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#### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Membership. We are pleased to welcome one new member :-

(171) Mr Gabriel Pustel, 678 Argyle Road, Brooklyn 30, N.Y., U.S.A.

Change of address :- Dr J. F. Fick, now P.O. Box 66, Umtata, South Africa.

Resignation :- Capt. G. K. Gillberry.

The usual Annual Statement of Income and Expenditure and the Hon. Sec's report for 1964 will be found on pages 61 and 62.

Members Wants. J. A. Daynes, "Snaefell", South Chard, Somerset, wants to acquire the following G.B. (numbers are from the Revised Catalogue Supplement issued with MSB No.45, March 1960). 131a - 1d from 2d, 136 - SL 2, 143 - with dot under D of value (P, PA or PC), 144 - wide setting PB, 145 - narrow setting PB, 146 - Midget, 147 - Midget, 148 - NZ, Emblems Simplex Minor (S, SA, SS), Emblems Universal Junior Model, also UF 996-999, UG 1 - 125, Die 4, and UH 573 - 590, 603 - 612, 615 - 999 (die 7). Please write to Mr Daynes direct if you can help.

#### EDITORS NOTES.

Next Bulletin. It has regrettably not been possible to catch up with the former "time table" for issues, and the next will be dated June; please send "highest numbers" and any other notes for inclusion not later than the end of May.

Personal. Although I have made a good recovery from my illness of a year ago, I feel that it is time I had a rest from the job of editing the Bulletin, (if only to allow me to catch up with my own collecting and to have a little more time to spare for other things). Will all members please note that I do not wish to offer myself for re-election as Editor this year; you are reminded that nominations for this (and other offices) are due to be sent in before the first day of October - but please do not think there is "plenty of time" and leave it until the last date.

(A.A.D.)

#### PITNEY-BOWES SALES PROGRESS.

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When, at the beginning of this year, the Marketing Director of the Company was outlining details of their 1965 plans, he announced that the 1964 sales were up by 62% domestically and 130% for export, resulting in the overall business directly contributed by the Home Sales Force being up by 74%. This provided an all-time record volume in the 42 years since the formation of the Company and the sale of their original postal franking machine.

Although the activities of Messrs Universal Postal Frankers Ltd. were not, as some readers may have supposed, restricted to the manufacture of postal franking machines, since the firm's title was changed to Pitney-Bowes Ltd. in 1960 they have greatly extended their scope to include all kinds of mail room equipment, including letter-weighting scales (they offer a neat and compact beam-action scale as well as the larger type seen on post office counters, in both cases with indications of the amount of postage due under any of seven rates), also various models of mail openers, folding and inserting machines, addressing machines, and the like.

To encourage the usage of these machines, to their mutual benefit, Messrs P-B Ltd. have recently produced brochures, sent free to any interested business man, describing the use of the machines, one being entitled "How Guessing at Mail Weights Can Raise your Postage Costs", and another on "How to Use Direct Mail to Promote Your Business" which appears full of useful hints, but to our old-fashioned English minds more American than English.

#### RONEO-NEOPOST LTD.

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The following is an extract from the Chairman's Review at the recent Annual General Meeting of Roneo Ltd., covering the year ended 30th June, 1964.

"Roneo-Neopost has completed another successful year of operation. Orders have increased by 25% over the preceding year, including a very satisfactory increase in our export business. In particular, the period has been marked by the outstanding success of the new compact electric Model 205 Postal Franking Machine, introduced in May 1963 ...

Sales of Franking Machines for National Insurance Contributions have increased, mainly because of the security afforded against all the risks inseparably involved in the handling of high-value stamps. Many of these are virtually £1 notes in miniature. There has also been a growing demand for Signing Machines ... "

The Annual Report of Roneo Ltd. makes no further reference to the Roneo-Neopost subsidiary.

!!! A P R O C L A M A T I O N !!!

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, stamp collecting is one of the greatest hobbies of all times in the world,

WHEREAS, postage meters are now accounting for one-half of all postal revenues in the United States, thus replacing the use of adhesive stamps in most of the business establishments,

WHEREAS, the collecting of metered postage is developing into a great part of the hobby of philately,

WHEREAS, a great many schools promote stamp and meter collecting among the pupils to get them interested in a good hobby,

WHEREAS, children growing up with a good hobby tends to keep them very interested in the hobby that is educational and will build the children into better citizens,

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the adult citizens to help the children with a good hobby and become the future of the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN W. REYNOLDS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim December 13 through 19, 1964, as

METER COLLECTING WEEK

and urge all citizens to observe this week in tribute to this great hobby which is doing so much for the children of this state and nation.

