

SHADE VARIETIES ON THE GEORGE V COME O ISSUE ENVELOPES

- 1 - The so-called "carmine" shade of the 3¢ "red" George V cameo envelope impressions is found on both the #8 regular issue envelope and on private order envelopes. It is noted separately in both the Webb and the Higgins and Gage (deep carmine red) catalogues. The shade is actually quite distinct from the more usual orange-red, and seen once is easy to recognize.

Now, according to Jim Webb, red and carmine shades of the 2¢ value of the same George V issue will also be separately listed in the next edition of his Postal Stationery Catalogue. The 2¢ with added 1¢ inked-hair impression will also be noted as occurring in the two shades. (i.e. for EN 29,29a,40,40a)

On looking at my own copies of the 2¢ envelope it is apparent that they do exist in widely different shades (none of which really correspond to the shades of ink used for the 3¢ envelopes). The real question is whether intermediate shades exist? If so, the catalogue status for the extreme ends of the range hardly seems justified.

Would any members who have large quantities of the 2¢ and 3¢ envelopes care to comment on the problem?

- 2 - Webb's catalogue lists EN 506 as a 2¢ blue. The corresponding listing in the Higgins and Gage catalogue is K13a,2¢ deep blue green. These envelopes were prepared by Dominion Envelope & Cartons Limited of Toronto. However, this is not just a shade variety. The die used for printing these envelopes differs in several ways from those used for the green 2¢ special order envelopes. The die used for the green impressions has a long bottom bar but short top and middle bars in the "E" of "POSTAGE". The "E" of "POSTAGE" has three long bars in the blue impressions. The border loops are also higher for the 2¢ blue, the top of the King's head is more rounded and the "2" 's are noticeably larger.

ANOTHER "FISHER" ENVELOPE PAPER VARIETY

Reports continue to come in on the paper varieties of the 12¢ #10 envelope. However, a second unusual paper variety has now been reported on this issue, this time on the 6¢ orange & purple #8 envelope. Dick Staecker has found a copy weighing only 2.04g. The corner (printed) is "After Five Days Return to Scribe E.

VIMY CHAPTER No. 214  
INWOOD - ONTARIO  
NON 1KO"

Would other members please check their envelopes for this variety and for other 6¢ #8 envelopes with this printed corner. Again I am willing to undertake the weighing of envelopes sent to Postal Stationery Notes.

Postal Stationery Notes is the newsletter of the BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group, and is co-edited by Earle Covert and Robert Lemire. All information for the newsletter, and correspondence about the study group, should be addressed to: Robert Lemire, Box 549, Pinawa, Man., Canada ROE 1L0.

ERPs

With this list we reach the end of the George V era envelopes and wrappers. Also included are the Scroll and Arch Issue postal cards. As can be seen from the list dated copies of postal bands and wrappers of this period are quite scarce, and reports on these items are particularly needed. Reports should include a photocopies of both sides of the stationery item on which the new early date has been found. The list below is arranged by Webb catalogue number with the Higgins and Gage number in parentheses.

Wrappers and Postal Bands

W12	(E16)	?
W12a		?
W12b		Oct. 17, 1917
W12c	(E17)	?
W13	(E18)	?
W13a	(E18a)	
W13b	(E20)	April ?, 1928
W13d	(E19)	?
W13e	(E21)	?
W14	(E22)	?
W14a	(E23)	?
W15	(E24)	?
W15a	(E25)	?
W16	(E26a)	?
W16a	(E27a)	?
W16b	(E26)	?
W16c	(E27)	?
W17	(E28)	?
W17a	(E29)	?
W17b	(E28a)	?
W17c	(E29a)	?
W18	(E30)	?
W19	(E31)	Feb. 2, 1937
W19a	(E32)	?
W19b	(E32a)	?

Envelopes

EN41	(B50)	June 21, 1932
EN41a	(B50a)	Dec. 10, 1932 *
EN41c		*
EN42	(B51)	April 29, 1932
EN43	(B52)	Jan. 20, 1932
EN43a	(B52a)	Sept. 11, 1936 *
EN43b		*
EN45	(B54)	July 26, 1933
EN45a	(B54a)	July 12, 1933
EN46	(B55)	Aug. 1, 1933
EN46a	(B55a)	Jan. 15, 1937
EN47	(B56)	Sept. 15, 1933
EN47a	(B56a)	April 21, 1934

\* The date given is for an envelope on which it is not possible to determine if the initials PPS are present. A copy definitely identified as EN41c has the date Jan. 25, 1933.

