EDITORIAL 1

Just received Bob Lee's 256 page February catalogue - scarcely a meter to be found. There are lengthy lists of duplex cancels, Klussendorf, flag and other postal strikings which have a mechanical appearance. Most command a respectable buck for price, and there is an apparent demand. Why not postage meters which have a longer history and possess greater variability in appearance and interest? My conclusion is the interest and demand is lacking compared to other cancels because of the lack of a collectors priced catalogue.

Another, and probably the same factor, is dealers do not have a stock of scarce material. Scarce material is not put in auction because current prices do not reflect its true value. It's a dog chasing its tail.

It seems to me CMSG have to develop a more aggressive plan to get our catalogue onto the street soon. Our first newsletter was 1981 - is it possible to have a catalogue for our 20th birthday this fall? Most of the work is done, except pricing and elimination of very minor varieties. Can we have some input from our members?

EDITORIAL 2

I just received a copy of the B.N.A.P.S. Slogan Study Group 110 page treatise on Canadian Postage Meter Slogan and Advertising Dies. It consists of an alphabetical list of probably 2,500 slogans, I didn't count. I just sent the author a couple of hundred 1930's-40's to add to the list. The list consists of a table with an identification number/slogan wording/design/meter type/manufactuer/town/date/colour/user.

Why mention this? Well, topical collecting and displaying is now embracing the area of postage meter slogans and ads. It is hard to define what is an ad and what is a slogan, I guess the user decides. These postmark ads include commercial products and services; however, they also include special events and worthy causes such as the Olympics in 1988 at Calgary, the Montreal World's Fair and many local events. There is no index to these ads

Pitney Bowes issues a flyer advertising their holdings of stock advertisements for customers. It is changed annually. Have you started a collection of postage meter ads/slogans?
BULK MAIL

Some bulk mail have the postal indicia applied with a postage "meter". Canada Post now states that phosphorescent ink, such as used with postage meters, is not acceptable for use in printing the postal indicia to bulk mail. Bulk mail can still be metered with a bulk plate if the mailing weighs less than 50 grams. Typically, the bulk permit number and name or postal code of the office of induction (post office where it is dropped off) have been included in the bulk postal indicia as shown below.

As of 15 Jan 1997 the inclusion of the name or postal code of the office of induction became optional. Many firms continue to use the old style, others have adopted the new style where only the mailers number is shown. Canada Post has established that the bulk postal indicia must measure at least 12 mm x 25 mm and must not exceed 40 mm x 74 mm. Characters printed within the indicia must measure at least 2 mm and not exceed 5 mm. The use of the "Nbre Blk" and "Blk Nbre" depends on the source of mailing. If the return address on the piece is in the Province of Quebec then the French first indicia must be used. The English version must be used for any other parts of Canada.

Some comparison data I generated for a US collector to show type catalogue numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P.B Model</th>
<th>CMSG Type</th>
<th>US Type</th>
<th>SERIAL BLOCK</th>
<th>CANADA</th>
<th>USA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HX</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>DE 1</td>
<td>82404 - 82425</td>
<td>METRE NO</td>
<td>METER NUMBER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HX</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>DE 2</td>
<td>82426 - 83029</td>
<td>METRE</td>
<td>METER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HX</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>DE 3</td>
<td>83030 - 83999</td>
<td>METER-COMPTEUR</td>
<td>PB METER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HT</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>DE 1</td>
<td>84001 - 84015</td>
<td>METRE NO.</td>
<td>METER NUMBER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HT</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>DE 2</td>
<td>84016 - 84022</td>
<td>METRE</td>
<td>METER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HT</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>DE 3</td>
<td>84023 - 84999</td>
<td>METER-COMPTEUR</td>
<td>PB METER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H?</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>DE 3</td>
<td>47001 - 47999</td>
<td>METER-COMPTEUR 1947</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H?</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>DE 3</td>
<td>48500 - 48999</td>
<td>METER-COMPTEUR 1948</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H?</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>DE 3</td>
<td>50000 - 50193</td>
<td>METER-COMPTEUR 1950</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
POSTMARK ADS

Census of sample meter ads printed by Pitney Bowes which stated on the cover:-
"This is a sample of METER-AD" prepared for use on the mail of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>Type 5</th>
<th>Type 6</th>
<th>Type 7</th>
<th>Type 8</th>
<th>Type 9</th>
<th>Type 11</th>
<th>Total Ads</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>46</td>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table shows the growth in the use of postmark ads. With the beginning of US participation in the war Pitney Bowes curtailed production of new meters and the number of company ads decreased. War production and patriotic ads are not included in this table but were the principal advertising from 1942 to 1945. When production of new meters resumed in 1946 the number of ads showed a large increase. During the period covered by this census the Pitney Bowes Model H meters was the work horse until after 1947. This is an incomplete listing of ads. It is what I obtained as a lot at Hamilton several years ago. Pitney Bowes sent each ad to the company for approval of design and spelling before the die was installed in the meter. The covers in the table are the approval covers. Even if incomplete, the number of postmark ads used by meter users is large, even for this early period.
Data for the Postalia meters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERIAL</th>
<th>TOWNMARK</th>
<th>RATE BOX</th>
<th>OVERALL</th>
<th>SETTING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400047</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>26 x 25</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>402946</td>
<td>27/18</td>
<td>26 x 27</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403411</td>
<td>27/18</td>
<td>26 x 28</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404070</td>
<td>27/18</td>
<td>26 x 27</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>407147</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26 x 24</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>465002</td>
<td>27/18</td>
<td>26 x 27</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404128</td>
<td>27/18</td>
<td>25 x 27</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4000128</td>
<td>25/17</td>
<td>27 x 30</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4050113</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>29 x 26</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4002128</td>
<td>25/17</td>
<td>30 x 25</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4050245</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26 x 25</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Effective December 18, 2000, Canada Post recognized the new territory of NUNAVUT with the designator symbol NU. There were 29 communities and 8,400 households and businesses. The FSA is X0A, X0B and X0C. Ross Irwin wrote an article for the PHSC, Issue 103, pp.26-27 "Meter Towns of the Canadian Territories" which lists each town and indicates if a postage meter had been used at it.