( S E A L )

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this seventh day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-four.

(Signed) John W. Reynolds  
GOVERNOR

(Copied from the "Official Society Bulletin" dated 16 January 1965, of the American Metered Postage Society, which also shows photographs of the Society's President, our friend Henry O. Meisel, in his uniform as a "Veteran of Foreign Wars", with the Governor on the occasion of the signing of the Proclamation. We wonder whether Mr Reynolds collects meter stamps himself! Doubtless Henry had a hand in the suggestion).

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL SLOGAN  
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A special "Winston Churchill Memorial Appeal" slogan has been produced by Pitney-Bowes for the users of their postage meters, to whom it will be available at a reduced cost for use during the memorial month (28th of February to 28th of March).

We hope it will have better success than the Shakespeare Tercentenary slogan likewise promoted by P-B.

MR CUTHBERT FAVOURS LICKING!

In the last line of our note in the last Bulletin, the word "his" should have read "her", i.e. the lady stamp-dealer's, ideas. The error was due to a misunderstanding in copying.

SLOGANS IN CONTRASTING COLOURS.

Only one further slogan of this kind has come to light; Mr Rex Haggett reports one on his favourite "Road Safety" theme from Denmark - Meter B 970 from København V with black slogan showing the triangular "children" sign and the words "PAS PÅS BØRNENE I TRAFIKKEN" (= beware of children in traffic).

It is remarkable how few there appear to be.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF "SPECIMEN" STAMPS BY  
THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION.  
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A series of articles, derived from official records by Mr Marcus Samuel, which have been published in "Stamp Collecting" between December 1964 and February 1965, include in the last part (published on February 5th) the following relative to meter stamps :-

Circular No. 8918/415: December 31st, 1921.

By the terms of Article XXXVIII (formerly Article XXXIX) as amended at the 1920 Madrid U. P. U. Congress, specimen impressions from officially adopted stamping machines were also (i.e. as well as adhesive stamps and postal stationery) to be distributed by members of the Union.

.. .. .

We do not know what form these officially-distributed specimens took or take, but probably they would be similar to those which the manufacturers distribute at exhibitions, that is, with special town-marks reading "Pitney-Bowes Specimen", "Neopost Specimen", or something similar. Does any of our members know definitely?.

(52)

SLOGANS IN CONTRASTING COLOURS (See above) At the last moment we have had some additional information - more in the next MSB.

THE FIRST BRITISH DATES

by (the late) Henry J. Howard.

(In the early years of the M.S.S.G., Mr Howard - who died in 1961 at the age of 98 - sent us many useful notes about the early use of meters in Great Britain; he had personally been concerned with their introduction, and was connected with the G.P.O. and with Messrs U.P.F. Ltd. Although most of the information he sent has since been published in some form, it seems interesting to give it now as he wrote it.

- Editor.)

Mr W. H. Wheeler of the Universal Stamping Co. (a U.S.A. concern) wrote to the P.O. in April or May 1922 and the Secretary of the P.O. informed him on the 13th of May 1922 that the P.M.G. was "prepared to grant a licence for the use in this country of a Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter in the form in which it has been submitted (&c.)"

Later, "The Inland Post Amendment (No.25) Warrant 1922, Dated July 1922" was issued. The 2nd para. read :-

"2. Regulation 11 of the Inland Post Warrant 1903 (b) shall be read and take effect as if the following para. were inserted after para.(1)(a) of that Regulation"

" (aa) by impressions of stamping machines working under the direction or by the permission of the P.M.G.

"3. This warrant shall come into operation on the 1st day of August 1922".

Clearly, therefore, the earliest date (of the use of a meter) must be after 1st August 1922. In that month the Secretary of the P.O. wrote to the firms whose names had been submitted by the P-B Company forwarding a licence to use a P-B Postage Meter Machine.

