POSTAL STATIONERY OF CANADA

Postcards and Envelopes: Queen Victoria to King George V

Ian McMahon

Outline

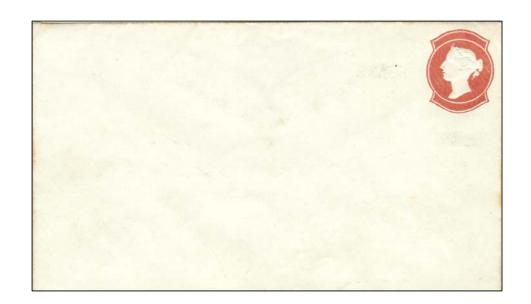
- Envelopes
- Regular Post Office Issues
- Private Order Envelopes
- Postcards

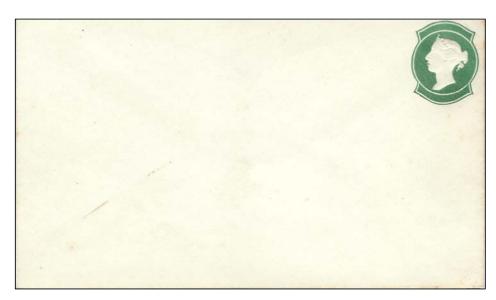
Unusual Aspects of Canadian Postal Stationery

- Private Order Postal Stationery
- Advertising postcards
- Business Reply postcards

Colony of Canada: Nesbitt Envelope Essays

• Essays prepared by George Nesbitt & Co for submission by the American Bank Note Co to Canada (or possibly Nova Scotia). Diagonally laid paper with batonne lines 27 mm apart. No denomination.





Nesbitt Envelope Essays and Proofs

- In 1859 Colony of Canada (the present day provinces of Ontario and Quebec) gave the contract for producing stamped envelopes to the American Banknote Co who sub-contracted it to George F Nesbitt & Co of New York, the producers at the time of US stamped envelopes.
- September 1859 Nesbitt (as sub-contractor of the American Bank Note Co) produced a die for the Canada envelopes which was rejected.



 Trial colour proofs of the issued design were produced in a range of colours and papers.







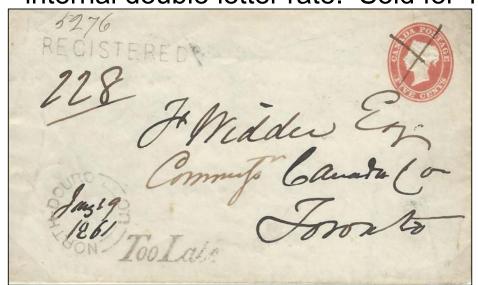




Envelopes: Colony of Canada

- On 1 February 1860 the Colony of Canada issued its first stamped envelopes.
- The envelopes were embossed on diagonally laid paper with batonne lines 18 mm apart, watermarked Ca/POD. The initial printing comprised 200 000 5c envelopes and 100 000 10c envelopes.
- 5c envelope paid the internal letter rate in Canada and the rate to the colonies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. Curved flap. Sold for 6c

 10c envelope paid the basic letter rate to the USA or to British Columbia or the internal double letter rate. Sold for 11c.





Colony of Canada

- A further 25 000 5c envelopes were produced in 1864 with a more pointed flap.
- Sales of the envelopes were slow with the supplies of 5c envelopes lasting until 1867 and with more than half of the 10c envelopes (55 824) being in stock on 30 June 1867.





Forgeries of the cut squares of this issue were produced by a number of forgers.

- Given the poor sales of the 1860 envelopes and high production costs, it was ten years after confederation before the Dominion of Canada issued its first stamped envelopes.
- The American Banknote Co did vie for the contract, but the Government awarded the contract to the British American Banknote Co.



c 1876-77 American Bank Note Co essay on unwatermarked laid paper

- The new envelopes under the British American Banknote Co contract first appeared in 1877 and were embossed on diagonally white to buff laid paper.
- The issue comprised one cent (drop letter ate and printed matter rate) and three cent (domestic letter rate) envelopes.

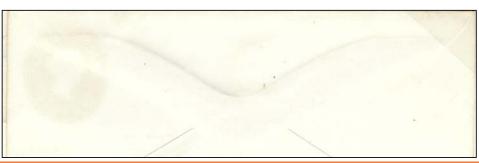




The issue was not replaced until 1895-98 Over the lengthy period of use, there were variations in knives, size, stamp colour and paper:

- Knives: Two envelope knives were used, one with pointed flap and the much less common tongued flap.
- Size: 1c cent envelope only issued in one size (140 x 80 mm), 3c envelopes were issued in two sizes: 140 x 80 mm and 150 x 86 mm.
- Paper: The first printings of the envelopes were printed on white laid paper with the batonne lines about 18 mm apart. From 1887 paper used had batonne lines 24-27 mm apart.
- ➤ Some envelopes were printed on wove paper.
- ➤ During 1894, envelopes were issued on laid paper watermarked double-lined C P Co, batonne lines 25 mm apart.





- Official use by the Marine Department, Halifax Nova Scotia (left)
- Bogus Official Issue: Henry Hechler, Captain of the 63rd rifles based at Halifax, produced a range of bogus 'Service' overprints on Canadian stationery.





Patriot Queen

- In 1895 a 2c envelope was issued (2c had become the local letter rate (to a letter carrier office) on 5 August 1889).
- New design depicting a portrait of Queen Victoria surrounded by maple leaves and a beaver.
- The envelope was on white diagonally laid paper with batonne lines about 24 mm apart, 150 x 86 mm, and embossed by British American Banknote Co.

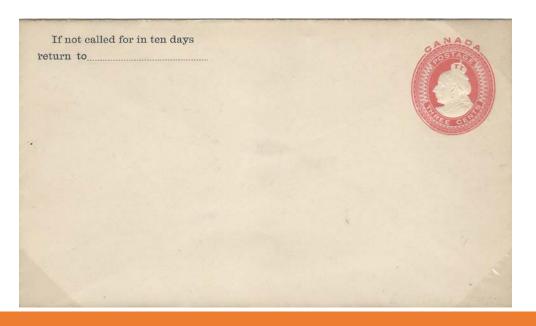




Widowed Queen

- The contract to produce stamped envelopes held by the British American Banknote Company was terminated after the production of the Patriotic Queen Issue. Future regular stamped envelopes were produced by the Department of Public Printing and Stationery (PPS).
- In 1898 a 3c domestic letter rate envelope was issued with a new design depicting the 'widowed' Queen Victoria from a die prepared by Rudolph Laubenheimer, New York (left - die proofs on paper watermarked 'Nassau St) under contract from the American Bank Note Co
- Issued with and without space for return address top left.

