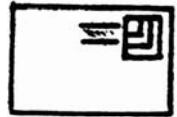
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## POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES

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Volume 10, No. 3July 1991

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STUDY GROUP MEETING WILL BE HELD AT BNAPEX

The Postal Stationery Study Group will hold its annual meeting as part of BNAPEX'91 at the Bayshore Inn in Vancouver. We will be meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday August 31st. A major topic for discussion will be "Postal Stationery - What Can We Find From The Post Office Archives? "

FORMULA AIR LETTER SHEETS

The unstamped (formula) air letter sheets of Canada can be divided into three categories.

- 1) air letter forms identical to regularly issued aerogrammes (including: knife, printing and gumming) except for the absence of a printed stamp impression
- 2) unstamped forms (aerogramme forerunners) available from the post office for use by the general public for mailing at the airmail rate, and without use of the form being restricted to mailings from or to military personnel
- 3) military air letter sheets for mailings from or to military personnel

Recently Pierre Gauthier asked whether anyone had compiled a list of these unstamped forms. The military mail collectors have been gathering information on forms of type 3 for many years (e.g., the articles of R.H. Webb in the Canadian Philatelist, Vol. 12, pg. 135 and 207), but information on the other types is much harder to find.

In the October 1960 issue of BNA Topics (pg. 229) H.M. Daggett reported on the availability of unstamped Canadian air letter forms from the Post Office Department. He quoted from a letter from the Post Office Department to the effect that after stamped forms were issued in 1947, there was a continuing demand from commercial firms for unstamped forms.

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\* 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. \*

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"Originally those inquiring about unstamped aerogrammes were referred to the printing firm that held the contract for the manufacture of aerogrammes for the Government. This printing firm would sell unstamped forms in lots of 1000."

"When the current design aerogramme was introduced in 1953, the Post Office Department accepted many thousands without postage stamp impressions and sold them to commercial firms in lots of 1000."

The new design forms, sold after July 4, 1960, were available at a price of \$8.78 per thousand. Mr. Daggett purchased some of the 1960 forms, and made them available to other collectors at a nominal price.

Copies of the early manufacturers' forms (1947 to 1953) probably exist, in some cases possibly not identified as such in collections of "proofs" for the corresponding issues of the prestamped forms. Also, I have seen unused copies of the later unstamped air letter forms corresponding to Webb A21 (the 1953 issue) and A25 (the 1960 issue).

This leaves several unanswered questions. What "manufacturers'" forms are extant? Were there any unstamped forms issued that correspond to the aerogrammes Webb A22, A23 and A24? Was the sheet corresponding to A25 the last unstamped air letter sheet regularly sold by the Post Office? Has anyone ever seen a copy of any of these forms showing proper commercial use, with the postage paid by an adhesive or meter impression?

As for forms of type 1, I have at least four different types of unstamped Canadian air letter sheets. However, I do not have enough information to distinguish between letter sheets prepared for Post Office distribution and those sold privately. Furthermore, some types of military air letter sheets were apparently authorized for civilian use. Would any member of the study group having information on the type 1 formula air letter sheets, please contact me at the address on page 19. Photocopies showing the printing and knives would be particularly welcome as would reports of postmarked copies.

Robert Lemire

ARCHIVES RECORDS PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE REPLY CARDS OF  
LA COOPERATIVE D'ELECTRICITE DE BONAVENTURE - AND MORE

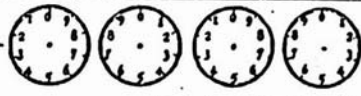



In PSN Vol. 6, (pg. 14) we showed a photocopy of an unusual 1st Karsh Issue 2¢ + 2¢ reply card used by La Coopérative d'Electricité de Bonaventure. The card has the usual reply card headings, but the message and reply halves are attached at the side rather than at the top. At the time I raised the question as to whether these cards were prepared to private order or prepared by cutting the cards from sheet stock.

Recently, thanks to Tom Hillman, I had the opportunity to examine a relevant file (RG3 acc. 86-87/396, Box 63, file 13-19-21) in the Canadian Postal Archives. In 1957, La Coopérative d'Electricité de Gaspé Sud made an enquiry about obtaining some 2¢ +2¢ reply cards to be folded lengthwise. These were to be used by a group of four Quebec electricity cooperatives:

- La Coopérative d'Electricité de Bonaventure
- La Coopérative d'Electricité de Gaspé Sud
- La Coopérative d'Electricité de Gaspé Nord
- La Coopérative d'Electricité des Iles de la Madeline.

