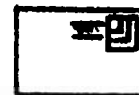


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## POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES

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Vol. 12, No. 6

February 1995

**DUES:** This is the final issue of Volume 12 of Postal Stationery Notes. If a red "x" appears in this box , your Study Group fee (CAN\$8.00 or US\$6.50) is now due. If sending Canadian funds, please make out the cheque to "Steven Whitcombe", not to the Postal Stationery Study Group. If you are not certain as to whether you have paid, check your address label. If it reads V13#1, your membership fee is due (according to my records). If you believe you have paid, and I have you marked as unpaid, please let me know.

**"Sky Pak" REPLACES PRIORITY POST TO NON-CANADIAN ADDRESSES**  
**NEW PREPAID ITEMS ISSUED**

Canada Post has replaced "Priority Post" service to destinations outside Canada with "Sky Pak International Courier". According to the CMS Bulletin (Vol. 73, No. 3, pg. 7), the changeover occurred on January 16, 1995. In conjunction with this name change, new (undated) prepaid cardboard envelopes have been issued in two sizes. The first (309 mm x 239 mm) has a weight limit of 350 g, the second (400 mm x 299 mm) a weight limit of 1 kg. These sizes differ slightly from the previous Priority Post items, but as before, the smaller item is described as an "envelope", the larger as a "pak". The "Sky Pak" items all open at the right (as viewed from the front), have a plastic pouch on the back to contain the shipping form, and are marked "documents only / no commercial value". This restriction may help speed deliveries that might previously have been delayed in customs. As for Priority Post, there are separate envelopes and packs for use to U.S., European, Pacific (includes Mexico!) and International (all other) destinations (thanks to Duff Malkin for the brochure). The cost of these new items ranges from \$23.50 for the U.S. Envelope to \$85 for the International Pack. New "sky pak" shipping forms, measuring 215 mm square (form date 94/07), have also been issued.

**STEVEN WHITCOMBE TO BECOME STUDY GROUP CHAIRMAN**  
**AND NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Beginning with Volume 13, Postal Stationery Notes will have a new editor. Steven Whitcombe, a member of the study group since 1982, has agreed to take on the responsibilities of study group chairman and newsletter editor. Steven has prepared the index for Postal Stationery Notes beginning with

Postal Stationery Notes is the newsletter of the BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group, and this issue was edited by Robert Lemire, Box 2124, Deep River, ON, K0J 1P0, Canada. All information for future newsletters, and correspondence about the study group, should be addressed to Steven Whitcombe, 334 Old York Rd., New Cumberland, PA 17070-3135, U.S.A.

Volume 1, has written several articles for PSN, and has prepared copy for the "Marketplace" for the last several years.

As was reported in the last issue of BNAPortraitS, I have agreed to become editor of BNA Topics later in 1995. I anticipate my duties as Topics editor will be sufficiently challenging that I cannot expect to have the time necessary to tend to study group matters. I have enjoyed editing PSN over the past thirteen years, and I have learned much from members of the group. I wish to thank all those who have written or talked with me over the years. I am grateful for your continuous encouragement. I expect I will be calling on many of you for help in my new position.

However, to continue the work of the Postal Stationery Study Group, Steven will also need your help in the form of information and articles. In particular, as he lives outside Canada, he will not have day-to-day access to new developments at Canada Post, and must rely on other members for information. Effective March 1, 1995 all enquiries about the study group, as well as information and questions for the newsletter should be addressed to:

**Steven Whitcombe,  
334 Old York Rd.,  
New Cumberland, PA 17070-3135  
U.S.A.  
telephone 717-938-9099.**

I will be working with Steven over the next couple of months to try to ensure a smooth transition.

Robert Lemire

### BRING BACK EN536W

Recently I was watching an old Wil E. Coyote cartoon with my kids. In it, Wil E. dresses up as a sheep and burrows under a grazing flock. Soon, to the amazement of the sheepdog, sheep are disappearing in the blink of an eye - rather like EN536W did between the 5th and 6th editions of Webb's (EN69f if you are still using the Webb 3rd edition). "So what?" you ask. Well it may happen again to another listing unless we can come up with a solution to a problem. The problem is this: "How should one classify a regularly issued piece of postal stationery that is subsequently revalued by the Post Office for a particular customer?". It was apparently during the search for an answer to this question that the editors of Webb's accidentally removed EN536W from the special order envelope section, but forgot to put it back anywhere.

