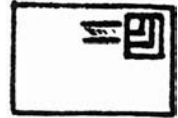
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## POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES

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Volume 9, No. 6

February 1991

**DUES:** This is the final issue of Volume 9 of Postal Stationery Notes. If a red "x" appears in this box  your 1991 Study Group fee (CAN\$5.00 or U.S. equivalent) is now due. If sending U.S. funds, please make out the cheque to "Robert Lemire", not to the Postal Stationery Study Group.

NEW STATIONERY RELEASED

With the first class domestic rate (30g) raised to 40¢ on January 1, 1991, and the first class international rate (20g) raised to 80¢, new #8 and #10 40¢ envelopes and an 80¢ aerogramme were released by Canada Post. No first day of issue has been announced, but the items were available in Winnipeg on January 12, and probably earlier.

As was the case for the 39¢ envelopes, the 40¢ envelopes each show three postal scales, but a different scale now appears in the foreground. Balloons appear again on the new aerogramme, but the design differs from that on the 78¢ aerogramme.

TWO NEWLY DISCOVERED VARIETIES OF OLDER PRIORITY POST ENVELOPES

It has always seemed to me that there was a fair chance of finding sub-varieties of the first and second issues of the "National" priority post envelopes, i.e., for the "overnight" envelopes and packs that do not bear a form date. In the absence of a form date, only careful examination would reveal minor changes in the envelopes. Recently, on examining two "overnight packs" with no "TM" symbol I found one had the telephone number of the Toronto office as 369-4987, the second had 973-3278. I then looked at the "overnight letters", but found only 369-4987 on copies without the "TM" symbol. However, there were two varieties of the letter with the "TM" symbol. One with the Toronto telephone number as 973-3278 and the other with 366-3278 (as on the "overnight pack" with "TM" symbol). The fun may not be over. The Toronto telephone number on the first dated pack (8/87) is 629-3278, i.e., different again from any of the others.

Robert Lemire

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\* Postal Stationery Notes is the newsletter of the BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group, \*  
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\* correspondence about the study group, should be addressed to Robert Lemire, Box 549, \*  
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A SEQUENTIAL OVERVIEW OF REGULAR ISSUE ADMIRAL POST CARDS  
(continued from Vol. 9, pg. 42)

Editor's Note: **CORRECTION** In the first part of this article, the heading for the Table on page 41 of PSN Vol. 9 (#5) should have read: 1914-1915: Non-French Headings. This error was introduced in the editing, and was not the fault of the author.

<u>1915: New 2¢ Domestic Rate (1¢ postage plus 1¢ War Tax)</u>			
10.	Webb P33e	2¢ carmine, type 6, die I	Jun. 7, 1915
11.	P33f/g	2¢ carmine, type 6, die II	Jul. 5, 1915
12.	P33i	2¢ carmine, type 8, die I	Jun. 25, 1915
13.	P33j/k	2¢ carmine, type 8, die II	Sept. 1, 1915
14.	P33c/n	2¢ carmine, type 3, (carmine), dies I & IA	May 31, 1915
15.	P33d	2¢ carmine, type 3, (carmine), die II	Jan. 25, 1916

With the April 15, 1915 War Tax imposition, any card carrying a personalized message now required a total payment of 2¢ instead of 1¢. This included not only ordinary handwritten messages, but also printed forms that required individually entered specific information of any significant amount (as, for example, an on-hand freight advice card or manufacturer's detailing of shipment of items to a customer).

As a result, new 2¢ cards were issued in all three categories - English headings, bilingual headings, and advertising headings. The stamp colour was carmine, as in the adhesives. Initially, die I was in general use, with die II phased in fairly quickly and die I cards phased out soon after (and once again, the likely reasons for this are beyond the intended scope of this outline).

The 2¢ carmine type 6 (#10 & #11) replaced #7 for personalized use by mid-1915. Although #10 was phased out relatively quickly, #11 remained in use until the colour change to green (#27), and shades and card stocks are worth pursuing.

The 2¢ carmine type 8 (#12 & #13) replaced #1 for personalized use, again by mid-1915. Although there is currently a two-month reporting gap before the appearance of the die II cards (#13), the die I cards (#12) seem to have seen very limited distribution, and even used copies are extremely scarce. Here too, #13 remained in use until the change to green (#28), occurring in various shades and stocks.

