

POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES

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Vol. 11, No. 4

September 1993

A NEW LOOK FOR POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES

I hope that when you read this issue of Postal Stationery Notes you notice some changes. Your editor now has a new computer system, and the differences should be more than simply cosmetic. For example, I am now able to accept text on disks written for WordPerfect. Even better, I should soon be able to receive files transmitted by electronic mail, or accept documents sent by FAX and transfer these into my word processor. Details on e-mail and FAX communications should follow in the next issue of PSN. Also, I now have a scanner that should allow me to: (a) take typewritten text and documents and directly incorporate them into the newsletter, with only limited editing being required to put them into our normal format; (b) improve the positioning and layout of figures; (c) eventually provide better handling and clean up of photocopies before they are incorporated in the newsletter. I expect that you will continue to notice changes over the next few months as I get more used to the new system.

WEBB'S 6th EDITION GOES TO PRESS

The 6th edition of the Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue has been completed, and the book was released at BNAPEX'93. Authors Bill Walton and Earle Covert have added newly reported items, completely revised the section on Proofs and Essays, and provided a more detailed discussion of the Admiral Issue dies as well as a listing of Special Letter and Priority Post items. The perforated CPR cards (and some other privately rouletted cards) have been included, as have listings of the CPR and Niagara Falls back views. The number of illustrations has been greatly increased. The new edition has been published by BNAPS, and is available from the BNAPS Book Department c/o Don Kaye, Box 4201, Stn. D, Hamilton, ON, Canada, L8V 4L6. The postpaid price to BNAPS members is CAN\$20 or US\$16.

A NEW RAILWAY VIEW CARD FROM AN INTERURBAN LINE IN TRANSITION

Bill Walton has sent along photocopies of a fascinating railway view card. As shown on the next page, the card is from a previously unlisted interurban railway, Canadian National Electric Railways. In the Webb's 6th edition, the card is listed as CER1 in the appropriate place under "SMALLER RAILWAY LINES".

However, the pictures on the card are in green and, if the word "ELECTRIC" were absent, the card could easily be taken as part of the Canadian National Railway

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 2124, Deep River, ON, Canada KOJ 1PO.

series of cards with green views. Therefore, in Webb's it is referenced with a note in the listing of the CN cards.

Finally, the printing on the back ties the card to the Niagara, St. Catherines & Toronto Railway - an interurban electric line already represented in Webb's by an Edward issue view card, NST 1.

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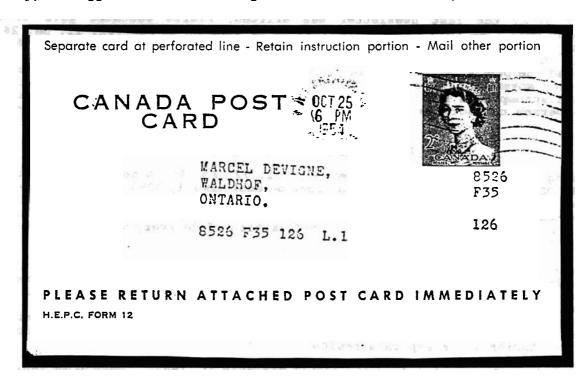
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Canadian National Electric Railways Card

A NEWLY DISCOVERED ONTARIO HYDRO SPECIAL ORDER CARD

John Aitken has provided photocopies of a previously unreported Ontatio Hydro card. As shown below, it bears a 2¢ first Karsh issue impression. Like Webb HKP67j, it appears to be a message half of a 2¢ + 2¢ card, H.E.P.C. Form 12.



I am gratified, but also a bit embarassed by the discovery of this card. Two years ago, during a visit to the Canadian Postal Archives, I examined RG3 acc. 86-87/396, Box 63, file 13-19-20 (also see PSN, Vol. 10, pg. 34)., the file concerning cards prepared for the HYdro Electric Power Commission of Ontario. It appeared to me this card (and two or three other unreported cards) should exist. There was a lot of material in the file - well worthy of a several page write-up in PSN. However, my notes were not as detailed as I would have wished, and I wanted to recheck the file. It is one of the many things I have not yet got to doing.