In dealing with a classification problem, it is helpful not only to examine the major features of the difficult item, but to look at other pieces, previously catalogued, for similarities and differences. Priorities and objectives of the catalogue also should be examined. Can we apply these guidelines to the problem of cataloguing EN536W/69f and others of its ilk? I think so.

As all known copies of EN536W/69f bear a printed return address notice: "RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED/ TO 199 BRANT AVE./ BRANTFORD, ONTARIO", the major question is which came first - the revalue or the corner card? Did the Brantford firm buy a regularly issued revalued envelope, or did it return already printed but newly obsolete stationery to be updated? Could this be done and, if so, why would anyone bother doing it? Why not just add a stamp or meter and get on with it?



EN536W

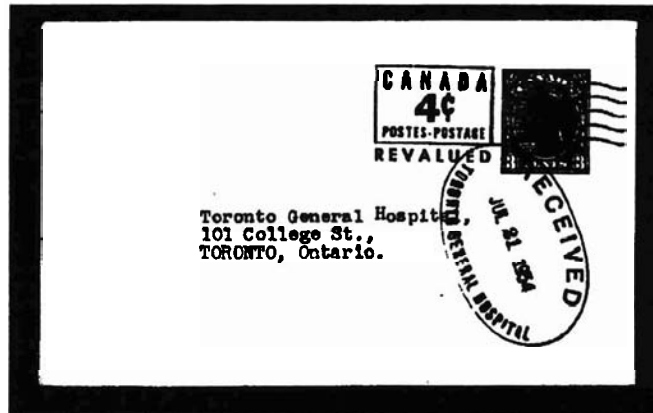
It might be supposed this is simply a rare regular issue envelope with no other known users. On considering some of the scarce revalued Canadian envelopes, this is not impossible. However, other than some of the election envelopes there are no other revalued 4¢ envelopes. The reason is simple. It wasn't necessary because a 4¢ envelope still met the local first class rate. Therefore, the envelope wasn't really obsolete unless you were planning to use it for out-of-town mailings - as was apparently the case for this Brantford firm.

The same firm was a long-time user of special order envelopes (e.g., EN525-70, EN527-60, EN528-60 and EN534-70), and was obviously familiar with the process for obtaining special order envelopes and post office policy on these items. The firm had had a printing or portion of a printing of the 1¢ EN525-70 revalued to 2¢ (EN528-60), so why not another envelope? This would be particularly attractive as it could be done quickly and with no charge for the work aside from the cost of the extra postage (PSN, Vol. 11, pg. 30). Clearly this is what was done to produce EN536W from copies of EN66a on which the return address had already been printed.

That established, where does this item (and others like it) belong in the Webb's Catalogue? It is different from all other envelopes revalued to 5¢ because the surcharge is on a normal #10 4¢ envelope. It also differs from other surcharged envelopes, such as the EN69 types, because of the involvement of the private firm. Nevertheless, the change in value was applied by the Post Office or at their behest. As such, this is not like a private precancel, heading or roulette; the difference is more significant. Thus, the envelope merits a separate listing - but where?

Here we must examine not only catalogue precedents, but also priorities and objectives. I think it is fair to say the 5th and 6th edition Webb's listings are somewhat different from those of editions 1 to 4. This results from an attempt to simplify the regular issue listings, and make them less daunting for the prospective collector. At the same time there has been an attempt to organize the listings by usage so that they are more understandable. In the original catalogue everything was lumped together by stamp design, particularly in the post card section. An item was easy to find, but not easy to understand. I think the new way is better, and should be continued. In the case of EN536W, that means leaving it as a special order envelope - special because its new value was created for a particular user. It was not something bought "off the shelf". If the editors wish to footnote this aspect, well and good. A separate category would needlessly complicate matters.

Earlier I mentioned that another listing might be in danger of disappearing if the Webb's editors take to pondering its pedigree. That item is P81d, the 3¢ offset George VI card (without a heading), revalued by Tickometer to 4¢. Since the card is offset, and apparently requisitioned only in sheet (8-on or 16-on) form (PSN Vol. 12, pg. 40), the question arises "Was it issued only in sheets?". If so, then copies of P81d must have begun their existence as cards in sheets of P79, which were cut into singles after printing was added by the purchaser. Then, later, after the rate change on April 1, 1954, they must have been returned to be revalued - just like EN536W.



