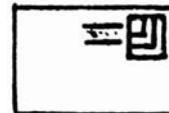


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POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES

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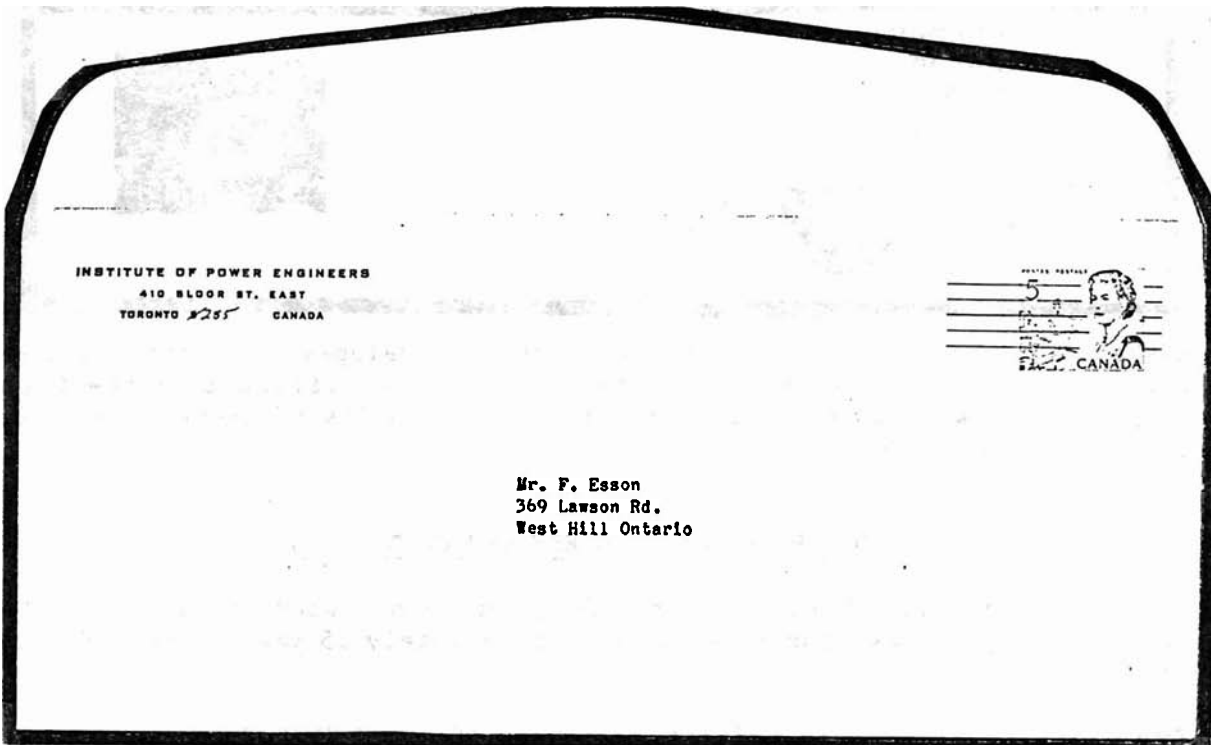


Volume 10, No. 5

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A NEW MAJOR TYPE OF CENTENNIAL SPECIAL ORDER ENVELOPE

John Aitken has written to report the recent discovery of a 5¢ precancelled Centennial Issue special order envelope. The envelope, a reduced photocopy of which is shown below, is a #10 cross-flap type with a distinctly different knife than the corresponding regular issue envelope (Webb EN85e). Also, the special order envelope does not have the "PULL OPEN FOR POSTAL INSPECTION" notice printed on the back of the regular issue 3rd class Centennial Issue envelopes.



The envelope was used by the Institute of Power Engineers, the same organization responsible for the 2nd Karsh Issue 2¢ #10 envelope without an inspection notice, EN544-40a. This is the first reported 5¢ precancel special order envelope, and will be assigned a separate major catalogue number in the next edition of Webb's.

