

Postal Stationery Notes

Volume 27 No. 2

November 2015

Report on the Postal Stationery Study Group meeting at BNAPEX 2015

The BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group held its annual meeting on Saturday September 12 during BNAPEX 2015 in Niagara Falls. The picture below at the left shows some of the BNAPSers at the meeting, centre, Group Chairman Earle Covert, right, newsletter Editor Robert Lemire.



At the meeting we discussed what projects can be undertaken by the group, and the types of material members wish to see described and discussed in the newsletter. BNAPS members in attendance included Ken Lemke, Jean Walton, Bill Walton, Scott Henault, Colin Banfield, Robert Lemire,

and Colin Banfield, Robert Lemire, Scott Henault, Colin Banfield, Robert Lemire, Tony Hine, Robert Haslewood, Adri Veenstra, Peter MacDonald, Charles Livermore and Earle Covert. Thanks to Charles Livermore for the photos.

Postal Stationery for Meteorological Reports.—The post cards.

Part 1: The Victorian and Edwardian cards

For a variety of reasons, mainly related to collector interest, the Webb's Catalogue has taken a somewhat uneven approach to postal stationery prepared for, or used by, Canadian federal departments. Thus, the 1893-1904 Marine Department envelopes were prepared using regular Post Office stock, and have been listed in some detail starting with the 1974 edition. For other material the decision usually was made based on whether items (a) were special order printings or (b) have a marking such as "O.H.M.S. or "Official". For example, the Election Envelopes have merited a separate listing even in the Webb first edition. Some envelopes used for Meteorological Returns have been listed (by denomination and envelope design, but not according to the printing on an envelope) starting with the Webb's fifth edition. The Trent Canal cards and the Water Resources cards, all printed on regular stock, are listed. Nevertheless, some items, not marked "O.H.M.S. or "Official", and printed on regular stock (*e.g.*, DP 83e, DEN 531-50e and DEN 531-50f) also appear "by tradition".

~*****~ ☒☒☒ ~*****~

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Many types of envelopes, post cards, labels and wrappers have been used for reporting meteorological data, and these items can be identified by the printing applied to the items. Features of some of the labels were presented in articles in Postal Stationery Notes (PSN) by Dick Staecker and Peter Zariwny (Vol. 20, pp. 31, 34). In a series by Earle Covert, details for most of the envelopes (including early envelopes printed on “regular issue” stock) were shown several years ago in PSN (Vol. 19 pp. 7-10, 13-20, 27-30, 37-40, 44-51, 59-61, Vol. 20, pp. 7-8, 18-20). Some of the cards and wrappers also have been shown in PSN (Vol. 22, No. 5, pp. 45-48; Vol. 26, No. 6, pg. 60). However, no comprehensive list seems to have been compiled for the post cards used for meteorological reports, and this article is a first attempt in that direction.

So far it appears that *none* of these cards was a special order printing or has a marking such as “O.H.M.S. or “Official”. In some periods reports were sent to a central office (probably in Toronto) and also to other (regional?) offices. At this stage the listing will lean in the direction of providing (possibly excessive) detail—it always seems easier to trim a list than to try to squeeze new details into a compact inventory. In this and future issues of PSN it is intended to show cards that are known along with a summary list. Numbering in the list is *for convenience only, and tentative*. In many cases the printing sequence is not obvious. If the project is successful, and more is learned about the offices and the chronology, the numbering system almost certainly will change¹.

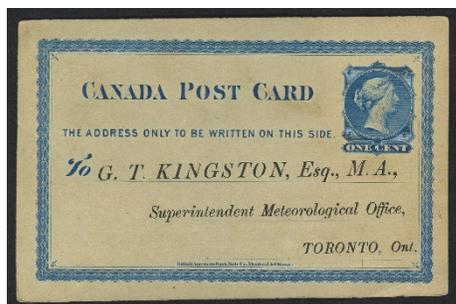
Reports (scans) from members are requested and, indeed, are necessary if this project is to provide input for the next edition of Webb’s. Information on date of use (or possible form numbers) also could prove helpful.