P81d - offset printing

My copy of P81d was used by the Workmen's Compensation Board of Ontario. There could be other users, but probably not many. I think P81d should be given a "K" prefix, and moved (as KP81d) to the Miscellaneous Private Order Cards section. It should, of course, not join EN536W in limbo. Indeed, other "lost sheep", including cards revalued by permit (see PSN, Vol. 11, pg. 30), should also be rescued.

Little Bo Peep (a.k.a. John Aitken)

POSTAL STATIONERY DISTRIBUTION FIGURES FOR 1904 - 1927  
AS REPORTED IN THE CANADA YEAR BOOKS

Ian McMahon, our Australian member, has compiled a list of postal stationery distributed to post offices (1904 to 1927) as indicated in the Canada Year Books (1905 to 1928). The list is presented on the following three pages. The numbers come from the reports of the Postmaster General, and it appears the figures refer to the previous calendar year or some fiscal year that encompassed part of the calendar year. The tables reveal several interesting points. The figures for the 2¢ U.P.U. card are low during the period of W.W.I, suggesting it was probably not printed during this period. Also, I have always felt the 1¢ manila #10 George V envelope was issued earlier than appeared in the ERP lists. This table suggests 1926 or earlier. I say "or earlier" advisedly as there a couple of cases where it is evident the figures refer to events that happened at an earlier date. For example, the 2¢ and 3¢ wrappers were introduced in response to a rate change in mid-1907, but they first appear in the 1908 figures. Similarly, 3¢ George V envelopes were used in 1921 (several postmarked copies are known), but they first appear on the 1922 list. The 6¢ on 2¢ U.P.U. cards were issued in 1921, not 1922.. Boggs (in his Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada, Appendix J) gave figures, apparently in part from the same source, for 1872-1910.

It would be interesting to compare the numbers to the actual printing figures, and to know how many pieces were returned by the postmasters unsold. For example, Howes (Canadian Postage Stamps and Stationery, 1911) noted the number of 2¢ and 3¢ wrappers used was probably very small because large numbers were returned to Ottawa and surcharged.

**POSTAL STATIONERY DISTRIBUTION FIGURES FOR 1904 - 1927  
AS REPORTED IN THE CANADA YEAR BOOKS**

item	1904	1905	1906	1907(a)	1908	1909
A 1¢ postcards	22,249,500	22,374,200	23,824,700	18,574,600	24,747,600	25,103,000
B 1¢ advertising cards (single)	327,700	321,400	384,600	301,200	416,800	415,300
C 1¢ advertising cards (8 on a sheet)	1,262,000	1,360,000	1,789,000	1,299,000	1,929,000	1,989,000
D 1¢ advertising cards (16 on a sheet)	432,000	472,000	506,000	366,000	600,000	676,000
E 2¢ postcards	---	---	---	---	---	---
F 2¢ advertising cards (single)	---	---	---	---	---	---
G 2¢ advertising cards (8 on a sheet)	---	---	---	---	---	---
H 2¢ advertising cards (16 on a sheet)	---	---	---	---	---	---
I 2¢ UPU postcards	42,700	43,400	49,700	49,200	108,600	78,900
J 6¢ UPU postcards	---	---	---	---	---	---
K 2¢ reply cards	166,700	124,100	174,050	112,150	182,250	229,600
L ½¢ business reply cards (single)	---	---	---	---	---	---
M ½¢ business reply cards (8 on a sheet)	---	---	---	---	---	---
N 1½¢ reply cards	---	---	---	---	---	---
O 1¢ envelopes	141,100	197,600	346,600	304,400	352,000	1,036,700
P 2¢ envelopes	1,226,500	1,539,200	1,949,200	1,694,100	2,577,900	2,455,500
Q 3¢ envelopes	---	---	---	---	---	---
R 1¢ envelopes (size 10)	---	---	---	---	---	---
S 2¢ envelopes (size 10)	---	---	---	---	---	---
T 3¢ envelopes (size 10)	---	---	---	---	---	---
U 1¢ envelopes (size 10, manila)	---	---	---	---	---	---
V 1¢ post bands	430,900	374,700	447,700	357,900	537,590	549,900
W 1¢, 2¢, 3¢ newspaper wrappers	---	---	---	---	1,648,700	1,187,236
X 1¢ newspaper wrappers	---	---	---	---	---	---