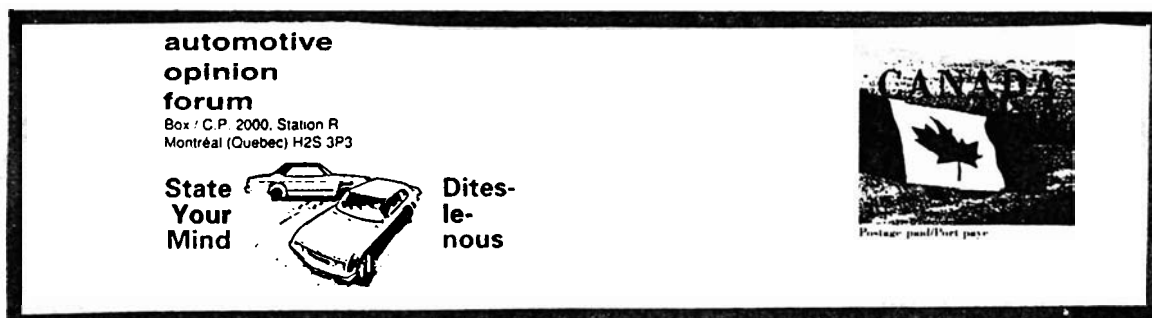
- * Postal Stationery Notes is the newsletter of the BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group, *
- * and is edited by Robert Lemire. All information for the newsletter, and *
- * correspondence about the study group, should be addressed to Robert Lemire, Box 549, *
- * Pinawa, MB, Canada R0E 1L0. *

PRINTING ERROR REPORTED

Earle Covert has reported the discovery of a copy of the current #10 regular issue 40¢ envelope with the red printing omitted.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL SPECIAL ORDER ENVELOPES AND CARDS?

The picture below appeared in the Canada Post "Bulletin", Vol. 20, No. 21, pg. 20 together with the following information: "A pilot program has been created for COS Information Inc. of Montreal, where envelopes and postcards have been preprinted with a valid postage stamp. The full colour version of the Quickstick Flag shows no denomination, bears a Postage Paid caption, and is recognizable by the printed security screen along the right side of the indicia. Postage on the 130,000 envelopes and the 270,000 postcards is prepaid at Head Office, and they will entered (sic) the mail stream started 1991.09.19."



Has anyone received copies of these cards or envelopes? Pierre Gauthier and Denis Cottin have been in contact with senior officers of the firm involved, and we look forward to reporting the results of their efforts in a future issue of PSN.

NOTES ON THE BABNC 2¢ GREEN UPU CARD (WEBB P4)

The first Canadian UPU card was the 2¢ green card listed in Webb's as P4. It was in regular use for a period of approximately 15 years, from 1879 to 1896.

Two plates were used to print these cards ("A" and "B"); both were of 10 subjects (2 x 5). Although none has been noted, I assume there were plate numbers somewhere in the margins. Both plates exist in two states.

It appears that the same transfer was used to lay down both plates. There are a number of constant flaws in the design of the card, especially in the ornate frame. As originally engraved, the frame lines (particularly the inner frame lines along most of the left side and bottom) are weak and irregular.

On plate "A" (pg. 38), the only guideline I've seen is a vertical line along the left edge, quite far from the subjects - this has been noted for cards from the second state, but it may have been present earlier.

Plate "B" (pg. 39, the positions have been numbered from 11 to 20 in the figure to distinguish them from positions on plate A) has a vertical guideline down the centre and a doubled vertical guideline down the left edge - both of these lines are present in both states. There is, at least in the second state, a strong horizontal rule across the bottom of the plate, quite close to the subjects; there may be a horizontal line across the top. There appears to be no line down the right side of the plate, although there is a short bit of a strong, doubled vertical rule at the extreme upper-right corner of the sheet, that stops short of the top of subject #2.

The plates have slightly differing systems of guide dots. Generally there is a dot in the vertical gutter between horizontal pairs of subjects; in some cases, there may be several. There is a guide dot below the centre of each subject (which is actually closer to the card below), and there is a dot in the centre of each subject. On both plates, there are additional guide dots; see the plate diagrams following.

Earliest dates given in the following paragraphs represent the earliest dates that I have seen so far for each of the states; all of these can probably be pushed back substantially when more dated cards are examined.

Plate "A", 1st state: (earliest^(a): 25 Sept. 1879)

All subjects:

1. 4th full scallop from left at top is unbroken.

2. the inner frame lines and corner ornaments are retouched.

Five of the ten subjects have double-entries; most are minor, but subject #3 is quite strongly doubled in places, and could easily be called the "major re-entry" of the issue.

