

Postal Stationery Notes

Volume 23 No. 4

Oct 2010

Postal Stationery study Group Meeting at BNAPEX 2010, Victoria

The Postal Stationery Study Group meeting was held on Sept 4, at 10AM and was well attended by the following members, led by Earle Covert: Barry Moss, Art Klass, Bill Walton, Robert Lemire, Charles Livermore, Mike Sagar, Leopold Beaudet, Ian Stevenson, Ron Majors, George Dresser, Don Fraser, Adri Veenstra, Robert Haselwood, Jean Walton, Colin Banfield (new member), and David Jones.

The meeting moved directly to Robert's discussion of Post Card Factory cards: he showed some new variations [orientation of vertical views, borders, croppings, color changelings (and some true color differences), and a few cards with more than one title – lots of things to keep your eyes open for. It was followed by an animated discussion about the printing of these cards. Robert indicated that Lowe Martin was the printer for the postal indicia (at least for the last 3-4 years), on cards preprinted by the Postcard Factory. See PCF Corner for more information.

Bill Walton followed with a presentation of the differences between the typographed and litho offset headings on the George VI postal cards, with illustrations. Typographed headings have two things in common which will always indicate they are typographed – indentation and ink squeeze. The letters and number of typographed cards tend to be “bumpier” – lithographed cards show a greater uniformity in the letters/numbers. Anyone who has an interest and was not able to attend can request the illustrations.

David Jones brought some material for show and tell. One item of particular interest was a license for sale of Postage Stamps, Post Bands, Post Cards etc.

Earle Covert finished up with a nice display of Express & Priority envelopes showing many new additions and varieties, notably a Mental Health envelope, a number of university envelopes, some Canada team envelopes. etc. Without showing each variety, we will try to show the various illustrations that have been seen in the following issue of PSNotes.

It was an interesting meeting with lots of participation. We missed those not able to attend.

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Emailed copy of PSNotes: To receive PSNotes in colour in pdf format, send your email to John Grace at jpg1353@yahoo.com. It's free! If you prefer this version to the mailed version and ONLY want the online version, let us know and we will remove you from the mailing list for Canada Post copies. But you do not need to choose – you can continue to receive both.

WWII Patriotic Cachets on Canadian Postal Stationery (Part I)

Gary and Mike Sagar

Angus McMillan's Fifth Anniversary Series

Despite the widespread use of covers during the Second World War with patriotic themed cachets, relatively few are known used on Canadian postal stationery. In this article, we will discuss the "5th Anniversary Series" produced by Angus McMillan between 1944 and 1946, and show the seven different cachets known on postal stationery.

Not much is known about Angus McMillan, who was a small time stamp dealer operating primarily out of Ladysmith, British Columbia on Vancouver Island. His primary philatelic legacy is a series of 172 different cachets commemorating the fifth anniversary of WWII events between September 1939 and the day before the Pearl Harbor attacks of December 7, 1941. Each cachet consists of a sequential number, name of the event(s) being commemorated and the words "Fifth Anniversary Series" as part of the cachet. Each cover was cancelled five years to the date after the event it commemorates. As the series name implies, the covers are dated between September 1, 1944 - December 6, 1946. The print quantities are unknown, but believed to be very low. There are no known unused copies of these envelopes.

