

Abbott Pentothal Cards Addressed to Canada

(Note: **Boldfaced #s** are cards posted during 1966 to 1968)

Pentothal cards recorded “to Canada” (128)

#s 1 **2** 3 4 5 6 7 9 10 12 14 16 17 **18** 19 20 **25 26 27 28** 29 30 33 34 35 37 38 39 42 43 44 45
47 48 49 50 52 54 55 57 58 59 60 61 **63** 64 67 68 69 70 **71 72** 73 74 77 78 79 80 82 83 84 87
88 90 **91** 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 108 109 110 112 113 117 **118**
119 120 121 122 124 126 128 132 134 135 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 147 149 151 152
153 154 155 158 159 160 161 162 163 165 166 **167** 169 173 174 175 177 178 179 180 182

Pentothal cards not recorded “to Canada” (55)

8 11 13 13A 15 21n 22 23 24 31 32n 36 40 41 46 51 53 56 **62n 65n 66n 75 76n 81 85 86n**
89n 106 107 111 **114 115 116 123 125 127 129 130 131 133n** 136 **137 138 146n 148 150**
156 157n 164 168 170n 171 172n 176 181

Of the 60 cards posted from 1966 to 1968, 13 are recorded addressed to Canada and 47 are not recorded addressed to Canada. So, this may mean there's been too few of the 1966-1968 cards reported so far and that the potential “to Canada” cards have not shown up yet but will as more get reported in the future.

Note that 1966-1968 card #s 21, 32, 62, 65, 66, 76, 85, 86, 89, 133, 146, 157, 170, and 172 are recorded only as n (Dear Nurse Anesthetist) cards and unless the “Dear Doctor” versions exist and not yet reported, none of these 14 #s are likely to have been addressed to Canada.

Of the ten cards posted in 1965 (#s 14 33 37 47 61 95 122 136 158 182), only #136 is not recorded to Canada. I noted earlier #136 was late posted (10/30-11/2), so I suspected it was the start of “not to Canada” cards, but then noticed #14 (10/1) and #33 (11/15) are recorded “to Canada” – so, perhaps too few #136 were reported so far and a #136 “to Canada” exists.

Additional Observations and Remarks:

As is the case of most cards from a country of mailing not being sent to that country (U.N. #173 and U.S. #s 174, 177, and 178 are notable exceptions), Canada #s 22, **23**, and **24** are not reported to Canada and not likely to be addressed to Canada. Canada #s **25, 26, 27**, and **28** reported as only being addressed to Canada are exceptions – these cards have the Abbott stylized logo (introduced 1961) as the “Abbott signature” at bottom and are franked with precanceled *Scott #458* (perf. 12 variety issued 1967). The printed text of the #**27** P.E.I. card (“One hundred years since the birth of our nation [*in 1867*] ...”) suggests these four cards were posted in 1967 and therefore part of the 13-year 1956-1968 series of 183 cards.

U.S. #176 (North Chicago Plant of Abbott laboratories) is unique in the Pentothal series that it has no English-text version and its foreign text cards (French, German, Greek, Spanish and Swedish) were sent to those language-speaking countries. It is conceivable, but not likely, that a #176fr m ay have been posted to Quebec but not yet discovered and reported.

No explanation why GB #s 53 and 56 are not reported “to Canada” but I suspect they were and will be found and reported. I note that all the other GB cards (except #62n), including #61 (1965) and #63 (1968), are reported to Canada. I suppose it is not likely that a #62n exists to Canada as nurse cards are all reported to the U.S. Likewise, Mexico #s 99, 106, 107, 109 [#109fr is recorded to Canada], and 111 are 1956-1958 cards that almost certainly were posted to Canada, but just not yet reported – nine of the other 14 Mexico cards (#s 98 to 111) sent in 1956 and 1958 are reported to Canada.

Roger Cichorz, July 7, 2021