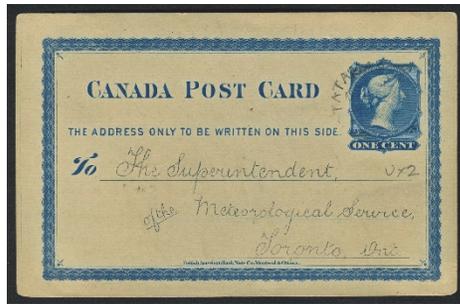
DMP1-a
2nd line all upper case



DMP1-b
2nd line initial caps only



DMP1-c
G. T. Kingston, Superintendent Meteorological Office



DMP1-d
Superintendent of the Meteorological Service (stencil)

¹ Considerable information is available in a series of articles (by Morley K. Thomas, *Atmosphere*, Vol 9, pp. 1-15, 37-47, 60-79 (1971)) discussing the history of the Meteorological Services of Canada.



DMP2-a
Superintendent Meteorological Office (stencil)



DMP2-b
Superintendent Meteorological Office (printed type)



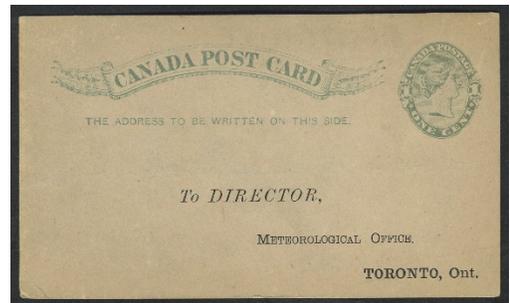
DMP5-a
Superintendent (Meteorological in italics)



DMP7-a
Superintendent (Meteorological in block letters, title case)



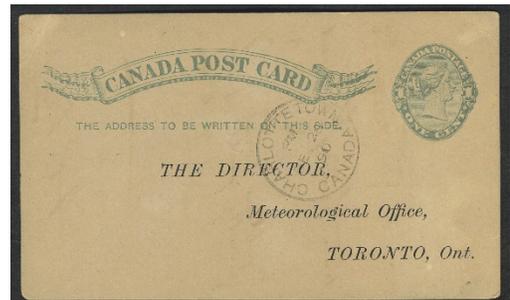
DMP7-b
Director (Meteorological in block letters, title case)



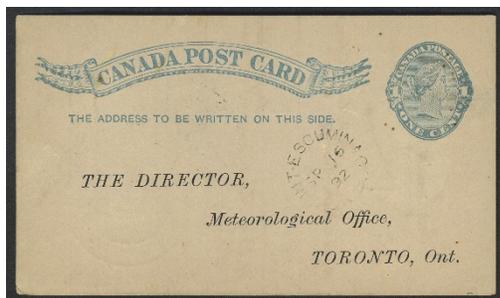
DMP7-c
Director (Meteorological in block letters, upper case)



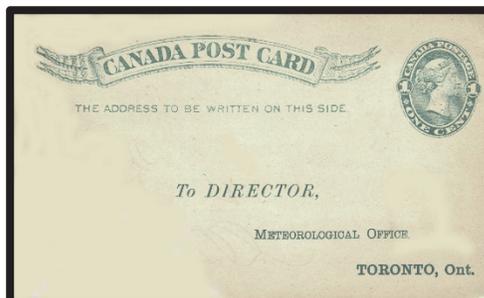
DMP7-d
Director (Meteorological in title case, italics, "M" under "O")



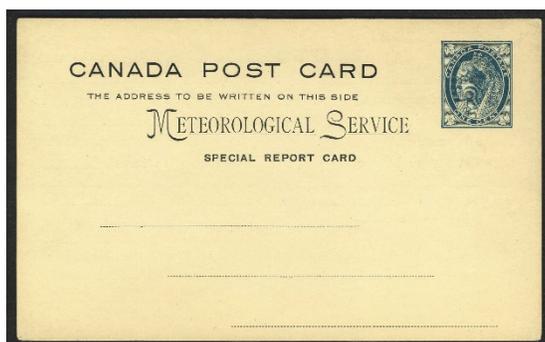
DMP7-e
Director (Meteorological in title case, italics, "M" under "RE")



