

BNAPS Fancy Cancel Newsletter 16.

Apr. '96

Dave Lacelle.

Finally signs of spring - this seems to have been a very long winter. Hopefully I will not have the logistical and software problems I had with the last newsletter. Work continues on the book. I have a few more cancels to complete in the "flora" section, then shall move on to what many will regard as "true" fancy cancels; bogey heads, Masonics etc. These latter groups will be fairly easy as many of the illustrations are already prepared, and have appeared in earlier newsletters. I must point out that in order to save time and work with these newsletters, I sometimes use a cancel illustration which I borrow from the ones already prepared for the book. Thus, when one of you has sent in an item, the accompanying illustration may not be identical to your item. This was done in this newsletter for D&S 85, 424, 474, 478, 484, 562a, 583, 620, and 675.

● Group News:

Many of you have sent in material for the newsletter. My main topic this time is from a question raised by one of our new members, Sue Sheffield: "Why would the same cancel appear to have been used in several different P.O.'s?" Otherwise, this will be another "bits and pieces" production. Thanks to the following for sending in material for this newsletter; John Hannah, Robert Anderson, Joe Smith, Alan Steinhart, Brian Hargreaves, Wally Gutzman, Jerry Carr, John Hillson, Frank Waite, and Doug Murray. Hope I didn't miss anyone and apologize that time restrictions limit my personal correspondence. Hopefully this collective thank you will do.

I did not send out any dues notice for last year as I produced only one newsletter. I wish to thank those of you who sent in dues, total collected for year to '96 Convention was \$109. In the interest of fairness to both me and the members, I have included a dues notice (\$7.00) to the 16 members who have not paid for the past two years. It has been my practice in the past to cut off members whom have not paid for more than two years. Back dues are forgiven, my book-keeping is poor, I apologize to anyone who has paid and received one of these notes in error.

One minor new development, I now have Net access at work. One of our members has suggested sending scanned cancel messages by E-Mail. I don't want to go overboard about this as it would be an intrusion of my private life into my job. On the other hand who doesn't occasionally take/make personal phone calls, personal correspondence etc. at work? E-mail address is

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To my surprise, there have not been any comments on either content or style of the page on "Leaf" cancels as presented in the last newsletter. I shall thus conclude that everyone is copellous, and meloletic about this. (I love playing with the language, it is fantastical how you can malabuse English and yet still be senseful!) [Sorry, I just couldn't resist the preceeding, if our editors at work ever saw that...]

We have eight new members; Mr. J. Hillson, Westerlea, Annanhill, Annan, Dumfriesshire, Scotland DG12 6TN (Author "Small Queens of Canada"); Mr. Clifford Johnson, 343 West 16th St., North Vancouver B.C. V7M 1T9, Mr. E. Jensen, 16800 Hallmark Court, Castro Valley CA, 94552-1632, U.S.A.; Mr. B. Kappius, 2132 Greenhurst Ave, Mississauga ON L4X 1J6; Mr. K. Lauzon, 8950 Wyandotte St., #305, Windsor ON, N8S 1V3; Mr. G. Parker, Osgoode Hall Law School, 4700 Keele St., North York ON, M3J 1P3; Ms. S. Sheffield (a keener for "Muskoka" material), P.O. Box 67039, Meadowlark P.O., Edmonton AB, T5R 5Y3, and Mr. R. Smith R.R. #7, Comp. 36, Site 3, Fredericton N.B., E3B 4X8.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS.

- NEWSLETTER 1

Crown Wax Seals; Millington Ont., as cancel on 1 cent Jubilee, Type 3.

- NEWSLETTER 6

"Palmer Cox Brownie" reference, I have learned more about this, Palmer Cox was the creator of the cartoon strip (and several children's story books etc.). The cartoon was popular in 1896. (see also pg.6)

- NEWSLETTER 10.

Footnotes; I had commented on how oil (linseed oil) was added to cancel ink so as to increase paper penetration, and had also suggested other oils might have been used. Sue Sheffield has found a reference to "olive oil" for ink stamp pads purchased by the Nova Scotia P.O.D. in 1868 .

- NEWSLETTER 15.

Revisions; D&S 220, (pg.2) the printing is actually a pale vermilion probably circa '90- '92.

D&S 315 (?) (pg.4) the backstamp is Montreal JU. '95.

D&S 293a (pg.6) is an early rose 3 cent Small Queen. The ink etc. look good.

CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES

New information continues to come in. John Hannah sent in a cover with a late state strike of this "M" or "W" cancel. I have seen a few strikes of this off cover, however I have been somewhat skeptical of its authenticity (due to an unusual ink), and had not listed it. John's cover looks good enough however, so I shall now list. It was used at Orono Ont., AU. '86, and is probably a P.M.'s initial type for Mr. R. Moment. (The P.M. General's Reports, P.M.'s lists, complete runs of Topics, Maple Leaves etc. are now available at the reading room, 3rd floor, Public Archives, 395 Wellington St. Ottawa.)



