



# THE ROUND-UP ANNEX

## squared circle study group newsletter

VOL. 14

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### A WORD ABOUT BILL MOFFATT

Many of you may have noticed that Bob Lee's latest auction had considerable material from Bill Moffatt's collection. I received a note from Janet Moffatt in early April informing me that Bill died on December 21, 1990. I was aware for some time that Bill was quite ill and had moved to New Mexico from New York for that reason.

Although he had not been active in the Study Group in awhile, he was the driving force behind the study of Squared Circles, as evidenced by his regular column in TOPICS, his efforts with Glenn Hansen to produce the Fourth Edition Handbook and his founding of this Study Group. He will be missed.

### OTTAWA HAMMER UPDATE FROM TOM SOUTHEY

A while back Study Group member Tom Southey of Abbotsford, BC was kind enough to send two packages of information, primarily on his specialty - OTTAWA. The following is the intital installment from Tom's correspondence.

15 CENT LARGE QUEEN - Handbook does not show any OTTAWA strikes on this stamp. I have the following:

Earliest Date	3/JU 13/93
Latest Date	3/DE 9/97
Other Dates	3/NO 15/95; 4/AP 4/96; 3/FE 3/97

ERROR INDICIA IN HANDBOOK (PAGE 29) - The following will add some new ones and enlarge on information on others listed in the handbook.

5/SP 1/93: SP 1 is inverted; corrected with TM 6  
/OC 2/93: OC 2 is inverted for TM's 4,5,6; normal for TM 2  
3/3 OC/93: Month and day normal position for TM 5  
6/OC 20/93: 6/OC inverted; correct for TM's 2,4,6,7  
3/NO 20/93: 93 inverted; TM's 3 and 6 examples w/ correct 93  
?/JU 6/93: JU 6 inverted; have correct for TM 6  
7/JU 03/94: 03 inverted; correct for TM 6  
7/OC 15/96: OC 15 inverted; correct for TM 6  
5/NO 24/97: NO 24 inverted; correct for TM's 2,3,5,6,7  
5/AP 11/95: TM 5 inverted; correct for 4,5,6  
8/OC 15/96: OC 15 inverted; correct for TM's 3,5,7  
3/JU 3/95: TM 3 inverted; correct for TM's 2,4,5,6,7

TIME MARKS HIGHER THAN 8 - These may have been reported but, will give you my later strikes with time marks higher than 8.

9/FE 3/00	11/MY 24/05	14/JUN 24/05
15/NO 8/05	18/JU 25/05	19/MY 9/05
21/JUL 6/04	22/MY 18/0	22/JUN 24/05

OTTAWA UPDATE (CONTINUED)

TIME MARKS 1 AND 8 DISCUSSIONS - The following may be of interest to other Study Group members that specialize in OTTAWA

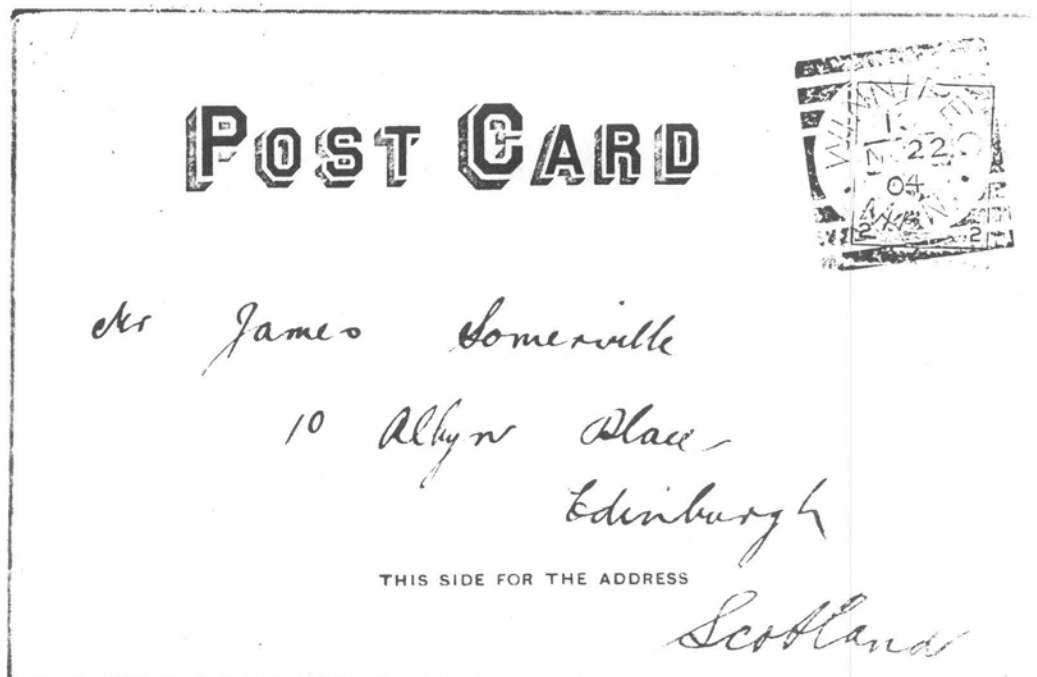
My earliest TM 1 is 1/SP 29/93, followed by 1/SP 5/93, 1/SP 7/93, 1/SP 29/93, 1/DE 21/93 and 1/DE 23/93.