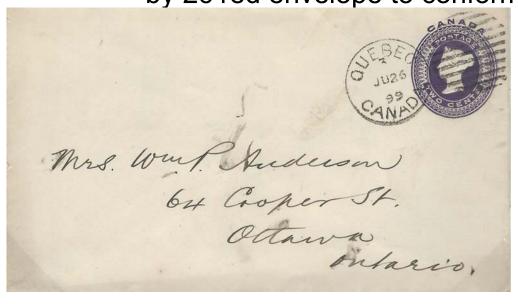




Young Queen

• 1899 A new design was prepared by De La Rue as Queen Victoria was concerned with the design of the previous issue. 1c printed matter and 2c first class letter rate envelopes were issued. (The domestic letter rate had been reduced to 2c on 1 January 1899.) Embossed PPS.

 2c domestic letter rate envelope. 10,000 issued, quickly replaced by 2c red envelope to conform to UPU regulations.

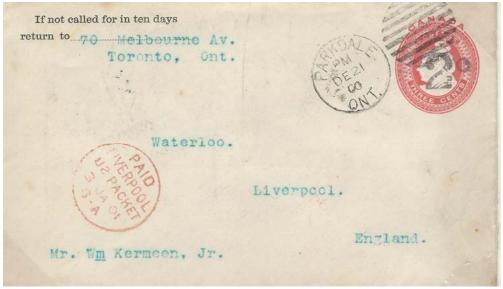




1899 Revaluations

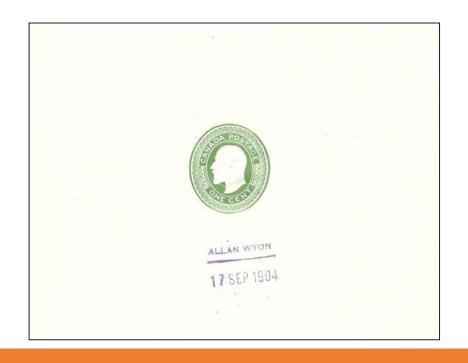
 1899 Following the reduction in the domestic letter rate to 2c, there was no longer a need for 3c envelopes and the remaining stock of the 1877-87 issues and the 1898 issue was revalued to 2c by handstamp. There is considerable variety in the hand stamps used.





King Edward VII

• King Edward VII envelopes were issued in 1905. Dies were engraved by Allan Wyon, De La Rue; embossed by PPS. Envelopes of two denominations were issued: 1c envelope for printed matter or for drop letters), 2c envelope for domestic letters or letters to the USA and the UK. Three die types being recognised for the 1c and six for the 2c.





Envelopes: King George V

- The George V envelopes were produced by two printers:
- ➤ The Department of Public Printing and Stationery (PPS) The Government Printer
- ➤ The Dominion Envelope and Carton Ltd
- The Department of Public Printing and Stationery printed most of the envelopes sold over the post office counter as well as some printed to private order envelopes.
- The Dominion Envelope and Carton Ltd produced printed to private order envelopes as well as one regular issue (the 1923 typographed issue).

King George V PPS Issues

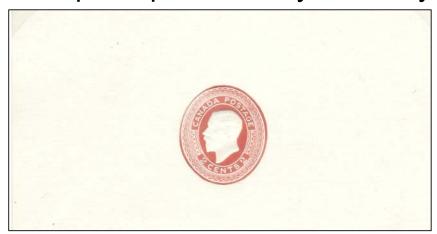
- Dies used by PPS:
- ➤ the embossed dies: used almost entirely for regular post office issues 1916-31
- ➤ the 'lined hair' George V oval die: used for printed to private order and official issues from 1923 until 1931 and the regular post office issues of 1930-31
- ➤ the arch die (flat plate): used for regular post office issues and printed to private order issues 1931-32
- ➤ the medallion die (flat plate): used for regular post office issues and printed to private order issues 1933 until replaced by George VI dies.

King George V Embossed

- George V envelopes were first issued in 1916, embossed by PPS using a die prepared by De La Rue.
- 1c green printed matter rate envelope and a 2c red envelope which was intended to pay the first class letter rate but required a 1c adhesive to pay the 1c war tax introduced in 1915.



Die proof produced by Allan Wyon on watermarked paper.





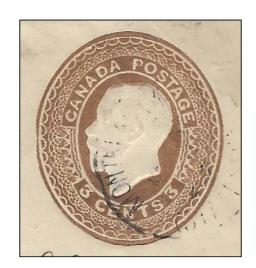
King George V Embossed 1921 Colour Changes

- 1921 Colour of 1c envelope changed to orange and 2c envelope to green
- 3c brown envelope issued to cover the domestic rate. Two dies used 'flat loops' and 'rounded loops'.







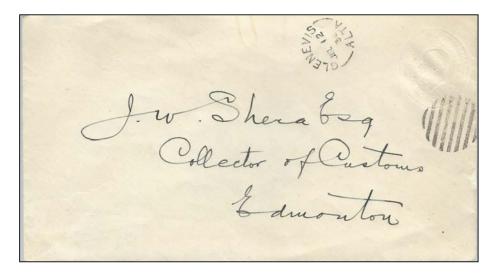


King George V Recut Embossed



• In 1923 Stamp die re-engraved. The stamp is heavily embossed with details of the hair showing clearly. From this issue onwards two standard sizes were issued for sale over the post office counter: #8 (165 x 92 mm) and #10 (241 x 105 mm). Embossed by PPS. 1c orange envelope for printed matter, 2c green envelope for local letters and a 3c brown envelope for domestic letters.





King George V Recut Embossed 1924 Colour Change

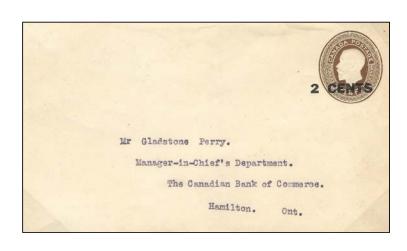
Colour of 3c envelope changed to red in 1924 to meet UPU requirements



King George V Recut Embossed 1926 Postage Rate Change

 On 1 July 1926 the 1c war tax was removed reducing the charge for domestic letters to 2c. Earlier 3c envelopes were revalued to

2c.











Recut Embossed 1926 Postage Rate Change

 The colour of the 2c envelope was changed to red in 1930 as it now paid the domestic letter rate.



King George V Lined Hair PPS Private Order

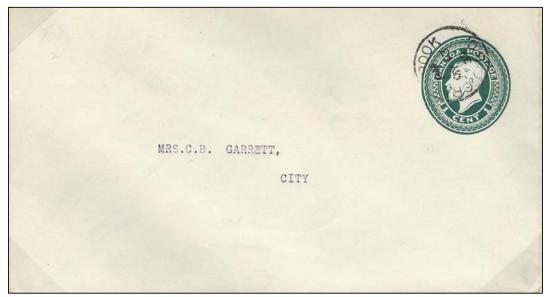
• The 'lined hair' George V oval die was used by PPS for printed to private order issues from 1923 until 1931.





King George V Lined Hair PPS Private Order

 The 'lined hair' George V oval die was used for regular post office issues in 1930-31. 1c green 1c orange, 2c brown and 3c red envelopes were issued.