Postal Cards

P37	(77)	Feb. 4, 1931
P37d	(78)	Dec. 13, 1930
P38	(80)	May ?, 1929
P38a	(79)	#
P39	(82)	July 5, 1929
P40	(81)	May 14, 1929
P41	(90)	Sept. 9, 1931
P41a	(84)	May 14, 1931
P41b (R)	(91)	Sept. 9, 1931 +
P41b (O)	(91)	? +
P42	(87)	Feb. 28, 1931
P42a	(94)	July 8, 1930
P42c	(85)	Dec. 1, 1930
P42d	(92)	Aug. 9, 1930
P42e @	(K10)	July 1, 1930
P42f	(86)	Nov. 19, 1930
P42g	(93)	Aug. 22, 1930
P43	(104)	May 13, 1931
P43b	(102)	Feb. 23, 1931
P43c @	(K11)	Mar. 3, 1932
P43d	(102a)	Feb. 23, 1931
P43e	(102b)	? **
P43f	(103)	Dec. 31, 1930
P43g	(K12)	?
P44	(89)	?
P44a	(98)	Dec. 31, 1930
P44b	(99)	? ##
P45	(108)	Nov. 30, 1931
P46	(100)	Oct. 24, 1931
P46a	(101)	Dec. 31, 1930
P47	(109)	May 29, 1931
P47a	(110)	Mar. 28, 1934
P48	(97)	Feb. 17, 1931
P48a	(88)	Nov. 23, 1930
P48b	(95)	Sept. 26, 1930
P48c	(96)	Dec. 23, 1930
P49	(107)	Sept. 14, 1931
P49b	(105)	June 3, 1931
P49c	(106)	May 12, 1931
P50	(113)	Mar. 3, 1932
P50b	(111)	Nov. 5, 1931
P50c	(112)	July 14, 1932
++	(111a)	Sept. 5, 1932
++	(112a)	Aug. 9, 1932

- # Most used copies seen are the severed message half of P39 .
- + There are two heading types for P4lb. In the first type the "O" and "C" 's are round, in the second type they are oval shaped.
- @ 5½" x 4" (140mm x 102mm) not 4" x 5½" as in Webb's Catalogue.
- \*\* A date in the printed text indicates usage in March 1933.
- ## A card is known with a text date of 1930
- ++ These are the official pictorial postal cards. #111a is the English language card, #112a is the bilingual card. The listed dates are given without consideration of the individual views (Webb, 1978 edn. pg. 65)

Bill Walton

NOTES ON PROBLEMS WITH POSTAL CARD STOCK (1928-1935) (continued from Vol. 1, pg.27)

There were other problems, this time with the BABNC stocks. On September 11, 1930, a letter from the Post Office Financial Superintendent, H.E. Atwater, to Mr. C.G. Cowan, Vice-president and Managing Director of the BABNC reads in part:

"The stock now used by your company, Exhibit No. 1 enclosed, is much superior in quality to the one previously used but appears to be too glossy for the purpose of printing in comparison with Exhibit No. 2 which has heretofore been found satisfactory. It is, therefore, thought advisable that steps be immediately taken to obtain stock similar to that of Exhibit No. 2 to be used in future in the manufacture of all advertising and business reply post cards of the ½¢, 1¢, 1½¢ and 2¢ denominations which are almost entirely used for printing purposes and the stock now available, Exhibit No. 1, be disposed of in manufacturing 1¢ and 2¢ ordinary and 2¢ reply post cards which are mostly used for advertising. ... "

The cost of the change was still being discussed in correspondence to Mr. Atwater from Mr. Legault on Feb. 25, 1931, and finally there was a letter from C.G. Cowan to H.E. Atwater on April 29, 1931 which read:

"We have your letter of the 24th instant together with official order No. 38 of the same date calling for the manufacture of 100,000 ½¢ Business Reply Post Cards - English and 300,000 1¢ Advertising Post Cards, 8 on a sheet. It is understood that these cards are to be manufactured from the special stock referred to in our letter of January 31st, 1931, which was manufactured for cards to be used for printing only. We have arranged to have all the cards on this order specially marked and wrapped in a distinctive colour to (sic) that they can easily be kept separate from the regular cards.

These cards will be invoiced at the special rate of \$1.35 per thousand ... "

No card stock differences for the Arch Issue 1¢ blank cards nor for the ½¢ cards have been noted in the catalogues. A careful study might be useful in distinguishing stocks used for early and late printings, but the differences are probably quite subtle.

