

THE SMALL QUEEN NEWSLETTER
OF THE CANADIAN SMALL QUEEN STUDY GROUP (BNAPS)

Volume 4 No. 3

October 1979.



1. BNAPEX'79 - QUEBEC CITY - SEPTEMBER 13th

A very well organized seminar on "Canada's Small Queen Issue 1870-97" by Bill Simpson was enjoyed and much appreciated by all in attendance. Following the seminar we all "retreated" to the exhibit room where Bill explained in detail his exhibit - "Small Queens 1870-97. Selected Pages." It was announced at the annual meeting that a new up-dated handbook - similar to Hans Reiche "Constant Plate Varieties of the Canada Small Queens" may be available in 1980.

2. NEWSLETTER SUMMARY

- Letters from Russ Allison re: K. Elliot's article on the 3¢ S.Q.'s printings on verticle wove paper.
T. Nixon's article on the location of Montreal and Ottawa printings of the S.Q.'s issue.
- Fancy cancels on Small Queens - G.T. Olson, Jr.
- 225 - Year Calendar - J. Ross Elliot

3. NEW MEMBERS:


John Siverts
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N.N. Sheklian
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#1

"crying bogey face" 3 strikes
on JA 6, '96  from
St. Julienne, Quebec




#2

"crude A" 1 strike
on NO. 16, '81  from
Alvinston, Ont.




#3

"crossroads" type
DS215 but on NO, '73
 from
Seaforth, Ontario




#4

irregular distinctive cork
4 strikes on Reg.  from
Jamestown, Ontario to
Toronto, FE 14, '96




#5

"crude oak leaf" ?
single strike on
 JY 20, '84
from Oakville, Ont.



#6

t.t.p. with Shekst
MR 21, '78 eds  d
3¢ SQ.

936 Fernwood Avenue
Plainfield , N. J. 07062
August 21, 1979

Mr. Don Fraser
1183 Warsaw Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3M 1C5

Dear Don,

I greatly enjoyed reading Mr. Nixon's article on the Location of Montreal & Ottawa Printings of the Small Queens Issue. I feel that his suggestions that the British North American Bank Note Company moved its operations to Ottawa in the fall of 1873 may still be open to question.

"Canada, The Small Cents Issue 1870 - 1897" by Lt. Col. Studd that appeared in our Journal contains the following quotation " A perusal of the chart shows my earliest dated copies of the perf 11½ x 12 variety are 19th January, 1873 and 18th April, 1873. All values in use in 1873 are found with the perf 11½ x 12 variety in that year. In the case of the 1 and 3 cent values the perf 11½ x 12 variety was in full use by August 1873. - - - I deduce therefore that the perf 11½ x 12 machine was first used in late 1872 and that these stamps were first issued to Postmasters in 1873. The last copies with perf 12 in 1873, are dated July and October. "

However with the advent of the Instanta Guage and Larry Shoemaker's study, I think that Mr. Studd's statement should be amended.

According to Shoemaker his Class 7 - Faded Rose Red perf 11 3/4 x 11 3/4 appeared in Dec 72, Class 8 - Pale Rose perf 11 3/4 x 11 3/4 appeared in -72 and Class 9 - Brown Red perf 11 3/4 x 11 3/4 appeared in Mar 6, 1873. The first true 11 ½ x 12 perforation appeared in September 1873 which was an orange shade. (Chas A. Porter reports a 11½ perf dated August 8, 1873.) Therefor the various shades of Rose ended with Class 8 which appeared - 72. Or to state it differently, the first non Rose shade was Class 9 which first appeared on March 6, 1873. His paper designated "D" (with one brief exception which appeared in Class 13 - Dec 76) ended with Class 9.

Therefore one should assume that Studd perfed the 11 3/4 x 11 3/4 stamps which appeared from Dec.72 to Sept.73 as perf 11 ½ x 12. Now we could say that the perf 11½ x 12 machine was used in mid 1873 and that these stamps were first issued to the Postmasters in August 1873.

This amended statement of Studd's would then back date Mr. Nixon's suggestion of the fall of 1873 by three or four months to the summer of 1873.

As you know I have been doing a study of the 10¢ Small Queens for the last several years. Up to now the main stumbling block has been the use of a color chart. I think I am going to settle on the Inter-Society Color Council - National Bureau of Standards color-name charts illustrated with centroid colors for reasons I will enumerate then. I hope to have copy ready for exposure to the Study Group in late 79 or early 80. Since we are dealing with a stamp with an estimated printing of 4,290,400 copies, stamps with vertical wove paper as an identification play a most important role. Some shades are found only on vertical wove paper.

