

June 2021

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**Group News:** This will be a somewhat different newsletter as much of it relates to follow-up and/or revisions to material presented in the last two newsletters. I must thank the dozen of you who sent in material or suggestions. **PLEASE SEND MORE.** Background research for this newsletter also led me slightly off topic twice: Firstly, a snapshot of the new competition to letter writing from the newish Bell Telephone technology in Toronto in 1896. The second item was an attempt to find out what/when/where the estimated 425,000 Small Queens left by Henry Hechler went. Sometimes fancy cancel items lead me into other historical areas which I hope will be of interest to all of you. We have one new member, Mr. Frank Gross.

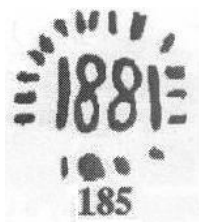
Rather than have my usual “REVISIONS etc” section, I’m going to jump right in. Frank’s stuff seems a good place to start.

## CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES

Ever wonder what 68,000 bundled three cent S.Q.’s would look like? Frank obtained this accumulation about 14 years ago, and has been working with it ever since. These were bundled in the early 1880’s and were previously unpicked.

He has offered to share scans of his fancy cancels with us which I will run in upcoming newsletters.

The item below is one such example. It’s L185, an “1881” from an unknown PO. Several other strikes (also blue ink) are known on appropriate stamps. A similar “1880”, L183, was featured in NL79.



## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86

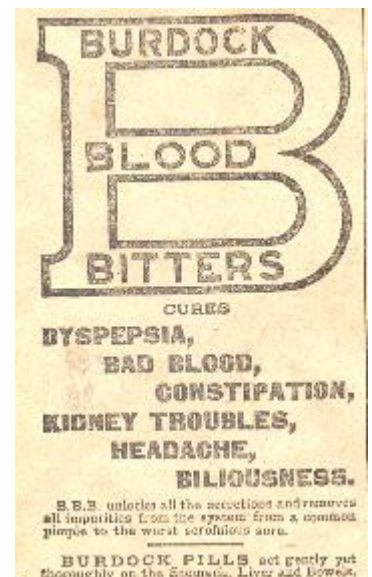
When I saw first Frank's "hoard" I thought of several old reports of Henry Hechler's (an early Halifax stamp dealer from the 1880's onward) reported vast holdings of S.Q.'s and what happened to them upon his demise.. There were about five "good olde days" style articles (e.g. Major Henry Hechler by Fred Jarrett, BNA Topics Sept. '63 pg. 202.) about Hechler and his accumulations, but all were somewhat vague regarding the sale of his estate. There seemed to be something wrong in that his S.Q. "stock" (200,000 in two reports, 425,000 by another – see our NL 68) was sold over at least a 20-year period. The short version: Hechler died in December 1928, 10 months before the major Stock Market crash of the Great Depression. None of the "good olde days" articles mentioned this. His holdings (vast duplications) were first offered to other Canadian dealers/collectors, then to several American dealers with no success. After the CRASH, holdings were partly broken up and most were sent to Europe for sale by auction. Most did not make reserve and were sold later without reserve. Doc Day (of D&S fame) obtained most of the S.Q.s around 1959. He had not finished viewing all of the bundle-ware by the time of his death in 1968.

Most of Doc Days holdings were sold by Stanley Cohen at two auctions in the late 1980's. I do not remember any lots of 100,000 or more Small Queens. Please check your basement and let me know if you find them. There is also a report of 14 boxes of Hechler's material which was not sent to Europe. How this was disposed and whatever this was is a mystery.

There is apparently no obvious link between Frank's material and Hechler's stock, however I wonder where they all went? Nuff said....

In NL 85, pg. 4 I referred to a cork cancel cover sent in by Jean at right. It was from Toronto ON, Oct 1873 to T. Milburn & Co. Their main patent medicine product was "Burdock Blood Bitters". She had asked for any further information on them. I recently remembered that I had an old "Toronto News" newspaper from March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1896 stashed in a cabinet (doesn't everyone have a few of these?) which revealed the BBB advertisement at right. Way more than you want to know, but the ad above this was for some strange product "Sunlight Soap" by Lever Brothers.

This 1896 newspaper also had several ads referring to the newish 1896 "techie toy", the Bell Telephone. I will run some of these at the end of this newsletter for your viewing interest.





## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86

Now, on to another Frank, Frank Campbell. I asked in the previous newsletter (pg. 11) for information on early versions (1958- 1972) of Frank Campbell's "Canada Post Offices", officially published in 1972. Information on three copies has been reported. There were also two philatelic articles. Early self printings varied; six different copying methods were used, there was no formal "Author Copy", there were about 90 orderly list/text pages and 90 more of mixed material by 1972. Frank put the word "book" in quotes once when referring to pre-1972 versions. I remember thinking when I viewed a pre-1972 version "This isn't exactly a book but it is more than just a list". If I remember correctly, it was filed under 'miscellaneous' at the National Postal Museum Library.

