

Volume 1 No. 4

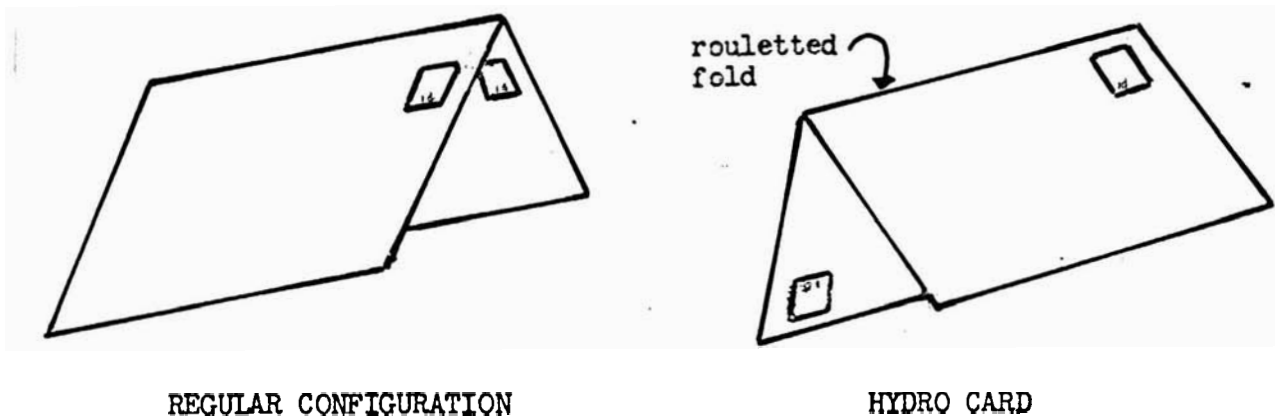
August 1982

A Novel Ontario Hydro Private Order Reply Card

Recently a reply postal card, one cent + one cent, of the George VI Issue has been found with a return address to:

THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER COMMISSION  
OF ONTARIO  
C/O MR. M. D. KAYE, Supt.,  
MATHESON,  
ONTARIO

The most unusual feature of this card is the arrangement of the message and reply halves with respect to each other.



REGULAR CONFIGURATION

HYDRO CARD

The headings on the card are Webb types 5 and 12 (Higgins & Gage types 14 and 16) but are not identical to those used on the normal reply cards. It is not known whether the Post Office supplied the blank reply cards to Ontario Hydro who had a private printer apply the headings, or if the headings were done by the security printer to Hydro specifications. **Unlike the normal reply cards the Hydro card is rouletted at the fold.**

A reasonable number of the message portions (type 5) of these cards are known, and there were many printings. **Does anyone else have an unsevered pair or a separate reply portion (type 12) of the George VI Hydro cards?**

Earle Covert

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

ERPs

This is the fourth installment of our list of ERPs. A few new dates have been reported, but there must be many others in the collections of our members. Among the ERPs sent in, one problem has been noted. This concerns paper stock on the postal cards. The terms "thick soft card", "yellow straw card" and "clay toned card" mean different things to different people. Eventually the Study Group will have to reach conclusions concerning descriptions of paper stock used for preparing postal stationery items. Certainly the items cannot be distinguished from photocopies. Comments and discussion on this topic would be most welcome.

Until the problem is solved, photocopies should not be sent for early dates where the dated item differs from another only by the paper stock. For example, the ERP for P17 is Jan. 21, 1899. If you have a copy of P17, P17a or P17b which has an earlier date than this, then it should be reported. However, at this time, no separate later dates should be reported for P17a or P17b. In all cases a report of a new earliest date should be accompanied by a photocopy of the front and the back of the item. If possible, bring your card stock variety ERPs to BNAPEX.

This listing gives ERPs for the Admiral Issue postal cards. There was a wide variety of card stock used for this issue. One is a soft thick card which is denoted as "mimeo" stock in some catalogues (including Webb's). This was simply the stock normally used during one particular period. As noted above, there is a subjective element in the description of card stocks. Therefore, for the present, please hold reports on ERPs on the so-called mimeo cards of the Admiral issue.

This issue was in use for a long period of time. There are die varieties not listed in the Webb or Higgins & Gage catalogues and, also, some minor varieties in the setting of the headings. These will be dealt with in a later newsletter, and the current catalogues are the basis for the list given here. The stationery is arranged by Webb catalogue number, with the Higgins and Gage number in parentheses.