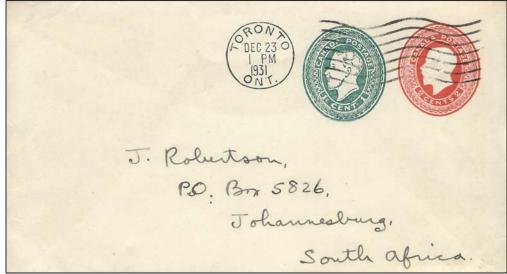




King George V Recut Embossed 1931 Postage Rate Increase

On 1 July 1931 the domestic letter was increased to 3c. Earlier 3c envelopes were revalued to 3c.





Recut Embossed 1931 Postage Rate Increase

 The colours of the 1c and 2c envelopes were changed to green and brown respectively.





King George V Arch Issue

 1931 New stamp with portrait of King George V in arch. Typographed, Department of Public Printing and Stationery, flat plate, stamp 20 mm x 24 mm.







King George V Medallion Issue

- 1933 New stamp with portrait of King George V based on the 1932 3c adhesive stamp from the Imperial Conference Issue.
- Die produced by BABN, typographed, Department of Public Printing and Stationery flat plate stamps 20 x 24 mm). 1c printed matter rate, 2c local letter rate and 3c domestic letter rate. Issued in sizes 8 and 10.







King George V Dominion Envelope and Carton Ltd Issues

- Dies used by Dominion Envelope and Carton Ltd
- ➤ the typographed George V oval die: used extensively for printed to private order envelopes 1923-31 and the regular post office issue of 1923
- ➤ the arch die (rotary press): used only for printed to private order envelopes from 1932
- ➤ the medallion die (rotary press): used only for printed to private order envelopes from 1933
- Flat plate and rotary press issues can be distinguished by the dimensions of the impressed stamps.

King George V Typographed Die Dominion Envelope and Carton Ltd

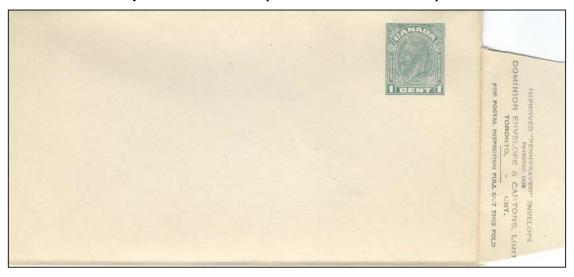
- Typographed George V oval die used extensively for private order envelopes 1923-31
- 'Side Seam' envelopes



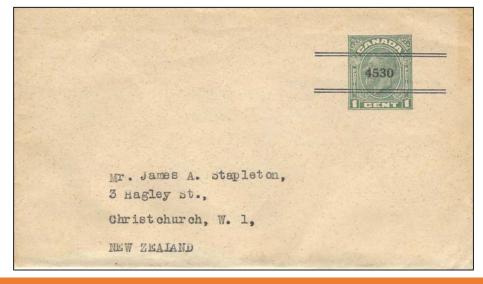


King George V Medallion Issue Dominion Envelope and Carton Ltd Issues

- Medallion die (rotary press): used only for private order envelopes from 1933, typographed, rotary plate stamps 20 x 25 mm or 21 x 24 mm.
- Pennysaver envelope
- Official precancel (4530 Toronto)

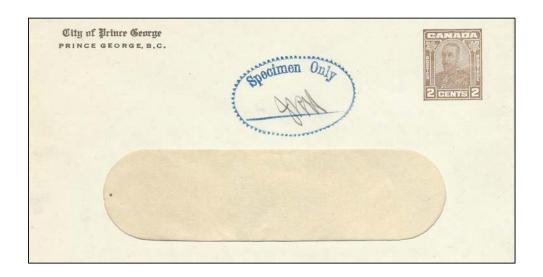






King George V Arch Dominion Envelope and Carton Ltd Private Order Issues

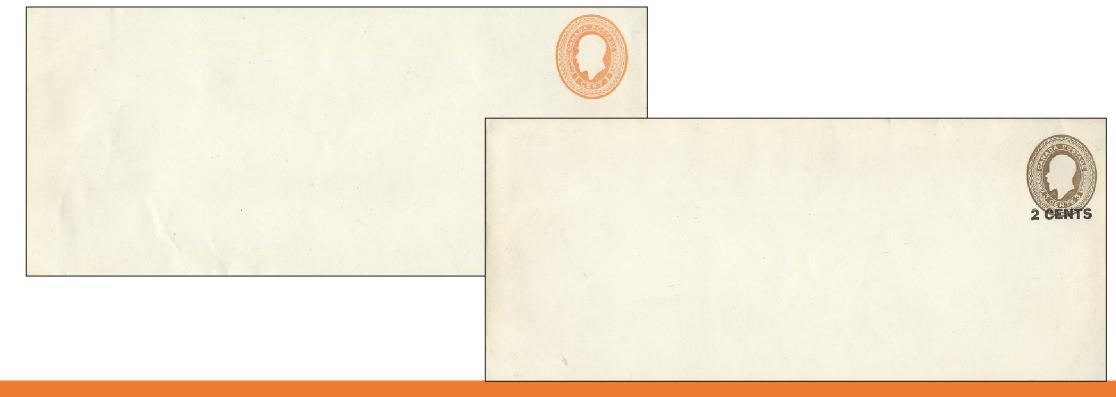
- The arch die (rotary press): used only for printed to private order envelopes from 1932 typographed, rotary plate stamps 20 x 25 mm or 21 x 24 mm.
- Official Precancel (4030 Perth)
- Specimen





King George V Typographed Dominion Envelope and Carton Ltd

• In 1923 stocks of 1c orange, 2c green, 3c brown and 3c olive-brown size 10 envelopes produced by Dominion Envelope and Carton were sold over the Post Office Counter. Unused stocks of the 3c envelopes were revalued 2c in 1926.



King George V Official Envelopes

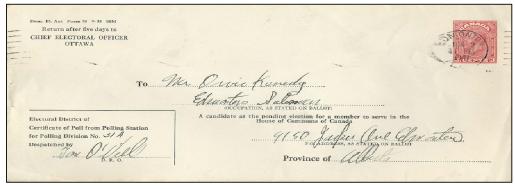
Official envelopes used by the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment.
 Produced by PPS

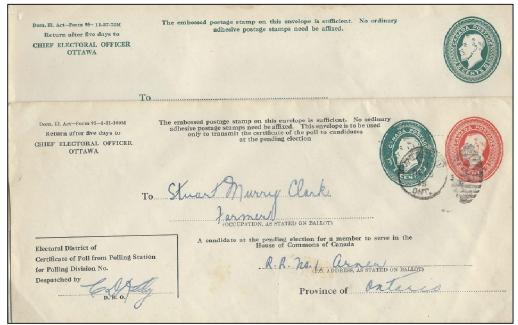


King George V Election Envelopes

 Official envelopes used by the Chief Electoral Officer, Ottawa to return the results from a polling place to the candidates. Produced by PPS

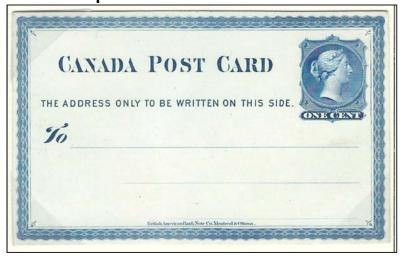






Postcards: First Issues

- The first Canadian postcards were issued on 1 May 1871 for use to Canadian destinations or, from 1 January 1875, to the USA. The cards were line engraved by the British American Bank Note Co (BABN).
- The design was based on the then current adhesive stamps, the Small Queens, with the portrait engraved by Alfred Jones from a design by Charles Jeens.
- The cards were printed from plates of 2 x 5. Three working dies (identifiable by breaks in the frame and other minor variations) and 8 plates of the cards were used. Imprint reads British American Bank Note Co Montreal and Ottawa.





