



2)

So long as we can, therefore, we shall carry on as before with the new volume.

Incidentally, a possible title that occurred independantly to Mr. J.A. Wilson and to the Editor was "The Mete(o)rite"; but reflection on the fate of those celestial objects indicated that this would not be very felicitous!

Recent issues of the Bulletin have suffered some delay, mainly due to holidays; we hope the next issues will appear more promptly.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY ANNIVERSARY SLOGAN

Last December the Birmingham Philatelic Society celebrated its 75th anniversary (almost the oldest society in the country), and used a meter slogan (with machine UG 712, Birmingham) to mark the occasion. The enclosed example (for members only) has kindly been provided by Mr. C.W.E. Coles. The value =/0 is rather remarkable, as we had understood that modern machines were so made as to be incapable of printing a zero value.

#### "INTRODUCTION TO METER STAMPS"

The first edition (dated January 1956) of this introductory booklet by the Hon. Editor has been completely exhausted, and a new and revised edition is now ready.

Owing to limitation of space, it has been necessary to omit the list of countries using meters (to which a number of additions would have had to be made), but the summary list of the types used in Great Britain has been brought up to date, including the new "Emblems" design. Various small amendments and additions have been made in other sections, following comments and suggestions made by readers, with some rearrangements of the notes about the Group.

Copies can be obtained from the Hon. Sec. (NOT the Editor, please), price to members 1s. 6d. postage 3d.

#### THE BUSINESS EFFICIENCY EXHIBITION

As shown by the report by Mr. J.A. Wilson in the September Bulletin, members usually find much of interest at the annual "Business Efficiency Exhibition" held at Olympia, London. They may like to note that the Exhibition is to be held later than usual this year, the dates announced being from 3rd to 12th October, 1960. An exhibition with the same title is to take place in Birmingham from 16th to 21st May, but we do not know whether Messrs. Roneo-Neopost and Universal Postal Frankers Ltd. will also be exhibiting there.

#### THE EARLIEST METER-STAMP CATALOGUE

It is stated in the Editor's booklet "Introduction to Meter Stamps" that "the first catalogue of meter stamps of the world was compiled by the late A.H. Harris in 1935." This is believed to be correct so far as English-language publications are concerned; but we have very recently obtained a copy of a German world catalogue which preceded Harris's by more than two years.

This is entitled "Firmen-Freistempel-General-Katalog der ganzen Welt" and was compiled by Ruprecht Glasewald, Hamburg, with the assistance of six other collectors, including the late Charles Bein of London. The preface is dated "Christmas 1932" (it is in both German and English)

and the book, of 60 printed pages with a large number of illustrations, was apparently published in 1933. Though not so detailed as Harris (and much less than Barfoot & Simon), it is remarkably complete as at its date, and has most of the items priced (in Reichsmark). It proposed a second edition for 1934, but we do not know whether this actually appeared.

We had heard of this Catalogue - it is mentioned in the preface to the recent catalogue of German meters and "paid" marks reviewed in our September Bulletin (also largely compiled by Herr Glasewald) - but we were unaware of its scope until now. As Harris made no mention of it in his catalogue, which, he said, was compiled mainly from his own collection, nor did he offer any acknowledgement to Charles Bein, it would seem that he himself had no knowledge of Glasewald's work.

For the sake of complete record, we might mention here a still earlier catalogue of a kind (no disparagement is intended), entitled "First Class Mail Permits of the World" compiled by Arche H. Pike, Binghamton, N.Y., in 1924. This lists, with meter and permit Nos., values and users, all the machines then in use in the United States, Canada and Great Britain - there is no mention of the earlier meters of Norway, India and New Zealand - and it must be regarded more as what its sub-title indicates, a "check-list" than as a world catalogue. It consists of 80 mimeographed sheets in a hard cover, and the first edition was stated to be "limited to 200 copies".

#### G.B. NOTES

NEOPOST ODDITIES. Manchester die N 288 (GviR type B1) shows the second "8" inverted - quite noticeable alongside the correct first "8". The date of our copy is 23 III 56; there is no slogan and the user is not indicated.

Bristol N 60, in the same type, used a very striking bright mauve ink at least from 6 VI 50 to 26 I 51.

