

HON. SECRETARY/TREASURER  
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EDITOR OF BULLETIN  
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SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Officers for 1967. In the absence of any other nominations the Officers of the Group will be the same as in 1966.

Membership. We are particularly pleased to record with this issue of the Bulletin no fewer than seven new members, who are :-

- |       |                          |  |
|-------|--------------------------|--|
| (180) | P. D. Wood, Esq.,        | 12 Mote Road, MAIDSTONE, Kent.                     |
| (181) | D. Mackenzie, Esq.,      | 51 Park View Road, LONDON, N.17.                   |
| (182) | P. Roake, Esq.,          | 11 Winifred Road, HAMPTON HILL, Middlesex.         |
| (183) | T. W. Johnson, Esq.,     | 46 Queen's Avenue, ILKESTON, Derbyshire.           |
| (184) | J. C. Cummings, Esq.,    | Biochemistry Dept., Queen's University, BELFAST 7. |
| (185) | L. Molloy-Vickers, Esq., | 15 Randall Road, LEATHERHEAD, Surrey.              |
| (186) | W/C R. F. Jackson,       | Box 386, CFB Trenton, Astra, Ontario, CANADA.      |

Mr Cummings, listed above, is interested in the meter stamps of Great Britain, Scandinavia and Switzerland and Mr Roake those of India and Pakistan.

Publications. Several of the members listed above have been introduced to the Group through the Hon Bulletin Editor's "Meter Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland" which we published some months ago. This has been very successful and has sold enough copies already to show a modest "profit" to the Group in 1966. Sales continue steadily and the Author deserves all our congratulations. We also published in 1966 the supplement to the Hon. Sec's "Meter Stamps of the Indian Sub-continent", this has not sold so well and we need to sell about another dozen copies before it is "in the black". All those who completed the form should have received the supplement by now. If yours has not arrived please let me know.

Members Wants. Mr G. Pustel, of 678 Argyle Road, Brooklyn, NY 11230, USA, wants to buy Parcel Post or Railway meters of Great Britain and Ireland, please write first.

Editor's Correspondence. The Editor is very sorry that, owing to the limited time available to him through various causes, he is often unable to reply as promptly or fully as he used to do to all letters received and as he would still wish to do; mention of the information supplied in the next Bulletin will sometimes have to serve to express our thanks instead of a personal reply. Otherwise we may be left with the dilemma that occupying too much time on direct replies may leave too little time for compiling the Bulletin, and on the other hand, omitting to reply may discourage members from sending in material for the Bulletin !

This issue of the Bulletin, also some current correspondence, has been delayed by indisposition.

Next Bulletin. This is expected to be in March, notes, "Highest numbers", etc, should be with the Editor by the 15th of February if possible.

frank  
ing  
sense

ITS GOOD FOR  
BUSINESS TO PUT YOUR  
MESSAGE HERE



Although the G.P.O. has on previous occasions pointed out the advantages of franking machines, what is probably the strongest advocacy in their favour so far is the issue through Post Offices, shortly before Christmas, of a four-page leaflet boldly printed in black and red with the above title, which details the advantages of use of the machines and gives the names and addresses of the two "Post Office approved suppliers".

An interesting point is that the franking-machine impression reproduced in the leaflet has the "Emblems" design frank converted into an oval design with the machine number (P0 876) inside, immediately below the value.

Large advertisements based on the leaflet appeared also in the "Daily Telegraph" and other newspapers.

G. B. NOTES

Automax In the regular feature of "highest numbers" in the December 1964 MSB, we included AH 165. At that time, the new P-B Series 5400/5500 was well under way, and no further Automax numbers were reported during the ensuing six months. We therefore concluded that this AH 165 was in fact the highest of the series, and a note to this effect appeared in the June 1965 MSB which was repeated in the new Catalogue.

Mr W. A. Keay, of Blairgowrie - a former member of the Group who, however, resigned before 1964 - now points out this as an inaccuracy, and shows us an example of AH 167, TM (close-spaced circles) GUILDFORD / SURREY, of which he says he has several.

Presumably no member has a copy of AH 166 or any higher, but we wonder whether this AH 167 is actually the highest number used.