The 2¢ carmine type 3 (#14 & #15) replaced #8 for personalized use of advertising cards. A good example of this can be found in the railway view cards -- CPR after the War Tax imposition was able to use 1¢ cards (#8) for its earnings and expenses statements to shareholders, but needed 2¢ cards (#14 & #15) for such purposes as freight advice notices where individual information had to be filled in on the printed form. Both cards (#14 & #15) were produced with the heading and stamp printed simultaneously in carmine. The die I card (#14) is found with two die types noted in Webb's as dies I and IA. Because of customer complaints about the type 3 guideline, discussed later, #14 and #15 were replaced in the latter part of 1916 by #21.

1915: 1¢ Advertising Card - Colour Change

16. Webb P27c 1¢ green, type 3, (black), die I Nov. 30, 1915

When advertising post cards were first introduced (as part of the Maple Leaf Issue, in 1898), all domestic cards were 1¢. The decision to keep "regular" cards in the 1¢ adhesive colour, but produce advertising cards in carmine (the colour of the 3¢ and, soon after, the 2¢ letter rate adhesives), thus created no potential for confusion.

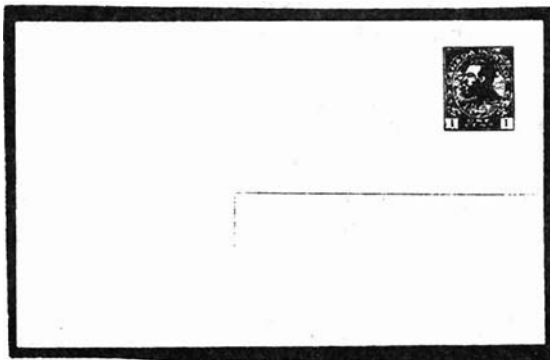
With the War Tax and the resultant 2¢ carmine post cards (#10 to #15), however, the situation changed. Now, 1¢ advertising cards (#8) and 2¢ (#14 & #15) looked very much alike. No doubt because of this, a decision was made to change the colour of the 1¢ advertising card to the standard green colour of the other 1¢ cards.

Although the plates used to produce #8 (with the stamp and heading together on the plate) could have been used to produce the new green cards, this was not done at first. Instead, it appears that sheets which had already been printed with the 1¢ green die I stamp - but without having any heading added - were pressed into use. These might have been remainders originally intended to have a type 6 heading added (#6), or overruns (or order cancellations) for "no-heading" private order cards (Webb KP27). In any event - and in a likely context of wartime shortages of papers and inks - it seems that an existing stock of stamp-printed sheets was pressed into use, requiring the addition of a type 3 heading. This heading was added in black.

This card was replaced by #18 - which had the heading printed in green along with the stamp - presumably because the stock of stamp-printed sheets was exhausted.

1916: Provisional CPR 1¢ Advertising Card

17. Webb P27e 1¢ green, type 4C, die I Aug. 2, 1916



type 3 (#17)

As detailed by Allan Steinhart in the September/October issue of BNA Topics (Vol. 33, #5, pg. 13-15), considerable dissatisfaction with the new type 3 heading was being expressed by major users within months of its introduction. CPR in September 1915, and GTR in November, wanted the two red lines removed, presumably because the vertical line at the left presented them with problems in positioning their own advertising and/or

addressing. Another user also returned 30,000 cards because of the vertical line.

It took some months for the American Bank Note Company and the Post Office to work out a solution (#20 & #21). In the meantime, two other type 3 cards (#18 & #19) were issued. CPR, however, - as the first, or loudest, or most important complainer - was apparently placated with a provisional issue of cards reverting to the discontinued type 4C (bilingual) heading.

The die I stamps on the CPR card (#17) are actually a different version of the die I than that found on #2, #6, #8 & #16 - clearly showing that #17 was produced from a new plate specifically made for this purpose. This clearly suggests that there were insufficient remaining stocks of the stamp-printed sheets used to produce #16, which is not surprising.