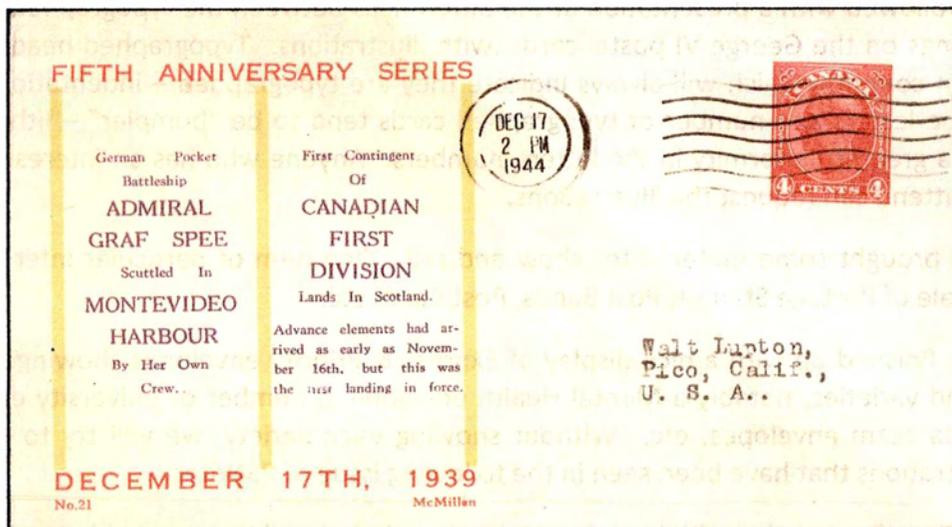


Fig. 1: McMillan cachet #21, on EN64, commemorating the scuttling of the Graf Spee (17-Dec-1944).

This series defies traditional definitions of patriotic covers. McMillan's objective was "to commemorate events of this War occurring prior to Pearl Harbor and which, to my knowledge, have not been covered before." Many of the covers were issued after the war ended. Despite being of Canadian origin, many of the cachets had no Canadian tie-in, and may appeal to a wide range of country or topical collectors. McMillan was a member of five US patriotic cover exchange clubs and every known used example (that wasn't addressed to McMillan, himself) was mailed outside of Canada- almost exclusively to the US.



Fig. 2: McMillan cachets #28 & 29, on EN48 (28) and EN54 (29), commemorating the peace agreement between Russia and Finland (12-Mar-1940), and the subsequent cessation of hostilities (13-Mar-1940).



Fig. 3: McMillan cachets #34 & 46, on EN54 (34) and EN48 (46), commemorating the British mining of Skaggerak and Kattegat (12-Apr-1945) and the completion of the Dunkirk evacuation (4-Jun-1945).

The subjects of all 172 cachets are known, and although 7 are known to have been used with postal stationery, there is a possibility that more may exist. McMillan allowed for buyers to send a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) to be sent for cacheting - so it is possible that other cachets exist on postal stationery. It is unlikely that many people took him up on this offer, as his standard selling price was 10 covers for \$1. If a collector sent an SASE, the envelope had to come with 4¢ Canadian postage and an additional 1c in cash. A collector could also send a self-addressed envelope without postage, whereby 6¢ in cash had to be included. McMillan promised to use "Obsolete or commemorative stamps when available." Clearly he wasn't doing it for the money. It is believed that each of the cachets shown here is only known on postal stationery. There is no obvious reason why postal stationery was chosen for these particular cachets, or why postal stationery wasn't used more widely for the set.

