

POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES



Volume 8, No. 1

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Our thanks to Steven Whitcombe for the enclosed index for PSN Volume 7.

NEW STATIONERY RELEASED

February 1, 1989 was the official first day of issue for three new pieces of Canadian postal stationery. The designs for the 38¢ #8 and #10 size envelopes and the 76¢ aerogramme are identical to the designs for the corresponding 37¢ and 74¢ items issued in 1988. The printing of the envelopes seems to have been moved from Innova's Brantford plant to its Montreal operation. The result is that the knives for the 38¢ envelopes differ from those originally used for the 37¢ envelopes. The difference is fairly obvious for the #8's. For the #10's, the size and shape of the flaps of the 37¢ and 38¢ envelopes are the same, and the most noticeable knife difference is the shape of the back of the envelope. It might be useful for members to check copies of the 37¢ envelopes in case the new knives were also used for 37¢ envelopes during the period just before the rate change.

Earle Covert reports that members should also keep an eye out for copies of the envelopes without security printing and copies with security printing and no stamp impressions. Such error copies, resulting from two pieces of paper going through the press together, have been found in two separate batches of envelopes sent to a single post office.

Robert Lemire

SOME NOTES ON THE 5¢ WILDING FORM 95 ELECTION ENVELOPES

About ten years ago I had some correspondence with John Aitken and Dick Staecker concerning the election envelope designated as EN813d in Webb's Catalogue. Our "findings" may be old news to some members of the study group but, as far as I know, the information has not previously been published.

If the printing number on the envelopes can be believed, 150,000 Form 95 envelopes were printed in English with a form date of 6-57. Examination

1

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of even a few of these envelopes from different sources reveals that there are actually two distinct varieties. The first type is gummed by the plunger method (width of the gum band is irregular and depends on the registration and number of applications of the gum - see Figure 1a and also PSN Vol. 1, pg. 4). The knife is such that the envelope has a moderately deep pointed flap (flap "A" in Figure 2). The second type of envelope has gum applied by the roller method (the gum is applied evenly to the paper in a consistent sharply-defined area - Figure 1b) and has a different knife with an even sharper envelope flap (flap "B" in Figure 2).

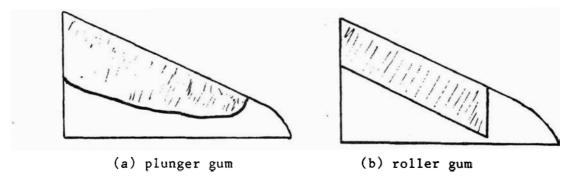
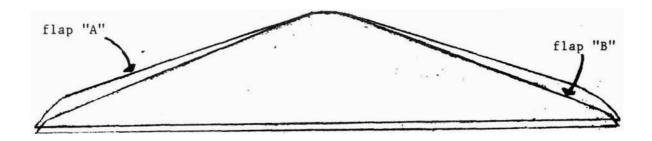


Figure 1. Gum Methods Used on EN814d

The knife with flap "A" was also used for election envelopes EN813, EN813c and EN813h. The knife with flap "B" is found on my copy of EN813e. My copy of EN813a has roller gum, but a knife that differs from either shown in Figure 1. Do other members have copies of the Webb EN-813 Form 95 envelopes with knives different from those described here?

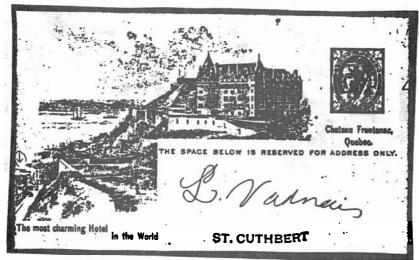


Figuure 2 Flaps of EN813d (envelope flaps reduced to 64%)

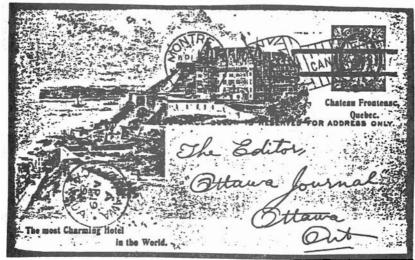
Robert Lemire

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY PICTORIAL POST CARDS

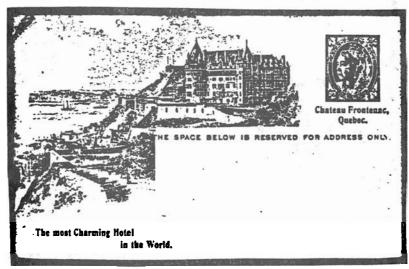
In the last issue of PSN we began illustrating the CPR railway views. The series continues below.



