“METERED MAIL NOTES”
by Ernest J. Roscoe, Stamp Collector

# DATE          TITLE OR SUBJECT
1973
1 3/24  General instructions for collectors/meter stamp history
2 4/28  General instructions for collectors/meter stamp history
3 5/19  General instructions for collectors/meter stamp history
4 7/7   Mechanics of the postage meter
5 8/4   Friden meter stamp
6 9/1   Permit printers
7 9/8   ZIP code meter stamps, permit printers
8 10/20 Metered mail notes
9 11/24 Christmas slogans
10 12/22 Postal rate changes in the 1920s

1974
11 1/15 Metered mail notes
12 1/26 Postal rate changes in the 1930s
13 2/16 Postal rate changes in the 1940s and 1950s
14 3/16 Postal rate changes in the 1960s, part 1
15 4/5  Metered mail notes
16 4/27 Postal rate changes in the 1960s, part 2
17 5/25 Posthorns on metered mail
18 6/22 Scope of metered mail and meter stamp literature
19 7/27 Telephone slognas on metered mail
20 8/24 Organization of a meter stamp collection
21 10/5 History of American meter manufacturers, part 1
22 10/26 History of American meter manufacturers, part 2
23 11/23 History of American meter manufacturers, part 3
24 12/7 World War II meter slogans

1975
25 1/4  Pitney Bowes model 5300 and USPMSC type HC stamps
26 2/15 History of postage franking devices, part 1
27 4/5  History of postage franking devices, part 2
28 4/26 Food on meter slogans
29 5/24 Official metered mail
30 6/21 Pitney Bowes model RT and USPMSC type HA stamps
31 7/19 Controversial meter slogans
32 8/16 Meter stamp classification, part 1
33 9/13 Meter stamp classification, part 2
34 10/18 Maps and globes on meter slogans
35 11/22 United Parcel Service (UPS) meters
36 12/13 Vertebrate fossils on meter slogans

1976
37 1/24 Notes of a metered mail collector
38 2/7  Why a meter stamp looks like it does
39 3/6  Mountains on meter stamps
40 4/10 Post office meter stamps
41 5/15 Origin of the meter mail system
42 6/26 Review of Simon-Walsh US Meter Stamp Catalog
43 7/10 Birds on meter slogans and indicia
44 8/14 Now it can be told—the Mailomat
45 9/4  Postage due meters create special category
10/2 Collecting animal invertebrates on meters
11/20 Meter stamps and the shell game (Mollusks as a topical)
12/4 Errors and anomalies in impressions

1977

1/8 Early meter stamps of New Zealand and Europe
2/26 The John Coulthard story, the development of meter slogans, part 1
3/12 John Coulthard story, the development of meter slogans, part 2
4/2 The Earth—a planet known around the world
6/11 An outline of Canadian meter stamps
6/25 The internationalization of metered mail
7/16 Meter stamps, metered mail, and philately
8/13 Mr. Pitney and Mr. Bowes: Postal Pioneers, part 1
10/1 Mr. Pitney and Mr. Bowes: Postal Pioneers, part 2
10/29 Meter slogans in eco-philately
11/12 Meters in the land of cherry blossoms, part 1 (Japan)
12/17 Meters in the land of cherry blossoms, part 2 (Japan)

1978

1/21 The crucial decade, part 1: Raising capital and permit competition
2/11 The crucial decade, part 2: Leadership and the permit battle
3/18 The crucial decade, part 3: Pitney-Bowes wins the permit battle
4/1 Meter slogans and the ‘weed’
5/13 Postal code numbers in meter impressions
6/10 Meter stamps of Great Britain, part 1
7/8 More on Great Britain’s meter stamps, part 2
8/12 The not-so-surprising success of meters
9/9 History of the meter stamps of Postalia, part 1
10/7 History of the meter stamps of Postalia, part 2
11/11 The Girard College meter slogan, part 1
12/9 The tale behind the Girard meter slogan, part 2

1979

1/13 Henry O. Meisel, founder of the AMPS, part 1
2/10 Henry O. Meisel, founder of the AMPS, part 2
3/10 Recording a meter stamp collection
4/7 Mammals on meter slogans
5/5 From cigarettes to punchboards: Meter stamps and revenues
6/9 Group D indicia—the imitation adhesive, part 1 (correction 7/14)
7/8 Group D indicia, part 2
8/11 Japanese meters: Corrections and additional comments
9/29 Early Pitney patents—getting started in 1902
10/13 Meter miscellany: Help wanted at the Smithsonian
11/24 Man’s past and future as a topic, part 1
12/8 Man’s past and future as a topic, part 2