Postcards: First Issues

• In 1876 the imprint on the cards was changed to read British American Bank Note Co Montreal as a result of the Company closing its Ottawa plant in 1874. The cards were printed from plates of 2 x 5 with three working dies and at least 15 plates being used.





First Issues – International Use

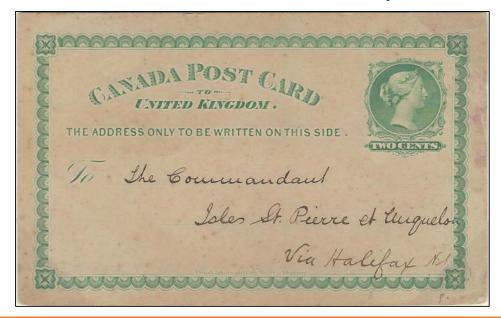
- When first issued the postcards were only available for use within Canada.
 From 1 July 1873, the postcard rate to the USA was set at 2c. The first postcards could be used with the addition of a 1c adhesive stamp.
- From 1 January 1877, postcards could be exchanged with the UK at the 2c rate. The 1c first issue postcards could not be used for that prupose.

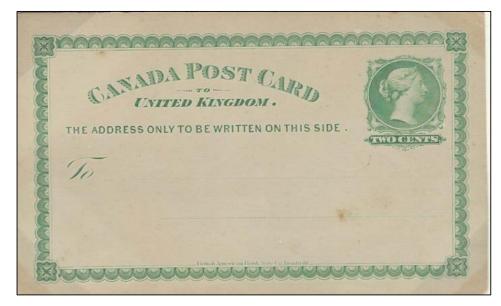




THE UNITED KINGDOM ISSUE

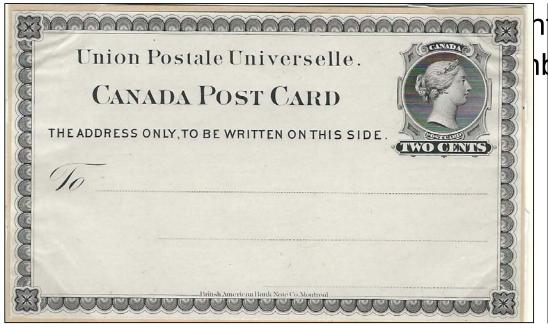
- The postcard concession was extended to the United Kingdom on 1 January 1877 with a 2c card being issued for use to the UK on that date, line engraved by the BABN. The cards were printed from plates of 2 x 5. 118 070 cards were produced.
- Used to St Pierre at Miquelon after the extension o the postcard concession to all UPU members, Backstamped Halifax OC 1 1880





First UPU Postcards

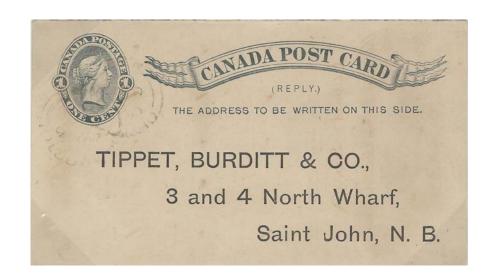
 Canada joined the UPU on 1 July 1877 resulting in a 2c postcard rate to UPU members. New postcards were issued on 1 August 1878 based on the design of the 1877 card but with the addition of Union Postale Universelle, line engraved by BABN.





Typographed Issue

- In order to reduce the cost of producing postcards for internal use, typographed cards produced by BABN were issued in 1882. A reply card for internal use was also introduced. In the first issue the stamp has pointed ornaments under the numerals.
- The cards appeared in a wide range of shades of blue, grey, violet and slate-green.





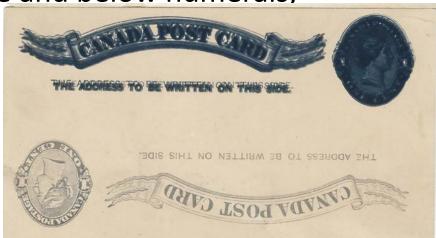
SCROLLWORK ISSUE

1887 Stamp redesigned with scrollwork above and below numerals,

typographed by BABN. 1c and 1c + 1c cards.



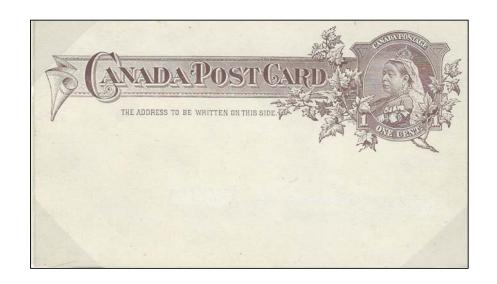






Canada Banknote Engraving and Printing Co Essays

• The Canada Banknote Engraving and Printing Co obtained the contract for postcards in 1891 and proceeded to develop designs for their cards. However they were bought out by the British American Banknote Co who continued with their own designs.



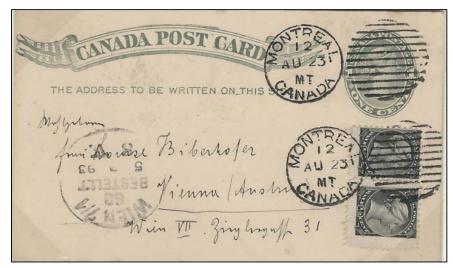


First Rosette Issue

• 1891 Stamp redesigned with rosettes below numerals, typographed by BABN. Single cards were issued in a wide range of shades of blue.





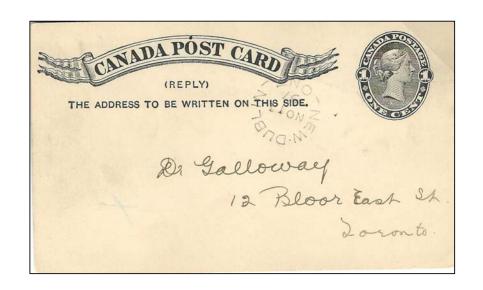




Reply card had Rosette message card and scrollwork reply card.

Second Rosette Issue

• 1893 Stamp colour on single card changed to black, typographed by BABN. Issued in three sizes on a variety of paper stocks. Reply card issued in black and olive-black. Both message and reply portions had 'Rosette' stamps.