Strange item from Pitney Bowes. Corner card present and what appears to be the postmark ad but the indicia has slipped off the envelope. Postmarked 1955.

I don't know why this Friden meter is so difficult to get a properly inked copy. I think it must be related to its size. Has anyone got a really good copy?

Canadian town list: www.draves.com/mss/cantown/cantown.htm
MY CANADA OVERSEAS COLLECTION TO DATE

CANADA
ASHKAN
ATHINA
11 III 81

HELLES
PHIHELAS-90

CANADA
1811 GENEVE 19
M PETULA SACOMNEY
17 IV 88

100
HELVETIA
7 9 0 1

CANADIAN EMBASSY
AMBASSADE DU CANADA

AMERICAN EMBASSY
AMBASSADE DU CANADA

NEDERLAND
150
CENT.
FR 1971

ROMA
13 IV 79
0320

AMBASSADE DU CANADA
165 RUES JACOB DU CAHIER

AMBASSADE DU CANADA
165 RUES JACOB DU CAHIER

AMBASSADE DU CANADA
165 RUES JACOB DU CAHIER

Ambassade du Canada
Embassy of Canada
33-33, Akasaka 7-chome
Minato-ku, Tokyo 107

C4 - 5
New Remote Readers arrive!

By Sally Enright

"How fast can you get it there and how reliable is the service?" In a world where customers are technologically savvy and expanding their horizons globally, it's not surprising they want quick and dependable service, particularly when sending international or U.S. mail.

Now our machines can even read...

Canada Post is responding with another new initiative to turn our vision into action. This fall, CPC will be upgrading its Multi-Line Optical Character Readers (MLOCRs) by adding Remote Computer Readers. The new Readers can "read" hand-written addresses, artistic fonts and black barcodes, further reducing the need for manual coding. This means faster mail processing and an improvement in customer service.

Current technology in the plants can read only machine-printed addresses and hand-written postal codes placed in dotted boxes. Addresses that can't be read are rejected and sent to Video Encoding Systems (VES) for manual coding. The rejected mail is then reprocessed through the MLOCR.

Now, some 37 per cent of mail processed by MLOCRs requires manual coding and re-feeding. It is estimated the new Remote Computer Readers will eliminate 60 per cent of VES coding and save up to $16 million a year in processing costs.

"There has been a lot of progress in the area of mail processing and we are simply taking advantage of the latest technology," says Joe Ulvr, project director. "It is a good project for the corporation, not only from a technical standpoint, but from the financial side as well. And it is one way we are delivering on the principles of the corporate vision."

The implementation of the Remote Computer Readers will have a huge impact on the processing of international and U.S. mail. Outgoing international mail, which accounts for the largest volume of hand-written mail, will benefit from the improved read rate. The mail can now be processed mechanically and sorted to the destination country. Ulvr adds, "The new Remote Computer Readers can also read U.S. zip codes and apply Postnet barcodes, which means we can now pre-sort mail going to the U.S."

Although this upgrade in technology may result in a reduction of full-time equivalent positions, it is expected that any reduction will be effectively handled through attrition.

It is also expected that the reduction in Video Encoding volumes will free up as many as six MLOCRs. Three of these can then be dedicated to processing U.S. and international mail in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal.

The first Remote Computer Reader will be installed this September in Vancouver, with plans to install a minimum of 20 more by December and the remainder by May 2001.

"Keeping pace with technology will help us to rationalize our network and improve our service," sums up Ulvr. "The new Remote Computer Readers represent just one way we're building toward future development."
Adhesive label for Lettermail. Probably generated on a computer, which would be a slow process and not very cost effective.

Remember when ........

UDSON MOTORS OF CANADA, LIMITED

HUDSON
Most DURABLE car your money can buy!

Now here’s a website for you Webmaster’s Picks: Postage Meters - “Best sites for postage meters”. Be careful typing it.

wysiwyg://19/http://stfranciscare.com/picks/Postage_Meters.htm

Some of Leland Brown’s “Meter News and Notes” from Popular Stamps in the 1940’s on this and the next page. Using this for high class filler material.

"MAILOMAT" UNVEILED

Thursday, February 3rd, a "mailomat"—coin-operated slot machine, was unveiled at Station B, Ottawa, by Postmaster General Wm. P. Mulock. As this news broke while P.S. is being printed there is no room and time for this in this week’s form, so I add the following from G. R. L. Potter, Ottawa:

"Local philatelists—those interested in meter mail, at least—were taken by surprise yesterday when a mailomat was inaugurated in the lobby of the main post office here for general service.

The meter number is 51010, and ascertained, on inquiry today, that a total of only 1457 pieces went through the machine yesterday. As many of these were purely of a ‘public’ nature (all members of the House and Senate, for example, received circulars), and will almost certainly be destroyed, ‘first-days’ of this meter should be rather scarce items. I understand that the great majority of items bore three and four cent postage, but there were one or two small mails."
METER NEWS AND NOTES

By M. L. Brown, Rutland, Sask.

One type of Canadian meter, listed as type 2 by the Harris Meter Catalogue, is a standing rectangle with the name "CANADA" at the top, until August 1927. The design is universal for Postal Frankers of London, England, and were apparently used during the latter part of 1926 and until August 1927. The design is very plain being a standing rectangle with "CANADA" at the top, "1, 2, or 3 CENTS" in the center and the machine number at the bottom. Only six machine numbers were used as far as I know and they are:

- 503 1c Ottawa, Ontario.
- 505 1, 2 and 3c Montreal, Quebec.
- 507 2c Quebec.
- 512 2c Montreal, Quebec.
- 513 1c Montreal, Quebec.

All copies seen are in red. Meter numbers 512 and 513 have a slightly larger townmark than the others.

If you are thinking about starting a meter collection but are wondering how to go about it perhaps a few suggestions might be offered here. In the first place, I believe meters should be kept on full covers or at least 2 inch strips the length of the envelope so as to show the corner and since it is often useful to know the user's name and address.

Canadian collections may be formed in several ways as follows:

1. General collection which would include all meter numbers, colors, slogans and in the earlier issues various values. This kind of collection if anywhere near complete would make a fine collection. Many of the smaller towns and cities are now appearing on meters.