TM 8 presents a different picture. My earliest TM 8 is 8/MY 26/94, just about one year after the OTTAWA hammer came into use. My next TM 8 is over nine (9) months later - 8/FE 2/95, followed by 8/JY 9/95 and two more in July, three more in August, seven in September, three in October, six in November and ten in December. The pattern above shows on TM 8 in 193, only one in 1894 and thirty-two in 1895.

In a small collection, the distribution of TM 8 might not be considered unusual. But mine is not a small collection of time marks. (700 different in 1893 and over 100 different in 1894). We must conclude that the above represents a definite pattern. You will notice that Kemp's chart on page 29 of the Handbook shows 0% for TM 8 in 1893 and 1894.

I would be interested in knowing if any Study Group members have any TM 8 in 1893, 1894 or early 1895.

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WINNIPEG, HAMMER IV 10/NO 22/04 (From Ted Kerzner)

3L1



# THE ORBS

By Jim Miller

Discussion #3: LONDON



3L2

London offers us two different hammers to study, one with very common usage from 1896 to 1901, continuing very sporadic to 1915; and the second hammer known in occasional use from 1923 to 1951. There is a close usage relationship with both London type I and type II squared circles.

To differentiate the two hammers is very easy: There are major diameter, letter size, and date distinctions. 3L1, the first hammer, has an unknown proof date with the earliest reported date of 16/JY 11/96. Last normal usage I have is 18/OC 23/01 with only 5 later dates reported for 1906, 1907, 1908 (2), and 1915. *and 1920*

3L2, the second hammer, was proofed 20/AP 19/21 with the earliest reported strike being 16/JAN 11/23, and the latest reported date of 17/DE 27/51. I have hundreds of 3L1 strikes, but only 21 of the 3L2 hammer. I know of others who have a few 3L2 hammers, so I'd estimate perhaps 40 or so are known. No doubt many more exist and will eventually be reported so we will be able to piece together a better usage pattern for the 3L2 hammer in the future. Perhaps the most noticeable feature is the commonness of the strikes found on oversize rate items, special usages, odd-value stamps, etc. This pattern is like the LONDON Type II squared circle in its later usages in the 1940's and 1950's. I know of no indicia errors for 3L2.

Back to 3L1, its commonness gives us all a chance to obtain examples, and even more exciting is to compare with the two squared circles. Both LONDON squared circles are found contemporary in usage with each other, and also the orb runs concurrently! So here's a challenge for the squared circle buffs: Please report all your twin dates for the concurrent usage of both LONDON squared circle hammers starting in July 1896 through to 1900. I'll check against my holdings and the inventories of several other orb collectors, and I'll try to find a triplet date usage! It most certainly is possible!

While on this topic of twin dates, the Handbook makes reference for Type I twin to the orb, and Annex January 1988 identifies some twin dates with orbs found by Jack Gordon.

With the large inventory of 3L1 comes some indicia errors, which are noted on the spreadsheets. Most noteworthy is the '10' year date error for '01'. This error went uncorrected for about 5 weeks during a peak usage period for the hammer, so year date error strikes are really quite common. I have two examples on cover and 19 off cover on stamps. The closest so far I can get for correct dates is 14/MR 21/01 and 13/MY 1/01. Hollingsworth says the date errors occur between

MR 26/10 and AP 31/10. With the heavy usage of the hammer at this time, no doubt the dates will become refined somewhat.

Dr. Hollingsworth identifies that '6' used as a timemark may indeed be an error for '9'. I have only one strike that is easily identifiable with '6' as a timemark, 6/NO 25/99. The '6' looks a wee bit more squashed than a '9', but the similarity leaves room for question. Given the use of various hammers concurrently, it is quite possible that borrowed indicia have occurred. In a hammer analysis on 850 copies, Dr. Hollingsworth reports 1.5% frequency for timemark '9'; and in a similar analysis done in May of 1988 by myself, Jack Gordon, & Joe Smith, we found the '9' frequency to be 2.8% in 776 strikes between us. The very low usage of timemark '9' I think lends little credibility to the idea that the timemark '6' is an inverted '9'. Dr. Hollingsworth identifies two timemark '6' strikes, so certainly three timemark '6' out of a total of 1626 sampled strikes does raise some questions too. Any discussion on this topic?

