

Volume 9 No. 2

A P S

April 1990

S S S G

OUR FIFTIETH REGULAR ISSUE

This is the fiftieth regular issue of Postal Stationery Notes. Since our first issue in November 1981 we have published more than 400 pages of information about BNA postal stationery. As editor, I wish to thank all members of the study group, especially those who have contributed articles, but also those who have sent smaller items and those who have offered their moral support. The interests of members of the Postal Stationery Study Group are very diverse. It is hoped that the newsletter can continue to offer items of interest to most, if not all members.

Robert Lemire

CANADIAN EXPRESS COMPANY ADVICE CARDS

In 1865 the Canadian Express Company was incorporated. In 1891 the Grand Trunk Railway Co. purchased the capital stock for \$660,000 and, thereafter, the stock of the company was held for the Grand Trunk by trustees.

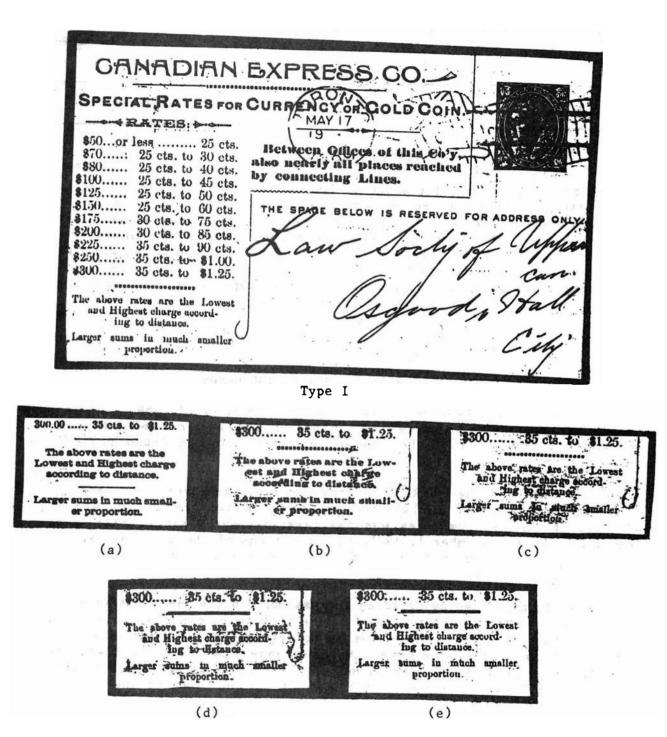
When the C.N.R. and the G.T.R. were taken over by the government, and the the Canadian National Railway system was consolidated, the express business of the two companies was amalgamated under a single management structure. From September 1, 1921, the operations of the Canadian Express Company and the Canadian National Express Company were carried on under the name of the latter.

Early postal cards used by Canadian Express Co. had the freight advice and other company information printed on the back only, since no writing or printing other than the address was to be printed on the front of a card. These cards are not listed here. My main objective is to list all the cards with company identification on the front and, particularly, to note cards that differ in some way in the printing on the front of the cards.

There are three major types of advertising on the front.

- * 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 ROE 1LO.



Type I "SPECIAL RATES FOR CURRENCY OR GOLD COIN."

- (a) the first line below the rate table reads "The above rates are the" (b) the first line below the rate table reads "The above rates are the
- Low-"
- (c) the first line below the rate table reads "The above rates are the Lowest". The line under the list of rates is a dotted line.
- (d) as (c) but a solid line under the list of rates. The vertical line to the right of the table is curved ending in a hook at the bottom.
- (e) as (d) but the vertical line has no hook at the bottom



(a) (b) OLLECTION SERVICE For the collection of Notes, Drafts, Bills and Acordints of amounts of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS or less, not requiring protest. (c) (d)

Type II "EXPRESS COLLECTION SERVICE."

- (a) the last line of text to the left of the stamp reads "protest." and is followed by a long ornamented line
- (b) as (a) but the ornamented line is shorter
- (c) the last line of text to the left of the stamp reads "ing protest." The letters in "COLLECTION SERVICE" heading are rounded
- (d) as (c) but the letters in "COLLECTION SERVICE" heading are squarish

Sours C.OOOM ANTIN PAUL TOOO D BIOS CAN Ex Co LAPRI.55 COMPANI 12.2 aued at all Officea THE SPACE BELOW FOR ADDRESS ONLY. IS RESERVED Payable Everywhere. New Reduced Rates. \$5.00 or under, 3 cts. Over 5.00 to 10.00, 6 cts. 10.00 to 30.00, 10 cts. 66 30.00 to 50.00, 15 cts. Amounts over \$50.00 at same rates.