On the 3rd August 1922, the following notice appeared in the P.O. Circular (sent to all Postmasters)

Automatic Stamping (Postage Meter) Machines

"The above design impressed in red ink, with postage rates  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 2d., will shortly be brought into use for denoting payment of postage on postal packets prepaid by automatic stamping machines (&c.)"

The design of the die was that submitted by the P-B Co., of which I have a copy; it showed the date AUG 14 / 1922.

On 28 Sep., 1922, the Secretary of the P.O. wrote to the Secretary, G.P.O., Dublin "the machines authorised for use in this country are manufactured by the Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter Company of Stamford, Connecticut, U.S.A." and later in the same letter said "Another similar machine, which has been developed from the New Zealand machine exhibited at the Postal Union Congress of Madrid, has also been submitted to the Postmaster General by Universal Postal Frankers, Limited, of 346 Strand, W.C.2., and has received his approval subject to a further demonstration of a completed machine in working order (&c.)"

## THE FIRST BRITISH DATES (Contd.)

On the 17th of June 1922 U.P.F. submitted to the P.O. a print from a die resembling the P-B one. This was approved and on the 19th Oct. 1922 the following notice appeared in the P.O. Circular :-

### "Automatic Stamping (Postage Meter) Machines.

'A machine is now in use in which the franking impression (with postage rates  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., ld.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., and 1/-) differs in points of detail from that illustrated in the Post Office Circular of the 23rd of August. The date stamp is also of a different pattern and is printed in black ink."

The die in that Circular was reproduced from a specimen envelope dated "17 JUN 22" submitted by the U.P.F. Co., and, no doubt, Harris assumed that that was the date of the first licence or die used.

I think that I have shown that he was wrong. The above particulars are all taken from official documents and sources.

The first P-B licences were issued on 16 Aug. 1922 to Prudential Assurance for  $\frac{1}{2}$ d and  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d meters, to Barkers for  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., ld., and  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., Derry & Toms (same) and J. Lee (Bookmaker)  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. This is from official list.

The first U.P.F. licence was issued on the 11th Oct. 1922. It was a temporary one and issued to the Company itself.

Neopost - the first licence was issued 22 July 1925. The first design resembled in the main those already in use at that date.

## GREAT BRITAIN - "SIMPLEX" VARIETIES.

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Mr John T. Brown has been studying the varieties found in the more recent "Simplex" meter stamps in this country, to which he considers - and we agree - too little attention has been devoted. A great deal was written about the varieties found in the frame dies of the old "Universal Frankopost Multi-value" machines, which were mostly very minor. In the same maker's "Simplex", equivalent varieties occur both in the frames and in the value figures, though these are in most cases independent so that they have to be dealt with separately, and we can pay here no attention to the possible combinations.

As regards the value figures, there were three different types met with in the "Cipher" frames. These are generally similar in that all are thick with curled, rounded tops and bases (for the 2s and 3s especially) and all have the "D" for pence attached to them. Although the three styles are fairly easily recognisable by actual comparison of examples, they cannot easily be described, and we do not propose to deal with them on this occasion. As well as occurring in "Emblems" dies replacing "Royal Ciphers" the third type carried on into the regular "Emblems" series.

GREAT BRITAIN: "SIMPLEX" VARIETIES (Contd.)

Before proceeding further, we should remind readers that the letter prefixes are (after SZ) used in reverse alphabetical order: SW, SU, ST, SS, SR, SP, etc (excluding SV, SQ and SO).

These curled figures with "D" are found by Mr Brown to occur up to about ST 350 and again from ST 951 to ST 991, also from approximately SS 220 to SS 310.

The fourth type of figures is wholly distinct, being of the "Automax" pattern, without balls at the tips of the 2s and 3s which have straight bases (2) or tops (3). From the Pitney-Bowes records examined by Mr S. D. Barfoot, this type occurs first with ST 351 and runs to ST 950, then, after a reversion to the curled figures, is used on ST 995 to (presumably) ST 1000 and from SS 1 onwards except for another reversion (as found by Mr Brown) for the aforementioned SS 220 to SS 310, - possibly a few lower and higher numbers respectively.