After it was established by the cooperatives that the cards could not be prepared except as a special order (Letters in the file indicate the only way the cards could have been printed on normal size stock would have led to difficulties in cutting the large printer's sheets.), an order was placed for 130,000 2¢ + 2¢ cards (26,000 5-on sheets). The only printing on these cards done by the Canadian Bank Note Company was the stamp impression and standard headings. The cards were shipped in November 1957. The printing of the meter reading forms (apparently different forms for each of the cooperatives) and the rouletting between the halves of the cards were done locally after shipment of the order to La Coopérative d'Electricité de Gaspé Sud.

A second order, for 162,000 cards (54,000 sheets printed 3-on) was shipped in June 1959. The First Karsh Issue card previously reported by Earle Covert (shown below) is dated April 1961, and is probably from this printing.

<p>S.V.P. Inscrivez la lecture de votre compteur dans les cercles pour cadran à aiguilles ou dans les carrés pour cadran cyclomètre.</p> <p>Please write down your meter reading in the circles for needle-meter or in the squares for cyclometer meter.</p> <p>Cadran - Aiguilles Needle Meter → </p> <p>Cyclomètre — Cyclometer </p> <p>M. Donat Bélanger, St-Jogues, Cté Bonaventure, P.Q. Client No 1303</p> <p>Date de la lecture Reading Date → <u>30 Avril 1961</u>      <u>April 30th 1961</u></p>	<p>CANADA. POST CARD - CARTE POSTALE.</p>  <p><i>Wade's reply card</i></p> <p>M. Donat Bélanger, St-Jogues, Cté Bonaventure, P.Q. Client No 1303</p> <p><u>30 Avril 1961</u>      <u>April 30th 1961</u></p>
<p><b>IMPORTANT</b></p> <p>S.V.P. DETACHER CETTE PARTIE &amp; MALLER L'AUTRE AVANT CINQ JOURS PENALITE de \$1.00 POUR CARTE NON-RETOURNEE DANS LE TEMPS ALLOUE.</p> <hr/> <p>PLEASE TEAR OFF THIS PART &amp; MAIL THE OTHER ONE WITHIN FIVE DAYS. PENALTY OF \$1.00 FOR CARD NOT RETURNED IN TIME ALLOWED.</p>	<p>CANADA. REPLY POST CARD - CARTE POSTALE RÉPONSE.</p>  <p>La Coopérative d'Electricité de Bonaventure</p> <p><b>C.P. 200, Bonaventure, Qué.</b></p>

By the time the next order was placed, the Post Office contract for post cards was held by the British American Bank Note Company. In May 1961 180,000 cards (60,000 3-on sheets) were prepared and shipped. The fourth and final order, for 195,000 cards (65,000 3-on sheets) was shipped in April of 1963. It is likely the 2¢ + 2¢ reply cards from these two printings bore 2¢ second Karsh impressions.

It appears that at least eight different reply cards should exist (First Karsh and (probably) Second Karsh cards printed for the four different electricity cooperatives). So far, however, only the one First Karsh variety has been reported.

Robert Lemire

AN INTERESTING VARIETY ON EN543-15

Pierre Gauthier recently forwarded photocopies of two copies of Webb EN543-15 (the #8 white envelope bearing the 5¢ Wilding stamp impression) each with a printed address to "THE BARRETT COMPANY, LIMITED./ 5551 ST. HUBERT STREET,/ MONTREAL 34, QUE.". Although the knives for the two envelopes are very similar (perhaps identical), one envelope was gummed by the plunger method, the other by the roller method. The Wilding die was used at the same period the bulk of the regular issue envelopes were being printed with the first Karsh die, and the period of production of these regular issue envelopes encompassed the changeover at Public Printing and Stationery from the plunger gumming method to the roller gumming method. Based on Pierre's envelopes, other envelope manufacturers were making similar changes during the same period.

MORE ON WEBB EN37

In PSN Vol. 10, No. 1 (pg. 8) I suggested copies of the Post Office order forms might clarify whether EN37 and EN26a were used contemporaneously. I now have been able to examine copies of Post Office form No 36 1/2 P M. dated 30-11-25 (used Dec. 1, 1926) and 14-3-28 (used July 22, 1929). These forms both list 1¢ large stamped envelopes (presumably EN26a) at \$1.28 per 100 and 1¢ large stamped envelopes, manila paper (presumably EN37) at \$1.20 per 100. This demonstrates the two envelopes were available at the same time, the manila envelope providing a saving to the user of 2/25¢ per envelope. The earlier form suggests we may yet be able to push back the ERP for EN37 (currently Nov. 21, 1927) by as much as two years.

Robert Lemire

THE VETERANS AFFAIRS HOUSING CARD

The official 1¢ + 1¢ card reply card, DKP67f, was prepared to special order for the Department of Veterans Affairs - probably shortly after World War II. It was used for a survey to determine the adequacy of living accommodations found by the veterans. This is quite a scarce card and, thanks to Bill Walton, we are able to illustrate it here. The message and the prestamped portion of the reply half are shown on the next page. The survey (inverted) and the address portion of the message half are shown reduced to 60% on the following page.