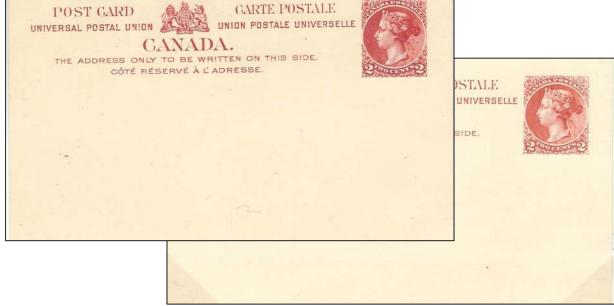




1896 UPU Issue

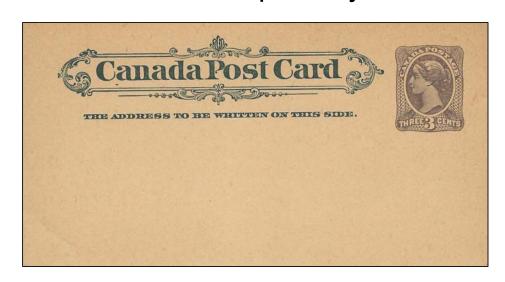
• In December 1896 a new UPU postcard was issued, without borders and with inscriptions rearranged to conform to UPU regulations. The card was line-engraved by BABN. Design based on a series of essays prepared by the Canada Bank Note Engraving and Printing Co when tendering for the Small Queens adhesive issue in 1891 that were based on a portrait engraved by Alfred Jones. (The Canada Bank Note Co was shortly after purchased by BABN).





Postcards: Jubilee Issue

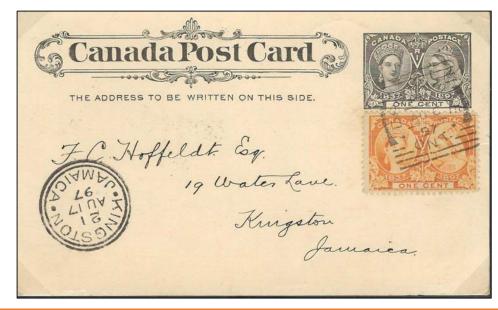
- ABN appears to have based the headings of the Jubilee card on this National Bank Note Co (New York) Essay. The National Bank Note Co (NBN) was taken over by ABN in 1878.
- The stamp was designed by Douglas Ronaldson and Alfred Jones and used for a series of NBN adhesive stamp essays in about 1868.

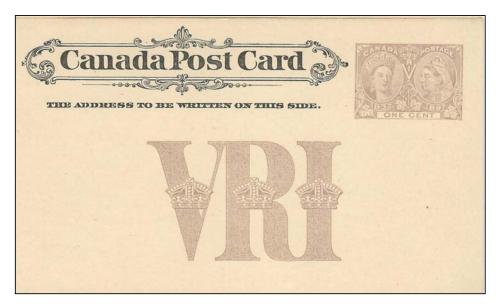


Postcards: Jubilee Issue

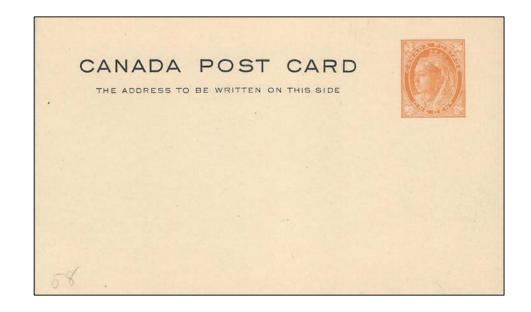
 On 19 June 1897 a postcard was issued for the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, typographed by the American Banknote Co (ABN) which won the contract to print Canadian postcards from 1897. Stamp designed by Lyndwoode Pereira of the Department of the Interior and F Brownwll based on portraits by Chalon (1837) and Von Angeli (1886).







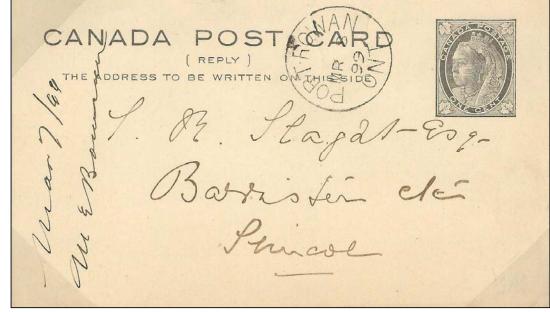
- In 1897, the contract to produce postcards passed to the American Bank Note Co (ABN).
- 1898 impressed stamp depicting Queen Victoria with maple leaves in the four corners based on a photograph by W & D Downey of London
- 1c card for domestic use or use to the USA, a domestic reply card, 2c line engraved cards for international use and, for the first time, a 1c advertising card.





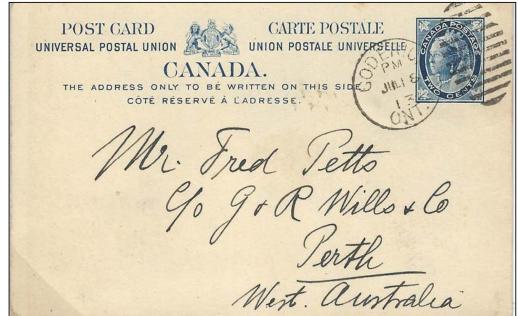
1c domestic reply postcards





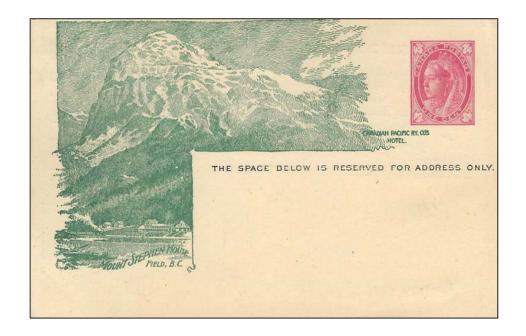
- 2c cards for international rate, line engraved American Banknote Co.
- Colour of card changed to blue to accord with UPU regulations.



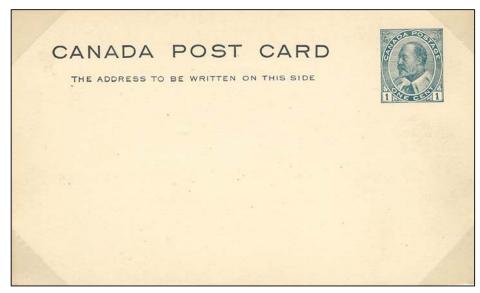


- 1c advertising card
- Sold in sheets of 8 or 16. No 'Postcard' heading to enable advertisers to add illustrations on the front.





- King Edward VII postcards issued during 1903. The impressed stamp was designed by the Prince of Wales and J Tilleard based on a photograph taken by Downey of London.
- Issue comprised: 1c domestic rate card, a 2c UPU card, 1c red card with no heading for use by advertisers and a 1c+1c reply card.





- 1c+1c reply card.
- Average annual production about 160 000 cards.