DMP7-f
Director (Meteorological in title case, italics, "M" under "TO")



DMP9-a
Director (Meteorological in block letters, upper case)



DMP17-a
SPECIAL REPORT CARD



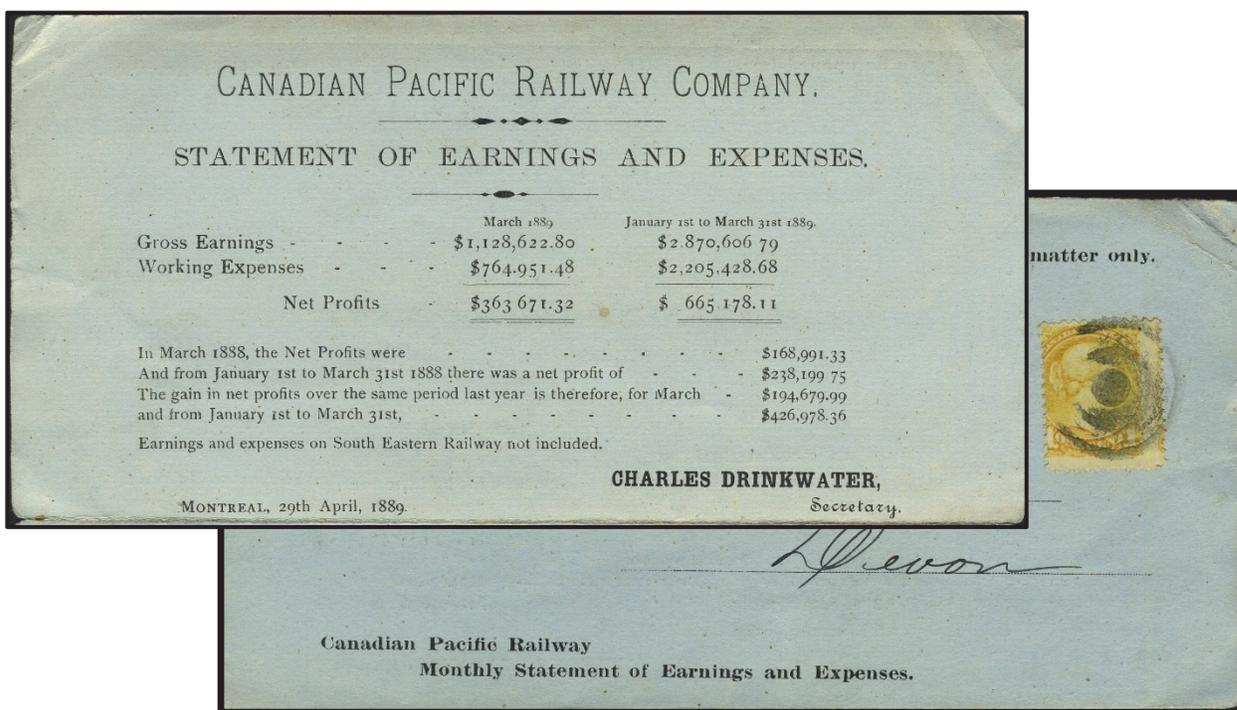
DMP23-a
Agent, Victoria

Webb's No. (7th edn.)	assigned temporary number	office addressed	distinguishing details
P1	DMP1-a	Toronto	G. T. Kingston, Magnetic Observatory, 2nd line all UC
	DMP1-b	Toronto	G. T. Kingston, Magnetic Observatory, 2nd line initial caps
	DMP1-c	Toronto	G. T. Kingston, Superintendent Meteorological Office
	DMP1-d	Toronto	The Superintendent of the Meteorological Service (stencil)
P2	DMP2-a	Toronto	The Superintendent Meteorological Office (stencil)
	DMP2-b	Toronto	The Superintendent Meteorological Office (printed type)
P5	DMP5-a	Toronto	Superintendent (Meteorological in italics)
P7	DMP7-a	Toronto	Superintendent (Meteorological in block letters, title case)
	DMP7-b	Toronto	Director (Meteorological in block letters, title case)
	DMP7-c	Toronto	Director (Meteorological in block letters, upper case)
	DMP7-d	Toronto	Director (Meteorological in title case, italics, "M" under "TO")
	DMP7-e	Toronto	Director (Meteorological in title case, italics, "M" under "TO")
	DMP7-f	Toronto	Director (Meteorological in title case, italics, "M" under "TO")
P9	DMP9-a	Toronto	Director (Meteorological in block letters, upper case)
P17	DMP17-a	_____	Special Report Card
P23	DMP23-a	Victoria	Agent

Another Canadian Pacific E&E statement

By William Walton

Shown here is another of the many previously unreported early unstamped E&E formula letter sheets. This example, still on the early gray blue wove paper, is the April 29, 1889 statement for March. This suggests the possible continuous use of this paper at least through this date (see the table of recorded usages in PSN Vol. 26 No. 5, p. 47).



French or English First?—Another correction and an addition

Yet more corrections are needed to the information provided in the Vol. 26 issue of Postal Stationery Notes (p. 51). The entry in the table for the “NHL, Montreal Canadiens (Zamboni)” card was incorrect; an entry for the “NHL, Montreal Canadiens (jersey)” was omitted. These should have read:

Date Issued	CARDS WITH TEXT UNDER STAMP	Language first under stamp	Language in half-circle cancel	Title (on view side) in Eng, Fr. or E/F
