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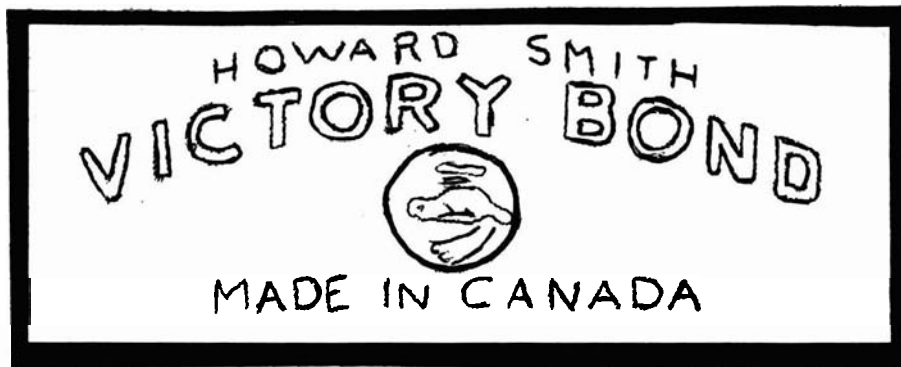
Volume 8, No. 2

May 1989

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THE WATERMARK ON WEBB EN63b AND EN69c

In the last few years I have had several enquiries from members concerning the watermark found on the envelopes listed in Webb's as EN63b and EN69c. The full watermark is shown below. This is a tracing based on an X-ray negative provided by Earle Covert.



In many cases only a small portion of the watermark is found on an envelope. I am firmly convinced that many envelopes cut from the same mottled white stock bear no trace of the watermark. Also, I feel the prices of EN63b and EN69c should vary according to the percentage of the watermark found on a particular copy.

Robert Lemire

THE COMPANY BEHIND THE OLD BERKSHIRE MILLS 1881 WATERMARK

In "Puzzle #2" (PSN Vol. 7, pg. 30) Bill Walton discussed the "Old Berkshire Mills 1881" watermark found on two early Canadian envelopes, and asked for help in determining the source of the paper. Because it was thought the paper might have been made in Great Britain, George Manley joined the search. He consulted various sources and libraries. Finally, Elizabeth Sprenger, Assistant Archivist, Greater Manchester Museum of Science and Technology replied:

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- \* Postal Stationery Notes is the newsletter of the BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group, \*  
\* and is edited by Robert Lemire. All information for the newsletter, and \*  
\* correspondence about the study group, should be addressed to Robert Lemire, Box 549, \*  
\* Pinawa, MB, Canada R0E 1L0. \*
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"... the paper in question was manufactured in the USA by the Old Berkshire Mills Company, Dalton, Berkshire County, Massachusetts. It was a water mill, specialising in superfine flat and folded writing paper and in Bristol board."

The source cited for the information about the firm is "Post's Paper Mill Directory for 1905-6", published by L.D. Post, 21 Park Row, New York.

A CANADIAN NATIONAL EXPRESS MONEY ORDER PICTORIAL CARD FORERUNNER

John Aitken has sent along a photocopy of CEX21 used shortly after "Canadian Express" became "Canadian National Express". The words "Canadian Express" (on the front) and "Canadian Express Company" (on both the front and back) have been crossed out with a handstamp, and a handstamp reading "CANADIAN NATIONAL EXPRESS CO." has been applied to the back. The card is postmarked at Prince Rupert B.C. on Mar. 24, 1922. Was the rubber handstamp applied locally or company-wide? Does anyone else have a similar copy?

THE CAMEO ENVELOPES - ODDITIES - QUESTIONS

Arthur Beecham wrote recently and enclosed a colour photocopy of the stamp impression from a copy of EN550-15. I have attempted to show this oddity in Figure 1, but in case the printing process used for PSN does not do the item justice, I will also provide Arthur Beecham's description.

"The left partial stamp (at an angle) is printed in reverse, " is seen. There is also a score line from the left side diagonally across the envelope. The right side of the stamp impression for about 3/16 of an inch is a deeper colour."

Figure 1



Thus, the appearance is as if an adhesive stamp impression consisting of two layers had been applied, the upper layer cut vertically 3/16" from the right edge, and the upper layer then peeled away and folded toward the upper left. Obviously, this is not how the prestamped envelope was

produced. However, how the impression was actually printed on the envelope in this strange fashion is not clear.

