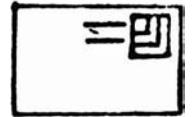


BNAPS

POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES

PSSG



Volume 9, No. 4September 1990

STUDY GROUP WILL MEET IN GALVESTON

The Postal Stationery Study Group will meet during BNAPEX, October 18-20 in Galveston, Texas. The topic for discussion will be:

Admiral Issue Postal Stationery
Unusual Items and Unanswered Questions

The details of the show have not yet been published, so I cannot yet report the actual time of the meeting. However, details will be printed in the conference program.

BNAPS conventions are always good fun, the various study group meetings and the exhibits are well worth attending, and the bourse offers the opportunity to add those "key" pieces to your collection. However, the main thing is getting together with others to discuss things philatelic. If you have never been to a BNAPS convention before, come to this one or plan now for next year's show in Vancouver.

MORE PRIORITY POST ENVELOPES

Dick Staecker has brought to my attention that several items were omitted from the update in PSN Vol. 9, pg. 14 - specifically Regional and National "Envelopes" and "Packs" dated 4-89, and U.S.A. "Envelopes" and "Packs" dated 6-88. Actually, Earle Covert had mentioned at least one of the items dated "4-89" some time ago, but I had mislaid the information at the time the article was written.

Dick has provided the comprehensive check list of the Priority Post Envelopes and Packs as shown on the next page. It should be noted that it appears the national and regional Packs dated 6-88 are proving somewhat more difficult to find than some of the other items, although their scarcity may prove to be simply a matter of geographical distribution. It is expected that more Type 9 items have been (or will soon be) issued.

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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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		1	2	3	4	4a	5	6	7	8	9
NATIONAL	E	N.D.	N.D.	8-87				6-88	4-89	6-89	4-90
	P	N.D.	N.D.	8-87				6-88	4-89	6-89	
REGIONAL	E				11-87		1-88	6-88	4-89	6-89	4-90
	P				11-87		1-88	6-88	4-89	6-89	4-90
U.S.A.	E				11-87		1-88	6-88		6-89	
	P				11-87		1-88	6-88		6-89	
EUROPE	E				11-87		1-88			6-89	
	P				11-87		1-88			6-89	
INTERNATIONAL	E				11-87	11-87	1-88			6-89	
	P				11-87	11-87	1-88			6-89	
PACIFIC	E							4-88		6-89	
	P							4-88		6-89	

The word "OVERNIGHT" instead of "NATIONAL" was used before 6-89.
The dates are on the back following the item number.
"E" stands for "ENVELOPE" or "LETTER" (6-89)
"P" stands for "PACK"

- Type 1 No number/date on the back.
Front: globe/hand. "PRIORITY POST COURIER". No "TM"
- Type 2 No number/date on the back.
Front: "TM" after "COURIER". globe/hand.
- Type 3 8-87 on the back.
Front: no globe/hand, otherwise as type 2
- Type 4 11-87 on the back
Front: "EMS COURIER . . ."
- Type 4a as Type 4, but a letter "E" on an adhesive label was added after the word "INTERNATIONAL"
- Type 5 1-88 on the back
Front: as Type 4, but "CANADA POST . . ." was moved up into the blue line
- Type 6 Back: 4-88 or 6-88. Telefon number "648-3442 was moved from the third to the fourth line from the bottom
Front: as Type 5
- Type 7 4-89 on the back
Front: "PRIORITY POST COURIER . . ."
- Type 8 6-89 on the back
Front: "PRIORITY COURIER . . ."
- Type 9 Back: 4-90 otherwise as for Type 8 except Ottawa and Montreal telephone numbers are changed, and there are minor changes in print size
Front: as Type 8

MAINSTREAM BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CANADIAN POSTAL STATIONERY

5. The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada by Winthrop S. Boggs, 1945, Chambers Publishing Company, Kalamazoo, Michigan; (reprint) 1974, Quarterman Publications, Inc., Lawrence, Massachusetts

This extraordinary book - like Jarrett, which in certain respects it was designed to replace - is still one of the standard references in Canadian philately. In section after section, it laid out many of the basics for the adhesives as well as the sidelines of the day, creating the starting framework for the expansion of many specialty fields. Indeed, for at least the next 25 years, students of some subjects routinely referenced Boggs, until knowledge (and subsequent specialized publications) began to outdate his work. Even today, Boggs is still an important source of information in many areas.