What the Post Office needed to satisfy CPR was an alternative to the type 3 heading. This meant that the plate or plates used to produce #8 - which carried the heading along with the stamp - were of no use. It further suggests that the plate or plates used to print the stamps for #2 and #6 - which had no heading on the stamp plate - were no longer usable. The type 2 heading (#20 & #21), printed along with the stamp, had not yet been approved. Thus, a new plate for the stamps had to be prepared, and a separate heading solution then had to be applied.

One reasonable question is why CPR was not simply supplied with cards with no heading, as had been done on a private order basis for the Hospital for Sick Children since the Maple Leaf Issue. It may be that officious minds found this solution unacceptable, or that some remaining stock of sheets with the abandoned type 4C heading which had never had stamps added was still in inventory - we will probably never know with certainty. Whatever the specifics may eventually prove to have been, the Post Office provided CPR with one or more shipments of cards displaying the old heading but the current 1¢ green stamp. These were apparently used by CPR exclusively for the production of railway view cards carrying earnings and expenses statements in late 1916 and early 1917.

(Collectors may wonder why this is not catalogued as a private order card. The reason is that the user, CPR, did not request this particular solution of a type 4C heading - but only an end to the limitation of the right angle type 3 heading. The result was a card using a standard though discontinued heading and a standard stamp, at the discretion of the Post Office).

1916?: 1¢ Green Advertising Cards with Green Headings

18.	Webb P271	1¢ green, type 3, (green), die I	Jan. 29, 1917
19.	P27d	1¢ green, type 3, (green), die II	Mar. 16, 1917

These two cards are among the rarest items of Canadian postal stationery. I know of only three copies of #19, and one of #18. I believe they were already produced by mid-1916, around the time of the CPR provisional issue (#17), and used to fill advertising card orders for firms which were anticipating their own inventory needs. The following notes represent only my own present hypotheses about these cards.

Apparently the available stock of stamp-printed sheets requiring the addition of a type 3 heading (#16) was finally exhausted. American Bank Note had at least one order to meet, and filled it using a plate that had printed #8 (but of course now in green). This resulted in #18. The heading was printed with the stamp and, thus, required only one press run. The only known copy was used by the firm of Wm. Croft & Sons in January 1917, presumably as it worked through their inventory - but of course they may have begun using it some months earlier.

For reasons again beyond the scope of this outline. American Bank Note at this point discontinued use of all die I varieties, and they never reappear. Thus, #18 had only the briefest of lives, and barring some fortuitous find this card is likely to remain a major Canadian rarity.

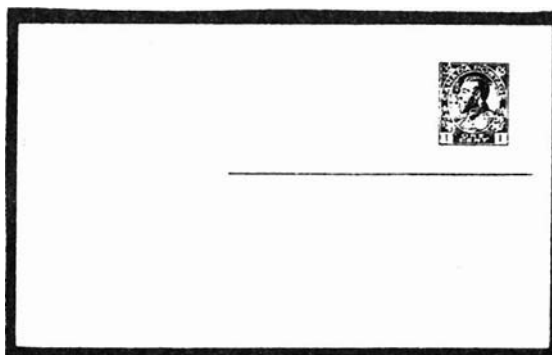
American Bank Note's problems with 1¢ advertising cards were not yet over, however. At least one more order - probably of some size - was placed by American Express. This must have been filled after die I was discontinued, but before the new type 2 heading was approved, because it was met with the production of #19 - a die II stamp (the new "standard" stamp) coupled with the last gasp of the type 3 heading. Both known copies were used by American Express, with the earlier one dated in March 1917 - but almost surely produced many months earlier, since type 2 heading approval came in June 1916. Unlike #18, a new plate was obviously required for #19 - a plate which the Bank Note Company had to know would be shortly superannuated by Post Office approval of the proposed new type 2 heading.

Had users (including the large and influential railways) not complained about the type 3 heading, #19 would have become the standard advertising card and remained in use until the colour change to orange. Instead, it was replaced (probably in weeks or even days) by #20.