The item brought to mind a regular issue copy of the 3¢ #10 cameo envelope in my own collection. A photocopy (even less likely to properly reproduce than Arthur's) is shown in Figure 2. The stamp impression is perfectly normal at the lower right. There is then a diagonal swath of a much paler colour and the tip of the impression at the upper left is again normal. To follow the same analogy to the adhesive described above, it is as if a strip of an upper layer were lifted from the impression on the paper. There also is no ready explanation for this oddity, but it does not seem unreasonable to hypothesize the same type of problem with the printing process gave rise to both varieties.

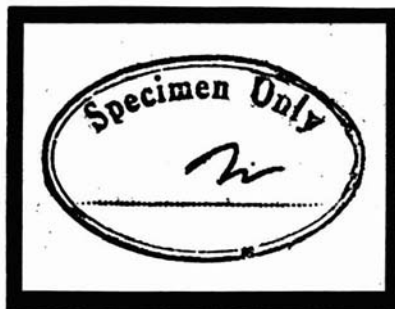
Robert Lemire

Figure 2



#### MORE ON THE DOMINION ENVELOPE SPECIMEN MARKINGS

These were discussed previously in PSN Vol. 7, pg. 33. Now John Aitken has sent me a photocopy of an envelope bearing a different example of the double oval specimen marking (shown below).



The envelope is a private order envelope from the King George (VI) period with a 1¢ stamp impression printed in black. The pennysaver flap is type 4a, which means it was produced very early in the George VI period. The specimen double oval is marked with the initial "W", a marking not known to me at the time of the earlier article.

George Manley

ADDITIONS TO "THE CANADIAN PRECANCELLED POSTAL STATIONERY ENVELOPES  
USED DURING THE REIGNS OF K.G. V AND K.G. VI"

At the bottom of page 4 of the list the following entry appears:

EN502-50b #10 (9 1/2 x 4 1/8) P/S Fl 1 yl. Yellow Stamp  
Tor 2 The Palmolive Co. 3/D U

This entry was made as a result of my visit to the Postal Museum in Ottawa. The Palmolive Co. envelope appeared to me to be a separate colour, and I recorded it as yellow, as though it matched the EN502-40a Henry K. Wampole envelope.

I have, since publication, compared three other copies of the same Palmolive envelope with the yellow stamp on my copy of the Wampole envelope. In each case the Palmolive stamps were pale orange and not yellow. It thus seems more than probable that the Ottawa envelope bore the same impression.

Therefore, it is my opinion that the entry on page 4 should be dropped, and the envelope inserted under the first heading on page 5 (EN502-50b #10 (9 1/2 x 4 1/8) P/S Fl 1 or.) after McLeod, Young, Weir.

New information from Earle Covert leads to the following revisions:

pg. 8 - add new state (unused)  
EN519-45f #10 (9 1/2 x 4 1/8) Tab, round  
Tor 3b Marks Stamp Co. 4/C manila SO, UN, U

pg. 10 - revise date  
EN522-35g #10 (9 1/2 x 4 1/8) Tab, round  
Tor 3b Marks Stamp Co. 6/C manila June 28, 1935

pg. 11 - add or revise dates for entries reported in  
PNS Vol. 7, pg. 6.  
EN525-40g #10 (9 1/2 x 4 1/8) Tab, round gummed  
Pet 4d De Leval Co. -1-41 3/ manila Mar 7, 1941 U  
Pet 4d as above -6-41 3/ manila Aug. 23, 1941 U

George Manley

THE NEWFOUNDLAND FORMULA REGISTERED ENVELOPES  
NOTES FROM THE NEWFOUNDLAND "POST OFFICE CIRCULAR"

From the 3rd, February, 1938 "Post Office Circular", page 281

"Registered Envelopes

The Department is putting on issue immediately specially made strong registered envelopes for the greater security of money passing through the post. These envelopes are of four sizes and are lettered (A) (B) (C) and (D) as follows:

Envelopes	Sizes in inches	Price in cents
(A)	6 1/8 x 3 3/4	1
(B)	8 x 5	2
(C)	9 x 4	2
(D)	11 1/2 x 6	4

The ordinary postage and the registration fee must be affixed in stamps in the right hand top corner of the address side of the envelope.

Supplies of the new envelopes are being sent to all offices and they must be taken into stock and accounted for as saleable forms. Fresh supplies of these envelopes should be requisitioned as necessary on Stamp No. 1043.

These envelopes must not be used for sending official remittances to the Accounts Branch at Headquarters. They are supplied only for the use of the public not for official use.

All offices should take steps to acquaint the public with the introduction of these envelopes but without incurring expense thereby."

(ed. note: A similarly worded announcement in the St. John's "The Evening Telegram" of the same date further indicates that "Compensation in respect to money of any kind . . . will only be made when the money is enclosed in one of these registered letter envelopes sold by the Post Office . . .".)

