

METER
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STAMP
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BULLETIN
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(JOURNAL OF THE METER STAMP STUDY GROUP)

No.48

(Vol.VI, No.5)

November 1960

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Hon. Secretary/Treasurer: J.C. Mann, 11 Althorp Road, London, S.W.17.
Hon. Editor of Bulletin: A.A. Dewey, M.A., B.Sc.(Econ.),
46 Chester Drive, North Harrow, Harrow, Middlesex.
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SECRETARY'S NOTES

Officers for 1961. The following were the only persons nominated for Officers of the Group for 1961, and in accordance with the Constitution they are declared elected:

President: S.D. Barfoot, B.Sc.

Hon. Secretary & Treasurer: J.C. Mann.

Hon. Editor of Bulletin: A.A. Dewey, M.A., B.Sc.(Econ.)

Committee: J.A. Wilson and G.R. Pearson.

It will be seen that no nominations were made for the post of Hon. Exchange Secretary or his assistant, who have in the past been Messrs. K.F. Jennings and J.A. Wilson. Each has had to give up the job because of other commitments, but I do feel that every effort should be made to keep the packet running. If anyone will volunteer, then Mr. Jennings and Mr. Wilson will do all they can to help him in the initial stage; the work involved is not terribly difficult but has in the past taken up a fair amount of time. Any offers? This request has unfortunately to be restricted to G.B. members because of the difficulties that would arise if the packet were organized from outside this country.

In the same way, no nomination was received for Hon. Librarian; in the absence of this, I will carry out the very small amount of work involved (probably about four letters a year). An offer of help in this connexion has been received from a member in the U.S.A., but I feel that this offer could only be utilized if we had a library of books etc. in the U.S.A. apart from what we have in this country; what are members' views as to this?

Membership. We are pleased to welcome one new member:
(145) D.R. Williams, 3 Wishings Road, Penn Valley, Brixham, Devon.
Change of address for S. Ben-Haim, now P.O.Box 3018, Jerusalem, Israel.

Subscriptions. A reminder for our overseas members in particular: by the time this bulletin reaches you, subscriptions for 1961 will be almost due, 10/- or \$ 1.50 or your local equivalent in almost any form. Cash if possible rather than cheques, but if you send an International Money Order please tell me by airmail as otherwise I do not know for certain whom it is from.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Saturday 10th
December 1960 at 6.30 pm. at the usual place.

PHOTOGRAPHS AVAILABLE

Some photographs of considerable interest to meter collectors have been reproduced by Mr. G.R. Pearson, as follows: (All G.B. items)

- 1) Wilkinson machine
- 2) Cover bearing impression of Wilkinson machine.
- 3) Setright Parcel Post machine
- 4) Assistant Postmaster setting first postage meter, Sep.5, 1922.

He will be pleased to supply copies to any member at 1/-d. each (post free), any profit going to the Group's funds. Please write direct to him at 42 Corrance Road, London, S.W.2.

U. P. F. BECOMES P - B.

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Although it was apparently not made generally known, Universal Postal Frankers Ltd., of London, who were established in 1922 and were the pioneers of metered mail in this country, have for a number of years been a subsidiary of the Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter Co. (now simply Pitney-Bowes Inc.) of Stamford, Conn., U.S.A. Early this year, as mentioned in passing in our last Bulletin, U.P.F. started describing themselves as "Division of Pitney-Bowes Inc.", and in September, they announced that as from 1st October 1960, the name of the Company would be changed to "Pitney-Bowes Ltd." The chief London Sales Office and Showrooms have, from same date, been removed from 90 Regent Street to 175/6 Tottenham Court Road, London, W.1., and the "Financial Times" states that plans are in hand for the removal of the Administrative Office and Works from Edmonton, London, N.18. to Harlow, Essex. It is stated that a world-wide expansion programme is being undertaken; postal franking machines are now only a part of the firm's products which include letter openers, folding machines, counting and imprinting machines ("Totometer"), and other types of mail-handling equipment.

Apart from a feeling of regret at losing an historic English name, we shall find it somewhat inconvenient not to be able to distinguish verbally, as hitherto, between the American "Pitney-Bowes" machines and the English "Universal" or "U.P.F." machines.

It might be added that "Pitney-Bowes" is named from Arthur H. Pitney and Walter H. Bowes, two pioneer American inventors of postage meters. Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter Co. was founded in April 1920 as a merger of the firms headed by Pitney and Bowes respectively, and adopted the shorter title "Pitney-Bowes Inc." in 1945.