	IN FRENCH FIRST, ENGLISH 2 ND			
	Subject			
2013-09-03	*NHL, Montreal Canadiens (jersey)	F/E	E/F	F/E
2014-10-03	*NHL, Montreal Canadiens (Zamboni)	F/E	E/F	F/E

Thanks to Michel Ledoux for noting these errors. Pierre Gauthier also has observed that in the “half-circle cancel” on the Montreal Zamboni card shown in the picture of the PO package of seven cards the language order is F/E, unlike the card that actually was issued. The images of the “cancel” on the packs and on the Montreal card in the earlier series (showing the jerseys) both are E/F.

A new letter card listing

Pierre Gauthier

In the fourth (1983) edition of the Webb Catalogue the letter card L9f was listed as:

L9f 2¢ on 3 ¢ violet, capital “C”,

and the heading settings on the basic card, L1(a) were not differentiated. In the fifth (1988) edition, the two settings on L1 were noted, and L9f again was listed as:

L9f 2¢ on 3 ¢, violet, capital “C”.

In Webb’s sixth (1993) edition L9f simply became:

L9f 2¢ on 3 ¢, capital “C”.

In the seventh (2001) edition of Webb’s the two settings of the basic 3¢ card were assigned separate catalogue numbers, L1 and L1c. The descriptions of the relevant surcharged letter cards then reads:

- L9 2¢ on 3 ¢ (L1 setting 1)
- L9g 2¢ on 3 ¢ (L1 setting 2)
- L9f 2¢ on 3 ¢, as L9, capital “C”.

Pierre Gauthier now has found a copy of the capital “C” surcharge on a copy of letter card L1c (the 3¢ card with heading setting 2). The heading and surcharged indicium is shown below; printing inside the letter card is for “Alloway & Champion, Bankers, Winnipeg”. This report will result in a new letter-card entry in the next edition of Webb’s.



Hoodoos and Dinosaur Park—a follow-up

Well, we now have one answer. The erroneous picture was replaced, a new post card was released (PO order number 262444), and so far as I can tell the other four cards in the re-released packages of five post cards (new PO order number 262445) are identical to those released on July 3. The new card has a printed “issue” date of 2015/08/21.

Copies of the original “Hoodoos” card have been selling at prices in the hundreds of dollars on e-bay, and it appears that the card is much scarcer than the adhesive (sheetlets and booklets), though possibly less scarce than the associated “official” first-day cover.



