Domestic Postal History of the Edward V11 Era

The domestic postal history of the King Edward V11 era (1903 – 1911) includes all classes of mail to Canada, The United States of America and Mexico. During this time there was a set of definitive stamps showing the King' head, (mostly issued in 1903); a set of stamps commemorating the Tercentenary of Quebec, issued on 16 July 1908; a number of postal stationery post cards and envelopes. All three of these methods of paying for postage are represented here.

The postal rates for the types of mail illustrated in this exhibit are as follows:

First class forward letters 1 cent per ounce

Post cards 1 cent

Third class mail 1 cent per 2 ounces

Drop letters 1 cent per ounce

Registration 5 cents

Special Delivery 10 cents

It will be noted that the rate for post cards, third class mail and drop letters are all 1 cent which can lead to some confusion when deciding which class of mail is represented.

I have included some parcel items and the rates for these will be indicated for each individual piece.

Scarce items will be indicated within the item descriptions.

First Class Forward Mail



2 cent illustrated letter to Prince Edward Island.

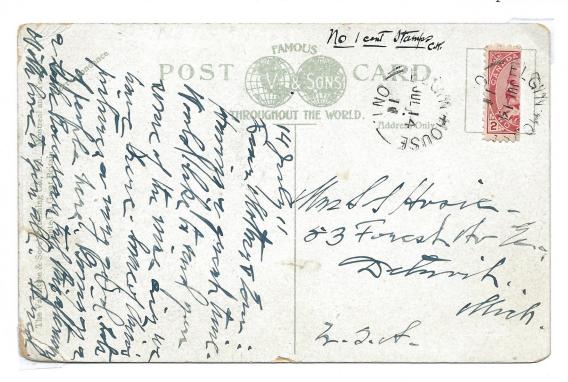


USA postal stationery envelope used in Canada. This was allowed so long as the appropriate Canadian postage was applied – in this case 2 cents for postage to Seattle.

Post Cards



Post card to USA, damaged by the stamping machine at Vancouver and repaired with tape.



Post card to USA from Elgin House and franked with a 2 cent bisect, annotated and initialled by the postmaster "no 1 cent stamps". Elgin House is a summer resort on the shores of Lake Joseph in the Muskoka region – it will have been a very small post office in 1911.

Post Cards



Postal stationery card paying the 1 cent post card rate to Mexico, a scarce destination at this time.

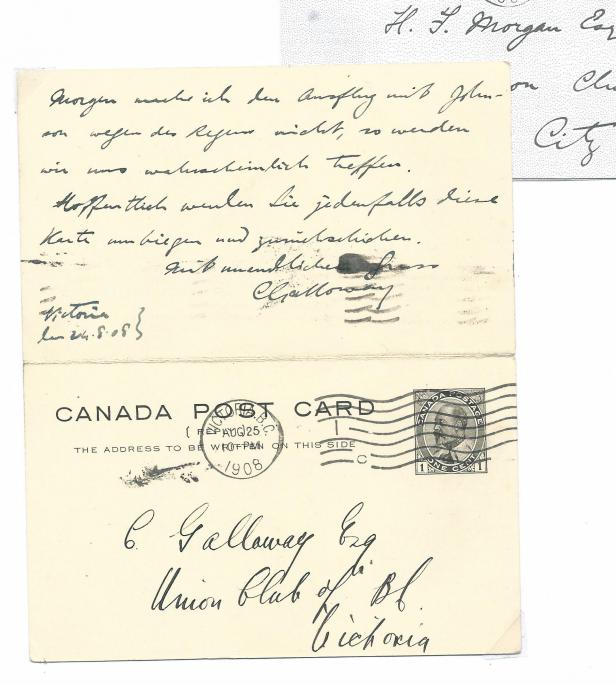


5 cents registration plus 1 cent postcard (or, since there is no message, this is also 3rd class). A scarce use of Quebec Tercentennials to register this class of mail.