The "Crown Wax Seals" (see L1271 and Appendix 4a) are from a part of these mixed back pages called Addenda E (see also pg. 12 here). They are strikes from a 40 pound box of old postal hammers, 147 in total "...dropped off at my door by a total stranger... I borrowed them for two years." to quote Frank. These ran from numerals, REGISTERED, PAID markings, 34 different CDS hammers etc. The BC numeral 27 hammer was also in the box. Frank does not say what happened to them after he returned the box. Again, please check your basement and let us know if you find them...



Two important comments are required: First, these are copies of copies of actual strikes from old (probably worn) hammers, not drawings or tracings. Secondly, if these hammers fell into the wrong hands they could make very good bogus items. The good news, I have never seen any of the ten Crowns used anywhere else. Have you? I am not so sure about the BC 27 however. Any comments on this? I have a copy of the six pages of Addenda 6 if anyone should want one.

## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86

Vince Chermishnok (Think “Map Stamp”) sent in his latest find, an oval parcel cancel on a Map Stamp. The cancel is “St. Catherine Street Centre Montreal, 28 1”. It is mentioned in N. Horbrath’s new book “Canada’s Oval Parcel Cancels”. Mr. Horbrath’s comments on this are copied below:



“Thanks to Vince for sending in the scan of his 2¢ Imperial Penny Postage pair, struck with the purple oval parcel cancel! He is correct that Canadian OPCs were not often used on the 2¢ Christmas issue. I would estimate 98% of all OPCs were struck on Small Queen issues, so it is an exciting to find other frankings used. In my OPC collection, I only have one Christmas issue with an OPC (enclosed here). As can be seen, this is the same Montreal OPC as shown on Vince’s set, although in black. I also show this street cancel that is illustrated in my OPC book as it is easier to see.



In Montreal, there were only four different OPCs used over a 20+ year period, with three different OPCs used at the main Montreal post office. However, one Montreal branch office, the Ste. Catherine Street Centre branch, was the busiest of all the Montreal ‘street’ post offices and probably warranted its own OPC to cancel parcels. This strike was approximately 28x43mm (outer oval) and 21x31mm (inner oval) and was similar in size to the larger oval Montreal OPCs. It was cancelled mostly in purple (violet), sometimes in black, and very infrequently in red. The words, ‘STE. CATHERINE STREET CENTRE’ and ‘MONTREAL’ were placed in the outer oval with numbers centred on the inside indicating the day and month (with the day in larger type), and/or sometimes as month and day.

Finding this Montreal street OPC on the 2¢ Christmas is a nice surprise and is considered rare. Thanks to Vince for submitting his find.” - Norbert

Randy Evans sent in the item at right. It is a “15”, listed as L142, Corunna Ont. Apr case it’s partly double struck 1873. Strikes of this are usually poor (this) and may be hard to identify. He also



sent in a reference (from Armstrong Stamps, to this Ottawa geometric design, L1698. This is an interesting fancy which is known over two periods of use based on Mike Halhed’s study of 675+ scans of Ottawa covers, provided to him by several collectors: It’s known from OC23’74 to NO18’74 and then was re-introduced SE20’75 to OC9’75. In the later usage, one of the segments was broken off. In between those periods, Ottawa used a wide-variety of hatched cork grid cancels. Why it was re-introduced is unknown.

## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86

I have a bit more to report on the ‘mirror image’ “running chicken” return label used here from Napanee Ont. 1884 (and elsewhere) and it’s eerie resemblance to the famous USA “running chicken” from Waterbury Con. This has been reported in our NL71, and NL85, and was stated as 1881 in error in NL85.

**I am still looking for any other examples of these pre-printed return envelopes in order to better date them.**



I had asked for info on “commonalities” of the USA “Running Chicken” cancel. None were forthcoming so I did my own research. They are part of an 1869 -1870 series of VERY fancy and specific cancels from Waterbury. Some reflect local events (a sports team win for example), and the PM was obviously very proud of his work. The “running chicken” may have been a Thanksgiving Day “escaped turkey”. Five running chicken covers are known. Commonalities: all from the same place, a short time frame of use, and usually with the Waterbury CDS prominently (proudly) just to the left or the stamp/cancel. They are not from the same person, do not have the same penmanship, and are not to the same destination. These latter negative commonalities are reassuring from the viewpoint of authenticity. Many USA cancels were much more elaborate and dramatic than Canadian ones. Canadian PM’s were Federal employees and could be fired for “political partisanship” which probably acted as a damper on controversial issues. The USA example at right (also from Waterbury) celebrating the death of Andrew Jackson would not have worked here. There were also some vicious KKK cancels (not from Waterbury) used in US.