Now the problems of firms doing mimeograph work had not been forgotten. From the letters of complaint it appears that the 1929 experimental stock was still not sufficiently absorbant. Finally one of the firms involved in mimeograph work sent a sample of stock which they considered suitable to the Post Office, and this was forwarded to the BABNC. On June 13, 1932 C.G. Cowan wrote to H.E. Atwater:

"We duly received your letter of the 2nd instant enclosing sample of stock submitted by Miss A.E. Smith of the General Typewriter and Appliance Company of Toronto as a suggestion in connection with post cards for mimeograph purposes.

... I promised to obtain some samples of stock of similar character ... .  
I am accordingly enclosing two bundles of samples, one marked "A" in white and another marked "B" in ivory shade, which you might use ... ."

The samples were sent to Toronto, and a letter to Mr. Atwater from the Toronto Post office reads in part:

"Following your instructions to Mr. Sangster of this Office the other day, a number of concerns in Toronto were interviewed in order to obtain statements of opinion as to whether the samples of card stock which you left would be satisfactory for the above purpose, " (i.e. post cards for duplicating or multigraphing) " and I would advise that the concensus of opinion is that these cards would be satisfactory and in nearly all cases it was considered that the sample labelled "B" (Ivory), would be the preferable one. "

Several firms noted that it would be useful if the cards could be supplied three or four to the sheet and perforated for separation. Letters in October 1932 suggest that the new stock was tested to make certain it could be used both in mimeograph and multigraph machines. Finally on Nov. 4, 1932 the Deputy Postmaster General, L.J. Gaboury wrote to C.G. Cowan:

"In view of the fact that there appears to be considerable demand from certain business houses for a card suitable for duplicating purposes, it has been decided to stock such a card in the future.

The stock forwarded under cover of your letter of September 9th, has been tried out on different makes of machines, and insofar as can be judged from tests, would be quite satisfactory.

Will you kindly take the necessary action to obtain a sufficient quantity of this stock to supply the Department with 500,000 standard post cards.

250,000 of these cards should be supplied in sheets of three, suitably rouletted or perforated so as to be easily separated. The remainder of the order is to be made up of single cards.

The post cards in question are to be similar to the standard card already in use, viz., one side will be blank, while the reverse side will bear the words "Canada Post Card", and a 1¢ Canadian postage stamp impression. "

BABNC acknowledged the order on November 7, 1932. According to a manuscript note on the letter of acknowledgement 165,000 cards printed 3 on a sheet and 165,000 single cards were delivered to the Post Office on November 22, 1932. Letters from T.R. Legault to H.E. Atwater dated January 9, 1933 and February 18, 1933 indicate

- 1) on November 25th 1932 the Postmaster of Toronto requisitioned 24,000 single cards and 24,000 cards printed three to a sheet on the special stock
- 2) at the request of the Director of Staff and Publicity Branch 200 such cards marked SPECIMEN were forwarded to the Postmaster at Toronto for advertising purposes
- 3) on February 14th 1933 the Postmaster of Lindsay ont. requisitioned 2,000 single cards on the special stock

A letter from W.E. Lemon, Postmaster at Toronto dated Feb. 22, 1933 states that the cards were received on Nov. 26, 1932, and that as of the date of the letter he still had 12,600 single cards and 21,750 cards 3-on on hand. Thus, initial demand for the cards was hardly overwhelming.

It was not until January 24th, 1934 that C.G. Cowan wrote to H.E. Atwater:

"I have yours of the 23rd instant with regard to the Department's order of November 4th, 1932 for 500,000 special mimeograph post cards of which 164,000 cards remain undelivered.

It is noted that in view of the smaller demand for cards 3-on a sheet the full balance of the order; viz., 164,000 cards, are to be delivered cut singly.

Plans have already been made for the manufacture of the balance of these cards and they will be available for delivery to the Department at an early date. "

The following conclusions can be reached from this. First, since it is the balance of the original order which is discussed in the above letter, and as the Medallion Issue became the normal issue in 1933, all of the soft thick stock Arch Issue cards (Webb P43d,43e , H&G 102a,102b) probably came from the same printing. Furthermore the quantities of single and 3-on (rouletted) cards should be approximately the same. I say approximately because the figures do not quite add up, with 6,000 cards not accounted for ( $165,000 + 165,000 + 164,000 = 494,000$  not 500,000).

It is interesting to note that, after a decision had been made to print these remaining cards as singles, a request from the postmaster of Toronto for 36,000 3-on cards in April 1934 could not be completely filled. Other correspondence from this period indicates that the single cards were available in packages of 1000 cards and the 3-on's in packages of 1500 cards.

