

HON. SECRETARY/TREASURER
John C. Mann
11, Althorp Road
London, S.W.17.
EDITOR OF BULLETIN
A.A. Dewey MA. B.Sc. (Econ.)
46, Chester Drive
North Harrow
Harrow, Middx.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Officers for 1962. The following were the only persons nominated for Officers of the Group for 1962, 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.)
Hon. Exchange Secretary:	J.A. Wilson
Hon. Assistant Exchange Secretary:	J.T. Brown
Committee member:	G.R. Pearson

Membership. We regret the resignations of the following, two of our older members - Mr. Leslie H. Dodd of Detroit, U.S.A. and Mr. W. Tunstall of Nairobi, Kenya.

Subscriptions. Members are reminded that their subscriptions are payable from January 1st of each year. Quite a few have already been received or were paid in advance last year; if yours has not, please send it as soon as possible to avoid reminders. (10s. or US. \$ 1.50)

Finally, the Hon. Secretary and the Bulletin Editor extend to all members their best wishes for the coming year.

INDEX TO LAST VOLUME OF MSB

In the last Bulletin, we expressed the intention of including in this issue an index to the Volume VI just completed. Unfortunately, we find from the typescript that to include all the short paragraphs and notes, this would require as many as five pages, and in view of the very small interest in it shown by members, it has been decided that the work and cost of reproduction would not be justified. A copy of the typescript may be borrowed from the Hon. Secretary (not the Editor) against 6d. for postage etc.

THE NEXT BULLETIN

This will be dated March 1962. Contributions should reach the Editor not later than 24th February; "highest numbers" acceptable up to 1st March

2)

LIMITATION OF COLLECTION

=====

("Specialize or Bust")

by C. Delahoy

Referring to the question of interest (or lack of it) in meter stamps, I find that the bulk of nearly identical items tends to turn pleasure into work. I have therefore ceased to file everything that comes along, and now mount four examples of each main type, whole covers, two covers to a sheet. This still amounts to more than is necessary to make a display to a Society meeting. Some time ago I shared an evening with three other members of our Philatelic Society and gave a display to a Society in Lincoln. Later, the same Society asked me to give them a full evening's talk and display. I have what I call and "Introduction to Meter Stamps", - several sheets showing types, changes of design, and varied descriptive matter, which is backed up by appropriate material and then finally by the main collection. The interest shown was very satisfactory, but I found that least attention was paid to the actual collection, without doubt because of the 'sameness'.

I should mention that where possible, I collect whole covers, also that the "four of a kind" does not apply to anything before the GviR cypher. The displays mentioned were confined to Great Britain.

Editor's Note: Is there, we wonder, really any greater degree of "sameness" in a meter collection than in a specialized show of, say, the plates of the Penny Black or the first issue of the Netherlands? We should be interested to hear the experience of other members who have displays to local societies.

METER STAMPS IN AUCTION

=====

Apropos Dr. Jason T.W. Mann's remarks about philatelic auctioneers and meter stamps, we were interested to find meter stamps offered individually in two recent auction catalogues. The Rigby Postal History Auction (conducted by B. Rigby-Hall, Bournemouth) to be held on 30th December last contained two New Zealand entires, one dated 1910 franked by the circular Moss Model A meter (B. & S. type 5) and the other dated 1912 franked by the rectangular Moss Model D (B. & S. type 11) - if we have understood the catalogue descriptions correctly, - both being of 1d. value. Each is given a valuation of 80/-, and while their scarcity might justify such a figure we doubt whether the demand would do so; it will be interesting to learn what they do in fact fetch. **

Robson Lowe's Sale of 3rd February, also at Bournemouth, includes what the catalogue describes, with enlarged illustration, as "a trial impression on an entire envelope of the first rubber type, of extreme rarity." This is "N.Z. POSTAL STAMP No. 10" and Barfoot & Simon say that "the only known impressions are a proof on envelope and a postally used F.D.C." Robson Lowe values it at £25.

** Later: Mr. Rigby-Hall kindly informs us that the first fetched 40/- and the second 45/-.

G. B. METER REGULATIONS EASED

=====

Two inconveniences attaching to the use of franking machines in this country have been the Post Office requirements that (1) a docket had to be filled up and handed in at the P.O. every working day, showing the number of items franked during the day and the meter reading at the end of the day, and (2) all metered mail had to be handed in over the P.O. counter. The latter was particularly tiresome because often the post offices closed before the firm had all its mail ready for posting.

