

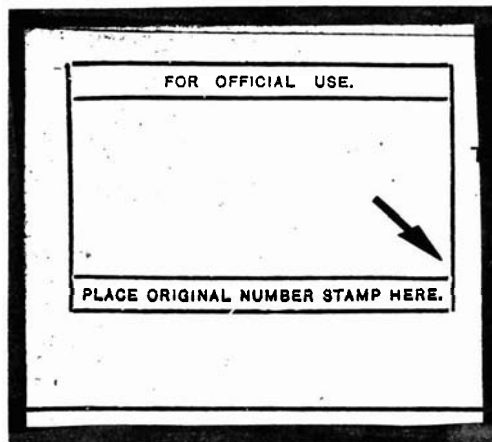
Volume 9, No. 3

August 1990

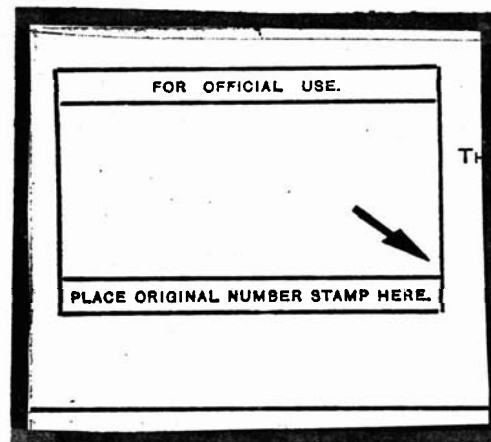
THE CANADIAN REGISTERED ENVELOPES - THE TWO PRINTINGS

In Volume 33, No. 5 (1976) of BNA Topics (pg. 8), Allan Steinhart discussed the story behind the 10¢ Canadian registered envelope (Webb RE1) issue. Allan noted that there were two printings of this envelope, of 50,000 copies each. A few years later, Bill Walton mentioned to me that the two printings could be distinguished from the details of the printing on the envelopes and, perhaps, by the shade of the stamp impression.

The envelopes were first issued in late 1927 (the ERP is Oct. 17, 1927) According to Allan Steinhart's article, based on material from the National Postal Museum, the second order was shipped from England on Oct. 6, 1928. Thus, copies postmarked before October 1928 are from the first printing.



A - first printing



B - second printing

Pictures of two types of registration boxes found on these envelopes are shown above. The easiest point of identification is to examine the join of the third horizontal line with the right-hand vertical line. On "type A" envelopes, the lines do not meet, and a white space can be seen between them. On "type B" envelopes, the lines are joined. I have seen only

\* 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 R0E 1L0. \*

"type A" envelopes with postmarks before October 1928, and conclude that these are from the first printing. This leaves an unanswered question - what ERP can we find for the "type B" envelopes?

Robert Lemire

#### ANOTHER 1969 SURCHARGED ENVELOPE

In the 1969 revaluation of envelopes (the "Centennial Revalues"), almost all possible varieties have now been recorded for the Gasparo printings, style A. One of the last holdouts has now surfaced. It will be listed in Webb's as EN90a, 5¢ on 3¢ purple, #8 (on EN78). The reported copy is a used specimen postmarked Dec. 22, 1969. This leaves only the #8 version of EN95 (on EN80) as an obvious possibility, as yet unreported.

Bill Walton

#### STATIONERY ON SALE AT THE ST. JOHN'S POST OFFICE - 1895 AND 1897

Recently I purchased two post cards (not postal stationery cards) prepared and used by the St. John's Newfoundland Post Office. The purpose of these cards was to answer enquiries from collectors and dealers as to what stamps and stationery were currently available. One card, postmarked July 15, 1895, indicates the 3¢ and 5¢ stamped envelopes 1¢, 2¢ and 3¢ newspaper wrappers, and the 1¢, 2¢ and 4¢ (2¢ + 2¢) post cards were available. There is no indication both sizes of the envelopes were available.

However, the card postmarked July 16, 1897 is even more interesting, in that it announces that the envelopes and wrappers have been withdrawn from sale. (The cards were still available.) This is particularly intriguing, as the wrappers on yellowish buff paper are noted in the Webb's Catalogue as being issued in "1900?". Bill Walton has always contended these were from a second printing. It may well be that wrappers were not generally available for some time. Does anyone have a card from the St. John's Post Office postmarked later than July 1897, indicating the wrappers were again available?

