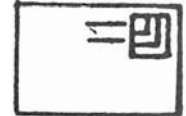


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## POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES

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Volume 5, No. 5

November 1986

NEW OWNERSHIP FOR WEBB'S CATALOGUE

In late August the rights to Jim Webb's "Canada & Newfoundland Postal Stationery Catalogue" were sold to Earle Covert and Bill Walton. Jim published the first edition of the catalogue in 1971, and it quickly became the primary stationery reference for BNA collectors and dealers. Its appearance marked the beginning of a revival in interest in BNA postal stationery. Jim published revised editions in 1974, 1978 and 1983, each larger and more complete than its predecessor.

The new owners and editors are well known to the readers of Postal Stationery Notes. Bill Walton of Califon NJ is the coordinator of our ERP project, and has also contributed many interesting articles on other topics. Aside from BNA postal stationery, Bill's collecting interests are wide-ranging and, among many others, include BNA revenues and the postal stationery of Central and South America and of Australia. Earle Covert of Hay River NWT is the Secretary for BNAPS. He has written articles for PSN on Canadian aerogrammes and has been a constant source of information on newly-discovered items. He has won many awards for his exhibits of BNA stationery.

The new owners have begun work on the fifth edition of the catalogue, with the intention of having it available at CAPEX'87. Members are encouraged to contact them concerning unlisted items (see page 40). A few structural changes will be phased in over the next few editions. The biggest single change promised for the 1987 edition is that the private order post cards will be separated from the regularly issued cards. However, the catalogue numbers for cards in both categories (with very few exceptions) will remain unchanged. Bill and Earle hope to expand the use of illustrations, including illustrations of die types.

We extend our best wishes to the new owners of the "Webb's". At the same time we take this opportunity to thank Jim Webb for the time and effort he put toward the catalogue over the last fifteen years. He not only compiled and wrote the catalogue, he also did the typesetting and printing. It was a difficult task, and it was done well.

Robert Lemire

\* 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 ROE 1L0. \*

IMMEDIATE HELP NEEDED ON UNLISTED ITEMS

A number of new items have been reported to Jim Webb over the last three and a half years. Others have been described in Postal Stationery Notes. It is possible that even if your find has been reported, it may not be in the list for the new edition of the Webb Catalogue. In particular, records of items sent to Jim Webb may not be complete. To ensure the unlisted items in your collection are considered for the new edition of the Webb's Catalogue please send photocopies (front and back) to:

Dr. Earle Covert                   - envelopes (regular and special order)  
Box 1070                           - air letter sheets  
Hay River, NWT  
CANADA  
ROE 1L0

Bill Walton                       - post bands and wrappers  
125 Turtleback Rd.               - post cards  
Califon, NJ 07830               - proofs and essays  
U.S.A.                           - all Newfoundland material

The editors cannot ensure a personal response to all who write, but new items accepted into the Catalogue will be listed in Postal Stationery Notes. If there is already an item listed in the Catalogue that is face identical to your unlisted item (i.e., only the colour, the paper stock or, perhaps, the die is different) please send the item to the appropriate editor, listed above, by registered mail. The editors have promised to try to return such items within two weeks of receiving them. These are basically the same guidelines used for the ERP list, and they have proven to work well. Reports sent to Postal Stationery Notes will be forwarded to the appropriate editor, but will be delayed.

For inclusion in the 1987 edition of the Webb's Catalogue items must be reported before Jan. 23, 1986.

Robert Lemire

BNAPEX'86 - NEWS AND REFLECTIONS

As usual, BNAPEX was a lot of fun for those who managed to attend. There were superb exhibits, a good bourse, and friends, new and old, with whom one could exchange and share information. Indeed it is the opportunity to exchange information and ideas, especially through the study group meetings, that makes BNAPEX much more than just another stamp show.

This year there were two stationery exhibits in the show. Horace Harrison presented four frames that could easily have been described as "Gems of Canadian Postal Stationery". There were numerous proofs and essays as well as many of the scarcer items Canada has issued. This exhibit was awarded a silver, although I believe it was essentially the same exhibit that had received a large gold a few weeks earlier at AMERIPEX. Earle Covert presented four frames showing the various revalued stationery that

have been used by Canada. This was an excellent comprehensive exhibit and received a silver-bronze.