When these machines were introduced into this country, the Royal Cipher EiiR was the current die and they continued to use this type up to AA 93, the first "Emblems" die therefore having prefix AA. In spite of the comparatively short life of this model, a number of the earlier machines had the "Royal Cipher" dies replaced by "Emblems" dies and Mr W. A. Keay has kindly submitted a list of those he has found, as follows :-

A 1	(LONDON / N.18)	A 23	(LONDON / E.4)
A 51	(LIVERPOOL)	A 487*	(GUILDFORD / SURREY)
A 498*	(LONDON / N.17)	A 879	(CORBY / NORTHANTS)
A 880	(NORWICH / NORFOLK)	A 890	(ST. ALBANS / HERTS)
A 948	(EDINBURGH)	A 981	(LONDON / E.C.1)
A 987	(LONDON / W.C.1)		
AA 16	(LONDON / W.C.1)	AA 26	(BIRMINGHAM)
AA 86	(BRIGHTON & HOVE / SUSSEX)	AA 88	(LONDON / E.C.2)

(one or two added by Mr T. M. Richards)

\* These have the = after the pence figure (in place of  $\frac{1}{2}$ ) like later machines, the others have blank.

Can anyone add to this list, and also confirm that AA 86 and AA 88 originally used the Royal Cipher dies ?

Roneo-Neopost Model 305 (Frankmaster) On page 9 of our new Catalogue, we listed "NJ" as one of the prefix letters not used, but Mr D. Fletcher points out, this was a mistake because several with "NJ" prefix were three or four years ago listed in our "highest numbers". On the other hand, although "NP" is now in use, we appear to have had no reports with the prefix "NN"; can any member submit an example ?

Neopost Inverted Townmark. Inverted townmarks on various models of Neopost machines are by no means unknown, but Mr G. R. Pearson has shown us what is perhaps more unusual - one apparently turned through  $45^{\circ}$  to the right.

Model 305 ("Frankmaster") NC 640, EiiR Die, TM reading BROMBOROUGH / - WIRRAL. CHESHIRE - with date 31 VIII 59 normal. The length of the name makes the misplacement less apparent than it would otherwise have been.

G. B. NOTES (Contd.)

Neopost L. V. Varieties. It is readily apparent that for use with the old "Royal Cipher" dies, the changeable value segments all required short sections of straight and "imitation perforation" lines below the value in order to fill a gap at the bottom of the frame, but the "Emblems" dies have no such gap to be filled.

However, two cases have come to light where the Cipher style value segments have been used in "Emblems" frames. Mr G. R. Pearson shows us both 2d and 3d values on WOLVERHAMPTON / -STAFFS-, N 75 (used 12 and 21 IV 60) and Mr D. Fletcher, 4d value on GLASGOW N 517, (used 21 XI 66). As Mr Fletcher has remarked, it seems strange that the mechanics who replaced the frank die and who had also to "re-align" the value segments failed to realize the need also to alter the latter.

P-B Model CV. In reply to our request for numbers of "Emblems" dies below 100 without stops after the letters, Mr M. L. Blakeston reports Nos. 31 and 37 and Mr J. T. Brown sends us a long list (some 28 nos.) including 63 and 64 and 71 and 72 which closely precede and follow the batch with stops noted by Mr Fletcher. Mr Brown notes also P.C. 120 with stops after both letters and P.C. 103 and 127 with stop after the "C" only.

Mr Fletcher reports two further varieties in these machines. PC 108 (EDINBURGH) has value 3D in smaller sans-serif figures, the 3 with flat top similar to but smaller than the new "Simplex" type.

PC 153 has townmark "BIRMINGHAM" between close circles, similar to those of the later "Automax" machines.

Pitney-Bowes Tapes. Mr J. T. Brown is, up to the present, the only member to ante-date our date of May 1966 for the new-style "tapes". For the 36mm wide tape (Automax and Universal), he has 11 VI 65 (AF 628, BROMLEY & BECKENHAM), also -1 II 66 (AE 613, BIRMINGHAM); and for the 31mm wide tape (Series 5000 machines), -8 X 65 (P.B.266B, LONDON, S.E.1.)

"Rebate Mail" slogan. The Ilford "Rebate Mail" slogan referred to here on page 30 (Sep 1966) as used with UG 76, was used also with UA 901 (GviR die), reports Mr G. R. Pearson.

Highest Numbers. Reports come from Mr D. Fletcher, J. C. Mann and M. L. Blakeston. (see also Automax above)

J 4646  
SK 256

NP 259\*  
PC 161\*

N 548 C\*  
P.B.402H

\* no changes reported in these series. (It would seem that besides "D", some other suffix letters are being omitted, either for use in other countries or to avoid confusion owing to the small size of the letters.)

