

Canada Post Card

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



POSTAL STATIONERY PANORAMA

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RELATED MATERIAL

THE PURIST may argue that "pigs is pig", and postal stationery is postal stationery; therefore, if it wasn't issued by the post office department or doesn't have a stamped impression, it doesn't belong in a postal stationery collection. We will agree that if the above conditions are not met, it is not postal stationery, but we collect what we please and hope you do, too. **Figure 1** shows a registration envelope which comes mighty close to being postal stationery. It was officially produced by the Newfoundland P.O. Department and was sold in the post offices: Size A, 6x3¾ inches at 1 cent, and Size B, 8x4¾ inches at 2 cents. The reverse of these envelopes states that postage stamps to cover Postage and Registration must be affixed over the flap, etc. They may not have a stamped impression, but postal stationery or not, these envelopes remain in my Newfoundland collection.

Figure 2 shows a postal card with stamped impression but not of Postal Department origin. L. W. Durbin, dealer in foreign stamps, postal cards, stamp albums, etc., of Philadelphia, liked Holmes' design No. 1670 so much that he had it reproduced in orange as an advertising card.

Items like these add spice to the meat of our collection.

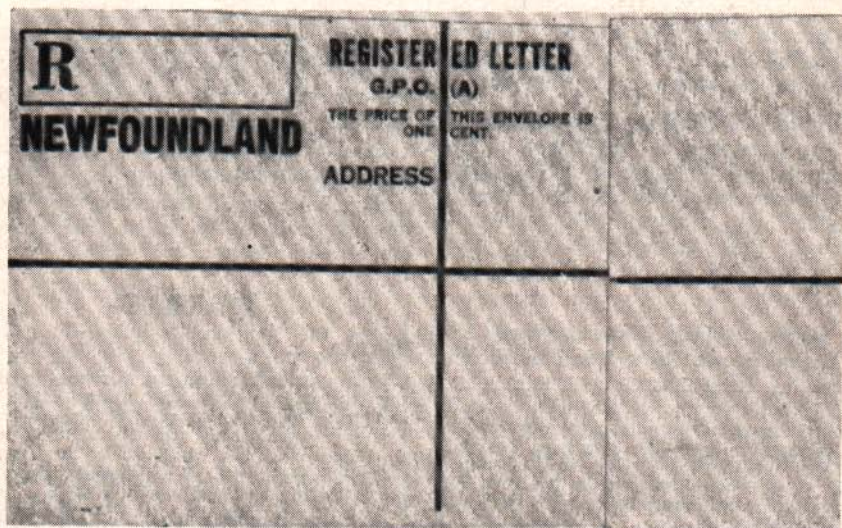


FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2

AN OVERPRINTED VARIETY

We have always been a stickler for logic and every once in a while we find that our reasoning was correct. When the Canadian P.O. Department overprinted the large and small size George VI 3 cent envelope, and raised their value to 5 cents in 1954, the only ones we saw with this overprint were the offset printed pale mauve envelopes (Bond ER16 and ER19). It seemed to us at that time that surely some of the earlier printings, the typographed purple (Bond ER7 and ER9) and the typographed mauve (Bond 7R12 and ER14) must have also received this overprint. We based this conclusion on the fact that it had happened in previously overprinted issues such as the Victorian 2 cent on 3 cent, the George V 2 cent on 3 cent, and the George VI 2 cent on 1 cent overprints—why not in this issue? Certainly there must have been copies of the earlier printings mixed in with the later printings in some post offices or in the P.O. Department stocks.

With this idea in mind, we closely examined every copy of this envelope that came to hand and finally, after six years, reaped the reward of our vigilance. The overprint does exist on Bond ER9, the large purple envelope. Have any of our readers found it on any of the other three possible envelopes?

REPLY CARDS

As we try to collect both unused and used examples of all B.N.A. stationery, what we strive for in reply cards is an entire unused, an entire with message-half used and reply-half unused, and a reply-half used. (We would gladly substitute for the latter two an entire card with both halves used, but these are virtually impossible to find.) We think the above makes a nice looking page and contains all variations possible in a reply card.

Bond states in his introduction to postal cards on page 51 of his catalogue, that "A used half of a double card (whether address or reply portion) is valued at one-half the value of an unsevered used entire." This has long been the accepted method of pricing used halves of reply cards, and in our opinion is completely unrealistic. There is no generalization which can cover the relationship between used message halves and used reply halves. It varies from issue to issue and it is conceivable that in one issue message halves are much scarcer and in another, reply halves are. Our own observations have shown us that reply halves are invariably scarcer and still we realize that at any moment someone may come across a company file containing a large number of a particular reply card and throw the balance of that issue in the opposite direction. ★