Robert Lemire

#### SPECIAL ORDER ENVELOPES - AN ERROR AND AN AS YET UNDISCOVERED ENVELOPE

Recently Earle Covert reported a particularly spectacular error on the Canadian special order envelope EN543-15. The envelope had apparently been accidentally turned over prior to printing. Thus, the stamp impression appears inverted on the back of the envelope at the bottom-left. The printed return address on the front of the envelope reads:

THE BARRETT COMPANY, LIMITED  
5551 ST. HUBERT STREET  
MONTREAL 34, QUE.

The question remains if this is a single example, or if the entire order was misprinted. Can anyone report another copy?

John Aitken also sent along an interesting item. It is a tightly trimmed cut-square bearing the standard 1¢ George VI envelope impression in green (1938 die) on grey paper. Now the precancelled envelopes, EN525-30a and EN525-32 are grey envelopes, but no other 1¢ George VI grey paper envelopes are recorded in the latest edition of Webb's, and John's cut-square is definitely not precancelled. The cut-square is obviously from an unlisted special order envelope - size and user unknown.

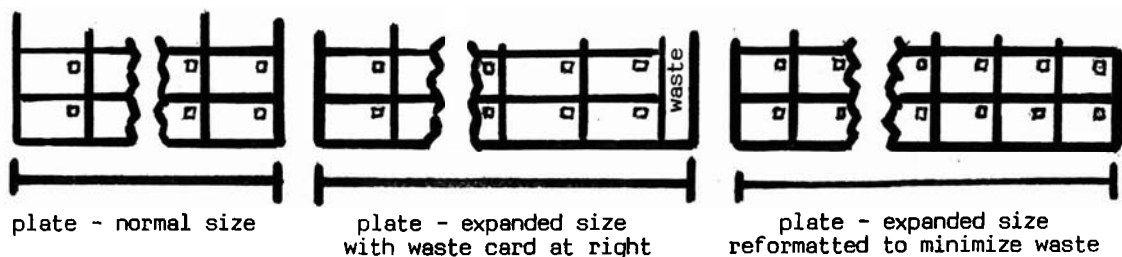
#### PUZZLES #8 AND 8A - THE 39mm TYPE 9 POST CARD HEADING AND CUT-DOWN CARDS

With the assumption of the printing contract in the mid-1930's, the 1/2 ¢ Canadian Bank Note (CBN) Front Face type 9 cards began to appear in two varieties - the earlier version (42mm long and without period, as found on P37 in the Scroll Issue and now on P56), and a new variety (39mm long and with a period, P56a). These two varieties also occur in the later CBN Profile Issue (P61 and P61e), showing they were simultaneous and not sequential. They then disappear when 1/2 ¢ cards were eliminated.

The first part of the puzzle is: Why did these two varieties occur simultaneously?

I have long suspected that these two different heading settings reflect two completely different plates, laid down in different formats. Originally, I hypothesized that the 39mm headings were intended to allow closer spacing of the cards on a sheet, so that a slightly larger plate format would allow more total subjects on a sheet. My reasoning was as follows:

- (1) The 39mm headings I had seen at that time (many years ago, and all on P61e) were somewhat smaller in format, horizontally or vertically (but usually not both), as noted in the current edition of Webb's at the top of pg. 67.
- (2) All these examples had overall printed advertising for mass mailings on the reverse, invariably for very large commercial users such as Bulova.
- (3) There was probably a desire on the part of very large users for a sheet with more subjects, since commercial printing efficiency would be increased; the solution, by this reasoning, would have been the combination of a larger overall plate format and a slightly reduced individual cards format (see Figure).



In support of this idea, the 1¢ George VI card which followed (P66) can also be found in reduced formats with similar printed advertising on the back - - hypothetically, the replacement for the 39mm card, but now without a heading.

Then problems with this theory arose. First, I found copies of P56a - but all that I initially examined were in more or less standard sizes rather than significantly cut-down. Then similar standard-size copies of P6le began to emerge. If the reduced format theory were correct, how could normal size copies occur on these two cards with the 39mm heading.

Next, P37 proved to occur in similar cut-down cards, but this was the "normal" 42mm heading, which also made no sense.

Finally, I was never able to explain why the cut-down cards varied so extensively, both in terms of how much they were reduced, and in which direction (vertical or horizontal) they were reduced.

So a second puzzle exists within the original one: What is the explanation of the mass-mailing cut-down cards that occur during this period - and, in fact, can occasionally be found much later?

The answer to this puzzle will ultimately have to explain why such cards never occur, even from the largest commercial users, back during the Victorian and Edwardian periods.

Bill Walton

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON CANADIAN PRECANCELLED STATIONERY

The "Hyde's" Precancelled Cut-Square - The User is Discovered

In PSN Vol. 5, pg. 51, I reported a new unlisted, privately precancelled post card, based on a cut-square. The card was assigned the number P41? - 3-21 x 2, and the back of the cut-square, shown in PSN bore the words "Hyde's . . . FORMERLY S.R.S." Ray McLean has now traced the user of this card.

