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POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES

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Vol. 12, No. 4November 1994

XPRESSPOST AND PRIORITY POST - NEW VARIETIES

Dick Staecker reports the first new Priority Post item in some time. It is a USA Pack with a form date of 7/93.

Peter Zariwny has now reported a Regional Meditrust Pharmacy envelope with a printed address "MEDITRUST PHARMACY/140 WENDELL AVENUE, UNIT 8/NORTH YORK, ONTARIO M9N 3R2.

BNAPEX '94

Eighteen BNAPSers met at 1:00 p.m., Friday September 30, at BNAPEX'94 in Burlington Vermont. The meeting began with a discussion of George(VI) stationery. A number of seldom-seen items were brought to the meeting. The substance of the discussion is outlined below, and it seemed there was considerable interest in the stationery of that period.

A short discussion of the newsletter elicited the comments that lists and pictures are of particular value. One member indicated more articles on Elizabethan stationery would be of interest.

Bill Walton discussed progress of the Earliest Reported Postmark (ERP) project. He explained to members that the photocopies are not simply for verification of the dates, but also form part of an archival file showing most BNA stationery items. Photocopies of individual photocopies can be provided to members for research purposes.

A BNAPEX Discussion of the George (VI) Era Stationery

The reign of George VI was relatively short, and stationery bearing his portrait was issued during the period from 1938-1954. Initially, the cards wrappers and bands (printed by Canadian Bank Note Co.) and the envelopes (prepared by the Department of Public Printing and Stationery) closely resembled those used at the end of the George V period. However, by 1954 introduction of the complexities that make the Elizabethan stationery so interesting were well underway.

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 2124, Deep River, ON, Canada K0J 1P0.

In the interim, there was a war that placed restrictions on available paper stock. There were several rate changes - notably increases in the first class rates in 1943 and 1954, and an increase in the third class rate in 1951. In all these three cases the rate changes resulted in revalued items. There were changes in dies and printing methods for the envelopes. In the early 1950's, the printed headings were dropped from the single post cards sold in post offices. About the same time, new printing methods allowed the introduction of prestamped "flimsy" multiple form cards (initially used by Canadian National Express), and as these could not be printed by the contract printer, private printing by non-contract firms was begun.

Add to this the unusual Meteorological Labels, the bilingual heading mimco rouletted card, the official "perfin" post bands, as well as the more "normal" private order items such as the Ontario Hydro meter reading cards and the Ontario Agricultural Representative reply cards, and it is clear the George VI era is an area still worthy of much additional study.

Bill Walton has promised to provide a road map to the George VI post cards (and discuss some unresolved puzzles). His series is scheduled to begin in the next issue of PSN.

45¢ ENVELOPES NOT ISSUED

The rate increase planned for October 1, 1994 did not occur, although the new postal supplies were prepared (but not issued). The government has now stated the duration of the delay is indefinite pending a review of how the changes would affect small- and medium-sized businesses, and rates will not rise before Christmas.

ERP UPDATES

This is the second update to the comprehensive Earliest Reported Postmark (ERP) listing mailed to members with PSN Vol. 12, No. 2. The updates are arranged in the same order as the ERP listing, and the appropriate page numbers in the listing are noted. Updates are from Pierre Gauthier, John Grace, Tom Collop, Bill Gerlach, John Aitken, Robert Lemire and my own collection. A double thank you is due to Pierre Gauthier who had to prepare his extensive set of photocopies twice, once to give to me in Burlington at BNAPEX, and a second time to send by mail after my car (with the photocopies) was stolen a few days later in Montreal. I am still digesting substantial contributions of aerogramme photocopies from Jerome Kasper and a large number of photocopies of "Legault First Day Covers" provided by non-member Maurice Malenfant.