Both inconveniences have to some extent been eased during the past year. The docket has now to be completed and handed in only once a week. And, subject to the approval of the local P.O. in each case, meter users are allowed to post a small amount of mail in the latter box outside their licensed P.O. after the latter has closed, provided such mail is enclosed in a special large envelope issued on behalf of the P.O. by the franking machine manufacturers. An example of these envelopes, shown to us by Messrs. Roneo-Neopost Ltd., is of buff manila, boldly printed "OPEN IMMEDIATELY // METER POSTINGS //" with thick black diagonal lines front and back and a border like that used for airmail envelopes in many countries; provision is made on the front for "LICENSEE'S No.", "NUMBER OF ITEMS ENCLOSED", and, surrounding a square box, "TIME OF RECEIPT". The P.O. presumably date-stamps the envelope in this box when it reaches the sorting office.

ANOTHER MISTAKE IN G.B. CATALOGUE LISTING

=====

The account in the September 1961 MSB of the confusion in the B. & S. Catalogue over the listing of the M.Nos. of the Universal MV with GvR cypher has reminded Mr. J.A. Wilson of a similar confusion in the listing of the Pitney-Bowes Model CV, regarding which he had some correspondence with Mr. Barfoot four years ago.

The correct listing is as follows:

Under Type B7 (GvR cypher): P 1, P 3 to P 18, P 20, and (error) PB 2 (that is, omit P 19);

Under Type D6 (GviR cypher): P 4 up (replacement dies), P 19, P 21, P 24, P 27 to P 100, PA 1 (that is, add P 24 and the upper limit of P 100 and PA 1).

For the variety Type D6.B, /125/, should be added P 10, and for the variety Type D6.C, /126/, should be added P 28 and P 39 (the P 24 omitted from the heading was already included here.)

In case it should be thought that our pointing out of these mistakes reflects adversely on the B. & S. Catalogue and its compilers, we should say that this is by no means intended; but it unfortunately seems inevitable that mistakes occur in the first edition of a work of such complexity. (It is still more unfortunate that a second and revised edition has not been possible.)

4)

SHOULD SPECIAL SOUVENIR SLOGANS BE SOLD ?

=====

Mr. Delahoy refers to the meter-franked covers recently offered by the "British Interplanetary Society" (at disproportionately high prices) to commemorate the so-called "European Spaceflight Symposium", and asks whether it is right to use meter franking machines licensed by the Post Office to make money for private organizations.

Machines with relevant commemorative slogans have on many occasions been used at philatelic exhibitions and congresses in order to make a little money for the organizers by the sale of franked souvenir covers, but it is, we think, unusual for a non-philatelic organization to do the same, no other instances coming to mind.

Our personal view is that different slogans do not form a necessary part of a serious meter-stamp collection, and collectors can please themselves as to whether they wish to purchase such items or to ignore them; what do other members think? (It would of course be quite a different matter if the organizers were to produce otherwise unissued varieties of the "official" frank or townmark.)

G. B. NOTES

=====

ANOTHER GvR DISCOVERY. In the Neopost F.V. with frame designated in the Cat. as "A2" (double-lined frame, and fleurs-de-lys in the crown centred), the B. & S. Cat. lists 11 values from 1/2d. to 8d. and adds that 8 further values, from 5d. to 5s., "are said to exist". Mr. J. A. Wilson at a recent meeting of the Group showed one of these, the 1/-; from machine N 41 of London S.W.1., used -4 II 31 along with the 3d. One would have expected the 1/- to be quite a common denomination but evidently it is not so, and nothing above 9d is catalogued in any variety of the Neopost F.V. dies.

HIGHEST NUMBERS. Although we believe that both P-B and R-N are working to capacity, with quite a long delivery period, only one report has been received this time, from Mr. Lloyd Parton, which (though none the less welcome) does not indicate any great advance; possibly Mr. George Pearson may, as usual, be able to add something in the course of reproducing this Bulletin. The record now stands:

AD 354 NH-911 PC 47 ST 593

MEMBERS' EXCHANGES

Mr. H. Dickens, 333 Birchfield Rd. East, Northampton, will send 50 different meters (entire covers or fronts only) on receiving similar lot from anyone interested. State if full covers or fronts only are required.