2. Type collection—containing around 15 major types as well as many sub-types, colors and values regardless of meter numbers and slogans.

3. Town collection—consisting of over 265 towns with more new ones appearing frequently.

4. Slogan collection—Non commercial slogans make a fine collection and may include patriotic, commemorative and public events. There are numerous commercial slogans.

And how you collect I suggest you keep all meter numbers as some other collector may need what is useless to you.

Slogans in use recently are:

- "Books, Films, Records, Use Your Public Library" from New Westminster, B.C. on 143364; "Cream improves a desert" from Vancouver on 144238; "Incomparable Niagara" from Niagara Falls on 144301; "Toronto Board of Education Centennial 1927" on 140029. And speaking of Centennials recalls other celebrations that slogans have been used for. They include birthdays of Hamilton, Vancouver, Halifax, Winnipeg and the latest "Visit Amherst July 21-August 6, 1949 Diamond Jubilee and Old Home Week" on 47110 from Amherst, Nova Scotia. And on 140074 from Regina: "British Trade Week Observance in Saskatchewan Sept. 26- Oct 1st; "Play Safe Use Your Parks" from Vancouver on 83306.

 Interest in meters appears to be growing and well it may, since many of the earlier Canadian types and numbers are very hard to find. Among the rarest types are those with numbers 503, 505, 509, and 513 which are catalogued by Harris as Type 2 and Type 5 numbered from 1821-25. Also scarce is Harris Type 10 with meter 101 which was used experimentally at the Toronto post office in 1938. The midget type although not rare is obsolete and the first type is fast going out as only a very few are seen in use now.

Recently I have received letters from several readers with meter news. From E. L. Piggott of Chester, N.S. comes a slogan used at Kentville, N.S., sending, "15th Annual Apple Blossom Festival 1947" on meter 1148. A similar postal slogan was also used for the occasion. With Fred S. Richards, Dinsmore, Sask. sends a holiday slogan of interest "Take Only The Limit Or Less"—The Carling Conservation Club" and picturing a fish leaping from the water used on meter 140495 from Waterloo, Ont. A number of other non-commercial slogans come from D. MacDonald, 227 Brock St., Kingston, Ont. They are "Ontario British Flood Relief Campaign May 1st to 15th, 1947" from House of Assembly, Toronto on meter 54081 and also from House of assembly on meter 54081 is "Prevent Forest Fires Save Your Forest" showing a raging fire. On meter 54081 from Hamilton is "The Good Driver is a Careful Driver".

Other interesting slogans to report are "For Goodness Sake Keep Apples Cool"; "Safeguard Your Health" on meter 140167 from Toronto; "Health for all Canadians "Health Week" February 2nd to 8th" on meter 58288 from Toronto; "for your 1947 Vacation Alberta Canada" on 54047 from Edmonton, Alta.; "Time to think of Hall Insurances" from Regina, Sask. on meter 140367; "For the bride elect The Wedding Book is a perfect gift" on meter 1140 from Toronto; and from the Red Cross at Regina on meter 140857 is a picture of a red cross in a circle and the words "Swimming and Water Safety".

Many of the smaller towns and cities are now appearing on meters. These coming in fine and really are Rock Island, P.Q., Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask., Yorkton, Sask., Swift Current, Sask., Medicine Hat, Alta., Mount Forest, Ont., Milverton, Ont., and Missaugo, Ont.
There was a fine representation of meter frames at the S.P.A. convention in August at Detroit. First prize went to Frances Poffenger for a colorful collection of Christmas greetings slogans. There were topical groupings of maps, patriots and telephone slogans. A commemorative slogan was used at the convention on meter 106592.

Ed. Goodale, C.P.S. president sent several metered envelopes all with printed patriotic cachets in the lower left hand corner.

We welcome some new readers of this column. Mr. Waldean Gutman of Pembroke, Ont., who recently became interested in meter slogans plans to save covers from both the United States and Canada, and G. Bottyan, of Renora, Ont., who likes all slogans.

Those of you who appreciate a check list will be pleased to see A. W. Bendig's contribution to September 10 issue of Linn's Weekly Stamp News on Canadian patriots. He has listed 49 different patriotic slogans and which have to do with Victory Bonds. As he is a Popular Stamps reader, he would like to hear from others interested in patriots. His address is 221 Mt. Royal Boulevard, Etna, Pa.

Return postage meter covers are rather popular with collectors as they are not common. When they are found, they are generally of the 3c value which is the regular postage rate, therefore 1c and 2c covers of this type are quite rare.

As the war effort is taking supplies of metals and materials used in meter dies, it is possible there will be fewer new slogans than formerly.

Mr. H. E. Guertin of 4345 Harvard Avenue, Montreal, is compiling a list of meter slogans since 1939 used in Canada and he would like to hear from others with this information.

Mr. A. B. McNeill has made a collection of high value items in the 94000 series and has 125 different values totaling nearly $200. Statistics show that the total postage revenue for the year ending March 1941 was around 44 million dollars with roughly 10 million used for machine postage. Permits are kin to meters, and yet they are different. A permit was sent to me recently. It originated in Montreal and the slogan reads, "Use Gas for Home, Shop, Factory. It Never Fails."

Keith Denis, a Popular Stamps reader from Port Arthur, Ontario, writes asking a few questions which I shall attempt to answer. Postage return postage meter covers are many, for a lever is pushed and out comes a tape with the proper amount of postage imprinted thereon, all pre-paid ready to affix to the package. It means quicker service to the mailer also.

If the collector is looking for varieties, try and find a tape or cover bearing the meter number 94000 which is the only number in this series to have a dot in front of the amount of postage paid. All others have a star.

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Several new series of numbers are making their appearance on Canadian meters. Using the same design as the 140000 type is the new group of numbers from 1000 up to 8999. These are used for machine postage and letter cards. The new group of numbers has the advantage of being easier for the ordinary person to find the proper rates.

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Is scotch taping a meter impression legal?

Large patriotic flag postal ad.

Neopost “N” on Friden type meter

1850 AVENUE PANAMA
BUREAU 500
BROSSARD, QC
J4W 3C6

Metered at Brossard, PQ,
note date is 29 VIII’00.
Note added rate at
Longueuil, PQ, dated
13 III’01. Was this lost in
the office mail?

