

MORE ON THE NEW CANADIAN ENVELOPES

Dick Staecker and Earle Covert have provided more information on the new Canadian Envelopes noted in the last issue of PSN. First of all, a new **version of the #8 size has been reported**. These have a shallower flap than those previously prepared by International Envelope. However, as with the #10, the new #8 envelope is most easily distinguished from the earlier issue by comparison of the printing on the back. The new envelope has the weight of the locomotive correctly converted to metric units (44,545 kg compared to the (incorrect) 4,452 kg on the older envelope). The printing on the front of a box of the new #10 envelopes indicates that these envelopes are probably prepared by Barber Ellis.

Dick reports that he has been able to distinguish four different types of the new #10 envelopes:

- 1) long thick tagging (34mm x 3mm), white paper (hibrite),
- 2) long thick tagging (34mm x 3mm), off-white paper (dull),
- 3) long thin tagging (31mm x 2mm),
- 4) short thin tagging (20mm x 2mm), tagging jagged at the top.

Tagging noted on the #8 is a 29mm x 3mm bar. Has anyone found any other varieties? Reports indicate the #10 was available by late April or early May, and the #8 slightly later. ERPs are required.

A MAJOR DESIGN ERROR ON THE CURRENT #10 ENVELOPE

Recently Graham Noble advised me in a telephone conversation that he had idly compared the design on the 32¢ #10 envelope, purportedly the Bonnington, with a photo viewcard of this ship and found the two to be different. Further examination of other postcards showing CPR Lake and River Service sternwheelers led him to conclude that the vessel actually depicted on the current envelope is the Rossland. Graham is in touch on this matter with the person responsible for designs at Canada Post, and plans a write-up for Topics.

There is certainly no question that Graham is right as to this ship not being the Bonnington. Aside from anything else, the Bonnington was a four-deck vessel, whereas the 32¢ envelope shows a three-deck vessel. Graham may also be correct in his conclusion that it is the Rossland depicted, but I am still not certain on this point myself. Aside from postcard views, I have some reference material with photographs of many of the vessels of the period in use in British Columbia, and have found

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it difficult to match, as exactly as I would like, any one of them to the envelope design. Graham and I have discussed this back and forth on the phone and intend to pursue it further.

Graham agreed it might be worthwhile to make preliminary mention of this in PSN, since many of our group may be interested. To my knowledge, this is the first major design error on Canadian postal stationery.

It is also interesting that Graham Noble, who is not a stationery collector, first noted this. We "experts" have been looking at this design since the appearance of the 32¢ envelope in March 1983, when the vessel was first identified on the envelope back.

Bill Walton

SOME COMMENTS ON THE S.S. PREFONTAINE OF THE MONTREAL & QUEBEC LINE

In the February PSN, Horace Harrison described two pictorial view cards for the Montreal and Quebec Line showing the S.S. Prefontaine. Colin Campbell sent along some comments including the following:

" I have John Mills' book and supplement, and note on page 94 his reference #2258 the good ship PREFONTAINE whose official number was 103557 with original dimensions of 142 x 23 and tonnage of 434. Built at Sorel in 1895 she was screwdriven. She was rebuilt in 1903 under the same official number but her vitals were now 202 x 31 with tonnage of 899. In August 1915 she was wrecked at Quebec. In 1916 she was rebuilt as a barge.

Mills' book lists all steamships registered in Canada during the period 1809 to 1930 and of 75' length or greater. Some vessels, no doubt, just never did get properly registered. Based on the above I would suggest the 1898 card shows a stock cut only. The 1903 card may show an actual cut? My 1900 ALMANAC shows a "QUEBEC LINE" which ran daily between Montreal and Quebec."

EXPLANATION OF THE RELATION BETWEEN TWO USERS OF SPECIAL ORDER ENVELOPES

Ray McLean has provided an answer to a question posed over a year ago in PSN Vol. 2, pg. 10. The question involved the similar back printing on copies of Webb EN 525-10c used by The Winnipeg Electric Company, and those found addressed to Fifth Floor, 355 St. James Street, Montreal.

He notes that on page 519 of Lovell's Montreal Directory for 1945 there is a list of the occupants of the fifth floor of 355 St. James Street. The occupants include various power and paper companies including Canadian Power and Paper Investments Ltd. and Power Corporation of Canada Ltd. Ray continues: "The envelopes were likely used to return the shareholders' proxies to these companies and, since Power Corp. and/or Canadian Power and Paper Investments had substantial interests in Winnipeg Electric Company and other power companies, all such envelopes likely came from the same source. If postage saver envelopes were involved they were likely used for reporting to shareholders" .