I mentioned Civil servants who had “sideline” stamp dealings and or collections in the last few NL’s. Another name which should be added is J.R. Hooper. He worked as an Administrator in the P.O. Savings Bank Branch which were important in small towns where there were no formal business banks. Mr. Hooper did not run any formal stamp business under his name but wrote in several early Canadian stamp publications under the pen name “Canadensis”. He was listed as an “Ottawa stamp collector” in one of the early lists, and was one of the founders of “the Canadian Philatelic Association (Canadian Stamp News, Vol. 37). After his release from prison over the murder of his wife, he moved to California and opened a successful stamp business.

There were three main reasons early stamp dealers used pseudonyms or pen names. Firstly, in the early days of stamp collecting most collectors were children. Adults in the field could be considered as “childish”. Secondly, they could be more direct and blunt in business or publication. Thirdly it may have provided a layer of security between their private and family lives and possible charges of conflict of interest, abuse of authority, and lack of business fees etc.



## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86

One last clarification (See NL84 &85) regarding the Morgan Store and simple addresses on correspondence to Federal Clerk H.J. Morgan. Two of these covers have references to “Charge Drawer...” these large “drawers” were assigned to firms with large volumes of outgoing mail such as Circulars. As far as I know there were no Federal Government “Drawers” in major PO’s.

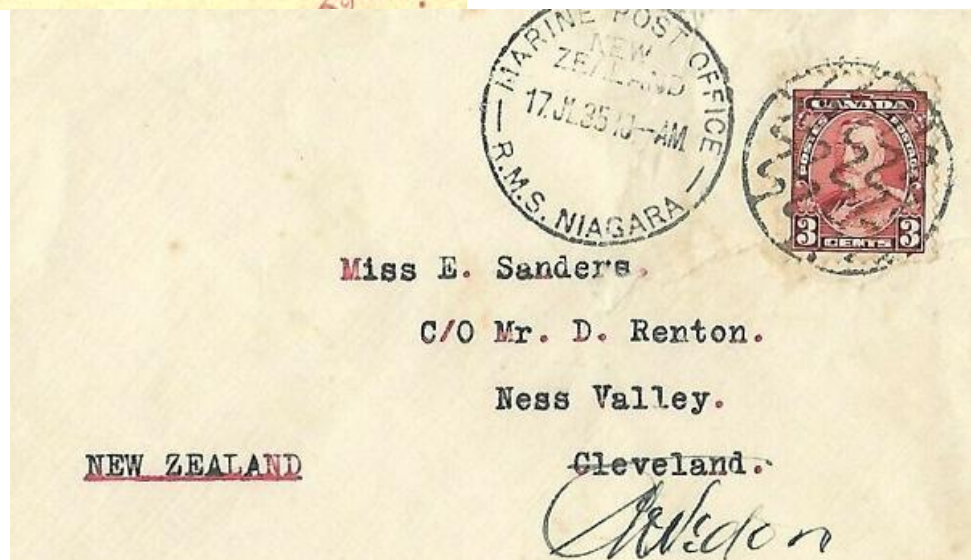
Robert Coulson sent in this curious cancel on 1 cent Admiral . It appears to be incomplete but line 1 “...?S SMAI...”, line 2 “?Y 2 ¾”, line 3 “TABLE”, and line 4 “LING”. If anyone can figure this out, please let us know. I have a vague memory of seeing a stamp from the early 1960’s being cancelled with a meaningless set of figures/numbers which were then explained as a calibration test of the cancel machine. Such tests were not usually done on real mail. Same here?



He also sent in this Registered item below. The cover is stained so I lightened it up a bit. The F2 (right rate for 1892) has two odd features. At the top it appears to have an earlier stamp (or selvage) stuck to it, and there is an odd “whitish” horizontal band across the stamp just below REGISTERED. This would seem to indicate that there was an oily line (string?) on the stamp before use. The cancel ink does not penetrate the line either. The stamp is dirty, but does not appear to be reused. Curious little thing...