- 2c UPU card
- Average annual production of these cards was about 70 000.



• 1c red card with no heading for use by advertisers. Sold in sheets of 8 or 16.

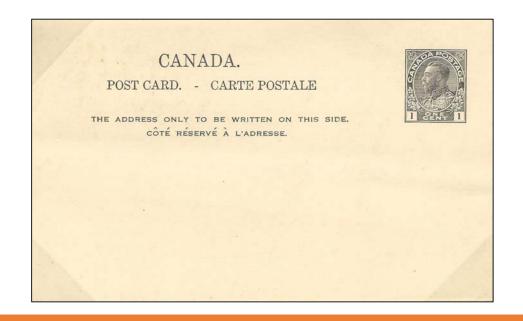






Admiral Issue

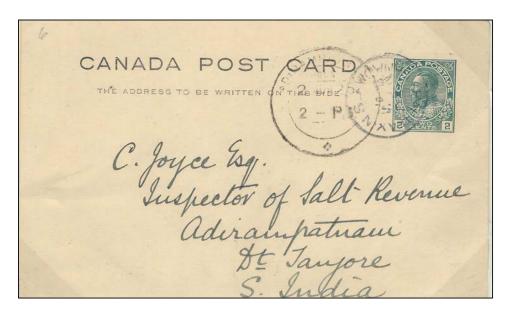
- Postcards bearing the portrait of King George V first appeared in 1912-1913 with a design showing the King in an admiral's uniform based on photographs of the King by Robert Savage.
- Following the pattern established for the previous ABN issues, the first Admiral issue comprised a 1c green card for internal use, a 2c blue line-engraved card for international use, a 1c red card for use by advertisers and an internal reply card





Admiral Issue

- The cards were used for some 17 years, including the period of the First World War, and went through considerable variations in colour, stock, stamp die and headings.
- Subsequent issues of the Admiral issue saw the introduction of:
- cards with bilingual headings for sale in Quebec with cards with English headings continuing to be issued
- ➤ the introduction of business reply cards
- > the demise of the UPU cards
- >experimentation with the format of the advertising cards.



Admiral Issue

- Offset and Typographed Die Types used for the 1c and 2c typographed cards:
- Die I: Offset five epaulettes, horizontal central shading, exists in three forms
- Die II: Typographed four epaulettes, horizontal central shading
- Die III and Die IV: Offset horizontal central shading crosshatched with diagonal lines (introduced about 1927 and used only on advertising cards).







Admiral Issue – Printed matter rate cards

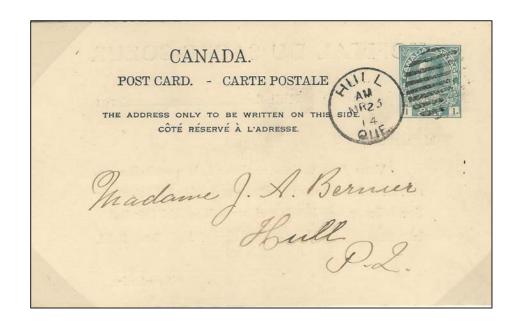
 Once the domestic postcard rate was increased to 2c, 1c printer matter cards continued to be issued. The colour was changed to orange in 1921-22.

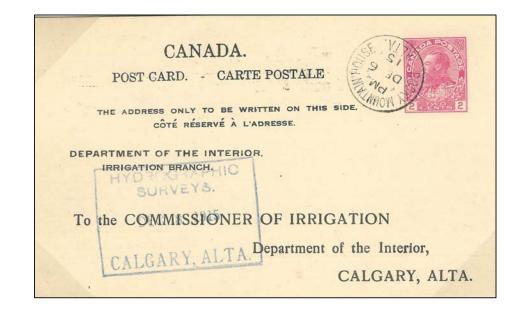




Admiral Issue – Bilingual headings

 cards with bilingual headings for sale in Quebec with cards with English headings continuing to be issued





Admiral Issue – Simplified headings

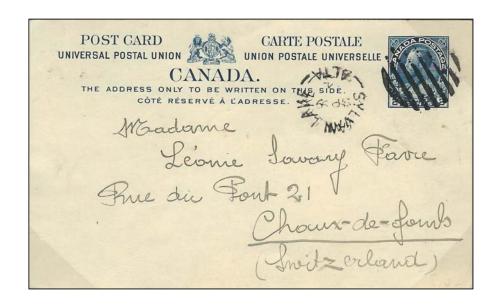
• 1929-31 The headings on the cards were simplified by the removal of the instruction 'the address only to be written on this side' or the equivalent text in French.

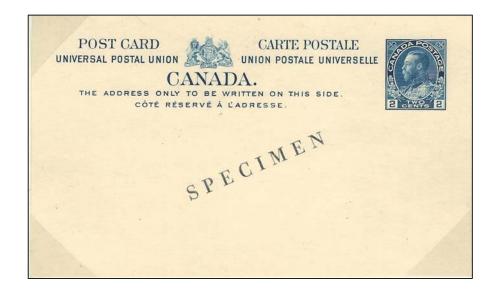




Admiral Issue – UPU Cards

• The first Admiral issue of 1912 included a 2c card for international rate. The card was line engraved by the American Banknote Co using a transfer die from the master die used for the adhesive issue. The annual production of cards was 60,000-80,000 from 1912 to 1917. Demand after 1917 was very limited with only 4,050 cards being produced from 1919-21.





Admiral Issue – UPU Cards

• The international postcard rate was increased to 6c from 1 October 1921. As a consequence the remaining 2c cards were revalued 6c. 65,850 cards were overprinted. This was the last postcard issued for international use.

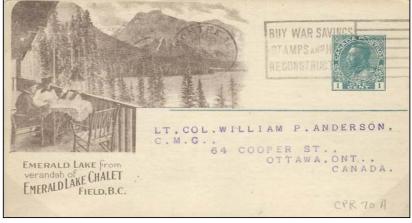


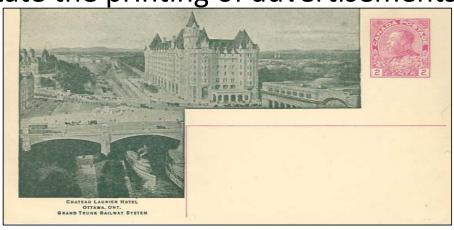


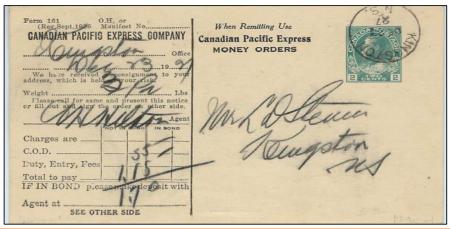
Advertising Postcards

• Cards with no heading for use by advertisers. Advertising cards were sold singly or in sheets of 8 or 16 to facilitate the printing of advertisements.