In postal stationery terms, however, this book had little impact when published, and even today it is viewed as a very secondary source at best. To understand this judgement of collectors over the decades, the Boggs stationery section requires some analysis.

To begin with, postal stationery was clearly not a field of particular interest to Boggs, and he apparently never studied or understood it very well. He seems to have included it in his works on Canada and Newfoundland primarily for completeness. But unlike many sections in his work, Boggs was content to accept the work of others as the basis for his chapters on postal stationery. This was true in both the notes (or "handbook" portions) and the listings (or "catalogue" portions).

By the time Boggs was published, specialized work on Canadian postal stationery was well under way, and detailed listings had been published. Odell's catalogue was in print, as was (in 1941) the French/Bradley catalogue (both of which will be dealt with in later segments). The Holmes' catalogue (also dealt with later) as early as 1935 included a postal stationery listing, and by the 1940 edition had been not only improved but illustrated. The catalogue listing in Boggs, therefore, would have had to offer significant advantages in listings or in format to gain acceptance - but Boggs chose to base his work primarily on the catalogue listing offered to him by French, and thus gave collectors essentially (in listings and in tabular format) what the French/Bradley catalogue already provided.

(Interestingly, while French and "his" catalogue are credited in the Acknowledgements, no mention is made in the Bibliography Boggs provided. The 1889 Philatelic Society of London effort was listed, as was Ascher's catalogue which had no perceivable direct impact on Boggs, but Odell, French/Bradley and Holmes are all conspicuously absent. In a transparent effort to make no reference to Jarrett, the Boggs Bibliography is so abbreviated as to offer the one real element of humour in this massive and important work.)

During this period, the Holmes' numbering system was taking over Canadian postal stationery almost completely, and French/Bradley numbers never truly caught on. The Boggs stationery listings suffered the same predictable fate. Although the numbers were changed in Boggs, and the

descriptions were altered in some cases, little new was seen as being presented. In most instances this is true, but another contributor - most likely Nelson Bond and/or David Burr - did make an effort to improve some elements, and a few details (such as the attempt to date shades on the Queen Victoria typographed post cards, like Webb P5/Boggs PC4, are still worth inspection.

The "handbook" or text portions Boggs provided on postal stationery clearly reflect his own bias towards classic material. In 1945, many stationery collectors were caught up in the maze of George V issues. But Boggs provided one page of text on all the George V and George VI envelopes, compared to 11 pages of text and illustrations for the Nesbitt envelopes. While some of this Nesbitt information was useful, it was extraordinarily disproportionate. Boggs never grasped one of the fundamental axioms of postal stationery throughout the world (not just in Canada): that while adhesive rarities are heavily concentrated in the classic period from 1840 to 1850, stationery rarities are heavily concentrated in the 1910 to 1940 era.

The Boggs text does contain useful or at least thought-provoking nuggets, but it must be used carefully. It is filled with errors of a variety of sorts. Descriptions of envelope essays and proofs are often very wrong, for example. Specific points of information are in some cases mistaken -- as one minor instance, Boggs uses Ascher's worldwide stationery catalogue as his first justification for listing and pricing envelope cut-squares, but Ascher's monumental 1925-28 catalogue never did this (and Ascher certainly would have been horrified at the thought).

Criticizing Boggs, in BNA circles, is virtual heresy. In most BNA collecting arenas he is viewed as an important driving force in those specialties. In postal stationery, Boggs was a very secondary influence. His works can (and should) still be worth careful inspection, but the emphasis must be on "careful".

Note: Chronologically, Boggs is the last "general" publication incorporating postal stationery that we will deal with. At this point, we will backtrack through the specialized postal stationery listings, until converging again in Holmes.

Bill Walton

THE MAUVE 3¢ GEORGE VI CARDS: A TURNING POINT IN HEADINGS

The lowly 3¢ mauve George VI cards catalogue very little, but represent an important turning point in Canadian post card issues. As Robert Lemire pointed out to me recently, they have never been singled out for any special attention in PSN, nor in any other publications I know of. These few notes - which have no new information to offer - are an attempt to remedy this by providing an overview of the 3¢ mauve regular issue cards, explaining what happened during their life, and raising one or two questions.