It should be noted that we are now one of the larger study groups in BNAPS (more than seventy members) and the Postal Stationery Study Group meeting was one of the better attended meetings, with sixteen BNAPSers present. The main portion of the Study Group meeting was devoted to Bill Walton's presentation on the status of the BNA Postal Stationery ERP project. His comments are summarized elsewhere in this issue. A discussion followed on the best way of presenting the results of this project and how to obtain input from members outside the study group.

It was also announced that Earle Covert and Bill Walton have bought the rights to Jim Webb's "Canada & Newfoundland Postal Stationery Catalogue". Further details on the future of this catalogue are given on the front page of this issue of PSN.

Robert Lemire

A STATUS REPORT ON THE ERP PROJECT\*

There is very little in the Post Office records on dates of issue of stationery items. Over the last five years members of the study group have been contributing to a survey of the earliest reported postmarks (ERPs) found on all BNA stationery items. Response has been good, with many members participating. This has resulted in a substantial gain in our knowledge of when, and in what sequence, various stationery items were issued.

We have done well at moving back previously known ERPs on envelopes and post cards, but badly with those on letter cards, post bands, wrappers and aerogrammes. There are various reasons for this. The earlier air letter sheets were well studied as they appeared, and their ERPs were already known fairly well. Post bands and wrappers seldom received dated cancels, thus material that can aid the ERP study is scarce. Also, there are relatively fewer collectors of these items and also of the letter cards. Fewer collectors mean fewer reports and (generally) poorer dates.

Within the cards and envelopes, those prepared and used for printed matter rates had fewer dated cancels, and it would appear many ERPs on such items could still be pushed back. Also, the lower collecting interest in Canadian George V era material and in Newfoundland is reflected in poorer ERPs.

We have almost completed an initial presentation of ERPs in Postal Stationery Notes. When this done it would probably be useful to prepare another summary list (similar to the supplement to PSN Vol. 2, Nov. 1983) in booklet form so collectors inside and outside the study group could easily check their material.

\* A summary of comments presented by Bill Walton to the BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group meeting in Dearborn on Aug. 30, 1986.

ADDITIONS TO THE UPDATED LIST OF CANADIAN PACIFIC EXPRESS CARDS

I have been able to make a few additions to the Flimsy Form Card listings (PSN 5, pg. 3) and these are given below.

add  
10) 1954 FIRST KARSH DESIGN - P83g 2 cent green die I  
tab: FORM 161 ?

renumber  
12) 1954 FIRST KARSH DESIGN - P83g 2 cent green die II  
tab: FORM 161 REV. 9-59

add  
8) 1964 CAMEO DESIGN - P97a 4 cent red  
"CPR" "TORONTO, ONT." tab: FORM X186 F&E REV.10-63

Dick Staecker

NEWFOUNDLAND P5 (2¢ ON 1¢): A FURTHER NOTE

In the May 1984 issue of PSN (Vol. 3, pg. 13) we showed the text of a Post Office letter concerning this revalue in which it was stated that of the 700 revalued to 2¢, "... few were used through the post, ... Collectors bought in what was on hand".

At BNAPEX in Dearborn I acquired from Allan Steinhart a copy of Newfoundland P4 used to a stamp firm in England. This firm appears to have heard a rumor of the revalue, but mistakenly presumed it was on an adhesive 1¢, and had forwarded funds to the Newfoundland Post Office with an order. Allan (naturally) recognized the P.O. reply to the firm for what it was, and called it to my attention. The text of the reply is as follows:

GENERAL POST OFFICE ST JOHNS N.F.  
22nd July/'89

Gentlemen

Yours of 5<sup>th</sup> Inst enclosing M.O. for 15/- duly to hand It was the one cent card (not stamp) which was lately overprinted 2 cents - but I regret that the small quantity issued has already been disposed of principally to G.B. Calman of 299 Pearl Street and N. Ohman this city. I hold the Money Order awaiting your further commands  
yours truly

Geo W. LeMessurier  
Stamp Clerk

G.B. Calman was a dealer/collector on Pearl St. in New York City. He was well known in the trade at the time, and it is interesting that LeMessurier was apparently well enough aware of this that he did not bother to specify New York City when mentioning his name to a stamp dealer in England.

It should also be noted that the ERP copy of P5 (postmarked May 14, 1889) was addressed to G.B. Calman from the Newfoundland Post Office.

N. Ohman was involved in the "scandal" and official enquiry of 1900 which linked his name and LeMessurier's to various manipulations of Post Office stock. This is well documented in Pratt's recent opus "The nineteenth century Postal History of Newfoundland". The stamp dealing partnership of 1889, which included these two gentlemen (Ohman and LeMessurier), may well have had its origin in the 1889 issue of the 2¢ on 1¢ revalued card.