Hidden Numbers—Some Further Thoughts

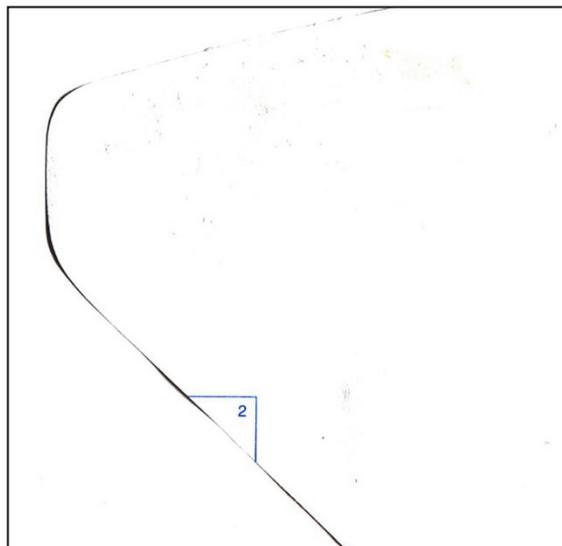
In PSN Volume 21, pp. 5-9 Dick Staecker presented a fairly comprehensive review of envelopes issued between 1994 and 2000 with numbers printed in light blue on the envelope, under the gummed, sealed flaps. The number can be seen by shining a strong light through the envelope; examples are shown below of such numbers both on cross-flap and side-seams envelopes. Additional number/envelope combinations were reported in two updates: PSN Vol. 21, p. 14 and Vol. 21, p. 23. Based on the available information—especially the range of values—it might be speculated that the numbers represent plate positions, with 1-12 for the #8 envelopes and 1-8 for the #10 envelopes. In the last nine years there do not appear to have been any further published reports or comments.

The first issues with hidden dates seem to have been the 43¢ Regina (#8) and Halifax (#10) envelopes of January 1994, a little more than one year into the “Provincial Capital Cities” issue. As Dick pointed out, a few envelopes in the period 1994–2000 have been found without hidden numbers. For most of the envelope types that is uncommon. However, both the Regina and Halifax envelopes are *commonly* found without hidden numbers, suggesting some change was made to these printing plates part-way

through the printing run. Indeed, the Regina envelope has been found with only one hidden number, 3, though at least two copies with the 3 are known.



Hidden number on a side-seams envelope



Hidden number on a cross-flap envelope

No hidden numbers have been found on the 2002 undenominated “domestic lettermail” envelopes (#8 Goldfinch, #10 Scarlet Tanager), and so far I have not found any copies of the previous 47¢ envelopes (first issued in late December 2000) *without* hidden numbers. So, the numbers no longer seem to have been used (or were moved to a sheet location from which they regularly were trimmed) after late 2001 or very early 2002.

Dick Staecker also noted use of the hidden numbers on the 1997 Scenic Highways envelopes and on the 2000 46¢ Year of the Dragon private-order envelope. I can find no hidden numbers on the 1999 IMAX envelope, but an examination of my copies of the 1998 Year of the Tiger private-order envelope yielded the hidden number 2 on a used copy, and hidden numbers 4 and 8 on mint copies (Earle Covert previously reported that (unspecified) hidden numbers could be found on these (PSN Vol. 18, p. 7)).

So:

- Can anyone report more copies of the Regina envelope with a hidden number? If so, what are the postmark dates on any used copies?
- Has anyone found copies of the 47¢ Longspur (#8) or #10 (Eagle) envelopes *without* hidden numbers? If so, please also report the bar-code number. What are the postmark dates on any used copies?