Postal Cards

P26	(68)	Aug. 7, 1930	P29	(61)	Nov. 30, 1925
P26a	(K6)	?	P29a	(66)	Aug. 30, 1927
P26i		?	P29c	(52)	Oct. ?, 1922
P26b	(69)	?	P29d	(70)	May 2, 1929
P26c	(59)	Feb. 22, 1927	P29e	(K7)	?
P26f	(K5A)	April 25, 1925	P29f	(50)	Feb. 13, 1922
P26e	(60)	March 23, 1928	P29g	(50a)	Nov. 11, 1921
P27	(K5)	?	P29i	(71)	May ?, 1929
P27a	(46)	April 3, 1917	P29j #	(51)	Mar. 23, 1922
P27b	(46a)	April 23, 1921	P29o +		Jan. 2, 1929
P27c	(44)	Dec. 27, 1915	P29k		Dec. 12, 1921
P27d	(45)	Feb. 26, 1918	P30e	(K8)	?
P27e	(43)	Oct. ?, 1916	P30	(74)	?
P27f	(27)	July 11, 1914	P30a	(63)	Sept. 2?, 1924
P27g	(28)	Jan. 25, 1915	P30b	(64)	April 2, 1928
P27h	(28a)	Nov. 25, 1920	P30d	(65)	?
P27i	(29)	Sept. 9, 1913	P31	(75)	Dec. 11, 1929
P27j	(29a)	April 28, 1920	P31a	(56)	Mar. 1, 1927
P28	(K3)	Oct. 12, 1915	P31d		Nov. 14, 1922
P28a	(39)	June 2, 1915	P31b	(76)	?
P28b	(40)	?	P31c	(57)	Nov. 5, 1925
P28c	(30)	Dec. 17, 1913	P32	(33)	Nov. 19, 1915
P28d	(31)	Nov. 7, 1913	P32a	(34)	April 15, 1914

Postal Cards (cont.)

P33	(K4)	Jan. 3, 1921 *	P34	(62)	Dec. 9, 1925
P33a	(47)	Sept. 8, 1916	P34b	(67)	Dec. 21, 1927
P33b	(47a)	Jan. 10, 1923	P34d	(55)	May 31, 1922
P33c	(41)	May 31, 1915	P34e	(72)	Dec. 14, 1928
P33d	(42)	Jan. 25, 1916	P34f	(53)	Oct. 2, 1922
P33e	(35)	July 14, 1915	P34j	(53a)	Nov. 19, 1922
P33f	(36)	July 5, 1915	P34k	(73)	Aug. 27, 1929
P33g	(36a)	Sept. 9, 1920	P34l	(54)	July 12, 1922
P33i	(37)	June 25, 1915	P35	(32)	Sept. 2?, 1912
P33j	(38)	Sept. 1, 1915	P36	(58)	Jan. 22, 1923
P33k	(38a)	Sept. 21, 1920			
P33l	(48)	Aug. 3, 1917			
P33m	(49)	Oct. 4, 1917			

\* A considerably earlier date has been noted in the printed message on a copy of P33.

# "POST CARD etc" 63mm long

+ as P29j but "POST CARD etc" 69mm long

NEW ERPs (for items on previous lists)

EN11 Nov. ?, 1898	EN11a Sept. 3, 1904	EN13a June 16, 1900
EN31a Sept. 24, 1925	EN35a Sept. 22, 1926	EN37 April 17, 1931
P23 Jan. 28, 1904	P24 Dec. 29, 1903	L6 Oct. 21, 1898

Bill Walton

NEW CANADIAN POSTAL STATIONERY

As most of you are aware, new postal stationery items were issued by Canada Post this past March. A new aerogramme (60¢), of the same knife as the previous 35¢ issue, has a picture of a Pacific skyline. Transportation designs have been used for the new 30¢ envelopes and postal card. As usual the envelope is available in the #8 and #10 sizes. The postal card is available as a single and in a 10-on format. The minimum purchase of the 10-on cards is usually a package of 100 sheets of 10. The 3-on rouletted cards available for previous issues will apparently not be released.

The envelopes have a security printing reading:

CANADAPOSTCORPORATIONSOCIETECANADIENNEDESPOSTES

Particularly on the #10 envelopes, the colour of the security printing varies (from turquoise to blue). Fluorescence of the paper also varies markedly, even within a package of 25 envelopes. Dick Staecker suggests that the fluorescent stock is found with the blue security printing, the dull stock with the turquoise printing. Can anyone find an exception to this?

