SMALL QUEEN STUDY CIRCLE OF BNAPS

Volume 13, No. 1

Editor: W. G. Burden Box 152, Truro, N. S. B2N 5C1

1) For an explanation, please read my rather long letter to the membership on the following page. I need and and anidicases shelped succeived

Please, do not destroy your envelope until you determine if your dues are owing.

- a) Small Queen Precancels H. Reiche
- b) Two Cent Registry Rate of 1888 6. Arfken
- c) Early Toronto Cork Cancellations R. Leith
- d) A rare 6 cent variety W. G. B.
- e) ERU of 2 Ring Numerals update V. Willson
- f) Constant variety diagrams Many Members
- 4) I would like to express a special thank you to those members who have helped out in one way or another over the past year. The value of the contributions of those who have submitted articles is enormous and I am sure that I speak for the entire group when I say 'well done and thank you'. Less obvious are the contributions of those who have sent along templates of varieties in their collections. I appreciate the effort involved and look forward to continued interest in this area; again thank you, very much. will be seen see deset to been see test after seed.

5) Financial Update as of March 23, 1989 Bank balance at end of Vol. 11 finds two erapl \$82.87 list on the series of politics \$477.56 Income Dues & Interest Expenses (Volume 12)* \$311.68 and fine to other salling 83.11.68 In Bank as of March 23, 1989 \$248.75 * Postage: \$124.78 Printing: \$146.20

> \$40.70 **Total Expenses** \$311.68

Envelopes:

Fellow Small Queen Enthusiasts,

When I undertook this job, I expected to be able to publish 3 or 4 newsletters a year. The 1987 year went reasonably well, if one discounts the fact that the last bulletin was mailed well into 1988. Until you receive this, the last issue of 1987 was the most recent issue. You haven't missed anything, but you haven't received anything from me either.

It is quite obvious to me that I have not been and am not likely to be able to send mailings to you on a more regular basis. The three articles that are included in this issue include everything that has been given to me in the last year.

In the past year or so, I have not been able to spend any significant amount of time at my personal collection, and when I do get the time that I would like, it is unlikely that I will find enough 'new' material to fill 3 newsletters a year. I expect to be doing some more close-up photography in the near future, but I rather doubt that our group really wants to see pictures of well known varieties. I will of course be happy to show anything I find that I have not seen published before, but these items are not common.

With the above 'facts' in mind, I would like to make the following proposal for your consideration.

I would like to suggest that the three articles enclosed would constitute a valid 3 issue volume (1988), and that after receiving it, your 1989 dues, if not already paid, are due. I would certainly be happier with 3 mailings, but expenses including postage, photocopying and envelopes are quite uncompromising and one mailing is significantly cheaper. Being older and wiser, I will not promise, or even under take to hope for more than one issue for the 1989 volume. Of course if I get so many articles that I need to go to press more often, I will do so. (Should this happen, it is likely that I will have to ask for a further financial contribution from the membership.) It is likely that another issue, similar to the one in your possession will constitute Volume 14 (1989).

It is important to me to be assured that the membership approves of this 'arrangement'. If you do approve let me know. If you have any suggestions or comments, again, let me know. If you don't approve please make some alternate suggestions. Of course, if you don't really care at all, I guess it doesn't matter, does it?

Should you be able to offer the group an alternative, please don't hesitate to offer, you would not hurt my feelings at all. Two years ago I told our previous editor, Don Fraser, that I would give the job a try for 1 year. I would be quite happy to continue to provide an article or pictures from time to time and let someone else do the mailings.

I am told that we need at least one more officer to allow our group to be considered 'official'. The Small Queen group is one of if not the oldest study groups; it would really be a shame if we were disbanded due to lack of officers. Could I please have a volunteer? Someone who is likely to go to most, some or even the next convention and therefore is able represent us would be most desirable. Please let me know if you are willing to serve and we will try to figure out what your 'duties' will be.

If you are not certain if you have paid your membership dues, check your mailing label, it notes the last year paid. Until further notice, dues will remain \$5.00 Cdn in Canada and \$5.00 US to other mailing addresses.

Thank you for your time and consideration in these important matters. I hope that you find this issue interesting, I feel that there is something for everyone.

Sincerely,

Bill

Ri 11

Small Queen Precancels Hans Reiche

The Standard Canada Precancel Catalogue 1988 and Canada Precancel Handbook list and explain some of features of the Small Queen precancels. Eighteen different styles can be distinguished of which four are wavy lines, three are broken lines and the rest are classified as The clear identification of the bar styles presented to many collectors some problem, due to the method of over-printing the stamps. The new Catalogue attempts to separate them by measurements of the thickness of the bars distance between each bar, a much as the as well accurate way to identify these bars, than by the number of bars per inch. Many of the Small Queen stamps do not show enough of these bars to make this kind of measurement. Small Queen specialists will say that the listing is complete at it neither lists and separates properly the various shades and the Montreal or Ottawa printings. This is true as far as the Scott numbering is concerned because the Scott numbers are neither compatible with the actual facts nor are they correct. An attempt to overcome this problem in a future edition of the catalogue has been started but the Study Group.

