

Postal Stationery Notes

Volume 22 No. 3

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PSSG Organizational Changes

We are pleased to announce that effective with this issue of Postal Stationery Notes, Jean Walton (jwalton971@aol.com ; 125 Turtleback Rd, Califon NJ 07830) will be the layout/copy editor for Postal Stationery Notes. Furthermore, John Grace, our Secretary-Treasurer, has agreed to take on the added responsibility of being the contact person for the study group (jandmgrace@sympatico.ca 734 Aspen Rd Pickering ON, L1V 4H2).

However, for the Group to continue to function, Jean (who does not collect BNA Postal Stationery, but does collect postal stationery in other areas) must receive *your* contributions. We encourage each of you to think about contributing at least some small article for publication. It need not be in final form – we can help you with that – and while digital format is most convenient, we are happy to deal with handwritten text and items that we can scan for you if you do not have a scanner. It is your newsletter; it does not exist without your input.

For the next few months, Robert Lemire (rlemire000@sympatico.ca PO Box 1870, Deep River ON, K0J 1P0) will act as interim chairperson, with the primary responsibility of prodding Study Group members to send information to Jean. However, considering his other new duties as Vice-President of BNAPS, *we are still searching for a full-time chairperson.*

Newspaper Wrapper Heading Settings—A Summary

Robert Lemire

Wrappers are not especially popular among postal stationery collectors. They were generally printed on poor quality paper, and often have been folded to different, unconventional dimensions, making mounting difficult and reducing survivability in dealer boxes. The Canadian special newspaper wrappers used “for mailing second class matter to the United States” were sometimes difficult for collectors to obtain in unused condition when an issue was current, and properly used copies were sent out of the country.

In early issues of *Postal Stationery Notes* [1] and in footnotes in the Webb’s Catalogue [2]¹, differences in the heading settings for specific wrappers are mentioned. In general, heading settings were not changed often, but the changes did not necessarily coincide with changes in the indicium or paper. The purpose of this summary is to show the sequence of headings found on these wrappers. All headings are shown at approximately 100%, but the images have been adjusted to try to highlight the headings by increasing the contrast between the heading and the paper. Therefore, the colour of the paper is not shown consistently.

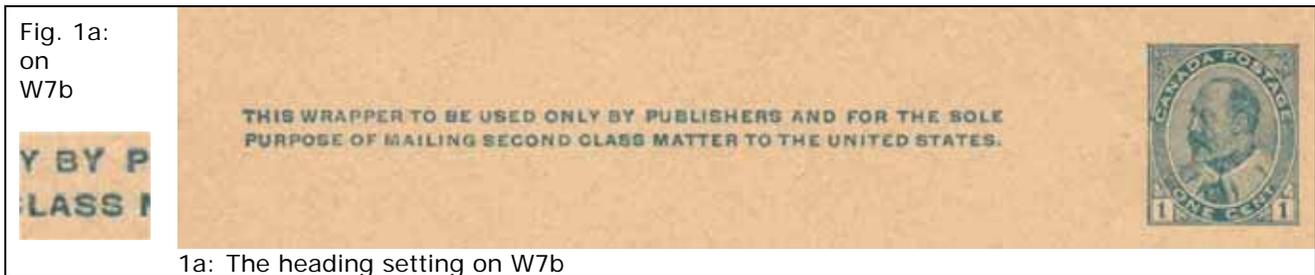
The King Edward Issue

The history of the first Canadian special newspaper wrappers, first issued in 1907, is well described by Howes [3]. The initial 1¢, 2¢ and 3¢ wrappers (and subsequent 1¢ on 2¢ and 1¢ on 3¢ revalued items) all had the same heading:

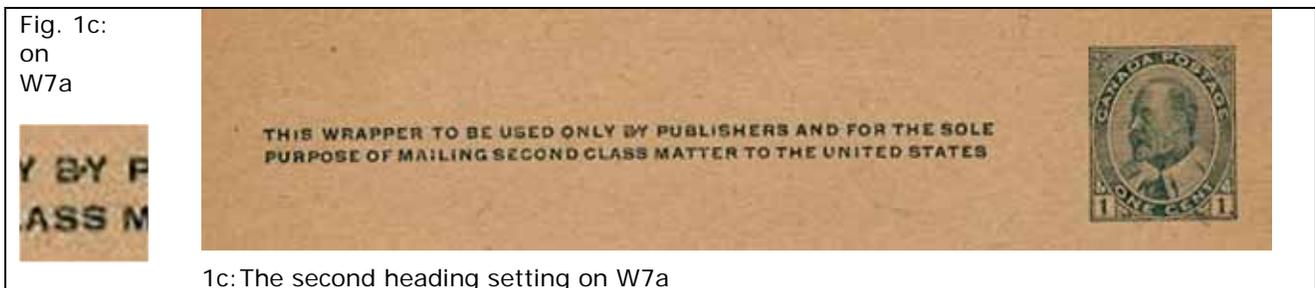
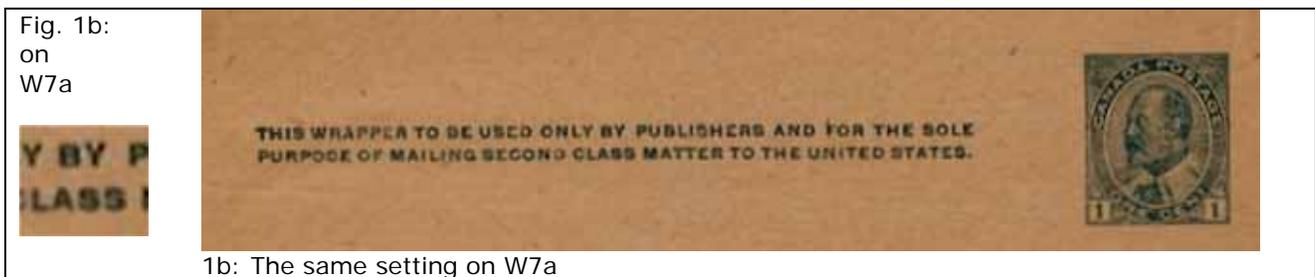
**THIS WRAPPER TO BE USED ONLY BY PUBLISHERS AND FOR THE SOLE
PURPOSE OF MAILING SECOND CLASS MATTER TO THE UNITED STATES.**

The heading setting on all three denominations of these first wrappers is the same, and the “Y” of “BY” in the first line falls directly above the “SS” of “CLASS.” Figure 1a shows the heading on the 1¢ value (Webb’s W7b).

Figures 1a-1c: King Edward VII wrapper heading settings



It would seem that when the size of the 1¢ wrapper was reduced (in 1910 ?²), the same heading setting was used (Webb’s W7a, Figure 1b) initially. However, as shown in Figure 1c, a different heading setting was later used on W7a, with the “Y” of “BY” in the first line falling above the second “S” of “CLASS.”