One thing that is clear from my notes is there were two early styles of Ontario Hydro cards. One was a Form 12, a 1¢ + 1¢ reply card; the other was a Form 11 consisting of a single 1¢ impression on a reply card (it was not clear from my notes, or perhaps in the records, whether the stamp impression was on the message or reply half). There was a change in style of at least some of the cards in the early 1950's, and a record of the first printing a 2¢ + 2¢ card (probably) in May 1953 (one of my notes suggests 1953, the other 1955). The postmark date on John's card (Oct. 24, 1953) would agree with the earlier date.

The card cannot be easily confused with the other reported Ontario Hydro 2¢ first Karsh card, HKP83h, which had a window and was printed (probably in February 1955) on flimsy stock. Another examination of the Archives file for Ontario Hydro should be undertaken to clarify the various cards and printings.

The 2¢ card is listed in the new edition of Webb's as HRP831. Since I received a photocopy of this card I have been fortunate enough to purchase a copy of the

corresponding King George VI 1¢ card, also with a heading reading "CANADA POST/CARD".

Robert Lemire



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Shortly after the last newsletter was written, Pierre Gauthier gave me a telephone call. He told me that contrary to my comment in PSN Vol. 11, pg. 24, he was <u>not</u> the person who sent the photocopy of the French version of Webb DKP67k. This leaves me with a problem; whom should I thank for the item? I retrieved the photocopy from a pile of material set aside for the newsletter over the period November 1992 to June 1993, but it had been separated from the letter that had accompanied it. I apologize to whomever I should have credited, and, if the person contacts me, I will issue a correction in a future issue of PSN.

THE END OF SPECIAL LETTER ENVELOPES

According to the Canada Post "Bulletin", Vol. 72, No. 15, A new product called "XPRESSPOST" was introduced by Canada Post on September 1, 1993. It will replace Special Letter and domestic Special Delivery services. The new service offers guaranteed next business day Local and two business days Regional and National service between most major centres. Confirmation of delivery will be available through a 1-800 telephone number.

"Advance purchase products" (similar to Special Letter Envelopes) will be available in three sizes for both Regional and National destinations. As we go to press, Pierre Gauthier has reported two of the National and one of the Regional envelopes (available September 7). Pierre also notes that the definition of "Regional" has changed. One region now encompasses Atlantic Canada, another Ontario and Quebec, a third all the western provinces. The North West Territories are a separate region.

During an introductory trial period (until December 31, 1993), XPRESSPOST Advance Purchase prepaid "Standard" and "Letter" envelopes are being sold at the same prices as the old Special Letter "Letter" and "Oversize" envelopes. Presumably the prices will rise on January 1, 1994. To deplete existing stocks of prepaid Special Letter envelopes, XPRESSPOST labels are being applied to existing stocks.

A MISSING SPECIAL LETTER ENVELOPE VARIETY - HELP NEEDED

As Special Letter envelopes are being phased out, we issue an appeal to members to check all copies of the large red Special Order envelope. Recent varieties include:

- recyclable logo with the Olympic symbol on the front
- recycled logo .

What has not been found is the envelope with

- recyclable logo without the Olympic symbol on the front

This combination is known for all the other types of regularly issued special letter envelopes. Please check all available used copies as well as Post Office stocks.

A NEWLY REPORTED AEROGRAMME VARIETY

Harry Machum has reported a copy of aerogramme A24 on watermarked paper. Previously the aerogramme was known only on unwatermarked paper. Apparently some copies were printed on stock remaining from the printing of A23 or A22. The find is listed as A24a in the new edition of Webb's.