Long time since we were able to get 1 cent
Nixdorf type impressions. Sort of an
unusual use, guess I will save it. The ink
seems to be more stable now.
Some Friden Postalia meters. Don’t have a model yet, nor description.

Over-inking seems to be a problem with poor maintenance.
Postal
Mechanisation

The 25p Springtime stamp has been causing problems in sorting offices through being read as second class and streamed accordingly. Consequently, quality of service targets were not being achieved.

It was suggested to me that this was caused by the stamps being fixed to envelopes in such a way that the word Springtime is upright at the top instead of being sideways at the left. The broad phosphor band at the bottom was read as a second class single band, with the narrow band at the top not read at all.

This idea was challenged by a mechanisation expert who argued that a phosphor band read horizontally would be identified as first class. Trials some years ago showed that a second class single phosphor band stamp could be tilted until the point was reached where it would be read as a first class item.

What he thought was that, unless the machinery has changed with the Springtime 25p stamp being affixed in the correct way the narrow phosphor band was not being detected, with only the single broad band at the right being picked up, thus being read as second class only.

It goes so show that you should never accept the first explanation you are given without checking. The number of times I have been caught out on that one.

STAMP MAGAZINE • AUGUST

Recent Pitney Bowes ad seen on several meters.
 Postal historians study all aspects of the postal service, in particular, postal markings, routes, rates and the methods of handling the post. Philatelists study stamps, cancellations and pre-stamp and stampsless mail. It has puzzled me why it is that both philatelists and postal historians, with a few exceptions, seem to shun the study of metered mail. Perhaps it is because the importance of metered mail in the postal systems of the World is not appreciated or the nature of the information which a collection of meter marks can furnish not understood. The purpose of this article is to show how meter marks can add a new dimension to any postal history or philatelic collection which cannot be achieved in another way.

**Definition of a Meter Mark**

'Meter franking machines are machines which print impressions or stamps of various values direct on to envelopes, wrappers, labels, etc and record the amount expended by means of meters' (Ref 1). There are three types of meter franking machines:

1. Used by private firms, or government departments under licence from the postal authorities.
2. Used by post offices for franking mail handed in by the public or for the collection of postage due.
3. Coin-fed machines established in post offices and used by the public for franking their own mail by the insertion of the required coins.

Meter marks are the impressions produced by meter franking machines. A typical meter mark is illustrated (Fig 1). The essential elements are (a) the town/date mark and (b) the value stamp. These features differentiate meter marks from frankings which are not produced by meter franking machines. There are other variable features of meter marks. These are (c) text which can be found in various locations; to the left of the town/date mark, between the value stamp and the town/date mark or below the value stamp. Sometimes the text is altogether absent. Lastly, with many earlier meter marks, a record number which is often found between the town/date mark and the value stamp above or below any text found in this position or to the left of the town/date mark or absent. The UPU regulations require that the meter mark be printed in red but there is consider' able variation in both shade and colour. When meter marks are used for special purposes, they are found in other colours, e.g. green, blue or black. Some meter marks are found with the town/date mark and value stamp in red but the other text in a different colour.

**The Place of Meter Marks in the Postal Service**

Readers may not be aware of the importance of metered mail to postal administrations for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1951, $636,000,000 was paid on metered mail in the United States of America, representing 41 per cent of the total value of all postage.

More recently, I have obtained information on the relative importance of metered mail in Denmark and Sweden.

### Denmark

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sale of Postage Stamps (Millions DKr)</th>
<th>Sale of Postage Metered (Millions DKr)</th>
<th>Metered Postage as percentage of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1945-6</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955-6</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965-6</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>33.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975-6</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>46.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


This table illustrates the steady growth of metered mail in Denmark since the end of the Second World War.

### Sweden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sale of Postage Stamps (Millions SKr)</th>
<th>Sale of Postage Metered (Millions SKr)</th>
<th>Metered Postage as percentage of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1945-6</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>19.7</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955-6</td>
<td>114.5</td>
<td>31.6</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965-6</td>
<td>208.6</td>
<td>83.0</td>
<td>39.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975-6</td>
<td>315.3</td>
<td>142.6</td>
<td>45.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>785.0</td>
<td>782.1</td>
<td>99.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>1244.8</td>
<td>1295.1</td>
<td>103.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source – Sveriges officiella statistik Postverket, through The Postmuseum, Stockholm.

The breakdown of revenue from all sources for Sweden in 1985 was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Revenue, (1985)</th>
<th>Millions of SKr</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postage Stamps</td>
<td>1244.8</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metered Mail</td>
<td>1295.1</td>
<td>21.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Paye</td>
<td>1762.6</td>
<td>29.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulk Printed Matter</td>
<td>1662.3</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Brief History of the Introduction of Meter Marks

Historically, it is important to consider the use of meter franking machines by firms and individuals as officially recognised by the various postal administrations. Before this, there were experimental trials in which the public may have been involved but which were mounted by the postal administrations of Australia, New Zealand, Norway, the USA, and Great Britain. These trials were designed to test the reliability of machines, their security and their acceptability to the public.

The first franking machines were installed in Norway. A machine invented by Chr A Kahrs was placed in the lobby of the General Post Office at Kristiania (Oslo, as the city later became), on 24 August 1900. This was a coin-fed machine which printed a frank on a letter and was regarded as a receipt for postage paid being subsequently covered by a stamp affixed by post office staff (Ref 1). The first machine which could be regarded as the forerunner of the present-day franking machines was designed by Karl Uchermann and constructed by Krag Maskinfabrik of Kristiania. The dies for the frank were supplied by the postal authorities and produced fixed value impressions of 5 and 10 ore. Five öre impressions in green are known but are extremely rare; proofs of the 10 öre are known in green also but appear never to have been used on commercial mail. The machines were first used on 15 June 1903 and the latest date is 2 January 1905. Seven machines were used in post offices in Kristiania each identified by a code letter.