West Malling, Maidstone, Kent, N 1 had the TM circle inverted (the date remaining upright) from 28 VIII 58 to 19 XI 58. (Reported by Mr. G.E. Bolckow; apologies for delay in recording).

FRANKMASTER. In the "Emblems" design, some dies show the M.No. with a dash between the prefix and the figures (as ND-677) while others are without the dash (as NC 248). Too few have so far been seen to attempt any classification.

PITNEY BOWES CV. (See under "Old Dies Still in Use" on next page).

SETRIGHT PARCEL POST. As was remarked at the time, the prototype of the regular Setright machines, used at Remnant St. (Kingsway) B.O., London, W.C.2., had the left hand panel inscribed merely "POSTAGE/PAID". At some date between January and November 1959, this was amended to "PARCEL POST / PAID"; though not very distinct on our copies, the crown above the value appears to have been redrawn also. The colour also has changed from a nauvish-red to more of a brick-red; the effect of impression through a ribbon is very marked. The earlier type would appear to be extremely scarce.

The G.P.O. announced at the end of October that 500 to 600 of these machines would be brought into use throughout the country at the rate of about 30 a week "during the next few months". No reports have yet been received; members, please investigate every P.O. you visit, and report any found !

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OLD DIES STILL IN USE. Another of these has been submitted by Mr. J.T. Brown: GyR die, P 6 (London E.C.4.) This item is of interest for other reasons as well: it is the first 3d. value (D without dots below) reported in this type (though the value is of course common with later cyphers); and it shows a "non-advertising" slogan, reading "PRIVATE & PERSONAL" in a box, without any indication of the senders who are Messrs. David Cope Ltd. They are on record as having used this machine P6 since its first appearance in 1936, though Mr. Brown says that their normally used machine is now P32 (GviR) and also P 41. The dates of recent use of P 6 seen by him are 10 Oct., 31 Oct., and 7 Nov. 1959.

HIGHEST NUMBERS. It may be worth recording for a time the highest Nos. found in the EiiR and in the Emblems types separately. Leaving out the PB, SB and UK series, now obsolete, which remain as given in our last Bulletin, and in which any Emblems dies must be replacements of the original cyphers, we have:

EiiR Cypher: AA 93; PC 2; ND 585; SV 57; SW 622

Emblems: AA 387; PC(Nil); ND 769; SV(Nil); SW 797

Few reports this time, but thanks to Messrs. G.R. Pearson and J.A. Wilson.

#### GREAT BRITAIN: EARLY "SPECIMENS"

A problem arising out of the notes under the above title in the last Bulletin seems to have been solved by a collection acquired while that Bulletin was "in the press".

Along with a copy of the printed postcard issued by the "Philatelic Magazine" as previously described, there were mounted two envelopes (addressed to the former owner of the collection) franked by London S.W.1., M.No.1, with black TM of large letters in wavy lines, at left of which is the slogan (in red): "Dont use stamps /GET A FRANKER" exactly as described in connection with the "Specimen" of M.No.17. Reference is made to this type under B-S No.12. The back of the envelope bears a small circular imprint of "Universal Postal Frankers Ltd., 346 Strand."

One of the envelopes bears the 1d. value and the other the 1½d., both with date 22 V 23, and there seems little reason to doubt that they come from the machine used at the London Stamp Exhibition.

(I now have a spare example of the "Philatelic Mag." postcard; best offer received by 29th February will secure it.) - A.A. Dewey.

#### INCOMPLETE FRANKING IMPRESSIONS

Although it is laid down in postal regulations that indistinct or incomplete meter impressions are not allowable for payment of postage, they are often passed without comment by the P.O. A cover showing what must be the least possible trace of a meter impression to be recognizable as such, and which was nevertheless not surcharged by the P.O., has been shown us by our Hon. Sec. All that can be seen are faint lines from the top and bottom "teeth" of the frank, half of the outer townmark circle, and the outline of a rectangular slogan which starts with the word "IF" ! From its size it appears to be from a Neopost machine, and in the place where the value should be, someone has written in ink the figure "6" (presumably meaning 6d.) and initialled it. The cover bears no indication of the sender apart from "Code No.27-26." printed at the bottom left, but Mr. Mann thinks it came from a Hospital Board in Middlesex.