A post office source has indicated that the new envelopes, which have four lines at the upper left for a return address, may soon be changed to eliminate these lines. The reason for this is the difficulty of aligning printed return addresses with the lines.

One special order item with the new design has been noted. The Quebec Ministry of Social Affairs continues to use prestamped, kraft window envelopes. According to a Quebec dealer, the envelopes are supplied to welfare recipients to mail a form to the Ministry. The next cheque is not sent unless this form is received.

NOTES ON PROBLEMS WITH POSTAL CARD STOCK (1928-1935)

The files 13-12-5 and 13-13-10 of the Canada Post Office contain correspondence and information related to difficulties encountered with postal card stock in the late 1920's and early 1930's. This article is an attempt to summarize why and when the Post Office decided to issue fairly small numbers of printed matter rate cards on a thick soft card stock suitable for mimeograph printing. Similar stock (the so-called "mimeo" stock) continued to be used in small quantities from 1932 - 1975. About 1920 some Admiral Issue cards were prepared on a similar soft card stock, but, at present, there is no evidence that this was deliberate. These earlier cards will not be discussed further here.

The information below has been obtained with the help and cooperation of the National Postal Museum, and I wish to express my thanks to the staff who took time to help me with my research even though they were in the midst of preparing for the opening of their new Wellington St. location in 1980.

In October of 1928, a letter from a Nelson B.C. engineering firm to the postmaster general indicated that a difficulty had been encountered in applying ink to the then current postal card stock as follows:

"I am enclosing in with this letter two postal cards of which we have been using a large number in the past, mimeographing a message on them and mailing them.

We use from 1000 to 1300 of these cards every month and we find a lot of difficulty with them taking the ink as you will see from one of them, and I am writing you at this time asking whether it is possibly (sic) to obtain supplies of one cent and one-half cent cards made upon a rougher cardboard and not a hard surface like those that are being supplied at post offices, and if these are not obtainable, may I ask your careful consideration to the advisability of issuing cards which will take printers ink. ... "

According to a memorandum from H. E. Atwater, Financial Superintendent of the Post Office to Mr. Taylor, Accountant in Charge, Postage Stamp Division (dated November 27, 1928) arrangements had by then been made to provide

" ... a quality of paper for a proportion of postcards manufactured for this Department which would enable commercial concerns and others using such cards for printing purposes to use them without having the ink blot as it does on the current issue. ... "

On January 4, 1929 a memorandum from the Postage Stamp Division advised that " ... 97,000 special post cards to be used on mimeograph work have been received at the Postage Stamp Division today. ... "

Postmasters in Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec, London, Hamilton and St. John were informed of the availability of the new cards, while postmasters in Vancouver, Regina, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto and Halifax were told to requisition a small quantity of the cards to be kept on hand. Postmasters were also requested to ascertain from purchasers whether or not cards were to be used for mimeographing. These letters were sent out on January 11, 1929. Apparently the 97,000 cards were only the first part of a larger order, as later correspondence refers to 226,800 cards in stock at the Postage Stamp Division. These cards were, of course, printed by the Canadian Bank Note Co.

When the contract for printing postal cards was transferred to the British American Bank Note Company on April 1, 1930, T.R. Legault, Acting Accountant in charge of the Postage Stamp Division recommended that further cards for

mimeographing purposes not be manufactured "until it has been ascertained that there will be a demand for same." . He also suggested that demand for  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ and  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cards on such stock would be very small. The postmasters to whose offices the special cards had been sent were polled and no demand for the cards was noted. A portion of the reply from the postmaster of Vancouver is of interest.

"One client who was prepared to use fairly large quantities found them to be unsatisfactory because of the fact that they have a tendency to double in the mimeograph, due, he believes, to the amount of starch on the face. ... "

The results of the survey led to a July 5, 1930 memorandum from H.E. Atwater (financial superintendent) to T.R. Legault which read in part " ... Mr. Legault is advised that immediate steps are to be taken to cancel all arrangements for use of special paper for advertising Post Cards. ... "

However, various postmasters still had over 200,000 of the special cards (printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company) on hand. On February 25, 1931 Mr. Legault wrote to Mr. Atwater

" As requested in the Financial Superintendent's memorandum of the 21st instant in regard to post cards printed from special stock for printing purposes, the undersigned would respectfully suggest that the 201,800 one cent mimeograph post cards now held in stock be disposed of through Postmasters in the regular way as ordinary post cards. Although the stock used in the manufacture of those cards was much inferior to the one now being used, being a lot more absorbent, as such cards are of the one cent denomination, most of which are used for printing purposes, it is not expected that the difference would even be noticed in such a small quantity.