Joe Smith sent in two items, this "W" which is unfortunately a very partial strike, and also, these "birds feet" which appear to directly cancel the Queen. I have mentioned in previous news letters about patriotic cancels which were designed to cancel the stamp, while not cancelling the Queen's image. Perhaps this was an anti - monarchist P.M.?



Allan Steinhart sent in several items, one of which has caused me to revise part of the new book. This is D&S 359b, which I had considered as a poor illustration of D&S 733a (a "V" from Victoria BC). Allan's three covers prove that 359b does exist, and is an "A" from Aberfoyle Ont. used MY. '89- FE. '91. Another item is a strike of D&S 85, the "236" used at New Edinburgh (Ottawa suburb) as a receipt mark on poorly cancelled material (see also page 6). This is an odd cancel- it has similarities to the numeral British cancels, however there is only one bar at the end of the Canadian cancel. Finally, Allan also sends along this "R" cancel for Registration. This cancel seems to have been rather delicate (or poorly made) in most strikes various outer rings (probably parts of the cancel holder/collar) show.

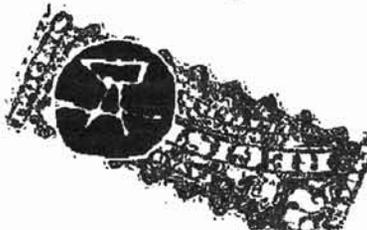


Brian Hargeaves sent in the items at the top of the next page. The first is a early strike of D&S 7, now located as Toronto, DE. '74 -JA. '75. The other items are a signet "L" (I've seen before - always perfectly centered), a lovely strike of D&S 667, signet "P", and a strike



of D&S 424 (and 644a). This latter item is spurious, complete strikes have indicated that it is a very worn oval parcel cancel from Fredericton N.B.. (see also page 6.) The "letter" in the middle is where the handle joins the stamp.

Wally Gutzman has sent in the items below. The first one seems to be similar to D&S 58 (which I have listed as a cross, rather than a flower), however it is from Sheffington QU. DE. '85, and not Gravenhurst ON. '80 as reported in D&S. The Gravenhurst location is unconfirmed (despite my studies of; the Day and Smythies collections, 300 photos made for their book, and most of their original tracings), and is probably in error. Unless someone can tell me otherwise, it is now "Sheffington". Wally's other items are a peculiar little "DA" (?) cancel on F1, and this small square cancel. I have seen this item before, it has been described as an numeral 11, 12, or an "O". To me it should probably be described as a "geometric".



I have recently received a letter from a collector who has purchased this "EP" fancy cancel on printed postal stationery used from "Echo Place" ON. JA. '87. I have never seen this before, and I am very suspicious of it's authenticity. The collector bought this in good faith, and I feel bad about having to dump on it. (Does anyone else have any examples?) I would like to provide our members with an advisement. Be careful when buying fancy cancels on preprinted stationery or post cards (especially commercial uses).



There are still wholesale lots of hundreds of these available at low prices. I have examined some of these a few years ago, between 25 to 30 percent of them had no cancel on the "stamp" portion. There was no reason for the P.M. to cancel the "stamp" part as the card could not be reused. This type of material is cheap, old, and readily available to anyone who wants to put a fake cancel on the stamp part. Furthermore, some of the authenticity tests which can be used on a

stamped cover are invalid on preprinted stationary. (Hint; the ink on the C.D.S., and the cancel may be different) Enough said.

Speaking of "EP" cancels, John Hillson sent along examples of D&S 478 and asked if this cancel deteriorated over time. It did indeed, it is also listed as D&S 474, "EF", D&S 484 "FP", and in extreme late use is almost unrecognizable. John also sends along a cover with D&S 620, an "N". This is an example of R.P.O. use of a fancy cancel. (see also page 6.) At least five covers of this are known, all with different origins, and three sharing the R.P.O.



Doug Murray, a specialist of PEI material, has sent along a cover with a star from "Lot 56 PEI". He has reservations about this item for a number of reasons (I agree), and asks if anyone else has examples of PEI stars on cover (or piece) which may have been "fiddled with" (my words).



I would like to also show two cancel items. The first is an example of how easy it is to accidentally create a new fancy cancel. I recently purchased the only copy of D&S 675, an elaborate partial "PN" cancel (originally from the Day collection), and discovered that it was really two strikes of D&S 634 as illustrated. One less fancy cancel to list... My second item is this bogey head. It is similar to D&S 264, yet has enough differences so that it is probably not intended as a fake of D&S 264. I have seen about six of these, all on stamps from the early '90's, and which basically look good. Does anyone else have examples?