There are several key points we now know.

1. A new shipment of 2¢ cards certainly seems to have arrived in St. Johns by July 22nd, when LeMessurier used the one described above to the dealer in England. This of course presumes that the exhaustion of 2¢ cards had been genuine, rather than contrived to justify the issue of a revalue. Surcharged British colonial issues (on adhesives and stationery) at that time were becoming popular with collectors.
2. Since P5 supplies were exhausted prior to July 22nd, primarily to two speculators, most of the very rare usage that was not philatelically inspired probably occurred prior to this date. Philatelically used copies subsequent to this date are certainly rare as well, and each collector must decide for himself how much after this date he desires a copy, and at what price.
3. This post card issue was almost certainly manipulated by **LeMessurier in conjunction with Ohman and Calman.** It may have been innocently triggered by LeMessurier on May 14th, 1899 when he used the new revalued card in an apparently routine reply to Calman in New York on another matter. Calman may have received this card and been galvanized into action, responding very quickly to LeMessurier with an order for the new revalue. If such correspondence was involved, we are likely never to see it, but it may well have been Calman who saw the possibilities in this issue and awakened LeMessurier and Ohman to them. Trade offerings in journals of the period show that only a few dealers had access to the card, and these dealers publicized it heavily; prices for it were immediately very high for that era.

If in fact a delayed shipment of 2¢ cards genuinely necessitated this revalue, the delay was likely caused by the disruption British American Bank Note was undergoing in the closing of its Montreal facilities and the consolidation of its production in Ottawa.