Although the first precancels on the Small Queen issue came out in 1870, only a few Montreal printings have so far been found. Most are from the Ottawa printings; and especially the in the lower values.

For example, the Style A should read: teant Order No. 31 dated (M) 1 c Orange Orange-vertical (M) (M) Yellow orange Yellow orange-double (M) (0) Bright yellow Bright yellow-double (0) Bright yellow-vertical (0) "letters" was italicized (0) Orange yellow Orange yellow -double (n) strong of fore HA WORLD & at be: Orange yellow-vertical sited States". The circular was also

No attempt has been made to list the perforations, but probably only very few Montreal 11 1/2 X 12 precancels exist. A detailed study of these would be a worthwhile undertaking but unfortunately not many extensive collections remain intact to do the work.

The Anomalous 2c Registry Fee to the U.S.

March, April 1888

George B. Arfken

Note: This material has been covered in detail by Harrison in articles in the American Philatelist and in Maple Leaves [1]. With the discovery of a first day of rate cover (Figure 1.) it was decided to rewrite the material for a Canadian publication.

Throughout almost all of the Small Queen era, 1870 - 1897, the registration fee for letters to the United States was 5¢. Indeed the green 5¢ registered letter stamp was issued specifically for this fee (and only this fee). A number of years ago collectors began noticing registered letters to the U.S. with a 2¢ registry fee paid with the orange red 2¢ RLS. These anomalous covers were dated March or April 1888. None had any markings indicating that they were underpaid.

The anomaly was explained in a short article by Harrison [1]. For two glorious months, March and April of 1888, the legal registry fee was 2¢, not 5¢. Figure 1. shows a registered cover posted to the U.S. on the first day of this reduced fee. The 2¢ registry fee is properly paid with the 2¢ RLS.

The notice of the reduction of the registration rate to 2¢ came in Department Order No. 31 dated 13th February, 1888:

"The registration charge on *letters* sent from Canada to the United States will from the 1st March next be two cents, in addition to the ordinary postage, and the ordinary red two cent registration stamp may be used for this purpose."

The word "letters" was italicized in the original to emphasize that the reduction in the registry fee applied only to letters. The above quotation was repeated in a CIRCULAR sent to "postmasters at offices exchanging mails with the United States". The circular was also dated 13th February, 1888.

However this Department Order was quickly followed on 26 April 1888 by Department Order No. 32 (effective 1 May 1888):

"3. The registration charge on all articles of correspondence of whatever description - whether letters, printed or miscellaneous matter - when addressed to the United States, and posted for registration, will be 5 cents, to be prepaid by the appropriate 5 cent registration stamp, in addition to the ordinary postage."

So on May 1, 1888 the registration fee for letters to the U.S. returned to its old value of 5d.

These department orders establish the validity of the anomalous March, April 1888 2¢ RLS covers to the U.S. But what was behind the fee reduction? What was behind the abrupt cancellation of the 2¢ fee and the return to the previous 5¢ fee?

The answers to these questions lie in a comprehensive postal convention between Canada and the U.S. signed January 12, 1888 in Washington and January 19 in Ottawa and in a later amendment [2]. Article 7(a) in the January postal convention read:

"Any packet of mailable correspondence may be registered upon payment of the rate of postage and registration fee applicable thereto in the country of origin."

postal convention article was in the spirit of the agreement of January This 1875 when each country extended its domestic rate to mail to the other country. In accord with this earlier agreement the letter rate from Canada to the U.S. had been reduced on February 1, 1875 from 6¢ per half oz. to the Canadian domestic rate of 3¢ per half oz. This was in the overall spirit of making the two countries one postal territory.

Looking back after almost a century one wonders if the U.S. delegates negotiating the postal agreement had thought through the consequences of the paragraph just quoted. The paragraph clearly committed Canada to extend its 20 registry fee on domestic letters to letters addressed to the U.S. Canada quite properly complied and letters with the 2¢ RLS began arriving in the U.S. can imagine that this precipitated a reaction that the U.S. officials had not foreseen. In 1888 the U.S. registry fee was 10¢. The comparison of the U.S. fee to the 2¢ Canadian fee was most unfavorable to the U.S. Post Office Department.

Negotiations were hurriedly reopened and the delegates of the countries agreed on an amendment to the earlier agreement. The amendment signed in Ottawa April 25, 1888 and in Washington April 27, 1888. Article 1. of the amendment concludes with the words:

"the registration charge, in addition to postage on correspondence passing between the United States and Canada, shall be at a rate of not less that 5 cents and not exceeding 10 cents in either country."