## JOINT SORTING OFFICES

by K.F. Jennings

The Group's Town List is essentially a list of those places where meters are or have been used, but there is much interesting information included besides this.

The list is based on the April 1957 edition of "Post Offices in the U.K.", the November 1958 edition having been issued just too late for revision to be effected. This is, however, not the correct authority since the meter townmark should show, not the correct address, but the inscription on P.O. cancellations used at the office of registration. The main difference which arises, followed so regularly as to have become an established rule, is LONDON, where all meters show LONDON with the district number whereas cancellations show the name of the district such as NEW CROSS S.E.14. The few early meters which followed the usual ruling have become "varieties".

Perhaps a more interesting difference is the use of two names together, where the P.O. has installed Joint Sorting Offices. These are not mentioned in the P.O. List as they are not addresses of any person, and it is not certain how many there are, but eleven are included in the town-list. In some cases the joint indication is well established and is given as the main listing, meters showing one town only being shown as "varieties", but in other cases the separate towns occur more commonly on meters and are shown as the main items:

These eleven are:

CHESHAM & AMERSHAM BUCKS.	ROCHESTER & CHATHAM KENT
CAMBORNE-REDRUTH CORNWALL	LANCASTER & MORECAMBE
TORQUAY & PAIGNTON DEVON	REIGATE & REDHILL SURREY
BOURNEMOUTH-POOLE	BRIGHTON & HOVE SUSSEX
PORTSMOUTH & SOUTHSEA HANTS.	MOTHERWELL & WISHAW
BROMLEY & BECKENHAM KENT	

It will be seen that the county is not shown where the two towns differ in this respect (e.g. Bournemouth-Hants. and Poole-Dorset), though Lancaster & Morecambe is a borderline case and in fact one meter does include "Lancs." Motherwell & Wishaw on the other hand is an exception, since they are both in Lanarkshire.

Why do "Camborne-Redruth" and "Bournemouth-Poole" have hyphens, while other joint offices have "&" or "AND"? There is one cancellor showing "Brighton-Hove" but this has not been seen on meters, though N 108 has "Brighton-&-Hove".

We have traced five other Joint Sorting Offices on cancellations, but these are not known on meters, though in every case the two towns are known separately:

ILFORD & BARKING ESSEX
ROMFORD & DAGENHAM ESSEX
BURNLEY & NELSON LANCS.
RICHMOND & TWICKENHAM
WARWICK & LEAMINGTON SPA

(Editor's Note: One more example of the latter is recorded in a list of "Universal" cancelling machine dies published during the past year by the British Postmark Society, namely SENNEN & LAND'S END CORNWALL; we have never seen this, and neither place is recorded on meters.

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It has been suggested that LYTHAM ST. ANNES LANCS. - which does not appear on meters - is another; but in fact, "Lytham St. Annes" is the name of a single borough, formed in 1922 by the amalgamation of the adjacent towns Lytham and St. Annes-on-Sea. Thus it is not comparable with the others.)

#### "POSTMARK ADS"

In commenting, in the June 1959 Bulletin, on a pamphlet "Operation Hinge-Back" produced to interest the Boy Scouts of America in philately we criticized the statement contained in it that "Meter Slogans are now known as postmark ads." Mr. A.P.H. Overment (Chicago), by whom we understand the pamphlet was drawn up, has now kindly sent us a number of leaflets issued by Pitney-Bowes Inc., in which they term the slogans "postmark advertisements". We are somewhat surprised that the U.S. Post Office Department does not object to these wholly unofficial designs being described as "postmarks", especially as the Postal Manual itself describes them as "Meter slogan and ad plates", and does not use the term "postmark" at all in connection with meters stamps (which is, incidentally, the term used in the Manual and not "meters" nor "philometers".)

Another leaflet issued by Pitney-Bowes repeats the claim that "Pitney-Bowes . . . is the originator of the metered mail system", which would be true only if the earlier Australian, New Zealand and Norwegian machines were somehow denied the designation of "postage meters", for which we know of no real justification.