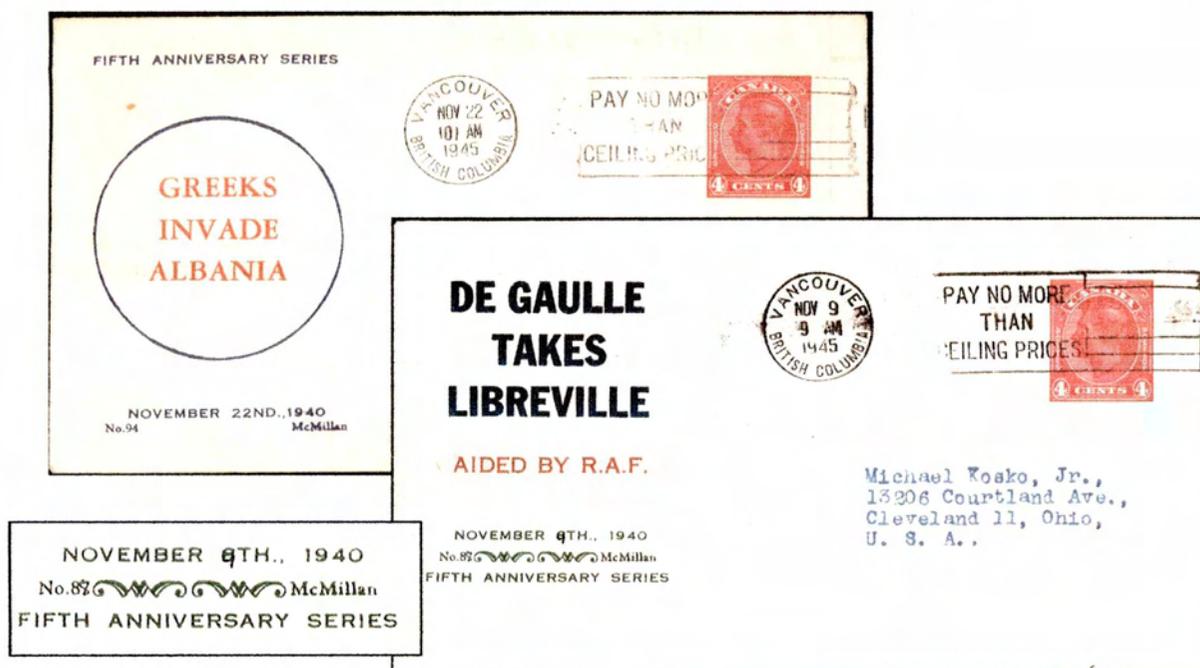


Fig. 4: McMillan cachets #88 & 94, both on EN64, commemorating the taking of Libreville by de Gaulle (9-Nov-1945) and the Greek invasion of Albania (22-Nov-1945). (Note that #88 has date & number overwritten in ink, done on copies before mailing. No. 87 is a different title, with the cachet "British Bomb Munich Beer Cellar, Miss Hitler by Half Hour" and a dated cancel of November 8th, and not on postal stationery.)

McMillan covers known on Canadian postal stationery (so far). If others are known (see above), please contact me at gailandmike@shaw.ca.

Cachet	Description	Webb #
21	Graf Spee Scuttled (17-Dec-1944)	EN64
28	Russo Finnish Peace Agreement (12-Mar-1945)	EN48
29	Russo Finnish Hostilities Cease (13-Mar-1945)	EN54
34	British Mine Skaggerak & Kattegat (12-Apr-1945)	EN54
46	Dunkirk Evacuation Completed (4-Jun-1945)	EN48
88	De Gaulle Takes Libreville - Aided by RAF (9-Nov-1945)	EN64
94	Greeks Invade Albania (22-Nov-1945)	EN64

Canadian Pacific Railway Proxy Return Envelope on US Stationery

Pierre Gauthier

To my knowledge, no CPR proxy has ever been reported on US stationery. This envelope would have been used between December 1911 (as Walter Baker was appointed as CVO on June 19, 1911) and December 1916 when he was replaced by Ernest Alexander as secretary.

Although I'm not a US stationery specialist, this envelope seems to be U411, die 1. Has anyone seen a similar envelope from the USA, or possibly Great Britain as the majority of CPR shareholders at the time were from the UK?