(a) report only covered nine months

• • •

**POSTAL STATIONERY DISTRIBUTION FIGURES FOR 1904 - 1927  
AS REPORTED IN THE CANADA YEAR BOOKS**

continued

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
A	26,093,500	27,525,900	28,282,100	30,793,100	30,467,300	26,850,300	5,302,500	4,989,300	5,674,500
B	435,500	524,500	347,600	462,800	513,200	378,200	815,900	295,100	134,300
C	2,162,000	2,384,000	2,912,000	3,349,000	3,994,000	5,391,000	775,000	849,000	816,000
D	740,000	790,000	1,100,000	1,000,000	1,100,000	800,000	524,000	548,000	414,000
E	—	—	—	—	—	—	13,434,500	14,169,000	13,384,200
F	—	—	—	—	—	—	75,600	79,100	88,100
G	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,588,000	2,193,000	2,441,000
H	—	—	—	—	—	—	460,000	450,000	484,000
I	79,400	82,600	60,600	72,400	79,350	54,350	29,200	2,500	0
J	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
K	455,400	249,300	231,800	280,700	362,400	331,850	98,050	112,900	137,050
L	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
N	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
O	1,360,100	1,668,900	1,844,300	2,318,100	2,465,800	2,190,300	826,500	665,100	707,500
P	2,928,400	3,113,100	3,718,000	4,552,100	4,656,400	4,042,200	3,286,800	2,852,800	246,700
Q	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
R	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
S	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
U	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
V	489,700	517,200	634,200	576,700	689,200	642,800	570,500	496,700	586,300
W	882,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
X	—	927,700	960,600	946,400	945,700	822,100	796,300	782,100	764,060

. . .

**POSTAL STATIONERY DISTRIBUTION FIGURES FOR 1904 - 1927  
AS REPORTED IN THE CANADA YEAR BOOKS**

continued

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
A	6,506,400	8,025,300	9,850,700	13,542,600	14,981,400	14,438,900	13,892,400	14,593,000	16,248,200
B	142,500	883,000	1,645,500	1,102,500	489,500	242,700	106,100	129,500	184,500
C	1,221,000	831,000	876,000	782,000	818,000	1,725,000	1,493,000	2,260,000	2,924,000
D	322,000	362,000	250,000	598,000	332,000	428,000	250,000	260,000	192,000
E	13,285,100	13,417,100	12,361,000	12,004,400	11,779,500	11,456,300	10,294,700	10,079,500	8,550,400
F	86,200	64,000	77,000	102,400	124,700	96,300	60,500	103,400	9,600
G	1,999,000	2,646,000	3,116,000	2,219,000	2,608,000	2,703,000	2,051,600	2,150,000	2,386,000
H	358,000	724,000	470,000	452,000	700,000	650,000	1,222,000	1,164,000	1,062,000
I	0	4,050	0	---	---	---	---	---	---
J	---	---	---	59,150	2,850	2,050	1,050	750	0
K	127,900	209,850	204,400	230,100	259,000	318,050	207,200	235,250	182,150
L	---	---	---	---	---	---	4,052,000	2,941,200	3,188,500
M	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,426,000	2,059,000	2,215,000
N	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,449,600	3,396,600	1,377,800
O	607,400	987,175	1,614,325	1,692,000	1,431,250	1,667,050	1,992,250	2,696,600	3,348,550
P	2,597,025	2,621,450	2,843,925	1,631,550	1,329,700	1,481,100	1,457,000	1,647,500	6,592,850
Q	---	---	---	2,689,700	2,432,800	2,841,700	3,317,000	3,737,950	376,675
R	---	---	---	---	130,400	581,200	790,950	849,450	892,950
S	---	---	---	---	114,300	145,700	140,250	181,850	918,550
T	---	---	---	---	242,750	266,850	286,100	400,500	37,625
U	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	234,500	285,800
V	609,000	758,200	762,800	1,149,400	1,942,600	973,300	927,400	870,600	894,600
W	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
X	754,300	768,900	857,100	873,400	799,400	855,100	998,600	957,800	1,006,000

## MORE ON ONTARIO GO LETTERS

John Grace has reported the following dated copies of Ontario GO LETTERS.

