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This first issue of the newsletter contains articles about a variety of types of BNAPS postal stationery. Others will be discussed in future issues. Articles, questions, comments and ideas are all needed, and should be sent to the address noted below. The participation of all members is necessary to the success of the Study Group.

Do YOU have an ERP ?

One long neglected area of study in Canadian Postal Stationery is the dates of issue of stationery items. This is not surprising because, in most instances, the Post Office did not keep records. Although Bond, Howes, the Philatelic Society of London (in their book of 1889) and Boggs all give dates, these do not agree on many items, even as to the year of issue. Nothing has been reported on many of the more recent issues. However, a good idea of the date of issue can usually be obtained by looking for the Earliest Reported Postmark (ERP) for an item.

This is a project in which all members of the Study Group can participate. Many items are scarce, or scarce in dated used condition. Your copy may be the earliest date known. Check your material.

Bill Walton is coordinating this project. If you have an item which has an earlier date than the date listed in this newsletter, send a photocopy of both the front and the back of the item either directly to him, or c/o the editors of Postal Stationery Notes. Certain items are very scarce and we are asking that photocopies of all dated copies of these items be sent so that a better idea of the period of use can be obtained. These items are marked **.

In this issue we present dates for items of the Victorian era supplied by the British American Bank Note Company. All numbers used are Webb numbers; Higgins and Gage numbers are given in parentheses. In most cases the dates have not been separated for shade varieties. Some work has been done on this by Bill Walton and may be presented in a later issue.

Postal Cards

P1 (1)	June 10, 1871	P12a (15a)	?
P2 (2)	Feb. 18, 1876	P12b (15b)	Mar. 6, 1896
P3 (3)	April 9, 1877	P13 (13)	Feb. 28, 1893
P4 (4)	Aug. 15, 1879	P14 (14)	Feb. 9, 1894
P5 (5)	May 27, 1882	P15 (16)	Dec. 18, 1896
P6 (6)	April 4, 1883	<u>Postal Bands</u>	
P6a (7)	Dec. 26, 1884	W1 (E1)	June 22, 1878
P7 (8)	Feb. 4, 1887	W1f (E3)	July 31, 1880
P8 (9)	Sept. 15, 1887	W2c (E4c)	Jan. 31, 1883
P9 (10)	Dec. 8, 1891	W3 (E5)	Jan. 7, 1888
P10 (11)	Dec. 14, 1892	W4 (E6)	Feb. 19, 1892
P11 (12)	June 20, 1893	W5 (E7b)	Jan. 8, 1896
P12 (15)	Feb. 18, 1897	W5a (E7)	July 12, 1894

Postal Stationery Notes is the newsletter of the BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group, and is co-edited by Earle Covert and Robert Lemire. All information for the newsletter, and correspondence about the study group, should be addressed to: Robert Lemire, Box 549, Pinawa, Man., Canada ROE 1L0.

Envelopes

Note: Webb lists envelopes EN 5 and EN7 as separate issues - batonne lines 27 mm apart and 24 mm apart. While there may be two different papers after 1887, the separation of these lines, which may vary even on a single envelope, is not a distinguishing feature. A similar problem is encountered for EN6 and EN8. Dates for these pairs of numbers have been listed together.

EN3	(B3)	Dec. 13, 1877	** EN7a	(B6c)	Dec. 27, 1884
** EN3a	(B3a)	Jan. 26, 1882	** EN8a	(B8b)	Oct. 26, 1894
EN4	(B4)	March 19, 1878	EN8d	(DB1)	May 4, 1893
EN4a	(B4a)	Jan. 14, 1878	EN8f	(DB2)	May 10, 1893
EN4b	(B5)	Jan. 15, 1878	EN8g	(DB3)	July 1, 1893
EN4c	(B5a)	Dec. 21, 1877	EN8h	(DB3a)	?
EN5/7	(B6)	Feb. 1, 1888	EN8i	(DB3b)	April 25, 1899
** EN5a	(B6b)	Nov. 20, 1896	EN9	(B9)	Dec. 25, 1895
EN6/8	(B7)	Oct. 25, 1887			
EN6a	(--)	?			
EN6b/8b	(B8)	Nov. 1, 1889			
** EN6c	(B8a)	Nov. 13, 1893 thin paper			
		Feb. 12, 1894 thick "			

Letter Cards

Note: As mentioned some years ago by Mark Arons (BNA Topics 16, 267(1959)), two different settings of the headings occur on the BABNC letter cards. These are easily distinguishable by the relative locations of the second "A" of "CANADA" and the "A" of "CARD" as shown:



L1	(A1)	heading 1	Feb. 24, 1893
		2	Oct. 15, 1897
L1b	(A6)	heading 2	Nov. 15, 1897
L2	(A2)	heading 2	Jan. 13, 1896
L2a	(A4)	heading 2	Dec. 24, 1897
L3	(A3)	heading 1	June 11, 1896
		heading 2	Nov. 9, 1895
L3a	(A5)	heading 2	? (no used copies known - please check the perforations on all used copies of the 2¢ letter card with heading 2)

Bill Walton

NOTES ON THE KING GEORGE VI PORTRAIT AEROGRAMMES

Canadian aerogrammes bearing the portrait of King George VI were first issued in 1947. In typical Canadian fashion, two firms were chosen to do the printing, one from Quebec (Le Comptoir National of Montreal) and one from Ontario (Globe Envelopes Limited of Toronto). All of the aerogrammes were printed on a grey paper with a three line watermark (in script) :

Rolland
Croyden
Air Mail Canada

Some aerogrammes show all, and some various parts of this watermark as a random function of the cutting. Others are occasionally found without any portion of the watermark. This is purely a cutting variety and does not represent a different paper stock.