Machines were officially introduced in New Zealand in 1909 and in the United States in 1920. The adoption of meter franking machines by other postal administrations followed rapidly in the 1920s and 1930s until by 1968 most World postal administrations had officially adopted the system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>Egypt, Great Britain, India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Canada, Germany, Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>Austria, France, Uruguay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Liechtenstein, Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Finland, Irish Free State, Luxembourg, Saar, Sweden, South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>Australia, Ceylon, Federated Malay States, Malaya, Peru, Poland, Straits Settlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>Hungary, Latvia, Monaco, Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>Belgian Congo, Estonia, Iceland, Mexico, Netherlands Indies, Palestine, Newfoundland, Philippines, Rumania, Southern Rhodesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Algeria, Chile, Yugoslavia, Russia, Trinidad and Tobago</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source—The Meter Stamp Bulletin, 1969

This table shows that meter marks are not found in the 'classic' period of philately, they are rare in the 'middling' period, however. Meter marks can be found which are 60 years old, which if they were motor vehicles or furniture would rate as 'vintage' or 'antique'. There should be no doubt, in the reader's mind, that meter marks have an important niche in postal history.

Meter Marks are Interesting

It seems that the International Philatelic Federation has been trying to get the philatelic community to take an interest in postmarks as a part of postal history. Since meter marks include a town/date mark according to the requirements of the postal administration, meter marks have their claim to be seen as being in this same box too.

Except for some of the earlier fixed value machines, meter franking machines produce a single impression showing the amount of postage paid, evidence which can be retained by keeping the cover intact complete with all the postal markings and stickers which relate to its duty. In the case of stamped mail there is the temptation to remove high value or attractive adhesive stamps and thus destroy the story which the cover can tell. This is an important reason for taking an interest in meter marks.

Meter marks are as interesting as postmarks and post paid marks of the past, they are the modern equivalent of these earlier markings. The meter mark has a story of its own to tell. Many meter marks include the name and address of the user of the meter franking machine, as well as a slogan or illustration pertinent to the businesses of the user. The meter marks originating from any place can yield information about the business activities carried out there. They have an added importance for the 'home town' collector or for the thematic collector of today.

The Advantages of Collecting Meter Marks

There are no charity or unnecessary issues of meter marks. The style of meter marks may change with time as necessary to reflect changes in postal administration, e.g. the Aland Islands in 1982. Occasionally a user of a meter franking machine may introduce a new slogan, perhaps to commemorate an important event in the user's history. Such new slogans do not affect the postal administration's approved form of the meter mark.

There can be no controversy over mint status since the impression of a meter mark is the use of postage and once printed is of used condition. UPU regulations stipulate that meter marks are not to be cancelled. The appearance of a postmark on a meter marked cover indicates that it has been redirected or received into the post later than indicated.

Meter marks are extensively on commercial mail, sometimes they are used with the postal administration for the collection of postage due or for franking parcels and all manner of other items passing over the post office counter.

Meter marks can be used on all items passing through the postal system and to prepay the charges for all services provided by the post office. Thus the whole range of postal rates are represented in the field of meter marks.

To the same extent as stamped items, meter marks clothe the skeleton of the postal service with the real flesh of commercial requirements, but unlike a stamp, because there is little temptation to generate philatelic items.

The advent of a new form of thematic collecting, the 'home town' collection, has meant that meter marked covers find a happy niche in a collection of this kind. A 'home town' collection consists of philatelic items which originate from or are sent to a selected town and enables the collector to present a rounded and complete picture of the place. Acceptable material consists of postcards, letters, photographs and covers which, taken together, paint such a picture.

An Example for the 'Home Town' Collector

This illustrative case concerns Vagar, a small town in the Faroe Islands. This town is situated on the southernmost island of the group, Suduroy, at the head and on the north shore of Vagarfjordur. The post office at Vagar was established in 1903 and today is a postkortepostination. That is the information about Vagar which the collector can glean from publications on the Faroe Islands.

There have been at least five different meter marks used on the Faroe Islands from at least three banks and one at Vagar. The earliest bank to use a meter was Foroya Banki which used a Pitney-Bowes machine from 1974 to 1981 and probably later. The 1974 meter mark was of the older style with the country name shown as 'DANMARK'.

With the change of status of the islands in 1976, later meter marks show the country of origin as 'FØROYAR'. The second bank is a branch of Sjovnnunbankin, or 'Sailors' Bank' which used a Satas machine from at least December 1981 but probably earlier to a Haslar machine before December 1985. Before December 1983 a third bank, Suduroy Sparikassi or the Suduroy Savings Bank, used a Hasler 5000 series machine. The ice plant is run by a company called Polafrost and produces ice of 'ocean quality', according to the firm's meter mark slogan, so presumably they freeze salt sea water for use in the holds of Faroeese trawlers. This firm used a Pitney-Bowes machine from November 1982 to at least August 1985 and probably earlier. This particular machine had an earlier registered user who started using a 'new' machine of the same make in 1979.

This knowledge gives a more interesting picture of Vagar that could be obtained from stamped covers since modern business houses tend to mechanise their administrative activities and there would be few commercial stamped covers.

The Registered Letter

Many postal administrations allow business houses to register their own mail before it is accepted into the postal system. The cover illustrated (Fig 2) is from the Netherlands and originated from H Allert de Barry & Co, bankers of Rotterdam. The cover carries a meter mark applied by a Francotyp meter franking machine, licence No FR22363 for the combined registration fee and postage as current on 5 November 1982. On the reverse is the handstamp 'AANGETEKEND/RECOM-MANDE' in blue and the registration label, custom printed for this firm, were applied in the firm's post room. A similar cover where postage and registration fee had been prepaid consisted of stamps which were carried a 5g and 50c stamps, presenting a tempting opportunity for the removal of the high value.
Parcel Post

In the Scandinavian countries parcels are accompanied by a card which is initially attached to the parcel, and which carries all relevant information, and the stamps prepaying the postage. The parcel card illustrated (Fig 3) concerns a parcel from Bodø to Valnes inserted in the inland mail on 22 December 1943, and requiring payment from the recipient for the goods it contained on delivery. The parcel weighed 0.2kgm and the postage and COD fee of 1k65 was prepaid by means of a meter mark applied by a Francotyp CB meter franking machine, licence No 154 used by the sender, Otto Koch, of Bodø. The sum to be collected on delivery is shown as 1k26 and the fact that this was a COD parcel is evidenced by the triangular orange mark which shows as black in the illustration and the word 'Postoppkrav' preceding the sum to be collected.