Dr. Hollingsworth lists the timemark analysis in his Feb. 1973 article in Maple Leaves, and it really varies little with our study on the 776 strikes. A couple of other timemarks worthy of note are '1' and '19'. Hollingsworth does not identify '1', but Jack Gordon has 1/DE 28/98 and I have 1/SP 11/06, both are clear strikes. Out of 1626 strikes, only two '1' timemarks--and that survey was done over two years ago now, and I've received no additional reports of timemark '1'. Timemark '19' is curious in that Hollingsworth reports 1.4% frequency and we report 0.4% frequency indicating another very scarce timemark. The previous hour, timemark '18' shows the highest frequency of all timemarks with 20.4% for Hollingsworth's study and 26.6% for our study. '18' would be 6:PM and '19' would be 7:PM. Looks like the London post office was deserted of workers by 7:PM!

London Soc. Chap. Rose Croix 18°  
A. & A. S. R.

IF NOT DELIVERED IN TEN DAYS RETURN TO  
JARED VINING - REGISTRAR  
LONDON, CANADA



DR. GEO. A. SHANNON ,  
107 Wellington St.,  
ST. THOMAS ,ONT.

The  
only  
reported  
3L1  
Admiral  
usage.

Proof: Unknown

ERD: 16/JY 11/96

16/JY 11/96

LRD: 10/AP 19/15

10/AP 19/15

Characteristics:

3 rings.

Outside ring diameter: 31 mm. Inner ring diameter: 24 mm.

Even size, wide spaced rings.

'O's are oval sideways.

13 JUN 23/16

13/AP 19/20

(page 458)

Timemarks:1, 6 (see error notes below), 9-24, 61 (error for 19), 81 (error for 18)Reported years of use:

96, 97, 98, 99, 00, 01, 06, 07+, 08\*=, 10 (error for 01), 15

Errors:

14/OC 27/98 with entire indicia inverted.

23/AU 6/97^ with inverted '23'.

'61' tm. error for '19' reported for 61/SP 22/98.

'81' tm. error for '18' reported for 81/OC 18/97, 81/DE 15/98=.

Hollingsworth conjectures that tm. '6' may be an inverted '9'. '6'

is reported for 6/JA 12/98\*, 6/DE 16/98\*, 6/NO 25/99.

10/MY 4/98=, 11/MY 4/98, 15/MY 4/98 with inverted '4'.

12/AU 4/98 w/inverted '4', 18/AU 4/98 normal.

?/MR 26/10\* to ?/AP 31/10\* year date error '10' for '01'. 14/MR 21/

01 latest correct '01', 13/MY 1/01 earliest corrected '01'.

Comments:

Regular use to 18/OC 23/01. Contemporary with squared circles. Gap of almost one year before International machine used from SP 29/02.

After 1901, only very few isolated examples reported.

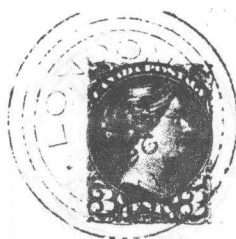
tm./month day/yr. normal; reversed order tm/day month/yr. noted for

18/27 AP/00~, 16/16 MY/00, 15/23 MY/00, 16/23 MY/00, 19/23 MY/00,

yet we have 15/MY 21/00 and 12/MY 23/00 as normal, ??/2 JY/01.

Two letter months.

Wandering year date for '00' and '01': Most year digits are close together, occasionally are spread far apart. Also true of '10' error for '01'.



Earliest reported date

All indicia inverted

Inverted 4

+ Within lot #760, Bob Lee's Oct. 1990 sale.

~ Paul Roling

= Jack Gordon

\* Hollingsworth article

^ Joe Smith

Updated as of:

Mar. 11, 1991



3-L2 LONDON/-CANADA-

Jim's:

Proof: 20/AP 19/21

ERD: 16/JAN 11/23

16/JAN 11/23

LRD: 17/DE 27/51^

17/OC 2/50

Characteristics:

3 rings.

Outside ring diameter: 29 mm. Inner ring diameter: 24.5 mm.

Even size, closely spaced rings.

Smaller diameter, smaller letters than 3-L1.

'O's are oval up & down.

Timemarks:

1, 7, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24

Reported years of use:

23, 27, 31, 34, 38+, 39, 40\*, 41, 45, 46, 50, 51^

Errors:



Earliest reported date

Comments:

Quite irregular useage, most often seen on odd value stamps indicating airmail, parcel post, registered useages. Has similar pattern to the late useage of the London type II squared circle.

MITCHELL PLUMBING SUPPLIES  
COMPANY

LONDON - ONTARIO



Mr. W. E. Mitchell,  
2740 Grand Ave.,  
Dundee, Michigan.



14/MY 19/39 Special Delivery usage

+ Graham Noble  
\* Hollingsworth article  
^ Jim Felton

Updated as of:  
Mar. 11, 1991