From the 1st, September, 1938 "Post Office Circular", page 378

"Blue Marking for Registered Correspondence

The Staff will have observed that the special registered envelopes, which were put on sale at all offices last February, are marked with blue lines running horizontally and vertically across the middle of the envelope both on the front and on the back. These blue lines serve to identify these envelopes immediately as registered correspondence from amongst ordinary correspondence.

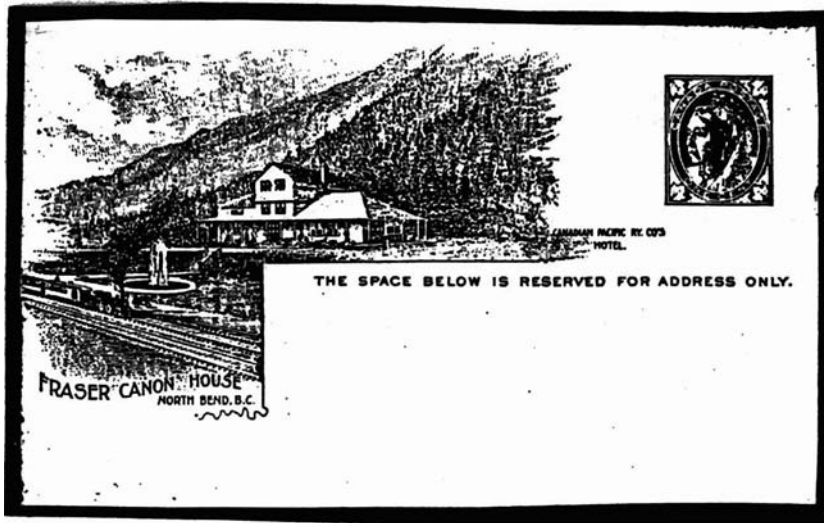
It has been decided to introduce the system of marking registered letters which are enclosed in envelopes other than those sold by the Department especially for the purpose, and in future, therefore, any letter which is handed in for registration, if a special registered envelope is not used, should be marked back and front with blue crayon . . . .

The Stores Section will supply each office with a blue crayon for this purpose."

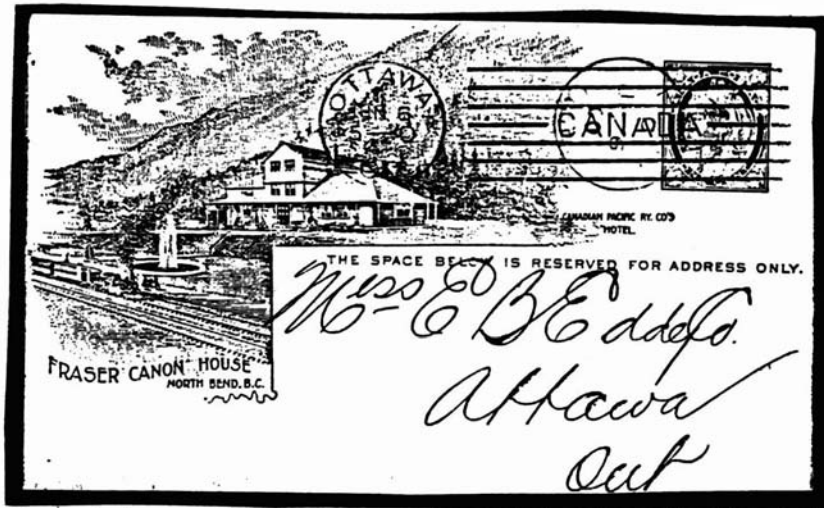
Don Wilson

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY PICTORIAL POST CARDS

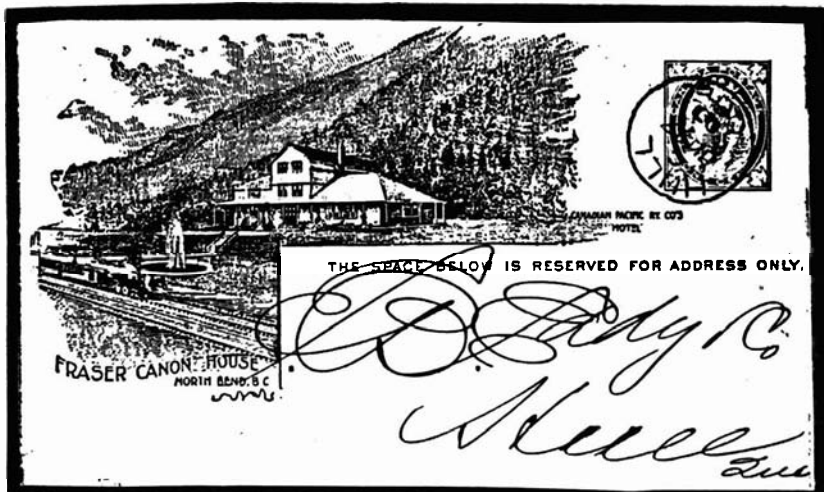
The series of illustrations of the CPR railway views (PSN Vol. 7, pg. 50-52, Vol. 8, pg. 2-6) is continued on the next three pages.