One of the first signs of the change is the use, on the machines demonstrated at the recent Business Efficiency Exhibition in London, of townmarks worded "PITNEY-BOWES / SPECIMEN" instead of the former "FRANKOPOST / SPECIMEN".

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NEXT BULLETIN: This is to be dated January 1961; notes and news should be in the hands of the Editor by 31st December 1960.
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Stencils typed by and duplicating undertaken by G.R. Pearson.
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The American Metered Postage Society celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary with a special meeting in Chicago on 25th September last. The Society dates its origin from the founding of the American Postage Indicia Society in Rockford, Illinois, on 15th September 1935 by Mr. Henry O. Meisel. However, that Society became dormant after its first year; though revived in 1940, as a result of the World War it soon again became dormant. Eventually, on 25th January 1952 (just over two years after our Group was started), Mr. Meisel, now of Clintonville, Wisconsin and President of the Society, reorganized it under its present name. It has continued to flourish ever since, quickly becoming the largest meter-stamp society in the world and sending out one or more bulletins every month (there were no less than 36 in 1958 and 33 in 1959 !)

As unfortunately none of our members in Great Britain could attend the meeting, a congratulatory telegram on behalf of the Group was sent to the President.

MULTIPLE IMPRESSIONS

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When I read the note in the November 1959 bulletin, I thought "I am sure I've got a piece with more than 30 impressions on it", so I checked. Sure enough, there was one from India used in 1940 with 31 impressions, 28 of which are R.1 value, and all sharing but one townmark.

However, this was nothing compared with one I unearthed from the U.S.A. which has no less than 63 impressions of a Pitney-Bowes L.V. meter and was used in 1946. They are on tapes on a large piece of a package wrapper, the total postage on which was \$ 12.60 !

While on this subject, I remembered a large linen envelope I have from the Netherlands Indies used in 1941 (just before the Japanese occupation) which bears 11 copies of the Francotyp M.V. with values of 990 cent. plus one of 617 cent., a total of 115 gulden and 7 cents. ! I often wish the postage had been paid by means of the 25 gld. stamp issued in 1941 which now catalogues £7 a time; four of these would be most acceptable!

- G.R. Pearson

[Apologies for delay in publication - Editor]

SLOGANS : A GENERAL CLASSIFICATION

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Although only one member (in the U.S.A) has commented on our remarks on slogans on pages 35-36 of the last MSB, these taken in conjunction with recent mentions of slogans of an unusual nature such as "PRIVATE" or "AIR MAIL" have suggested that a general classification of meter slogans according to their purpose might usefully be drawn up as follows (more or less in order of decreasing commonness) :

- 1) Advertising (the products or services of the user of the machine);
- 2) Return Address (with or without words such as "If undelivered" or "From");

- 48) (3) Non-commercial Propaganda (such as Road Safety, Clean Food, Christmas Greetings, and the like);
(4) Instructional (such as "Private", "Printed Matter" etc.)

There are of course a number of slogans to be found which combine an advertisement with a return address, which it would probably be most appropriate to regard as a sub-division of (1); but the user's name without the postal address would be regarded as purely advertising. Other combinations of the above classifications may occur.

Commemorative slogans for anniversaries or contemporary events like exhibitions would be classed under (1) or (3) according as the event marked relates to a commercial firm or is of a non-commercial nature (in which class fall philatelic exhibitions or the centenary of the first postage stamp).

G.B. NOTES

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DESIGNATION OF FIRST DESIGN. As an alternative to the suggested "Squared Circle" designation, Mr K.F. Jennings puts forward simply "Squares" (with "s") which is easily recognized by those accustomed to the old name "Square design" and can be taken to relate to the four corner tablets containing the figures of value instead of to the overall shape.

THE "WILKINSON" Mr G.R. Pearson writes - "At the recent London International Exhibition, I was pleased to acquire another copy of the "Wilkinson". The dealer I bought it from had several copies (about six) but the reason I bought the copy I did is that it is postmarked, not LONDON E.C./ 172 as usual but LONDON E.C./ 73. This is, as far as I know, the only example found so postmarked, and I can only surmise that on the first day of use - this example is a "first day" - the P.O. was very busy and had to bring another hand-stamp into use to help cope with the amount of items to be postmarked. The hand-stamp shows a time of 8.30PM.