Bill Walton

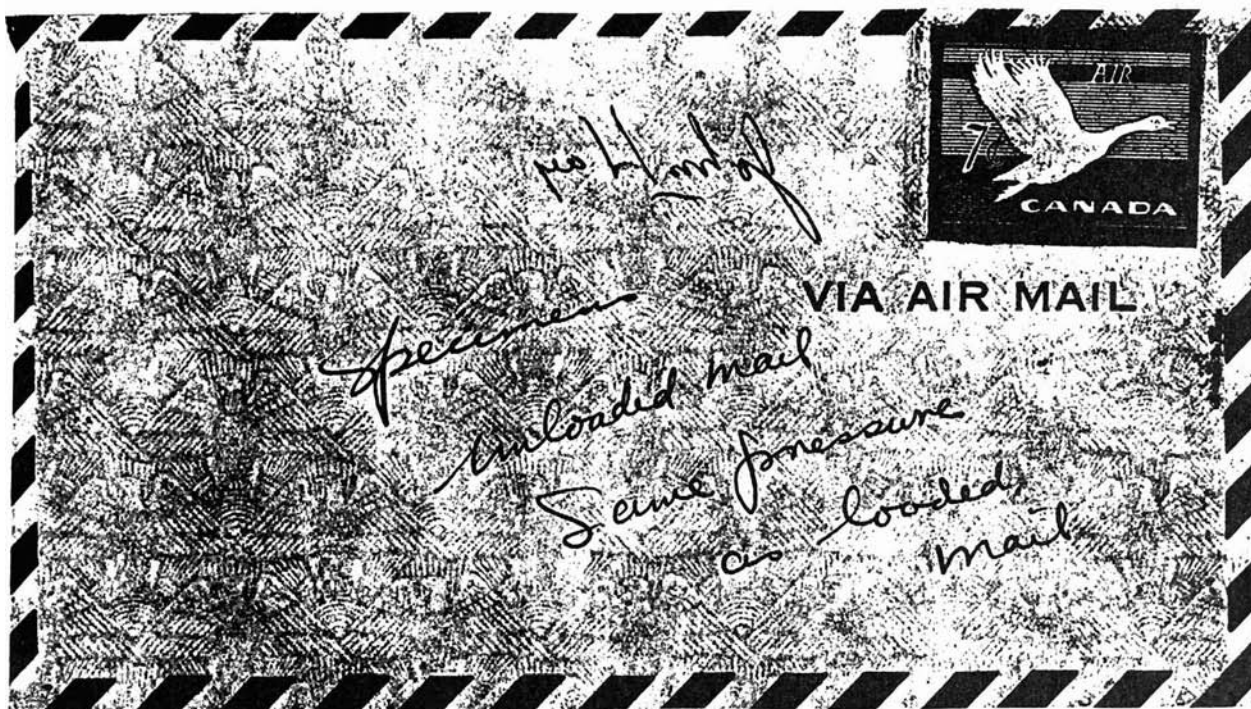
MORE ON THE GREYHOUND CARDS

In PSN Vol. 5, pg. 30 we reported on Webb P91 cards with a type 7 heading used by Greyhound Package Express. Earle Covert reports that he has similar cards on what seem to be normal reply halves of P92. It thus appears that Greyhound used P92 (reply) card sheets and printed the identical message on both halves of the card. It is still not clear why this would be done, since it a much more complicated printing set-up than use of sheets of P91 (with no printed headings). Does anyone know what the largest available sheet size was of the reply cards (P92) and the regular cards (P91) ?

