

THE ROUND-UP ANNEX squared circle study group newsletter

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>ORB CANCELS</u>- Jim Miller's letter of February 17th is included verbatim in this issue of the Annex. Jim makes a convincing case for inclusion of the ORB cancels as the first forerunners of the squared circles. I am inclined to incorporate these cancels into the realm of our Study Group; please let me know your thoughts. I will include the referenced studies of the two-ring ORBS of Toronto in the next issue.

<u>BNAPEX '90</u> - It's not too early to begin thinking about Galveston, October 18-20. I will not be attending this year and therefore need a volunteer to chair the Study Group meeting and another volunteer to present a brief slide program. It doesn't take a lot of effort for either task and it is an excellent chance to meet other Study group members and exchange ideas. If I do not have a volunteer by July 1st, I will advise Jon Johnson not to schedule a Squared Circle Study Group session.

<u>CANADIAN POSTAL ARCHIVES</u> - I received a form letter correspondence from Cimon Morin, Chief of the Canadian Postal Archives along with a pamphlet/brochure outlining the services provided by the Archives. I have reproduced the letter and the pamphlet cover in this Annex and urge interested members to contact the Archives at the address indicated on the letterhead for additional information.

MOUNT FOREST, ONT. ON A MAP BISECT COVER (See Jim Miller letter on page 408)

CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE

<u>David Robinson</u> - David is working on research into identifying partial strikes for hammers with CANADA at the base; stay tuned for the results in a future Annex.

Tony Shaman - Tony sent along photocopies of 3 Cent Jubilee strikes on cover; NEEPAWA and SELKIRK, neither of which has been previously reported on cover.

<u>Michael Woods</u> - Michael sent an index of squared circle articles which have appeared in Maple Leaves, as well as photocopies of all the articles. The index is included in this Annex issue. If anyone is interested in a photocopy of any of the articles, please drop me a note.

<u>Jim Felton</u> - No less than two letters have arrived from Jim since BNAPEX. The November 13th letter outlines several ideas for the next edition of the Squared Circle Handbook. The December 15th letter offers the following observations on the REGINA report in the last Annex:

> " In as much as -/AU 2/01 is closer to -/FE 11/04 than to -/JY-8/98, I'd call the report for REGINA as establishing an early date for the 2nd period rather than the late date for the 1st period; I am still showing NSR (No Strikes Reported) for 99 and 00 for REGINA."

<u>Alan Steinhart</u> - Alan sent a photocopy of a SUTTON, QUE. strike on a 3 Cent Small Queen cover, dated -/JY 13/96. Unfortunately, the photocopy does not reproduce well.

<u>Jerry Carr</u> - Jerry sent along reports of a few new finds, including a nice LITTLE CURRENT, ONT. on a 8 Cent Leaf.

<u>Tom Southey</u> - Tom's note accompanying his dues payment indicated that he will be forwarding quite a few new reports as time permits.

MEMBERSHIPS ADDITIONS/CHANGES

New Members

Stanley J. Van Allen, 105 Irving Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1Y 1Z3 Gordon J. Russell, 3 Cheyene Court. Ancaster, ON L9G 4E2

Change of Address

William Moffatt, 9900 Spain NE., Apt. B-1012, Alburquerque, NM 87111 (Winter residence) Charles Boubelik, P.O. Box 40, Canon City, CO 81215

A new membership list is presently underway and will be included in the next issue of the ANNEX.

National Archives of Canada

Archives nationales du Canada

ressources historiques

Historical Resources Branch

395 Wellington Street Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N3 395, rue Wellington Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0N3

Direction des

Your file Votre référence

It gives me great pleasure to enclose a copy of our newly published brochure describing the Canadian Postal Archives and its services.

The CPA has plenty to offer the researcher on numerous philatelic subjects. The Philatelic collection as well other as the archival components associated with a specialized library creates a true research centre on philately and postal history.

With the assistance of the reference staff, finding aids and newly created databases, the researcher will have access to both the library and archival collections.

I am sure that you will find the enclosed brochure informative and I invite you to visit or write to the CPA in the very near future.

