

BNAPS Fancy Cancel Study Group Newsletter No. 14.

Dec. 94.

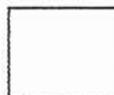
Dave Lacelle.

●Group News

It is time again for my "get it done before the end of the year" newsletter. I shall again show some of the photocopies of fancy cancels sent in by our members, and also present (and ask for) some information on the fancy leaf cancels. There were about eight members show up for the study group meeting at the Burlington Vermont convention. I gave a general presentation on fancy cancels, and there did not seem to be any complaints or problems within the study group. I will probably not be able to attend the next convention, which will be in Edmonton. Anybody wish to volunteer to hold a study group meeting?

We have five new members: Mr. H.L. McNaught 57 Goodview Road, Willowdale ON, M2J 2K7; Mr. B.R. Wilson, 460 Woodminster Drive, Moraga, CA, 94556, U.S.A.; Mr. B.A. Hargreaves, 87 Forthington Road, London, N 6 4 TH, U.K.; Dr. M. Russell, 15 Rowlands Hill, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 2QQ, U.K.; and, Mr. J.D. Blacklaws, R.R. #2, Loretto ON, L0G 1L0. Another long lost member, Mr. D.A. Fraser has returned to the group. Welcome aboard to the above. Membership is now about 75.

One final item, if the box at the end of this sentence has a red "Y" in it, then your dues are due. I shall have to ask for an increase in dues to \$7.00 per year from convention to convention. The old rate of \$5.00 was just enough to produce two newsletters a year without going into the red. (Most other study groups are \$10.00).



The following members have sent in information and/or photocopies of fancy cancel items. These people are to be applauded, much of my new information arrives this way, and the production of the newsletter is made much easier. **THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER**, please participate (*Hint*). Thanks to: Alan Steinhart, Hugh Rathbun, Frank Waite, Peter Geoffroy, Gus Quattrocchi, Norm Brassler, and John Hannah. (Once again, I have a late arrival of some material. Al Duguid has sent in over 100 pages of cancel photocopies. It will take me some time to "digest" this, however I shall present two items which he has specifically questioned in this newsletter.)

Some of you may wonder how much reference material I have obtained from various sources in the last 15 years. The spreadsheet lists 7300 single line cancel items, my photocopy books are now over 1200 pages - almost all of cancel collections. There are in addition thousands of pages from publications. So, if anyone has any questions, there is a wealth of material available.

I recently had to send some data from work to a researcher in Health Canada, Cancer Division for an epidemiological study they are doing on water supplies. I am glad that I double checked the address, I had him down as the head of the "Cancel Division". Oops.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

NEWSLETTER 2

Crown Wax Seals; New Listing; Falmouth Station N.S., Sept., '07, Type 4, As a free strike.

New Listing; Hortonville N.S., on 1 cent Edward P.C. (No CDS), Type 4. As a free Strike.

NEWSLETTER 3

Crown Cancels; D&S 228a (Plate A) is now confirmed on cover as Streetsville Ont. Nov. '61.

NEWSLETTER 7

Masonic Cancels; Page 4, the last item is now confirmed genuine - from Embro Ont., Feb. '81.

Page 5, I have now seen a strike of Masonic cancel number 20, it is from Blyth Ont., Oct. '81.

NEWSLETTER 13

Correspondence and Queries section. Another example of the Windsor N.S. "Cloverleaf" (probably a worn two ring 43) cancel has been noted. This one is dated Aug. '83, three full years after the other one. This long period of use suggests that it was a metal device, probably the 13 year old two ring hammer.

CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES

Hugh Rathbun sent in over 35 pages of cancel illustrations. There were five new (late or early) dates of use for known fancy cancels in this material. (This is another reason why I ask for photocopies [despite the 1200 pages of photocopies mentioned on page 1], If the range of dates of use of any specific fancy cancel are known, it will be harder for forgers of the future to find the correct "shades" of

stamps. Fake "out of period" covers will also be evident, and in some cases "old" forgeries on the wrong stamps will be revealed.) Item one



from Hughs' material is presented as an unusual cancel - could it possibly be from something like a leather workers die tool? Any ideas? The location of use is Brookfield N.S. Nov. '97. Item two is a lovely late use fancy cross from Joggin Mines (sic) N.S. Apr. '98. This is a new late date for this cancel. Item three is a new Yarmouth N.S. "Y" used in Mar. '90. This is the fourth different Yarmouth "Y" known.

