

MAP STAMP

STUDY GROUP

BNAPS



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The middle of March - baseball spring training is about half over, and we've taken in about five games here in West Palm Beach. Last Monday my son and I sat in the sun drenched stands to watch Montreal Expos triumph over the Yankees. The New York team made 6 errors in losing, with owner Geo. Steinbrenner in the stands, 7 rows below us! Since early February we've had visitors at 3-4 day intervals and yesterday we put my son and his wife and two grandchildren on the plane for Toronto. Marjorie was busy all day putting things back in order, while I got in a few sets of tennis. Now to catch up on the Maps and sort out six months of correspondence and report on it.

THE CANADIAN MAP STAMP OF 1898 - A PLATING STUDY

Nothing to report on this project from Unitrade, despite three letters to them over the winter.

RARITY FACTORS FOR SPECIALTY CANCELLATIONS ON MAPS

My start on this item, as reported in #13 last Oct., certainly drew a number of well thought-out replies. Letters from Jim Kraemer, Ron Winmill, Jim Lehr, Tony Sha man, John Jamieson and others contained valuable hints at how to proceed. One of the best pieces of advice was to write Lew Ludlow of RPO fame and ask how he would proceed. This brought a most delightful response and a four page, intelligent critique on R.F. and how he dealt with them when establishing the numbers for his RPO handbook. Then a number of ideas on how to proceed with a Map system of R.F. Following - I have reproduced two small sections of Lew's letter, hoping that the comments will cultivate ideas of how to proceed from others. Perhaps when we get further down this road, a reproduction of Lew's whole letter will help, but for now because of space :-

1). "I would go to the Map Study Group and ask that they report to you each and every one, all R.P.O.s on the Map Stamp by Listing Number and how many copies of each. You can make this easier, by making a list of the 279 runs as an enclosure, leaving them space to report on each listing, making it easier for them to report back to you."

2). "I am dead set against using a multiplier on combining rarities of different aspects to come up with a total rarity on something. At best, something in this area is additive, rather than exponential. The problem in this

is money, not rarity. You may have a \$100 Map variety with a \$100 R.P.O. on it: it may be 10,000 in rarity, but who cares. At best it might be a \$200 item in the market place. The problem is that it is appealing to two different markets, neither of which wants to pay the premium for the other."

I would like an inventory of RPO strikes on Maps from collectors in general and in particular those belonging to the RPO and Map Study groups. As Lew suggests the first thing is a reporting sheet detailing the 279 runs that occurred during the MAP period. Some members have already reported to me but more are needed. I see one problem: there are thousands of Canada collectors, most of whom have from 1 to 10 copies in their albums sorted as to ocean color without heed to the postmark, and who do not belong to BNAPS; or if they do, have no special interest in Maps or RPO cancels, with the resultant difficulty of RPO identification. This summer I will produce such a list and ask potential reportees to write me asking for a copy and a self addressed stamped return envelope. See the July or Oct./87 newsletter and the RPO letter. (Bill Robinson - please copy!).

#### Some other comments

John Jamieson "I believe RF are helpful, but on the more esoteric combinations -variety &/or Re-entry, with rare cancel, they can become far larger and indicate a price ~~a price~~ which, while possibly indicative of true rarity, would never be realized in dollars!" Agreed!

Tony Shaman " I wonder, for example, how much more a major re-entry, selling for \$100., would be worth if it also sported a New Germany strike? Surely, not less than, nor more than, the usual price charged for a major re-entry. By the same token, why would anyone pay more for a New Germany strike than \$100., if this is the current selling price for such a stamp? In other words, if a major re-entry and a New Germany can each be bought for \$100. why would anybody pay substantially in excess of this amount for a stamp that is both a re-entry and bears a New Germany strike? One case may be where the collector specializes in S.C. strikes on major re-entries only. Otherwise, either stamp would satisfy his need."