When the 3¢ mauve cards were first issued in 1943, the standard and cumbersome system of three separate headings was still in place. The issue (with ERP's noted) was as follows:

- Webb P79 3¢ mauve, type 1, (43/O) (June 19, 1944):
 blank business card
- Webb P78b 3¢ mauve, type 5, (43/T) (Oct. 22, 1943):
 English heading
- Webb P78c 3¢ mauve, type 7, (43/T) (Mar. 14, 1944):
 bilingual heading

The separate "business" cards, designed originally for printed advertising, had been evolving since the Maple Leaf Issue in 1898. Until the Admiral Issue, however, the ordinary post cards had always had an English heading (except for the UPU cards, which were required of every country to carry inscriptions in French). In 1913, the first bilingual heading (type 8) on a domestic post card was introduced - Webb P27i, the 1¢ green Admiral. Theoretically, this was a simple and rational change - but in Canadian politics of the day, nothing was so easy, and a second 1¢ green Admiral with an English-only (type 6) heading (Webb P27f) was introduced the following year. The bilingual P27i - which for a brief period of less than a year had been sold and used across Canada - was now essentially relegated to the Province of Quebec, and the English-only was distributed and used in the rest of the country. Thus, saddled with what an outsider could perhaps most generously call a cumbersome system, the Post Office was still producing each standard rate card with all three heading varieties (though each had evolved) on into the George VI era, including the 3¢ mauve.

In 1951, with the 3¢ mauve still current, this system finally came to an end. After 37 years, with maintaining inventory of three styles no doubt a continuing headache, someone came up with a simple solution: eliminate headings completely and issue all single cards in blank (type 1) format. This effectively prevented any linguistic questions from being raised, and led to a new issue:

- P78 3¢ mauve type 1 (43/T) (Dec. 21, 1951):
 blank heading

P78 certainly replaced P78b (type 5, English heading). A variety - P78a, in a dark mauve shade and on a thinner stock - began to replace P78 within two years (current ERP Nov. 9, 1953), and by early 1954 the 3¢ cards were supplanted entirely by the rate increase to 4¢.

What is not quite so clear, at least to me, is whether P78 and P78a also immediately replaced P79, the "business" card. P79 was printed on an offset press, in what I have suspected for many years was a larger sheet format. Was this press simply taken out of service for regular issue cards as of late 1951? It appears to have been taken out of service at some point, because the 4¢ purple George VI card (Webb P80) - as well as the subsequent First Karsh and Typographed Wilding (1954 printed date) Issues are all typographed; offset issues did not reappear until the Offset Wilding (1955 printed date) Issue.

Copies of P79 typically have a commercially printed back (not a mimeograph machine effort of a church or local small merchant). My used examples of P79 essentially dry up in mid-1951, and I have not found a pattern continuing on into the P78/P78a issue period (nor, on the other hand, have I actively looked for examples).

Commercially printed backs are also the giveaway of "business" use of P78/P78a, particularly when used by obviously large firms or government agencies. P78/78a can be found used with handwritten personal messages characteristic of ordinary over-the-counter postal patron use, and also with commercial backs characteristic of heavy volume business usages - especially in the absence of post-1951 uses of P79 - clearly suggesting replacement. My earliest commercial uses of P78 do not occur, however, until late 1952, leaving a substantial gap from mid-1951. Until many copies of such uses of P79 and P78 during this gap can be examined, it will not be possible to make a reasonably informed guess as to when P79 was actually replaced.

As interesting footnotes on the language heading questions, two subsequent developments stand out. First, although all single cards were without any headings as of 1951, reply cards still required headings, and when the First Karsh Issue appeared, English and bilingual varieties, Webb P84 and P84a, still were issued. Almost immediately, however, the English-only card (P84) was dropped, and the bilingual P84a was put in use throughout the country (in fact, an in-period, proper, non-philatelic use of P84 is an Elizabethan collecting challenge). The next reply card (Webb P92, in the Second Karsh Issue) occurred only with a bilingual heading. This continued the heading simplification process, and was in fact the first quiet return to the 1913 "standard bilingual" heading.