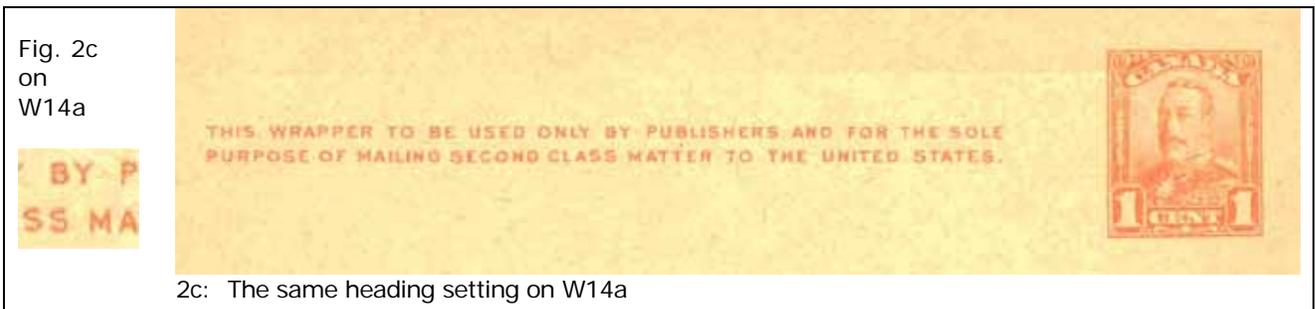
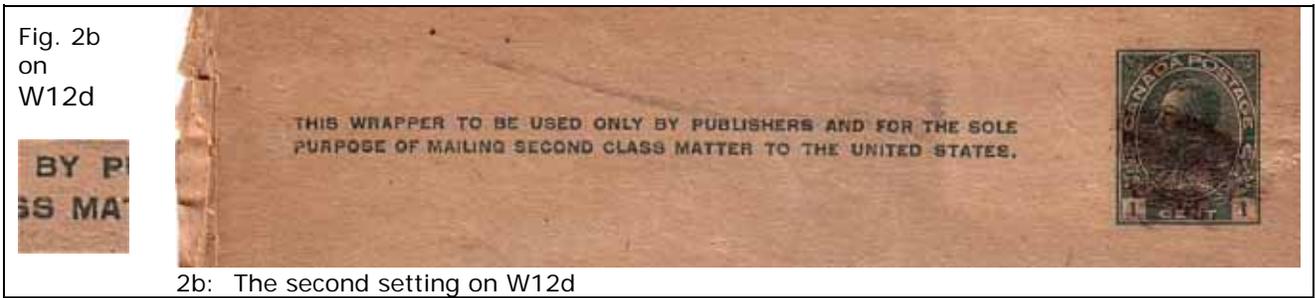
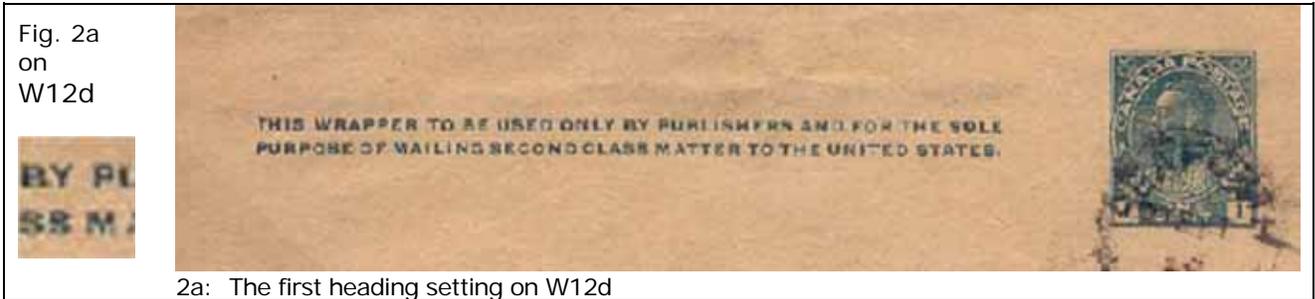


There is, of course, no proof that the two King Edward heading settings were not being used simultaneously. However, the heading setting shown in Figure 1c has also been found on a copy of the later die II 1¢ green Admiral Issue wrapper Webb’s W12d (Figure 2a). Thus, this heading setting seems to provide evidence that this copy of W12d is from an early printing of the Admiral Issue.

The Admiral and Scroll Issue

Now the words in the last two sentences above were chosen very carefully. As discussed in the last issue of *Postal Stationery Notes* [4], there are only two reported copies of Webb’s W12d, and the heading settings on those two copies are different. The heading setting on the second copy has the “Y” of “BY” in the first line falling over the space following the “SS” of “CLASS” (Figure 2b). It is almost certain that this is the *second* Admiral Issue heading setting, as it was used for all the later King George V American/Canadian Bank Note Company wrappers³—the green wrappers with other Admiral Issue dies (W12b, W12e), the yellow/orange Admiral Issue wrappers (W13d, W13e, W13f) and the orange Scroll Issue wrapper, W14a, Figure 2c).

Figures 2a-2c: American/Canadian Bank Note Company wrapper headings (1912-1929)



The British American Bank Note Company Wrappers

It is not surprising that the heading setting on newspaper wrappers printed by the British American Bank Note Company differed from those used by the Canadian Bank Note Company. As shown in Figure 3a, the first Arch Issue wrapper (W15a, again printed in orange) has a heading setting with the “Y” of “BY” in the first line falling directly above the “SS” of “CLASS” (similar, but not identical, to the first King Edward Issue heading setting). The Arch Issue green wrappers (W16c) on the same type of paper stock, and some copies on the later dark brown “manila” paper, W16a (Figure 3b), also used this heading setting. However, there are also copies of W16a with the “Y” of “BY” in the first line over and to the right of the second “S” of “CLASS” (Figure 3c). The text lines are also slightly longer. Presumably these were from a later printing.