POSTAL STATIONERY - DEALERS

One question I am often asked, especially by members residing outside Canada, is who are the dealers who sell Canadian postal stationery. There are several dealer members within the Postal Stationery Study Group. In the next issue of PSN, I will be listing these dealers. Any dealer member who wishes to be included should let me know.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY PICTORIAL POST CARDS

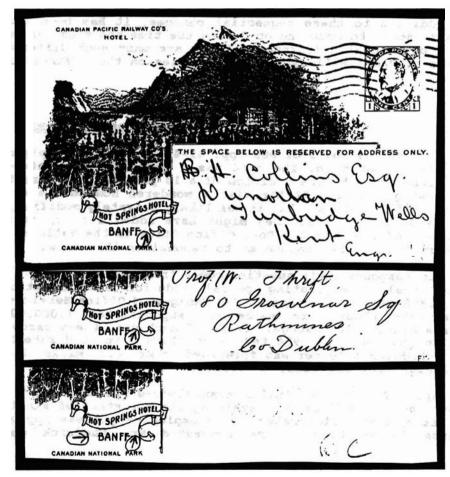
Editor's note: I knew it had been a while since I had printed any contributions illustrating the CPR view cards. I was very surprised, however, to find that the last full article on these was published in PSN, Vol. 8, No. 3, in July 1989! Even allowing for the update later that year (pg. 31), and John Aitken's article on the back views Vol. 9, (pg. 4 and pg. 19), a 3-4 year break in an ongoing series indicates negligence on the part of the editor. My apologies.

We resume with comments about varieties on the multicoloured view cards starting with "Banff Hot Springs". There are several sequential changes.

1st State
The arrow marks a break in the scroll that occurs on the Victorian period cards and on the Edwardian cards to the end of 1906.

2nd state
The break has been
repaired (from early
1908 through Aug.
1912).

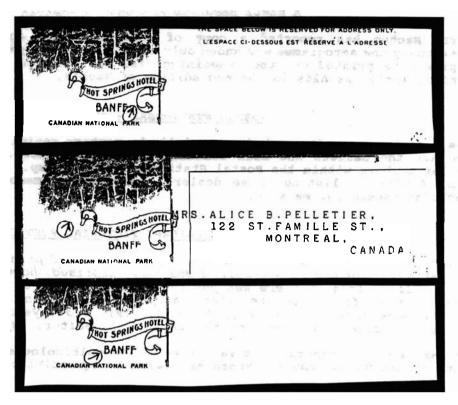
3rd state The centre bar of "B" in "BANFF" protrudes; the scroll join is in various flawed ways (from the last of the Edward cards to late 1913).



4th state
Scroll join broken
(from Dec. 1913, G
and F columns,
onward).

5th state
The pale blue background printing in
the marked area does
not photocopy. There
is an elliptical,
uncoloured flaw that
now appears in the
"white" gap (begins
in Sept. 1914, but
not on all cards).

6th state
Protuberance on the
"B" of "BANFF" is
gone by late 1916 (J
and D columns).



In addition to these sequential changes, it has been found the period after "PARK" seems to come and go during the time the view was in use. I suspect this is a positional difference. There are many such differences, and in the next issue of PSN I will show a few examples on the "CHATEAU LAKE LOUISE" card.

Bill Walton

PERMIT REVALUATION RECONSIDERED

Back in Vol. 9 No. 5 of PSN (pp. 42-44) I showed a reply card message half used by the T. Eaton Co. The card was a George VI 1¢, noteworthy for having been revalued to 2¢ by the addition of a 1¢ postage paid permit, to meet an increase in postage rates. At the time I wondered how such a card might have come to exist and speculated that it was likely privately modified, i.e., revalued by the T. Eaton Co. much as they might have added a stamp or meter. However, some correspondence from the Post Office files in the National Archives (provided by Robert Lemire) has caused me to reconsider this view.

The correspondence in question comes from (RG3 acc. 86/87, Box 62) file 13-19-17, which deals with printing special cards for Canadian National Express. On April 13, 1954, Mr. G.F. Chadwick, CNR Manager of Office Services wrote to the Montreal Postmaster about a problem he had - approximately 1,000,000 prestamped "On Hand" forms bearing 3¢ postage. To be of much use, these cards needed to be revalued to 4¢ (On April 1, 1954 the first class post card rate had increased to 4¢.). Mr. Chadwick's letter was forwarded to Mr. L.J. Mills, the Post Office Director for Financial Services, in Ottawa.