Second, in 1966 - during the cameo issue, which began with the blank (type 1) headings - a simple shift to bilingual headings for all cards was made (Webb P94h, i, j, and P97b). Thus, the standard bilingual heading abandoned in 1914, emerged again 52 years later, and remained in place until Ottawa killed Canadian postal stationery cards in 1987.

The 3¢ mauve George VI cards, placed in this perspective, were the turning point in the long and awkward history of Canadian post card headings.

Bill Walton

POSTAL STATIONERY AND POSTAL RATES - THE USUAL AND THE UNUSUAL

(a discussion document first presented on September 23rd 1989 at the BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group Meeting in Hamilton, Ontario)

One of the most interesting aspects of collecting postal stationery is that, almost without exception, each piece was issued as a response to a specific rate. Therefore, a collection of used postal stationery is in some respects also a postal history collection. A corollary to this is that the study of postal stationery can provide insight into, and examples of, fairly obscure rates not seen (or seen rarely) on other mail.

The first example is Canada's first post card (Webb P1). This card, issued in June 1871, represented the vehicle for a new rate, allowing correspondence on the back of the prestamped card to pass within the Dominion as normal first class mail for 1¢, rather than the 3¢ rate required for letter mail. Subsequently, as outlined in Allan Steinhart's book "The Postal History of the Post Card in Canada", a wide variety of post card rates were introduced for the mailing of postal stationery cards to many countries of the world. It was not until the mid-1890's that private post cards with stamps were allowed to pass through the mails at the post card rates.

One set of rates for which few examples exist except postal stationery are the rates for newspapers mailed to the United States by publishers. According to Howes, the raising of rates for daily newspapers to 1¢ per 4 ounces in 1907 led to the issuance of the 1¢, 2¢ and 3¢ newspaper wrappers. The 2¢ and 3¢ wrappers are extremely scarce in used condition. The subsequent lowering of the rate to 1¢ per pound in February 1908 resulted in the revaluation of the 2¢ and 3¢ wrappers to 1¢. Interestingly, when the rate was changed to 2¢ per pound for daily newspapers in the early 1920's, no 2¢ wrapper was issued. Instead the 1¢ wrapper continued to be printed, presumably to meet the 1¢ per 4 ounce rate for less frequently published newspapers. Aside from Allan Steinhart's comments on the rates between 1912 and 1928 (in his book "The Admiral Era: A Rate Study") no detailed study of twentieth century newspaper and wrapper rates appears to have been published.

Although no 1/2¢ adhesives were issued after the Tercentenary Issue, 1/2¢ postal cards were issued between 1924 and the late 1930's to accommodate two different rates. One was the business reply card rate under which cards could be sent out under cover, or as the reply half of a message-and-reply double card, to be used by prospective customers. The second use was for local distribution of third class advertising matter to every householder. Such mailings could also, of course, be paid for by adhesives affixed to each bundle of circulars. However, the 1/2¢ post card (often precancelled) is the only way the rate can be shown on a single piece. The rate had several restrictions, for example, it did not apply to rural routes. Therefore, 1¢ precancelled cards, obviously prepared for such use, are known.

Although third class mail rates were intended primarily for matter "wholly in print", there were a number of exceptions under which "partly printed and written matter" was mailable at third class rates. One involved "Dominion and Provincial government documents and returns on official blanks (with the exception of forms related to commercial enterprises . . . operated by such governments)". These rates were described in detail in the Post Office Guides, but were sufficiently obscure to cause confusion. Thus, it is possible to find post cards prestamped at the third class rate with printed fill-in-the-blanks government forms, and similar forms on first class rate cards. There were even apparently reply cards prepared specially for the Department of Agriculture that did not take advantage of the "government rate" for the reply half.