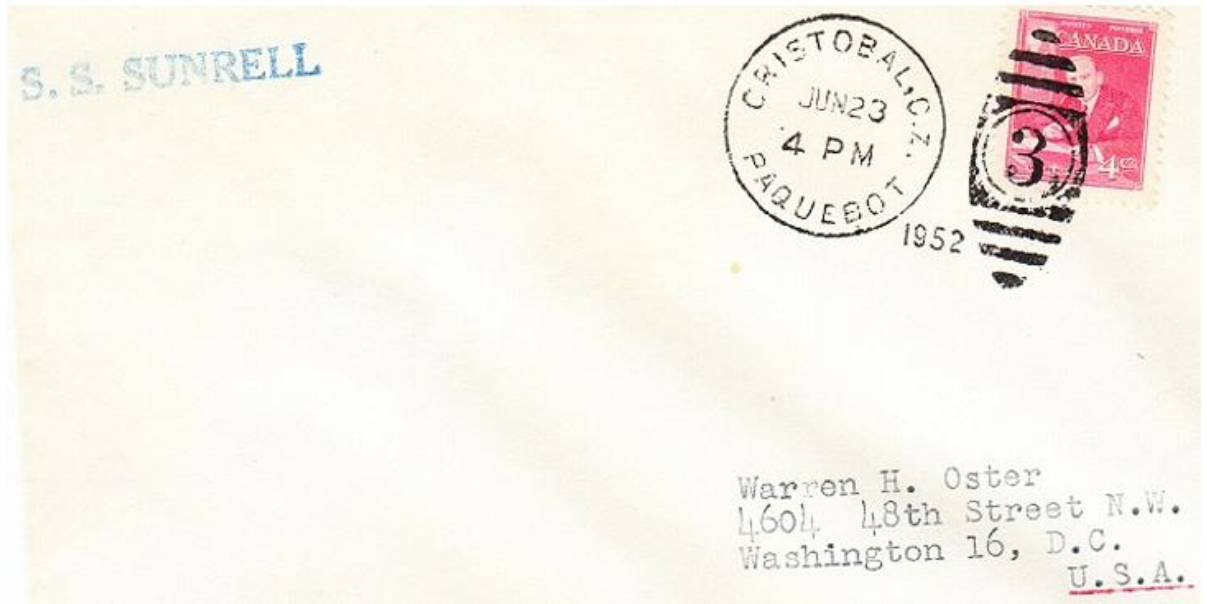


Mike Street has sent in the next three items as examples of foreign cancels on Canada. I have seen the wavy (?Marine theme?) killer below but had never seen a full cancel of it. M.P.O. R.M.S. Niagara, New Zealand, To USA but with Canada stamp.



## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86

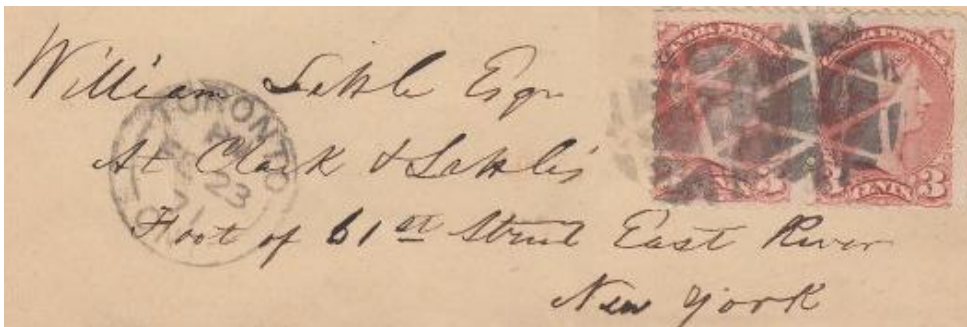
Another USA destination,  
Canada stamp  
1952, Paquebot  
cancel.  
Cristobel is the  
company name  
(?) Sunrell is  
the ships name.



'N other. USA  
destination, Canada  
stamp 1951,  
Auckland New  
Zealand Packet Boat.  
(? also carried by SS  
Wairuna , Registered  
in Vancouver?)



Guy Jeffery sent in this Sept. 1871 Toronto geometric. I cheated and moved the stamps to save space. This is a new design from Toronto and it was used in the same time period as L1011, a star. There were about 30 clerks at the Toronto PO in the 1870's so multiple cancels can happen.