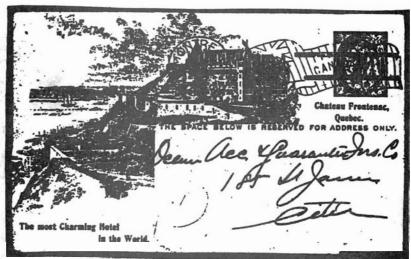
CPR3 - all green text unserifed



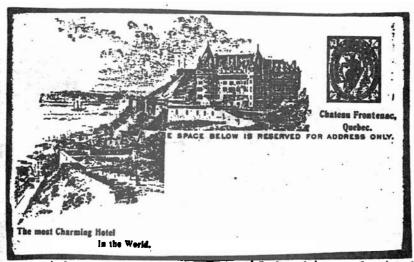
CPR3a - lst state, green text serifed, ships only in distance "1" over "n"



CPR3a - 2nd state, green text serifed, ships only in distance "1" over "t"



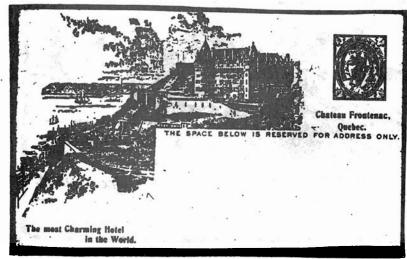
CPR3a - 3rd state, green text serifed, ships only in distance "1" over "e"



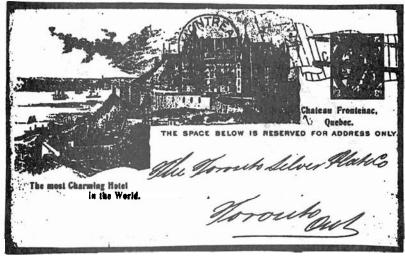
CPR3a - 4th state, green text serifed, ships only in distance "1" over "h"



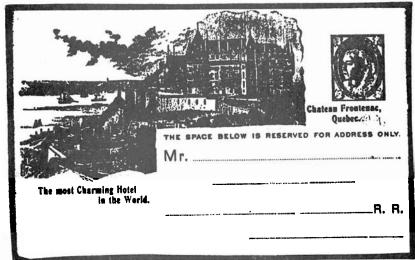
CPR3a - 5th state, green text serifed, ships only in distance "1" over "o"



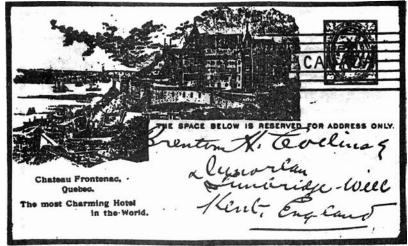
CPR3b added ship at lower-left near shore



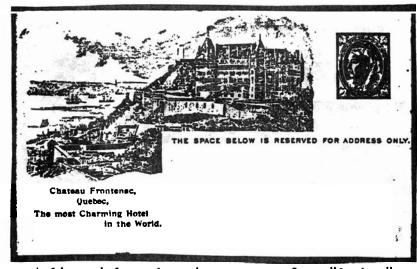
state 1, 2-line title under view, period under "n" of CPR4 "Frontenac"



state 2, 2-line title under view, period under "t" of "Frontenac" CPR4



CPR4a - 4-line title under view, period after "Quebec"



CPR4b - 4-line title under view, comma after "Quebec"

Bill Walton

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON PRIVATELY PRECANCELLED POST CARDS