Figures 3a-3c: The British American Bank Note Company heading settings

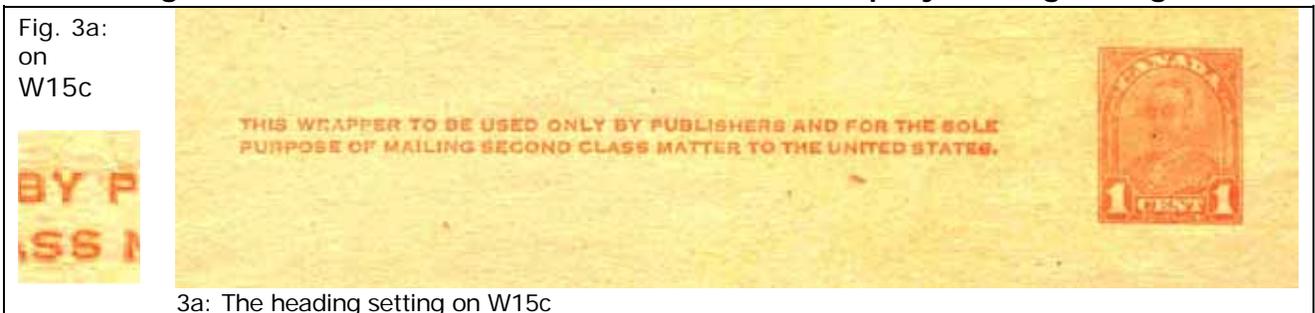
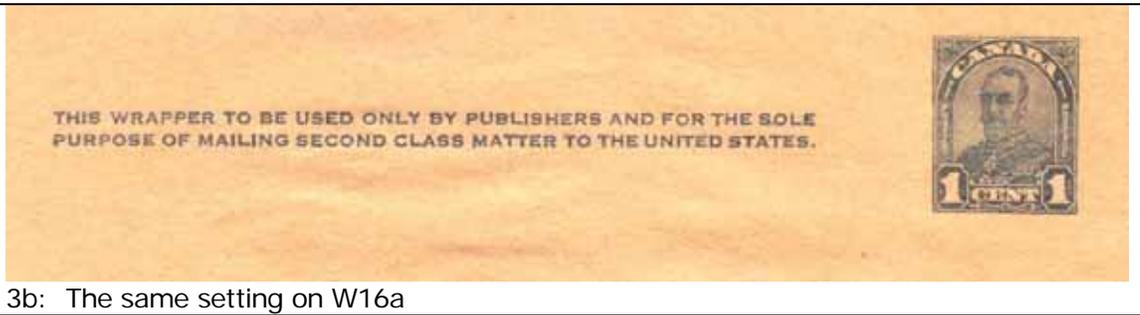
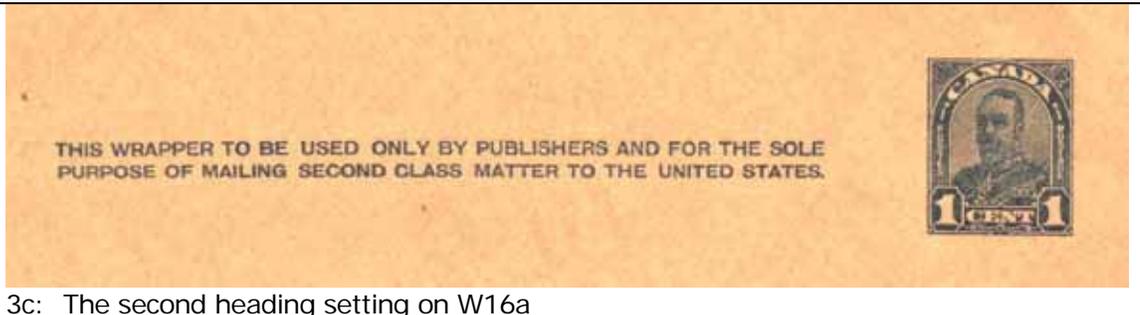