"As a matter of interest, following on the Editor's previous requests, members may like to know that I had to pay £3.10s.0d. for this, but other copies - on piece - were available at 37/6d. My previous two copies I acquired in the "Davis" collection and by private purchase, the latter for 30/-d. as far as my memory serves me."

GviR DIES ON SIMPLEX AND FRANKMASTER. The Simplex Major with the posthumous "GviR" die mentioned in the "Stop Press" on page 42 of the last MSB is now illustrated, along with the similar "Frankmaster" reported in January 1959 (Vol.V, pp.83 & 102); description is superfluous. So far as known, these are the only machines of their series with this obsolete cypher. (Of course, the original Simplex, with letter "S" or "SA", occurs with "GviR" but no later machines.)

UNIVERSAL M.V. "EiIR" DIES. Of the "wanted Nos." listed in the last MSB, UH 573, 602, 638, and 640 have been reported by Mr J.T. Brown and UH 575 by Mr Lloyd Parton; cannot anyone else help ?

/Continued on page 50.

"MIDGET" DIES WITH "A" OR "B" PREFIX TO NUMBER
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As mentioned in the G.B. list in the Barfoot & Simon Catalogue, it was the practice for a second, third etc. "Midget" machine licensed to one firm to have the letter "A", "B", etc., prefixed to the No. in the die. These are comparatively uncommon; the following list of such Nos. with the "GvR" cypher die has been compiled by Mr. D.R. Burchell, with a few additions marked + by the Editor.

Although the "Midget" machines were numbered separately, normally from 1 up, in each town and London district, Mr Burchell prefers to list them primarily according to the No., and we retain his order below.

<u>L.No.</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>User</u>	<u>Values</u>
A1	London E.C.4	- ? -	½d.
A1	London S.W.1.	- ? -	½d.
A1	London S.W.18	- ? -	½d.
A1	Luton Beds.	Electrolux Ltd.	½d., 1½d.
A2	Gateshead Co.Durham	(Corporation?)	½d., 1½d.
A3	Glasgow	Arthur & Co.,Ltd.	9d., 1/-.
A4	London E.C.1.	Columbia Gramophone Co.	½d., 1d., 1½d., 2½d.
A4	London S.W.1.	- ? -	1½d.
A4	Hayes Middx.	The Gramophone Co.Ltd., later E.M.I.Ltd.	1d. 2½d.
A5	Edinburgh	Corporation Gas Dept.	½d., 1½d.
A5	Specimen	---	½d.
A9	Smethwick Staffs.	B'ham & Midland Motor Omnibus Co.,Ltd.	½d., 1½d.
A12	London E.C.2.	East London Rubber Co.	½d., 1d., 1½d.
A12	London E.C.4.	- ? -	½d.
A14	London W.1.	Peal & Co.	1½d.
A16	London E.C.3.	Willis Faber & Dumas Ltd.	½d., 1½d., 2½d., 3d.
A16	London W.C.2.	Mullard Wireless Service Ltd.	½d., 1½d.
A16+	London N.1.	- ? -	½d., 1½d.
A18	London E.C.3.	- ? -	1½d.
A20+	London W.C.2.	Dennison Manufg.Co.Ltd.	1d., 1½d.
A24+	London E.C.4.	Twinings Ltd.	½d.
A24+	London W.C.2.	Twinings Ltd.	½d.
B24	London W.C.2.	Twinings Ltd.	½d.
A26	London W.C.2.	W. & G. Foyle Ltd.	½d., 1d., 1½d.
A30	London E.C.3.	Royal Exchange Assurance	½d., 1½d.
A54	Manchester	- ? -	½d., 1½d.
A56	London W.1.	- ? -	1½d.
A61	Birmingham	Bromford Tube Co.Ltd., later, Tubes Ltd.,	½d., 1d., 1½d., 2½d.
A77+	London W.2.	- ? -	½d.
A83	Tunbridge Wells Kent	Farrington Reliance Friendly Collecting Society.	2½d.
A96	Birmingham	J.Wright & Co.Ltd., or Eagle Range & Grate Co.Ltd.,	½d., 1½d., 2d.

Doubtless there are others, and additions will be welcome, also names of users missing in the above. Please note that this list is confined to the GvR cypher; other types will be listed later, of someone will provide a basic list.

50) G.B. HIGHEST NUMBERS. The Pitney-Bowes "Model CV" (prefix PC) still continues with the EiiR cypher design, but all others are now in the "Emblems" design and there are no further changes to report in the former design, the highest numbers remaining as given on page 37 of the last MSB. As will no doubt have been realized, the title "Emblems" should have preceded the second line of Nos. there.