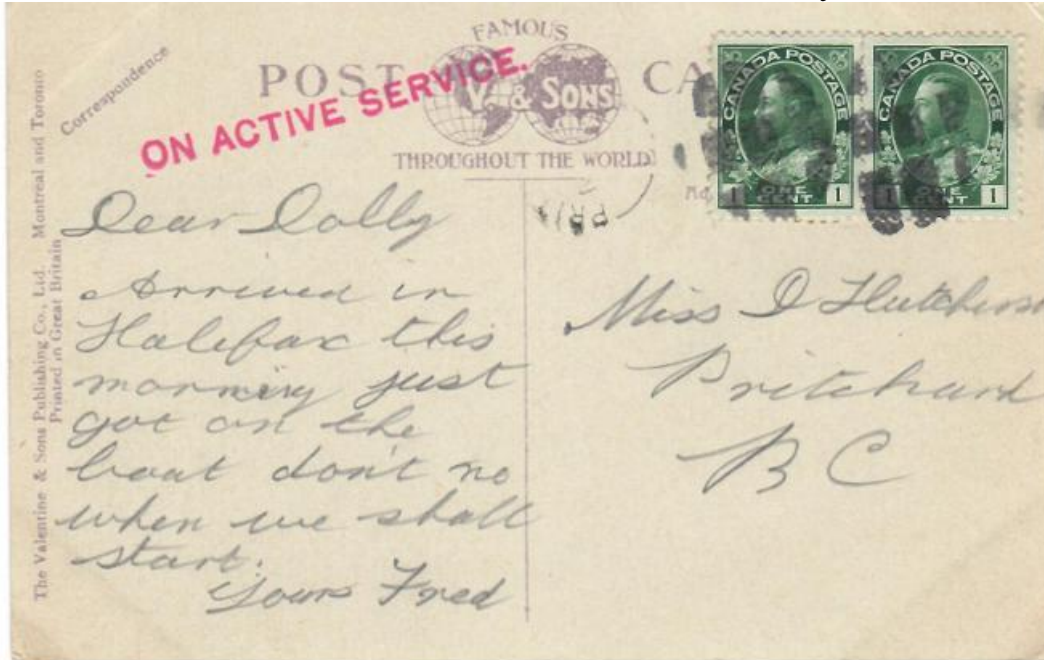


Similar, Toronto Ont.,  
Dec. 1870 – Sept. 1872.



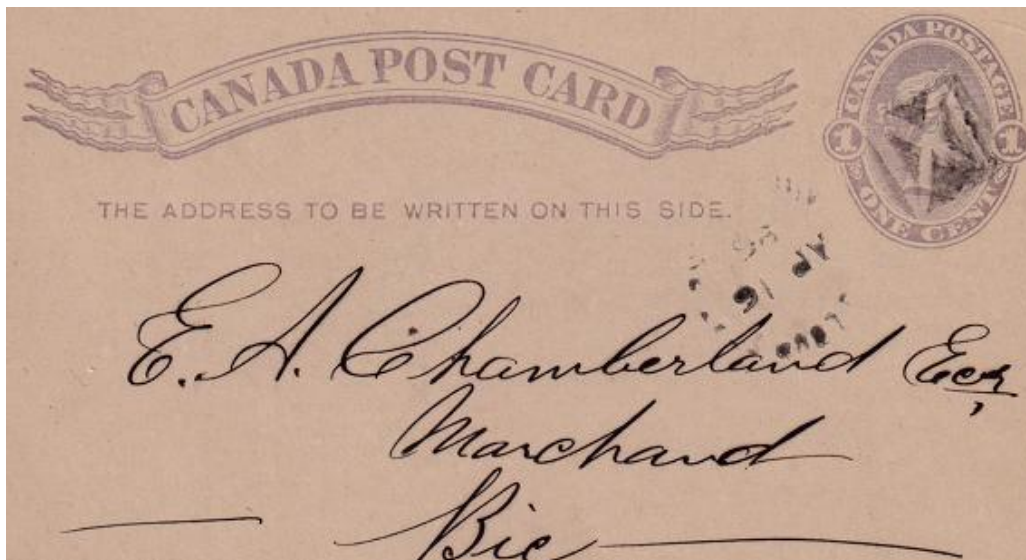
## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86

Jon Johnson sent in this interesting very late cork cancel. The PC picture is of a Montreal park. Other interpretations are possible, but I think this is a military cancel use similar to a “blackout” cancel. The military did not use CDS’s because if the letter fell into enemy hands the CDS and routing information might be “useful information”. Fred mailed this when he was on board, he possibly did not realise it should be free. The “On Active Service” stamp was applied, and the stamp was clobbered with a cork. The only other postal mark is a receiver cancel. The date the ship sailed is thus not obvious. I’ve run a few other military items beside it.



Mike

Halhed sent in this P.C. and suggests that it is similar to L1135. L1135 was confirmed as a “Kingston Cross” (Aug. 1875) in NL 82 just after the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition closed. The scan in our book is distorted, and is corrected here. Unfortunately, there are three things I do not ‘like’ about this PC, and I would have to give it a “5” on my authenticity scale. The inks do not match, no reason to cancel a PC, and it agrees a bit too well with the previously distorted illustration in our book.



Revised illustration.