The registry fees on letters going between Canada and the U.S. could range from 5¢ to 10¢. Canada took the low end of the range. The U.S. stayed at the high end of the range. On May 1, 1888 the Canadian 2¢ registry fee on letters to the U.S. was canceled. The registry fee went back to 5¢ where it had been before the March 1 reduction. It had all been a dreadful mistake.

* *** *

- [1] "Canada to U.S. The Short-Lived 24 Registration Fee", Horace W. Harrison, American Philatelist vol.91, p.94 - 96, February 1977. Also published in Maple Leaves vol.16, p.186 - 189, June 1977. Harrison credited Allan L. Steinhart with recognition of this fee reduction.
- [2] Report of the (U.S.) Postmaster-General 1888, Appendix A, p.842 - 845. This postal convention of January 1888 covered many other matters besides the registration fee. Among the additional points were agreement that official mail that passed free in one country could pass free to the other country and that underpaid mail would be charged only the simple deficiency (contrary to Canadian policy on domestic mail of doubling the deficiency).

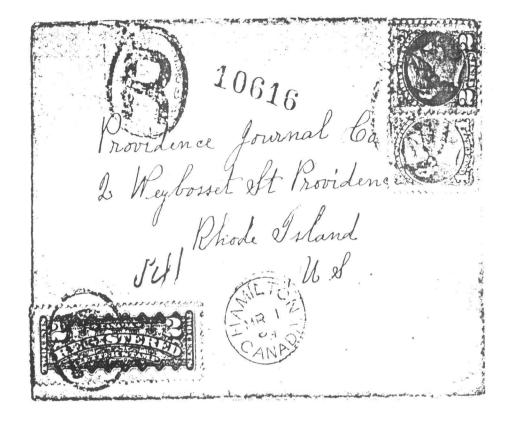
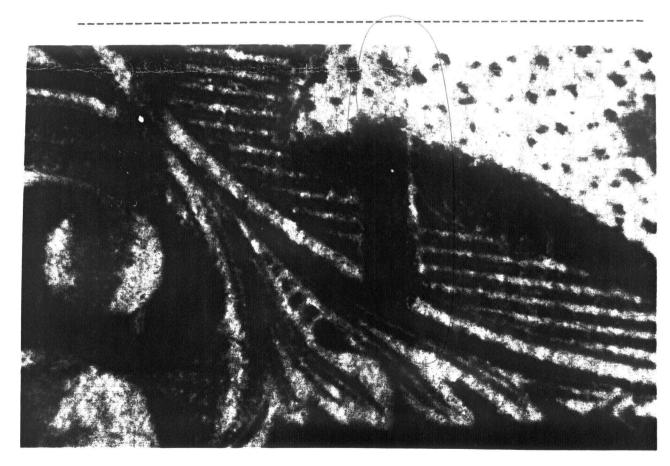


Figure 1. The anomalous 2¢ registry fee on a cover to the U.S. MR 1 88, (confirmed by two backstamps), a first day of rate cover.



The above is a photo of a very interesting variety to be found on the early printings of the 6 cent small queen. A very noticable 'gash' is located at the base of the Queen's neck. It is reputed to be quite uncommon. Your editor would be very interested to know of any copies currently in the hands of members. You might consider informing me in a short note with your dues.

file: RON\ARTICLES\TORONTO.1

date: DECEMBER 10, 1988 distant of beniupen show ashow wash

subject: EARLY TORONTO GEOMETRIC CORK CANCELLATIONS

It was at the Virginia Beach BNAPS convention that Vic Willson showed the author a number of Toronto fancy cork cancels on SQ covers. They had the right "feel" that typically indicates when a collection area's time has come and that was all the bait it took to hook this fish.

Early Toronto cork cancellations have a particular fascination for a number of reasons. First, they are very attractive and exhibit a wide assortment of collectable designs. Next there are the rarities to add some glamor to the collection area and finally, the majority of these cancellations exist on cover in the fabulous early classical SQ period from 1870-1874. Surprisingly little philatelic writing has been done on the Toronto corks apart from the Cohen et al articles on the fancy Toronto numeral "2" cancels of the late LQ period. As a result, there does not appear to be that many people collecting them. To uncover this kind of scenario is the dream of every philatelist and it usually means lots of covers can be found in dealers stocks at prices that are affordable for most of us.

One can easily surmise why the corks became so widely used at Toronto during this period. The old Berry duplex cancelers were worn out and the tremendous growth in the postal system had officials more concerned about survival than with ordering cancelling devices. The post masters were left on their own to solve the problem the best way they could. The US postmasters had been successfully using cork cancelling devices for years and it did not take long for their Toronto counterparts to take up the idea. Not willing to be outdone by the fancy corks that they routinely saw on mails from the USA, the Toronto officials designed the elaborate numeral "2" corks in August of 1869. These were truly magnificent creations that have subsequently passionately collected by some of the worlds top philatelists. Unfortunately most of these are on LQ stamps and covers with equally impressive price tags. With this economic fact in mind, the author pursued what he considers the next best cork cancellation area. That of the period between the fancy numeral "2" devices and the re-introduction of official duplex cancelling hammers in Aug/Sept 1874. The duplex directive signaled the desire of the postal authorities to get back in control of the obliterating devices. The 5 years of postmark creative freedom had not only produced some splendid cancelers but also some that could barely cancel a stamp.