These are but a few examples of unusual rates found solely or primarily on Canadian postal stationery. There are many others such as: the 15¢ (and later 10¢) Canada Air Letter rates in the 1950's and 1960's for mailing to

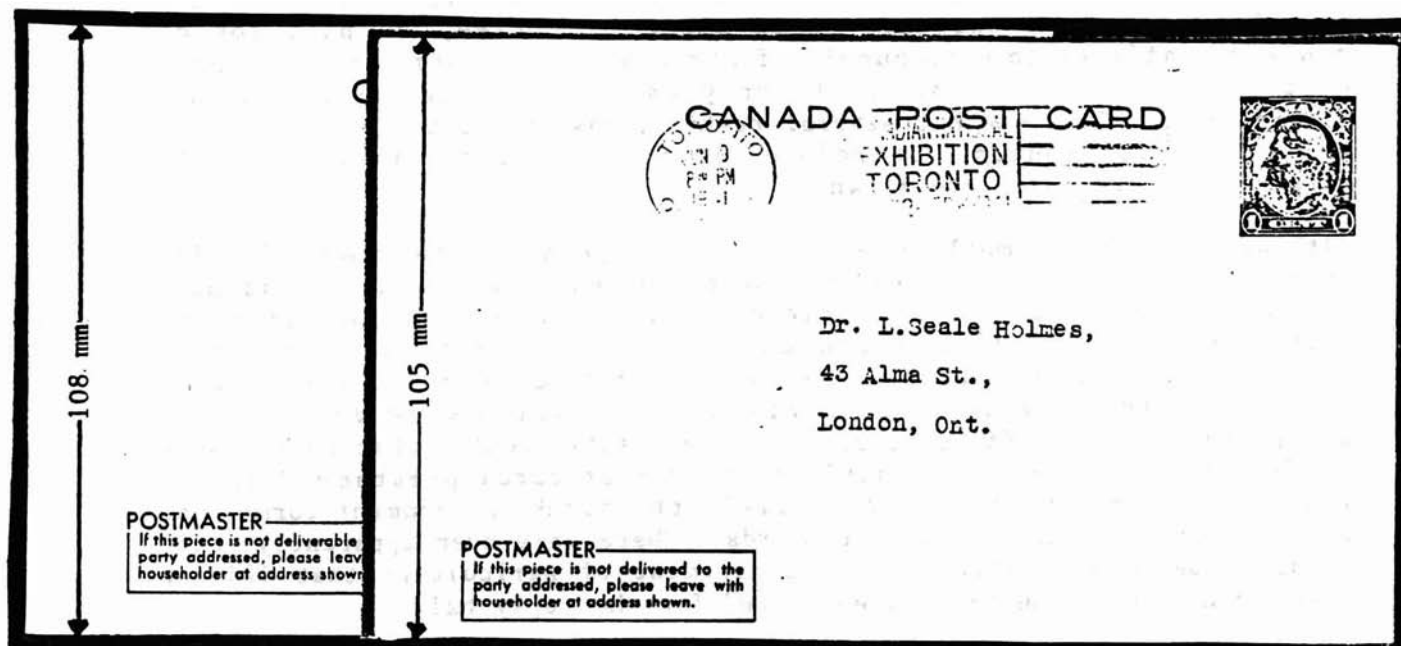
countries to which the normal (1/4 ounce) air mail rate was 25c, foreign reply halves of reply cards mailed from Canada, and use of the 6c election envelope in 1972 for first class postage (the additional fee having been paid to the Post Office in bulk). The 1c Elizabethan post bands were used for several fairly obscure rates: (a) mailing, by publishers or newsdealers, of newspapers or periodicals weighing up to 2 ounces, to local addresses serviced by letter carrier; (b) sample copies (greater than one-third of the number sent by mail to bona fide subscribers; 2 ounces or less); (c) publications (less than 2 ounces) mailed to "non-subscribers in Canada"; (d) publications (less than 2 ounces) "mailed to persons whose subscriptions have been paid in whole or in part by interested parties".

John Aitken and Robert Lemire

CARD STOCK VARIETIES ON KP66h

In Webb's Catalogue the George VI private order card KP66h is described as "1c green, type 5, mimeo (38/0), 7 x 4 1/4" (178 x 108) (Goodrich)". This card is not particularly scarce compared to other private order cards of the same era. However, aside from the fact that the cards were individualized for various service stations, there are at least two distinct varieties. Type 1 (postmark date 1940) is on a brownish mimeo card, 108mm high; type 2 (postmark date 1941), is on a whiteish mimeo stock, 105mm high. The first line in the notice on the front of the type 2 card reads "delivered" as opposed to "deliverable" on the type 1 card. Do other varieties exist?

Robert Lemire



KP66h type 1

KP66h type 2

(75% actual size)