The usual fate of parcel cards is that when their useful purpose has been fulfilled, they are returned to the post office, the stamps are torn off and go into kiloware, which is then sold in lots to stamp dealers. Thus stamped parcel cards are difficult to acquire in their entire state. Those with meter marks survive because they have no value to the philatelist.

Express, Registered, Airmail Letter

The item illustrated (Fig 4) is a registered letter from Helsinki, Finland to the United Kingdom upon which an express fee and airmail postage has been paid. The total rate for this duty of 14m 70 was prepaid by a meter mark applied by a Pitney-Bowes meter franking machine, licence No 234567 used by Postipankki, the Finnish postgiro bank, who used envelopes preprinted with 'PAR AVION' and applied the 'EXPRES/PIKA-EXPRESS', three language red label (French, Finnish and Swedish) and the registration label.

Registered Cash-on-Delivery Packet

This item (Fig 5) originated from Eurocard Norge A/s, Oslo on 17 September 1981 and was sent to Horten in Norway, south of Oslo. The fact that this was a registered cash-on-delivery item is evidenced by red letter 'R' in the rectangular box followed by the registration number '054795' and the orange triangular label with the word 'POSTOPPKRAV' meaning postal COD service below it. The sum to be collected on delivery is shown as 150k. The post office charge a special fee for registration and for carrying out the cash-on-delivery service, since it is the postman who collects this money and the post office that has to account for it. The postage, registration and COD fees of 14k30 were prepaid by a meter mark applied by a Krag meter franking machine, licence No 25924 used by Eurocard Norge A/s.

Conclusion

The Author hopes that readers will now appreciate the importance which metered mail should have in the realm of philately and postal history and from the cases illustrated above, that the title of Meter Mark Magic is no idle boast.

Reference

**Meter News from Great Britain and the United States**

*by ALLAN HAUCK*

For a number of years Universal Postal Frankers Limited, of London, have been a subsidiary of Pitney-Bowes Inc., of Stamford, Connecticut. On 1st October, 1960, they changed their name to Pitney-Bowes Ltd. At the recent Business Machines Show in London specimen meter impressions reflected this change in name.

During 1960 the United States also experienced a significant development in the meter field. For the first time in the history of the United States Post Office a foreign meter manufacturer was authorized to sell meter machines in the United States. Approval of the new Postalia meters was announced on 30th June, 1960. The use of these meters has been authorized only in New York City and Westchester County. This meter was actually used for the first time on 9th October, 1960, by its distributors, the Postalia Division of the Tele-Norm Corp. of New York City. The meter may be applied directly to the envelope or package (the machine is small enough that it can be held in the hand and rolled across the envelope or package to be metered), or it may be used with a tape printing accessory. The name “Postalia” appears quite prominently in the design of the meter itself.

A West German “Postalia” meter is also being marketed in Canada. By the McBe Company Ltd., of Toronto, Ontario. The Canadian design conforms more closely to the traditional Canadian meter design than does the U.S. Postalia meter in comparison with other American meters.

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An Edward VIII meter stamp

**POSTALIA**

**METER STAMP STUDY GROUP**

This Group was started in January, 1950, with the object of bringing together those people interested in the collection and study of meter postage stamps (or “meter marks” as they are often popularly termed), enabling them to make known to one another their knowledge and discoveries in this little explored field, and also to get into touch with one another for the exchange of material.

It is the only society in this country catering solely or mainly for meter-stamp collectors. It takes the place of the “Meter Club” founded in 1938, which, after a war-time suspension, had finally to close down at the end of 1946. Although intended primarily for collectors in the United Kingdom, the Group has now a large proportion of members overseas—in the United States, several European countries, South and East Africa, South America, and Australia.

The Group issues to members a quarterly Bulletin, containing articles and notes on all aspects of meter stamps of all countries—though naturally most attention is devoted to Great Britain. The information is supplied by correspondents all over the world.
EDITORIAL

These quarters go by very fast and there is not much in my file I have not written about. I am wondering the extent of our clientele as I don’t get much response to simple questions. Two of these were: has anyone got cheques with an excise meter number not covered in our list in NL61? Second, is RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID used with any of the electronic postage meters? If so which ones. Any I have had to return for awhile are just a plain unused postage meter.

Much of today’s postage is now with RPO “Nixdorf” type labels. Remember the pages we dedicated to them in 1993-95 only to find the ink soaked into the paper and the label was lost. It seemed to get worse with the laser printed labels. I still have mine, but just add what comes in the door. I don’t seek them out. It seems that any stable dot matrix label should be a scarce item - that is not to say a rare or costly item. Currently the designs seem to be constant with the software supplied. Remember when the town name varied greatly. Is there any interest in this area of collecting today?

So, we come to filling the pages of this issue. Unless Dave objects I plan to start to publish our catalogue. It will represent 8 pages of our 16 page Newsletter. The other 8 pages will be whatever I can find. I plan to leave enough margin so it can be 3-hole punched and I will try to have the page numbers consecutive. The format for each type will follow the old Irwin catalogue for layout. I think we need to be a bit strict regarding the subtypes as we don’t want a catalogue that will discourage collectors if they can’t find the needed limiting items.

We need prices. I think these are best left as an insert at the end of the book where they can be updated as needed - and we will have awhile to think about them.

How should the catalogue list differ from the type lists we have printed in the Newsletter for several years? **Send me an e-mail if you have ideas on this.**

Question: Do you think Noah did any fishing from the Arc? I don’t think so with only two worms!
Wilf Whitehouse has sent in some new items.

Variety of Type 29 showing the town name off centre. Today, these are common due to poor quality control. I would collect, but not catalogue, such an item (my opinion only).

Regarding our Type 31 I think this is a constant variety. Note the new style of numbers used with this PB meter - 0220414. Note the date failed to print - common with this meter.

Some days you luck out in the most places. Two items I found in a prominent stamp dealers box. Notice I paid $5.00 for this Type 1 impression. First I have seen where 2¢ rate is paid using the meter twice – 1937 impression.
This is my prize. I did not have a French text version of the Mail-O-Mat card. I understand both types of card were available at the demonstration machines to send. Unfortunately this card is not postally used.