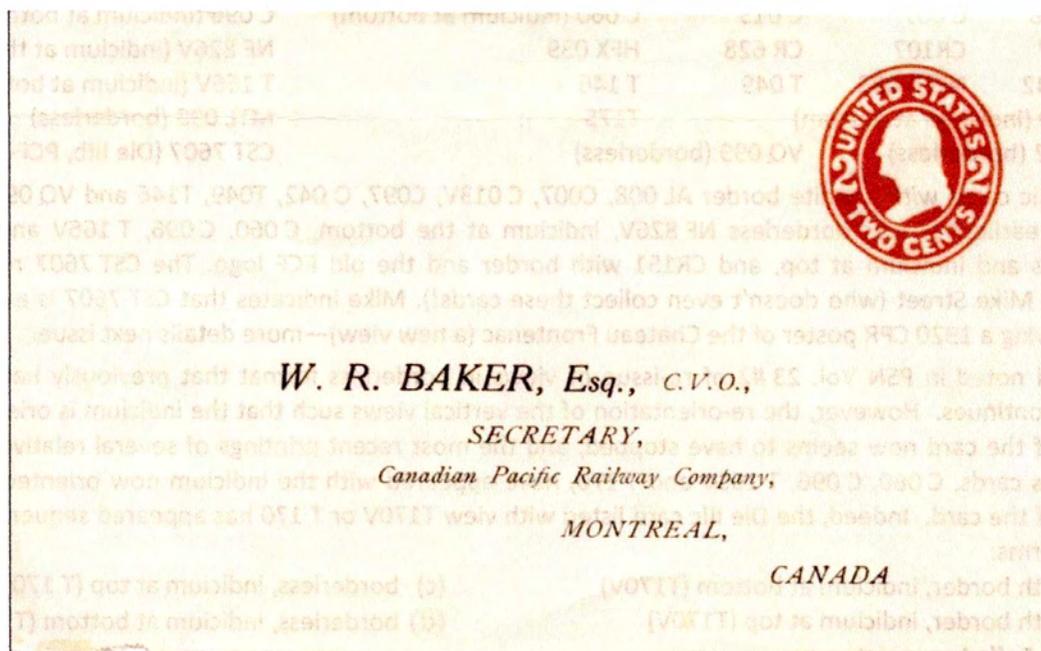


Fig. 1: US postal stationery for a CPR proxy. Dimensions of the envelope are 150 mm x 92 mm. The watermark seems to indicate the year "1911."

See BNA TOPICS, September-October 1983, [CPR Proxy Return Envelopes](#) (p. 37) by John D. Aitken. Also [PSN Vol. 5, no.2](#), a follow-up article by John Aitken.

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What's New

in Postal Stationery

Only one new item issued Oct. 2nd, a domestic postage-paid commemorative envelope for the 100th anniversary of St. Thomas University. As they are produced precancelled and thus are not postally used, they are not considered true postal stationery.



A sad note. Sandra Eadie has notified me that her father, enthusiastic PCF card collector Ken Eadie, died on August 28. With Sandra's help, Ken assembled a very large PCF collection, and was ever attentive to detail, reporting many new varieties. He also had a large collection of Australian pictorial postage prepaid cards.

Since the end of June 2010 a number of new PCF cards have been reported (Earle Covert, Brian Cannon, Pierre Gauthier, Raymond Gagné, Robert Lemire and Mike Street); all these cards are Die IIIc except CST 7607.

PCF-T2H (border)

VAN118 CR 151 (as issued previously, no SKU#, but with new PCF logo in the divider)

PCF-T3H (borderless) (Except the last – T3G, Die IIIb)

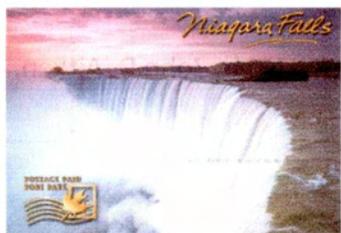
AL 008	C 007	C 013	C 060 (indicium at bottom)	C 096 (indicium at bottom)
C 097	CR107	CR 628	HFX 039	NF 826V (indicium at the top)
NS 142	NFLD 033	T 049	T 146	T 166V (indicium at bottom)
T 170 (indicium at bottom)		T175		MTL 098 (borderless)
O 042 (borderless)	VQ 099 (borderless)			CST 7607 (Die IIIb, PCF-T3G)

The Die IIIc cards *with* a white border AL 008, C007, C 013V, C097, O 042, T049, T146 and VQ 099 were reported earlier, as was borderless NF 826V, indicium at the bottom, C 060, C 096, T 166V and T 170 borderless and indicium at top, and CR151 with border and the old PCF logo. The CST 7607 report is thanks to Mike Street (who doesn't even collect these cards!). Mike indicates that CST 7607 is a vertical card showing a 1920 CPR poster of the Chateau Frontenac (a new view)—more details next issue.

The trend noted in PSN Vol. 23 #2 of re-issue of views in borderless format that previously had white borders continues. However, the re-orientation of the vertical views such that the indicium is oriented at the top of the card now seems to have stopped, and the most recent printings of several relatively new borderless cards, C 060, C 096, T 166V and T 170, have appeared with the indicium now oriented at the bottom of the card. Indeed, the Die IIIc card listed with view T170V or T 170 has appeared sequentially in all four forms:

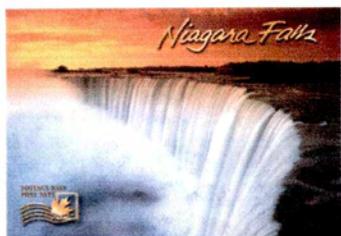
- (a) with border, indicium at bottom (T170V)
- (b) with border, indicium at top (T170V)
- (c) borderless, indicium at top (T 170)
- (d) borderless, indicium at bottom (T 170).