CENTENNIAL ISSUE POSTAL CARDS - DISCREPANCIES IN QUANTITIES

In the August 31, 1970 and June 12, 1972 issues of Linn's Stamp News, Gordon Vaughn reported printing figures for Canadian Centennial Issue stationery. In an answer to a letter sent to the National Postal Museum in 1975 I received information confirming Vaughn's data for the 1969 surcharge items, and, assuming his figures for the other cards were also correct, the information was reprinted in the book "Canada The 1967 - 73 Definitive Issue".

Recently, enclosed with requested information on printing figures for the later Centennial Issue postal cards, R.C. Baird, Registrar at the National Postal Museum, forwarded a list of printing figures for the 3c, 4c, and 3c + 3c cards as well as for the cards revalued in 1969. A comparison of the quantities is given in Table 1.

TABLE 1

card		1984 figures	Linn's 1970	Webb No.
<u>3c white</u>	single	7,918,000		
	10-on	<u>5,413,000</u>		
	total	13,331,000	6,151,000	P99
<u>3c ivory</u>	single	3,419,000		P99a
	3-on	<u>1,257,000</u>		P99b
	total	4,676,000	2,481,000	----
<u>4c white</u>	single	7,140,000		
	10-on	<u>2,368,000</u>		
	total	9,508,000	6,164,000	P101a .
<u>3c + 3c</u>		235,000	256,000	P100
<u>BABNC SURCHARGES</u>			Linn's 1972	
<u>5c on 3c white</u>	single	12,000		
	10-on	<u>1,585,000</u>		
	total	1,597,000	2,068,000	P107f,a,P107
<u>5c on 3c ivory</u>	single	544,000		P107g
	3-on	<u>42,000</u>		unlisted ¹
	total	586,000	1,006,000	----
<u>6c on 4c white</u>	10-on	<u>1,439,000</u>		
	total	1,439,000	1,487,000	P108b,c, ²
<u>GASPARO SURCHARGES</u>				
5c on 3c white			2,026,000	P107c,b
5c on 3c ivory			998,000	P107d,h
6c on 4c white			1,508,000	P108a,P108

1 P107e in Webb's 1974 edition; reported by J. Aitken, B. McCallum

2 surcharge on P97b; PSN Vo. 2, pg. 7

None of the figures are in agreement. I wrote to Mr. Vaughn who kindly forwarded copies of all the relevant correspondence he had in his possession. This included letters concerning the surcharge issues but, unfortunately, no information relating to the 3¢, 4¢ and 3¢ + 3¢ cards (hardly surprising after fifteen years). The letter to Mr. Vaughn in April 1972 refers to "total quantities of postcards revalued", the letter to me refers to cards "overprinted at B.A.B.N.". Since the total quantities in the 1984 list of surcharged cards are somewhat lower than the quantities in the 1972 list this might lead to the suspicion that the more recent figures refer to quantities issued rather than quantities printed. However, the quantities given in 1970 for the 3¢ and 4¢ cards are less than those in the 1984 list even if the 1984 totals include those cards later revalued! The more recent list is much more detailed and, until further information becomes available, should be preferred for this reason alone. There is also some evidence that the data supplied to Mr. Vaughn in 1970 could be in error. He lists the following quantities for the surcharged cards in the June 12, 1970 issue of Linn's (before the existence of two types of surcharge had been recognized): 5¢ on 3¢ white 2,183,000; 5¢ on 3¢ ivory 1,880,000; 6¢ on 4¢ 1,508,000. It is not at all clear how these numbers fit into the picture. The quantity of the 6¢ on 4¢ is that given by Canada Post in 1972 for the Gasparo surcharged cards, but the figures for the 5¢ on 3¢ cards don't correspond to any of the other information. The disagreement should not obscure the fact that several cards were prepared in quite small quantities. In particular, less than 50,000 copies were printed of the 5¢ on 3¢ rouletted ivory stock card (i.e., considerably fewer than some cards and envelopes printed to private order). Also, the reply card printing figures are quite small and copies properly postmarked in period are reasonably scarce.