AB 849; PC 16; NE 646; SV(none); SU 630

Thanks to Messrs. F. Lloyd Parton, G.R. Pearson and J.T. Brown for their reports.

AUSTRALIAN DESIGNS ILLUSTRATED

Our illustrations include the new "Automax" as described on page 39 together with the two "Frankmaster" designs mentioned in Jan.1959.

INDIAN "STAMPMASTER" MACHINES

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Impressions from a third machine have now been received, and there again differ very slightly in detail; the townmark has a double inner circle and the town name (COCHIN-1) is at the bottom with the user's initials and licence No. (M-1094) at the top, the date figures being, like C-1862, in what we may call the "Frankmaster" style.

Messrs. Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co. Ltd., Calcutta, have informed us that these machines have no connexion with the machines of the same name as used in New Zealand, and were developed entirely in India by the patentee, Mr. S.M. Smith, being manufactured for Messrs. Gillanders Arbuthnot by the Republic Engineering Corporation Ltd., Calcutta. Manufacture began in 1958. (The New Zealand machines were first reported early in 1956).

All the machines include the standard set of 16 values as detailed on page 40 of the last MSB, and like other IV machines can print two or more franks with one townmark to make up other values. Advertisement slogans can be printed at left of the townmark. The machines can handle envelopes or cards of any dimension without any pre-setting.

It might be added that an enquiry addressed some months ago to the firm (or rather, individual) in Invercargill, N.Z., shown in the New Zealand Post Office records as being the "Principal and Agent" for the original "Stampmaster" machines has brought no reply.

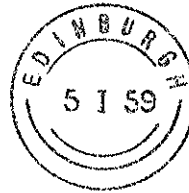
RHODESIA & NYASALAND: BLUE IMPRESSION

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Mr. G.R. Pearson was surprised to find, in a small batch of covers recently acquired, a Rhodesia & Nyasaland meter impression in blue; it was from Universal M.V. "U 50", used by the Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., Salisbury, and dated 10 II 58.

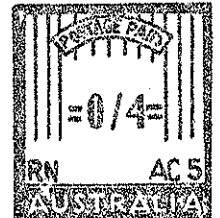
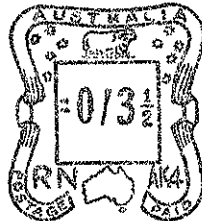
Another copy he possesses from the same machine, dated 10 IV 58, shows a mixed-coloured impression, the top and bottom being red and the middle a mauvish colour. Both examples are on ordinary commercial mail.

(We wonder whether the blue colour was an accident, or a misguided attempt to print in a colour appropriate to air mail, as it was a 1/3 value on an airmail letter to England? - Editor.)



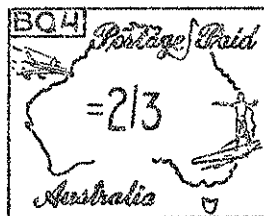
Frankmaster - GviR cypher

Simplex Major - GviR cypher

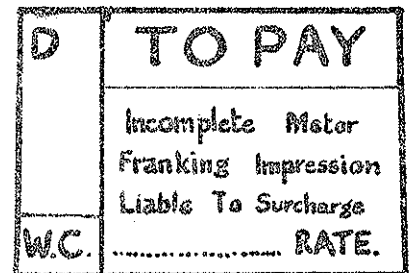
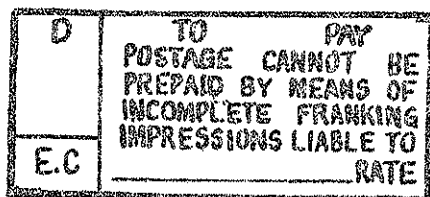
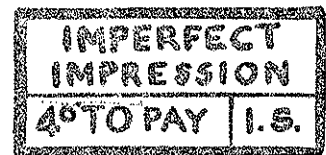


Australia - Frankmaster

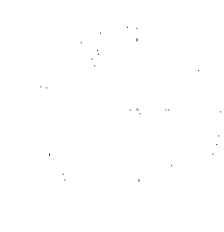
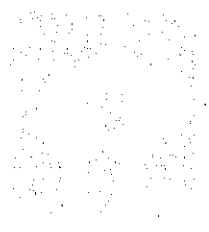
Australia - Frankmaster



Australia - Automax

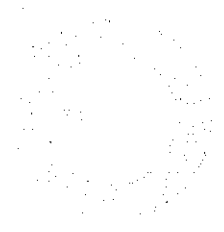
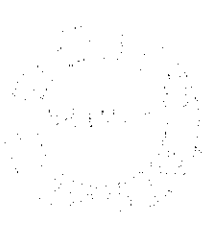
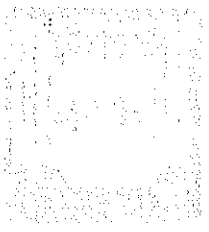


G.B. - incomplete franking impression surcharge marks - see next Bulletin.