Le "MAILOMAT"

... est une boîte à lettres payante pour ceux qui ont des lettres à poster—mais qui n'ont pas de timbre. C'est une espèce de "bureau de poste automatique" qui poste vos lettres non affranchies.

Pour poster une lettre, (1) déposez votre pièce de monnaie à l'endroit désigné, (2) signalez le montant exact de l'affranchissement et (3) insérez votre lettre dans l'ouverture aménagée à cet effet. L'appareil fera le reste; il prendra automatiquement votre lettre, y imprimeras le timbre et le sceau postal et la conservera jusqu'à ce qu'on l'enlève... L'appareil imprime des timbres de 1¢ à 33¢, y compris les timbres de poste aérienne, de livraison spéciale, etc., sans charge additionnelle d'affranchissement.

Essayez dès maintenant ce service postal sans affranchissement. Servez-vous de cette carte pour dire un "bonjour" à l'un des vôtres en Service. Quand vous utilisez la poste ces jours-ci, à la maison ou au bureau, n'oubliez pas de poster tôt et souvent... afin de libérer le service postal en faveur de la correspondance de guerre... et pour aider le Bureaucratic de poste à vous aider!
Meter Collection

A start has been made by one of the Friends to organise the NPM collection of meter marks and machines. Here Jack Peach reports progress.

Specimen from Moss Model D machine demonstrated to PO officials September 1920

Universal Postal Frankers Ltd specimen of June 1922 (printed rather than franked)

Postage Meters and Machine Company specimen of June 1922 (made by their Model A machine)

3. During recent years it has become the practice for the NPM to house proofs and specimens which were originally attached to correspondence contained in files stored in Post Office Archives. Not all meter franking material has so far been transferred. Most of the material which has been moved has been mounted. Whenever such material is removed from archival files it is replaced by photographs.

4. A number of other machines etc have been acquired in more recent years.

5. Some meter franked marks included in a collection assembled by Professor Hartree and transferred from Post Office Archives.

6. Some more recent meter franked marks put to one side from time to time when received by the Museum.

To date the 19 machines in the Museum collection have been examined, identified and condition and attachments noted. A
listing has been prepared and is published here in shortened and amended form. Of note are a Pitney Bowes model FS machine; a U.P.F. Midget mk 3; a U.P.F. multivalue; a Neopost limited value and a Hasler model F66 machine. The Sheppard collection of ephemera has been surveyed and separated into broad groups. It is intended that this material be collected together into groups machine by machine so that the 'hardware' and related documentation are readily available for reference and study.

A start has been made with the cataloguing of the Howard collection and, to date, the items related to the U.P.F. model NZ and Pitney Bowes model A machines have been arranged in chronological order for mounting. Where possible different dies used on the same machine have been assembled, again in chronological order.

Above: Early limited value Neopost machine of 1930 (N001)

Left: Pitney Bowes limited value FS machine complete with glass bowl (PB001)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Model Base</th>
<th>Introduced</th>
<th>Drive</th>
<th>User</th>
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<td>F88</td>
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<td>MV</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Neopost</td>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>Hand</td>
<td>Nemo Heat Treatment Ltd</td>
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<td>105</td>
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<td>Romeo-Vickers</td>
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<td>5410</td>
<td>1964?</td>
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<td>PB005</td>
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<td>5501</td>
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<td>6333A</td>
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<td>PB007</td>
<td>Pitney Bowes</td>
<td>LV</td>
<td>Simplex MK3</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Hand?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPF01</td>
<td>Universal Postal Frankers</td>
<td>FV</td>
<td>Midget MK3</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Hand?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPF02</td>
<td>Universal Postal Frankers</td>
<td>MV</td>
<td>Universal Multi-value</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td>Hand</td>
<td>National Dock Labour Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPF03</td>
<td>UPF-Frankopost</td>
<td>MV</td>
<td>Universal Multi-value</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td>Hand?</td>
<td>Rolls Royce</td>
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<tr>
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<td>UPF-Frankopost</td>
<td>LV</td>
<td>Simplex Minor</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Hand</td>
<td>Butlins</td>
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<td>UPF-Frankopost</td>
<td>LV</td>
<td>Simplex Major</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Hand &amp; Electric</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>UPF-Frankopost</td>
<td>MV</td>
<td>Automat AZ3748</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Values 0 to 9.99½ + instruction manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values 0 to 9.99½ + instruction manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values 0 to 9.99½ + instruction manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 values: ½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 6d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 values: ½½ - 6; purchased on 26/3/88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>meter unit separate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values 6: 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 6d; Meter series - CV, introduced 1935, Cover casting dated 1950; meter removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>meter removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>meter removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values 3 Bank; 0 by 1p to 10.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating instructions and record card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 values: 2d, 2½d, 3d, 6d, 1/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values: 0 to 9/11½d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values: 0 by ½d to ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values: ½d to 6½d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 values: ½d to 1/0½d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values: 0 to 99/11½d</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*FV = fixed value; LV = limited value; MV = multivalue
McMaster University 50th Anniversary

A bit of history on one postmark ad. In 1980 McMaster University, Hamilton, celebrated its 50th Anniversary. One of the promotional items was to develop a postage meter ad. This was done through cooperation with Pitney Bowes and later with Friden and Roneo Neopost. The specimen slugs for these companies is shown below. There were 25 establishments in Hamilton that bought a slug to use with their own postage meter. The results are below:

Pitney Bowes, Model RF postage meter - 16 companies

Pitney Bowes, Model 5319 postage meter - 9 companies

Pitney Bowes, Model 5714 postage meter - 3 companies

Roneo Neopost, Model 505 - 1 company

Friden, Model 9120, 1 company

So, for postmark ad collectors, if you have a Union Gas (F9120) or Slater Industries (RN505) you have a unique item.
Toronto is bidding for the 2008 Olympics. Shown below are some items from the 1976 Quebec Olympics. The postmark ad describes the use.
The Meter Stamp Society auction listed in bulletin 252 includes the Newfoundland item show below. This is a PB manufacturers essay. The important thing about it is the date - Feb 1 '47. This must be the earliest date for the Newfoundland Type 4 postage meter giving a hint to the date of introduction.