Such procedure was followed by the Postmaster at Winnipeg in order to dispose of the original quantity which was sent him years ago and the undersigned is not aware that any complaints were ever received. Such information was received from the Postmaster in a letter dated June 17th, 1930. As the above suggestion seems to be the only possible way of disposing of such cards, the cost of manufacture of which was \$250.00, it seems preferable to try and dispose of same in this way rather than destroy them. ... "

The card referred to is probably a variety of the 1¢ orange blank business card of the Admiral Issue, die III, (Webb P29a, H&G #66) although it is possible it is a card from the Scroll Issue (Webb P38, H&G #80). The cards were probably printed on a somewhat softer card stock than the normal cards, and given the low demand, most will be dated after February 1931. Earlier dates should also be found, and these should include most copies from Winnipeg. The card stock was probably not nearly as distinctive as the thick soft stock used later (e.g. Webb P43e, P52d (H&G #102a, 116a) etc.) for preparing cards suitable for mimeograph work. It also is probably less distinctive than the soft stock used normally around 1920 (e.g. Webb P27b, H&G #46a). This card stock variety does not appear to have been noted in any catalogue, nor do I have a copy. Nevertheless, it should be possible to find examples. Cards such as the 2¢ green of the Scroll Issue should provide a good indication of what was considered normal card stock during this period.

to be continued

Robert Lemire

EARLIEST REPORTED POSTMARKS OF GEORGE V & VI PRECANCELLED POSTAL STATIONERY ENVELOPES

I have been collecting PRECANCELLED postal stationery for about six years and have been recording all possible information I could obtain from other collectors. Since precancels are not dated I should like to note dates of postmarks or other information that would indicate when a certain precancel was used. The following is summary of the record which has been compiled.

<u>TOWN AND USER</u>	<u>PRECANCEL</u>	<u>WEBB NUMBER</u>	<u>ERP</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
<u>unknown</u> unknown	-CANADA POST OFFICE	EN502-10b	July 26,1927	probably bought direct from stock
	- " "	EN502-40a	Nov. 30,1927	"
<u>Calgary</u> Radio Sunday School	-CANADA POST OFFICE	EN503-43	Sept. 2,1931	
	- 8160	EN522-40	Feb. 7,1934	date of contents
<u>Perth</u> Henry K. Wampole	-PERTH. ONT.	EN502-40a	May 22,1925	
	- " "	EN503-35	Nov. 14,1931	
	- 4030	EN503-35	Sept. 24,1932	with advertisement
<u>Peterborough</u> The De Laval Company	-CANADA POST OFFICE	EN502-50a	Sept. 1,1927	no form date
	- " "	EN502-50a	Oct. 13,1928	form date -8-28
	- " "	EN503-45	Nov. 15,1930	" " -10-30
	- 4035	EN503-45	Sept. 22,1931	" " -7-31
	- " "	EN503-45	Dec. 10,1931	" " -10-31
	- " "	EN519-45h	Jan. 4,1932	" " -10-31
	- " "	EN519-48	Feb. 23,1932	" " -1-32
	- " "	EN519-50a	Apr. 11,1932	" " -2-32
	- " "	EN519-50a	May 23,1932	" " -5-32
	- " "	EN519-48	Sept. 15,1932	" " -7-32
	- " "	EN520A-45	Oct. 24,1932	" " -9-32
	- " "	EN522-45b	Mar. 25,1938	" " -2-38
	- " "	EN525-45	July 24,1939	" " -3-39
	- " "	EN525-23	Dec. 15,1939	" " -8-39
	- " "	EN525-45	Dec. 27,1939	" " -10-39
	- " "	EN525-40g	May 18,1940	" " -2-40
	- " "	EN525-40g	Oct. 19,1940	" " -8-40
<u>Toronto</u> Abbott Bros.	- 4530	EN519-10a	May 20,1932	
Bell Gouinlock & Co.	-TERM'L STN. A	EN502-50j	May 2,1930	noted only
	- 4530	EN519-30	May 18,1932	cream paper
	- " "	EN519-30	Nov. 10,1932	white paper
371 Bloor Street West	- 4530	EN503-10	Oct. 1931	noted only
Catholic Church Extension Society	- 4530	EN525-10d	Aug. 9,1951	black precancel
	- " "	EN525-10d	Dec. 10,1951	red precancel
	- " "	EN527A-10a	Dec. 17,1951	red precancel