**FAKES, BOGUS AND SPURIOUS ITEMS**

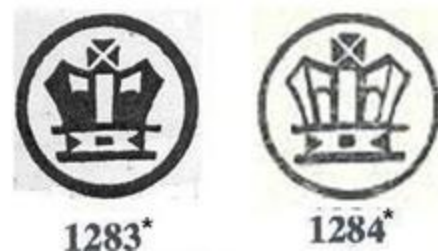
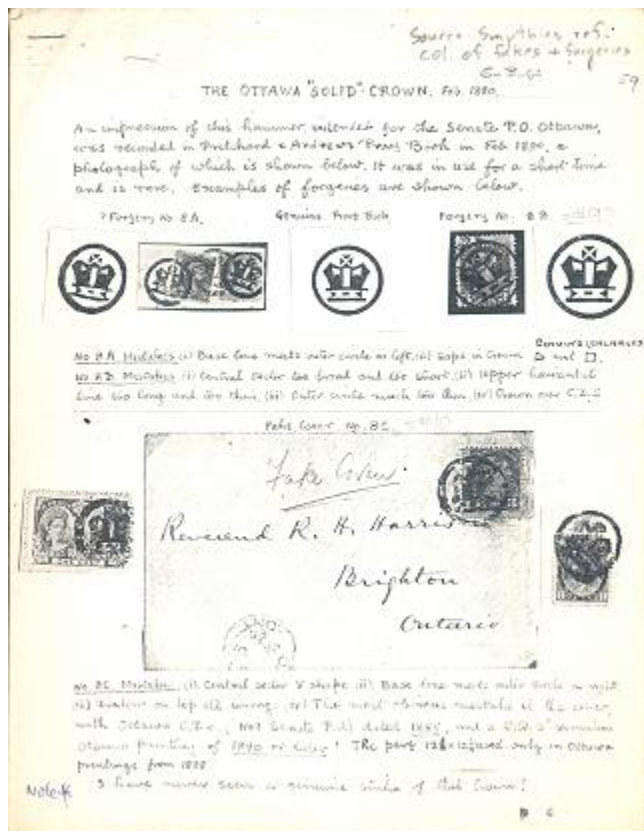
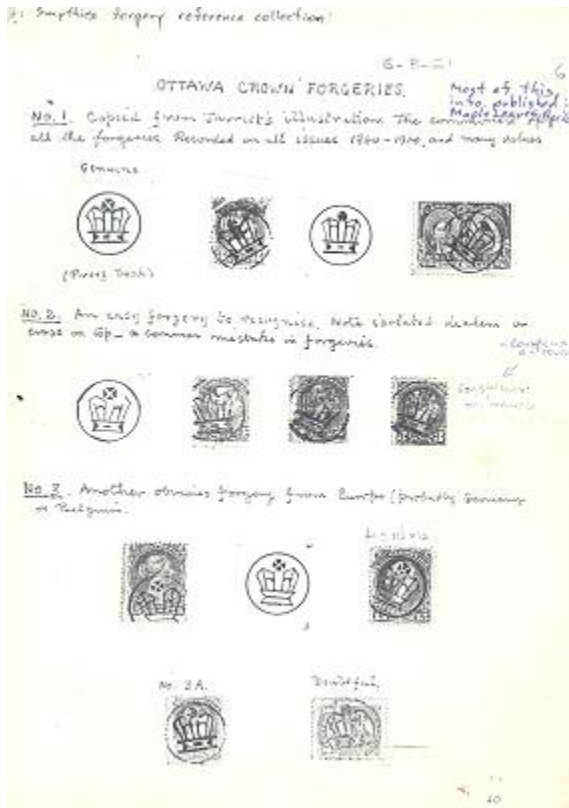
In NL 85 I asked the following: *“In the mid (?) 90’s there was a minor scandal when someone used scans or high quality photocopies of CDS proof strikes from a private listing of proof-strikes (most of which were from photocopies of the “official” Pritchard and Andrews proof books then in the National Postal Museum in Ottawa) to produce fake covers. The fakers usually chose CDS’s from tiny Post Offices so that the covers could then be described as “rare and valuable”. This was then outside of my area of interest so I did not take notes. **Is there any additional information out there?** It was written up briefly in one of the Canadian philatelic magazines.”*

The article was in PHSC Journal 117, March 2004 pg.3. “The Proof Book Fakes” by K.W. Pugh and referred to more information in his publications. A few details from the PHSC article follow: These fake CDS’s appeared on the market (mostly on eBay) over two years time, and consisted of about 850 (!) items based on stated sales of \$7,000 at an average of \$7.50 each. The seller “expressed surprise” and returned funds to the buyers. The items were sent to Ken Pugh, who will donate them to Canada Archives. The seller was not identified and apparently never charged.