Cimon Morin Chief/Chef Canadian Postal Archives Archives postales canadiennes



JIM MILLER BOX 3005 M.P.P. KAMLOOPS, B.C. CANADA V2C 6B7 PHONE 604-374-6463

Dear Gary:

Feb. 17 1990

I've been reviewing some old issues of BNAPS Topics over the past while, and I've come across some things of interest for the squared circle study group newsletter.

1. In the July 1956 issue (Vol. 13, No. 7, Whole No. 137) on page 175 is a letter to the Editor where a collector describes a late date for PORT ARTHUR/ONT. of ?/NO 4/44 on Scott #249, the 14c. War Issue. #259 is the 14c. War Issue stamp, perhaps a typesetting error. In any event, the main point is that the Handbook describes only one isolated late date of 13/NO 17/44. This report would make two reports for NOVEMBER 1944 late usage, so perhaps others may exist.

2. In that same letter to the Editor, a photograph is provided of a bisect of the 2c. MAP STAMP tied by MOUNT FOREST/ONT. type 1 squared circle addressed locally, hence the rate would be correct. I thought the MAP STAMP SQUARED CIRCLE collectors might like to be informed of this unusual item again. It was also pictured on the front cover of the same issue of Topics.

3. As for the 'orb' cancellation relationship to squared circles, I would like to add some further comments to stir up some active discussion. I refer you to BNAPS Topics Jan. 1957 (Vol. 14, No. 1, Whole No. 142), page 24 where an article by Max Rosenthal appears entitled 'The Forerunner to the Squared Circles'. Max is of course referring to the 1892 barred circle postmarks, not orb cancels. I haven 't looked into earlier issues of Topics yet, but I gather from the nature of this article that he is making the pitch that barred circles are the forerunners to the squared circles.

Quoting Max: "A large circle, much bigger than ordinary postmarks...", and "...combining the circular cancellation with the obliterating bars in one hammer", and "These, then, are the forerunners of the squared circles." These statements lead me to believe that back in 1957 Max convinced us the barred circle postmarks were indeed very akin to squared circles.

33 years have passed since that article appeared, and look how popular the barred circles are today--even attaining full status with complete listings in the Squared Circle Handbook.

May I point out some oversights to Max's ideas: First, the orb cancels are even larger in diameter that the barred

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circles, making them more like a true dater/killer all in one device. Secondly, the two or three outer rings would act as the obliterator, much in the same fashion as the outer bars of squared circle cancels would be the obliterator. Thirdly, the first orb cancels appeared a year before the barred circles, in 1891. And lastly, Max identifies that the barred circles (SEAFORTH being the exception) were 'tried out' in the larger cities only, the same as with the orbs!

My recent article in the July 1989 Topics (Vol. 46, No. 4, Whole No. 432) page 9 has seen a number of people write to me with no disagreement about my ideas that the barred circles should really be the second forerunner, and the orb cancels be the first forerunner of the squared circles. Remember I have singled out the 1880 Ottawa Precursor as a special case. The more I study the orb cancels, the more I am convinced they are the true forerunners.

To make this even more interesting, while the first of the orb cancels used in the 1890's were mainly for normal postmarking duty (prior to the technology of machine cancels), the orbs continued to be proofed after the barred circles and squared circles had been discontinued. It is interesting to note that later orb cancels are most commonly found on odd value stamps, large pieces, special use mail, or things other than ordinary first class mail to be machine cancelled. Thus the idea of both dater and obliterator in one device was quite successful, although it had limited application.

I would like to see expansion of the squared circle study group into the field of orb cancels, and would like to see some dialogue in the study group newsletter.

To show the depth of my study into the orb cancels, I have the vast majority of them now catalogued, and I am enclosing three different hammer studies for the two-ring TORONTO orbs. You may provide these to the study group as a whole, or to individuals, as you wish. I am continuing to compile data, and would expect that quite a few squared circle collectors probably have some orbs and could add to the data. I hope to publish my findings when enough data is collected to be able to stand as a reasonably accurate & properly detailed study.

Sincerely,

Jim Miller

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