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SMALL QUEENS STUDY GROUP

Minutes of two get-togethers while in Winnepeg.

9/2/83 - Breakfast Meeting

Attending: Fraser, Burnett, Olson, Siverts,  
Burega, Dicketts, Lowman, Switt

- Reviewed George Olson's oval cancellation disertation.

George was to check with Alan Steinhart about the potential for printing under the auspices of BNAPS handbook department. In lieu of that we decided that a monograph be issued by the Small Queens Study Group.

- John Burnett committed to get his compilation of duplex cancellation material as applied to the Small Queen Era typed up and start a few mailings of this information. Burnett made the point that this is not original research but only a culling out of data from the Smythies article "Duplex Cancellations of the Victorian Era".

9/3/83 - Second Get-together

Attending: Olson, Switt, McCain, Waite, Fraser,  
Ludlow, Burnett, Chaffe, Arfken, Sheaklen

It was decided that we will go through with some focused studies that Jeff Switt will coordinate and Don Fraser will get the mailings done.

- George Olson will commence a study of "fancy cancels on Small Queens". He asks all who submit to either identify from Day-Smythies or trace what you have and get a copy to him.

George's address is:

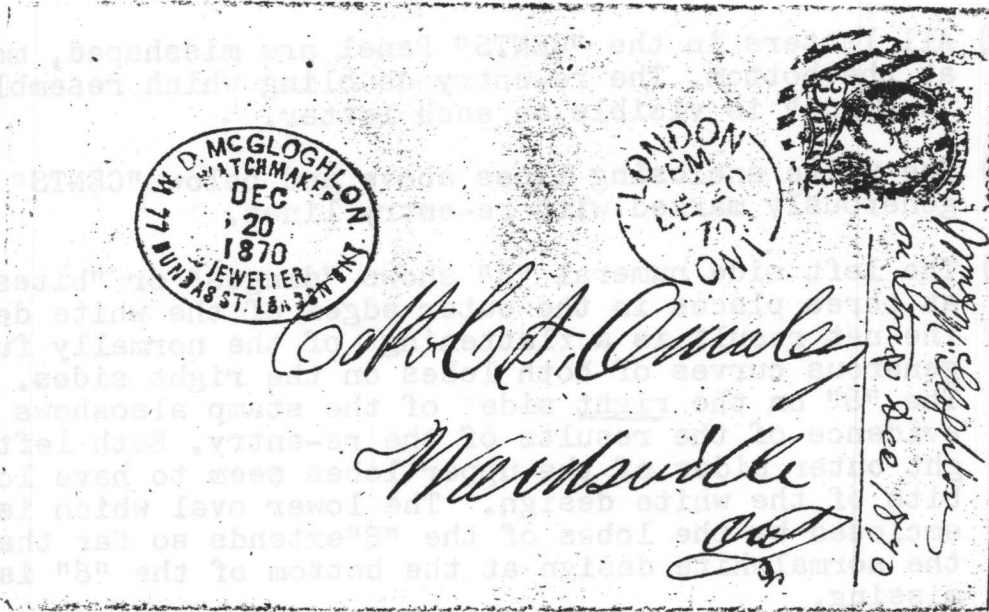
Mr. George Olson  
P. O. Box 14746  
Minneapolis, Minn. 55414  
U.S.A.

- We must also work to generate interest in the group and want all who can to report prices realized from auctions with whom they are dealing.
- Dave McCain noted that probably every BNAPS'er has some Small Queens and should therefore be interested in the group - so let's all work at getting new members.
- John Burnett also asked that we commence a study of the "thick paper" version of the 34 rose. Burnett will develop a questionnaire to send out to the members. The feelings of all present was that this stamp may prove to be as rare as the perf 12½.
- So here's what we need from you fellow study group members:
  1. Reports on prices realized for Small Queens.
  2. Data to George Olson on the fancy cancels you have.
    - (a) Identified by Day Smythie-number, if on cover the town name and date shown on the cover.
    - (b) Not shown in D-S as much information as you have including date, stamp type, shade of stamp (may help identify period) and a tracing or Xerox of cancellation.
  3. New members - set yourself a goal of one new member this year - think about it! What BNAPS'er doesn't collect Small Queens, he may not specialize in them but we all have them, so let's support the group

John T. Burnett

The Date of Issue of the 3¢ Small Queen on Thick, Soft Paper

It's catalogued as #30d (formerly #37i), the 3¢ Small Queen on thick, soft paper. When was it issued? Boggs, on information available 40 years ago, said 1871. Hillson in 1981 was more specific: January 1871. Actually an earlier date had been published in Maple Leaves ten years before in 1971.



In 1971 Art Leggett recognized the significance of the cover shown above and sent the cover to W. Williams of the Small Queens Study Circle of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain. Williams described this cover in Maple Leaves, Vol. 14, P. 36, December 1971. He noted particularly the 20 December 1870 date and commented "We now have to revise our records from January 1871 to December 1870". Williams' report did not include an illustration. Apart from photos in two auction catalogues, this may be the first illustration of this cover in the philatelic literature. As pointed out in Maples Leaves' 12 years ago this cover shows clearly that the month of issue goes back to December 1870.

Note: On the same page of Maple Leaves there is a report from John Siverts of a 1¢ Small Queen on thick, soft paper. John Siverts had to wait 10 years but a decade later the 1981 Canada Specialized Catalogue listed this variety as #35ix (now renumbered as #28k in the 1982-1983 catalogue).

RE-ENTRY ON 8 CENT SMALL QUEEN

The re-entry is visible in at least a dozen places altogether. It is most noticable as:

- (1) Extra lines in the lower part of the large white line oval which forms the vignette surrounding the head of Queen Victoria. These extra lines in the oval are visible from a point directly above the left end of the "CENTS" Panel to a point almost directly above the right end of the "CENTS" Panel.
- (2) All letters in the "CENTS" Panel are misshaped, mostly at the bottom. The re-entry doubling which resembles "erosion" is visible on each letter.
- (3) The white enclosing lines above and below "CENTS" are generously marked with re-entry lines.
- (4) The left side numeral "8" shows "dings" or "bites" at three places in the outer edges of the white design. The net result is a flattening of the normally full generous curves of both lobes on the right sides. The "8" on the right side of the stamp alsoshows evidence of the results of the re-entry. Both left and right outer sides of the upper lobes seem to have lost bits of the white design. The lower oval which is enclosed by the lobes of the "8" extends so far that the normal white design at the bottom of the "8" is missing.
- (5) All letters of "CANADA" are "eroded" at the bottom.
- (6) The tops of "C", "N", "D" of "CANADA" are flattened.
- (7) The white enclosing/ <sup>line</sup> above "CANADA" which forms part of the top of the design is doubled above the entire word "CANADA". The white line is almost filled with extra lines above the "D" of "CANADA".
- (8) "CANADA" is condensed or flattened at the tops and bottoms of all letters.
- (9) Where the white line enclosing the "CANADA" Panel turns to travel vertically (forming part of the edgee of the design) extra lines or other signs of doubling occur in at least three places.
- (10) The outer frame line is either faint or invisible above the "O" and "S" of "POSTAGE".
- (11) "POSTAGE" shows doubling (dents) at bottoms of "O", "S", "T" and "E"
- (12) Also doubling (or flattening) in the tops of "P", "O", "S" and "G".
- (13) The white line above the Scroll enclosing "CANADA POSTAGE" is doubled in many places all across the top.