The life of a Toronto cork obliterator was short. Most of the corks were replaced every month with only the odd one lasting beyond 6 weeks. Consequently, the strikes are generally clear and crisp unlike some of the smaller towns that used their corks for 10 or more years. Needless to say these ended up in the

miscellaneous "blob" category. To give some perspective on how many corks were required to handle the Toronto volume, there were 73 fancy numeral "2" hammers recorded during the 5 month period from August/69 to January/70! Fortunately, the geometric corks stood up better than the fragile numerals and the author estimates 175-225 Toronto hammers exist from 1870-1874 making it a nice finite collectable area.

The scope of this project should be defined as the documentation of Toronto geometric cork cancellations on the SQ issue from 1870-1874. The author suggests it is logical to extend the period to 1880 since there were relatively few corks cut after 1874 and the 3rd duplex order arrived in 1880 virtually eliminating the need for corks. Included will be the ERD, LRD and the rarity factor. If any reader has information relating the corks to a specific Toronto office (either Toronto, Toronto North, Toronto East, Toronto West) this would be a bonus. It is conceivable that the return address could identify the most probable office of posting.

Since some fancy numeral "2" cancellations were used up to October 1870, all 1870 strikes will be included in the study. Certainly, any found on SQ stamps or covers are scarce to extremely rare. Cohen et al wrote an excellent article in BNA Topics #372 where an exhaustive search recorded only 5 different Toronto fancy numerals used after Jan 1, 1870. These were ...

DRS to	ype 17	Jan 1870	(on LQ only)
5000 000 AUG. 100 1			3-0 FEET NAME OF THE PARTY OF T
D&S t	уре 63	Jan 1870	(on LQ only)
D&S t	уре 38	Sept & Oct 1870	(on SQ)
D&S ty	ype 14	Sept & Oct 1870	(on SQ)
D&S to	VDR 55	Oct 1870	(nn SQ)

The D&S Toronto numeral "2" listing is included for reference to feedback any of those numbers you may be fortunate enough to find in your own collection.

The author hesitates to define a permanent number system for the cork cancellations at this time since there are too many obvious holes in the data base and there is no way to tell how "big" these holes are without group feedback. Some initial thoughts were to assign 5 or 10 digits per month from Jan '70 to Dec '79 with the possibility that a prolific cork cutting month would overflow the number system. Another option suggested was to use a single digit per month and for each new entry make a "point" entry (eg 17.1, 17.2, 17.3, etc.). Your comments please. The hand printed temporary ("T") numbers at the upper left of each illustrated cork should be used to reference updates. The illustrations taken from Day & Smythies are designated "D&S" and those from Jarrett are designated "J".

During an active work day it is unlikely a clerk in need of a

apt to quickly make up a simple sunburst or a grid with a few knife strokes. As a result, we tend to find a higher proportion of bar and grid corks at the busier post offices. To complicate matters the corks fragment, warp or spread after continuous use making positive identification tedious and often impossible. As luck would have it a simple identification system can be used even for the seemingly unclassifiable grid devices. Simply count the number of vertical and horizontal "cuts" the designer made

canceler would spend the time to carve a fancy cork. He was more

the number of vertical and horizontal "cuts" the designer made in the cork. This would be an impossible task if one had to consider all the hundreds of cork grids for the entire 10 year period. Fortunately, we only need to compare cork cancels over the 1-2 month cork lifespan in one city. The likelihood of having two or more identical cork cancelers during this short period is remote. We will find out how remote once the data starts arriving.

If all reporters provide data in the tabular form shown below, it will speed up processing greatly. We will require a clear photocopy of all new cancellation listings and the addition of an "accurate" tracing will be appreciated. Virtually all BNAPS'ers collect SQ's in one form or another, consequently, we recommend contacting one or two to augment the information found in your own collection. This might also get a few more people interested in the study group and we can always do with a few new recruits

on the team.

temporary
number (T) mo-day/year (on cover or piece) stamp only

Figure 1 shows May and June 1872 strikes of T350, T360 and T370 on 3 different covers. They appear to be the same hammer in different stages of deterioration over a 2 week period. In all likelihood the segmented corks number T310, T340 as well as T350, T360 and T370 are the same device and we should be able to prove this with additional strike date input.



FIGURE 1: Three strikes over a two week period of Toronto segmented cork T350 showing the rapid deterioration.