Allan Steinhart noted in BNA Topics (Vol. 36 #2 pg.22) that a further order for 80,000 single cards and 120,000 3-on cards was placed on October 2, 1934 (requisition 153). He also lists 22,500 3-on cards and 500 single cards as part of the requisition of overruns at the end of the BABNC contract - requisition dated March 28, 1935. (BNA Topics Vol. 36 #3 pg. 37). Thus for the Medallion Issue on thick soft card stock 244,500 single cards (Webb P52d , H&G 116a) and 142,000 rouletted (3-on) cards (Webb P52e , H&G 116b) were produced.

When the Canadian Bank Note Company regained the printing contract in 1935, a decision was made to continue using the soft card stock for a limited number of postal cards. A memorandum to H.E. Atwater from T.R. Legault indicates that as of Oct. 18, 1935 78,000 cards were still on hand and that since

" ... November 22nd 1932, 559,000 have been issued mostly through the Toronto Depot (271,000) during the last twelve months. From October 25th to November 24th, 1934 the latter was supplied with 63,000 such cards so that if the same orders are repeated this year the present stock will be almost exhausted. "

Again the total figures do not add up properly, perhaps because of stocks in hand at various post offices not being included in the calculation. The total cards ordered apparently should be ( $500,000 + 200,000 + 23,000 = 723,000$ ). The memorandum accounts for ( $559,000 + 78,000 = 637,000$ ) cards. If the cards sent the previous year for the noted month period are added in , the discrepancy is then the 23,000 cards from the overrun requisition, but this is probably fortuitous.

A manuscript note on the same memo indicates a requisition was sent to the CBNC on October 19, 1935. The price was \$1.20 per 1000 cards as opposed to the \$1.30 per 1000 charged by the BABNC, but the quantity ordered is not noted.

In conclusion, I should note that the story is not complete. There were distinctive card stocks used deliberately which have not been differentiated by collectors. There are also the discrepancies as to quantities printed. As I did not copy all the material in the files cited at the beginning of this article some further information may be found there. It is also possible that correspondence in other Post Office files will help provide details of printing order dates and quantities after 1935.

Robert Lemire

POSTMARK DETAILS NEEDED

In early January 1899 new 2¢ envelopes were released which showed a portrait of Queen Victoria printed in violet. These had apparently been ordered prior to the lowering of the first class letter rate from 3¢ to 2¢ on January 1, 1899. With the rate change further orders for 2¢ envelopes were filled with envelopes on which the portrait was printed in red, probably to conform to the regulations of the U.P.U. Copies of the envelopes printed in violet (Webb EN12, H&G B11), properly used in period (early 1899) are scarce.

Recently Lawrence Sandford raised an interesting question about this issue. A list of the twenty-five post offices to which this envelope was distributed, and the quantities in each case is given in Clifton A. Howes book "Canadian Postage Stamps and Stationery" (pg. 238). The question is how many of the postmarks of the twenty-five listed post offices have been found on copies of EN12?

In the case of fourteen offices only one hundred envelopes were supplied. However, it is less likely that there was philatelic speculation at the smaller offices so that most of the copies sent to these offices were probably used for postage. Proper usage at some of the smallest offices might extend into the early 1900's.

If you have a used copy of EN12 please report the postmark (including town and date) to the editor of Postal Stationery Notes and we will compile a list for later publication. Please report details on all used copies even if you have more than one copy from the same town.

THE ADMIRAL ISSUE 1¢ ORANGE - AN AID TO EXAMINATION

One problem with the 1¢ orange Admiral issue postal cards, wrappers and postal bands is identification of the dies used. Particularly for the bands and wrappers, the details of the often weakly printed impressions on the brownish kraft paper are almost undecipherable. Don Fraser has developed a method of solving the problem. A dark blue filter is laid on top of the stamp impression. The item is then viewed under a very strong light and details of the impression are quite clear.

NEWLY DISCOVERED CARDS

Don Fraser has reported a new Canadian Express money order pictorial card. The card is the same as Webb CEX1 (Higgins & Gage J3) but with ornament type 1 instead of type 2.

Mark Arons has found a new pictorial card for the Great Northern Railway. This card apparently has the same view noted on the 1¢ Maple Leaf card as PC 397 in the Higgins and Gage listing, but is on the Edwardian 1¢ card (H & G #23, Webb P22).

RAILWAY POSTAL CARD PROJECT

One of our newer members, Steven Whitcombe, is trying to develop an in-depth listing of Railway Pictorial Cards, including the different forms on the backs. He would appreciate any help and information he can get from fellow members of the study group. He has prepared a set of forms that could be used by anyone desiring to help, and which will simplify the task.

If you write to him at: 25 S. Chestnut Ave.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
U.S.A.

he will send forms and further information. He is also interested in other, illustrated and non-illustrated railway forms on government postal cards.