The information sent to me this year from Canada Post confirms that none of the Centennial Issue ivory stock cards were issued 10-on. BABNC prepared the surcharged ivory stock single cards and also 12,000 5¢ on 3¢ white stock singles. Overprinting at BABNC apparently did not begin until March 1969, but in February 1969 BABNC shipped 290,000 white single 3¢ cards, 86,000 ivory single 3¢ cards and 532,000 4¢ cards to Gasparo "to be overprinted".

QUANTITIES OF ENVELOPES SHIPPED 1971 TO 1974

A letter from the National Postal Museum gives quantities shipped for the Centennial Issue 8¢ and 6¢ precancelled envelopes.

6¢ precancelled, #8 (EN87f,h)	6,015,000
6¢ precancelled, #10 (EN87g,i)	14,700,000
8¢ #8 (EN89,89a)	36,475,000
8¢ #10 (EN89b,c)	36,828,000

A NEWFOUNDLAND PUZZLE

In the Webb Catalogue two types are noted for the Newfoundland 2c + 2c reply card. The question is how does the second type (P6a) come to exist. This variety was known and listed in the philatelic literature **before the turn of the century. In a list circulated privately a few years ago it was suggested that this card was a second type of P6, but no used copies of P6a have ever been reported -- no used entires and no used halves. Another suggestion is that P6a is a proof, but if so it was no ordinary proof, for a considerable number of copies exist. Another possibility is that they were remainders, released to the stamp trade after the printing contract had been lost. This would imply very poor security on the part of the printer. At present, there also is no proof for this hypothesis.**

Therefore, two questions remain about these P6a cards:

- 1) Although no used copies have ever been seen, were the cards actually distributed by the Newfoundland postal authorities?
- 2) What are they?

Bill Walton

STILL MORE OFFSET 1c GEORGE VI POSTAL CARDS WITH ONE-LINE-HEADINGS

More additions to the lists in PSN Vol. 2, No. 6 and Vol. 3, No.1, this time from Earle Covert and Bruce McCallum.

81 3/4 mm heading

- #23 St. Catharines Stamp Club (done on a Gestetner) - postmarked Sept. 6, 1949
- #24 (printed address to) Material Locating Bureau, Toronto - unused
- #25 Toronto Chapter A.S.T.E - postmarked Nov. 16, 1949

83 mm heading

- #26 The Head-of-the-Lake Historical Society {text date September 13, 1946
- #9 postmarked April 14, 1942

Jack Robb, one of our Vancouver members has done some detective work related to the date of use of card #22 (83 mm heading). This card had been used to announce a change of address of Frederick Goertz Ltd., a Vancouver firm. The new address first appeared in the Vancouver City Directory in the 1946 edition. Back issues of the Vancouver City Telephone Directory indicate that the move took place between June 1946 and March 1947. Thus the card was probably prepared and used in the second half of 1946.

The new reports are consistent with the trend noted before, that the earlier cards had the 83 mm headings.

ESSAY PROOFS AND FORGERIES OF THE NESBITT ISSUE. PART 2
FORGERIES OF THE 10c NESBITT

In the last issue of PSN a variety of Nesbitt proofs, essays and forgeries of the 5c Nesbitt were shown, primarily from photocopies supplied by Earle Covert. In this final part of the article forgeries of the 10c Nesbitt are shown.



as issued



A) dark brown,
on white wove paper



B) light red brown,
on buff wove paper



C) medium brown,
on buff wove paper



D) on buff wove paper



E) dark red, on buff
wove paper (Bill
Grosnick)



F)

G)

H)

I)

all on the same white wove paper; F) is a lighter brown shade

Bill Grosnick also sent photocopies (which unfortunately cannot be reproduced properly here (ed.)) which show forged cut squares similar to A) and B), but without the nicks in the outer ring of colour (at 11 o'clock). Several questions remain. Why are there so many different forgeries of the Nesbitts, and who did them. Bill notes that several of the better produced forgeries bear cancels typical of the Spiro brothers, however, several other forgeries are very crude indeed.

BOOK ON PRECANCELLED STATIONERY TO APPEAR

George Manley has finalized his manuscript on the precancelled stationery of Canada, and preparations for printing the book have begun. The book describes all known types of precancelled postcards, envelopes and wrappers. Printing is being done by Jim Webb. No definite publication date has been announced, but the book should be available later this year.