TO EX-MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

This form is NOT an application for the purchase or rent of a house or other living accommodation.

The Department of Veterans Affairs, however, does require accurate and complete information on the housing situation of veterans. The information requested on the attached card will help provide an accurate picture so that recommendations may be made to the proper authorities.

Information available at the present time is vague and incomplete. By filling out this questionnaire you will be helping to create a clear picture of the veterans housing situation in your area. Your co-operation is also requested in drawing these cards to the attention of veteran friends who are unsatisfactorily housed. Ask them to write or call at the office of the Superintendent of Rehabilitation to complete a questionnaire. Your co-operation will be appreciated by the

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

PLEASE COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON REVERSE SIDE OF THE CARD BELOW—  
DETACH AND PLACE IN ANY MAIL BOX.



THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF REHABILITATION,  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS,

717 GRANVILLE STREET,

VANCOUVER, B.C.

SURVEY-LIVING ACCOMMODATION-EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL (DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS)

1. Number \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. Address \_\_\_\_\_ Rented \_\_\_\_\_ Owned \_\_\_\_\_

A. PRESENT HOUSING (PLEASE CHECK APPLICABLE ITEMS BELOW)

4. House \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment \_\_\_\_\_ Flat \_\_\_\_\_

5. How long occupied? \_\_\_\_\_

6. If rented, rental per month \_\_\_\_\_

7. Are the following present? Furnace \_\_\_\_\_ Heating Stoves \_\_\_\_\_ Mechanical Refrigeration \_\_\_\_\_ Ice Box \_\_\_\_\_ Running Water \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you share with others than your own household the following: Electric Light \_\_\_\_\_

9. Bath or Shower \_\_\_\_\_ Cooking Facilities \_\_\_\_\_ Flush Toilet \_\_\_\_\_

10. Your occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly Salary \_\_\_\_\_

11. How many children in your household? \_\_\_\_\_

B. HOUSING DESIRED (CHECK APPLICABLE SPACES BELOW)

12. Do you want to buy \_\_\_\_\_ build \_\_\_\_\_ or rent \_\_\_\_\_ a house? \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment \_\_\_\_\_ Flat \_\_\_\_\_

Housekeeping Rooms \_\_\_\_\_ Single Room \_\_\_\_\_ Furnished \_\_\_\_\_ Unfurnished \_\_\_\_\_


How many Rooms \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children \_\_\_\_\_

13. If buying or building, what down payment could you make? \_\_\_\_\_

14. If renting, what monthly rental could you pay? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Add any comments you wish re housing conditions. \_\_\_\_\_

TO:



DKP66f - survey (inverted) and the address portion of the message half (60%)

A COPY OF NEWFOUNDLAND P4 WITH AN ILLUSTRATION ON THE BACK

This copy of Newfoundland P4, postmarked St. John's (June 20, 1902) is the only example I have ever seen of Newfoundland illustrated postal stationery. I acquired it last March at the Garfield-Perry show in Cleveland, and thought other members might find it interesting.

As can easily be seen, this view is number 10, indicating that at least nine others once existed - but were they all on Newfoundland cards, or was this an international set of some sort? I have a vague recollection that the Atlas Society printed and distributed missionary tracts, and if so, may well have printed and sold cards showing views from various countries. Do any members know anything about the Atlas Society?

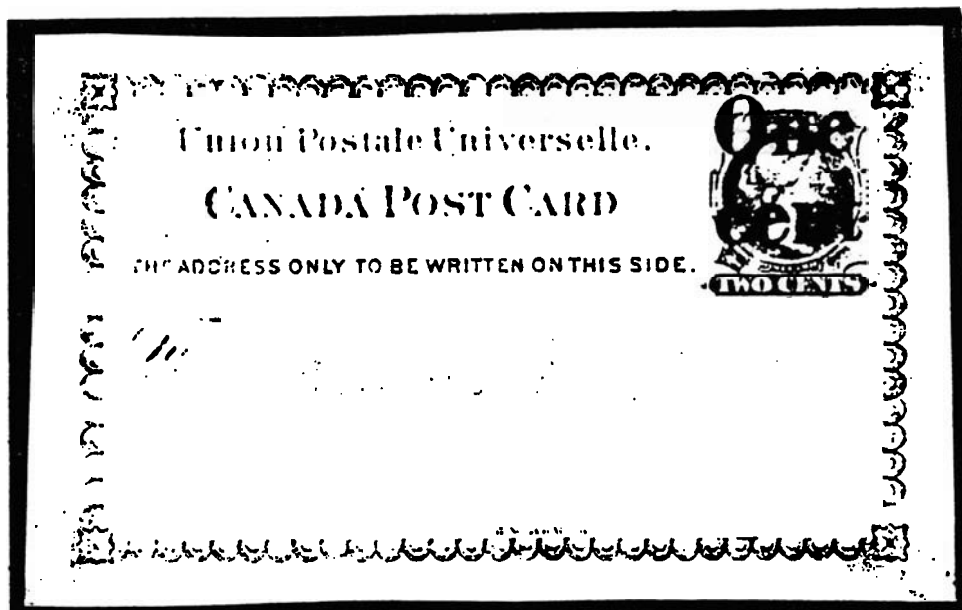
On the other hand, if there were other views from Newfoundland in this series, where are they today? Can anyone shed any light on this or similar cards? Between our group and the Newfoundland group, we may be able to unearth some additional information, and if so we'll share it with the membership.