Bill Walton

pg. 3	EN24	Aug. 18, 1923		EN54	Dec. 2, 1943 ^(a)
pg. 4	EN34	Nov. 11, 1926		EN56a	Jan. 10, 1944
pg. 5	EN38	Oct. 19, 1931		EN63d	Feb. 22, 1950 ^(b)
	EN40a	Jul. 22, 1931		EN64	Jul. 7, 1943
	EN41	Mar. 31, 1932		EN59	May 28, 1951
	EN41a/c	Jun. 23, 1932		EN59a	Jul. 6, 1951
	EN47	Aug. 20, 1933		EN60a	Oct. 6, 1951
	EN47a	Jan. 9, 1934	pg. 7	EN66	Oct. 2, 1951
pg. 6	EN50a/51a	Nov. 1, 1939	pg. 8	EN73	Apr. 2, 1955 ^(c)
					cont. on pg. 27

pg. 8	EN74a	Jun. 7, 1962	pg. 51	HKP106c	Mar. 3, 1972
	EN79a	Feb. 25, 1964		HKP106a	Nov. 29, 1973
	EN79b	Jun. 30, 1966 ^(d)		HKP113b	Dec. 28, 1977
	EN79c	Jul. 8, 1966 ^(d)		HKP116a	Apr. 3, 1979
	EN80	Nov. 12, 1963	pg. 52	P34c	Sept. 17, 1927
pg. 9	EN81e	Nov. 9, 1965		P50a	Oct. 24, 1932
	EN82a	Sept. 28, 1964		P65a	Mar. 4, 1937
	EN83a	May 19, 1967		P66b	Mar. 29, 1949
	EN84a	Aug. 8, 1967	pg. 55	CPR I47	? ⁽ⁱ⁾
	EN87	Jun. 21, 1970		CPR I46	Aug. 2, 1915 ⁽ⁱ⁾
pg. 10	EN85d	Dec. 27, 1968	pg. 60	GTRA45	Aug. 27, 1898
pg. 11	EN94b	Mar. 21, 1969	pg. 69	DEN517-25	Feb. 11, 1927
	EN97c	Feb. 25, 1969 ^(e)		DEN525-40h	Jan. 23, 1953
	EN92c	Jan. 27, 1969		DEN527-40a	Jul. 4, 1955
pg. 16	EN532	Oct. 22, 1943		DEN535-37a	Apr. 29, 1948
pg. 24	W21	Jan. 22, 1952		DEN539-40d	Jan. 21, 1957
	W23	Oct. 5, 1954		DEN543-37	Dec. 28, 1959
	W25	Dec. 12, 1960		DEN543-40b	Mar. 28, 1960
pg. 27	A26	Apr. 22, 1966		DEN543-60	Feb. 11, 1964
pg. 28	A31	Feb. 20, 1973	pg. 70	DEN583-21	Dec. 12, 1983
pg. 29	A62	Mar. 2, 1982	pg. 71	DKP67f	May 6, 1946
	L3 (setting 1)	Oct. ?, 1895		DKP78e	Feb. 16, 1953
pg. 34	P33n	Feb. 28, 1916		DKP78d	Jun. 4, 1952
pg. 35	P34e	Apr. 15, 1929 ^(f)		DKP83f	Jul. 5, 1962
pg. 37	P49	Jul. 10, 1931		EN800e	Sept. 11, 1926
pg. 38	P57	Sep. 6, 1935	pg. 72	EN802b	Mar. 23, 1937
	P62f	May 11, 1936	pg. 73	EN808h	June 5, 1945
	P64a	Jun. 2, 1936 ^(g)		EN809b	Jun. 27, 1949
pg. 39	P66p	Feb. 9, 1944		EN811b	Jun. 19, 1962
	P68	Oct. 6, 1938	pg. 74	EN813	Jun. 11, 1957
pg. 41	P87b	Dec. 1, 1954		EN813d	Mar. 31, 1958
pg. 46	P75a	Aug. 24, 1951 ^(h)		EN813i	May 30, 1961
	P96a	Dec. 31, 1964		EN813n	Apr. 9, 1963
pg. 50	HKP83h	Apr. 6, 1960		EN814f	Nov. 9, 1965 ⁽ⁱ⁾
pg. 51	HKP103c	Jan. 5, 1970		EN820	Oct. 31, 1972
	HKP104d	Feb. 4, 1971		EN820b	Jul. 9, 1974
	HKP105b	Nov. ?, 1971	pg. 76	RE2	May 12, 1938.