Mr. Richard J. Beck, 2106 Wilkes Avenue, Biloxi, Miss., U.S.A., would like to receive Types and Towns of Great Britain, and also fiscally-overprinted 2d. adhesives; he offers Types and Towns of U.S.A., Rhodesia-Nyasaland, and Australia.

FROM MY NOTEBOOK

by J.A. Wilson

No. 4 - Old Frame Dies and Old Machines Used since 1957.A. Old Frame Dies.

During 1958 and 1959, several members of the Group reported the use of pre-GviR dies and these were recorded in several issues of the MSB. In this article, I have brought together all the previously recorded information and where possible amplified it and brought it up to date. I have also been able to add to the list some machines not previously reported. The dates given are the latest seen (or reported) and not necessarily the last days of use; reports of later usage will be welcome.

A.1. Squared Circle Design.
(None known)

A.2. GvR Royal Cypher Design.

H 6	LONGTON STOKE-ON-TRENT / STAFFS. TM: DC B. & S. type and No.: B5,/64/ User: Wagstaff & Brunt Ltd. (Note: Not seen postally used since 1957; on the date given, only the 1½d. die was GvR. See also under "B" below.)	1½d.	13 VI 58
M 2	LONDON / E.15 (Details lacking)	2d.	- - 58
M A4	LONDON / S.E.15 TM: BIC, no arcs Type & No.: B2A(iii), /40/ User: Amalgamated Engineering Union.	3d.	-5 X 60
N 1	DEREHAM, NORFOLK TM: BIC-A (2nd type) Type & No.: B3(I)B1, /49/ User: ? (slogan refers to Fordson Tractors)	2d.	22 VII 60
N 16?	LONDON / S.E.14 TM: BIC with arcs. Type & No.: B3(I), B2, /50/ User: Glenton Holiday Tours	3d.	12 VI 61
N 76	LONDON - S.E.1 TM: BIC-A Type & No.: B3(I) A2, /45/	1½d.	12 XII 58
N 76	LONDON / S.E.1. (new town-mark TM: BIC-A Type & No.: B3(I) A2, /45/ User: Diamints Ltd.	1d.	26 II 60
N 170	LONDON / W.1. TM: DC Type & No.: B3(I) A1, /44/ ?	1½d. 3d.	- - 58 21 XII 61
PB 2 (error for P 2)	LONDON / N.W.4. TM: DC Type & No.: B7, /78/ User: Hendon Borough Council.	3d.	17 OCT 1960
P 6	LONDON / E.C.4. TM: DC Type & No.: B7, /77/ User: David Cope Ltd.	3d.	7 NOV 1959

6) FROM MY NOTEBOOK (J.A. Wilson) - contd.

A.2. GvR Royal Cypher Design (contd.)

U 101 BIRMINGHAM MV(O) 20 X 59
 TM: DC(wide) Type & No.: B6A(II),/74/
 User: W.H. Briscoe & Co.,Ltd.

U 235 HYDE / CHESHIRE MV(O) 12 X 59
 TM: DC(wide) Type & No.: B6A(II),/74/
 User: Redfern's Rubber Works Ltd.

U 236 BIRMINGHAM MV(O) 29 IX 59
 TM: DC(wide) Type & No.: B6A(II),/74/
 User: Nuffield Metal Products Ltd.,

A.3. EviiiR Royal Cypher Design.

M 25 LEEDS 1½d. -3 VII 59
 TM: BIC Type & No.: C1, /79/
 User: Jack L. Barnett Ltd.

M 91 BIRMINGHAM 3d. 20 XI 58
 TM: BIC Type & No.: C1, /79/
 User: Fattorini & Sons Ltd.

U 368 DUNDEE / ANGUS MV(J) 15 XII 60
 TM: DC(wide) Type & No.: C4B,/88/
 User: J.F. Robertson Ltd.

U 433 BIRMINGHAM MV(O) 27 IV 61
 TM: DC(wide) Type & No.: C4A,/87/
 User: Osborne, Garratt & Co.Ltd.

