascinating to me that, after all this time, we are still discovering hitherto unknown aspects of our subject.

Letters

Thanks for an interesting newsletter. Reading about the 1/2-cent issue of the Small Queens got me wondering what the largest franking of these might be on cover.

In my collection I have various blocks, pairs, and singles making up the overseas rate of 10 cents on the front of a cover to Yokohama, Japan, on April 8, 1894 (Toronto). I also have an irregular block of 28, showing a portion of the imprint on the left hand selvedge and the gutter selvedge on the right, on the back of a cover with an October 26, 1895 St. John and Amherst (?) M.C. cancel.

I have a block of 30 on a large legal sized envelope to London, England, from Toronto, dated June 10, 1895. The cover also sports one each of the 2-cents, 8-cents, and 10-cents Small Queens. The right hand gutter selvedge is intact on the block.

I am also interested in the 8-cents article as I've been attempting to put together some used blocks of this issue.

J.A. (Jack) Forbes, Jr.

With reference to, "The Eight Cent(s) Small Queen", by R. W. Cumming in Number 18 he states, "The plates of the 8c small Queen ... are the only ones made from 1857 to the present without at least an inscription of the maker's name".

This is not true. The 1859 issue plates were printed from June 1859 until late 1864 without IMPRINT. The IMPRINT was added to all except the 17c plate in late 1864. The 17c plate never had an IMPRINT throughout its nine year life. See Whitworth page 4.

*Richard Thompson;
rthomps@silk.net*

The statement was made that the reduction of printing costs in a period of economic recession was the motivation behind the switch from Large Queen format to Small Queen.

Some years back I was told that the result of the confederation was a marked increase in economic activity in Canada, thus requiring printing of more stamps than BABNCo could handle with the press available and the 100-subject format of the Large Queens. The press however could handle a 200-subject format of a smaller size, namely the size already used for the half-cent Large.

Both stories can't be true. What other ideas can readers come up with?

Jack Gordon

Editor's Column

Roy Sass

This is a short newsletter, for which I apologize.

There was a death in my family that pretty well knocked me for a loop. I have been unable to pay much attention to hobbies or newsletters.

I wanted to get this newsletter into the mail prior to the Ottawa BNAPS convention, especially since Ron Ribler needs to hear from those of you who wish to speak at the LQ-SQ meeting. At this late date, give Ron a call at (954)760-7795, or send a fax to (954)760-7794 or send an e-mail to laudron@yahoo.com

I did receive numerous letters and comments on Bob Cumming's article on the 8-cent Small Queen. These, along with the next installment of Bob's article, will be in the next newsletter.

These letters and comments are the way we will increase our knowledge in this topic and contribute to the knowledge available to all Canadian stamp collectors. Was it Perry Como or Dean Martin who said "Keep those cards and letters coming?"