Fig. 3b
on
W16a



3b: The same setting on W16a

Fig. 3c
on
W16a



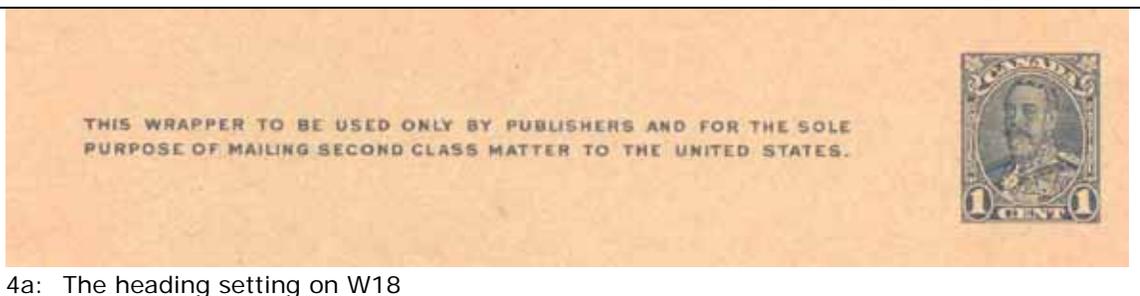
3c: The second heading setting on W16a

The Later Canadian Bank Note Company Wrappers

When the Canadian Bank Note Company regained the printing contract in 1935, the new George V Front Face wrapper (W18) heading setting had the “y” of “BY” in the first line over and to the left of the “m” of “MATTER” (Figure 4a). This setting was continued through the Profile Issue (W19b) and for several years of printing of the King George VI 1¢ wrappers (W20d, W20e, Figure 4b). However, a second setting exists with the “y” of “BY” in the first line falling above the second “s” of “CLASS” (Figure 4c).⁴ The length of the text line also was also increased by 2-3 mm. This second setting continued to be used for the remaining special newspaper wrapper issues, the 2¢ King George VI (W21b) and the 2¢ Queen Elizabeth (W23b, Figure 4d). [Those wrappers where no change was made in the headings are not illustrated.]

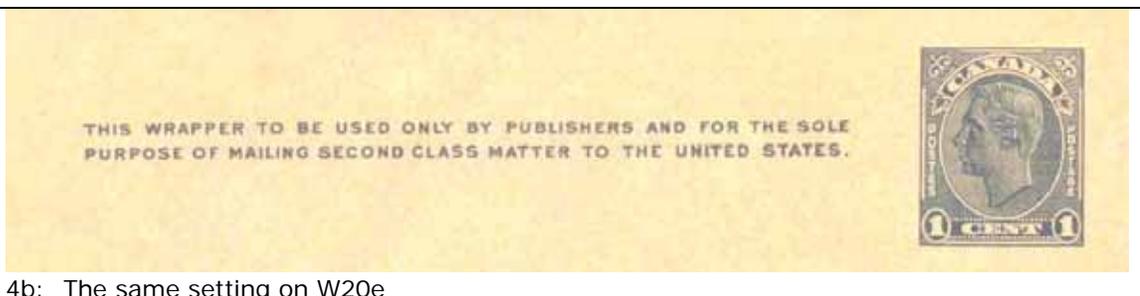
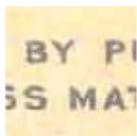
Figures 4a-4d: The 1937-1954 Canadian Bank Note Company heading settings

Fig. 4a
on
W18



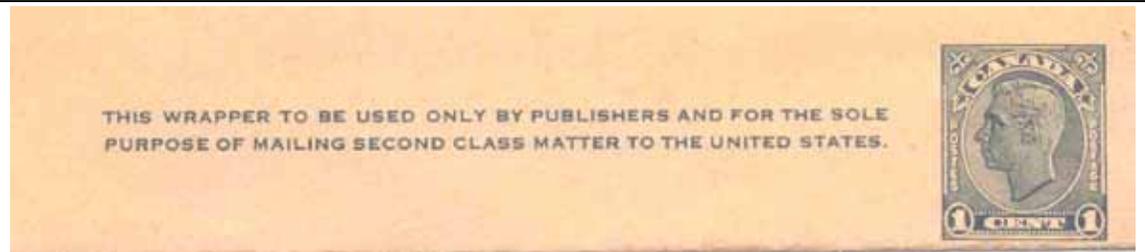
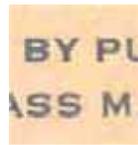
4a: The heading setting on W18