#### "THE PHILOMETRIST" REVIVED.

We have to thank Mr. Jos. Whitebough, the Editor, for a copy of a preliminary issue, dated December 1959, of this magazine which is to be published monthly from January 1960. It consists of four pages (9 x 6 in.) letterpress printed with illustrations, and deals with all aspects of United States meter stamps (which Mr. Whitebough prefers to term "philometers", showing - it appears to us - complete disregard of the proper meaning of the prefix "philo-"; though it is not unreasonable to term the hobby itself "philometry".) The subscription is \$3.00 for 12 issues, from the "JW Philometer Concern", 5425 North Clark Street, Chicago 40, Ill.

"The Philometrist" was originally published in the same style and with the same editor, as the organ of the "Philometer Society of Chicago" from 1949 to August 1954, nominally monthly but in fact frequently with several months combined into one issue (No. 44 was dated "October 1952 to July 1953" !) with a belated issue in March 1956, the last we received. We hope the revival will be more successful.

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#### ADEN ADDITIONS

With reference to the note in the September Bulletin (p.140), Mr. G.R. Pearson reports that he has examples of two Nos. recorded there as "not licensed": N 7, used by Messrs. Luke Thomas & Co. Ltd. (who are listed as using also N 5, 12 and 13), and U 12 which is remarkable in having "LITTLE ADEN" (the town) in place of the usual "ADEN" (the name of the colony and of the chief town); its user is not so far known.



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EGYPT: NO "U.A.R." DESIGNS YET ?

With the resumption of commercial relations, we are again getting meter stamps from this country, and it is noteworthy that all those seen so far still bear the name "EGYPTE", without "U.A.R." which has appeared on the adhesives since March 1958 and which has now wholly superseded "Egypte" thereon. Incidentally, has it been remarked that while all the franks are inscribed in French, the townmarks nearly all have the name in English? (Both of course with Arabic as well). However at least one TM (Hasler) has the name "LE CAIRE" in French instead of the usual "CAIRO".

NEW ISSUES IN BRIEF.

ADEN. Universal MV - new design similar to that for Jamaica (apparently superseding Dhow design). Proof only (U 18, Aden G.P.O.) so far.

CANADA. Postalia sanctioned, 1.8.59. Design very similar to P.B. Maple Leaves but Meter "P" instead of "PB".

CHINA. Apparently adapted Pitney-Bowes Model R, wholly Chinese characters except date (in reverse order as 58.12.24) and value; straight lines around the whole including town circle.

INDONESIA. Universal MV; very similar to Francotyp but characteristic date and value figures.

IRELAND. Universal MV - long narrow rectangle with coarse "perforated" border containing "EIRE POSTAS" and town, in three lines in centre, date to left and value to right. (U204, U214). Automax - similar to Universal, with "A" prefix and new value figures; "A 1" only, so far.

ISRAEL. Frankmaster; similar to Universal and with same prefix-letter (Aleph) but value as 0.200 with decimal, in "FM" style figures.

(Thanks to Mr. S.D. Barfoot for all the above).

CATALOGUE SUPPLEMENT

We now conclude the list of Poland, due again mainly to Mr. Barfoot. In accordance with our previous practice, the number in brackets after the name of the country indicates the No. of the Bulletin containing the previous supplement to this country; "(A)" denoting the Catalogue Addenda should be inserted after the heading "Poland" in the November Bulletin.

POLAND (43)

Post-War Issues

Postal Districts (as prefixed to M.No.): Introduced 1949. From 1953, Kt (Katowice) was changed to St or Sg (Stalinogrod).

Designs: All Post-War designs show the eagle without crown.

Type 5. Delete I - Francotyp A and /19/, as listed, and substitute:

I. Francotyp AN. Outlined eagle without crown.

/19/ Med 4S-TC z001 (G) (FC.01)



Type 5 - II. Francotyp B.

/21/ M.No. FC 005 TM SC. Add:  
 /21a/ TM and date sideways (FC 07; Poznan 1)

Type 5 - III. Francotyp C.A. Outlined eagle.

/24/ M.Nos.: "C..24030" should read "Cm.24030";  
 add FC 020, FC 024, WR 8.

/25a/ As /25/, black impression  
 Change existing /27/ to /27a/ adding also with  
 "Z.U.S." at bottom of TM, and insert:

/27/ W O 001 (G) TM DC.

/A27/ W O 001 (Ov.) "Z1" small. TM SC. (WR 7)

B. Shaded eagle.

/28/ "Z1" large. TM SC. (Wr 4)

/28a/ "Z1" small. TM DC. (Kr 3)

/30/ "Z1" large. TM SC. (FC-010)

Type 5 - IV. Universal MV.