1980

1/12 Getting started in meter stamp collecting, part 1
2/9 Getting started in meter stamp collecting, part 2
3/8 The small streamlined eagle indicia
4/19 Topical meters: When the horse was king
5/17 PB Touchmatics and their stamps (type HD) (correction 6/14)
6/14 The first US electronic postage meter
7/5 Pitney’s 1904 patent—a meter landmark
8/30 Metered mail marks sixty years of existence
9/27 Condition: It’s a subjective matter when it comes to meter collecting
10/25 Snakes alive: A topical you can get wrapped up in
11/22 Anatomy of a meter stamp: mandatory and optional elements, part 1
Anatomy of a meter stamp, part 2

1981

Anatomy of a meter stamp: The denomination box, part 3

Meter miscellany: Markings outside the indicium, part 4

Of flowers and reproduction: A topical side of metered mail

Meter stamps in Western Europe: No single catalog covers area

NCR meter stamps lack beauty but offer challenges

Pitney’s third patent: Ingenuity creates remarkable postage meter

Meter Miscellany: Drop shipment slogan, town die error, catalog

Meters and related stamps of two meter firms of the past

Topical: evolution

Solving meter mysteries calls for knowledge of super sleuth

Flying eagles: Did these designs lead to model J meters? part 1

The brief lives of flying eagle meters bred som rarities, part 2

Rockaway begins use of first new meter stamps in two decades

Large eagle: In May 1936, a new Large Standing Eagle meter stamp

Reptiles: Meter slogans

Large eagles: Experiments, tests led to meter varieties

Need for meter compatibility led to new imprint variety from Friden

Pitney and Woodward patents of 1918, part 1

Pitney and Woodward meter devices, part 2

Louis Pasteur: Scientist probed into mystery of life, part 1

Pasteur probed mysteries of spontaneous generation, part 2

Trilingual: Sideline of Israeli metered mail is lesson in language

Towns alive! Idaho study shows breadth possible in town collecting

1982

Pre-authorization test mailings of metered mail

Testing meters: Pitney device used in 1912 on third-class mail, part 1

More tests: Chicago’s meter test carried out on business mail, part 2

A philatelic portrayal of the restless earth

Square box: Pitney Bowes indicium was first commercial meter

BA stamp first used for franking on December 10, 1920, part 2

Permits & meters: After 1904 start, permit system moved forward

US Post Office introduces permit printers, part 2

More on meters and permits: Classifying early permit indicia, part 3

Mammals on meters collection can follow taxonomic arrangement

Metered mammals: From shrews to whales

Did USPS borrow its eagle from Pitney Bowes?

1983

Jefferson’s reason: Meters depict legacy of declaration’s author

Fur trade lured explorers westward

Parcel registers: Back-of-book material for metered mail collectors

On the wings of insects: flight and meters

PB’s oval meter stamps: First in widespread use, part 1

PB’s oval meter stamps: First in widespread use, part 2

Postage label vending machines

Meters away: Recent labels add to foreign meter options

Vending machines of the world

Those vital green machines appearing even on metered mail (trees)

Oval designs: Summing up the Group C meter stamps

Metered ovals: Many companies contributed a variety of types

1984

1/16

2/6

3/19

4/16

5/28

6/25

7/16

8/13

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10/22

12/24

12/31
1985
145 1/14 Taking philately at a snail’s pace
146 2/11 The Pitney Bowes register indicia for UPS parcels
147 3/4 Sorting the register indicia made by Pitney Bowes for UPS
148 4/15 The American Indian, a provocative topical
149 5/13 A review of the Friden postage meter stamps
150 6/10 A torch for meters: The designs of KA meter stamps vary little
151 7/15 Possibilities in permit printer franked official mail
152 8/12 The UPS parcel register indicia of the National Cash Register Co.
153 9/9 Advent of metered mail was a dramatic departure from rules
154 9/19 Rise to dominance of metered mail and its philatelic implications
155 10/7 Room for both: Meters haven’t pushed out adhesives
156 10/7 Rise to dominance of metered mail and its philatelic implications
157 11/4 Rise to dominance of metered mail and its philatelic implications
158 11/4 When will philately accept metered mail into the hobby?
159 12/2 Friden type KB meter stamps show variations