AN ENVELOPE NOT FOR MAILING

Earle Covert has a copy of a most unusual 3c George VI #10 envelope. The envelope, form CNR 2477, is marked as follows: "DO NOT PUT IN ROYAL MAIL CAUTION-This envelope contains letters of transmittal covering papers in attached enclosure. Under Postal Regulations the Package may be forwarded by Railway Train Mail or Express to destination. DO NOT SEPARATE THIS ENVELOPE FROM THE PACKAGE". The initials R. B. M. appear above the stamp impression, and the envelope also bears the printing HANDLE AS RAILROAD BUSINESS MAIL. The envelope appears to have been used to pay postage (to the Post Office) on mail handled only by railway personnel. Does anyone have other examples and/or details of the relevant postal regulations?

AMERICAN (CANADIAN) BANK NOTE COMPANY POSTAL CARD HEADINGS 1897 - 1930

Response to our questions concerning these headings has been relatively sparse. However, further information has been promised by several other members. Certainly the task of checking the headings on, perhaps, hundreds of "duplicate" copies of cards is extremely time consuming. Nevertheless, only through such efforts can more be learned about these headings. Information received has been summarized below.

- Bruce McCallum has reported a copy of Webb P27g with heading type A5 instead of the usual A6.
- Bruce has also reported a copy of P31a with heading types A10 + A7, i.e., the type listed in Arnold but not found in the collections of Campbell or Lemire.
- P29o was omitted from the list, but Ray McLean has supplied a photocopy showing the card with the expected type A18 heading. He also points out that the type style (but not the type size) used for the words "CANADA" and "POST CARD CARTE POSTALE" is similar to that used for the type A4 UPU card heading. Of course the method of printing the UPU cards and P29o also differed.
- Bill Walton has quite properly taken your editor to task for his comments about headings A20 and A21, PSN Vol. 3, pg. 6. Bill notes there is no evidence known that Canadian cards were printed on rotary presses, and feels the explanation given for the differences in the headings is very unlikely.

A certain amount of information about ERPs for the headings has been received, but at this time the available data are too sparse to allow conclusions to be drawn. These headings will be discussed again in a future issue of PSN, and in the next issue the British American Bank Note Company headings of the George V era will be examined.

A NEWLY DISCOVERED ADMIRAL ISSUE POSTAL CARD

Bill Walton reports a spectacular addition to the already complicated series of Admiral Issue cards. Webb P27c bears a 1c green impression (die I) and is Webb heading type 3 with the horizontal and vertical lines printed in black. The impression on P27d is die II and the type 3 card has the horizontal and vertical lines of the heading printed in green. Bill's card is die I, type 3 with the horizontal and vertical lines printed in green. The die used is the same subtype of die I found on P27c and on P27f.

TWO VARIETIES OF THE ELECTION ENVELOPE N

This envelope (Webb EN815) is **not** a federal election envelope, but is a private order envelope prepared for a provincial election. Earle Covert notes that two varieties exist. These differ slightly in the printing, but of more interest is the fact that one variety is ungummed, the other gummed.

BNAPEX'84

BNAPEX'84 will be held at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel, San Francisco on September 6th, 7th and 8th. The Postal Stationery Study Group meeting will be held at 9:45 a.m. on Friday September 7th. Suggestions for topics of discussion should be sent to the editor of PSN.

ADDITIONS TO THE STUDY GROUP ROSTER

It has been some time since we published a list of new study group members. Below we list all members who have joined since August 1983. This list is not attached to copies of the newsletter sent to libraries other than the BNAPS library.

M.L. Baron, 3801 Hudson Manor Terrace, Bronx, NY 10463 - mint stationery
- stationery FDCs

T. Collop, R.R. #1 Dover Centre, Ont. NOP 1L0 - stationery FDCs & ERPs

M.B. Fennell, 816 - 3rd Ave. N., Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 2K2 - all

R.-E. Gagnon, B.P. 284, Ste. Therese, P.Q. J7E 4J2 - railway & express
cards

J.J. Kriz, 3306 Hayes St., Evanston, IL 60201 - Newfoundland

W. Maisel, 409 Cypress, Port Charlotte, FL 33952 - all

D.J. Moore, Box 29, Aylesford, N.S. B0P 1C0 - centennial stationery

M. Toms, 321 Crawford St., Orillia, Ont. L3V 1K2

O.L. White, Box 860, Station K, Toronto, Ont. M4P 2H2

- election envelopes, private printed stationery, aerogrammes

REINSTATED G.A. Vanderburgh, Box 204, Shelburne, Ont. L0N 1S0