Bill Walton



AN IMPROBABLE SURCHARGE

Some months ago, in a small lot of material, I acquired an old-time photo reproduction of the surcharged UPU card shown below. It was on the old soft paper many members will recall - the type that yellows with age - and it was very yellowed. It was cut to the approximate size of the issued cards.



On the back, in ballpoint and in the shaky hand of an elderly person, is the two-line notation "Donald Eberhardt/Wichita Ks.". As best can be told, the card appears to be from plate 1, probably issued prior to 1892.

There is a very high probability that this is just a forgotten bit of philatelic foolishness. It did set me to thinking a bit, however.

The first UPU card (Webb P4) was around in very substantial quantities, and remained in widespread use until the late 1890's. Despite this, a substantial portion of cards to UPU destinations were 1¢ cards with an added 1¢ adhesive. Is it possible that at one time the Post Office toyed with the idea of reducing a perceived surplus of UPU cards by revaluing a portion of them to 1¢?

On balance this seems unlikely to me, for several reasons. First, at no point does there appear to have been a shortage of 1¢ cards. Second, no reference to such an idea has ever been unearthed in Post Office records to my knowledge. And third, any serious effort at such a revalue would almost certainly have included two bars, one to obliterate the UPU heading and one to delete the original "TWO CENTS" value tablet.

The first two points are debatable bases for a conclusion, but the third - the nature of the surcharge itself - seems compelling to me.

Do any members have any information or thoughts about this card?

Bill Walton



# PSSG MARKETPLACE

July 1991

WANTED: 1930 view card series, offer \$340 + postage for mint set of 70 views. List of single views available welcome.

Dr. Peter Steinkamp,  
Wesselstraat 1a,  
2000 Hamburg 65, Germany

WANTED TO BUY:

Mint 3-on's of P43e, P52e, P62f, P66f, P66g, P66p, P74c, P83i, P87b, P89b, P94j, P99b, P107k

John Aitken, P.O. Box 241  
Lambeth, ON, NOL 1S0

- WANTED TO BUY: In very fine mint and used
- 1930 sepia views #104, 106, 155, 257, 259, 303, 304, 351 461, 504, 508; all at double Webb.
  - Railway cards depicting themes: bridges, waterfalls, fishing, hunting; all at full Webb.
  - Attractive advertising postal cards/envelopes before 1954

Dr. Steinkamp, Wesselstraat 1A, 2000 Hamburg 65, Germany

FREE PRICE LISTS of Canadian Postal Stationery, books on collectibles, history and collectable books, as well as stamps.

H. Kahlmeier  
P.O. Box 2394  
Kitchener, ON  
N2H 6M3

WANTED: MOODS (Money Order Office Datestamps) on stationery, 1928 - 1940.

Hank Narbonne  
216 Mailey Drive  
Carleton Place, ON  
K7C 3X9

I wish to purchase copies of the letters cards L1 - L8 used with printed bank forms between August 1897 and May 1898. Please write stating price to: Robert Lemire  
Box 549, Pinawa, MB, Canada,  
ROELL@

HELP WANTED

PSSG member to prepare the PSSG MARKETPLACE 2-3 times per year.

Please write to:  
Robert Lemire  
Box 549, Pinawa, MB,  
Canada ROE 1L0.

PSSG MARKETPLACE WILL BE ENCLOSED WITH PSN FROM TIME-TO-TIME DEPENDING ON MEMBERSHIP DEMAND

THIS SPACE \$1.00

WANTED Toronto Polling Cards for 1925, 1926 and 1927, probably on P29f. Also by-election Feb. 1929 on P29b or P29q.

George Manley, 11 Bonnets Lane,  
Wareham, Dorset BH20 4HB, U.K.