Based on information sent by Mark Arons and Earle Covert, the following items should be added to the the <u>Canadian Precancelled Postal Stationery</u> Handbook:

page 27 P26d 2 fine lines	-4-18 1/2 × 4	Ottawa, Ont.	J.W. McElroy
page 31 P3Of 3 pairs of bars	-17-16 1/2 x 18 1/2	Toronto, Ont.	Marston Scales & Company
page 36 - under P4lf P4lf 5 bars - medium P4lf 2 pairs of fine lines	-11-21 × 16 -16-19 × 7 1/2	Cranbrooke B.C. Montreal Que.	Rexall Drug Store Fyon & Fyon Limitée



P26d-4-18 1/2 x 4



P30f-17-16 1/2 x 18 1/2



P41f-11-21 x 16



P41f-16-19 x 7 1/2

On page 33 of the <u>Handbook</u>, the entry for P37c (in Webb's 5th edition KP37c) -25C-19x8 should be listed as known from Toronto in addition to Hamilton. Similarly, for the entry P62b-7-21x13 on page 41, Horace Harrison has reported a card (of the same type and from the same user) from Windsor. Using the numbering scheme in the 5th edition of the Webb's Catalogue, this card should be renumbered to P62j-7-21x13. The catalogue number of the card below on <u>Handbook</u> page 41 ("P62b-X-10-18x14") should also be changed to P62j-10-18x14 (the "X" is dropped because cards with privately added headings do not have separate catalogue status in the Webb's 5th edition).

George Manley

On reading the January/February issue of Topics, members will have probably noted the passing of Jack Robb. Jack was an enthusiastic participant in the Study Group who contributed many useful pieces of information to several projects. I had considerable correspondence with Jack over the last few years, and in common with many other members of the Study Group, will greatly miss his helpful comments and questions.

PUZZLES IN CANADIAN STATIONERY

PUZZLE #5 - The number of subjects in the printing plates for the Victorian BABNC post cards (Webb P5 - P12)

One of the major remaining questions in BNA stationery relates to the typographed post cards produced under the British American Bank Note

Company contract in the last century (Webb P5-P12). That question is, how many subjects were there in each plate?

The single cards were suggested many years ago to have been produced in 40-subject plates, but this has never been confirmed, and even the original attribution is in doubt. As far as I know, no informed guess as to the size of the reply card plate has ever been made.

Here is the puzzle.

Can the PSSG pool its resources to come up with tentative answers for any of these cards?

New plates were undoubtedly built up from electros many times for most of these cards - and since neither the number of plates nor the number of subjects per plate is known, this makes it difficult to start. What is needed is some card from the period that almost surely was produced entirely from one plate so that all that has to be determined is the number of subjects.

At least one reply card - Webb P6a/6b, with the stamp at the left - almost surely fills the bill. Only one message half plate, and one reply half plate, are likely to have been used to produce this card.

Theoretically, it should be possible to identify the individual positions for each half of this card, and thus at least determine the likely number of subjects in the reply card plates of this period.

To define a position with typographed cards - that is cards produced by relief printing - white space flaws must be used: extra ink lines can be transitory because something was stuck on the plate and must be used with caution and often only as a last resort.

I have examined some entire (unsevered) cards, and some severed halves and have found a few possible starting points:

- 1) P6b, which is illustrated in the 5th edition of Webb's, has been recognized as a variety for many years. It appears on the stamp on the reply half of the card, and shows a large white flaw extending from the back of the base of the bust to the left across the background to a point opposite the "O" of "ONE".
- 2) On two unsevered copies with the P6b reply half, the message half shows the upper right bar of the "T" in "THE" to be broken, so that it appears as a separated short dash.
- 3) Two message halves of P6a show a constant flaw with a notch or niche in the vertical shading lines below the "O" in "POST" in the heading, affecting two of the shading lines.

This is a small beginning, but it may give other members a starting point for looking at any copies they own of P6a/P6b. If any member can find another flaw on either half of one of these cards and can describe it - preferably with a photocopy - we may be able to find additional examples and confirm it as a distictive plate position. Ultimately, we may be able to allocate all examples of each half of all of these cards to specific positions, and determine the plate size.