B. Old Machines

I have listed here only the types of machine which are virtually obsolete, i.e. types where only one or two machines have been in use since 1957. Of course the oldest machine still in use in G.B. is PB 2 (not the error for P2) which is used by the Prudential Assurance Co.Ltd. Besides being the oldest machine still in use, it was the first meter machine to be licensed for use in this country.

H 6 LONGTON STOKE-ON-TRENT / STAFFS.

TM: DC User: Wagstaff & Brunt Ltd.

As on 13 VI 58, the following dies and values were fitted to the machine:

GvR Type B5, /64/ 1½d.

GviR Type D3C, /101/ 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d.

A 2d. value postally used dated 30 XII 58 is in my collection. This machine has been reported to be the last Model H in use (MSB V/55) but see the next item!

H 30 ASHFORD / KENT

TM: DC User: - ? -

GviR Type D3A, /99/, 6d. used on -8 VII 60

NZ 13 LONDON / E.C.4. ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2½d., 6d., 1/-

NZ 16 ditto 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 9d., 1/-

NZ A16 ditto ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d.

NZ 17 ditto 2d., 2½d., 3½d., 4d., 4½d., 5½d.

All the above NZ machines were reported in MSB V/68 as still in use in 1958 by "The Times" Publishing Co.

All then had EiiR dies and DC TM.

(I have NZ 17 used 18 IX 58 with TM BIC - A.A.D.)

+++++

NEW ZEALAND

VARIETIES

In the MSB of January and September last (VI/62,97) we mentioned three Neopost machines used with unengraved solid rings in place of the town name. Dr. J.W. Avery (who reported two of those) has now shown us another, N 520, used by Reliance Radio and Electrical Service, Ltd., Nelson, on 16 X 61.

Dr. Avery has also shown us a Universal MV, U.519 (value as 00/3=) with the very unusual feature of the name of the user, DROMORNE LINEN CO.LTD., in the townmark, the name of the town being represented only by the abbreviation AK (i.e. Auckland) at the foot. As the style (close circles) and lettering correspond to those used by the makers, it appears to be an officially engraved die and not a locally-made one. The date of the copy sent to use is 20 X 61.

SOME UNRECORDED NEW ZEALAND "DEPARTMENTALS"
=====

The type of 1916 - plain upright rectangle with figures of value in each upper corner and town name at the bottom - from Moss Models D and E is not particularly common, and with the name of a Government Department in place of the town it is decidedly scarce. The B. & S Catalogue lists 34 varieties, not counting different colours or values, but also gives a long list of Government Departments which are recorded as having used meter machines during the currency of this type, impressions from which had not been reported.

I have been fortunate enough to discover two of these in a lot acquired from Australia not long ago. They are here listed in the manner of the Cat. list, together with a note of the postmark:

<u>Inscription at base.</u>	<u>Inscr.in circle.</u>	<u>Colour & Value.</u>	<u>Postmark.</u>
COM. ^R CROWN LANDS	WEL ^{TN}	purple 1d.	WELLINGTON 25 JAN 1928
CUSTOM HOUSE	WN	red ½d.	WELLINGTON JE 11 1934

The following is catalogued as a normal, but my example has the "WELTN" in the central circle inverted:

STATE ADVANCES	WELTN	purple 1d.	WELLINGTON 14 JUL 1927
----------------	-------	------------	---------------------------

I have also an uncatalogued value in an item already catalogued:
P.TRUST DEP.^T WE^{LL} A black 1d. WELLINGTON
(two impressions) 29 NO 1920

For the 1½d. value catalogued, the B.& S. Cat. gives the town abbreviation as "WELTN" but my 1d. clearly has "WELL". For the type with bottom inscription "STAMPS" ("WN" in centre), the Cat. gives a "?" under "User"; on my example, the previous owner has written the user's name as "Stamp Duties".

Several additional values or colours in B. & S. /D.8/(inscription "C. & S." and "WN", used by the Census and Statistics Department) were listed in our Catalogue Supplement several years ago but have not otherwise been referred to; these are:
purple (or mauve), 3d.; red, 1d., 1½d., 1/-; black, 1½d.