In the early 1930's there was a butcher shop at 610-612 Somerset Ave., Ottawa under the name of Samuel R. Smith. This directory listing continued through 1934. In 1935 the occupant of this address was Hyde's Meat Market. Therefore, the handbook entry should read:

<u>Card</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>User's Name</u>
P41d(?)	2 bars - thin	-3-21 x 2	Ottawa	Hyde's Meat Market

An Addition to the Precancel Handbook

Based on information supplied by Hans Reiche, the following card should also be added to the Precancel Handbook.

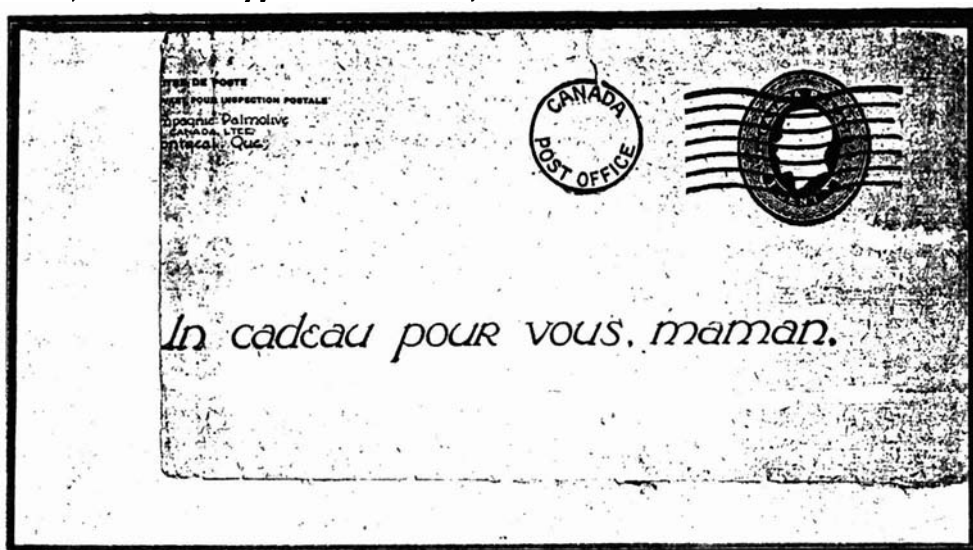
pg. 42 P66s

2 pairs of fine lines -16-25 x 9 1/2 blue Agencies John Deere Equipment

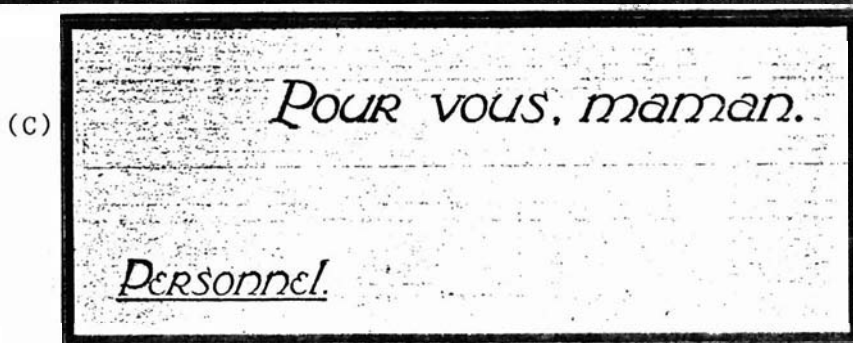
An Additional Palmolive Company Precancelled Envelope

On pg. 51 of the Canadian Precancelled Postal Stationery Handbook the first corner type (of four) for the Palmolive Company is listed under Toronto. However, the corner actually reads "Montreal-Toronto-Winnipeg", with "Toronto" in larger letters. Yet, on pg. 47, there is a corner shown for the Montreal office only. The printing on this envelope is the French equivalent of that shown as "advertisement" type "C" on pg. 21 of the list "The Canadian Precancelled Postal Stationery Envelopes used during the Reigns of K.G. V and K.G. VI (PSN Special Issue #2).

Pierre Gauthier has provided a photocopy of a newly discovered precancelled envelope used by the Palmolive Company. Actually, it is not an entire, but it is a large enough piece for purposes of identification. The front, from a copy of EN502-30, is shown below.