This "Automax" type is moreover found only in conjunction with a different type of the "Emblems" frame, which has a much larger and fixed "D" close to the crown whereas all the curled type of figures have individual "D"s attached to the figures so that they vary slightly according to the actual value, being thus smaller with for example " $2\frac{1}{2}D$ " or " $4\frac{1}{2}D$ " and altogether absent with "1/0" and " $1/0\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Mr Brown has investigated also the variations in the index numbers beneath the "Emblems" frames, and reports as follows :-

"In summary, these fall into three main groups :-

- (1) Up to SW 649/678 have letters and figures 3 mm high;
- (2) SW 709 to SR 96/250 have letters and figures  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm high;
- (3) SR 251 onwards have letters and numbers 3 mm high.

The first "Emblems" I have is SW 614, though I have SW 622 as EiiR. SW 614 and SW 649 have index numbers 3 mm high and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  mm long; there is no gap between the W and the 6. SW 679 is an odd one, the figures are  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm high and 10 mm long, there is no gap between the W and the 6.

SW 709, 717, 778, 817, 904 and 984 all have figures  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm high and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  to  $11\frac{1}{2}$  mm long. There is a definite gap after the W. The SU's and ST's are the same. The SS's and SR 453 and 822 show no change.

SW 940 is more widely spaced ( $12\frac{1}{2}$  mm long). SS 31 and 235, SR 43 and 96 are similar, and still  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm high.

SR 251, 420, 748 have figures 3 mm high and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  to  $12\frac{1}{2}$  mm long."

√ Doubtless other members could add to these numbers - but doubtless also few or none will take the trouble! We hope to deal with the varieties with the Royal Cipher frames in a later Bulletin.

- Editor/7

G. B. NOTES.  
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Highest Numbers. Reports are due to Messrs G. R. Pearson, J. T. Brown and Rex Haggett. Progress seems to be somewhat erratic, with no advance noted for three out of the five series now current, very unlikely!

AH 165	P.B.453B	PC 119
J 1860	NM 124	SN 315

Neopost Number Oddity. Mr Pearson has shown us an "Emblems" die with the number "N 117A" from a firm of solicitors, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham; value 3D, date 26 1 65. The suffix to the number is unexplained; it reminds us of the letter attached to the number in some of the old "Midget" Royal Cipher dies to denote a second or third machine under the same licence, though this was discontinued many years ago and in any case was never adopted by Neopost.

"Emblems" Types. The only positive report comes from Mr G. R. Pearson:

- (1) "SB" exists in this type - he has SB 619 (Rochester & Chatham);
- (2) In the Neopost L.V., the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d value exists - he has Manchester N 857, and has seen one or two more.

It seems unlikely that the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d and values above 1/- exist, for the substitution of an "Emblems" die for a Royal Cipher would not appear to be such a simple operation as the substitution of one Cipher type for an older one and would necessitate at the same time the adjustment of the value wheel; replacement of disused denominations might well be made at the same time, while anyone needing values over 1/- would probably go over to an M.V.

The Business Efficiency Exhibition 1965. This year's exhibition in London will be held as usual at Olympia, from 4th to 13th October, when no doubt the latest Pitney-Bowes and Roneo-Neopost models will be on display. For people further north, a similar exhibition will take place in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, from May 17th to 22nd.

SWISS POSTAL ZONE NUMBERS.  
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Mr Heiner Dürst kindly amplifies our recent note on the new postal zone numbers.

The general numbers for the bigger towns are as follows :-  
1000 - Lausanne; 1200 - Geneva; 2000 - Neuchatel; 3000 - Berne; 4000 - Basel;  
5000 - Aarau; 6000 - Lucerne; 7000 - Chue; 8000 - Zürich; 9000 - St. Gallen.

For mail addressed to a post box, there is added the number of the relative post office, thus 1001 is the number for a post box at the P.O. Lausanne 1, 3005 for a post box at the P.O. Berne 5; and so on. But Zürich is an exception, here the last digit refers to the town district (corresponding to the district numbers in e.g. Birmingham or Edinburgh); - the post offices are numbered from 21 upwards, to 62, and the numbers 8021 and 8062 are used for post boxes at the Zürich post offices 21 and 62 respectively.



### SWISS POSTAL ZONE NUMBERS (Contd.)

The numbers accordingly go further than the German system in that they show not merely the town but also the post office district to which the mail has to be directed.

