

MAP STAMP

STUDY GROUP

BNAPS



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As I write this from our Island in Georgian Bay, it is a cold night in late October. The World Series is almost over and the summer birds have passed through! All our neighbours have left and the only light I can see across the bay is the navigational marker that locates the entrance to the channel to the marina, six miles away. Muskie fishing is just a dream and another season has slipped by with no trophy "Wall Hanger". We're packed and ready to leave over the coming weekend. It has been a summer of rain, wind and high water - not much sun either. The best "good weather" we had was the two weeks we were in Vancouver in late August to visit our daughter and Expe /86 - What a show! Now for stamps!

BNAPS /86 Dearborn Michigan Aug 29 - Sept 1 /86

As planned, Marjorie and I attended the convention and met all our friends from former years. The arrangements were superb, especially the two hors d'oeuvre receptions and the annual banquet. Our accommodations were very comfortable in the older part of the Dearborn Inn.

As planned I entered my exhibit "The Re-entries on Black Plate V - Canadian Map Stamp" in the exhibition. I was successful in winning a Silver Bronze, the same as STAMPEX/86 & Pipex, at least the judges were consistent and I can say no more, I attended the critique the next day and am now satisfied that the future holds promise for a new perspective in judging specialty exhibits in comparison with classic material of a high dollar value. The Judges comments were merely to increase the material to illustrate all the Black Plate Re-entries!

Bill Robinson, Editor of the RPO Newsletter writes in Vol 15 #1, Oct. /86 "The Chairman of all Study Groups met with John Burnett, the S.G. Co-Ordinator, to discuss the problem of specialty judging. The problem did not materialize to any extent this year, thanks to the good common sense of the Judges, but action is being taken to develop Criteria and guidelines, such as those now in Use for topical exhibits."

Map Stamp Study Group Meeting BNAPS /86 Dearborn. Our group met immediately following the Re-entry group and I attended this also, John Burnett was acting as Chairman. The Re-entry people didn't have a prepared program available and the meeting opened with someone asking "What is a re-entry?" John and two or three others gave explanations (including WLB) which covered the question. I had my Map slides with me for use when the Map Study Group convened, so I volunteered to

illustrate the answer by showing Map specimens with the Major Re-entries highlighted. This was quite successful and carried over into our meeting. Many of the Re-entry group stayed for the MAP meeting and we had a lively discussion on this general subject and then, on plating in general. All told about 15-20 attended, depending on when you took a head count!

THE CANADIAN MAP STAMP OF 1898 - A Plating Study

The publication of this handbook is proceeding satisfactorily. The text is complete, as well as the two appendices (Red Plate A & Plate B), but is being read by three prominent philatelists to check its "readability". Everything has been put on computer tape, so last minute changes and corrections will be simplified. My thanks for this goes to Mike Street who, amazingly, finds time to help in the midst of all his other endeavors. The boys at Unitrade and Alan Steinhart have been extremely helpful and co-operative. More later.

Pleasant Visit In July, Marjorie and I were pleased to host Mark and Linda Larkin of NYC, Editor of CARTO, at our summer home on Georgian Bay for a weekend of sun, stamps and relaxation. They flew into Toronto in the midst of a violent electrical storm, one of several Toronto had in July, and we met their plane which was three hours late, having been held in NYC by the weather. Then a two hour drive north and a 30 minute boat ride in the dead of night. I'm sure they thought they were in the "Boondocks" (Mark's word)! We had the pleasure of taking Mark to a location on the Severn River nearby, where he had spent summer vacations 50 years ago as a boy. Things had changed!

Rounding up Squared Circles Sept-Oct /86 BNA TOPICS has an excellent article by Tony Shaman of Kitchener entitled "The Lonely Greats" which indicates the importance of establishing a Rarity Factor for these cancellations on 3¢ Jubilees and the Map stamp. I was at the auction that Tony mentions when a 3¢ Small Queen with a Fonthill Sq. Cir. cancel went for \$10,000.00 It took my breath away! I've been toying with a system of establishing a R.F. for Sq. C. cancels on Maps - proceeding from that detailed in the Handbook by Moffat and Hansen. My mathematics need a little fine tuning before I can include my first attempts in a future Newsletter.

However I want to rehash here an item I included in an earlier Newsletter with a little more detail added (Vol 1 #2 Feb-Mar /83). The 1987 edition of "Scott's Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps & Covers" includes for the first time, a listing of a Major Re-entry under No's 85 & 86 - The Map Stamp. It is Position #91 on Black Plate V

Prices quoted are: 5-B-91

	M	U
VF	\$250.00	125.00
F	175.00	100.00
VG	100.00	

The catalog is reviewed by Mike Street in BNA TOPICS Setp-Oct./86 Vol. 43, No. 5 and the following paragraph is aimed at the listing of 5-A-91 among others:

"Much hard work has gone into the preparation of this catalog, but there are deficiencies. Virtually none of the varieties listed are illustrated. This makes it very difficult, for example, for a collector to identify re-entries or most other printing flaws. 'Specialized' implies that basic information such as this will be present."

