# British North America Philatelic Society - Postal Stationery Study Group Postal Stationery Notes 

## Volume 30 No. 6

## A Major Admiral Issue Find

Paul Varty has reported a major find. Webb's lists the $1 \subset$ carmine Admiral Issue card with a type 3 heading and both die IA (P41) and die IB (P42) stamp impressions. Paul's card has the type 3 heading, but a Die II stamp impression. Chris Ellis has noted that the same Wampole's ad also is known on type 3 cards with die IA and die IB stamp impressions.


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## Zoom meeting

The BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group invites you to a Zoom meeting.
Topics: Postal Stationery Cards of Henry K. Wampole \& Co., Perth (and Toronto), Ontario (Christopher Ellis);
Regularly Issued Canadian Postal Stationery Post Cards of the King George VI Period (Robert Lemire)
Show and Tell (anyone)
Time: Sunday Feb 14, 2021, 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
The Zoom link is https://zoom.us/i/95402356366?pwd=bmFhUIZwZkRObXFTNUxJVIICOFhUUT09 Contact the BNAPS Secretary if you need more information. All members of the study group who receive their newsletters by e-mail will receive the link automatically. The meeting can be joined by any BNAPS member. (To attend only by telephone, use: Meeting ID: 9540235 6366; Passcode: 106912746; Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/anolaLeU0).

## Illustrated cards \#20: "Henry K. Wampole and Co. (of Canada)," Toronto and Perth, Ontario. Part 1 by Cbris Ellis

In this article I provide a list of postal stationery cards with added front advertising known to me for Henry K. Wampole and Co. Limited (of Canada), Manufacturing Pharmacists. I also recount the history of the firm in order to, as I like to phrase it, "bring a human face to what are essentially simply pieces of paper." I have not been able to find any single comprehensive sources that deal with this company's history although very brief summaries can be found on-line, often by antique medicine bottle collectors/dealers. Hence, I have relied heavily on many different newspaper searches and articles about the firm and cross-checked them extensively for consistency The history of the company should be of interest not only to collectors of the stationery cards but also to collectors of the long studied precancelled special order stationery envelopes used by this firm [e.g., 1].

Henry Koch Wampole was born in in June, 1849 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In the late 1860s he started a business in that city outfitting pharmacists. The business was successful and in 1872 he founded the company that bore his name and moved into drug wholesaling as well. The firm added partners, beginning in 1878 with Albert J. Koch (1849-1928) and then, shortly thereafter, Samuel Ross Campbell (1862-1933) [2]. Campbell was a pharmacist and a founder of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and a laboratory was established under his direction producing pharmaceuticals including patent medicines. That activity was so successful that eventually the company abandoned wholesaling in favour solely of drug manufacturing [3]. Success came very rapidly, notably because in 1880 they demonstrated the therapeutic benefits of, and introduced, a wildly successful product, an extract of Cod Liver Oil prepared such that "the oil is so completely disguised as to taste, odor and appearance, that it can be administered to the most delicate person without producing nausea, or other unpleasant after-symptoms [4]. The taste was disguised with additives including extract of wild cherry that were said in and of themselves to also have health benefits. Other important early


Figure 1: Wampole factory at Perth, ca. 1910. products included Wampole's granular, effervescent Bromo-Primine, a competitor of the better known Bromo-Seltzer used for treating acid indigestion and stomach upsets, and Wampole's Glycerine Suppositories for treating constipation, guaranteed to be "nonirritating" and to "retain their shape" [3, 5].

By 1893 the firm had established a branch in Canada in Toronto at 36-38 Lombard St., which included a single room office and assembly line [6]. Canadian business was also very good such that in 1905 they moved that branch to Perth, Ontario. There they built a four story factory on the east side of town (Figure 1) that initially operated under the direction of a general manager named Henry W. Brick, an American whom Wampole had trained in the business in Philadelphia and who had run the Toronto operation since 1900.