/32/ F. of v. are A,CE. Slogan below TM. (D 88)

Type A5. As Type 5 but shorter frank with small eagle. Francotyp AN. (1949-50).

/A32/ Med O z001 (G) TM SC (F-5, Bydgoszcz)

Type 6. Francotyp C.

/33/ Used by Kabel Polski, Bydgoszcz.

/34/ Used at Lodz.

Type 7. Hasler. Date should be 1950.

Currency revaluation. From 30 October 1950, 100 old zloty became 1 new zloty; i.e. 1 old zloty = 1 new grosz. Consequently, "Z1" on the franks was replaced by "GR".

Type 8. "As Type 3" should read "As Type 5".

Delete I - Francotyp A, /36/, and substitute;

I. Francotyp AN.

/36/ Med 4S-TC z001 (G) TM SC. (FC-01)

Change existing "II" (below /36/) to "III" and insert before this:

II. Francotyp B. Outlined eagle.

/A36/ W 4S-TC 001(A) "GR" narrow (Ld-20  
 and Nr-27 = error for Wr-27)

/B36/ W O 001(A) "GR" narrow (Wr-69)

/C36/ W O 001(G,7) "GR" wide (FC-005)

a. Var., TM and date sideways (FC-07, Poznan 1)

III. Francotyp C. Frank normally 32mm. high;

TM normally SC.

/37/ has "GR" narrow

/A37/ W O 001 (A,CE) "GR" narrow (LD-18)

/38/ has "GR" wide

/40/ has "GR" narrow. Colours red, magenta  
 or black.

/41/ has "GR" wide or narrow.

a. Black impression. "GR" wide. (WR-8)

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/42/ has "GR" narrow.

a. Red impression. "GR" wide. (FC 022; St.18)

/A42/ Frank 35mm. high (Wr-29)

/43/ has "GR" wide or narrow.

/A43/ W O OCl(G) "GR" narrow. TM DC-A (FC-001)

/B43/ W O OOl(Ov.) "GR" wide. (WR-7)

/C43/ W 4s-TC #001 (A, CB) (Wr-13)

IV. Universal MV. Outlined eagle. Roman MF in date. Slogan at left of TM.

/D43/ N O OOl (A, CB) TM SC. (SG-44)

/E43/ N O OOl (A, CE)

Type 9. "As Type 3" should read "As Type 5".

"Gr" should be followed by a stop, "Gr."

/45/ This was actually the first used after the War, April 1945. (Fabryce Kabli, Krakow).

Type A9. As Type 5 but with "gr." at sides of f. of v. Francotyp C

/A45/ W (?) OOl (?)

Type B9. As Type 5 but with "GR" at right of f. of v. and blank at left. Francotyp C.

/B45/ W O OOl(G) (WR-1)

Types 10, 11, 12. "As Type 3" should read "As Type 5"

Type 10.

/46/ Black impression.

/A47/ W O OOl(G) (FD-003, Lodz 1)

Type 11.

/48/ TM Lodz. /49/ LD-9.

Type A11. As Type 5 (shorter frank) but with "Zł GR" at sides of f. of v. Francotyp AN.

/A49/ Med O OOl(G) (F-5, Bydgoszcz) (xi.50)

Type 12. Issued 1950.

/50/ Magenta impression.

Type 13. "As Type 4" should read "As Type 4A (frank 34 x 41 mm.) but eagle without crown".

Slogan C and L. TM SC.

Type 13B. As Type 4B (frank 29 x 32 1/2 mm.) but eagle without crown. TM SC.

/52/ W 5S-TC #01(Ov.) "H 16" at top of frank; "LD 24" at base of TM (Pabianice 1)

1956. Type 14. Satas (MV). Small rect. frank with breaks at sides; "Zł (Arms) Gr." at top, "POLSKA" at bottom with Lic.No. at either side. TM in one line below slogan, as (date)=(town)= with Roman MF.

/53/ #0.oi (Ov.) (Two machines known, Wr-73 and Wr-129).

(Note: Wherever "Zł" is shown above, the "l" is in reality "L" with a small stroke crossing it to modify the pronunciation.)

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