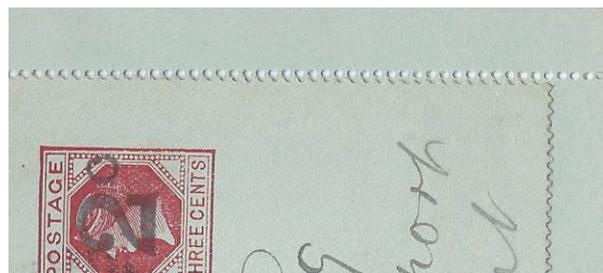
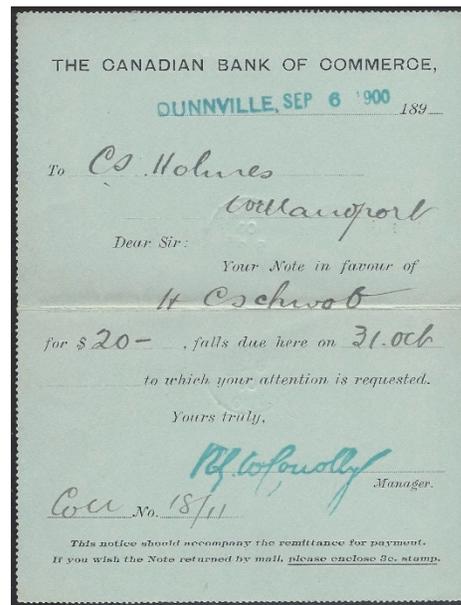
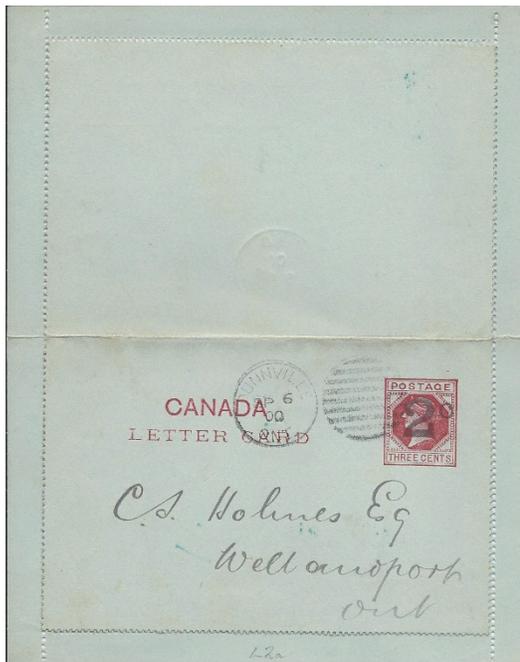
unreported hidden numbers

EN138	Regina	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
EN142	Yellowknife	4, 11
EN154a	Hairy Woodpecker (side seams)	7
EN156	Warbler	5
EN158a	Longspur (bar code 1830)	1, 2
EN159a	Eagle (bar code 1831)	1, 4
EN171	99 #10	2
EN172	wine #8	12
EN173	wine #10	1
EN603	year of tiger #10	1, 3, 5, 6, 7
EN605	year of dragon #10	1, 3, 5, 6

A rare letter card—non-philatelic use of Webb's L9e

By Pierre Gauthier

Copies of the 3¢ letter card with the scarce Type B perforations (L1b) can be found with a bit of searching. The card revalued to 2¢ (L9e) is much more difficult to find even in unused condition. At least two copies of L9e are known, mailed to overseas addresses from Berlin, Ontario, but these appear to be philatelic in origin. Recently, I rechecked some of my letter cards and found a copy of L9e used commercially. Robert Lemire reported the first one in PSN Vol. 17 # 3 back in November 2001. Identification of my copy was made difficult by the fact that the borders had been removed, so I checked it against the perforations of a mint L2a showing the 'B' perforation. The image at the left (and the enlargement below) is the result of a copy of L2a being laid under my used L9e copy in order to show the matching perforations. The inside form (right) is a Canadian Bank of Commerce form dated September 6, 1900 from Dunnville (Ontario).



New envelope date reports

- Flag #10 05.15.15 (Thanks to Raymond Gagné for this report.)
- Animals #10 04.15.15
- Flowers #10 05.15.15

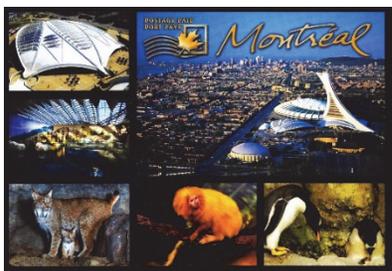
Both these and the earlier 11.05.14 animal envelopes do not have the “environmental choice” emblem which appeared on the backs of earlier envelopes in these series.