8)

FRANCOTYP MODEL "C" AND MODEL "CC"

=====

When the Barfoot & Simon Catalogue was compiled in 1953, the Francotyp Model Cc has only recently been introduced, though even then it was in use in quite a number of countries. The Introduction to the Catalogue stated that impressions had either a wide setting, 79-80 mm. (i.e., practically the same as the Model C), or "very narrow", the wide setting having the Record No. nearer to the townmark than to the frank; the date figures had stops after day and in front of year; the figures of value were more closely spaced than in Francotyp C.

The "very narrow" setting appears to be uncommon, and few of the machines include a record number (use of which seems to be dying out generally); consequently, the stops in the date figures were regarded in the Catalogue listings as the main means of distinction between the "Cc" and otherwise similar "C" impressions.

But unfortunately, during the last year or so, the same style of date figures has been introduced also in the Model C and these no longer provide a distinction. With the normal wide setting and no record no., the only test remaining is the spacing of the figures of value. In the case of the uniformly thick oval-shaped figures now usually employed, with a three-figure value such as 030, the width from left to right is, we find, just over 11 mm. for Model C and just under 10 mm. for Model Cc - a small difference but with experience quite recognizable to the naked eye even without actual measurement. But when either or both of the outer figures is not a zero, this measurement does not hold, nor can it apply to four-bank machines or to figures different from the standard shape (as in the Netherlands). In such cases, we doubt whether the distinction is really practicable.

In view of this, and having regard to the very small difference in the spacing of the value figures as just described, it might be wiser in future to disregard the difference between the two models except when this is evidenced by the very narrow setting or the leftward displacement of the record No., and to recognize only (1) Francotyp C, without stops in the date figures; and (2) Francotyp C or Cc, with stops in the date figures. While this would necessitate the deletion of some items already listed in the catalogue or supplements, it is to be doubted whether many collectors would regret this !

+++++++

POSTALIA AND SATAS. Our illustrations show some of the designs from Postalia and Satas machines newly introduced into several countries. They are manufactured respectively by Telefonbau und Normalzeit G.m.b.H., Frankfurt on Main, Western Germany, and by Societe pour l'Affranchissement et le Timbrage Automatiques, Paris, France. (Thanks to J.C. Mann and G.R. Pearson.)

CONGO STILL "BELGIAN" ! One would have expected that all the meter designs in use in the former Belgian Congo would have had the names "Belge" and "Belgisch" deleted at the earliest possible moment; the Hasler, Universal and Francotyp so treated have all been noted, but we were very much surprised to receive an example of the Satas (B. & S. type 4) dated as lately as 2 XI 61 (there is no mistake about this) without alteration. M. No. is N 151, town "LEOPOLDVILLE" and user Ch. Le Jeune (Assurances), S.C.R.L. Unlike the catalogued item, it has five figures of value, ≈ 08.00

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

As usual this is due mainly to Mr. S.D. Barfoot, but certain of the Japanese N.C.R. types have been added by Mr. G.R. Pearson.

I R A N (53)

Corrections to the Supplement in the last MSB (page 111):
Essays: (2) for M.No. 45, read M.No. U 5.
/P.1/: Value figs., for 0001 read ≈ 001

I S R A E L (53)

The Francotyp illustration in the last MSB shows Type P.1 and not Type 5 as stated, which differs in the key letter at right.

J A P A N (A)

(The illustrations were included in the last MSB).

The P.O. Machines, Type 1 and /1/ to /3/ as listed in the Cat. should be renumbered as Type P.1 and /P.1/ to /P.3/. Type 2 and /4/ in the Cat. become Type 1 and /1/ as follows:

1952(?). Type 1. Pitney-Bowes Model R. Design of usual format showing flowers and Mount Fuji in centre and above value box, with four large Japanese characters at rt. TM SC with Town / JAPAN in English; town in Japanese is above "P.B. (No.)" at bottom centre. Slogan L.
/1/ ≈ 001 (Rm. M.F.)
/2/ ≈ 001 (Ar. M.F.)

195? Type 2. Universal M.V. Upright rect. with floral ornaments in corners, Japanese inscriptions top & bottom, U and No. below frame. TM DC with name in Japanese and English; Rm M.F. in date.
/3/ N O 0001 (Ov.)