I am surprised that Mr. Nixon's article on the Location of Montreal & Ottawa Printings of the Small Queens Issue did not bring any comment. So I am enclosing some thoughts on his article.

Best regards,


Russ

936 Fernwood Avenue
Plainfield, N. J. 07062
August 21, 1979

Mr. Don Frasek
1183 Warsaw Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3M 1C5

Dear Don,

Re: Keith Elliott's article on the 3¢ Small Queens Printings
on Vertical Wove Paper.

During my reading of this very informative article something basic (in my way of thinking) appeared to be missing. During my second reading of his article it occured to me that what was missing was an explanation of vertical wove paper and how it came about.

In a nutshell whether the paper had a horizontal weave or vertical weve was dependent upon the grain of the weave of the belt on which the paper pulp was riding when the water was being settled out from the paper fibers. All of the articles that I have read on papermaking have stated that the weave on the belts was horizontal. Therefor vertical wove paper came about during the cutting operation when some sheets of paper were given a quarter turn before they were cut.

These quarter turned sheets were then fed into the press and presto we have stamps with vertical wove paper. That is why we can have dated copies of the identical shade and paper with the same range of dates with a vertical and horizontal weave.

To further add to the potential collectable varieties we have another basic situation. During the papermaking process as described above the pulp was riding on a belt. Since the surface of the belt was not absolutely smooth, this belt surface imparted a rough texture to the pulp in contact with it and the surface of the paper became smooth in comparison to the underside. Now if some sheets of paper were turned over prior to being fed into the press presto another printing variety occured. Now in theory we can find four collectable varities from the identical paper and ink.

Please understand me, I am not trying to put Mr. Elliott down. I am positive that he understands the above and perhaps assumed that in a Study Group that we all have some basic knowledge of papermaking. Enuff said.

Actually in Shoemaker's study the vertical wove paper is a key to identifying 2B, 3, 10, 16, 19, 20, 23, 26, 29 and 37. Also the report on the Chas. A. Porter collection turns up many more vertical wove varieties, most of which I have been able to confirm from material in my collection.

However, in looking at my study of the 3 cent value arranged according to Shoemaker, I see that there is a sharp break in color continuation or flow between Class 8 and Class 9. Class 8 has quite a bit of a rosy tint whereas Class 9 has none at all. (My earliest dated copy of Class 9 is postmarked May 23, 1873.) The color flow from Class 9 to Class 10 is very smooth.

If one wants to argue that a dramatic shift in color is the time when B.N.A.B.N. Co. moved to Montreal then the date would have to be sometime prior to the appearance of Class 9 on March 6, 1873. One would have to assume that they took a stock of paper with them to Montreal because Class 9 paper is the same as Class 8 paper. But how does one handle the fact that the Class 9 perforation is the same as Class 8 - namely $11 \frac{3}{4} \times 11 \frac{3}{4}$.

So I strongly feel that by the evidence presented above that the B.N.A.B.N. Co. moved to Montreal sometime during the three or four months prior to August 8, 1873 when the first true $11 \frac{1}{2} \times 12$ perforation appeared together with a new class of paper and a new class of gum - Bogg's "W".

It is interesting to note that Shoemaker's study confirms Mr. Nixon's date of the move of B.A.B.N. Co. to Ottawa around May 29, 1889. His Class 30 - Paper J (new paper class) color - vermilion is dated September 2, 1889. His gum 4 he shows as 1888 - 97. This May 29 date is reasonable when one takes into account the lead time for production from date of order and shipment to the various postmasters and the heavy inventory of stamps on hand at June 30, 1888.

It is interesting to note the following statement from the Sessional Papers of 1890 for the postal year ended June 30, 1889:

" In the Statement of Receipts and Issue of Postage Stamps, &c, it will be observed that the Stamps on hand at the close of the last year very largely exceeded the number carried over from the previous year. It was thought prudent to carry a much larger stock than usual, owing to the removal of the establishment of The British American Bank Note Co. from Montreal to Ottawa and the probable delay in procuring stamps during such removal."

A new shade - Rose Carmine first appeared on Oct. 6, 1888 together with a new paper type -h. Assuming a three month time lag between production and delivery of stamps to the post office, this places us in July 1888 for production of the first Rose Carmine. A check of my unused copies of the 3¢ Rose Carmine and the 2¢ Registration stamp shows that the gum is Bogg's gum Y - a thin smooth, shiny yellowish gum. This is the gum of the Montreal printings.

Thus the Rose Carmine of 1888 was printed in Montreal and not the first Ottawa printing as some prior writers and Mr. Elliot stated in the last issue of "The Small Queens Newsletter".

Best regards,


Russ Allison