This is indeed an important break-through for the science of plating this stamp! How many philatelists can identify this variety? At the prices quoted, I'd suggest collectors had better become knowledgeable about the many varieties available, or they might trade away hundreds of dollars of catalog value!

Lets look again at the figures used in that earlier Newsletter (taken from Tomlinson and using a Survival rate of 5%)

		<u>19,927,500 Printed</u>				
		<u>Tomlinson</u>	<u>No. Sheets of</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>Sheets</u>	
			<u>100</u>	<u>survival</u>	<u>left</u>	
				<u>rate</u>		
<u>PLATE #1</u>	(Lav) Gray	10%	1992750	19927	996	1000
	Pale Blue	8%		15942	797	800
	Deep Blue	8%		15942	797	800
				<u>51811</u>		
<u>PLATE #2</u>	(Lav) Gray	10%	1992750	19927	996	1000
	V Deep Blue	21%	4187775	41878	2094	2100
<u>PLATE #3</u>	(Lav) Gray	24%	4782600	47826	2391	2400
<u>PLATE #5</u>	(Lav) Gray	6%	1195525	11955	598	600
	Blue-Green	13%	2590575	25906	1295	1300
				<u>37861</u>		<u>10000</u>

The right hand column indicates the number of each Plate No. and ocean colour you would expect to find, assuming an even distribution in 10,000 random stamps. Therefore it follows that, to find a specific stamp, say 5-B-91 the Major Re-entry referred to with Lav(Gray) ocean, you would have to look through $10,000 \div 600 = 16.67$ sheets or 1,667 stamps. Try another Major re-entry, 3-A-47 (most common) the calculations are $10,000 \div 2,400 = 4.166$ sheets or 417 stamps. The choice of 5% survival rate doesn't influence these odds as they are relative to any survival rate, being a ratio.

Take another statistic: In 100 random stamps the odds of finding 5-B-91 (Lav) are one to 16.67 sheets of 100 or approx. 1: 1,700. With 3-A-47 the figure is 1: 420. Lets go a little further: If a nice used (CDS cancell) on any position from Plate #3 sells for \$5.00, the price for a similar cancell on any position from Plate #5 (Lav) works out to be $5.00 \times 1700 \div 420$ or \$20.20.

Now add in a multiplier representing the Rarity Factor for Different Sq. Circle or R.P.O. cancellations and you get astounding figures. Suppose the RPO has a RF of 10 and sells for 10.00 on an item from Plate #3, the same cancellation on Plate #5 (Lav) is 10.00 times 1700 + 420 or \$40.40. If the RF is 100, the price should be \$404.00. A further multiplier must be used to make this truly representative. The RF used in Moffat & Hanson's Squared Circle Handbook and Ludlow's RPO tables refer to the cancellation and does not take into account the stamp it is on. Perhaps looking at the curve in the chapter on RF and using the number of cancellations reported in total as being related to the number reported on a specific stamp and using that R.F. would be indicative. More work on this is needed! Better look through your stock of Maps for 5-B-91!

In What Order was it Printed? This question was posed and an answer attempted in the last Newsletter, but not very satisfactorily. During the summer, Allan Steinhart checked in ^{with} what seems to be the last word. He sent me a photo-copy of an article by F. Walter Pollock which appeared in the "Canada Corner" of STAMPS for January 13, 1945. "Got a feline by its nether appendage, and can't disengage myself; yep, it's the same old MAP STAMP again, or rather still.

Remember, last week, Steve Rich spoke up about the order in which the various colors of this stamp were printed. As he saw it, the black came first, then the blue, and finally the red.

And now comes a letter from Fred Jarrett who wrote the STANDARD B.N.A. CATALOGUE in 1929, and who has in his possession, a holograph letter, undoubtedly contemporary, from the office of the Private Secretary to the Postmaster General, establishing, beyond doubt that, indeed, the black did come first (thus verifying Steve's theoretical approach to this question), but otherwise, that the red came ahead of the blue.

The letter states that "The Canadian stamp known as the Imperial Penny Stamp - sometimes known as 'The Map Stamp'; this stamp requires three different impressions as follows:

There is then affixed, under the caption "Result of 1st impression, an imperforate proof showing the black portions of the design only.

Next follows, under the heading "Result of 2nd impression", another proof showing the black of the design and the red of the British Empire; finally, described as the "Result of the 3rd impression" comes a third proof showing the addition of the ocean blue.

The letter concludes by explaining that the "foregoing proofs" are not really stamps, never having been gummed or perforated, but are intended merely to show the process of printing. These are the only stamps in the world requiring

three distinct printings. This is the completed stamp."
 - below which appears a gummed and perforated stamp in the form as issued.