Le Comptoir National simultaneously used both a flat plate and a rotary plate press. Whenever printing is done with a curved plate, the printing is elongated in the direction of the curve of the plate. Thus the stamp impressions from the flat plate printing are 24.5 mm high, while the rotary press impressions are 25 mm high.

The first aerogrammes of Le Comptoir National also exist in two knives. Both are of the vertical three panel design. The scarcer of the two has square corners at the bottom of the unfolded sheet and broader flaps (Webb A4 - Higgins & Gage F2), the other has rounded corners at the bottom of the sheet (Webb 4b - H & G F1). The change in knife apparently occurred during the first printing, before the aerogrammes were released. Thus four major types of this issue can be identified. Le Comptoir National did not print 15¢ aerogrammes.

Globe Envelopes used only one printing method, but three different gums. Of the three gums, only two were used for envelopes of the three vertical panel design (Webb A5 & A6 - H & G F3 & F4). Gum type 1 is a smooth gum coating, while gum type 2 consists of a fine grid pattern. Both gum types 1 and 2 have been found for A5 (& gum 1 on A5b, gum 2 on A5c) but only gum 2 is known on A6.

The second type of George VI aerogrammes were again printed both by Le Comptoir National and by Globe Envelopes. The knives used for the second issue were such that the sheets folded into a "book". The flat sheet has the aerogramme front in the upper right quarter. The product of Le Comptoir National (Webb A7, A8 - H & G F5, F6) were printed on both the flat and rotary presses. The sheets from Globe Envelopes (Webb A9, A10 - H & G F7, F8) are both known with gum type 2. Also, gum type 3 - a coarse grid pattern gum - is known on A9. While it has not been found on A10, gum 3 has been noted on A10b.

In 1949, the contract to print the aerogrammes was obtained by Barber Ellis of Canada Limited, located in Brantford, Ontario. This company also produced "book" type aerogrammes (Webb A11, A12 - H & G F9, F10). Barber-Ellis used one printing method and one gum type. However, while all the aerogrammes produced by the other printers are lightly scored for folding at the edges of the gummed flaps, Barber-Ellis scored only the first portion of their 10¢ aerogrammes before the Post Office allowed them to drop this procedure. None of the 15¢ Barber-Ellis sheets were scored.

Check your aerogrammes and let us know of any questions or additions :

Earle Covert

A NEW ADMIRAL POSTAL CARD DIE

Last year Bill Walton, looking at Webb P33c, the Die I, two cent red admiral card, found there were two types. Type A was the first and appears to be the commonest. The colourless line on the upper edge of the King's collar runs to the right and then drops down the back of the collar.

Type B of Die I, which was soon apparently replaced by Die II, has the colourless line of the collar running to the right and curling upwards and disappearing behind the King's neck (see Figure 1). There are a number of other small differences.



Type A



Type B

Figure 1

These types were found when looking at uncut sheets of four of the Grand Trunk Railway view cards. New views GTR16H and GTR55A H, together with the previously known six views in "H", are all known in both types A and B. Therefore, in "H" of the Grand Trunk series, there are now sixteen different cards.

The same basic card, Webb P39c, is found as "I" in the multi-coloured Canadian Pacific Railway cards. These "I" cards have also been found in types A and B although not all have been found in both types so far. There will probably be fourteen of "I" altogether.

Earle Covert

GUMMING VARIETIES ON QUEEN ELIZABETH II ENVELOPES

The first printings of the 1954 Karsh Portrait issue were gummed by the same "plunger" method used on the previous George VI issues (Figure 1). This is a stamping process. The width of the irregular gum band depends on the registration and number of applications of gum. Also the texture of the gum surface varies from rough to smooth. The same gum was used on the envelopes with the return address message (Webb EN 71b,c, EN 72b,c - H & G B77b,c, B78b,c), which were issued in 1955.

In September of 1956, the Public Printing and Stationery Department introduced new rotary machines for stamped envelope production. As part of the envelope making process a roller applied the gum evenly to the prestamped paper in a consistent, sharply defined area (Figure 2). Early examples of the "roller" method are found to have a dark brown gum. Later, however, various shades of brownish gum were used, and also a white gum. The three types ("plunger" gum, "roller" gum (brown), and "roller" gum (white)) have been found on both sizes of the 2¢, 4¢ and 5¢ envelopes, and are distinguishable on sealed envelopes from the pattern and colour.

The "return address" envelopes were all printed before the "roller" gum was used. Two distinct gum shades (brown and white roller type) are known on EN 77b (H & G B83b), surcharged to 3¢ in 1964. Also, the special order envelopes Webb EN 540-20, EN 540-40b (with the 1¢ Wilding impression added) are revalued envelopes with dark brown "roller" gum.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Early printings of the 3¢ cameo #8 envelope (Webb EN78 - H & G B84) have been noted with a dark brown gum not seen on the previous International Envelope issues or the other cameo envelopes.

The 8¢ "centennial" envelope is found in both sizes of the later printings with the gum strip on the flap in three distinct segments. On the #8 copies are known both with and without tagging. All #10 tagged envelopes seen so far have the segmented gum strip, and all envelopes with the segmented gum strip are tagged.

John Aitken & Robert Lemire

Questions and Answers - starting next issue

Questions will be numbered. Answers to, or comments on, any question will appear with the number assigned originally to the question. Send your questions to the editor of Postal Stationery Notes now!