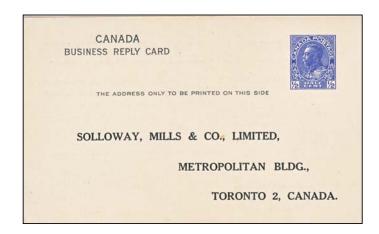


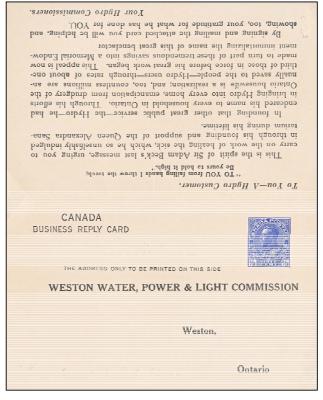


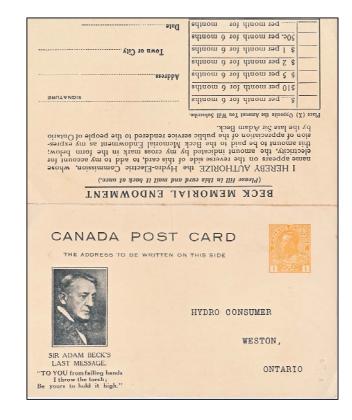
Business Reply Postcards

 Business reply cards were introduced in 1924-25 to pay for household mail (ie mail addressed to the householder or box-holder) or reply cards pre-

addressed to businesses.

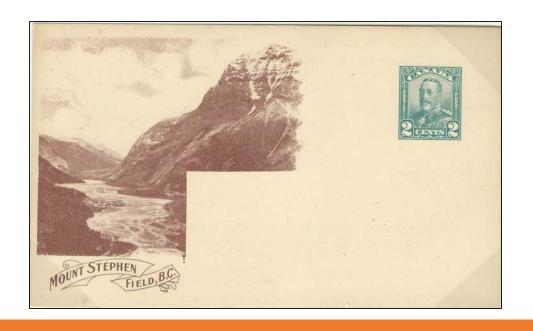






Scroll Issue

• A new stamp design depicting King George V under a scroll was introduced in 1929, similar to the adhesive stamps issued in 1928. The cards were typographed by CBN. This issue comprised ½c and 1c + ½c business reply cards, 1c printed matter and advertising cards (no heading) and 2c domestic rate cards. Cards with headings came in English and Bilingual versions.





Arch Issue

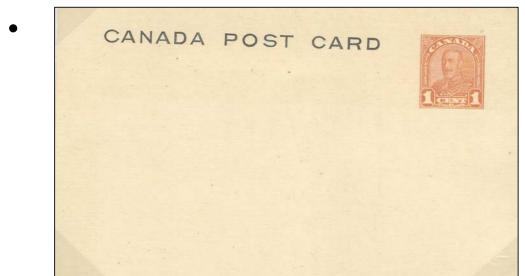
• 1930 New stamp design depicting King George V under an archway with the shading behind the King's head horizontal. Typographed British American Bank Note Co. This issue comprised a ½c business reply card, printed matter rate and advertising cards, a 1c + ½c business reply card and a domestic rate card.

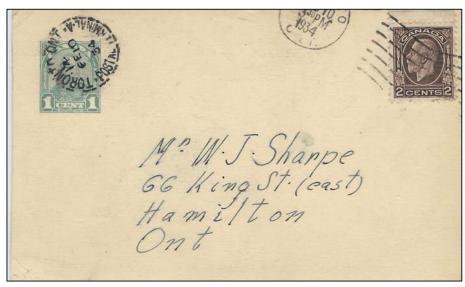




Redrawn Arch Issue

- 1930 Stamp redrawn with the shading behind the King's head diagonal. Typographed BABN.
- This issue comprised ½c blue business reply, 1c + ½c blue business reply, 1c + 1c reply, 1c printed matter rate and 2c domestic matter rate and advertising cards (all with English and bilingual headings as well as 1c and 2c cards with no heading).

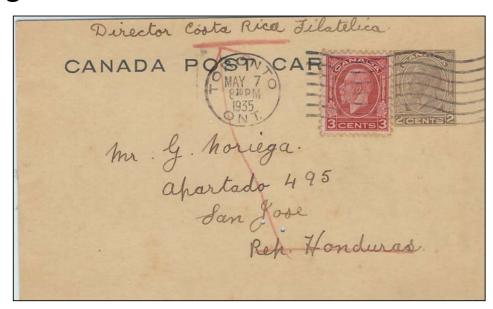




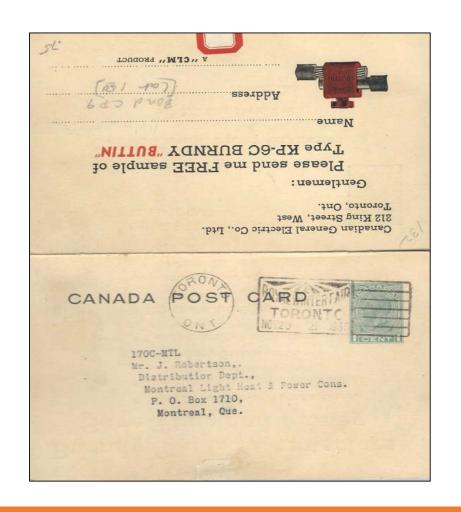
Medallion Issue

• 1933 New stamp with portrait of King George V based on the 1932 3c adhesive stamp from the Imperial Conference Issue. Die produced by BABN. Typographed BABN. This issue comprised ½c and 1c + ½c business reply cards, 1c printed matter and advertising cards (no heading), 1c + 1c reply cards and 2c domestic rate and advertising cards. Cards with headings came in English and Bilingual versions.





Medallion Issue





CBN FRONT FACE ISSUE

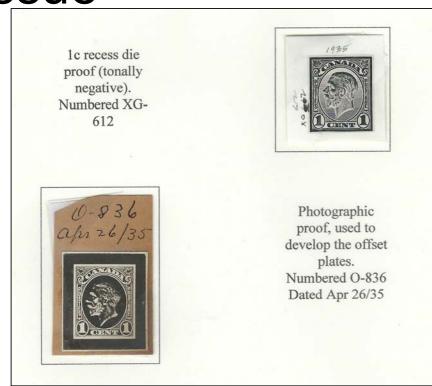
- As a result of a change in printer a new stamp design depicting a new portrait of King George V was introduced in 1935.
- These cards were either typographed (single domestic rate, printed matter or business reply cards) or offset printed (reply and advertising cards) by the Canadian Bank Note Co.
- While no cards were printed by both methods for this issue, the offset cards show fewer and shorter veins in the maple leaf than the typographed cards.
- This issue comprised ½c and 1c + ½c business reply cards, 1c printed matter and advertising cards (no heading), 1c + 1c reply cards and 2c domestic rate and advertising cards. Cards with headings came in English and Bilingual versions (except for the business reply cards)





CBN Profile Issue

- As a result of a change in printer a new stamp design depicting a new portrait of King George V was introduced in 1935.
- These cards were either typographed (single domestic rate, printed matter or business reply cards) or offset printed (reply and advertising cards) by the Canadian Bank Note Co.
- While no cards were printed by both methods for this issue, the offset cards show fewer and shorter veins in the maple leaf than the typographed cards.
- This issue comprised ½c and 1c + ½c business reply cards, 1c printed matter and advertising cards (no heading), 1c + 1c reply cards and 2c domestic rate and advertising (no heading) cards. Cards with headings came in English and Bilingual versions.