Since similar numbers occur both in Switzerland and Germany, to avoid confusion all mail posted in Switzerland for destinations in Germany has to have a D prefixed to the number, and conversely, all mail posted in Germany for places in Switzerland has to have the prefix CH. Mr Dürst's address, Rütshlikon (Zürich), has the number 8803, or for mail from Germany CH-8803. The letters "CH", familiar to us on the number plates of Swiss cars, of course stand for "Confederation Helvetica".

When a correspondent brought these German and Swiss systems to the attention of the British G.P.O. as an example to be followed, by means of a letter to the "Financial Times" some few months ago, the Deputy Public Relations Officer at the G.P.O. explained that the British Post Office did not consider that it would offer the same advantages as it does in Germany, the view is that our system based on the inclusion of county names and post towns in addresses is superior to the German and Swiss systems of arbitrary number codes.

### CANADA - The "Official" Meters.

Mention was made in a recent Bulletin (MSB VIII/18) regarding the changes in Official Mail in Canada. Mr H. K. Warren has recently sent me some additional types and varieties of these interesting impressions and it is from these and examples already in my own collection that these notes are compiled.

The impressions seem to fall into several fairly well defined groups :-

- 1) Machines used to frank the mail of Members of the Canadian Parliament.
- 2) Machines used to frank departmental mail, free for normal mail in Canada but with a charge for special services or overseas postage.
- 3) The successors to (2) since the regulations were changed.
- 4) The "House of Assembly" machines.

Firstly the mail of MP's. Adapted Pitney-Bowes Model R machines are used, the impressions being in green. No value is included and some machines have FREE and FRANCO included in the design. The slogan consists of a view of the Houses of Parliament in Ottawa. No place or Province is included in the townmark (Fig 1). Covers bearing these impressions also have, in the bottom left hand corner, the (facsimile) initials of the Member who has sent the letter.

CANADA - The "Official" Meters. (Contd.)

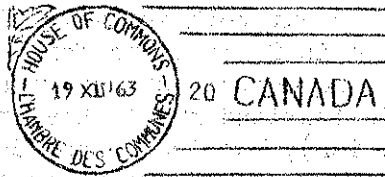


Fig 1

*W. A. ...*  
Deputy Postmaster General  
Le Sous-ministre des Postes



Fig 2

*J. A. Robert*

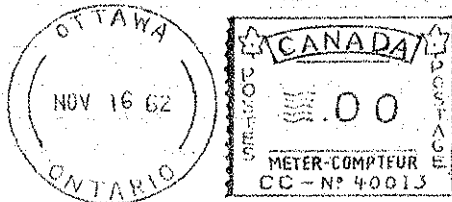


Fig 3

*R. H. Brown*

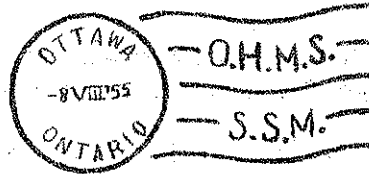


Fig 4

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER  
L'IMPRIMEUR DE LA REINE

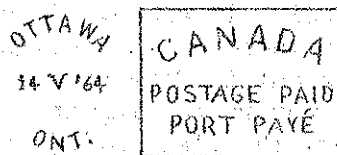


Fig 5

CANADA - The "Official" Meters (Contd.)

The practice of authorising mail by means of initials or the signature of the person responsible is descended from many years of such practice in the British Post Office and also leads us to the second group, mentioned in Barfoot-Simon in a note under No. 57 of Canada.

Government departments have used machines to frank mail, with a zero value for inland mail but including a value where necessary for any special service such as Registered or overseas post, and these machines are fitted with a slogan which consists of the facsimile signature of the responsible Minister, Etc., usually with the title in either English only or English and French. (Fig. 2). An exception to this is a machine fitted with a slogan reading "OFFICIAL POSTAL FRANK / (Signature) / FRANCHISE POSTALE". I should imagine that a complete study of these would show most of the political changes but I do not know how quickly the slogans are changed when there is a change of government!

Most machines seen are Pitney-Bowes Model R in the maple-leaf design but Commercial Controls (Fig 3) are known; the Pitney-Bowes Model J in the Crown and Chevrons design with a slug reading "DEPT.P.P.& S." (BS Types 46a and 46b) may be "forerunners".