<u>TOWN AND USER</u>	<u>PRECANCEL</u>	<u>WEBB NUMBER</u>	<u>ERP</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
Wm. Dawson Subscription Service	- 4530	EN525-10d	Nov. 13,1943	
Dominion Bank Building	- TERM*L STN. A	EN502-50j	Jan. 2,1929	
Dominion Envelope & Cartons	- 4530	EN519-45e	Mar. 22,1932	
Grand & Toy	- 4530	EN522-25	Feb. 24,1937	
McLeod, Young, Weir & Co. (Metropolitan Building)	- TERM*L STN. A	EN502-50b	Aug. 16,1926	double sided pennysaver flap
	- "	EN502-50b	Jan. 9,1930	single sided pennysaver flap
	- "	EN502-50b	June 11,1930	printed in orange single sided pennysaver flap printed in black
Marks Stamp Co.	- 4530	EN503-45c	Nov. 2,1931	
	- "	EN519-45f	Mar. 3,1932	
Page-Hersey Tubes Ltd.	- 4530	EN503-45h	Jan. 13,1942	very late date of use
"What the Income Tax Inspector ..."	-TERM*L STN. A	EN502-50d	Mar. 1924	
<u>Winona</u> W.A.Baisley & Co.	- 4952	EN503-10a	July 4,1931	

G.E.L. Manley

Editor's note

This listing is not part of our regular listings of earliest dates, but supplies supplementary information. Correspondence concerning the dates should be directed to Mr. Manley. It is hoped that additions to the list will appear in Postal Stationery Notes.

Questions and Answers

Q6. Recently I was shown three copies of what looked, at first glance, to be used examples of Webb EN74a (QE II second Karsh portrait issue 2¢ green #10). All three envelopes have the same printed corner (Figure 1). The first copy, postmarked Aug. 1962 has the usual "FULL OPEN FOR POSTAL INSPECTION" notice on the back. The type used for the lettering and the length of the message (39mm) is the same as all copies I had previously seen. However, the other two copies (postmarked Oct. 1962 and Aug. 1964) had serifs on the letters of the inspection notice and the notice itself was 44mm long ! The two varieties are shown in Figure 2. The knife and stamp impression itself appeared identical to those of other copies of EN74a. Can anyone turn up copies from a different user? Is this a private order envelope? Please examine your copies of EN74a carefully. (J.D.A.)

(note: Figures are on page 30)

If not delivered in 5 days return to  
 Ontario Tender Fruit Growers' Marketing Board  
 BOX 252  
 St. Catharines, Ontario

PULL OPEN FOR POSTAL INSPECTION  
 TIRER POUR INSPECTION POSTALE

normal

PULL OPEN FOR POSTAL INSPECTION  
 TIRER POUR INSPECTION POSTALE

variety

Figure 1

Figure 2

- Q7. In a recent sale held by Robert A. Lee a copy of A23 without a stamp impression and with a specimen overprint in red (36mm x5mm) was sold. Can anyone shed any light on the background of this item? (E.L.C.)

THE 3¢ QE II CAMEO ISSUE #10 ENVELOPE WITH POINTED FLAP - AN UPDATE

In response to a request in Postal Stationery Notes - Vol. 1, No. 2 several members have sent details concerning copies of this envelope. A summary of the results:

1 36mm message

unused

- 30 copies - no printed corner  
 1 copy - handstamp on the back: 511 - 548 Granville St., Vancouver B.C.

used

- 1 copy - Windsong Farms (B.C.) - Nov. 16, 1965  
 1 copy - N.W. Stamp Co., Edmonton (handstamp) - Nov. 26, 1966  
 1 copy - cut down piece (Edmonton cancel) - Nov. ,1965

2 41mm message

unused

none reported

used

- 2 copies - St. Paul's Church, 227 Bloor St. East  
 Toronto 5, Ont. - one dated Dec. 6, 1967  
 1 copy - N.W. Stamp Co., Edmonton (handstamp) - Oct. 26, 1965  
 3 copies - no printed corner - postmarked 1) Belleville Mar. 7, 1966  
 2) Montreal Dec. 22, 1965  
 3) St. Thomas Sept. 29, 1971

It can be concluded that the variety with the long message was fairly widely distributed with the earliest date for either being (so far) Oct. 26, 1965. More used copies (especially from the N.W. Stamp Co.) should be found eventually.

If you have not yet sent in details of your copies, please do so. This list will be updated again in a later newsletter. (reports received from Dick Staecker, Earle Covert, John Aitken, Tom Flynn, John Robb, Robert Lemire)