The printing "Un cadeau pour vous, maman" is the French equivalent of the English "advertisement" type "B". The word "personal" probably was printed on the portion of the envelope that has been cut off. It seems reasonable now to define the corner "1" and the "advertisement" type "A" listed for the Palmolive Company under Toronto also to be corner "1" and "advertisement" type "A" for Montreal. This would make the heading shown on pg. 47 of the Handbook type "2", and allows the Montreal "advertisement" types to be designated in a parallel manner to those for Toronto (as below).



Therefore on pg. 4 of the precancelled envelope list:

add Imp./Ad. for EN502-25 7 1/2 x 4 1/8 oss

Can la (Mon) blue La Compagnie Palmolive 2/C U

add EN502-30 7 3/4 x 4 1/8 oss

Can la (Mon) blue La Compagnie Palmolive 2/B U

George Manley

A USED COPY OF P66p

Webb's lists P66p only in used condition, but as discussed by Bill Walton (PSN Vol. 7, pg. 45) the sole previously reported copy is actually unused, with added printing and an extra adhesive. Now Pierre Gauthier has reported two further copies. One is unused with added printing but no extra adhesive. As was the case for the previously reported card, the printed address is to a Montreal golf club. The second copy is postally used, postmarked Feb. 9, 1944, and was mailed by a different user. Ironically, the messages on all known copies of this bilingual card are in English.

ANOTHER DOMINION ENVELOPE SPECIMEN MARKING

The Dominion Envelope specimen markings were discussed in PSN Vol. 7, pg. 33, and an additional marking was reported in PSN Vol. 8, pg. 11. Now Mark Arons has forwarded a photocopy showing a "Specimen Only" marking with a different set of initials, as illustrated below.



toothed oval, "F.W." (?)

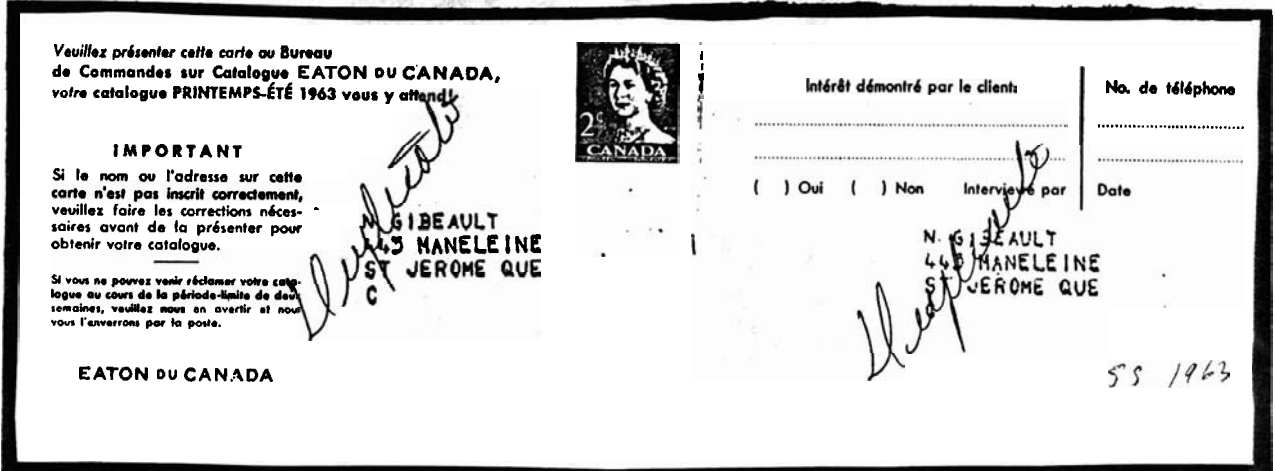
The marking is the usual toothed handstamp, and the initials can only be guessed at, perhaps "F.W." The envelope is EN504-10a, and bears the corner-imprint "Corporation of Point Grey/ Municipal Offices/ 5851 West Boulevard/ Vancouver, B.C."