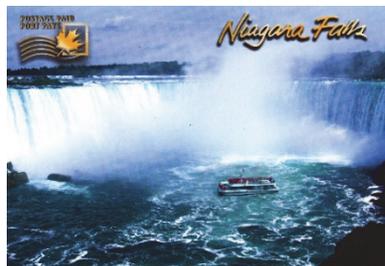
**PCF Corner
New Views**

By Robert Lemire: rlemire000@sympatico.ca - October 11, 2015

Eight new views have appeared, and there also are several new minor varieties to report, all on cards printed with Die IIIc, all with PCF in the logo. According too the postmaster at Niagara-on-the-Lake, the four new Niagara-on-the-Lake cards were first received at that office on 2015-09-09.



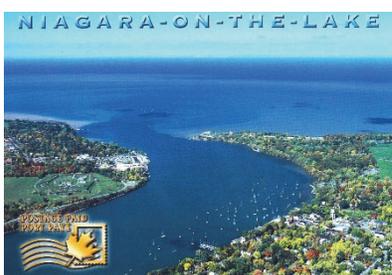
MTL 5266



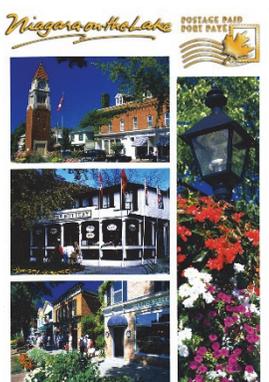
NF 5098



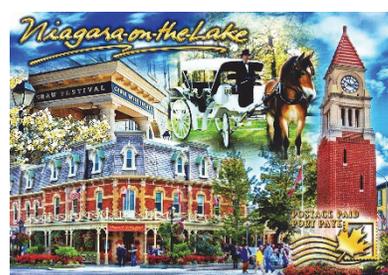
NOL 004



NOL 007



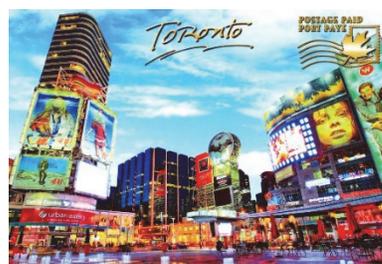
NOL 5324



NOL 5097



TOR 4959



TOR 5150

- MTL 5266** bar codes 64392 00409 (bottom left), 73418 38847 (centre), box Style III French first
- NF 5098** bar codes 64392 00409 (bottom left), 73418 37381 (centre), box Style III English first
- NOL 004** bar codes 64392 00409 (bottom left), 73418 39415 (centre), SKU: 260372, box Style III English first
- NOL 007** bar codes 64392 00409 (bottom left), 73418 39416 (centre), SKU: 260373, box Style III English first
- NOL 5097** bar codes 64392 00409 (bottom left), 73418 37379 (centre), SKU: 260375, box Style III English first
- NOL 5324** bar codes 64392 00409 (bottom left), 73418 39417 (centre), SKU: 260374, box Style III English first
- TOR 4959** bar codes 64392 00409 (bottom left), 73418 39195 (centre), box Style V English first
- TOR 5150** bar codes 64392 00409 (bottom left), 73418 39194 (centre), box Style V English first

New Varieties (Die IIIc only)

- C120 previously reported in two other forms, but now box Style III rather than Style I (and PCF *not* in logo)
C176V as previously reported, but box Style IX rather than Style I