1916-17?: New Advertising Card Heading

20.	Webb P27a/b	1¢ green, type 2, die II	Jan. 23, 1917
21.	P33a/b	2¢ carmine, type 2, die II	Sept. 18, 1916

As described in the Steinhart article already cited, Post Office approval of an acceptable type 2 heading (which was actually contingent upon CPR approval) was given to American Bank Note on June 9, 1916. Production of the new cards undoubtedly began very rapidly.



type 2 (#20)



NEW PRIVATE ORDER PRIORITY POST AND SPECIAL LETTER ENVELOPES

Recent issues of the "Bulletin", distributed by Canada Post, note the use of several interesting items prepared to Private Order. One is a priority Post Pack bearing the "Esso" logo. Although the "Bulletin" lists the size as 31mm x 38.5mm, it is safe to assume the size is actually 300mm x 385mm. Special Letter envelopes have been printed for the Federal and Ontario Provincial Governments. For the former the CPC emblem is replaced by maple leaves, for the latter by trilliums. The Federal Government envelopes are available in two sizes, 254mm x 329mm and 140mm x 245mm. Like the normal Special Letter Envelopes, they are available printed in blue or red. The red envelopes are for mailings within a province (not necessarily to an address with the same first letter in the postal code) and the blue envelopes are for mailings to another province. The Ontario envelopes ("Go Letters") are available only in one size, 254mm x 359mm, but both red and blue envelopes exist. Dick Staecker has reported a used copy of the red Ontario "Go Letter" and notes the use of green ink around the trilliums. Has anyone seen used copies of the other items?

Robert Lemire

THE DEFINITION OF POSTAL STATIONERY - MORE FROM THE FIP

In PSN Vol. 9, pg. 14, I raised the issue as to whether the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP) was keeping up-to-date with current advances in the nature of prepaid stationery used by modern postal administrations. Thus, I was surprised, but pleasantly so, to find a copy of updated "FIP Postal Stationery Commission Guidelines" published in the September/October issue of the "Canadian Philatelist" (Vol. 41, pg. 394). The following note was of particular interest.

"N.B. Whilst traditionally the presence of a printed stamp impression has been fundamental to an item being generally accepted within the definition of postal stationery (vide SREV Article 2), a number of countries issued so-called "Formula" items which were sold to the public bearing postage stamps, prior to the issue of postal stationery items with impressed stamps. More recently a growing number of Postal Administrations have introduced postal stationery which, while sold to the public at a specific price, merely indicates that a particular service/postage rate has been prepaid without any indication of value termed "non value indicator" (NVI). Such material would of course be appropriately included in collections and exhibits of postal stationery. The position regarding items which are similar or identical in format to normal postal stationery, but which do not bear either a stamp impression or an indication of value or service is more open to debate, and at the present time, exhibits consisting entirely of such unstamped items are probably best shown out of competition in FIP International Exhibition. The situation is however, a developing one and the Commission may well wish to produce further guidance on this aspect in due course."

From this it can be seen that, for purposes of FIP exhibition, such items as the Canadian Priority Post envelopes, Special Letter envelopes and the later Certified Mail forms are now considered to be postal stationery.

#### A DOUBLE SURCHARGE THAT PROBABLY ISN'T

Wayne Menuz has forwarded an interesting photocopy from a recent Robson Lowe booklet entitled "The Watson Postcards". Wayne writes:

"George Watson was a prominent dealer (and, I believe collector) of postal cards for about twenty years, starting in the mid-1880's. He published the magazine "The Post Card" from 1889 until 1894. In it he chronicled each new issue, and started a serial listing of the postal cards of the world."

The figure in the booklet, according to its printed caption, shows a copy of Newfoundland Webb P5 with a double surcharge. As can be seen from the photocopy, below, the identification is open to dispute.



The top bar of the left surcharge extends slightly further to the left than the bottom bar. As pictured in Webb's 5th edition the bottom bar should extend slightly to the left of the top bar - the reverse is true for "FAKE #1". However, the top bar does not extend quite as far to the left past the lower bar as that on "FAKE #1" shown in Webb's. The word "CENTS" on the right surcharge extends well to the right of the upper bars - again like "FAKE #1" and unlike the "GENUINE" surcharge. Also, the shape of the "2" of "2 CENTS" more closely resembles that shown as "FAKE #1".

It is not certain from the photocopy that the "double surcharge" copy is a fake, however, the photocopy certainly suggests that to be probable. If it is a fake, it has probably been around for almost a century, and the surcharge does not seem to be identical to either fake noted in Webb's. I would be interested in starting a survey, and receiving photocopies of all known fake copies of Newfoundland P5.

Robert Lemire



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