These fakes were produced by scanning Proof Book strikes and then printing them onto stamps or covers. This can also be done with any fancy cancel illustration. I left background stamp images around our book’s illustrations in order to make this a wee bit more difficult. Also, fake printed fancy cancels on postal items which do not agree with the locations or times of use as stated in our book are obvious. There are also chemical means to detect modern photocopy or printer ink, however they may leave stains.

Ottawa Crown Cancels. There has recently been some talk about possible fakes (or previously unrecognized varieties) of the two Ottawa Crown cancels L1283 and L1284. These were used on material needing “special handling” (review) by Ottawa Main PO. In the third edition of our book the previous scans of these cancels were replaced by scans of the official P&A proof strikes.

Smythies did some very detailed research on fakes of these two cancels which was published in Maple Leaves Apr. ’63 pg. 171. This is a very detailed five page write up! When Smythies died he bequeathed his “forgery” holdings to the Canadian Government, National Postal Museum. This is a GREAT idea as it makes detailed studies of the actual stamps available to researchers and gets BAD material off the market. (Ken Pugh also refers to this type of donation above.) When I viewed the Smythies forgery material at the Postal Museum I was allowed to have a photo copy made, which I present below. Full scale scans are available upon request. I must add that Smythies 1961 handwritten notes do not agree completely with his M.L. article.

**BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86**

From P&A proofbook.

Reduced pages from E.A. Smythies personal notes  
re. "Ottawa Crown cancels & Fakes of Same" Mar.  
1961.



## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86

In NL85, I asked about “a block of six of the ½ cent SQ’s with different fake fancy cancels on all of them. The block had full original gum (!!) and these could have been applied to anything. .. **Does anyone have this block (or similar), and if so could you please send me a scan?**” I strongly suspect that the block below was this item, now only four and without original gum. Ink penetration is excessive and the “cancel” does not appear in our book. The same member also sent along the other items, our D596, D642, and D645, all three of which were offered for sale as ‘fake cancels’ in the 1990’s.



This fake machine cancel from Lambeth Ont. was reported in PHSC, June 1972 pg. 17. Four examples are known. Any other fake machine cancels out there?

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

**BELL TELEPHONE OF CANADA**  
Public Office.  
Long Distance Lines.

Persons wishing to communicate by Telephone with other Cities and Towns in Canada will find convenient rooms at the General Office of the Bell Telephone Company, 37 Temperance Street.  
Open from 7 a. m. to midnight, Sundays included.

**METALLIC CIRCUITS.**  
**SOUND PROOF CABINETS.**

**CAST SCRAP IRON...**  
HAVE YOU ANY?

**Harris Buys.**  
**25 to 31 WILLIAM ST.**  
**TELEPHONE.**  
If you are in to ring me up.

Doctor What is good for cleansing the Scalp and Hair, I seem to have tried everything and am in despair  
Why Mrs R. the very best thing is **PALMO-TAR SOAP** it is splendid for Washing the head it prevents dryness thus puts an end to Dandruff and freshens the hair nicely.  
25¢ FOR A LARGE TABLET