Fig. 4b
on
W20e



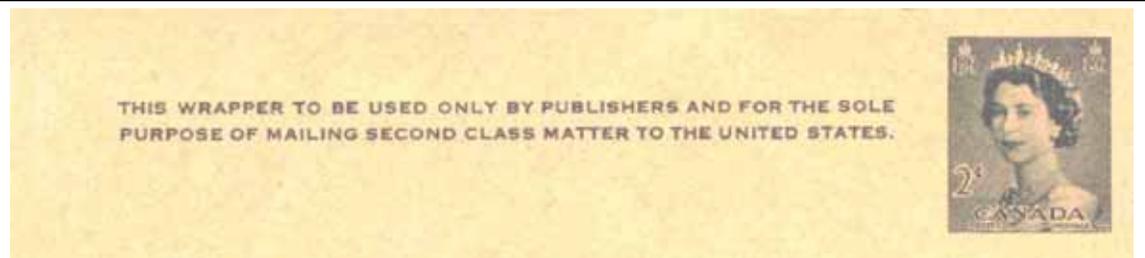
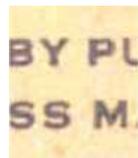
4b: The same setting on W20e

Fig. 4c
on
W20e



4c: The second heading setting on W20e

Fig. 4d
on
W23e



4d: The same setting on W23b

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Bill Walton for the scan in Figure 1(b), and to Pierre Gauthier for the scan in Figure 2(b).

References

- [1] Postal Stationery Notes, Vol. 2, pg. 38 (1983); Vol. 3, pg. 12, 25 (1984).
- [2] W. C. Walton and E. L. Covert, Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue of Canada and Newfoundland, 7th Edition, BNA Philatelic Society, USA, 2000.
- [3] C. A. Howes, Canadian Postage Stamps and Stationery, Quarterman Publications reprint, 1974, Chapter XXII, pp. 243-248.
- [4] Postal Stationery Notes, Vol. 22, No. 2, pp. 16-17 (2008).

Endnotes:

- ¹ In this article Webb's Catalogue numbers [2] are used to identify the wrappers
- ² I can find no reference that cites documentation (dated postmarked copies, Post Office or contemporary philatelic records) confirming the estimated 1910 date [2].
- ³ As noted by Pierre Gauthier [4], there are some minor setting-length variations in the Admiral Issue wrapper, but the significance of these differences does not seem to have been investigated.
- ⁴ The paper varieties of the 1¢ King George VI wrappers require further attention from collectors as there are indications in the archive Post Office records that at least three distinguishable papers may have been used.

Newsletter Back Issues Now Online

Our back issues of PS Notes are now online, thanks to Charles Livermore, who did the tremendous job of scanning the back issues of Postal Stationery Notes. Issues to the end of Volume 18 are online, leaving a five year window during which the issues would be restricted to members. You can access these issues at <http://bnatopics.org/hhlibrary/newsletters/n-ps.htm> or by going to the BNAPS web site (www.bnaps.org) and going to the Horace Harrison Online Library and using the Study Group Newsletter link at upper left.

Issues which contain an index for volumes 1-12 are at the end of issue #6 of each volume, and there is a cumulative index for volumes 13-16 at the end of volume 16. For Vol. 17 the index is in Vol. 18#1. Eventually a combined index will be created.

PCF Corner

It was at BNAPEX in late August that I stood up at the Postal Stationery Study Group meeting and said that it was a bit of a relief that there had been no new major changes in Post Card Factory[®] cards this year, although there continued to be a small stream of cards re-issued with the latest (die IIIb 1995 flag) indicium. Two nights after the end of the convention, Earle Covert and I were sitting with a few of the newer cards, cards printed on a rather bright white stock. Georg Gerlach, and later Brian Cannon had noted that several IIIb cards had been reprinted on this new stock^(a). Earle picked up a couple of the cards, stared at them for a while, and then muttered—"they're different". "The background tablets are different." The same night, about 1500 km away, Pierre Gauthier made the same discovery, and sent us an e-mail to that effect. Thus began the latest chapter in the PCF story.

Die IIIc

PCF cards are now being reprinted with a new background for the stamp image (1995 flag die IIIc). There are several differences from the previous IIIb die. The colours in the background tablet have been reversed, with the pinkish shade to the top and the blue now toward the bottom in die IIIc. The Maple Leaf in the stamp tablet has been moved slightly up (now touching the top of the background tablet) and to the left. Whereas the stem used to go through the letters "P" and "O" of "POSTING", it now runs through the letters "F" and "O" of "FOR" (or more easily seen, between "CANADA" and "LIVRAISON").

Also, under a light the IIIb background appears to be comprised of lines, whereas the new die (IIIc) background appears to be more like dots lined in an orderly fashion. The rest of the printing on each IIIc card is identical to that on the corresponding IIIb (or earlier) card.