Type III

Type III Facsimile Money Orders

The thirty-five known varieties of these cards are listed on page 104 of the 5th edition of Webb's Catalogue.

The following is a listing of known Canadian Express cards of types I and II. The blue printing can be found in a variety of shades. Information on any cards not included in this listing is wanted (Dick Staecker, 384 Regal Drive, London ON, N5Y 1J7)

1.	Туре	Ia	blue	on	Webb	P18	(lç	red	Victoria)
2.	Туре	Ib	blue	on	Webb	P18	(l¢	red	Victoria)
3.	Туре	Ic	blue	on	Webb	P18	(lç	red	Victoria)
4.	Туре	Id	blue	on	Webb	P18	(1¢	red	Victoria)
5.	Туре	Ie	blue	on	Webb	P18	(lç	red	Victoria)
10.	Туре	IIa	blue	on	Webb	P18	(l¢	red	Victoria)
11.	Туре	IIb	blue	on	Webb	P18	(1¢	red	Victoria)
12.	Туре	IIc	blue	on	Webb	P18	(1¢	red	Victoria)
13.	Туре	IIc	blue	on	Webb	P23	(l¢	red	Edward)
14.	Туре	IId	blue	on	Webb	P23	(l¢	red	Edward)

Dick Staecker

PREPAID PRIORITY POST ENVELOPES AND SPECIAL SERVICES ENVELOPES COLLECTABLE - BUT ARE THEY POSTAL STATIONERY?

Priority Post Envelopes

In BNA Topics Vol. 46, No. 3, pg. 24 Earle Covert reported on the various Priority Post Courier Mailers. Since the time that was written, several new items have appeared, and with a large assist from Earle these are described below.

Regional	Envelope	30.7	x 22.9	cm	41-016-24	9 (6-89)
	Pack	39.8	x 30.6	cm	41-016-24	8 (6-89)
National	Envelope	30.7	x 22.9	сm	41-016-23	0 (6-89)
	Pack	39.8	x 30.6	cm	41-016-22	9 (6-89)
U.S.A.					41-016-25	
	Pack	39.8	x 30.6	cm	41-016-25	4 (6-89)
Europe	Envelope	30.7	x 22.9	cm	41-016-25	3 (6-89)
	Pack	39.8	x 30.6	сm	41-016-25	2 (6-89)
Pacific	Envelope	30.7	x 22.9	cm	41-016-25	7 (6-89)
	Pack	39.8	x 30.6	cm	41-016-25	6 (6-89)
International Envelop		elope	30.7 x	22.	9 cm 41-0	16-251 (6-89)
Pack			39.8 x	30.	6 cm 41-0	16-250 (6-89)

In addition, there is a "Provincial Pack" for use within British Columbia by B.C. Government agencies. This envelope, bearing the B.C. coat of arms as well as the "hand and globe" symbol (BNA Topics, Vol. 46, No. 3, pg. 26, Figure 4), can be classified as a private order prepaid formula.

There is also one further plastic envelope 33-086-393 (6-89), available free at some offices, which is a type of formula envelope.

Special Services Envelopes

On July 4, 1989 Canada Post introduced five more prepaid formula envelopes.

Special Occasion Envelope, multicolour, \$1.95 each, \$9.95 pack of 6 41-016-271 (89-06) 24.5 x 14.0 cm Special Letter Envelope, blue (national), \$1.95 each, \$9.95 pack of 6 41-016-272 (89-06) 24.5 x 14.0 cm Special Letter Envelope, blue (national), \$2.45 each, \$12.45 pack of 6 41-016-273 (89-06) 30.5 x 22.7 cm Special Letter Envelope, blue (national), \$2.95 each, \$14.95 pack of 6 41-016-275 (89-06) 24.5 x 14.0 cm Special Letter Envelope, blue (national), \$3.45 each, \$17.45 pack of 6 41-016-276 (89-06) 30.5 x 22.7 cm

The "Special Lettermail" service is described by Canada Post as "an unfeatured courier product positioned between Priority Courier and regular Lettermail". The special letter envelopes and the special occasion envelope receive a datestamp from both the sending and receiving offices. If delivery is not achieved within 1 business day within a major urban centre, or 2 business days between "most major urban centres", Canada Post promises to provide a new envelope, free of charge, within five days.