1986
160 2/1 Canadian Post Office authorized metered mail in 1923
161 2/15 Meter usage in Canada differs from that in the US
162 3/1 Under scrutiny: Microscope makers and meter slogans
163 5/24 Postalia: Proposed classification comprises two subgroups
164 6/7 KD indicia: A single type, produced by Friden’s Mini-Meter 9200
165 7/5 Official mail meter indicia began appearing in 1974
166 8/16 Friden stamps: Type KE varieties
167 9/13 Friden’s KE stamps: Extra-indicial markings
168 10/18 Age of dinosaurs (topical), part 1
169 11/15 Age of dinosaurs, part 2
170 12/20 Age of dinosaurs, part 3

1987
171 1/24 Brontosaurus dinosaur
172 2/28 Official meter indicia, part 1
173 3/28 Official meter indicia, part 2
174 4/25 Engineering marvel’s history told in SC (Roscoe index)
175 5/16 Friden meters: Official types
176 6/6 Torch removed from some official meters
177 7/4 Postage validation imprinteders made name with 1-step service, part 1
178 8/1 Intermec PVI testing
179 9/5 Guide to basics (Roscoe index)
180 10/17 Meter miscellany: O(LA)1, newcomers, meter mimic
181 11/21 UPS indicia broken down according to manufacturer
182 12/19 Sub-group classification for UPS indicia

1988
183 1/9 Some metered matter appeals to topicalists (Roscoe index)
184 2/20 Imitation meter stamps follow the original eagle design
185 3/19 We’ve been running our meter for 15 years now
186 4/16 Uses of Hasler, Orbitran indicia for UPS parcel registers
187 5/14 Meter columns fall into two major classes (Roscoe index)
188 6/18 An index to foreign meter stamp columns (Roscoe index)
189 7/9 States, cities send messages on meters
190 8/27 Meter stamp collecting began after 1920 sanction
191 9/24 Try businesses ‘junk mail’ for metered mail treasures
192 10/15 Collecting opportunities: General, specialized areas include topical
193 11/5 Type HE meter stamps form a new category
1989

194 1/7  First meter stamp origins murky but BA stamp will researched
195 2/4  Canadian ‘cash register’ system generates postage paid labels
196 3/4  Biology offers wealth of material to meter collectors
197 4/1  Beginners helped by meter classification system
198 5/6  US meter stamps classifications include Group H
199 6/3  Group H meters divided into sub-types
200 7/8  Watch for Postalia, Friden, Hasler meters
201 7/29 Common US meter stamps have design variations
202 9/9  Meter stamp collecting requires classification system
203 10/14 Revision of Simon-Walsh catalog
204 11/11 Questions concern size of material and housing
205 12/9  Obsolete meter stamps classified in Simon-Walsh

1990

206 1/6  NCRs called ‘ugly ducklings’ of meters
207 2/3  Is biology valid as subject for topicals?
208 3/10 US metered military mail
209 5/19 Inventor Arthur Pitney developed postage meter
210 7/14 John Coulthard encouraged interest in meters
211 6/14 First US electronic postage meter
212 8/25 Postage meter benefited government
213 9/22 Columnist tells how he became interested in meters

Roscoe wrote other meter-related articles for *Stamp Collector* that were not his regular column:

1/26/74 USPS expands meter usage
2/15/75 Collector’s voice: indicia on official U.S. Air Force mail
8/23/75 Tobacco as a topical, cigarette advertising meter slogans
4/20/76 Adoption of meters by Post Office Dept. and stamp types
3/26/77 Swiss experiment in vending franking devices
4/30/77 Foster Report: An outline of mail classification history
6/15/77 Errors and oddities in impressions
6/25/77 Swiss use coin-operated postage frankers
12/10/77 You asked: Meter stamp organizations and literature
12/24/77 You asked: What about meters?
6/24/78 You asked: Now to save meters on oversize covers
6/28/78 How to save meters
3/24/79 PB’s Remote Meter Resetting System
11/3/79 You asked: PB official mail imprints
11/10/79 Electronic mail, the time is ripe for philatelic study
8/1/81 You asked: Why two impressions on same cover?
10/19/81 You asked: How to collect meter tapes
10/26/81 You asked: Metered business reply mail
10/28/81 You asked: Why two denominations on impressions?
1/10/83 Review of revised edition of Simon-Walsh US Meter Stamp Catalog
4/11/83 You asked: Significance of meter stamp over permit imprint
4/25/83 You asked: Official mail meter (Postalia)
5/2/83 You asked: Official mail meter
7/18/83 Pitney Bowes claims more than 800,000 meters leased in US
7/16/84 You asked: Drop Shipment Authorization slogan
10/21/85 Metered cover
10/28/85 A different meter (Hasler official mail imprint)
4/25/87 You asked: Two PB official imprints on same meter with two towns
5/30/87 Imprints from a Postage Validation Imprinter