A series of events occurred shortly thereafter, which eventually led to the Canadian branch becoming a completely separate company, albeit one holding the Canadian rights to all of the Wampole products of the time. On September $15^{\text {th }}$ of 1906 it was revealed that the body of Henry K. Wampole had been fished out of the East River
in New York the day before, an apparent suicide [7]. However, some newspaper accounts initially reported it was a son, referred to as Hedley, who had drowned (e.g., [8]), perhaps as an attempt by the company to protect its business interests. It was reported that Wampole had been distraught because it seemed that H.W. Brick had absconded from the Canadian branch with $\$ 40,000$ [7]. Wampole was said to have had a nervous breakdown and that he had escaped from at a local hotel from two doctors/"nurses" six days before his body was recovered. The doctors had been taking him to a sanitarium for treatment. However, it soon was revealed by his family, notably his eldest son Henry S., who was a physician, that Wampole had been acting strangely for about five years. It also was subsequently publicized that shortly before his death Wampole had actually told his partners that he had been embezzling funds from the firm. He had been taking out bank notes/paper as loans for which the firm was responsible! Direct and contingent liabilities for about $\$ 900,000$ were incurred including notes for as much as $\$ 500,000$ that were said to have been taken out with various banks against the firm's assets [9]. These notes were found stashed in about 60 banks in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Canada [10]. Surprisingly, the reason that Wampole had taken the money is not clear as he did not seem to be in any financial difficulties and the firm's remaining partners were able to use assets to cover the losses and continue business. One suspects that the misleading information as to who had drowned and why, including blaming H.W. Brick for the smaller Canadian financial loss, were to buy time for the firm to get its affairs in order and prepare to deal with its suddenly revealed creditors. Strangely though, in somewhat of an odd coincidence, Brick himself had disappeared in June 1906, only to reappear in February 1907. At that time he revealed he had had an attack of "brain fever" while travelling in the western USA and had been in a hospital/sanitarium in Los Angeles for the nine month period. He also stated that he had withdrawn and given the $\$ 40,000$, even though he had misgivings, to Henry K. Wampole himself at his request $[11,12,13]$. Brick was acquitted of any crime and later became head of another drug company in Toronto.

Undoubtedly related to these events, in 1906 the company was reorganized. Both the USA and Canadian interests were incorporated as separate firms and the Canadian Branch was christened Henry K. Wampole ef Co. Limited. There were rumours [14] that the Canadian firm would be bought by and merged with the National Drug and Chemical Company centred in Montreal (see [15, 16, 17]) but that did not happen. Ownership of the Canadian branch eventually passed to primarily John Alexander Stewart and William Edward Danner. They also gained the exclusive rights to make and sell Wampole products in Canada and some other countries. In fact, in the 1920s, the sons of Henry K. Wampole had formed a new company in Baltimore, Maryland. They had tried to introduce competing Wampole products they manufactured there under the Wampole name through a new Canadian distributor in Montreal. However, the Perth Wampole company successfully challenged this in court and blocked this initiative [18].


Figure 2: Hon. John Alexander Stewart K.C., L.L.B., M.P. for Lanark County

The Hon. John Stewart (Figure 2) has been portrayed as the saviour of the Wampole firm in Perth after the events of 1905-1906 [19]. He was born in Renfrew, Ontario on March 13, 1867. He had come to Perth where his father Robert had developed distilleries, including co-founding in 1869 a distillery called Spaulding and Stewart that John eventually inherited but sold off in 1917 [20]. A lawyer trained at Osgoode Hall in Toronto, and later made King’s Counsel, Stewart invested in several local Perth businesses. One such interest included an affiliation between Wampole and the Andrew Jergens Co of Cincinnati, Ohio that made hand soaps and lotions, perfumes and other toiletries [21]. This interest resulted in the building of a Jergens factory next to the Wampole plant in Perth in 1913. Stewart became President of Wampole Canada and of the Jergens Canadian outlet. In 1918 he was elected in a by-election as a member of the Federal Parliament for Lanark and served briefly, before its election defeat, in the government of Prime Minister Arthur Meighan as Minister of Railways and Canals of Canada [19, 22]. Stewart died on October 7, 1922 in Montreal where he had been taken for treatment of anaemia and in tribute all businesses in Perth closed at the time of his funeral. His widow subsequently funded and endowed a park in Perth named in his honour that still exists today.

I know of 15 different cards with front advertising, at least two with typesetting varieties, used between 1904 and 1917 by the Canadian Wampole company and provide a list which begins in the Table below (and the list will be continued in the next issue of PSN).