Ron Winmill " I really see no point in developing a system of R.F. To determine the R.F. with different cancels on a particular position would require an extensive examination of ~~all~~ the stamps bearing these cancels and the possibilities are too numerous. Besides, many RPO and SC strikes are unique and would be top rarities regardless of where they sat on a sheet"



Jim Lehr "The question of R.F. always is good for an argument in any group of philatelists. That is why I side-stepped it in my book...." "A request to all other study groups would be the first step (for an inventory) than a letter in TOPICS."

Jim Kraemer "Wish I knew how to tackle the R.F. System or at least had some good ideas. Guess you know I don't like R.R. systems unless they relate to a selling price." Jim also enclosed a list of R.F./\$ for S.C. on 3¢ Jubilees and Canadian Perfins.

Hopefully - more later.

Pleasant Visits Late in November we had a call from Jim and Fern Kraemer, who were in the area, and spent a night with us and part of the next day. There was a lot of talk about stamps and Maps in particular well into the wee small hours. They are old friends from their days (30 years ago) in Kitchener.

In late Feb. Mark and Linda Larkin flew down from NYC for four days of Stamps and tennis. We occupied part of our time with long walks on the beach as the waves were running high, driven by a strong N.E. wind. At this writing Mark is somewhere in Nepal, having hiked up to the base camp (elev. 18,000') on Mount Everest, after flying to Katmandu.

New Re-Entries on Map! I was quite startled one afternoon in Jan. when examining a faint CDS cancel on Map, to see a glaring re-entry looking back at me through the magnifying glass - Quick identification procedures established the plate position as 3-A-20. This position has the right border cable retouched and a red dot positioned approx. midway between islands #1 & 3 of the Pacific Isld. Group - really easy! Something clicked in my mind though, & I turned to Tomlinson (Page 26) where he describes position 20 on Pl.3 as "shows clear doubling as if re-entered." There is no question about this re-entry, and I am at a loss to know why it was not included with other majors noted in his handbook.

Again, on another afternoon, I was startled by yet another re-entry, this time minor, on position 3-A-88. There is clear doubling of the top cable at the right side, the top inner frame line, and at least, the top latitude line as well as the hatching of Scandinavia and Northern Russia. (excluding the shore line). A suspicion grew in my mind that there may be others by my planned examination of all of Plate #3 hasn't occurred yet.

Ralph Trimble and I work very closely on Map re-entries. (He is editor of the Re-Entry Study Group Newsletter). I shipped several copies of both positions off to him for his opinion. Yes! he agrees they are new material, especially position 3-A-88. He sent me back photos of yet another re-entry in the LRVT of a Map, position yet unidentified. It may be there are more minors to be found on Pl.3 (Lav. Ocean), but more later, maybe some photos.

## 2 & 3 Ring Orb Cancellations on Maps

One of the delights experienced by participation in other Study Group Meetings at the BNAPS convention is the overlapping of other interests by other philatelists. This occurred after Dearborn when I received a letter from Jim Felton of Little Rock, Arkansas, (whom I still have to meet), enquiring about the use of these cancels during the Map period 1899 - 1900 at Toronto, London and Hamilton. He's been studying these cancels for 10 years and was looking for examples of their use on Maps particularly. One of the advantages of collecting Maps (and this applies also to the 3¢ Jubilee's and to some extent, the 2¢ Quebec Tencenary and others) is that they are large stamps and thus much more of the speciality cancels (squared circles, RPOS, corks, orbs, etc.) actually occur on the stamp itself. This gives the philatelist the advantage of easier identification rather than finding a whole cover - with the resultant extra cost. But back to the ORBS - I went through my cancel collection and sent Jim all the copies I had of Toronto, Hamilton and some London (and details on many more), for his perusal and as an aid to his research. This resulted in a flurry of correspondence, the end result of which is the following article on "Maps & Orbs" - A Global Report.



376

Type  
376

Used by Hamilton Toronto, London.  
Black.  
All values incl. 15c.