Plate "A", 2nd state: (earliest: 10 Sept. 1886)

All ten subjects have the stamp re-entered; #7 is the most striking example of this. Subject #3 (the major re-entry of the first state) shows additional new doubling (re-entry) in other parts of the design.

Plate "B", 1st state: (earliest^(b): 23 July 1892)

All subjects:

1. 4th full scallop from left at top has a clear break (on subject #17, there is a trace of the missing line).

2. generally, the inner frame lines are not retouched.

Several subjects have partial double entries, but none is at all spectacular.

Plate "B", 2nd state: (earliest^(b): 11 July 1895)

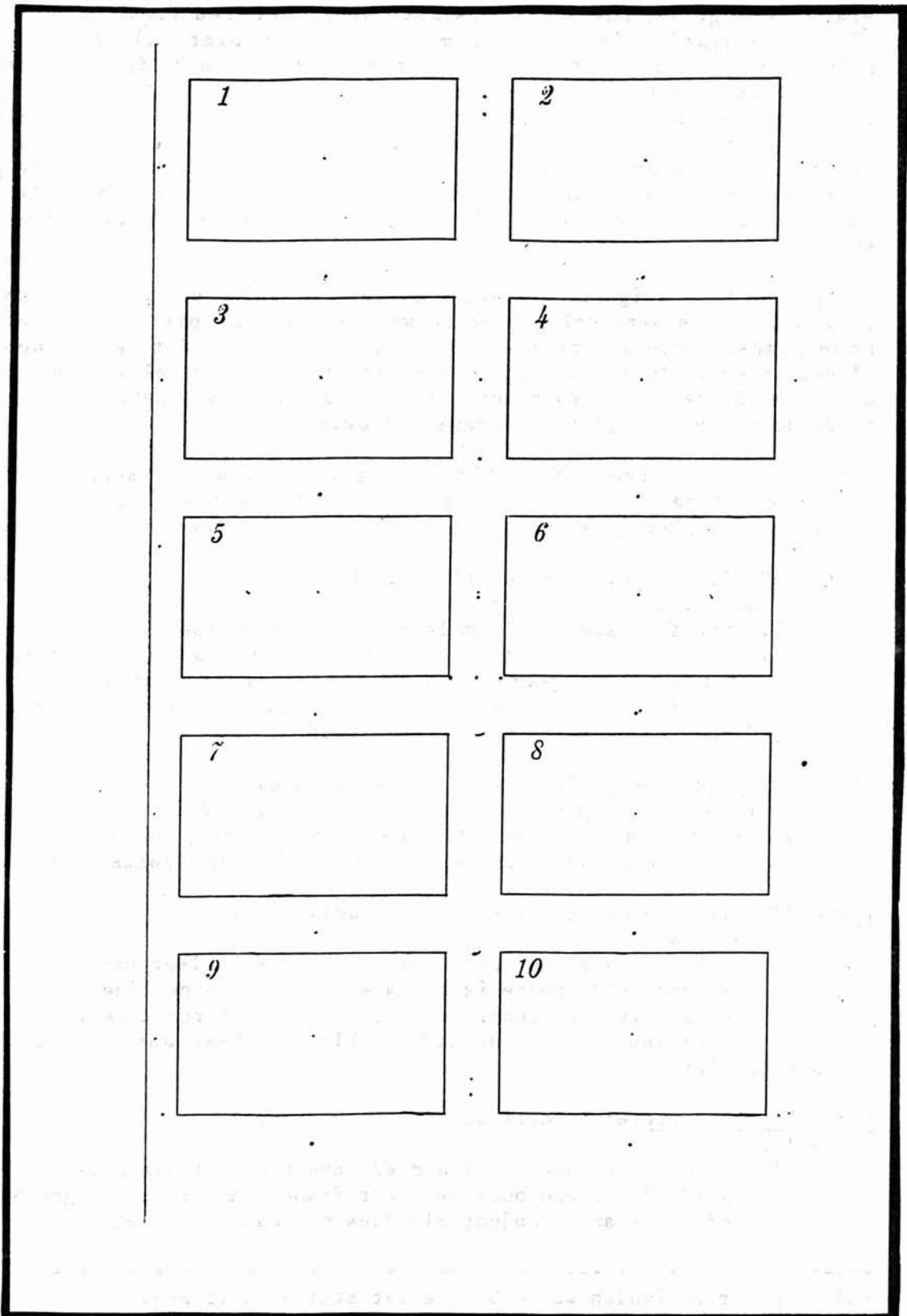
All subjects:

1. stamp re-entered; #17 and #20 are the best examples.