George Manley

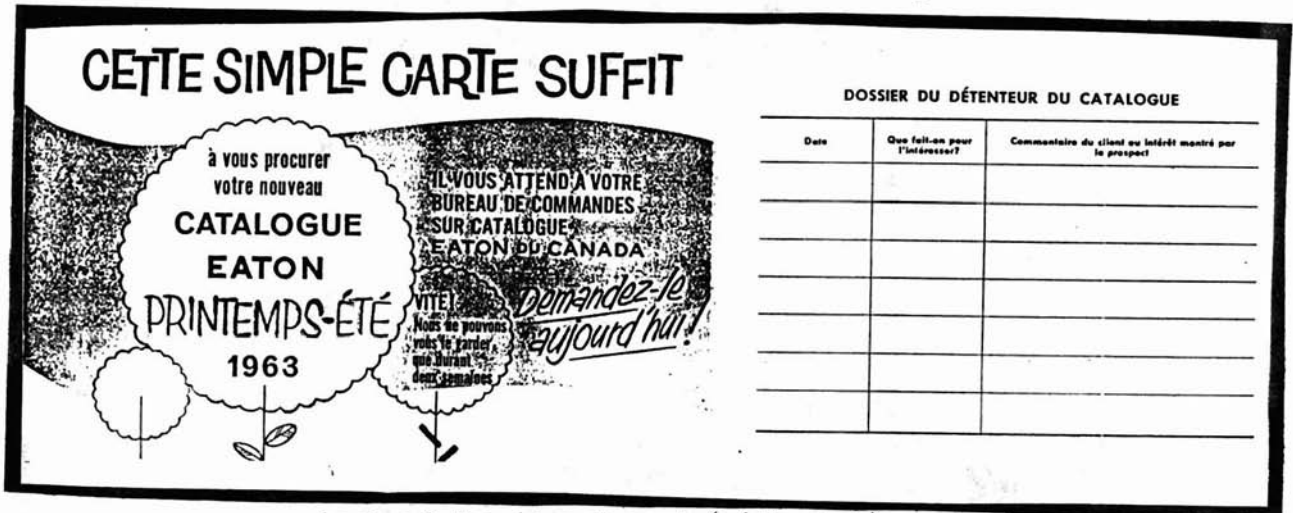
THREE NEWLY REPORTED EATON'S CARDS, INCLUDING TWO IN FRENCH

It has been some time since we made any additions to the list (PSN Vol. 3, pg. 39) of Eaton's private order post cards. In Vol. 4, pg. 28, we noted that Tom Flynn had reported a French language card for the 1965 Fall and Winter Catalogue. Now John Aitken and Earle Covert have reported two more

French language cards - for the 1962 Fall and Winter Catalogue and the 1963 Spring and Summer Catalogue (both Webb KP9le). Earle also reports an English language card for the 1966 Fall and Winter Catalogue (KP94m). John Aitken supplied a photocopy of the entire unused French card for Spring and Summer 1963, and this is shown below. The section at the right was obviously retained by the catalogue office as a book of stubs.



front of unused card with stub at the right



back of the unused card (with stub)

A VERY LARGE POST CARD

As postal stationery collectors, one problem we all have probably encountered is difficulties in mounting large pieces. At times I have had collectors mention that they restricted themselves to collecting the post cards because these are easy to put in albums. These collectors obviously do not have copies of the Autostrap private order card, Webb P26i.

Some time ago Horace Harrison sent along a photocopy of this scarce card. On the next page the front and back of the card are shown at slightly less than 50% of the original size! It is not very surprising that few of these cards have survived. The card was apparently an enclosure, and only the detachable post card portion was designed to enter the mail stream.

Webb P26i  
(front)

background in  
red, other  
printing in  
navy blue

See reverse side  
for post card  
order form

PROBAK

CANADA  
BUSINESS REPLY CARD

AutoStrop Safety Razor Co., Limited  
83 Duke Street  
Toronto, Canada

address in  
navy blue

PROBAK

DISTRIBUTED BY AUTOSTROP SAFETY RAZOR CO., Limited

**Extra Discounts for Displays**

The special discounts are allowed in return for a Probak display in your window. Attractive display material will be supplied FREE on request. If you have already purchased Probak, check request for Display on order form and it will be gladly forwarded prepaid to your address.

**Introductory Prices**

Special discounts subject to withdrawal or revision without notice

1 carton	\$6.66 per carton
	Special Discount 8% Net \$6.33
5 cartons	\$6.66 per carton
	Special Discount 7 1/2% Net \$6.16
10 cartons or more	\$6.66 per carton
	Special Discount 10% Net \$6.00

**THE PERFECT double edge BLADE**

**PRICE AGREEMENT AND ORDER FORM.**

The undersigned hereby acknowledges notice that Probak Safety Razor Blades are being offered for sale at a special introductory price of \$6.66 per carton (10 blades) or \$6.00 per carton (20 blades) for a limited period only at the retail price of \$11.00 for packages of 10 blades and \$6.00 for packages of 20 blades, and the undersigned hereby contracts and agrees to maintain the said price in consideration of being allowed to deal in and sell the said blades.

Please ship \_\_\_\_\_ Cartons PROBAK Blades 5's at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per Carton  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cartons PROBAK Blades 10's at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per Carton

Send me  Send complete set of Window Material. No charge.

Ship through (Jobber's Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_

Store Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

P26i (back): "PROBAK" and lines around boxes in red, all else is in navy blue