Table of cards with front advertising used between 1904 and 1917 by the Canadian Wampole Company. Part 1 (1904-1914)

| CWC\#1 (on Webb's P24, formerly P23) | On one cent red Edward (Figure 3). Double lined boxed text advert at upper right reads on upper line: "HENRY K. WAMPOLE \& CO.". In centre beneath is serified text reading in two lines: "Manufacturing./ Chemists." (Slash indicates line breaks). At lower left in boxed area are two lines reading "PHILADELPHIA,/ U.S.A." and at lower right it reads on two lines: "TORONTO, ONT./ CANADA. There are at least two typesetting varieties of this card with several differences (Figure 4). For example, the earliest, used in 1904, has a period after "Chemists." and "Manufacturing" is 18 mm long, while the second, used in 1905-1906, lacks the period but is in a slightly larger font such that "Manufacturing" measures 22 mm long. |
| :---: | :---: |
| CWC\#2 <br> (on Webb's P24, formerly P23) | On one cent red Edward (Figures 5, 6). At left is blue bottle with blue and touches of red label for "FormoloidMagnesia". Blue text above bottle reads "PREVENTS TOOTH DECAY/ DURING SLEEP." and underneath reads: "RETAIL PRICE PROTECTED". "PREVENTS TOOTH DECAY" is 32 mm long. Used mid-1912. There is a second text typesetting variety of this card (Figure 7). The most notable differences are there is no period after "SLEEP" and "PREVENTS TOOTH DECAY" is 34 mm long. Used late 1912. |
| CWC\#3 <br> (on Webb's P24, formerly P23) | On one cent red Edward (Figure 8). At left is a black bottle with black text and red touches on label for "Cod Liver Oil". Red text above bottle is in fancy italicized serifed text and reads "Wampole's" and underneath text is not italicized and reads: "THE ORIGINAL/ TASTELESS PREPARATION". Used late 1912. |
| CWC\#4 <br> (on Webb's P24, formerly P23) | On one cent red Edward (Figure 9). Same as CWC\#3 above except text only occurs above bottle, is not italicized, is in a small font ("WAMPOLE'S" measure 14 mm long) and reads: "WAMPOLE'S/ TASTELESS PREPARATION". Used early 1913. |
| CWC\#5 <br> (on Webb's P24, formerly P23) | On one cent red Edward (Figure 10). Same as CWC\#3 above but red text above bottle is not italicized, is 28 mm long and reads "WAMPOLE'S". Copies I have seen are all unused self-addressed cards with reverse order forms for window displays for Cod Liver Oil, are dated November 1914, and have been cut down/reduced in size such that they measure 127 by 81 mm rather than the standard size. |



Figure 3: Wampole Card CWC\#1.


Figure 4: Two typesetting varieties of Wampole Card CWC\#1.


Figure 5: Wampole Card CWC\#2 first typesetting variety, front view.


Figure 6: Wampole Card CWC\#2 with first typesetting variety, reverse view.

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Figure 7: Wampole Card CWC\#2. Second typesetting variety.


Figure 8: Wampole Card CWC\#3.


Figure 9: Wampole Card CWC\#4.