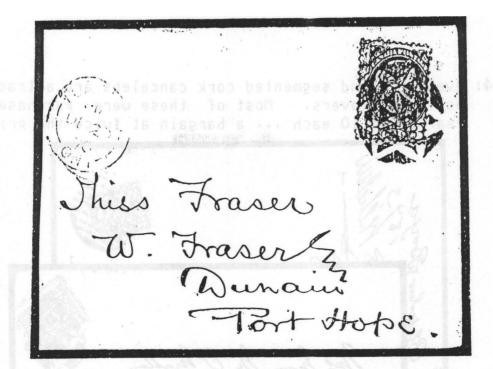


FIGURE 2: Hammer T40 with the Toronto split ring free strike dated DE 29/70. Jarrett lists this as cancel #1336 dated 1871 with no city designation. Day & Smythies subsequently lists the strike as D&S #863 from Ottawa dated 1870. It is the author's opinion that only one hammer existed and it was from Toronto not Ottawa.

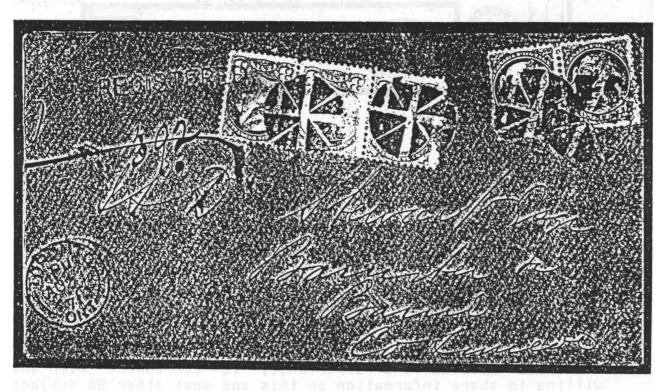
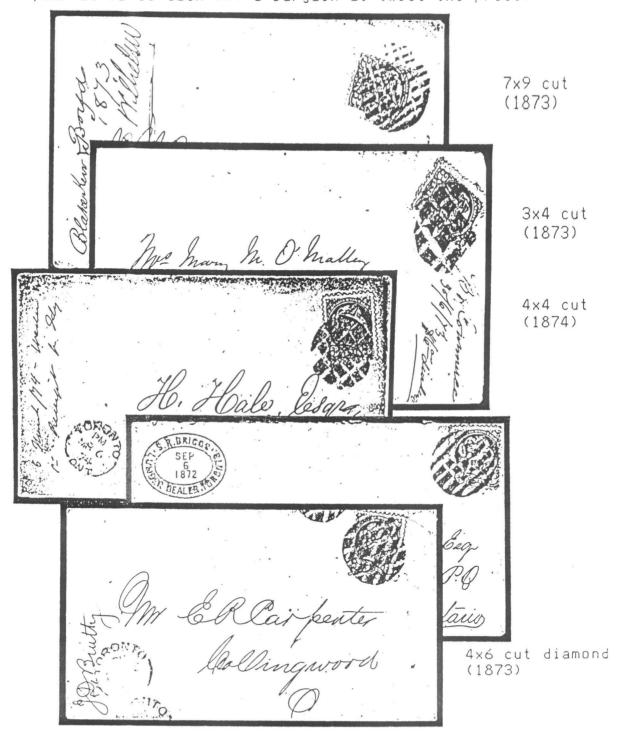


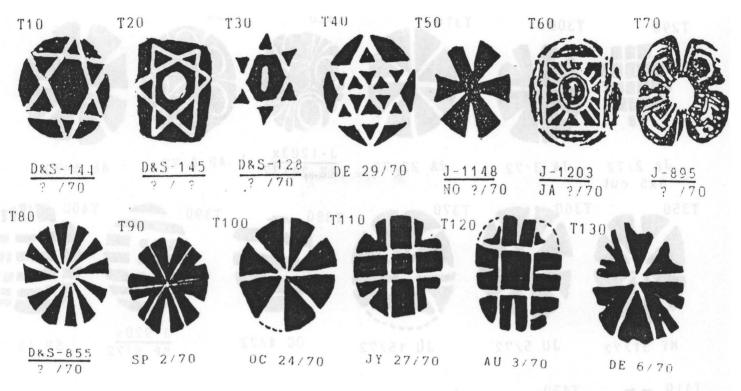
FIGURE 3: Segmented corks are fairly common, however, they add a lot more beauty when 4 strikes enhance an 11c domestic triple rated registered cover.

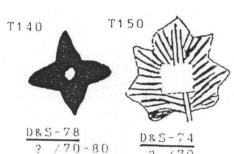
FIGURE 4: Even grid and segmented cork cancelers are attractive on early SQ covers. Most of these were purchased in the last year at \$5-10 each ... a bargain at twice the price.