377

377 Black. 1906.  
All values.



## A GLOBAL REPORT

by Jim Felton

Orb was the name given by Max Rosenthal to the large 2- and 3-ring cancellations of the late 19th century [Topics, December 1970]. Jarrett showed several of these devices on page 441 of his Stamps of British North America. Ron Winmill includes this style of postmark in one of his chapter titles but does not elaborate on them, except that a cover is illustrated [pages 84-85, The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and The Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map Stamp]. What I want to do is describe the range of orbs to be found on Maps, then present details of my study of orb cancels and emphasize usage on orbs. I hope this will encourage you to add your own examples to round out even further the study of the usage of the Maps and also the orbs.

So far I have been able to establish roughly 40 different orb cancel devices. There has been only limited published data on them so far. Dr C W Hollingsworth has two articles in Maple Leaves describing nearly all these cancels. His major article appeared in February 1973 preceded by one in October 1965 touching on a single one. David Handelman put together a fine study of hammers solely from Toronto in Topics, April 1973, describing one not noticed by Hollingsworth. If there are any other articles I have not yet found them. However, for over ten years I have continued where the other studies left off.

The first orbs were used in Toronto beginning in early 1891. Eventually 7 Toronto hammers were used plus a great many more at various postal stations. About half the orbs were used at Toronto. In 1896 London and Hamilton received 3-ring orbs, replacing the squared circle in the latter case, as suggested by Lew Ludlow recently [The Round-Up Annex, newsletter of the BNAPS Squared Circle Study Group, Vol 9, number 3 (October 1986), pp 346-347]. Later orbs were used at Ottawa, Montreal, and Winnipeg, but years after the normal Map period.

LONDON is by far the most commonly found orb on Map, with your leader Whit Bradley reporting over 75 examples himself. I know of examples of this cancel each month from July 1896 to December 1901 except for two months; I have irregular usage into 1916. Timemarks range from 9 to 24, with single reports of 1 and 7, and two reports of 6. The latter could be inverted 9's. The error 61 for 19 as well as 81 for 18 are known. From March 26 to April 30, the year appears as 10 for 01. Accumulating clusters -- different timemarks for the same date -- is a challenging objective, as is good old calendar collecting.

Until I heard from Whit Bradley I had no record of any HAMILTON orb cancels on Maps. He informed me of three examples, each useful in my study. I show continuous use from April 1896 through December 1897, after which usage is very light and irregular. I show May, September, and October 1898, then December 1898 to March 1899, August 1899 (as a receiving mark), then October 1899 through January 1900. Whit's copies gave me the reports for Jan - Mar 1899. Any reports you make will be important in learning about the use of this cancel. Timemarks range from 7 to 24, with no known indicia errors or deviations from TM/MM DD/YY scheme. I have no reported Sunday dates.

There were three 2-ring orbs used at TORONTO. One has side dots and no period after Canada and has been named type D by Handelman. It is the second such device chronologically with two rings. Usage from August 1892 to July 1901 is very spotty, though I do show usage continuously from October 1898 to November 1899, then 3 months in 1900 and two in 1901. Like the Toronto squared circle, clock times were used for the timemarks. I note 10 AM through 8 PM, 10 and 11 PM. After LONDON this is the next most common orb to be found on the Map, though additional reports are needed because of the irregular usage so far recorded.

The next TORONTO 2-ring has no side dots but has a period after Canada, and was called type P by Handelman. This is the earliest 2-ring, used from March 1891 through Septem-

ber 1897, except for October - December 1892. There is a revival in 1899 when use in March, April, and November is noted. I have no specific reports of usage on Maps, but it is likely that such exist. Again, any reports will be important. Timemarks range from 10 AM to 8 PM, 10 PM - 12 PM, 1 and 5 AM.

The third TORONTO 2-ring was converted from a duplex cancel between January 7 and 13, 1902 and used until December 1903. I have no reports on Map but the existence of the cancel on Map is likely. This device is immediately recognized because of the large size lettering.