**MEN OF ALL AGES**

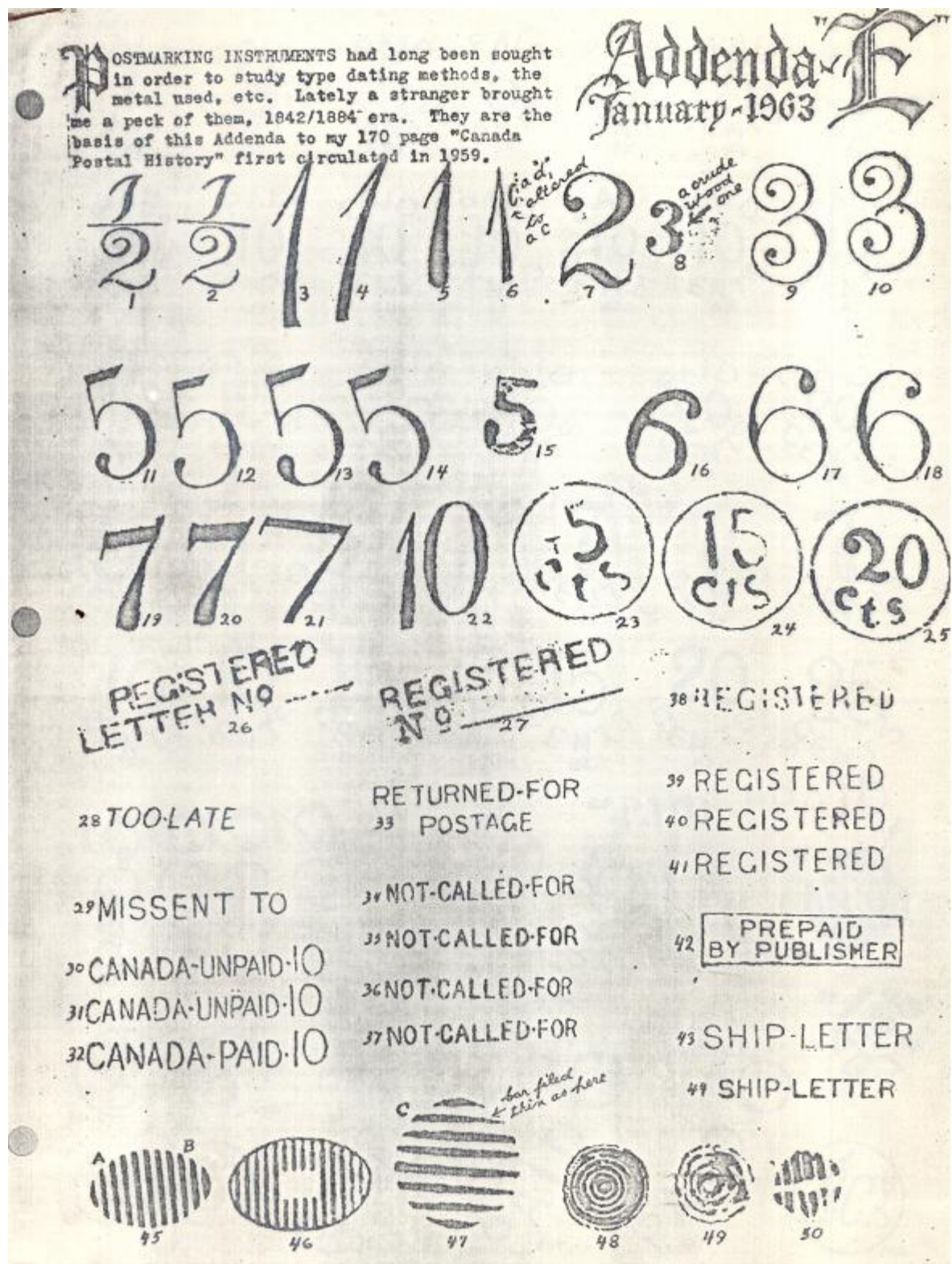
may be cured. We treat all sexual disorders of men. Four out of five who suffer nervousness, mental worry, attacks of “the blues,” are but paying the penalty of early excesses. The dread alarm of Impotency, the exhaustion of Spermatorrhoea, may be **CURED** in strict confidence at moderate expense.

Send for our free sealed book, “**PERFECT MANHOOD.**”  
**FRIE MEDICAL CO., Buffalo, N.Y.**

On page 2, I said I would run a few of the ads from my 1896 “Toronto News” newspaper. The telephone was fairly new then, Toronto numbers were only four digits, and most ads did not state their numbers. The phone was a major competition to both the Post Office and Telegram systems. “Long Distance” existed and the reference to “Metallic Circuits” probably indirectly refers to paper handling for Telegrams. The scrap dealer would find the phone a major benefit. “If you are in it ring me up”. The young (very ’96 corseted) lady phoning her Doctor can now arrange “house calls”, more easily and no longer in an emergency. (Can ZOOM be accidently slipped in...

has to yell out the window faraway?)The “Men...” ad





Source, Frank Campbell's "Canada Postal History" list, pre 1975 version. Please note these are from actual hammer strikes, and are not drawings. See pg. 3. Five other pages (147 hammers) are available. Scale is about 90%.



## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 86

On that note I shall close. I wish you all well. PLEASE send more stuff.

Dave Lacelle/Mike Halhed, [fancycancel@hotmail.com](mailto:fancycancel@hotmail.com)

### Want to Give CAPEX22 a Helping Hand?



BNAPS has introduced a matching funds program to allow members to make a monetary donation to CAPEX22 and the Society will match your donation 1:1, in effect doubling your contribution. The program will run until February 2022. As you know, CAPEX22 (June 9-12, 2022) is the first single-frame international exhibition and is the first major international show in Canada since 1996. If you have never been to an international show, you will be in for a treat. Because of this program, BNAPS will become a Partner Sponsor and will have a premium position with a booth On on the exhibition/bourse interface, a relaxation room for guests and members to meet or just get off of their feet, a seminar room named BNAPS Room for the entire convention, sponsorship of the Awards program and a few other perks—all high visibility activities.

You can donate directly on the BNAPS website, click on “Donate”. Canadians can donate directly on the CAPEX22.org website. Don’t forget to identify yourself as a BNAPS member in order for CAPEX to get the matching funds. For U.S. and Canadian donors, for donations over \$25, you will receive a tax statement that will permit you to take a tax deduction. Thanks in advance for your help for Canadian philately!