A Niagara Falls Inconsistency



C 007

When the "borderless" view for PCF card C 007 was first found this summer, the view looked strangely familiar. At the left are images of the C 007 (above) and of NF 185, first issued in 2005 (below). The pictures on the two cards are essentially identical (aside from the colours, perhaps minor touchups, or maybe they were successive photos taken on the same camera). PCF claims that the first is "The sun rises over the roaring waters of the Horseshoe Falls", and that the second is "A spectacular view of the American Falls". Obviously this contradiction was something our editor and Niagara Falls expert Jean Walton could easily resolve. Her conclusion: it's the Horseshoe Falls, and the caption on NF 185 is incorrect.



NF 185

Two Newly Reported Envelope Printing Dates on Current Envelopes

Fishing Flies #10 (set of 10) 04.04.10 Orchids and Gardens #10 (set of 8) 04.04.10

Canadian Postal Stationery with Francophone Advertising:III *Pierre Gauthier*

(Last issue included the first of Pierre’s additions to Francophone advertising on postal stationery, beyond those shown in Sections I and II. This continues his contributions.)

The following are various French ads in my collection. They are rare and are the results of a 25-year quest.

First, some notes on those already published: As a matter of interest, note that the ad shown in the April edition of the newsletter* in Figure 19, Lasalle Dye Works, was offering free pick-up of discarded goods for the benefit of various charities which were different in French and English (the names were partially shown). Interesting.

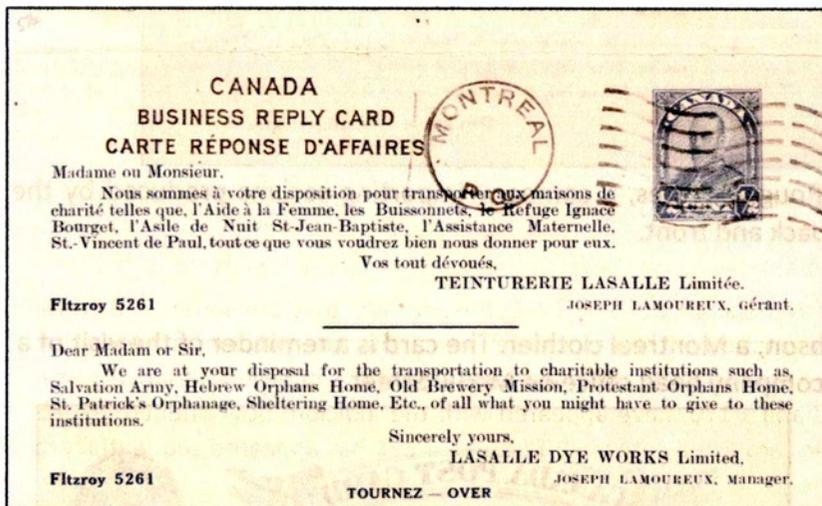


Fig. 3 – showing the full front of Fig. 19 from our April issue. Note the charities do not match, apparently a specifically targeted appeal to each of the language communities.

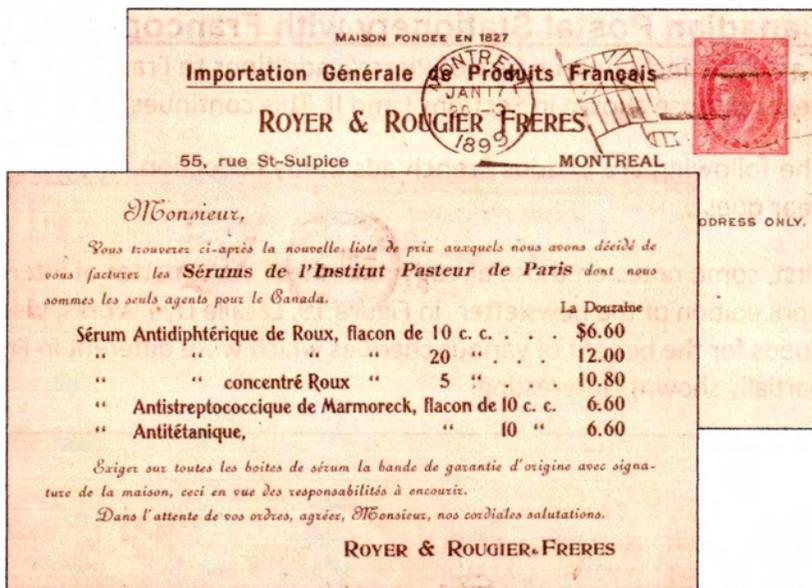


Fig. 4 One new card in the Madden & Fils series shown in the April issue, p. 18-19* (P43)

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* Vol 23, No. 2, April 2010, "Canadian Postal Stationery with Francophone Advertising: II," by Bill Walton.