The TORONTO 3-rings are tougher to separate. I finally had to make transparent overlays, or foils, to be able to identify them with confidence. All four were used in the Map period, according to my notes, though my predecessors Handelman and Hollingsworth may not agree with me. In a future article I will give you the details about the four hammers, to keep us from getting too bogged down in details here.

At the turn of the century the branches of the Toronto post office were given letter names, replacing the street stations. Station B was the earliest using an orb, and had been York Street. I show the latest date for the York Street squared circle as August 13, 1900, and have a duplex dated October 22, 1900 and a cds dated November 2, 1900. Eventually we find Station B had a cds, by November 3, 1903, and a machine by 1904.

As far as the orb is concerned I note continuous usage from November 1900 to January 1903, then very spotty use until January 1908. Timemarks known are 9 to 23. Occasional year date reversals are known in 1901: May 31, December 16 and 31. I also note JUL 91/01, and 81/JU/--, so there may be many indicia errors to collect.

TORONTO STATION C used as many as 6 hammers -- Hollingsworth reports 6 but I'm not yet convinced that two of his six aren't the same device. Whit Bradley reports a Map with hammer I in 1904, rather late date for a Map. The earliest orb date is June 4, 1903, and a new hammer came into use in 1904, 1905, 1906, 1909, and 1912. The potential for other orbs having been used on Maps seems good.

Additional Toronto Stations used orbs later but until we find an example on Map from them we will omit those other devices from discussion among the Map specialists. By the same token we omit Ottawa, Montreal, and Winnipeg, as the orbs saw their introduction from 1906 onward.

My plan is to present a detailed account of usage at London, then go on to the other offices. If you will share any dates from your collections at this time I will be able to incorporate your reports in the presentations to be given. Of course whatever and whenever you can report is welcomed. My address is Box 56371, Little Rock, AR 72215.

There! Here is a whole new field for you Map Stampers -ORBS on Maps. I have already set up an album for "clusters & calender collections" as suggested by Jim. It's suprising how many you can find. Please report your holdings either to Jim or myself - especially Hamilton dates.



### What Order Was It Printed?

You will remember that this topic was well covered in #13 and hopefully put to rest, by an article that appeared in "Canada Corner" of "STAMPS" in January 1945 by F. Walter Pollock quoting Fred Jarrett, to the effect that the order was Black, Red and Ocean color.

Well, last Oct, too late for inclusion in #13 came a well reasoned and interesting treatise on the subject which are his "totally uninformed impressions" (his words) from Don Blair of Longmeadow MA. I was so intrigued by it that it is reproduced herein as received.

"What do I think about the order of printing of the sheets and the Essay/Proof book sequence numbers? NOTHING!! I don't believe there is any correlation at all. I just think the identity numbers were assigned as the various proofs became known by sight or hearsay. Its obvious someone just made random sequence. Who would decide which was first? The printing company? Doubt it since they probably had no specific interest in any sequence of proofing the printings. And, if they did, then the records would be available and the question becomes academic. Its hard being objective and knowledgeable nearly 100 years after the happenings. (Almost said--'after the fact'. But, fact is what is being hunted for.) Our knowledge of sequence only covers the fact that 1 precedes 2, precedes 3, precedes 4, etc. etc.. At least thats what we're led to believe.

Latitude/Longitude lines -- I'm convinced in my own mind they were all part of the original die which then repeated onto the transfer roll and thus onto the plate. I have a small die on card: very brilliant black impression, and, everything is there. (Including the island placements in the India Ocean, Azores off Africa, and other places). I believe they were intended as clues as to where to place some of the islands, or, the engraver knew in advance where lines stop short of the inner frame line, and, all other areas of the design. If this were an additional impression after the cable frame, can you imagine all the additional shifting varieties that would exist? The capability of plating the sheets would be defeated nearly entirely.