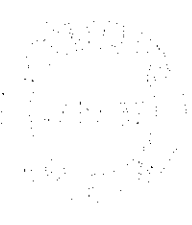
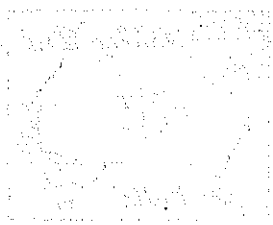
Illegible text below the first row of stamps.

Illegible text below the second row of stamps.

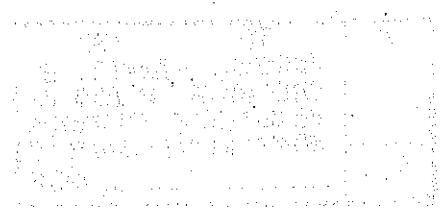
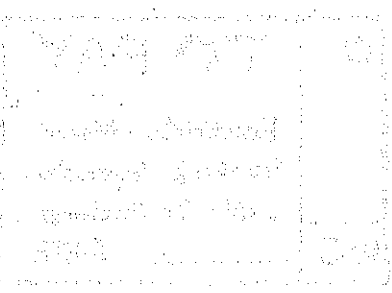


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C A N A D A :

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THE "MAPLE LEAVES" DESIGN

by A.A. Dewey

The familiar design showing large maple leaves between town circle and frank, produced by the Pitney-Bowes "Model R" machines, was introduced early in 1940 and is by far the commonest type of Canada; but in its twenty years of use, no very marked variations have come about, except for the very few machines adapted to print an odd ½ cent. There are however small but noteworthy variations to be found in each of the components of the impression, that is, frame die, value, and date.

In the frame die, apart from the ½-cent machines just referred to, and differences in the arrangement of the town and province names which are not dealt with here, the only perceptible variation appears to be in the style of figures used for the Meter No. This is recognizable practically only in the figure "4" which fortunately occurs in the great majority of Canadian Nos. In the lower Nos., the 4 has a closed, pointed top, whereas in the more recent machines it is open, with the left stroke curved.

I have not enough material to pin-point the change from one style to the other, and the position is in any case complicated by what are presumably "replacement dies" showing the later style with lower Nos. Apart from these latter, the closed 4 occurs on Nos. up to about 145250 and also from 145500 to 145760, while the open 4 occurs on 145250 to 145500 and from 145760 upwards. (Incidentally, the same change in style can be noted in the corresponding dies of the United States - Eagle design - but as the figure 4 is less frequent there, it is not so easily detected.)

As listed in the Barfoot & Simon Catalogue, the Meter Nos. of this type are 1000-1299, 140000-140999 and 143000 up. The reason for the low-No. group (to which I can add 1318 and 1322) has not, to my knowledge, been explained, nor the omission of the Nos. 141000-142999, though possibly the latter were allocated to machines for fiscal use. The Nos. have now exceeded 150000 are are, in fact, in the 153000's, even though these duplicate Nos. used by the United States where originally a gap had been left from 140000 to 150000 to accommodate the Canadian series.

In the value, the Canadian machines normally show a small five-pointed star to replace a zero in the "dollar" place instead of the three short wavy lines used in the United States and most other countries having this "Model R"; why this difference, I do not know. Usually, this star has one point upwards, but not infrequently it is inverted, having two points upwards; no consistency in this is detectable. Later machines appear to have a smaller star, but wear on the older ones makes precise classification difficult.

PORTUGAL: PARCEL POST METERS

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by G.R. Pearson

The B-S Catalogue mentions "essays" for a P.O. Parcel Post machine; the type is now in use and was illustrated as Fig.6 in the last MSB. The examples I have are not on tapes, and are all from "Lisboa" (Lisbon) but I assume there is also a machine at "Porto" (Oporto) as I have a proof from this. They are Universal Multi-value machines. They are exclusively for parcel post as the inscription "ENCOMENDAS" shows, this being Portuguese for "Parcels".