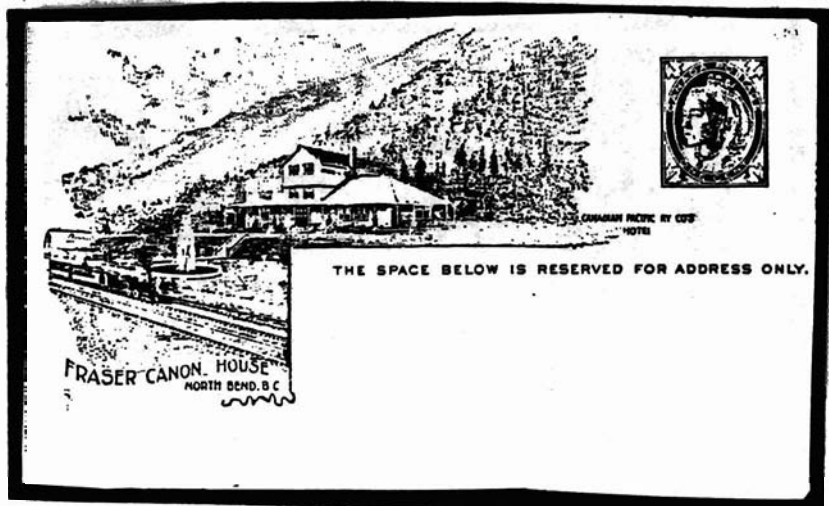
CPR5 - 1st state, weak printing in the clouds at the upper left



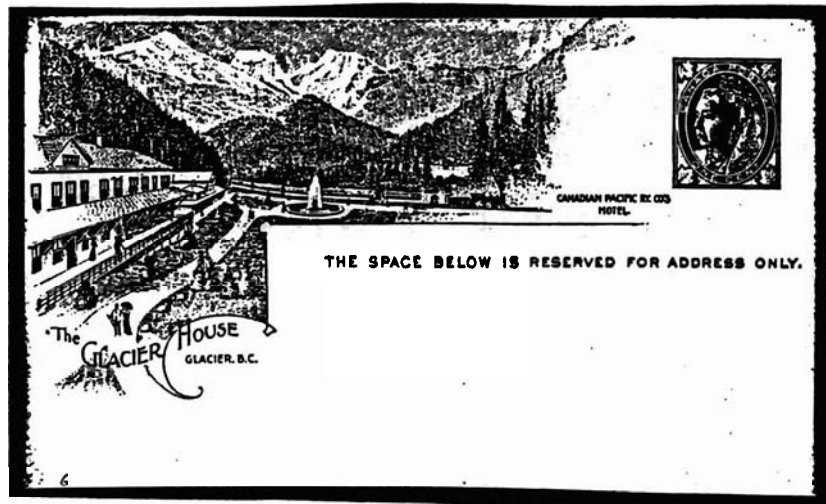
CPR5 - 2nd state, printing strengthened in the clouds at the upper left



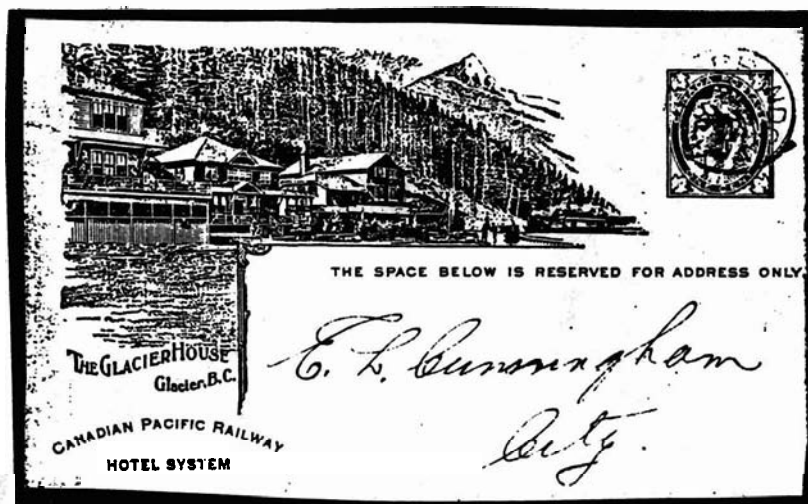
CPR5a - 1st state, full clouds at the upper left