Fig. 5: From the February issue[†], this illustrates an all-text (adpost) card on a Victorian card, now showing the back as well. (P18).



A P18 card prepared by Royer & Rougier Frères, a company importing serums produced by the Pasteur Institute in Paris, showing back and front.

Ads related to industrial products:

A P14 card prepared for Doull & Gibson, a Montreal clothier. The card is a reminder of the visit of a company salesman and shows the company head office on McGill Street.

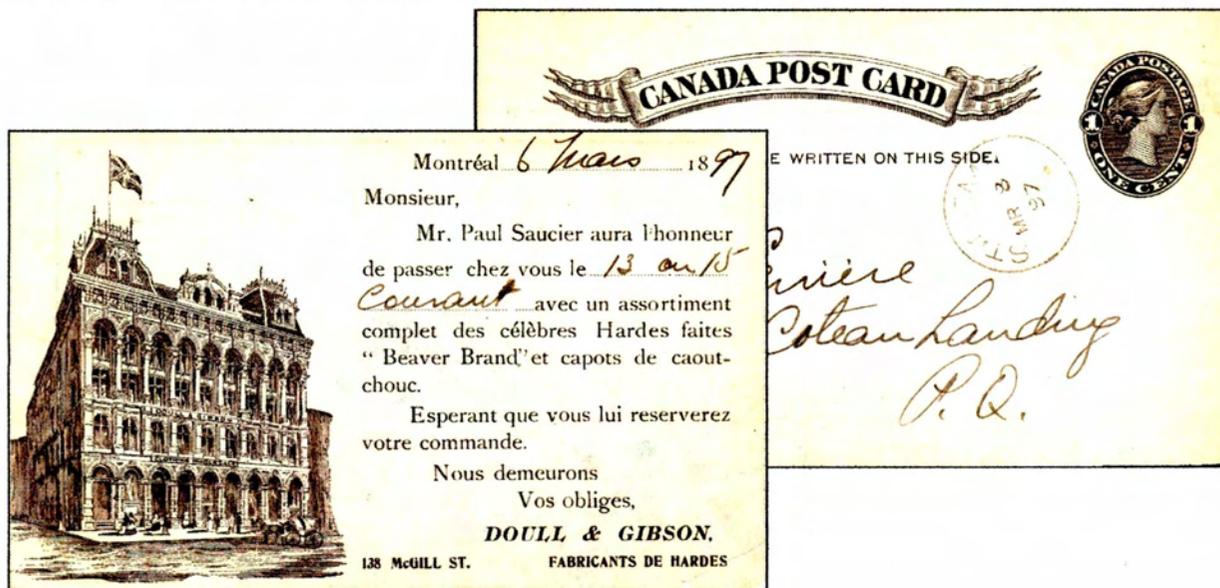


Fig. 6: Doull & Gibson will call card, showing their headquarters in Montreal, used March 1897,

Below, a P17 card prepared by ladder retailer, (Madore), also a Montreal firm.

[†] Vol 23, No. 1, Feb 2010, "Canadian Postal Stationery with Francophone Advertising:" by Bill Walton