1995 flag die IIIb



1995 flag die IIIc

New Reports (as of 2008-10-07)

These are reports received since May 2008 (Ken and Sandra Eadie, Earle Covert, Pierre Gauthier, Clarence Wigmore, Robert Lemire, Raymond Gagné, Brian Cannon and Dick Staecker).

1995 flag indicium, die IIIb

PCF-T2G

ATC203 C176
VQ060 PEI 065

PCF-T3G

NB 077 PEI 034
PEI 075 VAN 198

1995 flag indicium, die IIIc (except those marked †, these views are also known with die IIIb)

PCF-T2H

ATC205 †^(b)
C009V
C014
C024
NF122

PCF-T3H

BNG 003	C095V	C120
HFX 050 †	MTL 088	NF166
NF 176	NF 198	NF 199
NF 826V	O 048	O 259
PRA003 †	Q 502	RCMP C074V
RCMP C104	T109	T 198
T172V	T197	T203

Notes:

- The first bright stock report was for NS064V (1995 flag die IIIb) in November 2007.
- The ATC 205 (Icebergs; white border) 1995 flag indicium, IIIc is a real surprise because in the “leaf indicium” series the borderless view was issued as NFLD 078 with the same SKU#.

Send us an article!

Articles are always needed to fill these pages. Please send along anything of interest – if it is of interest to you, it just might interest your fellow stationery collectors.

As mentioned on page 21, almost any form is acceptable, as we will work with you to present your article as you would like. Those who have computer and internet access, and are comfortable with digital format should feel free to send along articles as email attachments. If you have embedded images in the text, we would appreciate you also sending them separately, as 300 dpi jpgs, in full color and at 100%. We may not print them in full color, but it gives us greater flexibility to adjust them as needed for printing.

If you don't own a scanner or are uncomfortable with scanning, we will be glad to do it for you. Your items will be returned immediately. Send any items to either rlemire000@sympatico.ca in Canada, or jwalton971@aol.com in the U.S. You will be given an opportunity to review your article before it is published.

What's New

in Postal Stationery

New Envelope Dates:

4 different flowers

#8	#10
2007.13.11	2008.02.14
2008.02.19	

(Continued on next page)

What's New

in Postal Stationery

(Continued from previous page)

A new #10 postage-paid special order window envelope has appeared. It was produced for the recently established

Canada Post Foundation for Mental Health, contained a brochure describing the program along with a permit reply envelope, and was used for soliciting a donation. The envelopes seemed to have been used (Ottawa jet spray cancel) for a mailing on (or about) September 30, 2008.

Mental Health Special Order Envelope

Robert Lemire



New special order #10 window envelope issued for Canada Post Foundation for Mental Health

The product is not for sale, but a limited quantity is available by contacting Canada Post - Stamp Services, N1070 - 2701 Riverside Dr., OTTAWA ON K1A 0B1. Interested collectors should send a letter to Jim Phillips at the above address. Donations to the Foundation for Mental Health with such requests are encouraged.

Will the Canada Post Foundation for Mental Health use similar, perhaps non-window envelopes for future correspondence?



Stamp design on Mental Health special order envelope above.



Issued semi-postal adhesive

Rejected design

An original design (at near left) was rejected and replaced with the issued stamp, a "forever" stamp with 10¢ charitable surcharge to go to Foundation, apparently a result of negative feedback from the health care community.¹

¹ Reported in Linn's Sept. 15, 2008

Thanks go to Robin Harris, Mike Street and Andrew Chung for the information

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

Bill Walton

We continue our series showing common items displaying unconventional usage.