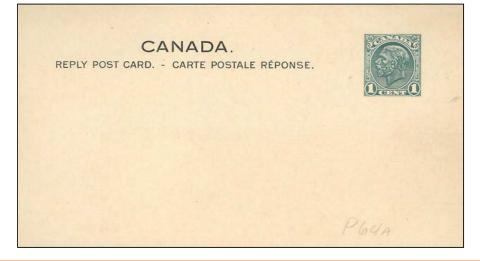




CBN Profile Issue



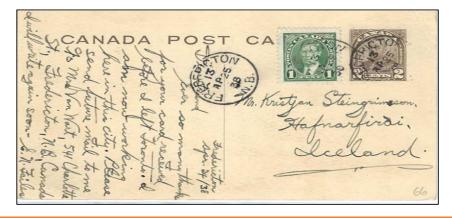




Postcards: Sepia View Postcards

• 1930 2c brown King George V 'Arch Issue' with sepia views on the reverse. 70 different views are known. Cards with Quebec views have bilingual headings

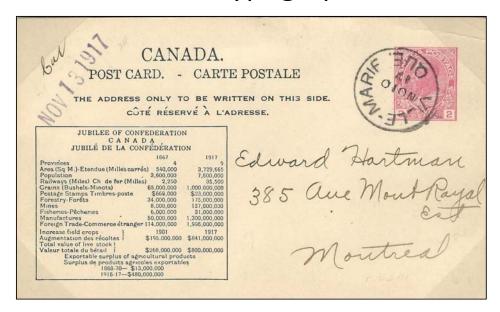


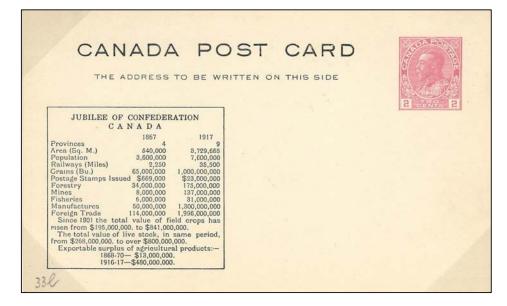




Postcards: Centenary of Confederation

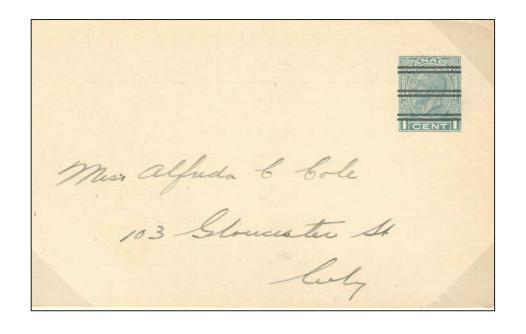
• 1917 Issue to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Confederation, typographed ABN.

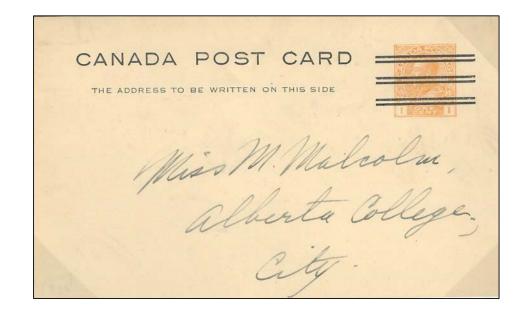




Pre-cancelled Postcards

Offical Precancels



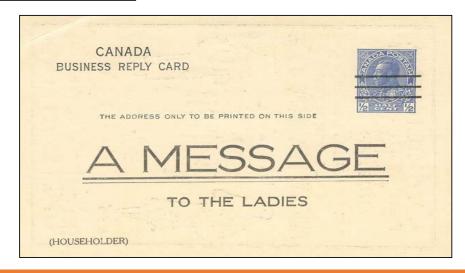


Pre-cancelled Postcards

Privately-Added Precancels

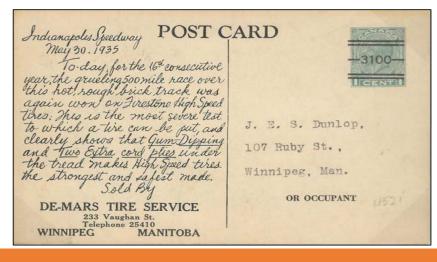


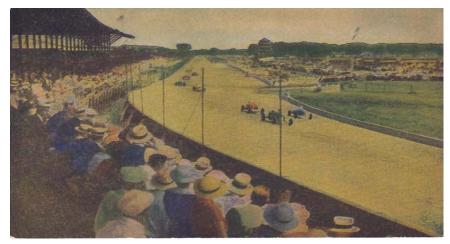




George V Private Order Postcards





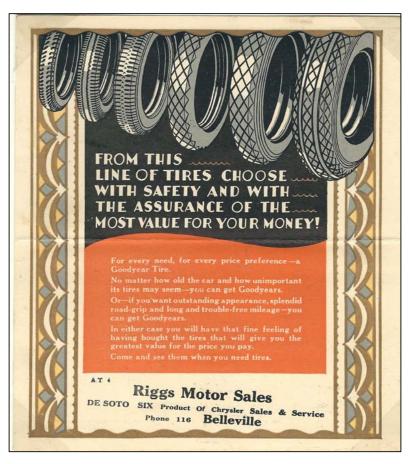


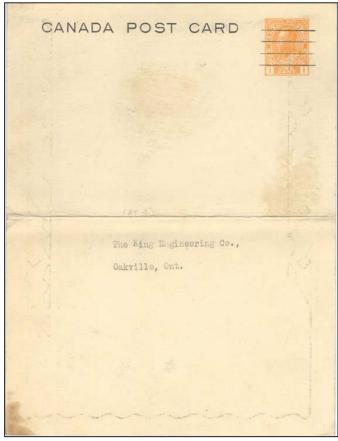
Private Order Postcards – Sick Children's Hospital Toronto

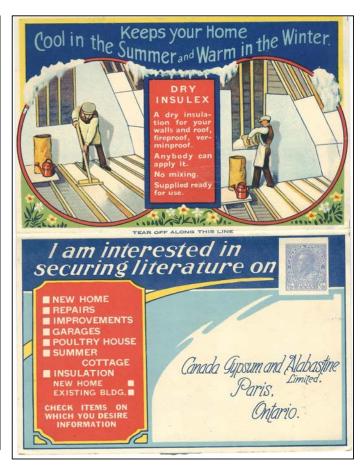




George V Private Order Postcards







Mimeo Postcards

• 'Mimeo' card on soft porous stock for use with mimeograph (gestetner) machines were first issued with the redrawn Arch Issue. Usually sold in strips of three.