GL1 blue, type 1, Nov. 23, 1992

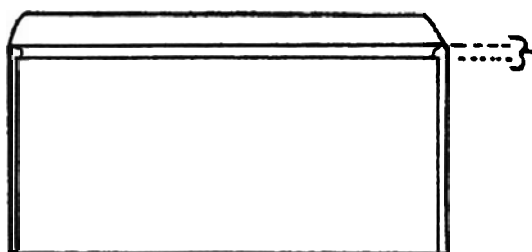
GL2 red, type 2, Apr. 9, 1992

GL3 red, type 3, Oct. 8, 1992

GL5 red, type 5, Feb. 23, 1994

GL6 red, type 6, Oct. 18, 1994

He also points out that, in the description of the knife measurements in the last issue of PSN, I reversed the dimensions in that it is envelopes of knife B (as viewed from the back with the flap open) for which the "bottom panel of the back ends 7 mm from the top fold" (for knife A the correct value is 23 mm). The dimension referred to is shown below.



23 mm (knife A) or  
7 mm (knife B)

The back of a GO LETTER with the flap open.

## STATIONERY ON SALE AT THE ST. JOHN'S POST OFFICE - 1929

In PSN Vol. 9, pg. 22, lists of stamps and stationery available to collectors from the St. John's Post Office in 1895 and 1897 were reported. Now Mike Sagar has forwarded a "Requisition for Postage Stamps" found as an enclosure in an envelope with a "General Post Office, St. John's Newfoundland" corner. The envelope was postmarked April 13, 1929. The stationery items still available according to the requisition were the 1¢ post card, the 2¢ + 2¢ reply card ("post cards at four cents"), the 5¢ stamped envelopes (no size stated, cost 6¢ each), and the 2¢ and 3¢ post bands (newspaper wrappers) at 3¢ and 4¢ each. According to the Walsh and Butt Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue (1988 edition) there was no simple 5¢ letter rate in 1929. The 2¢ post card rate would have been appropriate for mailings of the reply card to the British Empire and the United States. Does anyone have information on the newspaper wrapper rates for Newfoundland?

## ERP UPDATES IN NEXT ISSUE OF PSN

Bill Walton wishes to thank members who have sent him Earliest Reported Postmark updates (particularly the person who responded to his appeal for a repeat on the report on RKP81b). Business pressures have forced him to delay his compiling a summary of new reports. Please continue to send ERP photocopies (front and back) to Bill at 125 Turtleback Rd., Califon, NJ 07830, U.S.A. Bill's ERP updates column will resume in the next issue of PSN.