ERPs for Railway Freight Advice Flimsies

These are based to date on the holdings of only two reporters, and no doubt many of these dates will serve only as targets. No attempt has been made to separate cards used by both CN and CP but having the same catalogue numbers. We may do this at some later time, if interest is sufficient.

pg. 49	RKP79b	May 2, 1953	pg. 49	RKP83g	Jul. 16, 1962
	RKP78f	Jan. 15, 1954		RKP83j	Mar. 14, 1964
	RKP81c	Nov. 18, 1954		RKP85d	Jan. 3, 1955
	RKP81b	Aug. 17, 1954		RKP97a	Jul. 6, 1966

cont. on pg. 28

pg. 49 RKP97e Mar. 29, 1967
 RKP98 Jun. 6, 1964
 pg. 50 RKP101 Oct. 31, 1968
 RKP101c Dec. 24, 1969
 RKP101d Nov. 13, 1970
 RKP103 Mar. 2, 1970
 RKP104 Nov. 15, 1970

pg. 50 RKP104f Jun. 27, 1972
 RKP106 Apr. 13, 1973
 RKP106k Feb. 12, 1976
 RKP106e May 2, 1974
 RKP103a Dec. 5, 1969
 RKP105 Mar. 12, 1972
 RKP106f Nov. 5, 1973

- (a) A nice find by Pierre Gauthier moving the catalogue date on this item back to 1943.
- (b) This is a correction of an earlier misreading of February 2nd. Pierre Gauthier caught the mistake when he noted that the first "2" of "22" was present but so faint as to almost be invisible.
- (c) Another very nice date from Pierre.
- (d) This moves the date for this die back by several months.
- (e) The footnote on this item in the ERP list can now be deleted.
- (f) Manuscript date.
- (g) Another of the privately prepared, postmarked covers with a typewritten "first day" notation, prepared by several individuals either in or connected to the Post Office in Ottawa. See the note following the entry for EN32d in the ERP listing.
- (h) Text date.
- (i) Correction to the entry in PSN Vol. 12, No. 3, pg. 22.
- (j) Three different reports!! This sets a new record in the ERP project (in one report the XI in the dater was misread as IX).

AN APOLOGY TO DICK STAECKER

It is bad enough for an editor to mistakenly attribute one member's contribution to another member. That it happened twice in little over a year, and involved the same two individuals, is much worse.

However, it has happened. Both the French language Unemployment Insurance card (PSN Vol. 11, pg. 24) and the Sun-White private precancel card (PSN, Vol. 12, pg. 20) were actually reported by Dick Staecker. My apologies to Dick for my carelessness.

Robert Lemire

A LETTER AND SKETCH RELATED TO THE PREPARATION OF THE FIRST DOMINION OF CANADA ENVELOPES

Bill Walton has provided a photocopy of the document shown opposite. Dated the 10th of November, 1876, the note bears a letterhead from the Montreal Office of British American Bank Note Company (BABNC).

The piece was accompanied by a letter, dated October 5, 1917, from Warren Colson, a Boston dealer of that period, indicating it was

"from the effects of the late Henry Mitchell, Esq, who ... engraved all of the dies for U.S. envelopes from the time of the Nesbit period until the time of his death, just a few years ago."

The note appears to have been part of a request for an essay, probably for the 1877 Canadian envelopes. However, it is interesting the designs eventually used for the 1877 issue envelopes were much closer to those of the Province of Canada Nesbitt Issue of 1860 than to the sketch in the BABNC note.



Sketch of Cameo stamp for envelopes.

Head in centre to be as large as sketch, letters and figures white instead of black as in sketch. A plain white oval line between head and lettering and another outside of lettering, same as this stamp.



THE ONTARIO HYDRO CARDS - THE CANADIAN BANK NOTE COMPANY PRINTINGS

In PSN Vol 1, pg. 23, Earle Covert first reported a George VI 1¢ + 1¢ Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario (Ontario Hydro) reply card, Webb's HPK67i. Last year, I noted John Aitken's discovery of a reply half from a corresponding 2¢ 1st Karsh Issue card, Webb's HPK831, and mentioned there was some information in Canadian Archives file 13-19-20 of RG3 acc. 86-87/396, Box 63. about the printing of these cards.