References Cited:
[1] Manley, George E. L. (1986): Pre-Cancelled Envelopes Used by Henry K. Wampole and Co. Ltd. of Perth, Ontario - Wholesale Chemists. BNA Topics Vol. 43, No 4, pp. 12-16.
[2] Anonymous (1908): Pharmacy in Philadelphia. Pharmaceutical Era Volume 39, Issue of January 8, p. 69.
[3] Anonymous (1891): H.K. Wampole and Co. In Philadelphia and Pbiladelphians, p. 183. The North American, The Oldest Daily Newspaper in America, Philadelphia.
[4] Anonymous (1888): Wampole's Preparations. The Buffalo Medical Journal, Volume 44, p. 706.
[5] Anonymous (1895): The Atlanta International Exposition, Chemical and Pharmaceutical Exhibits. American Druggist and Pharmaceutical Record Volume 27, pp. 231-232.
[6] May, Kathryn (1987): Wampole: Perth Pharmaceutical Empire Built on a Foundation of Cod Liver Oil. Ottawa Citizen Newspaper, Issue of July 7, pp. B1-B2.
[7] Anonymous (1906): Henry K. Wampole Found in the River. Philadelphian Who Vanished Here Drowned. Worried by Business Cares. Young Man He Trusted Robbed Him, and the Disappointment Affected His Mind. The New York Times Newspaper, Issue of September 15, p. 4.
[8] Anonymous (1906): Hunt for Demented Man. Police Seek Philadelphian Who Escaped from Nurse. New York Sun Nenspaper, Issue of September 10, p. 3.
[9] Anonymous (1906): Wampole Got $\$ 500,000$ from Banks by Fraud. Wholesale Deception by Suicide Druggist revealed by Partners. Firm Saved From Failure. Embezzler was a Hard Worker - His Associates Do Not Know Where Their Money Went. The New York Times Newspaper, Issue of October 11, p. 1.
[10] Anonymous (1906): Robbed His Partners. Another Philadelphia Sensation. Henry K. Wampole, Who Committed Suicide, Robbed His Business Partners of at Least $\$ 500,000$. The Semi-Weekly New Era Newspaper (Lancaster, Pennsylvania), Issue of October 13, p. 2.
[11] Anonymous (1907): Brick Came Back. Denies That He Defrauded the Henry K. Wampole Co. Montreal Gazette Newspaper, Issue of February 14 p. 4.
[12] Anonymous (1907): Will Arrest Brick. Wampole Ex-Manager to be Brought Back. Ottawa Citizen Nenspaper, Issue of February 15, p. 5.
[13] Anonymous (1907): Absent Bookkeeper Refutes Charges. H.W. Brick Returns to Toronto and Denies Story that He Disappeared with $\$ 40,000$ of H.K. Wampole's Money - Wants Investigation. Vancowver Daily World Nenstaper, Issue of February 21, p. 12.
[14] Anonymous (1907): The Drug Merger. Montreal Gazette Newspaper, Issue of April 27, p. 14.
[15] Ellis, Chris (2020): Illustrated Cards \#19: "National Drug and Chemical Co., Montreal, Quebec, Part 1," Postal Stationery Notes (Newsletter of the British North America Philatelic Society - Postal Stationery Study Group), Vol. 30, No. 2, pp. 16-20.
[16] Ellis, Chris (2020): Illustrated Cards \#19: "National Drug and Chemical Co., Montreal, Quebec, Part 2," Postal Stationery Notes (Newsletter of the British North America Philatelic Society - Postal Stationery Study Group), Vol. 30, No. 3 pp. 26-30.
[17] Waite, Kenneth (1994): Medis: The Story of Canada's Leading Drug Wholesaler. Medis Health and Pharmaceutical Services, Kirkland, Quebec.
[18] Anonymous (1924): Gives Perth Concern Wampole Trade Name. Canadian Company Gets Decision Before Judge Audette. Ottawa Citizen Nenspaper, Issue of November 27, p. 15.
[19] Anonymous (1922): The Passing of the Hon. John Alexander Stewart, K.C., M.P. Gone to His Reward. Perth Courier Newspaper, Issue of October 13, p. 1.
[20] Brown, Howard Morton (1984): Lanark Legacy: Nineteenth Century Glimpses of an Ontario County. General Store Publishing House and Corporation of the County of Lanark, Renfrew, Ontario.
[21] Anonymous (1912): Perth Gets Big New Thriving Industry. Perth Courier Newspaper, Issue of June 7, p. 1.
[22] Anonymous (1922): Hon. J. A. Stewart Dies in Montreal. Ex-Minister of Railways and Canals Succumbs to Long Illness. Montreal Gazette Newspaper, Issue of October 9, p. 13.

## Some further thoughts on the CBNC $1935 \underline{1 ⁄ 2} \boldsymbol{\$}$ Profile Issue cards_by Micbel Ledoux

The article about CBN Profile Face issue in PSN Volume 30 No 5 is very interesting and informative. It prompted me to look at the cards. I found two puzzling cases. The first is a precancelled P152a card (a). Lines in both maple leaves are strong, but the lines in the end volute of the scroll ornaments are short, as seems to be the case in many of the other offset cards. These lines are more or less longer in the typographed cards, and this might be an alternate way to identify the offset cards. However, looking at another precancelled card, P153a; (b) it was found that on this typographed card the lines are short, as in most of the offset printed cards. Is there any consistency? Further ideas?

(a) P152a

lines of volute of the scroll-ornaments are short

(b) P153a

lines of volute of the scroll-ornaments are longer

## The 2020 Santa Envelopes and Cards

Thanks to Richard Gratton, Earle Covert, Tony Shaman, and Pierre Gauthier we can report the following 2020 Santa postal \#10 envelopes (marked on the back) EB1, EB2, EB3, ES, EE, FB1, FB2, FB3, and FS. Copies of the larger size classroom envelopes ( $\mathrm{EBC}, \mathrm{FBC}$ ) also have been seen.


The "After Christmas" post cards, in English and French, also have been reported.