Robert Lemire

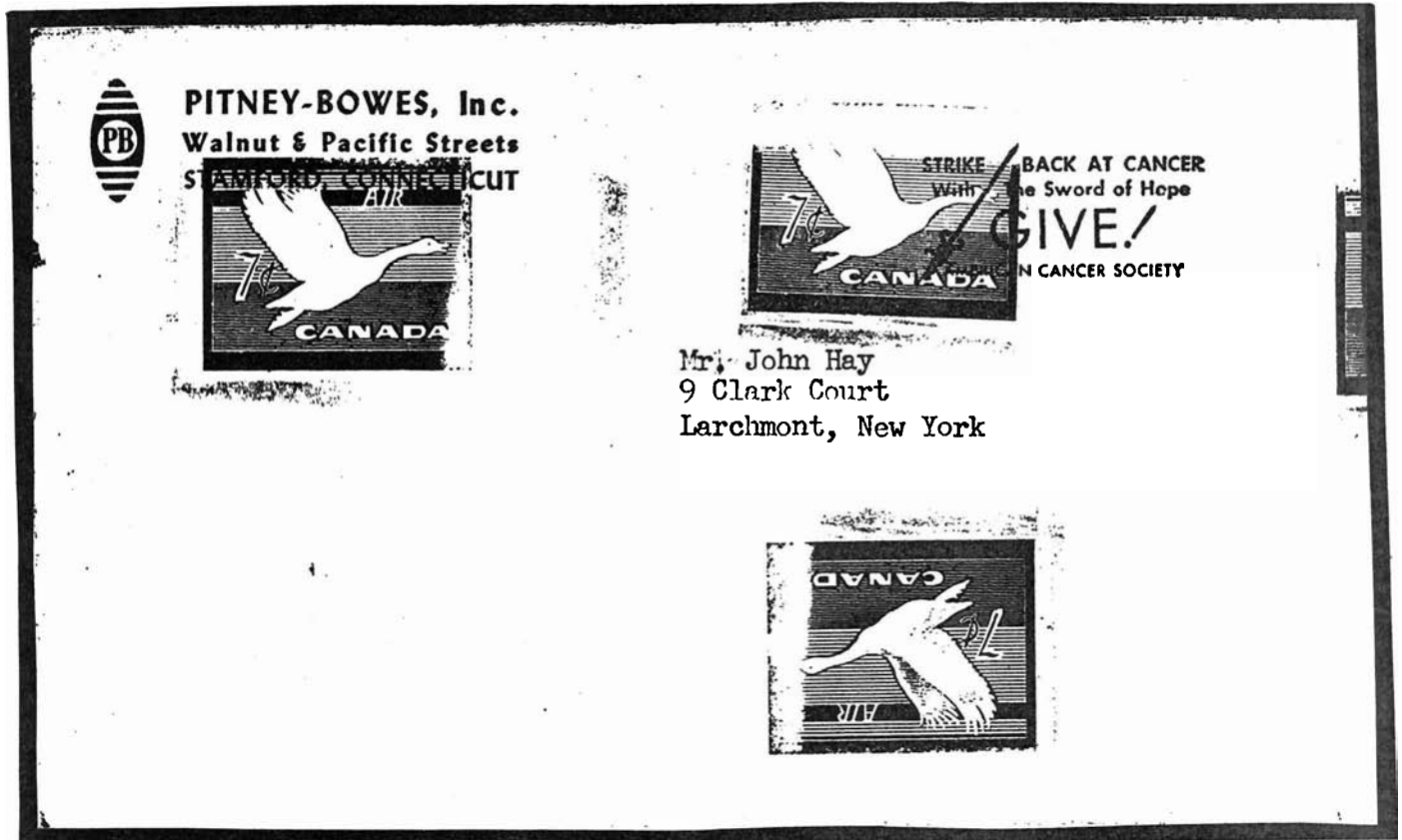
A SPECIMEN CANADIAN AIRMAIL ENVELOPE

Canada has never issued an airmail envelope. Indeed, with "all-up" service from 1949 on, Canada has not issued many airmail stamps. However Scott 320, issued in 1952, while not issued as an airmail stamp, was used to pay the airmail rate to the United States. Recently Horace Harrison sent along some photocopies of the envelope shown below. This is an airmail envelope, with red and blue border lozenges, bearing an embossed 7¢ green impression similar (but not identical) to the design of Scott Canada 320 and marked "Specimen" in manuscript.



The envelope was found in the personal effects of John Hay, engraver for the American Bank Note Co. and the Canadian Bank Note Co. The writing at the right of the stamp impression is a mirror image signature of John Hay.

Horace also sent another photocopy showing four partial impressions of the same design (but in blue) printed on an envelope addressed to John Hay. A portion of this #10 envelope (from Pitney-Bowes with a Apr. 26'54 meter impression) is shown below.



#### A REPRIEVE FOR AEROGRAMMES ?

In PSN Vol. 4, pg. 43 we noted reports that Canadian aerogrammes and postal cards would be discontinued, presumably at the time of the next rate change. More recent information suggests that, following complaints, the aerogrammes, at least, may be given a reprieve. With a rate change anticipated in the next few months, we should find out for certain in the near future.

Robert Lemire

#### ERP UPDATES

First a correction. There is a potential error in our ERP listed for Newfoundland L1 (from a card in my collection). Attention was called to this problem by Bob Pratt's article in BNA Topics, May-June 1986, pg. 21. I no longer can convince myself conclusively that the date on my copy is 1912. Bob Pratt notes a copy postmarked May 3, 1913, and this may well be our ERP (after a promised photocopy arrives). Until then, our ERP is a

copy in my collection with a definite April 26, 1914 cancel. Please recheck any used copies of this card you may have.

A number of updates this time with reports from Colin Campbell, Pierre Gauthier, Bruce McCallum, John Aitken, Robert Lemire and Bill Walton. The last portions of the ERP list should appear in the near future. They have been delayed, at least in part, by work on the next edition of the Webb Catalogue.

P27f July 3, 1914	P29a Aug. 15, 1927	P41e June 19, 1933
P46 Apr. 15, 1931	P74b July 8, 1952	P93 Aug. 20, 1960
P99a Dec. 3, 1967	P?? (34¢) July 15, 1985	
EN11 Sept. 7, 1898	EN71a (rb) Jan. 3, 1957	
EN76 July 4, 1962	EN?? (32¢, rev., #8) May 14, 1984	
EN?? (34¢, #8) July 15, 1985	EN?? (34¢, #10) July 15, 1985	
A44-55 Mar. 4, 1974	A?? (68¢) July 15, 1985	

#### NEWFOUNDLAND ERPs

P6 Sept. 10, 1892 (1)      P10 July 25, 1914      L1 Apr. 26, 1914 (2)

- (1) resolving the difficulties discussed in PSN Vol. 5, pg. 14, 16.
- (2) see the discussion above

#### RAILWAY CARD ERP UPDATES

GTR-H41 (on P33n) Dec. 16, 1915

Bill Walton

#### WHO IS PRINTING THE CURRENT ENVELOPES ?

Dennis Cottin has properly taken me to task for describing the current envelopes (and the revised 32¢ envelopes) as having been printed by Becon-Gage (e.g., PSN Vol. 4, pg. 28). This was the description given by Canada Post, however, Becon-Gage is really a holding company for several firms that produce envelopes. Box ends suggest Barber Ellis produced the #10 revised 32¢ envelopes. The first issue of 32¢ envelopes (both sizes) was probably printed by International Envelope. Does anyone know for certain which firm is printing the 34¢ envelopes and which firms printed the various 32¢ envelopes ?

Robert Lemire

#### STUDY GROUP ROSTER UPDATE

This is a list of members who have joined the study group since July 1986. This list is not attached to copies of the newsletter sent to libraries other than the BNAPS library.

R.F Narbonne, 216 Mailey Dr., Carleton Place, ON, K7C 3X9  
G. Mills, 530 Meadowlane Rd., Dearborn, MI 48124, U.S.A

#### DROPPED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF 1986 DUES

R.-E. Gagnon,      H. Machum