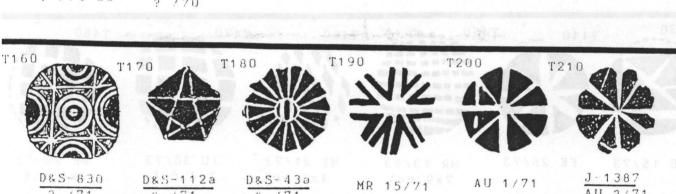


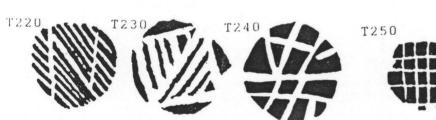
The author welcomes the opportunity to correspond with anyone willing to share information on this and most other SQ subjects. Write direct to:

Ronald D. Leith
P.O. Box 430
Abbotsford, B.C. V2S-5Z5











MY 22/71

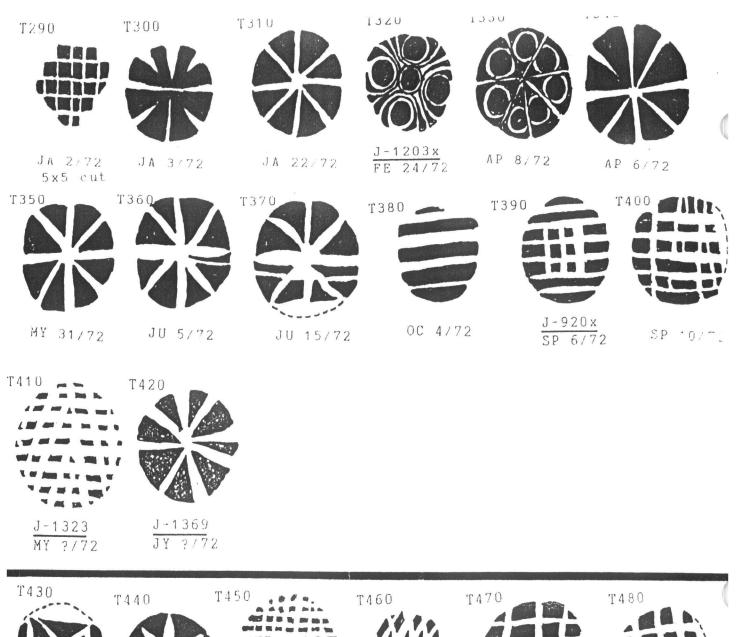
T260

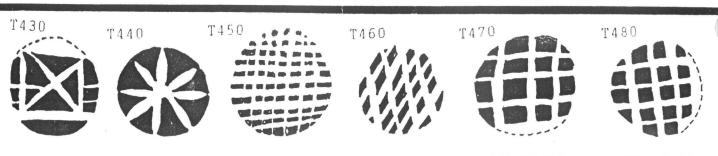