Mailing machine impressions were also used which included the usual signature and "OHMS/SSM" etc (Fig. 4).

Since the changes referred to all Official Mail is posted in bulk (paying the reduced rate - calculated on a census from the preceding few years) and no value is shown. Existing machines appear to have been adapted by the removal of the whole of the die except for the contents of the townmark circle and the substitution of "CANADA/POSTAGE PAID/PORT PAYE" in a box; some of the signatures have been removed from the slogan leaving the title only, but some remain. (Fig. 5).

The fourth group are those machines used with a townmark reading "House of Assembly/Toronto, Ont." These, ranging from BS Type 1 onwards, appear to be used by departments of the Ontario Provincial Government and normal postage is paid.

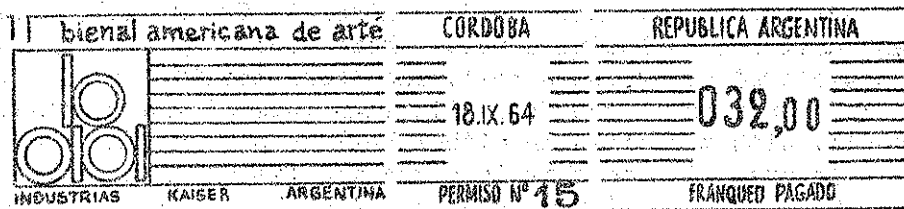
- J.C.M. -

NOVELTIES FROM OVERSEAS.  
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BRAZILIAN INFLATION. The inflation has by now proceeded so far that, even for a normal-sized foolscap envelope (9 x 4 inch), one impression of a Universal M.V. machine is not enough, and two impressions, Cr\$90000 and Cr\$55500, have to be used, and we have seen larger covers with half a dozen pieces each bearing an impression Cr\$90000. The quoted exchange rate is now around Cr\$5,400.- to £1.

NOVELTIES FROM OVERSEAS (Contd.)

ARGENTINA. An unusual new design is composed wholly of horizontal lines, the slogan being made to match. From the style of date and value figures, it appears to be a Hasler machine; whether it is for general use or peculiar to the Company named, it is not yet possible to say. (Mr E. S. Lapham.)

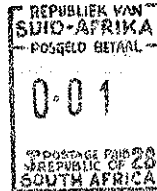


AUSTRALIA. Neopost variety. Normally, the Neopost "Kangaroo and Map" design shows the letter "N" unframed, but one we met recently, SJ2 (Fortitude Valley, Qld.), is unusual in having the "N" in a close frame and also in showing (together with 3D) a 2/- value, which becomes possible with the exclusion of all odd halfpence.

METER FROM NORTH KOREA. We were recently sent what looks like a meter impression, from Pyongyang, in North Korea, which would be the first we have recorded from that country. Being in blue-green ink on brownish paper, it is unfortunately not clear enough to illustrate here, but in general design it resembles one of the familiar Pitney-Bowes "Model R" family, with a flying horn in the centre between date circle (worded only "COREE" below the date) and value box (an upright rectangle with Korean inscription above and "COREE POSTES" below the value). The figures of the date (year first) are however much larger, and the figures of value much smaller than the Pitney-Bowes machines. The town name PYONGYANG-3 (the number might be either a town district or a machine number) is at the upper left. Values seen 1.20 and 2.80 (unit?). (Closer examination indicates that it is more likely to be a handstamped "Paid" mark.)

RHODESIAN CHANGES. In preceding MSB's we have reported various meters of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, adapted to the use of the successor states, Northern Rhodesia and Southern Rhodesia. After less than a year, both changed again, "Northern Rhodesia" to "Zambia", and "Southern Rhodesia" to just "Rhodesia", necessitating further changes. So far, the only ones we have seen for Zambia are a Neopost L.V., from Lusaka, in a new design - the usual "perf-orated" stamp-sized rectangle worded "ZAMBIA" (large) and "POSTAGE PAID" (small) each horizontally across the centre, with a fish-eagle in flight above, and the value (3D and 1/-) with the machine No. (N 288) in the bottom corners. For Rhodesia we have a Simplex re-adapted by deletion of "SOUTHERN" from the upper label, leaving it empty (values 3D and 2/-, apparently 1d units); SALISBURY, S 39. We have not yet seen any for Malawi though this was the first of the three to adopt its new name, but it was always, as Nyasaland, the least frequent user of meters.