There is no weight limit on the contents of these envelopes. The user of a Special Occasion Envelope can indicate the appropriate occasion (birth, wedding, birthday, Mother's Day, Father's Day Valentine's day, Christmas, Easter) on the outside of the envelope by attaching one of a set of eight rather garish labels supplied by Canada Post. It should also be recorded that in September 1989, in an attempt to promote the Special Occasion envelopes, Canada Post took out advertisements in major Canadian newspapers offering a free sample on request. The envelope (identical in all respects to those sold over-the-counter) was then mailed in a large size "Special Letter" envelope to the person making the request. It is interesting that Canada Post relies on the rather staid character of Canadians to pay fifty cents more for the standard size (small) national Special Letter rather than the Special Occasion Letter which is the same size, provides the same service, but is much less conservative in colour and design.

Also, Dennis Cottin has forwarded an interesting copy of the 6-89 Special Occasion envelope which bears a red "SPECIMEN" marking (67mm x 9mm).

But are they Postal Stationery?

A few of you may remember that back in PSN Vol. 4 (pg. 9) we discussed the first prepaid Priority Post envelopes. These, as well as the later Priority Post and the Special Services envelopes, do not conform to the FIP definition of postal stationery in that they do not have an inscription indicating "a specific face value of postage has been prepaid". Instead the inscription indicates the applicable rate (unspecified) has been prepaid.

Nevertheless, country after country is issuing items that are prepaid, can be purchased over-the-counter, but do not bear an indication of exactly how much postage has been paid. Instead, there is an indication of the classification of mail for which a fee has been paid. Often such items also have a picture of some sort in the position normally occupied by the postage stamp impression, and look very much like pieces of conventional **postal stationery.** Conversely, many envelopes marked postage paid are neither prepared for, nor sold directly over-the-counter by a post office department. These are classified as permit mail. Certainly all these items are collectable, but the lines between the definitions are becoming very fuzzy. Post office departments are working very hard to move the mail in ways that are satisfactory to customers, and they certainly are not worried about making their stock or procedures conform to FIP rules.

It seems to me there are several distinct categories that can be distinguished.

a) conventional postal stationery

- the item is sold over-the-counter in a post office
- the fee paid for postage is specified

- the fee prepaid for services in addition to the postage is specified Examples: all the items in Webb's Catalogue listed as regular issue and private order envelopes, post cards, letter cards, aerogrammes etc.; items such as certain British registered envelopes for which the postage and registration fee were both included in the cost of the envelope

- b) formula postal stationery with specified fee paid for other postal services
 - the item is sold over-the-counter in a post office
 - the fee for the postage is not prepaid
 - the fee for some other postal service is specified and is prepaid Examples: include Canada's registered envelope, REl, and certified mail envelopes, CMl and CM2

- c) Post Office prepaid formula postal stationery
 - exactly as for (a), except the type of fee is specified, rather than the exact fee
 - Examples: a British envelope marked "Royal Mail Second Class Post Paid", a British letter sheet marked "Royal Mail First Class Post Paid, UK Postage paid up to 60g", Canadian Priority Post envelopes and Special Services envelopes
- d) formula postal stationery with an unspecified fee paid for other postal services
 - exactly as for (b), except the type of fee is specified rather than the exact fee
 - Examples: Canadian certified mail envelopes of the late 1970's and 1980's except for CMl and CM2
- e) formula postal stationery distributed free by the post office, and mailable without payment of a fee
 - very similar to (c) except no fee at all was paid by the user, but also very similar to permit mail
 - Examples: WWII "free" Christmas aerogrammes for mailing to or from service personnel. Change of address cards from the early 1960's to the mid-1980's would be very similar in mode of distribution and payment, but seem to use the same sort of markings as permit mail
- f) Post Office Issue formula postal stationery
 - an unstamped formula distributed free or sold by the Post Office
 - postage and any service fees must be paid in addition to any charge made for the formula item

Examples: include Canadian formula aerogrammes and military aerogrammes, and Newfoundland formula registered envelopes

For the most part, the postal stationery in Webb's Catalogue belongs to types (a) or (b). It would appear reasonable that in the future some items in categories (c), (d), (e) and (f) might be added. Indeed, some items of types (d) and (e) were listed in the 4th edition of Webb's, but were omitted in the 5th edition. The "postage due labels and wrappers" appear in Webb's, but seem to fit none of these categories. The denomination marked on one of these government forms really represents an amount to be paid by the addressee for the service rendered. The amount does not represent a fee that has been paid. These forms are only "postal stationery" in the same sense any envelope used by the Post Office (Canada Post) in its normal course of operations could be considered postal stationery.