## Canada Post Official Christmas Cards

Again in 2020, Christmas post cards (one in French, one in English) were mailed by Canada Post to subscribers to Canada Post's Details magazine


French language card (text and pseudo cancel) above, back (left) and front (right), English language card below


Thanks to Pierre Gauthier for the scans of the French-language card.

## Canada Post Official Christmas Card Envelopes

A 2011 "Official" Canada Post Christmas Card Envelope, DEN590, is listed in Webb's (also, see PSN Vol. 24, No. 6, pg. 53). Envelopes from 2019 and 2020, shown below thanks to Earle Covert, appear to fit into the same series. The message on the card enclosed in the 2020 envelope is bilingual. Were any similar envelopes sent/used in the intervening years?


2019


2020

## Printings of the railway advice flimsy forms

Part 12: Later Centennial-Issue printings for Canadian National Express (CNE)-the $\mathbf{8 \boldsymbol { \phi }}$
flimsies by Robert Lemire and Arthur Klass ${ }^{1}$
(Part 11 [1] appeared in PSN Volume 30, No. 5, pp. 47-50 (2020))

## The $\mathbf{8} \mathbf{\phi}$ flimsies

Unfortunately, as was the case for Archive records for the Canadian Pacific Express and Canadian Pacific Transport flimsies [1], the main postal Archives file for Canadian National Express [2] contains no information on orders or deliveries after early 1971. Two different dies were used to print Form CN 5339-B $8 ¢$ cards. There are four different form dates and at least five easily distinguishable printings of the forms; there seems to be no information as to the printer(s) or printing dates. The forms are listed and shown below.

Table 1: $8 申$ CN 5339-B Flimsy Forms

| form \# | colour of printing on the form | address lines | other comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Webb's RKP278a - 8¢ slate (larger die) |  |  |  |
| CN 5339-B (11/70) | black | $56 \mathrm{~mm}, 48 \mathrm{~mm}$, |  |
| CN 5339-B (1/73) | black | $56 \mathrm{~mm}, 48 \mathrm{~mm}$, |  |
| CN 5339-B 1/74 | black | all three, 65 mm |  |
| CN 5339-B (4/74) | grey | all three, 61 mm | no form number on the back of the tab |
| Webb's RKP278b - 8¢ grey (smaller die) |  |  |  |
| CN 5339-B (4/74) | grey | all three, 61 mm | buff-edged carbon paper, form number also on the back of the tab |
| CN 5339-B (4/74) | grey | all three, 61 mm | black-edged carbon paper, form number also on the back of the tab |



CN 5339-B (11/70)


CN 5339-B 1/74

CN 5339-B (1/73)


CN 5339-B -(4/74)


CN 5339-B (4/74) buff-edged carbon paper


CN 5339-B (4/74) black-edged carbon paper

There may be other minor differences between the printed forms. We have been unable to distinguish between RKP278a used copies from forms dated $(11 / 70)$ and $(1 / 73)$. Also, it is not clear whether the RKP278b cards with different carbon paper are from a single printing or from two or more separate printings; we have not been able to distinguish used copies.
No later prestamped forms for Canadian National Express have been reported, though an unstamped CN 5339-B flimsy form on yellow stock, form date (8-76), is known.

## References

[1] Lemire, R., Printings of the railway advice flimsy forms. Part 11: The CP Express and CP Transport Centennial Issue printings, Postal Stationery Notes, Vol. 30, No. 5, pp. 47- 50 (2020).
[2] Canadian Archives file RG3, Accession 86-87/396, Vol. 3849, file 13-19-17

## Another card marked "Specimen" Michel Ledoux

The new Webb's provides a list of cards known marked "SPECIMEN". Michel Ledoux now reports an addition, a Webb's P50 card with a red Type 5 "Specimen marking.


## A paste-up card not noted in Webb's 8th.

Pierre Gauthier sent a reminder that almost 40 years ago Bruce McCallum (PSN Vol. 2, No. 2, pg. 10) reported a paste-up on a copy of P168 (then designated as P66d). This is not listed in Webb's 8th. Pierre now has provided a scan.


PCF Corner by Robert Lemire: rlemire000@sympatico.ca - January 15, 2021
No new varieties have been reported, primarily because Covid-19 and associated restrictions have limited distribution and restricted searches by collectors. However, Canada Post still is selling the cards, and the PCF Souvenirs website is still advertising them.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ All catalogue numbers are taken from the latest, 2019, $8^{\text {th }}$ Edition of Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue of Canada and Newfoundland, but I also reference the older catalogue numbers from previous editions of Webb's.