Since then, I have had a chance to re-examine the file. Furthermore, Bill Walton has reported another previously unlisted card. It is now possible to discuss the printings, correct at least one error in my previous discussion of the cards (PSN Vol. 11, pg. 27), and describe two unreported cards that should exist.

The first reference to these cards in the Archives file is dated June 18, 1943, and the ensuing correspondence concerned the cost of printing the 1¢ + 1¢ reply cards (Hydro form No. 12). Before these had even been printed, Hydro sent an order (August 23, 1943) for cards

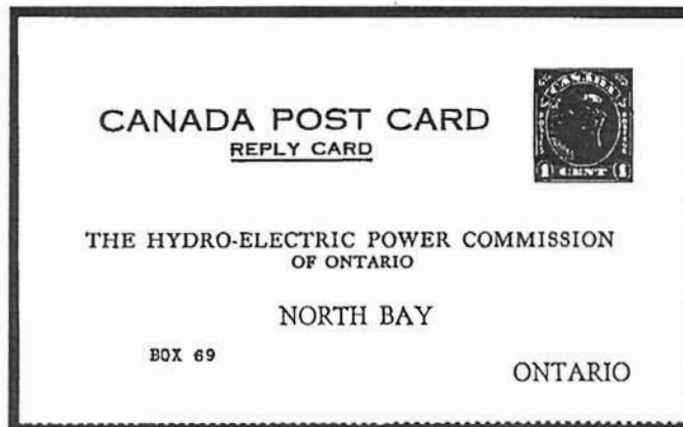
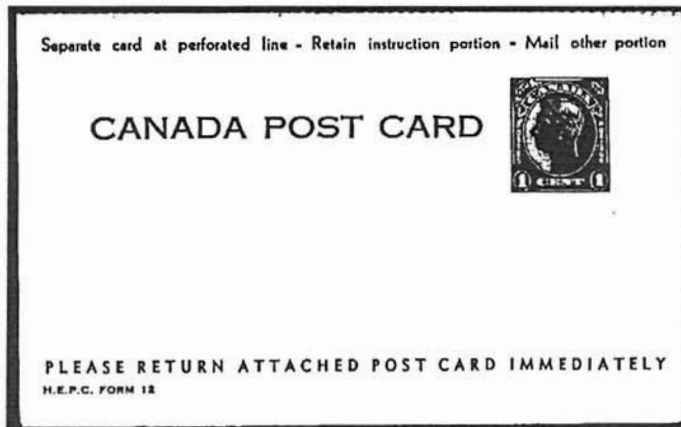
"with the one cent stamps on one side only ...; that is 4 only one cent stamps printed on your standard sheet 11 x 13½.

"This new one side return card will be our form No. H.E.P.C. 11, and will be for use in certain districts where readings are obtained by a Meter Reader. This card, H.E.P.C. 11 will be left in premises when the consumer is away."

The printings reported through 1949 (approximate delivery dates) are listed in the Table below.

Hydro card printing figures 1943-1949

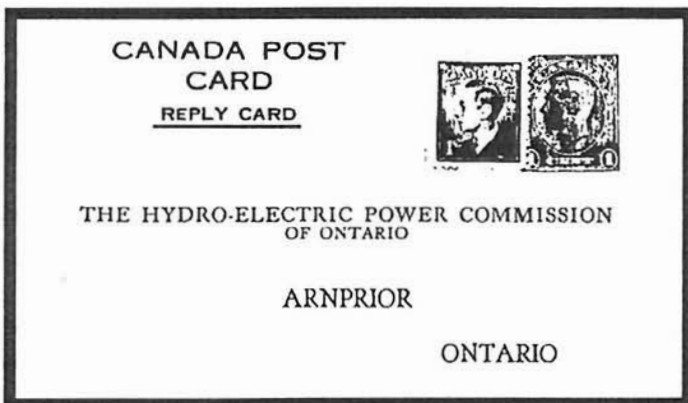
Form 11 (— + 1¢)			
Sept. 1943	40,000	July 1946	40,000
Feb. 1946	40,000	Jan. 1947	40,000
Form 12 (1¢ + 1¢)			
Sept. 1943	200,000	Jan. 1948	200,000
June 1944	200,000	Mar. 1948	200,000
Nov. 1944	200,000	Mar. 1949	200,000
May 1945	200,000	Aug. 1949	198,000
Feb. 1946	200,000	Nov. 1949	200,000
July 1946	200,000	Nov. 1950	20,000
Nov. 1946	400,000		
Form 12 (2¢ + 2¢) George VI			
May 1953	32,000		
Form 12 (2¢ + 2¢) First Karsh		Form 11(?) (— + 2¢) First Karsh	
Apr. 1954	50,000	Feb. 1955	10,000
Dec. 1956	50,000		