Reply Post Card

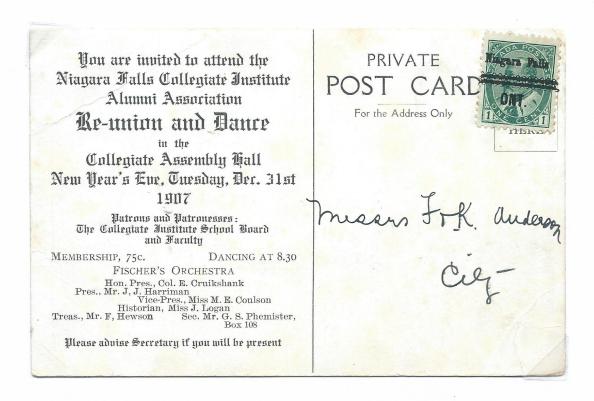
THE ADDRESS TO BE WEIGHE 25 ON THIS SIDE

95 303

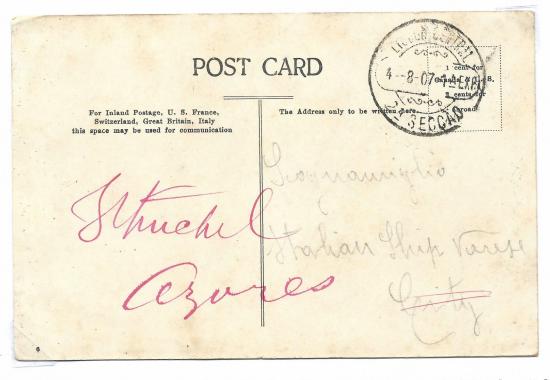


Postal stationery 1 cent post card written in Victoria BC and posted toVictoria (so also drop letter rate) on Aug 25 1908 at 1.30 pm. Reply written and posted to Victoria on Aug 25 1908 at 10 pm. A very scarce example of an intact reply post card with both halves used.

Third Class Printed Matter



Post card with printed message. This card pays all three 1 cent rates - post card, 3^{rd} class and drop letter. It is franked with a very scarce Niagara Falls precancel.



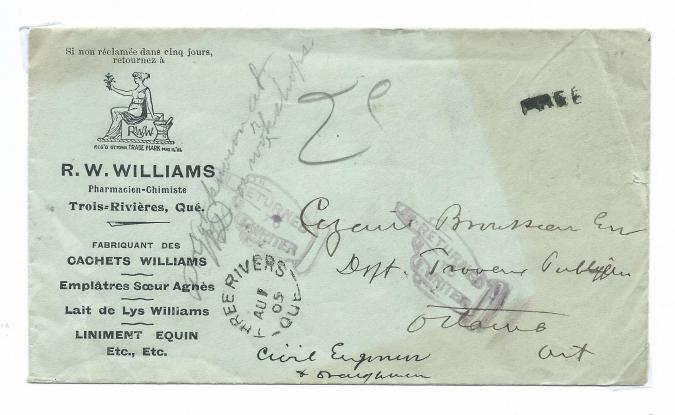
Postcard with no written message from Quebec (1 cent stamp cancelled Quebec Jul 14 1907 on picture side) to a crew member on board a ship docked at Quebec. It missed the ship and was forwarded to The Azores where it was stamped with an Aug 4th receiver.

Third Class Sample Rate

SAMPLE OF NO VALUE	More and the second sec
Ress. Mo Farlamer Field 10 Bain St. East Namilton Cent.	2 2 2
CROSFIELD, LAMPARD, CLARK & CO.	The soul state of the state of

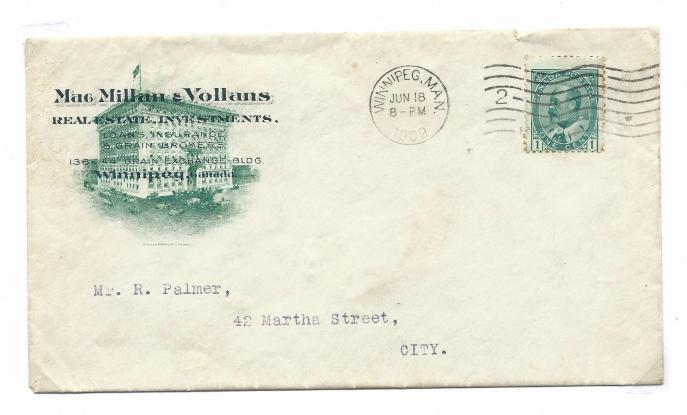
The sample rate was 1 cent per two ounces. This example therefore pays for a sample weighing up to eight ounces.

Free Post



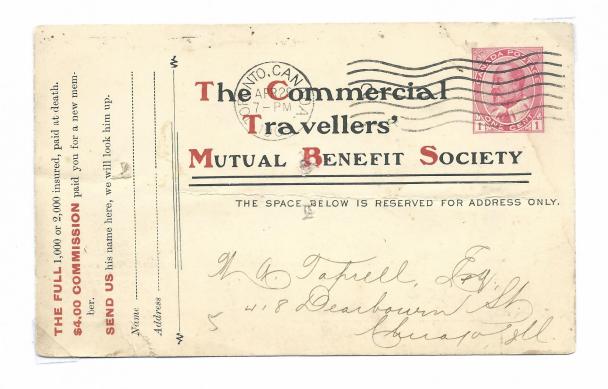
Free letter to the Department of Public Works. It is annotated "Not known at Dept works shops" and returned. It was charged the 2 cent letter rate for the return.