Robert Lemire

POST CARD STOCK ON THE GEORGE VI CARDS

In the Post Office records at the National Archives of Canada in Ottawa, (in file 13-19-11Vol. 2 of Volume 62) is a copy of a letter dated October 29, 1953, sent by L.J. Mills, Director of Financial Services, in response to a complaint about post card stock. Collectors of the cards of that period may be interested in the following quotation:

"The single post cards sold by the Department all have the grain of the paper running lengthwise on the card stock. The manufacturing process of the card is such that the grain never runs across the short width of the card. For cards that are supplied in multiple sheets, 8, 16 or 32 cards to the sheet, the grain may run either horizontal or vertical. The paper supplier is permitted to cut the sheets from which these cards are made in a manner which will prove most economical to the department."

From this it would appear that collectors should be able to identify cards from this period with the paper grain running in the short direction as cards from sheet stock.

Robert Lemire

TWO MORE USED COPIES OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND REPLY LETTER CARD

In response to Bill Walton's article concerning foreign usages of the Newfoundland reply letter card, PSN Vol. 8, pg. 35, Horace Harrison has sent along a photocopy as follows:

- March 19, 1919 to Springfield, Mo. (Missouri ?) with lc added postage
 - apparently unsealed
 - reply half still attached, no message on either half
 - obviously philatelic

Horace also forwarded a photocopy of a reply half, used in May 1915 from Victoria, Newfoundland to Carbonear, Newfoundland. The message betrays the philatelic origin of this extremely scarce domestically-used card.

VIEWS ON THE BACK OF CPR CARDS

In the previous issue of Postal Stationery Notes (Vol. 9, pg. 4) a listing was presented of the views on the back of the CPR (front) view cards. Below are descriptions and pictures of the remaining views.

Two Steamships

This is the smallest view. So far it has only been found on a sleeping car service notice dated February 26, 1906.

Lake Louise

The fourth view is the one with the most radical changes in outline and caption. Type I of "Lake Louise" has an irregular oval outline. Type II has squared top and sides with a contact frame line, and can be found captioned "Lake Louise", "Lake Louise - near Laggan, Alba." or with no caption at all! Type III is similar in appearance to Type II, except that there is an "apron" of shading 4-5mm wide added to the frame of the picture from the water's edge down. As yet I have only had it reported without any caption.

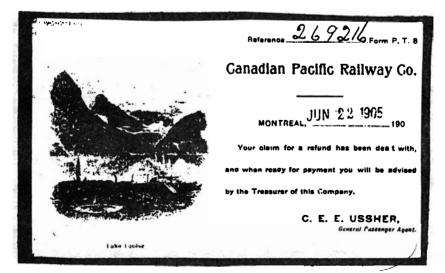
As a matter of interest, I received reports of 60 of these cards, 55 of which had views on the back. There was a surprising number of different combinations of form, back view and front - 44. Even among the 11 duplicates nine were different.

Since the form dates provide a useful way to examine the evolution of the forms and views, and are also handy for referring to a particular card or to check for new listings, I have arranged a list by form date. Reports of new listings (to Box 2021, Lambeth, ON, NOL 1SO, Canada) would be appreciated, and will be acknowledged.

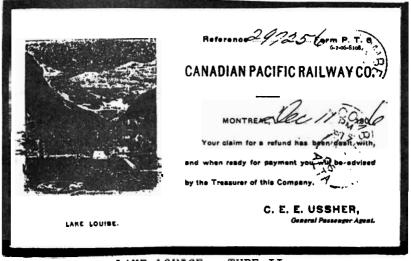
John Aitken



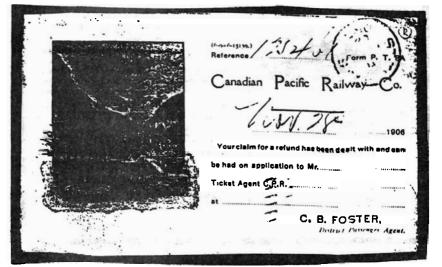
TWO STEAMSHIPS



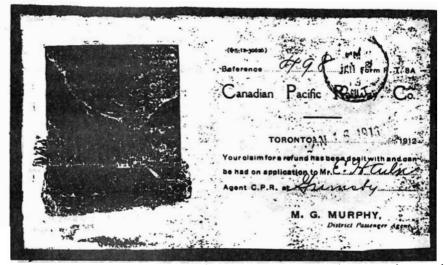
LAKE LOUISE - TYPE I



LAKE LOUISE - TYPE II



LAKE LOUISE - TYPE III



LAKE LOUISE on a post card without a printed stamp impression. A l¢ green adhesive of the Admiral Issue was used to pay the postage.