And that, I think we may safely say, is that."

I hope that is that!

Wanted Dealer Jim Hennock had asked me to include a "want" of his: a used block of four of the Map Stamp with a two Ring 14 (Guelph) cancellation - each stamp is S.O.N. and there are two known. If you know of one, please contact Jim (see TOPICS for his address.)

Interesting Letters etc:

1. Ray Horning, Ottawa. Ray and Helen had invited Marjorie & I to visit Ottawa this summer and do some sleuthing with the B.A Banknote Co. but the summer slipped by and we didn't get there - our loss! (2 letters)
2. Leo Scarlett, Flushing, N.Y. I had some Canal Zone OVPTS on US Stamps and I sent them to Leo thinking that I had a fortune, as they had been in my dad's collection 40 years ago. Leo said they were very poor forgeries - alas!
3. John McCrea, Monroeville P.A. Back in the spring John sent me a listing of 83 Map Stamp RPO cancels (via Jim Lehr) which boils down to 59 different Ludlow types. I'll report on these and other lists later.
4. Jim Karr, Calgary, Alta. Jim also sent me his list - 28 different strikes.
5. Jim Lehr's List was only 6 strikes, and he added, he was "frankly surprised how few Map Stamps I had".
6. Sandy Mackie, Aberdeen, Scotland: A nice long letter full of news about his philatelic activities in UK. Sandy plans to come to CAPEX 87 next year.
7. Jack & Bev Wallace extolling the wonders of Expo 86 in Van.
8. Jim Kraemer, Ottawa, Ont. explaining the judges position on exhibits that are specialized in nature.
9. Bev. Clark, Winnipeg Man. also explaining the judging method used in specialized exhibits.
10. Dr. Charles Hollingsworth, Walsall, Eng. telling me of his plans for a study group meeting at the convention in Scotland in Oct. (CPS of GB)
11. Bill Robinson Vancouver, B.C. (Editor of RPO Letter) Bill pointed out several deficiencies in my exhibit at ~~that~~ the PipeX show (not complete - needed the material from Pl. 1,2,3.)
12. Cathleen A Jones, New address 126 Farnham Gate Rd., Unit 107, Halifax, N.S. B3M 3T7 Cathleen has moved to a condo from her split level home and is more comfortable now as she has been ill for several months. She also sold her summer place (too far from Halifax) which she has had since 1931. She hopes to get back at the Maps again soon.
13. Mark Larkin N.Y.C. Sent me a clipping from Linns giving the PIPEX results and also a list of Squared Circles in his collection (15). Mark was one of the philatelists who looked at the draft for the handbook. One of his contributions was to correct my spelling of cancel ('one L'.) Later a card from

San Sabastian, Spain, on his hiking trip through the Basque country.

14. Ralph Trimble, Scarborough a quick note about STAMPEX 86 in Toronto.
15. Ron Winmill, London, Ont. Ron has a copy of the handbook text and is reading it for me and will point out any ways to improve the format. Two letters with Map comments.
16. John Jamieson, Sask. John was one of the editors of the new Scotts Specialized and responsible for getting 5-B-91 listed. Good Show!
17. Tony Shaman Kitchener, putting me in touch with a map collector/dealer in Little Current Ont.
18. Mike Street, Ancaster. Several letters, phone calls and visits over the summer. Mike arranged to put the handbook text on his computer and is really polishing my grammar and re-arranging the order of things.
19. Allan Steinhart, Toronto. Several visits, letters and phone calls. Allan is chairman of the BNAPS Handbook Committee and as such is responsible for its publication.
20. Ed. Stanway, Wadsworth, Ohio. Ed tells me he has decided to give up collecting stamps and has resigned from BNAPS. too bad. I'll write him to see if he'll reconsider.
21. Dick & Kathryn Lamb - 2 visits, Dick is doing some sleuthing to bring to justice the perpetrator of a big philatelic scam here in Ontario, Kay is reading the script for the handbook.
22. Gary Arnold Grand Ledge, Mi. The latest Squared Circle Newsletter in which I reported several new finds on maps.
23. Jim Felton, Little Rock, Ark. Asking me about ORBIF Cancels on Map Stamps from London, Hamilton & Toronto. I sent him about 30 from my collection for his inspection. These were new to me as a specialty and he'll do an article later on for our letter.
24. Don Blair New Address 162 Franklin Rd. Long Meadow Ma. 01106 --with thoughts on the printing of the Map Stamp. I'll use them in the next issue. Good work Don!
25. Frank Waite, Newberry Mich. A nice letter telling me the Steelhead season is starting in Michigan, also indicating his interest in ALGOMA cancellations on the small Queens. He even franked his letter with the current 22¢ US Muskie Stamp! (did he have to rub it in?)

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Thats it

WLB. Editor