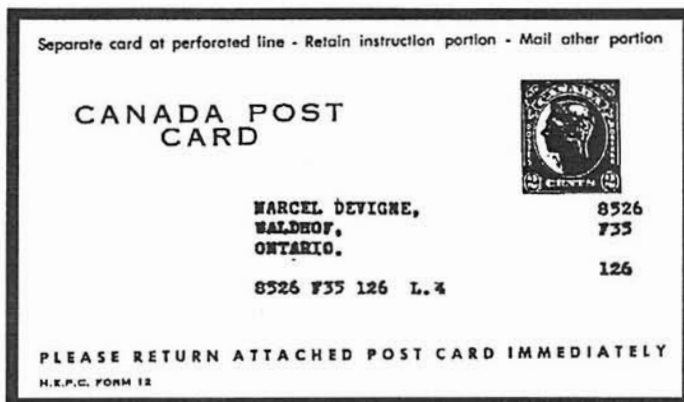
Order K4-9884, dated September 20, 1950, for cards delivered in November 1950, appears at first glance to have been for reply cards with stamp impressions on one side only (i.e., to be used for printing Form 11 cards). This is consistent with the small printing of 20,000 cards. However, the final order from the Post Office to CBNC clearly indicates the stamp impressions were to be printed on both sides of the sheets (i.e. 1¢ + 1¢ cards) and the invoiced amount is for 40,000 1¢ stamp impressions.

All the Hydro CBNC cards apparently were printed in a 4-on format. When the 1¢ cards were first reported, it was hoped that setting varieties in the printed forms could be used to help separate different printings. Bruce McCallum assembled a particularly nice set of sequenced headings, and sent me photocopies that I never quite managed to find space for in the newsletter. However, according to the Archives file, the cards printed by CBNC apparently were blank (except for the stamp impressions) when supplied to Ontario Hydro.

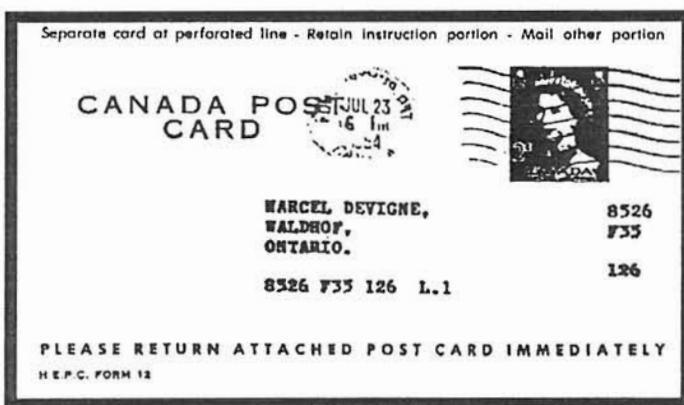
Therefore, even the major heading varieties shown on the next page do not necessarily represent different CBNC printings, but possibly only use of whatever cards were at the top of the Hydro print shop's pile. Bill Walton has suggested the rather odd "CANADA/POST CARD" and "CANADA POST/CARD" headings might have resulted from an attempt by Ontario Hydro to leave space for added adhesives after the 1951 rate change from 1¢ to 2¢ for third class matter.



On April 8, 1953 order 13721-3-V17 was placed for 32,000 2¢ + 2¢ cards. According to copies of orders in Archives file 60-13-27-3, pt. 1 (RG3 acc. 86-87/396, Vol. 67), the post cards of this period were still printed with the George VI dies. Thus, the card below is almost certainly from this order (delivered toward the end of May 1953). This card is unlisted in the current edition of Webb's.