MULTIPLE USE FANCY CANCELS.

Sue Sheffield has posed an interesting question; "Why is it that the same cancel can apparently come from several different P.O.'s?" There are several possible answers, and I reprint (with her kind permission) my answer to her question.

1. The cancels have common origins as manufactured items, and were thus used in several P.O.'s. D&S 67, 103, 107, and 110 for example were all made by Pritchard and Andrews of Ottawa in 1880.

2. The cancels are applied by the clerk in the Railway Post car. This has been confirmed by me and the R.P.O. study group in several cases. R.P.O. corks will thus have different origin and destination towns, yet the same cork. Ex. D&S 620, previous page.

3. The cancels were applied at destination (or possibly some other sorting/WAY office). Thus, the same cancel will appear for different originating towns, and will (probably) have similar backstamp (receiving) daters. (This sometimes happened when the stamp was poorly cancelled, and the receiving P.M. was a real "keener") Examples; "St. Catharines" in bars, or D&S 85, the number "236", previous page.

4. Some of these cancels were of very simple design, and could be accidentally similar.

5. Some cancels may have been mass produced as childrens' toys (examples: the Nicaraguan shield D&S 316, Palmer Cox Brownie mentioned by Boggs), or as teachers' marks (some of the stars?), leather workers stamps (?), or common implements (nut or bolt heads, bottle tops buttons etc.) These may have been used in various P.O.'s. In at least three P.O.'s parcel cancel hammers were used long after the rubber town name had worn off - the resulting "design" has been described as either a fancy "B", or "O" (D&S 424, 424a, 644a, and previous page).

6. Some cancels have ritual meanings - especially Masonic - these may have been used by the P.M.'s when the recipient was known as a "brother". The same (or similar) symbols may thus be used irregularly from different P.O.'s. Ref. "Masonic Philatelist" Apr. '62.

7. Finally, and something I do not like to dwell upon, some cancels have been faked, the fakes can be applied to any cover to increase its value. The fake may thus be on several different origin covers.

I shall end this newsletter with the the other pages on Ottawa Crown Cancel forgeries from Smythies collection of fakes and forgeries. I thank you for sending in material - please keep it coming. Until next time,

Good Collecting.



Dave Lacelle.

OTTAWA CROWN. Forgery No 4.

Another forgery easy to recognise; source unknown. Mistakes :-
(1) Diadem clear of frame and central sector open at top. No check lines
(2) Intermediate arches too high. (3). Outer circle too small, 20 mm.
Clear and complete strikes seen on S.Q. 3^o vermillion, 6^o brown, 10^o magenta.



Proof Book.

Forgery No. 5

A quite fantastic forgery on a quite impossible stamp (S.Q. 273) issued in 1927! No need to point out the mistakes, which are obvious.



Proof Book.

Forgery No. 6

A clever forgery on an impossible stamp Quebec Centenary 1900. Mistakes
(1) Top of frame on right flattened
(2) Width 16 mm. (3) Outer circle 22 mm.
(cancel shows below the posts!).



Not wrong. Wrong sheets.

Forgery No. 9.

Forgery No. 9
Fcy 11 3/4 x 11 3/4.

Forgery No. 7

(1) Diadem too small. (2) Base all wrong.
(3) All framelines thin. (4) Central sector too broad.



Correct

Forgery No. 11.

(1) Diadem quite wrong.
(2) All framelines equal.



Lovely little Crown!



Probably a G.B. Inspectors mark.
not correct

THE OTTAWA "SOLID" CROWN. Feb. 1880.

An impression of this hammer, intended for the Senate P.O. Ottawa, was recorded in Pritchard & Andrews' Proof Book in Feb. 1880, a photograph of which is shown below. It was in use for a short time and is rare. Examples of forgeries are shown below.

? Forgery No. 8 A

Genuine. Proof Book.

Forgery No. 8 B.



No. 8 A. Mistakes. (i) Base line meets outer circle on left. (ii) Gaps in Crown \blacktriangleright not \square .
No. 8 B. Mistakes. (i) Central sector too broad and too short. (ii) Upper horizontal line too long and too thin. (iii) Outer circle much too thin. (iv) Crown over C.D.S.

GENUINE (ENLARGED)

Fake Cover. No. 8 C.



No. 8 C. Mistakes. (i) Central sector V shape. (ii) Base line meets outer circle on right. (iii) Diadem on top all wrong. (iv) The most obvious mistake is the cover, with Ottawa C.D.S. (NOT Senate P.O.) dated 1885, and a S.Q. 3" vermilion Ottawa printing of 1890 or later! The perf $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{4}$ used only in Ottawa printings from 1888.

Note: I have never seen a genuine strike of this crown!