On April 22, 1954 Mr. Mills acknowledged Mr. Chadwick's letter. He mentioned that the Post Office was revaluing its own stock of single 3¢ cards to 4¢ using a Pitney-Bowes Tickometer: "Two employees process approximately 20 to 30,000 cards in an hour". He suggested Mr. Chadwick consult a Pitney-Bowes

representative in Montreal to see if the CN flimsy card could by handled by the Tickometer. Mills also mentioned that he had forwarded the sample CN form to Canadian Bank Note to obtain an opinion about the possibility of revaluing the card, and to get a quote per thousand cards for the work.

Mr. Chadwick replied on April 27, 1954 that he had checked with the Pitney-Bowes representative, and their machine could handle the CN forms quite easily.

On April 30, Mr. Mills wrote to the Montreal Postmaster, and instructed him as follows:

"... Since it is the policy of the Post Office Department to revalue postage rates on printed cards and envelopes that are unusable in the hands of the patron, I should be obliged if you would arrange for the processing of the cards." (My emphasis).

Mills added that the Post Office would supply the necessary die, and pay for the Tickometer rental and any supplies required, as well as provide the use of Post Office premises and employees to do the work (He did hope that the railway company might supply one or two assistants.). He further noted that the Post Office would take possession of any damaged cards and refund the postage on these, and would bill CN only for the increased value of postage for the revalued cards.

Also on April 30, Mr. Mills wrote to Mr. Chadwick at CNR. He returned the sample 3¢ card and revealed that Canadian Bank Note Company had quoted \$5.95/1,000 to revalue the cards, and 14 weeks to do the job. Mr. Mills felt the cost for this was prohibitive, and noted the Montreal Postmaster was being advised to arrange for processing the CN cards by Tickometer.

From this correspondence several observations can be made.

- 1. The Post Office policy was to revalue unusable postal stationery in the hands of its customers to make it usable, at no cost to the customer beyond that of the extra postage.
- 2. The Post Office was interested in doing this in a timely fashion, and as cheaply as possible, while still maintaining security over the revaluing process.
 - 3. Given the quote by Canadian Bank Note Co., it is not surprising that there are no Canadian postal cards with two adjacent stamp impressions. It simply wasn't practical from the point of view of cost or time required.

what conclusions can be drawn from these observations as far as the postal cards revalued by permit are concerned? It seems to me that these are Post Office creations, just like the cards revalued by Tickometer. It is very likely the T. Eaton card revaluation was done as a special order - in a timely and economical manner convenient to the postal patron - with postal revenue security maintained, and in compliance with a regular Post Office policy. As such, do they merit catalogue listing in the special order post card section?

John Aitken

POSTAL STATIONERY STUDY GROUP MEETING AT BNAPEX

The BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group held its annual meeting on September 3, 1993 at the BNAPEX'93 convention in Toronto. Bill Walton and Earle Covert were there to present their comments and to respond to questions about the new edition of the Webb's Catalogue. The new edition was available at the meeting

and at the BNAPS Book Department Table during the show. Approximately twenty BNAPSers were in attendance a the study group meeting - a good showing!

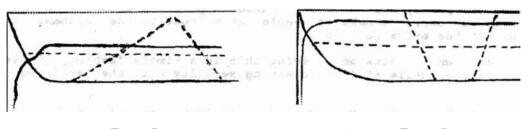
There were two spectacular postal stationery exhibits at BNAPEX. Earle Covert showed Artwork, Essays, Proofs and Specimens of Postal Stationery - George V and George VI, while Horace Harrison's displayed pictorial advertising cards - including many of the scarce Admiral issue private order cards.