Order 9150-4-V17, placed on Mar. 9, 1954, requested another 50,000 similar cards. This resulted in the printing of the First Karsh Issue cards such as the one shown below and in PSN Vol. 11, pg. 27. The cards were delivered in late April. Both these copies are postmarked in 1954, and cannot have come from any other printing.



In January 1955 10,000 cards "with the printing of 4 x 2¢ on one side only" were ordered. These — + 2¢ cards, delivered in late February 1955, remain unreported, but may well be Form 11 cards.

The only other special order Hydro cards printed by CBNC seem to have been 50,000 2¢ + 2¢ cards delivered in December 1956. These were presumably similar to the cards delivered in April 1954.

Thus, barring unreported differences in the stamp impressions from different orders, there should be only five basic types of the reply cards. Of these, the three Form 12 cards have been reported, but the — + 1¢ and — + 2¢ cards remain to be discovered. In 1958, Ontario Hydro began using cards printed by Moore Business forms (Webb's HKP83h and HKP85c), but that is the subject for a future article.

Robert Lemire

WRAPPER PAPER VARIETIES - THE GEORGE VI ISSUES

Webb's Catalogue lists two papers for the 1¢ George VI wrappers - W20d on greenish brown, and W20e on brown. Some information concerning these papers is found in the Canadian Archives RG3 acc. 86-87/396, Box 35, file 13-1-4.

On December 4, 1941 a letter was sent from the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBNC) to H.E. Atwater, financial superintendent, Post Office Department as follows:

"We confirm our telephone conversation of yesterday, advising you that we can no longer obtain No. 1 Green Kraft paper for newspaper wrappers and on the next printing will substitute No. 1 Kraft natural finish, sample of which is enclosed herewith for colour only. The weight and thickness of the natural coloured Kraft to be supplied on future printings will be exactly the same as the No. 1 Green Kraft heretofore supplied."

This confirms the change in papers was a deliberate change that occurred sometime during or after December 1941. However, in October of 1946, another letter was sent from CBNC that reads:

"We enclose three samples of kraft paper marked 1, 2 and 3. Sample No. 1 represents the kraft paper we are now supplying, natural colour, for newspaper wrappers, weight 35 lbs. which the Paper Controller will no longer allow the manufacturer to make. Samples Nos. 2 and 3 are brown colour standard kraft in the weights of 30 and 40 lbs. respectively, and we would like to have your permission to substitute either one of these on the next printing order for newspaper wrappers. The quality of the paper in the three samples is exactly the same."

The papers were sent to the King's Printer (Department of Public Printing and Stationery, Ottawa) for testing. This elicited the following response from the King's printer on November 4, 1946:

"In this connection I am submitting hereunder the report of the officer who has made a test of the three papers:

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Basis 24 x 36¹</u>	<u>Bulk²</u>	<u>Breaking Strength</u>
No. 1	70 M. S	2½ Pts.	43½ Lbs.
No. 2	74 M. S	3½ "	52 "
No. 3	65 M. S	3 "	36 "

Editor's Notes

1. **Basis Weight** is the weight in pounds of a (500 sheet) ream of paper of some basic size, in this case apparently 24" x 36" (might M. S be an abbreviation for manuscript ?)
2. **Bulk** is a measure of thickness of paper in points (1 point = 0.001")

Paper samples marked, "No. 1 35 lbs", "No. 2 40 lbs" and "No. 3, 30 lbs" are in the Archives file. The weights marked on the last two papers are the reverse of the weights noted in the above CBNC letter, but appear to agree with the test results in that paper No. 2 was stronger than paper No. 3

On the basis of these tests, Mr. Atwater wrote to CBNC asking that the printer "use paper conforming to Sample No. 2". Thus, it appears a third paper was deliberately used for the wrappers, beginning in late 1946 or early 1947. Can anyone find and report an easy way for collectors to distinguish wrappers printed on the "natural" colour kraft (1941-1946) and the later "brown" kraft?

Robert Lemire