2. Sea Current Drift Bottle Usage

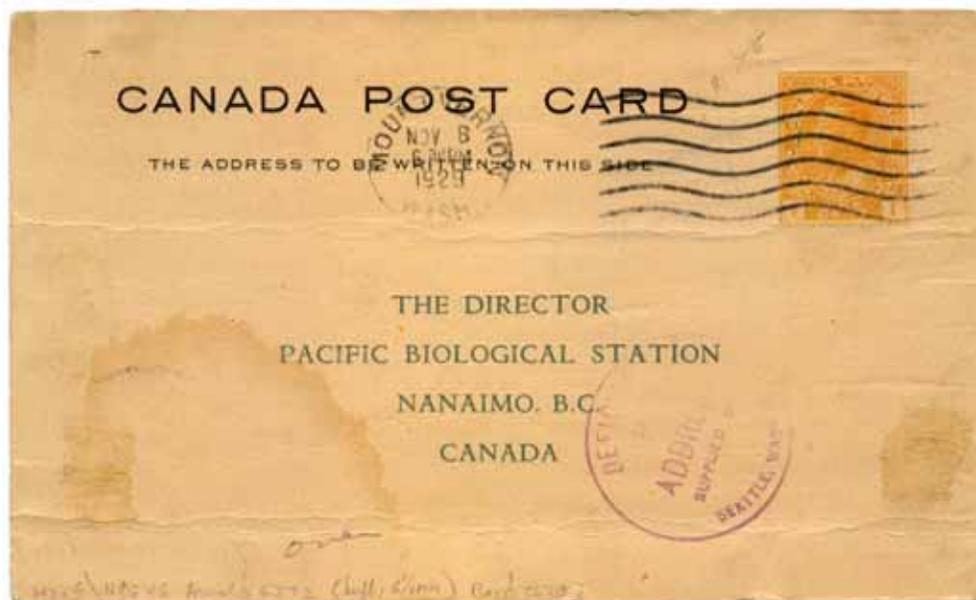


Fig. 1: Webb P29f, used in Mount Vernon, Washington and sent to Nanaimo, B.C. – a “bottle card” used to measure tides and currents. Why the address deficiency cancel was added is unclear – while no marking denotes the fact that there was no U.S. postage on it. It seems to have been returned to Nanaimo as a courtesy.

This is a card that was enclosed in a bottle and dropped in the ocean as part of a scientific investigation of tides and currents. Addressed for return to the Pacific Biological Station in Nanaimo, the back shows a form for the finder to fill in. The key information here is the location (showing where the tides and currents carried the bottle), and secondarily the time of finding (secondary because it does not prove when the bottle arrived there – just when it was discovered). The finder’s name and address were also filled in, so the promised reward of 25¢ could be sent.

The card shows two horizontal creases, no doubt the result of being curled in its container. It also shows water stains, not too surprisingly – the finder’s hands were no doubt wet from picking up the bottle and opening it to read the enclosure.

The bottle with this card was found in the U.S. at Padilla Bay, near Anacortes, Washington. Recovery of some portion of the bottles in the U.S. was do doubt anticipated, but in such cases U.S. postage (1¢) would need to be added. The postmaster in Mount Vernon, Washington, however, accepted it without penalty – no doubt as a courtesy. Found November 4, 1929, it is postmarked November 6. An address deficiency handstamp was added in Seattle (for no apparent reason), but it was again passed without being taxed for deficient postage.

1931 **SEA CURRENT INVESTIGATION**
BIOLOGICAL BOARD OF CANADA

A Reward of 25 cents will be sent to the finder of the bottle provided
this card is posted with the following particulars:

Name and Address of Finder *Antoine B. Fieldt*
Mt Vernon, Wash. R# 1
Box 182

Place where found as near as possible *Padilla Bay about*
7 miles southeast of Maricao

Date and Hour *November 4th 1929 - 7 A.M.*

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Fig. 2: The form on back indicated the finder, and the location and date of finding. A reward of 25¢ was offered for return reports.

The number in the upper left corner is likely its identifying number in the hydrological study, and the date and location of its drop was no doubt recorded. There is not a large return rate of bottle studies such as these – perhaps 50% if released near shore, falling to 10% if released a hundred miles off-shore.¹ Unfortunately, we have no idea where this item might have begun its journey, or from what ship it might have been dispensed.

Canada was not the only maritime nation to use cards in bottles to assess tides and currents. Imperial Russia apparently did this in the Black Sea as long ago as the 19th Century, and we have a couple of USSR Black Sea bottle cards from the 1930's – again, postal stationery, no doubt because a preprinted stamp would not be floated loose by moisture. We have read that a card was found many years ago in Newfoundland, released by researchers from Wood's Hole in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, but have no details.

It is worth noting that this card was found just 11 days after Black Thursday – the beginning of the Stock Market crash on October 24, with the worst losses the following Monday and Tuesday (Oct. 28 & 29). The 25¢ reward must have already begun to look better.

We found this card almost 40 years ago, thought it was interesting, and decided to keep an eye out for more. To date, we have not seen or heard of another from this or any other Canadian effort. We would be delighted to get a report of even one more bottle card.

Endnotes:

¹ <http://www.islandnet.com/~see/weather/elements/shoes.htm> re: Curtis Ebbesmeyer. Accessed October 21, 2008.