JY 20/71 NO 10/71 4x5 cut

NO 22/71 NO 23/11 3x5 cut

T280

FE 20/71 3x7 cut





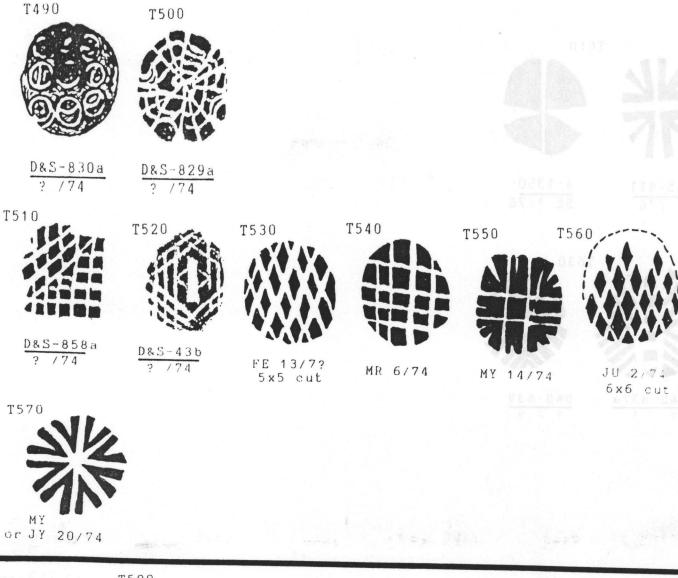
FE 15/73 FE 26/73 MR 7x

MR 13/73 7x9 cut

MY 21/73 4x6 cut

JU 30/73 3x4 cut

DE 20 75 4x4 out



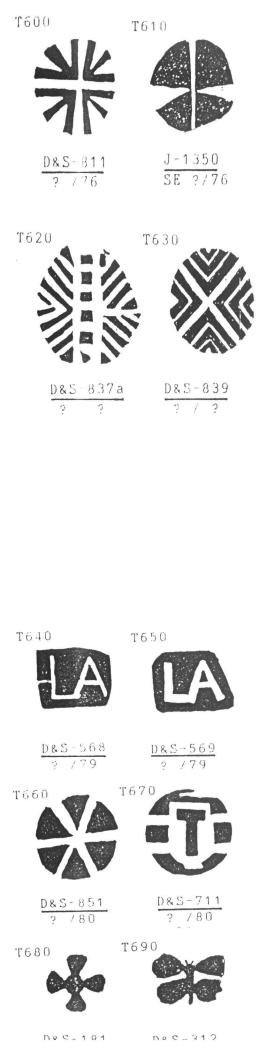
T580

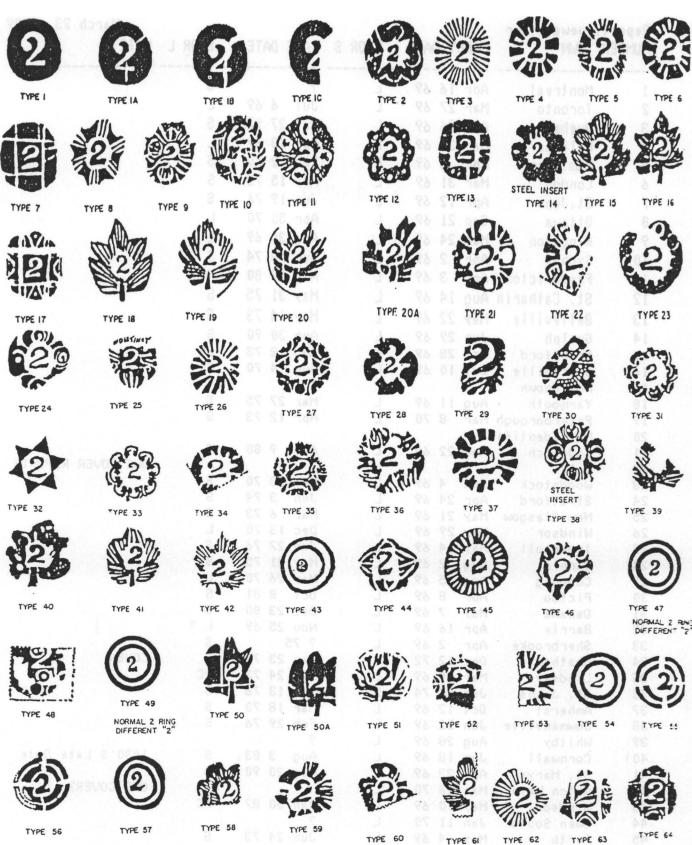
AU 2/75











TYPE 60



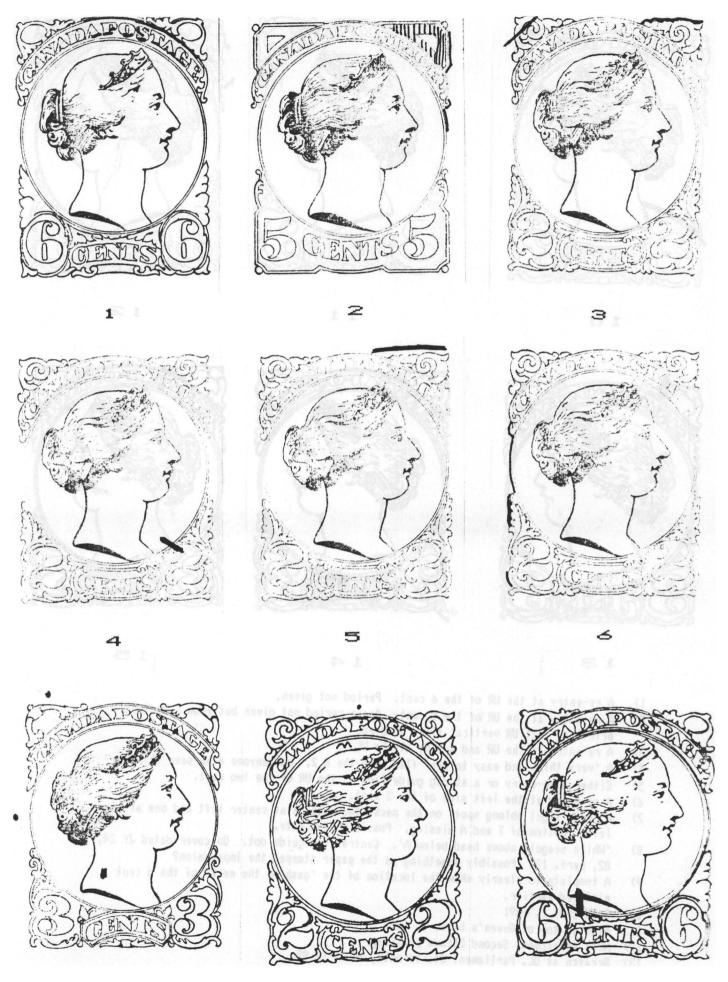
TYPE 65

References:

- Canadian Fancy Cancellations of the Nineteenth Century, 1. Day & Smythies, 1973
- Standard BNA Catalogue, Jarrett, 1929 2.
- Cronology of Toronto Fancy "2" Cancellations, Cohen et 3. al, BNA Topics, 1979 vol 36, #4, p.22-23
- Their The Large Queen Stamps of Canada and 4. Duckworth, 1986, p.212-215
- 5. Canadian Official Postal Guide, 1870 & 1880

Report: newsletter March 23, 1989

Report NUMBER	: newsletter TOWN	EAR	LY	DATE	L OR S	LAT			S OR L	March 23, 1989 NOTE
1	Montreal	Apr	16	69	L	?			S	
2	Toronto	Mar			L	Jul	6	69	L	
3	Quebec	Apr			L	Jul			S	
4	Halifax	Mar			L	Apr	13	69	L	
5	Hamilton	Apr	5	69	L	Feb			S	
6	London	Mar			L	May			S	
7	St.John	Apr			L	Jun			S	
8		Sep			L	Apr			L	
9	Kingston	Mar			L	Aug			L	
10	Sydney	Apr			L	Jun			S	
11	Fredericton				L	Aug			PC	
12	St. Catharin				L	May			S	
13	Belleville				L	May			S	
14	Guelph	Jun			L	Apr			S	
15		Oc t			L	Aug			PC	
16	Brockville	Jul	10	69	L	Aug	4	70	S	
17	Not Known									
18	Yarmouth	Aug			L	Mar			S	
19	Peterborough	Mar	8	70	L	Apr	12	/3	S	
20	Not Identifi		00		1		0	0.0	0	
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23	Woodstock	Jun			L	Mar			S	
24	Stratford	Apr			L	Jun			S	
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26	Windsor	May			L	Dec			L	
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28	Sarnia	Aug			L	May			S	
29 30	Cobourg Pictou	Aug Apr		69 69	L L	May Oct			L S	
31	Oshawa	May			L	Dec			S	
32	Barrie	Apr			L	Nov			L ?	
33	Sherbrooke			69	L	? 7	5		S	
34	Chatham	Dec			S	May			S	COHEN
35	Lindsay	Mar			L	Mar			PC	
36 37	St. Johns Amherst	Jun Oc t			S L	Jun Mar			S S	
38	Bowmanville	Jun			L	Feb			S	
39	Whitby	Aug			L	?				
40	Cornwall	Jun			L	Aug			S	1930'S Late Date
41	St. Marys	Apr			L	Aug	20	90	S	ONE COLIEDO
42 43	Acton Vale Windsor	Mar			L	Jan	30	97	PC	ONE COVER?
44	Owen Sound	Jan			L	?	30	07	rc	
45	Perth	May		69	L	Jun	24	73	S	
46	Dundas	May	7	69	L	Oct			S	
47	Napanee	Jul			L	Mar		74	S	
48	Simcoe	Jul			L	Oct			S	
49 50	Prescott St. Andrews	Jul May		69 72	L	May Feb			S S	
51	Piction	Mar			L	?	17	7.6	J	
52	St. Hyacinth				L	Jan	25	82	S	
53	Three Rivers		2		L	?	manufact			
54	Truro	May			L	Mar			S	
55	Berlin	Apr			L	Jun			S	
56 57	Brampton	Sep			L	Nov May			S S	
57 58	Paris St. Thomas	Apr Apr			L	Mar			S	
	- 11 11101103	۱ ۱۲۰۰			-					









10

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12







13

14

15

- 1) A re-entry at the UR of the 6 cent. Period not given.
- A re-entry at the UR of the 5 cent. Again period not given but from a Montreal printing. All UR vertical lines doubled.
- 3) A re-entry at the UR and a line at the UL
- 4) A 'very thick and easy to see' flaw over the R 2. Has anyone else seen this one?
- 5) Either a re-entry or a strong guide line at the UR of the two cent.
- 6) A re-entry at the left side of the 2 cent.
- 7) A 'very light oblong spot' on the neck; two dots, 1 at center left and one at top left. Bottom of T and A missing. Possible 1893 date.
- 8) 'White seagull above head below A'. Central top guide dot. On cover dated JY 24, 82, perf. 12. Possibly something on the paper stopped the impression?
- 9) A template to clearly show the location of the 'gash on the neck' of the 6 cent pictured earlier.
- 10) Scratches c. 1891
- 11) Blob on top of Queen's head. c. 1894
- 12) Neck scratches. Second Ottawa printing.
- 13) Scratch at UL. Parliament St. Toronto, PM JA 12 92.

- 14) Scratch. Late Mont or early S.O. printing.
- 15) Scratch of cheek on 41a.

These are as submitted to me. I suspect that some are <u>not</u> constant. I am sure that all members would like to hear if anyone can confirm second copies of any of 3 to 15.