195? Type 3. National Cash Register. Similar to Type P.1, with M.No. "N.1" up, at bottom. Ar.M.F. in date (M. D. Yr) at top; 4-fig. R.No. at rt. centre. Printed in magenta, figures in red, on pale blue adhesive labels only.
/4/ 0000.001

195? Type 4. Francotyp Cc. Key-letter F.
/5/ (details lacking)

1955. Type 5. Hasler F99. Square frame with bird at bottom, two Japanese characters at each side of flower at top; monogram HG and No. below frame. TM DC with name in Japanese at top and English at bottom; Ar.M.F. with stops after D and before Yr. Slogan L.
/6/ VN 0 00,001

POST OFFICE MACHINES.

1950. Type P.1. National Cash Register. (As illustrated and described in the Cat.; Nos. P.1. to P.3 are re-listed here in the new notation.) Date with month in letters and year in full unless otherwise stated. On white (W) or pale blue (B) adhesive labels.

/P.1/ 0000,001 with letter & 4-fig.R.No. (W, B)
/P.A1/ As /P.1/ but Ar.M.F. in date. (B)
/P.2/ 0000.001 with letter & 3-fig.R.No. (W)
/P.3/ 00001 with letter & 3-fig.R.No. (?)
/P.4/ 000,001 with letter & 4-fig.R.No. (B)
/P.A4/ As /P.4/ but Ar.M.F. in date (B)
/P.5/ 000001 with letter & 4-fig.R.No. (B)
/P.6/ -00,001 with 4-fig.R.No.; letter at left of F. of V. (W)
/P.7/ 00,001 with letter & 4-fig.R.No. (B)
/P.A7/ as /P.7/ but Ar.M.F. in date. (B)

Note: it is not always possible to distinguish with certainty between a stop and a comma in the value; also, some of the 6-figure values may be in reality 7 figures in which the first has failed to print clearly.

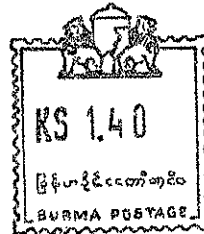
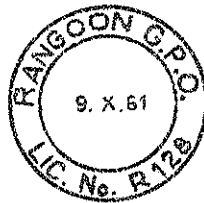
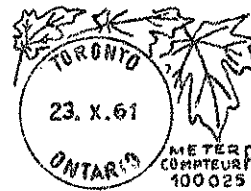
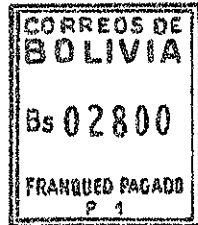
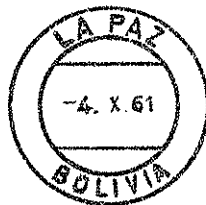
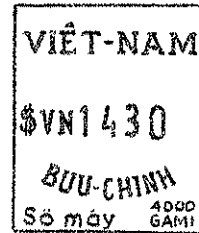
Only one machine is known for each of /P.2/ (TOKYO), /P.A4/ (NAGOYA-HIGASHI), /P.5/ (KOBE), /P.6/ (YOKOHAMA), and /P.A7/ (KITAHAMA).

POSTALIA MACHINES - ILLUSTRATIONS TAKEN FROM USED EXAMPLES

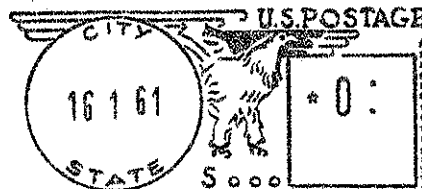


SAIGON

SEUL DISTRIBUTEUR AU VIETNAM
DES APPAREILS D'AFFRANCHISSEMENT
POSTALIA MADE IN GERMANY



S.A.T.A.S. MACHINES - ILLUSTRATIONS TAKEN FROM PROOF IMPRESSIONS

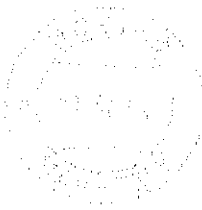


17



THE
OFFICE
OF THE
SECRETARY
OF THE
NAVY

NAVY
DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON
D. C.



NAVY
DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON
D. C.