NOVELTIES FROM OVERSEAS.



SOUTH AFRICA. The Neopost 205, illustrated above, shown us by Dr Fick, is the first we have seen from this machine in a decimal currency. He writes that he has seen so far 5, 28, 40 and 51. Presumably numbered from J 1 up. Dr Fick also reports Francotyp in a Republic of South Africa design, F 1002.

SPAIN. One of the puzzling Italian makes has spread to Spain - whether Sima or Lirma, we hesitate to say. Unlike all other Spanish, the frame is square (28 mm) with narrow border containing the usual features of Spanish designs, and the value in the centre (\*1.00) in rather broad figures; the townmark is a single circle containing the name and a three-quarters arc.

If anyone among our members is competent at Italian, he would do us all a favour by writing to the Italian Post Office department and asking about the makes of franking machine currently used in Italy.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Some time ago (MSB VIII/6) we mentioned a case that was coming before the courts in which a mailing contractor was accused of forging metered impressions. We now learn, from "Linns Weekly Stamp News" that the gentleman concerned has been sentenced to five years imprisonment and the Company fined \$8000 for mail fraud. Have any of our members seen or heard of the details of these forged impressions?.

HON. SECRETARY & TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1964.

Members will find overleaf the annual financial statement of Income and Expenditure for the year, together with the figures for 1963 in parenthesis. It will be seen that the income from subscriptions remains, as usual, about the same but that this year that part of our income derived from the sale of publications is down, this is partly our fault in that we underestimated the demand for copies of the Hon. Editors work, the Universal MV Meter Stamps of Great Britain, and could have sold a few more copies, but not enough to make a reprint worth while.

Expenditure remains much the same, and for the coming year is not expected to change very much.

No to the most important part. Our Hon. Editor must give up his work at the end of the year, he has carried the work of the Bulletin for a long time now and following his recent illness must shed something. The future of the Bulletin therefore depends on you. Do not think that you can wait until the end of the year to help out with this. The number of pages this year will be about the same, but put in four issues instead of five, issues after the end of 1965 will have to remain in doubt until the position of Editor is filled.

THE METER STAMP STUDY GROUP.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31st DECEMBER 1964.

		£	s	d
<u>RECEIPTS.</u>				
(15 19 8)	Subscriptions	23	5	2
(3 15 6)	Advance Subscriptions	8	6	2
(19 15 2)		31	11	4
(1 14 2)	Donations		18	3
(- 2 0)	Sales of "Introductory" booklet		1	9
(5 7 0)	" " Back Numbers of Bulletin	2	12	0
(1 3 0)	" " Town List	-	-	-
(4 11 0)	" " "Parcel Post Meters of G.B."	2	10	6
(5 0 4)	" " "Universal MV Meters of G.B."	4	14	8
(37 12 8)		42	8	6
(3 15 6)	Deduct Advance subscriptions.	8	6	2
(33 17 2)		34	2	4
(10 3 7)	Add subscriptions received previously	3	15	6
(44 0 9)	Adjusted Income for the year	37	17	10
<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>				
(22 0 10)	Production and Despatch of Bulletins	22	17	0
(1 5 6)	Stationery		1	6
(5 2 3)	Postages (nett after stamps received)	4	6	9
(1 10 0)	Misc.	1	2	4
(29 18 7)		28	7	7
(14 2 2)	Excess of Income over Expenditure.	9	10	3
<u>BALANCE IN HAND.</u>				
	Balance in hand 31st December 1963	28	13	4
	Deduct advance subscriptions	3	15	6
		24	17	10
	Add excess of income over expenditure	9	10	3
	Add subscriptions in advance	8	6	2
	Balance in Hand 31st December 1964	42	14	3

(Signed) John C. Mann.

Examined and found correct,

(Signed) G. R. Pearson, 4th February 1965.

ENCLOSURES WITH THIS ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN, these are with the compliments of M. Richards, Esq., to whom thanks are due. We are always pleased to have a sufficient supply of interesting items for distribution to Members, but it is necessary to have at least 80 to make such a distribution possible.