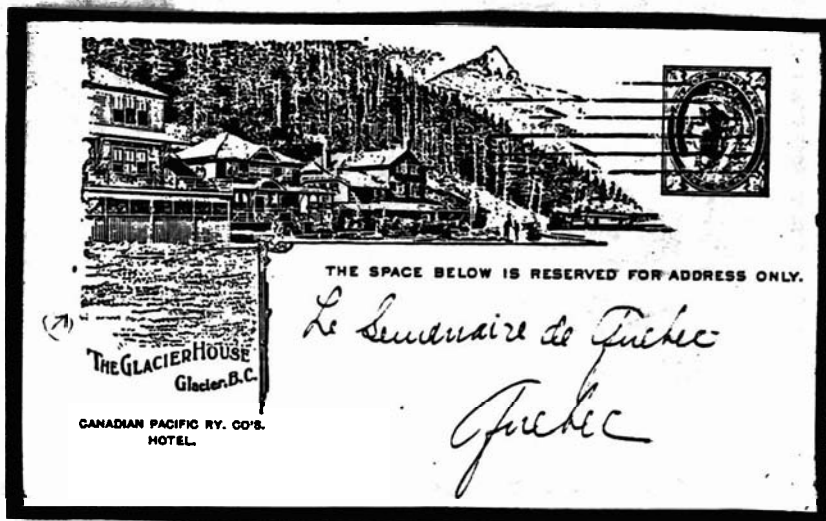
CPR5a - 2nd state, clouds at the upper left reduced



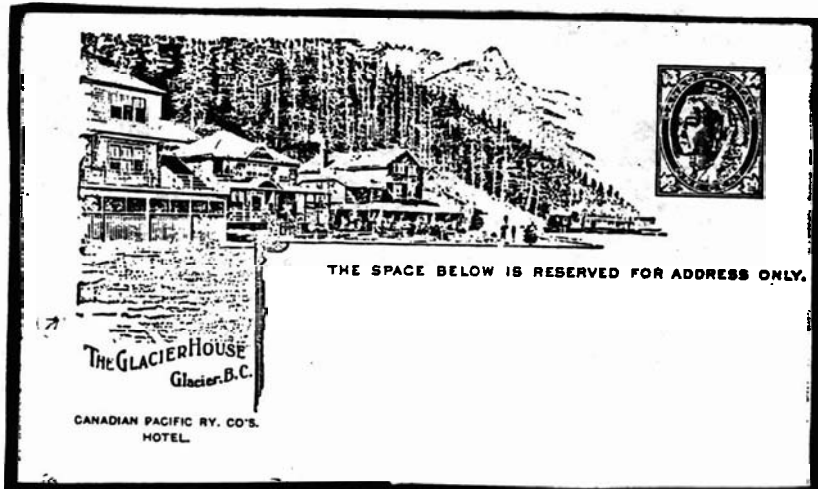
CPR6



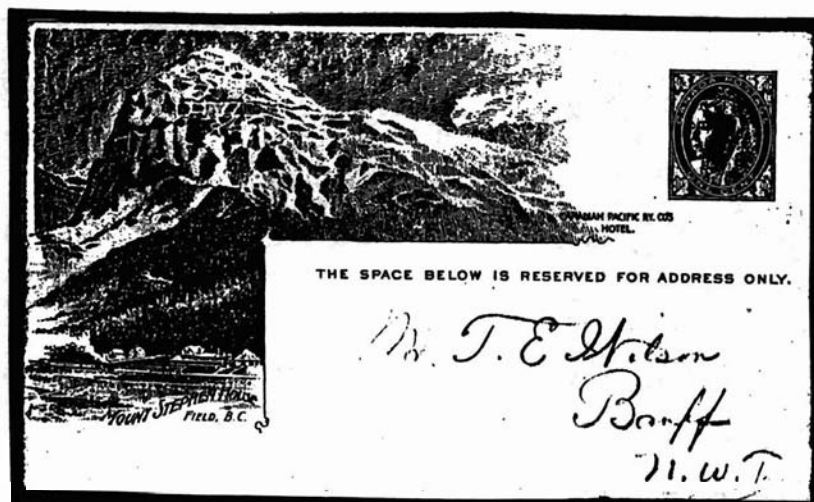
CPR7



CPR7a - 1st state, weak line at the middle left



CPR7a - 2nd state, line at the middle left strengthened



CPR8