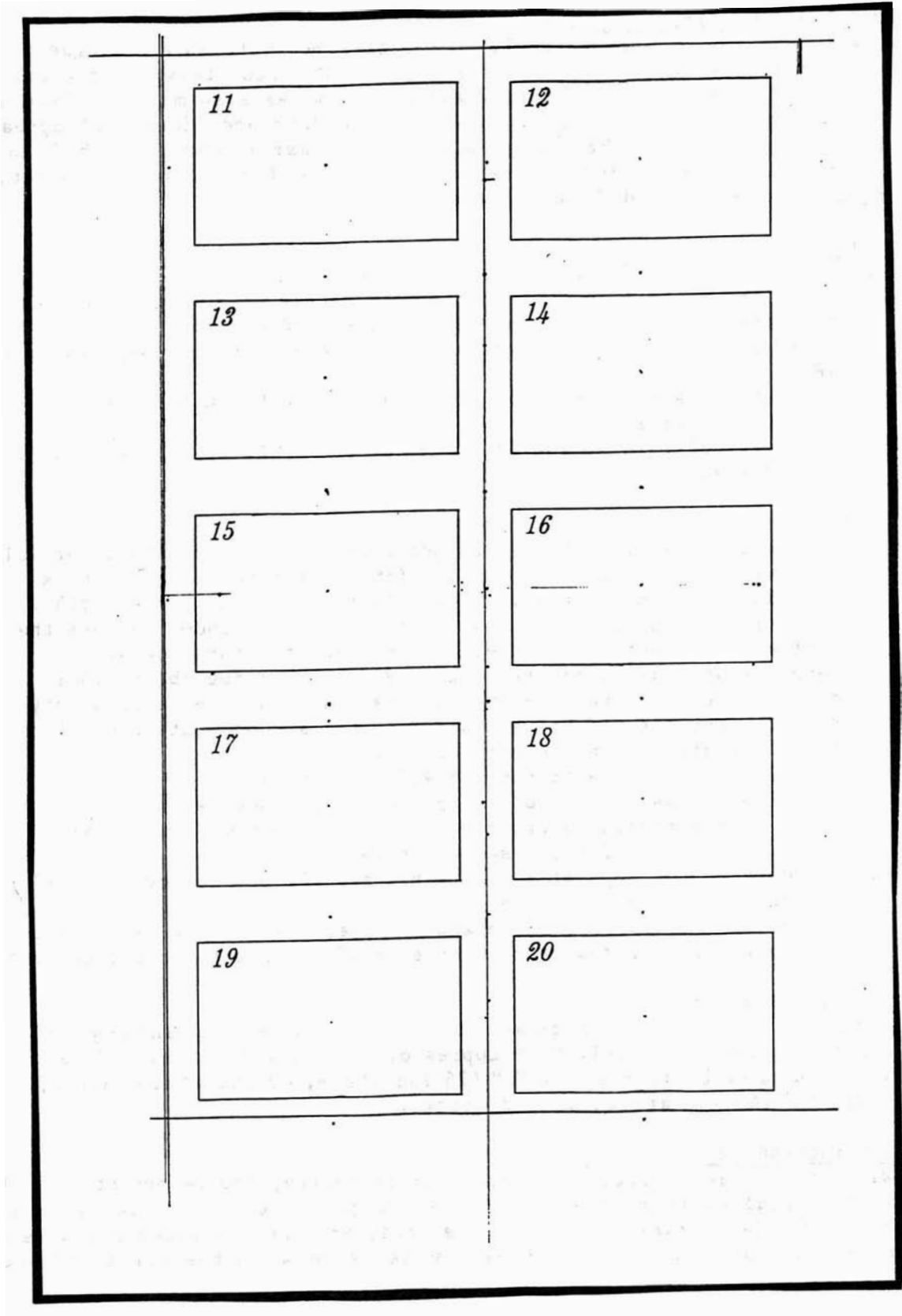
2. guide dot added outside outer frame line, to the right bottom of the stamp (subject #17 does not have this dot).

(a) ERP for P4 (which would be the 1st state) is 15 Aug. 1879.