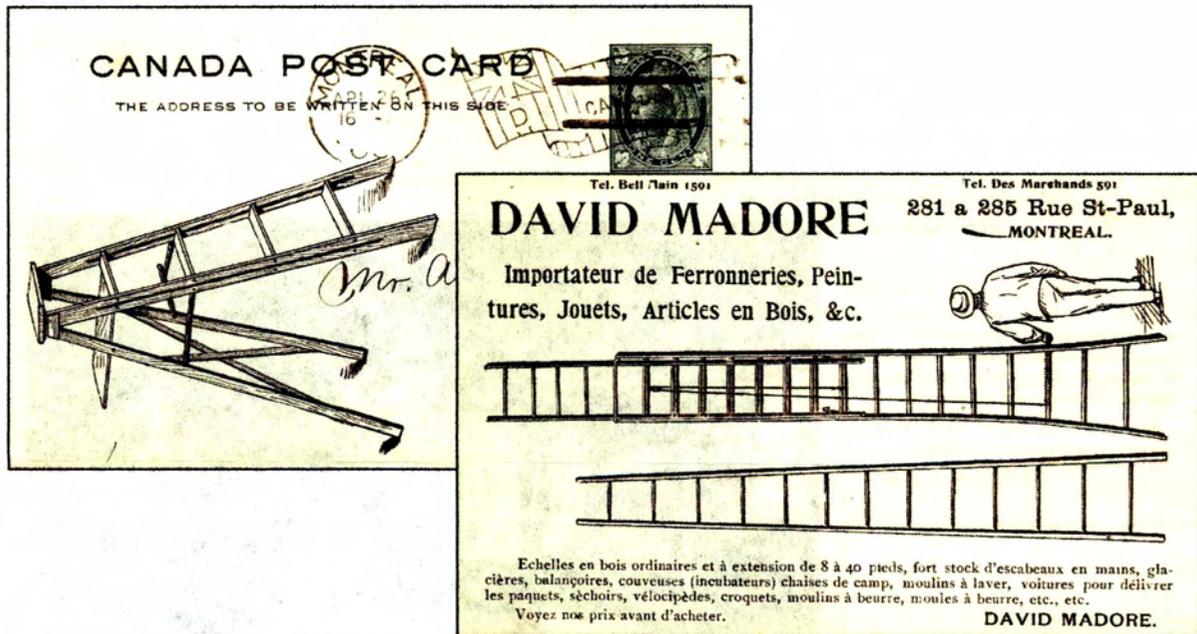


Fig. 7: Front and back advertising on a French language card for Madore, used to Quebec City with a Montreal flag cancel (P17).

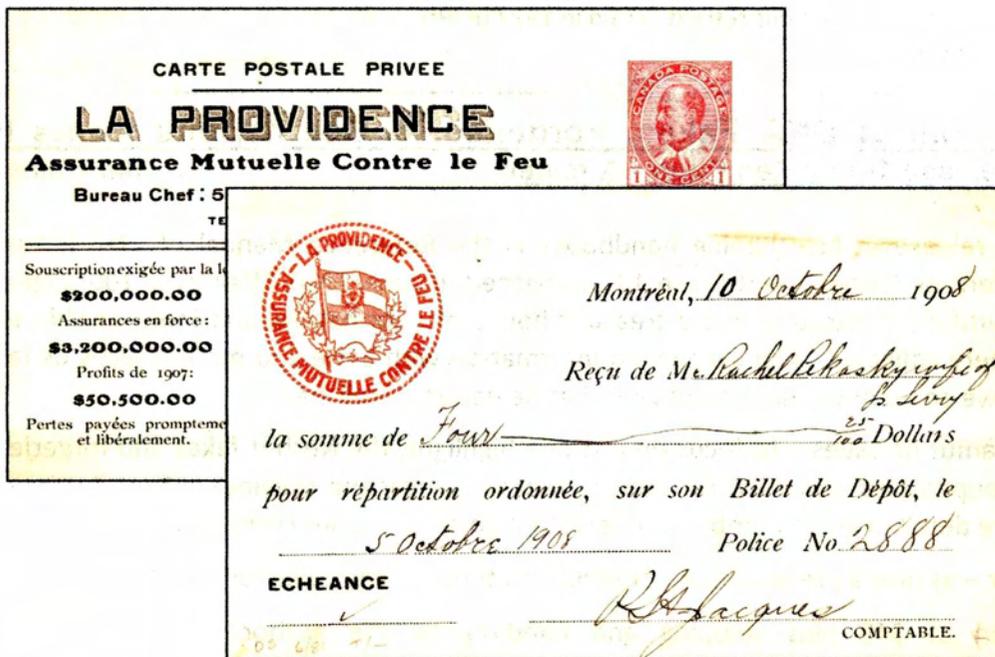


Fig. 8: A receipt for funds card sent from La Providence Insurance Co. in Montreal in 1908 (P23).

A photograph reproduced on the back of a P29f card promoting a Catholic retreat center for people suffering from alcoholism, neurosis, mental illnesses and epilepsy, located on the St. Lawrence River. The photo depicts the centre itself.