Drop Letter Rate



Illustrated drop letter posted in Winnipeg to an address in the city.

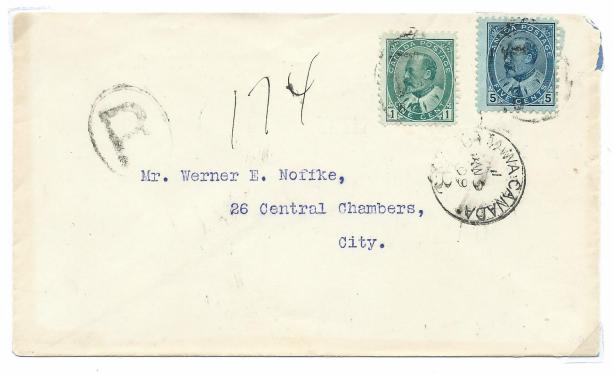
Privately Printed Post Card



Privately printed postal stationery card from Toronto to Chicago.



Free registered letter from The Department of Marine and Fisheries, 1906. Postage and registration were both free.



Registered drop letter from Ottawa, 1909

Use of the Quebec Tercentenary Issue to pay registration to USA



5 cent registration and 2 cent 1st class postage



Nice single use of the 7 cent to pay combined registration and postage.



7 cent Quebec Tercentenary and 2 cent Edward used to pay registration plus postage to 2 ounces on a letter to NS.



Double weight registered letter from Calgary to Nelson, BC dated Au 21 1907. Posted back to Calgary on Oct 27 1907, postage repaid and re-registered. Note that because of the length of time between receipt of the letter and redirecting it, the full postage had to be paid.

Registered



This free registered OHMS cover to California *was* redirected and, since registration was only valid to the first address, it was re-registered by the US Post Office before being forwarded to Japan.



This registered letter was marked "fraudulent" and prohibited. The address was obviously known to the Post Office and its mail intercepted. It was sent to the DLO and presumably returned to the sender.

Special Delivery

There was an agreement between Canada and USA that special delivery would be given to the other country's mail so long as the special delivery was paid using the stamps of the destination country.

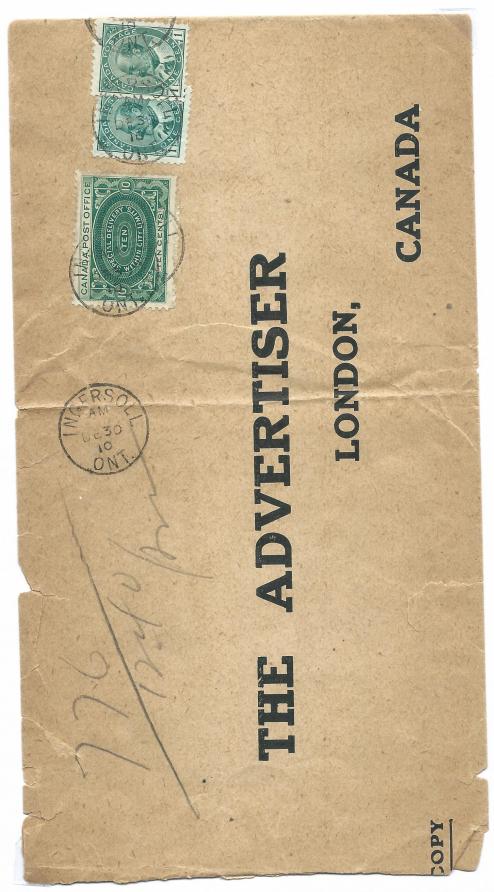


Letter from Canada to USA correctly paid for postage by Canadian stamp and special delivery by USA stamp.



Letter from USA to Canada incorrectly paid for special delivery with American stamps. It was given special delivery in Canada as can be seen from the SD number applied in pencil, but was charged 10 cents (single deficiency) postage due.

Special Delivey



Printers' Copy (3^{rd} class mail) given special delivery. The postal guides of the period specificly stated that only 1^{st} class letters could be given special delivery, but Printers' Copy was frequently treated thus. It was given a Special Delivery number.

Fourth Class (Parcel Post)





Two 11 cent parcel tags paying up to 11 ounces at 1 cent per ounce.
Scarce use of 10 cent
Quebec Centennial.

Postage Due



One cent postage due for return of third class matter.