(b) Walton (PSN, Vol. 3, pg. 9) gives dates of 1891 and 1894, respectively, for the 1st and 2nd states of plate "B"



Webb P4 - Plate A



Webb P4 - Plate B

Notes on the Plate Diagrams

These diagrams are not entirely to scale; some features are exaggerated to show at this reduced scale (editor's note: Unfortunately, in the printing process for the newsletter, some extraneous marks also may have been added to the figures). The goal is to show guide dots and lines that appear to be intentional, rather than all of the marks that are helpful in identifying subjects (which are usually simply damage, such as scratches, that occurred through handling the plates).

Plate A

1. There is no dot in the centre of subject #7.
2. There are no dots to the right of the middle of subjects #6, #8 nor #10; there is no dot to the left of the middle of subject #5.
3. There is no guide dot in the vertical gutter between subjects #7 and #8.
4. The curved marks at the top of the gutters between subjects #7/#8 and #9/#10 are fairly faint.
5. The vertical rule at the left edge of the plate is seen only in the second state.

Plate B

1. The horizontal line through subjects #15 and #16 is always partially present, even in the second state (though fainter later); it is especially strong at the left end (left of "To" on subject #15).
2. There is also a very faint horizontal rule (not shown) across the bottom of subjects #15 and #16, connecting the three dots.
3. Second state, all subjects (except #17) have a dot about 1.5mm outside the card frame, even with the middle of the stamp's duty tablet. Subject #17 has a new dot in the second state about 1.5mm below the stamp, centred horizontally.
4. Dot above the middle of subject #17 but not #18.
5. The line across the top of the plate has not been seen by me (but is based on a reported description); the line across the bottom of the plate is verified for the second state only.
6. The dots at the tops of subjects #11 and #12 (at the outer ends) are present in the second state only.
7. Except for the portion shown above subject #12, there is no trace of the vertical rule down the right side of the plate, in either state.

Relative Scarcity

Actually, I haven't accumulated such a great quantity of these cards (compared to nearly 8000 copies of P1/P2), but out of 220 cards, 118 were found to be from plate "A" (76 1st state, 42 2nd state) and 102 from plate "B" (43 1st state, 59 2nd state).

Distinguishing the States

With the single exception of the major re-entry, the second state of both plates resulted from re-entry of the stamps. Although there are several minor double entries on both plates, they are not described below because there was no difference on these subjects between the first and second states.

Plate A

IN THE FIRST STATE, all stamps are about clear, except for that of #4, which has slight doubling (up and to the left) in the upper-right corner and along the left side.

- #3 - "THE" and "THIS SIDE." are doubled; framelines and scallops doubled (down and to the left) from the imprint to the right.

IN THE SECOND STATE, most stamps have noticeable upward doubling in the upper-left or upper-right corners, or both.

Exceptions:

- #3 - the doubling from the 1st state remains; there is now also strong doubling of the outer frame line at the bottom, from the middle of the imprint to the left. There are also two very strong (dots) on the inner frame line at the bottom, near the lower-left and lower-right corner ornaments.
- #4 - the upper-left corner of the stamp is almost clear; the upper-right corner is doubled about straight upward; scrolls along the left side are almost clear.
- #5 - only the upper-right corner shows any doubling; it is not very strong.
- #7 - there is also slight doubling at the left end of the duty tablet.

Plate "B"

IN THE FIRST STATE, all stamps are about clear, except that of #20, which has extremely slight doubling along the left.

IN THE SECOND STATE, there is doubling in one or both upper corners of the stamps. There is, as already noted, also a prominent dot on most subjects, to the right of the frameline (outside the card), to the right of the bottom of the stamp.

Exception:

- #17 - there is vertical and horizontal doubling throughout the stamp; it is quite strong, but not terribly far. This subject lacks the new dot to the right of the stamp (although there is, instead, a new dot directly below the bottom of the stamp).