AN INFORMAL BNAPEX SESSION ON GO-LETTERS - ROULETTING AND KNIVES

A group of us were clustered in the Waltons' room at about 11:00 p.m. one night at BNAPEX. Bruce McCallum had brought along a large group of his duplicates of the Ontario Government "GO LETTER"s with a wide variety of corner cards. Bill, assisted by Earle Covert, was busily sorting the envelopes by issue and corner type. Several of us were watching with interest - especially as there were a few examples of envelopes with a "recycled" logo on the back similar to that on the final issue of the special order envelopes. I hope to get a photocopy of this for the next issue of PSN.

However, it fell to revenue specialist Fritz Angst - who as yet does not collect postal stationery - to point out something the rest of us were missing. His simple: "Is there some reason the roulettes on the back of these two envelopes are different?" sent the rest of us scrambling through the stock. As it turned out, although the difference was real (as discussed below), and may suggest more than one printer for the envelopes, other differences in the envelopes meant that no completely new varieties were discovered. Nevertheless, the discovery was exciting and left a number of us wondering what we had been using for eyes over the last few months.

The difference noticed by Fritz is shown in the Figure.



Type A Type B

The roulettes are shown by dashed lines as on the back upper left corners of the envelopes. Envelope Type A has the roulette (90° angle) found on most of the Ontario GO LETTERS and on the regular issue Special Letter envelopes. Type B (acute angle) is found on Ontario Government GO LETTERS with "RECYCLED PAPER" in a box on the front. As shown in the Figure, the knives are also different for these envelopes. For example, the Type A envelope has a moderate space between the fold at the top of the envelope and the top of the back panel, but the Type B envelope has a back panel that extends almost to the fold.

The Type B rouletting is found on other private order Special Letter envelopes including the New Brunswick envelopes, both of the Ontario Hydro GO LETTERS and at least one of the Workers' Compensation Board GO LETTERS. In no cases were envelopes of identical size and printing found to differ only in the rouletting and/or knife. The differences might suggest two suppliers for the private order Special Letter envelopes, and that one of these firms might well have been the same as the supplier of the regular issues.

PSSG MARKETPLACE

September 1993

FOR SALE: Collection of Railway pictorial Cards. VF Condition. Includes CNR, NTH, GTR and CPR. Send SASE for details.

Mike Anderman, Box 6449, Stn. A, Toronto, ON, M5W 1X3

or phone: (416) 763-4502

WANTED FOR MY

collection:
Italian Coin Head type
postal stationery, mint
and used. Please send
priced to:
John Aitken, PO Box 24

priced to:

John Aitken, PO Box 241,

Lambeth, Ont, CANADA NOL 1S0



WANTLIST CANADA: Only in very fine condition, mint or used, up to 10 copies per card needed (offers in brackets):

- 1930 sepia views: Golf (C\$ 25.-), Lighthouse (C\$ 15.-)

- Railway cards depicting themes: Hunting, Fishing, Trams, Trains, Bicycles (120% Webb).

Dr. P. Steinkamp, P.O. Box 65 06 27, 22366 Hamburg, GERMANY

WANTED FOR STUDY

and collection:
Italian Coin Head type
stamps. Mint, used
and on-cover. Please
send priced to:
John Aitken, PO Box 241,
Lambeth, Ont, CANADA NOL 1S0



I WISH TO PURCHASE copies of the Letter Cards L1-L8 used with printed bank forms between August, 1897 and May, 1898. Please write stating price to:

Robert Lemire, Box 2124, Deep River, ON, Canada, K0J 1P0

CANADA WEBB P3 wanted, prefer unused. I can still use 50 to 100 copies, for plating. Some other engraved cards also needed. Please write first:

Steven Whitcombe, 629 S. Dunton Ave., Arlington Heights, IL, 60005-2543

THIS SPACE \$1.00

I WILL IDENTIFY your Canada P1, P2, P4 or P36 cards as to plate, position and state. Low cost. Other services available. Please write for details:

Steven Whitcombe, 629 S. Dunton Ave., Arlington Heights, IL, 60005-2543

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

THIS SPACE \$1.00