**Postal Stationery Notes, Index to Volume XII**

<b>Abstracts of Archives Files Potentially Related to Postal Stationery [Lemire]</b> . . . . .	19
Admiral (Post Card) Issue	
Die Varieties . . . . .	23
Headings . . . . .	10
Aerogrammes	
New Issues . . . . .	1
Air Canada . . . . .	12
Automotive Opinion Forum . . . . .	2, 17, 39
British American Bank Note Company . . . . .	4, 18, 19, 28
BNAPEX'94 . . . . .	24, 25
<b>Bring Back EN536W [Aitken]</b> . . . . .	44
Canada Year Books . . . . .	46
Canadian Archives . . . . .	4, 18, 30, 34, 40
Canadian Bank Note Company . . . . .	1, 25, 30, 34, 37, 40
Canadian National Express/Railways . . . . .	12
<b>Canadian National Express &amp; Canadian National Railway Cards [Staecker]</b> . . . . .	12
Canadian Northern Railway . . . . .	2, 16
Canadian Red Cross (Quebec Division) . . . . .	35
Eaton, T. Company . . . . .	4, 9
Envelopes	
Delisting of EN536W . . . . .	44
. . . . First Dominion of Canada Envelopes . . . . .	28
. . . . 45-cent Envelopes Delayed . . . . .	26
Marine and Fisheries Department . . . . .	24
New Issues . . . . .	17
Special Order	
Readers Digest . . . . .	39
EN69f . . . . .	44
DEN13 . . . . .	24
EN536W . . . . .	44
ERPs	
List Included with PSN Vol XII, #2 . . . . .	9
Updates . . . . .	21, 26, 36, (50)
Gasparo Printing . . . . .	21
<b>GO LETTERS, GO PACKS</b> . . . . .	11, 38, 50
A Heading Variety on Webb P27f . . . . .	10
Lemire to Become <i>Topics</i> Editor . . . . .	44
A Letter and Sketch Related to the Preparation of the	
First Dominion of Canada Envelopes . . . . .	28
Manley, George . . . . .	20, 39
Marine and Fisheries Department . . . . .	24
Meditrust Pharmacy . . . . .	17, 25
Moore Business Forms . . . . .	33
Murray Printing Company . . . . .	4, 9
Newfoundland	
<b>An Early Usage of Newfoundland P1 [Walton]</b> . . . . .	10
P13 - Die Varieties . . . . .	42
Stationery On Sale, St. John's, 1929 . . . . .	50
New Issues	
Aerogrammes . . . . .	1
Envelopes . . . . .	17
<b>New Prepaid Post Cards [Gauthier]</b> . . . . .	35
New Reports	
P94e Revalued to 5 cents (Gasparo) . . . . .	21
Obituaries . . . . .	8
Ontario Hydro . . . . .	12, 30
<b>The Ontario Hydro Cards - The Canadian Bank Note Company Printings [Lemire]</b> . . . . .	30
Postal Museum Prestamped Cards . . . . .	10
<b>Postal Stationery Distribution Figures for 1904-1927 [McMahon]</b> . . . . .	46

## *Postal Stationery Notes, Index to Volume XII*

---

Post Cards	
Admiral Issue	
Die Varieties . . . . .	23
Headings . . . . .	10
Cameo Issue - Headings . . . . .	18
Canadian National Express/Railways Cards . . . . .	12
Eaton's Special-Order cards . . . . .	4,9
The Last George VI Post Card Orders . . . . .	40
Newfoundland	
P1, Early Use . . . . .	10
P13 - Die Varieties . . . . .	42
1960 BABNC Post Cards - Sheet Layout . . . . .	18
Ontario Hydro Cards . . . . .	30
Precancelled . . . . .	20,39
Railway Pictorial Cards	
Canadian Northern . . . . .	2,16
Short Bar on 'T' - Heading Variety . . . . .	37
P27f . . . . .	10
P37a . . . . .	20
P51c . . . . .	39
P81d . . . . .	46
KP91e . . . . .	4,9
KP94... . . . .	6,9
(P94e) revalued . . . . .	21
KP102... . . . .	6
VC106-115 . . . . .	10
Precancels, Private . . . . .	20,39
Priority Post Update . . . . .	1,25,40,43
Quickstick Stamp . . . . .	17
Railway Pictorial Cards . . . . .	2,16
Readers Digest . . . . .	17,39
<b>The Short Bar On The "T" [Aitken]</b> (Heading Variety on CBNC Post Cards) . . . . .	37
Sky Pak . . . . .	43
Southam-Murray Printing . . . . .	7,9
Special Letter Envelopes . . . . .	11
Special-Order Stationery	
Automotive Opinion Forum . . . . .	2,17,39
Readers Digest . . . . .	17,39
Ontario Hydro . . . . .	30
Stationery On Sale at the St. John's Post Office, 1929 . . . . .	50
<b>The 1960 BABNC Post Cards - Sheet Layout [Lemire]</b> . . . . .	18
<b>The Cameo Issue Post Cards - The Addition of Heading [Lemire]</b> . . . . .	18
<b>The Eaton's Cards - The Post Office File [Lemire]</b> . . . . .	4
UPU Congress, Vienna, 1964 . . . . .	18
Used and Unused Stationery - For the Records . . . . .	42
Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue of Canada and Newfoundland . . . . .	24
Whitcombe to Become PSSG Chairman . . . . .	43
Wrappers	
Paper Varieties, George VI Issues . . . . .	34
<b>Wrapper Paper Varieties - The George VI Issues [Lemire]</b> . . . . .	34
XPRESSPOST . . . . .	17,25