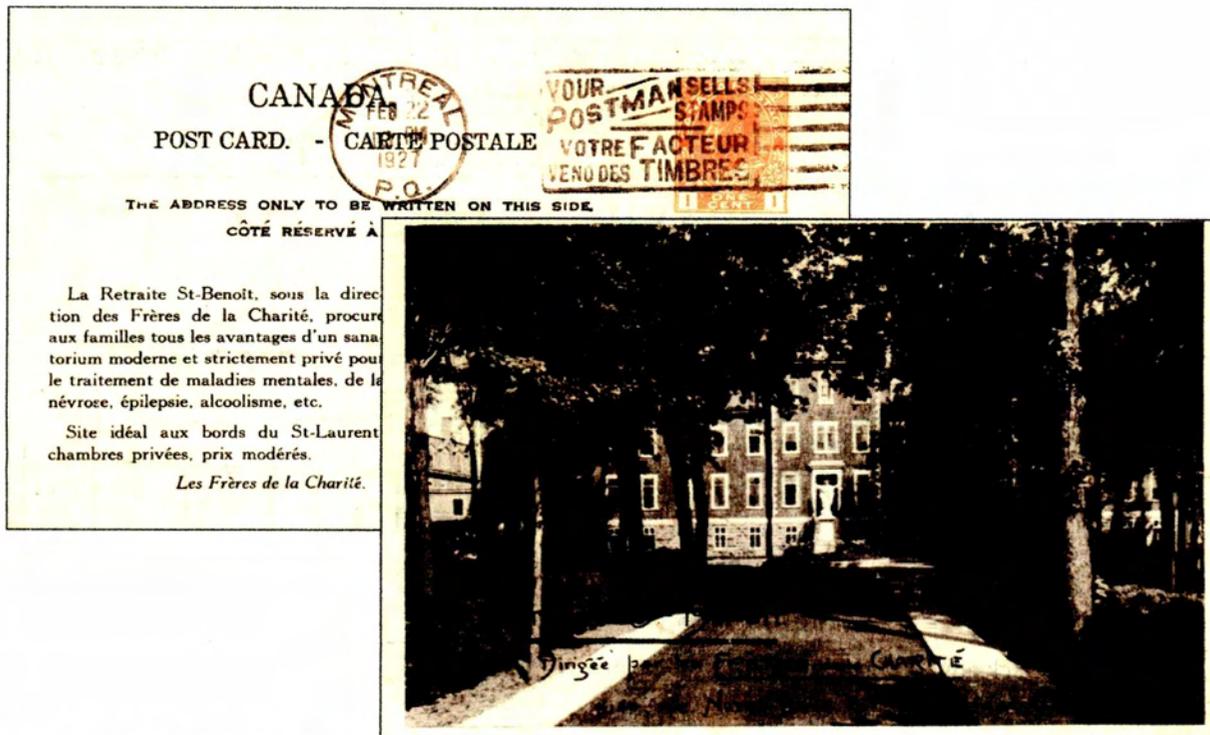


Fig. 9: A photoview advertising a Catholic retreat. Used in 1927 (P29f).
Once again, more to follow.

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Reference Manual of BNA Fakes, Forgeries, & Counterfeits (Series II Release 14) by Ken Pugh --A review *Bill Walton*

Ken Pugh's latest release in his ongoing handbooks is the Reference Manual of BNA Fakes, Forgeries & Counterfeits (Series II – Release 14), published in June 2010. Well over 100 pages, profusely and beautifully illustrated, it is a treasure house of information, and indispensable to the serious stationery collector. Ken exchanged information with Earle and me but gives us far too much credit – we could never have achieved what he has accomplished.

Part I covers the gamut of issues – to focus on just one highlight, the Nesbitt fakes and forgeries are thoroughly grouped and discussed by known creators, correcting previous misattributions. Fake surcharges are detailed and a number of interesting postal stationery similitude are shown.

Part II is all Hechler – as nice a presentation of Hechler material as any collector could wish.

Privately published at \$40 plus shipping and handling by the author (kpugh@shaw.ca, www.kenpugh.ca), and highly recommended. Visit Ken's website and click on Philately>Pricing for shipping and handling costs.

Articles always welcome – please send to Jean Walton at pssg@comcast.net or jwalton971@aol.com. We welcome all comers!