U.S.A.: NEW 1 1/4-CENT AND 2 1/2-CENT RATES

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As from 1st July 1960, the minimum rate for bulk-rate third-class mail was raised from 2¢ to 2 1/2¢; for "non-profit organizations", such as religious, educational, scientific and fraternal bodies, the minimum is one-half of the full rate, or 1 1/4¢. As many meters (notably the Pitney-Bowes "DM") could not print 2 1/2¢ in one operation and none could print 1 1/4¢, special procedursss have been laid down by the Post Office Department to deal with them.

For the 2 1/2¢ rate, each piece of mail is to be franked with a 2¢ meter stamp with an additional slug at the left reading "BLK RT." / ADL 1/2¢ PD", and for the 1 1/4¢ rate, each piece is to be franked with a 1¢ meter stamp with a slug reading "NON PROFIT ORG. / ADL 1/4¢ PD". The total amount on the whole mailing represented by the additional 1/2¢ or 1/4¢ is to be paid by meter stamps (of the highest possible denomination) on tapes affixed to a sheet of paper attached to the P.O.D. Mailing Statement.

Slugs for "ADL 1/2¢ PAID" (or 1¢ or 2¢) have been required on several previous occasions when rates have been increased (April 1925, July 1932 and March 1944), but these were not needed on the now current Pitney-Bowes "Model R" and "DM" types.

The above information is condensed from "The Meter Stamp Newsletter" issued by Walter M. Swan, Corinth, N.Y. Subsequently, both Mr.Swan's "Newsletter" and an American Metered Postage Society Bulletin have illustrated examples (with different Meter Nos. in each case) of 1 1/4¢ meter stamps in the original Oval design and in the small square "centre rate" design (.01 1/4) inscribed "P.B.METER" at bottom, corresponding to B-S Cat.Nos. 12 and 81 respectively; the former has the words "NONPROFIT ORG." horizontally above the oval and the latter has them between the townmark circles at bottom. Mr.Swan illustrates also a "2 1/2" in the "centre rate" design corresponding to B-S Cat.No. 86.

C A T A L O G U E S U P P L E M E N T

As usual the following lists are due mainly to Messrs. Barfoot and Simon, with a few additions by the Editor.

S W E D E N (47)

Note below /23/: The II-bank machines (2701-2757?) were issued in 1930.

SWEDEN (contd.)

POST OFFICE MACHINES

Type PO.3.

/P 6/ Lic.Nos. 6-8, not 6 - 9.

Type PO.4. As Type 6. Francotyp AN.

/P.7/ Med O 00.01 (Ov.6) Lic.9 (BOR&S 1)

Lic.Nos. 10 to 17 have also been issued, but details are at present insufficient for formal listing. No. 10 is Satas, 15 Hasler, and the rest all Francotyp C.

S W I T Z E R L A N D

Type 1. Also Nos. 3045 3067

Lic.No. curved or horizontal appears not to be a reliable distinction between the makes as listed; see MSB Vol.IV, p.11 (March 1956)

Type 1 A. Slogan also found printed separately at bottom left of cover.

Type 3. Alter date "1938?" to 1937.

Type 3 A. Hasler F22.

/30/ Also TM nil.

/A35/ N 001 F.of v. as Spain Type 1 B.
TM nil. Sl. L. (Lic.4385; R)

/A36/ W 0000½ TM b. (Lic.4009)

Type 3 C. Hasler F88.

/A41/ N 001 TM and date in small box at
upper left of fr. (Lic.5166,
Rheinfelden). (Value might be 000½)/45/ Delete? (Replaced by /A35/ but may
possibly exist on another machine.

/A45/ N 00,01 TM b. (Lic.120)

Type 3 F. Hasler F99. F. of v. smaller

/51/ N 001 TM b or nil.

OFFICIAL MACHINES

Type O.1.

/O.2/ W O 001 (6) TM nil

Type O.2. As Type F 2 but inscribed HELVETIA
in top panel, POSTAMT BERN 3 in bottom panel.
TM as for Type O.1 but without stars.

/O.3/ VN O 0001 (5½) TM a.

USED BY P.O. FOR FRANKING STATIONERY

Type P.2.

/P 4/ Also value 0065

Type P.3. As Type P.2 but inscriptions trans-
posed, HELVETIA at top and GD+PTT+DG at bottom.

/P 5/ F.of v. 0001 (5½) Values known: 0020,
0040, 0050.