Peter Geoffroy sent in some oddities. The first item is probably part of a "3", or "5", pence marking from the 1850's. Peter has also sent along a copy of Hugh's first item above. Item two is a leaf cancel which I have seen several times. It is not listed in D&S nor in Jarrett, and is known on poorly cancelled stamps. Both these are bad signs, however the inks and range of use appear OK. This cancel is illustrated on the front page of "Postal Markings" Oct. 1934, so if it is a fake, it is an early one. Peter (and I) would also like any information on a small (5mm) roller flag cancel (it will not illustrate well) used on King George V revenues. Do any of you dabble in revenues?



Frank Waite has sent in the two items at the side. The first I suspect is a previously unrecorded Masonic "Keystone" cancel (See D&S 253). The second is an interesting but obscure design. Anyone have any idea what this might be?



Gus Quattrocchi has sent along some photocopies including a new late "date" for D&S 197, Huntsville, Ont., Apr. '80.

Norm Brassler has sent along several pages of leaf cancels - most on cover. The first item is a beautiful strike of D&S 29 from Otterville Ont., Apr. '80. The second item (D&S 12) is one which I have some reservations about. Can anyone provide me any further details on this cancel, specifically area of use, and the printing (shade and/or position dot) of the stamp. This cover is from A(llans C)orners, or A(botts C)orners Quebec in Dec. '78. The printing, usage, rate, tying, and ink all seem a little strange on this cover.



John Hannah sent in several pages of miscellaneous cancels, three of which are presented below. I have seen this strange little plaid design



before, but did not know where it was used. It is from St. Catharines Ont., Dec. '81. (The illustration is from another strike, John's is hard to see as it is on a dark stamp.) John also sent in two excellent strikes of this late use "A" cancel, D&S 392. These are better than the examples I used for the book illustration so I shall re-do. Finally, I include John's last item as it is a previously unrecorded B.C. fancy - from New Westminster B.C., July '77.

Al. Duguid would like any information on the two items presented here. The first one is probably a primitive numeral "1". I have not seen it before. (Possibly foreign?) The second item is more abstract, I have seen it before, although the location and date of use (90's?) are unknown.



LEAF CANCELS

I have now started work on the "leaf" cancels portion for the new book. As mentioned in the last newsletter, photocopies of any "leaf" covers would be appreciated.

The maple leaf has long been associated as a symbol of Canada. Do any of our members know of any pre- 1900 patriotic references to the maple leaf? D&S lists about 100 leaves, (including a few flowers and other flora), however there is a great deal of redundancy in this listing. The problem with this group of cancels is not fakery (although some do exist), it is multiple listings. These occurred by two different methods. Firstly, in the 1950's and '60's when the original fancy cancel study group prepared their illustrations many items were sent in as handmade tracings, These tracings varied depending upon the eyesight of the tracer, the completeness (or heaviness) of the strike, wear and tear of the cancel itself, and many other factors. Many of the leaf cancels are quite delicate, intricate, and visually impressive. They were thus likely to be traced, and sent in from several different collectors. Several of the D&S leaf cancels have been listed half a dozen times as a result. A second reason for multiple listings is that one or two leaf cancels appear to have been used as transit, or receival cancels. As such they will have different originating post office, cancels, and may be attributed to these different post offices.

As with the previous groups of cancels I would like to ask for any information on the seven D&S items below. I have never seen most of these (exception, number 37, a possible fake example), and would appreciate receiving any information on them.



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I shall close this newsletter on a philosophical note. I have come to the conclusion that I collect and study fancy cancels as a form of controlled retreat into mindless minutiae. My life is busy enough, and complicated enough that there is no desire to enter into competition or conflict within my hobby. There has been no particular issue that has lead to my making the previous statement, however I wish to remind our members to "lighten up" a tiny bit. This is a hobby, something we supposedly do to relax.

So, I shall close. May I wish the best of the New Year to all of you,
and, Good collecting,

Dave Lacelle.



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Illustrations from the original F.C.S.G. (1952) From Frank Waite.