Was the Red before the Ocean color? -- My opinion is Red after Ocean. Take all your multiple copies of same position in blue; Plate 2 is good: red Plate A; and put them all next to each other. (Any color O.K. since method of mf'g. would not change on short deadline they had then.) Look at the shifting of the ocean color on all stamps. Any shift will show a white area around the major land masses. This tells me the ocean 'plate' (?) had planned openings in which the Red would fit within. The best areas I found looking at the shifting was Australia, the Artic/Alaska/Canada, and the four inner frames lines.

"These areas are good because of the Red impression. The shifting almost seems to be in a related pattern in any direction. But, just enough differences show up to build the so called 'brick wall'. For an instant I thought of the possibility of there being a combined ocean/island plate impressed onto the black die printing. But that idea is scrapped. No evidence supports this thought. Red on top of blue will remain predominately reddish; blue on top of red will show a color shift toward violet, or, cover somewhat due to pigment differences. (Were the colors printed dry on dry; wet on wet; or, split?) Lots of questions with only assumed answers available?

Blue oceans -- I'm not a printer so I keep getting confused by the terms electroplating and typography. But--the oceans puzzle me. Some seem to be solid color and others show as vertical line separation of color. Many copies show a blueish impression over the Lat./Long. lines which, to me, supports the die imprint. No last impression of lines. (Lavender does not hide lines.) Why do the lines look darker at the Reds more than at the Blues? Probably due to pigment concentrations in formulae, or, just the nature of the beast?

These are my brief (?) and totally uninformed impressions (no pun intended). Probably not worth a hoot but its fun to conjecture. Keeps the brain loose."

Good Work Don - Maybe it will draw some critical comment by other Mappers!

Duplex on Maps This will be short - but more later if I hear from Bob Lee. This cancel is well documented in E.A. Smythies handbook in Canadian Duplex Cancellation. My interest was whetted by Bob's Newsletters, so I began identifying and segregating the cancels (thanks to the large size of the Map). I've found several not covered by Smythies (Dates & Killer Details Inc. Towns). This is another new subject for me and entails yet another album!

Trivia Recently in a large wholesale lot I came across a pair of maps on what looks like a shipping tag, clipped close to the perfs and with a smudge - killer cancel. On the back is a receiving CDS. All I can read is "AMKAOTI CAMP" 1st O....Y 2AP99. Would this have anything to do with the Boer War? Any comment?

### Interesting letters:

1. Clinton Phillips, Collage Sta. Tx. New BNAPS Librarian asking for back copies of our Newsletter.
2. Mike Street, editor TOPICS - several over the winter mostly about the Handbook.



3. Gary Arnold S.C. Newsletter Editor, with latest Newsletter.
4. Ron Winmill London, Ont. Several after the RF. letter with Map clippings.
5. Charles Hollingsworth, Walsall, England, with mint blocks of the RAF issue of last year.
6. Ray Horning Ottawa, with a list of the Wentworth County Post Offices - opening and closing. Will be useful in identifying Map CDS etc. Also ORB information and SC on Maps.
7. Ralph Trimble Editor Re-Entry Newsletter - exchanging information on Map re-entries.
8. Kathryn and Dick Lamb Kitchener - their annual Christmas newsletter.
9. Bev. & Jack Wallace Victoria, B.C. A cover from Australia where Jack was a judge at AUSIPEX in Perth, during the America's Cup Race.
10. Cathleen Jones Halifax N.S. A nice chatty letter bringing me up to date on her activities!
11. Ed. Whiting Malvern Pa. Past Pres. BNAPS telling me about his new job as "Historian-Archivist" of BNAPS. I plan to help with our Study Group details.
12. Sandy McKie Aberdeen, Scotland. Sandy will be coming to CAPEX in June and hopefully we can get to-gether. Also sent a number of RAF Covers which I appreciate.
13. Don Blair Longmeadow Ma. and those mentioned earlier on R.F.
14. Bill Robinson Editor RPO Newsletter with two current issues.

See you at Capex

MB

W.L.B.