From Freistempel sind vollgültige

**Canada**

**Literatur:** F. Areß, Deutsche Briefmarken-Ztg. 1930 S. 13

1923. Breites Querformat, Ziermuster. (Pitney-Bo-wes) T.
1 oben: License-Nr. .......................... —.20

1927. Quadratisches Format, Höhe 22mm. (Postage Meter Co., Midget) T (250)
2 Canada und Postage enger anste... —.15

1928. Hochformal, Höhe 25mm. (Postage Meter Co. Midget) T (400)
3 Canada und Postage weiter abste... —.10
4 desgl. mit M-Nr. .......................... —.08
5 Inschrift Metre statt Meter ........... —.30

Vorkommende Wertstufen: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 Cts. Apparat-Nr.: bis 4.000 Midget; über 4.000 und 40.000 Postage Meter Co.

When I got to page 8 we decided to let the Catalogue sit for another issue as there are some decisions not finalized. So, what follows is a collection of items that I am printing without a catalogue number, nor much comment.

*If you are on the net, send a message so we have your address. See address in masthead.*

Competition in the sale of postage meters is lessening. In Oct 2001, Neopost bought the Hasler Mailing Machine division of Ascom. They expect consolidation to have been completed by February 2002. What meters will be continued?

Pitney Bowes recently bought the French postage meter manufacturer - Secap for $180 million. Secap is a subsidiary of the French holding company Fimalac and has more than 30% of the postage meter business in France.

Neopost-Hasler has 25% of the world market and 16% of the US market. Pitney Bowes has 85% of the US market and 61% of the global market. The 3rd largest is Frankotyp-Postalia.

Independent companies include Frama, Telefrank and Mail It. There is a large choice in mailing machines but a much smaller choice in the postage meter.

A survey of PostPerfect items in collections indicates the following highs and lows - anyone expand on these?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
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<td>1603722</td>
<td>1619033</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I am still trying to bracket the NEOPOST section of the FRIDEN meter. My lowest NEOPOST is 340276 and the highest NEOPOST IS 340892. This looks like it will be a scarce item with only 500 numbers used. See below for a variety.

Another unusual item. This is a standard Commercial Controls (40216), although it is quite a late use in 1969. However, note the BULK/EN NOMBRE ad plate which is not common with this postage meter.

Return Postage Guaranteed

**PRODUCT SELECTOR** Division of: BULK

**DF MARKETING LIMITED** EN NOMBRE

2220 MIDLAND AVE., 

SCARBORO, ONT., CANADA

65-9
More illustrations continued from page 16.

Mr. and Mrs. James Irwin,  
OAKWOOD, Ontario.  
K-M 2M0  

Prof. R.W. Irwin,  
Department of Agricultural Engineering,  
University of Guelph,  
Guelph, Ontario.

Joe Clark  
Lo. C. de P0
I bought this as it was such a well inked copy. I think Rapid Data was a distributor of Ronco-Neopost at the time. It is also the first year of use.

This may not print. It is a standard Pitney Bowes RT meter and ad plate but is printed on a FRIDEN label.

AD - Now Speeding Our Service with METERED MAIL - 1940. Unusual to have a private firm use a Pitney Bowes sales ad.

HOUSE OF COMMONS with signatures of Jean Cretien (1993) and Joe Clark (1978) as Leaders of the Opposition and John Diefenbaker (1978) as Prime Minister
FRIDEN 357216 - is the ad plate crooked or is it a rubber stamp? In both directions? The inking is uniform.

HASLER 2060928 - note the province “AB” is inverted!

RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID is hardly used anymore. This is an example of its use when postage increased from 30¢ to 32¢ in 19xxxx.

The Permanent
Corporate Custodial Services
320 Bay Street
9th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2P6
RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID in 1979 ruined by the sorting machine cancel. The use of the slug on a Model 5911 postage meter is not common.

An early tape from a Lewis Limited (46015) with $1.00 in postage. Note the clerk had to reverse the package to get the second row of postage on the label.

From: LEWIS LIMITED

Another unusual item. A post office (P.O.) From CORNER BROOK NFLD. 146419 however it has an ad plate. Most post office meters did not use them.

Canada’s World Fair, 1967. The ad looks quite plain and is probably quite scarce, if anyone collects them. Once an event is over it is difficult to maintain enthusiasm for the output as something else takes its place. I have noticed a modest increase in interest in WW II meter ads.
A SELECTION OF POSTAGE METER ADS
WILF WHITEHOUSES’ PAGE

Pitney Bowes PostPerfect
These two examples I understand are printed when the postage meter is first put into service.
They are no supposed to be used for postage. Shown here are the dot matrix types 1452469 and
1610196. I also found one but they are not common.

4100304 and 4100266 have the town missing on a 47¢ rate too

4100064 date mark only, no townmark. Note the new style serial number with wide “0” and meter
rate numerals.

ACA Co-operative
Limited
11 Calkin Drive, Unit 1
Kentville, NS B4N 3V7

Friden - Townmark outline broken. Probably an error

Town collecting has been an interest to some. For the Francotype-Postalia how about a
collection of postal codes since there is not townmark?
The Friden F385000 series has to be the hardest meters to get a decent copy for a collection. They sold the Alberta and Saskatchewan governments the meters but didn’t include any ink.

NEOPOST - note 340276 has a wider numeral and closed “4” and round “0” compared to 340885. The change in serial font is between 340712 and 340765. The province is abbreviated but there are some with periods.

Friden-Postalia - note the form of date 00000000 and 0000.00.00. I think they are different meters when you see the serial blocks 40000000 and 41500000. Then note the new Neopost below with “NE” in serial and a 33000000 serial block and redesigned indicia.

New form of Ad-Mail logo “B” with “1” below. Santa doesn’t count here.

Hasler still uses two or three sizes of font for the serial

I see no reason for the 0.00 tape unless the first did not include the postmark ad???

Odd way of printing $1.25 postage. Is it meter capacity or the secretary?

Different styles of serial fonts for you to ponder and compare

ETEX • PRODUCT
SAY IT WITH A FLAG
CALL 888.513.8885

65-16