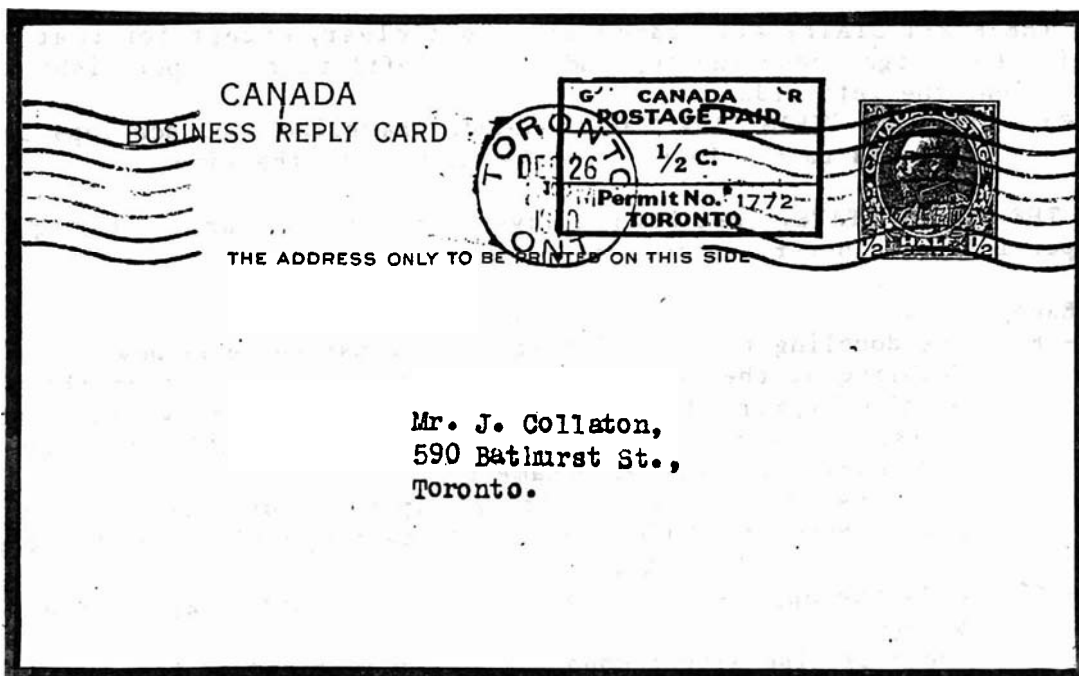
Steven Whitcombe

ANOTHER PERMIT REVALUED POST CARD

In PSN Vol. 9, pg. 42 and Vol. 10, pg. 1 examples were shown of permits used to revalue post cards. At the top of the next page is shown another, a revalued copy of P26c. The 1/2 ¢ permit appears to be B9-10 in Staecker's permit catalogue.

On the reverse side of the card is a thank you note from "The Catholic Church Extension Society of Canada, 67 Bond Street, Toronto 2, Ont." with respect to a monetary donation to their Christmas gift fund. There is no date or amount noted, so the card is not a receipt. As near as I can make out, the date of the cancel is Dec. 26, 1930.

Bill McCann



MORE NEW ENVELOPES FOR "CANADA 92"

Two more envelopes in the Colonial Postage series have been issued to publicize the Youth International next year in Montreal. These were released at the Salon des collectionneurs de Montréal on November 29. The #8 depicts the 1857 triangular 3d stamp of Newfoundland and the #10, which if all goes well will be used to mail this issue of PSN, depicts the 1861 2d rose stamp of Prince Edward Island.

A further pair of envelopes will be issued on January 10, 1992 at the PHIL-EX CANADA show (January 10-12, 1992) in Toronto. According to an article by E.G. Braugh (Canadian Philatelist Vol. 42, pg. 367 (1991)), the #8 will show the 1865 5¢ rose of Vancouver Island; the #10 will show the British Columbia 1865 3d blue stamp with the seal of the province. The #8 envelopes will also be available at the show with a cachet showing W.H. Brouse, first president of the Toronto Philatelic Club (now the Toronto Stamp Collectors Club) - 1992 is the 100th anniversary of the founding of that group. Arthur Beecham, 205 Hilda Ave., Apt. 1808, Willowdale, ON M2M 4B1, can supply details on how to obtain copies of the cacheted PHIL-EX envelope. Our thanks to Arthur for providing information on the issue.

AN UNLISTED POSTAGE DUE WRAPPER

Don Fraser has provided a photocopy of a postage due wrapper that is not listed in the current edition of Webb's. The 1¢ form 29B. bears the printed notation 75,000-23-12-18. Based on the photocopy, the postmark on Don's copy appears to be (probably) "MIDHURST, ONT., AP 1?, (19)2?".