STYLE IX

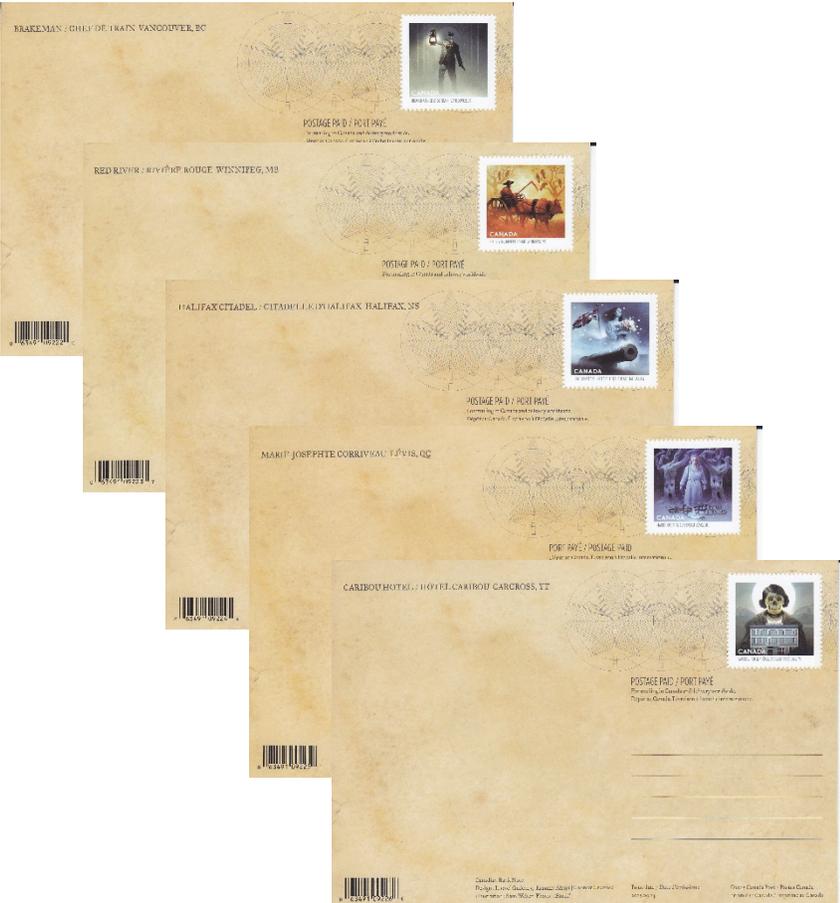
The 'D' of 'WORLD' is over the "E" of "QUELLE". Somewhat similar (but not identical) to Style III in layout, but not in line lengths. Very thin lettering. So far this has been found only on a second (or later?) printing of C176V.

POSTAGE PAID TO ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD
PORT PAYÉ. EXPÉDITION VERS N'IMPORTE QUELLE DESTINATION AU MONDE.

- MTL166 previously the IIIc card has been reported in two other forms, but the SKU# now has been changed to 260093, PCF is now in the logo, now the box style is box Style V, no caption.
NF187 (*not* NF 187) die IIIc, SKU#260089, PCF in logo, old caption (as on the 2001 die I card).
Previously the IIIc card with this view has been found in two other forms:
(a) with no SKU#, old caption (as on the 2001 die I card) and no PCF in the logo and
(b) as *NF 187*, caption as on the card with die IIIb, SKU#260089, and *no* PCF in logo
RCMPC 074 SKU#, closed 4, indic. at bottom, underlay URCMP2, style V, PCF in logo
VQ 3866 underlay U1, box Style III English first (previously issued with underlay U2, box Style I)

Haunted Canada—yet five more cards

On September 14, 2015 Canada Post issued five more “Haunted Canada” postage prepaid postcards. The PO order number for a complete set of five is 262443.



BRAKEMAN / CHEF DE TRAIN
VANCOUVER, BC
PO order number 262438

RED RIVER / RIVIÈRE ROUGE
WINNIPEG, MB
PO order number 262439

HALIFAX CITADEL / CITADELLE
DE HALIFAX HALIFAX, NS
PO order number 262440

MARIE-JOSEPHE CORRIVEAU
LÉVIS, QC
PO order number 262441

CARIBOU HOTEL / HÔTEL
CARIBOU CARCROSS, YT
PO order number 262442