G. B. NOTES (Contd.)

Series R.T. It is evident that these are not being used consecutively and their basis is not yet apparent. Mr J. C. Mann shows us RT 2452 and Mr P. Jennings (not a member of the Group) has reported RT 2447, both used by the "Barclaycard" centre at Northampton.

Mysterious Multi-coloured Item. Mr F. E. Dixon (Dublin) has kindly shown us a puzzling item bearing five impressions of a GvR frank (without town-mark), each having both lower corners blank and in a different colour :  $\frac{1}{2}$ d yellowish-green, 1d violet,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d scarlet, 2d orange,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d medium blue.

Except for the blank corners, the dies resemble Type B.2.A(i) at the bottom of page 50 in the Barfoot and Simon Catalogue, the first "Midget" type. Could anyone offer any suggestions as to the history or make ? Mr Dixon tells us that he bought the strip from an English philatelic dealer some twenty years ago.

IRISH NOTES

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Neopost Values. Irish postal rates no longer need an odd  $\frac{1}{2}$ d, and we were advised a year ago by the Dublin office of Neopost that the range of values provided on the new "105" machines was :-

3d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 10d., 1/1, 1/3, 1/5, 1/9, 2/-.

Although we had assumed that all these values would be used with the Arms design, we have now been shown by Mr E. S. Lapham the 1/5 in the old, plain type (N 530, BAILE ATHA CLIATH) : this is the Air Mail rate to New York.

Parcel Post Rates. Mr F. E. Dixon, of Dublin, has written as follows :-

"I am not a serious collector of Meters in general, but do watch the Irish ones and happened to be tipped off about the first day of the Irish P.O. Parcel Post Machines. The first day was 23 August 1948, but after trials in the next few months they were withdrawn in December and not restored until the end of 1949. The Frankopost Simplex was introduced in 1952, my earliest example being 21 November; I have never seen any lower value for this than 10d - the minimum parcels postage in 1952.

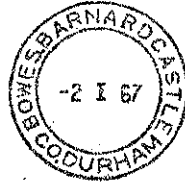
These dates are thus each slightly earlier than previously reported.

Neopost "Hybrid" Type. The Barfoot-Simon Catalogue lists as No. 8 and our new Catalogue as No. 7 a type having the figure of value with words - in Gaelic - in a circle as for the original SAORSTAT EIREANN frame but used in the new eIRE frame. These appear to be scarce but one noted by Mr F. E. Dixon (Dublin) is  $2\frac{1}{2}$ p of N 20 (BAILE ATHA CLIATH), used by Cox & Co., Solicitors.

FIRST POSTAGE METER IN BOWES - a Pitney-Bowes  
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Bowes Yorkshire,  
England,

is 49 miles from birthplace  
of Walter Bowes co-founder  
of Pitney-Bowes.



It may not be known to all meter-stamp enthusiasts that Walter H. Bowes, one of the founders of Pitney-Bowes Inc. and a pioneer in the early development of the postage meter and the metered mail system, was a British subject. Born in Bradford, Yorkshire, he went to the United States as a boy with his family, and began his career in the business machines field as a salesman of addressing machines.

In 1912 he took control of the Universal Stamping Machine Company, and in 1920 joined forces with the late Arthur H. Pitney, an inventor of the postage meter, to establish the firm of Pitney-Bowes. W. H. Bowes died in June 1957 at the age of 75.

Although the pennine village of BOWES is some 49 miles from Bowe's birthplace, Messrs Pitney-Bowes Ltd. have sent us a souvenir first-day cover to mark the installation of the first postage meter there, a Simplex No. SK 181. As can be seen, its townmark reads BOWES, BARNARD CASTLE, Co. DURHAM (the nearest Post Town) and it was a "tight fit" to get the full name between the circles.

Note. The British Post Office list records also a village PITNEY which is near Langport in Somerset.

"PERMIT" MARKINGS.  
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Referring to the last sentence of the para. on page 43 of the last MSB, it now appears that the "Serial No." refers to the user and remains the same for all his mailings.

Although J. C. Mann suggests that if any mail paid like this arrives by "first class" post then it is a mistake this can hardly be so as the covers we have received are clearly printed on top "LETTER POST" and in at least one case contained enclosures of value.

Besides the United States, similar markings are used in Belgium and no doubt other countries, but further mention would be straying too far from our field.

## EARLY METER COLLECTOR AND THE MANUFACTURERS

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One of the earliest collectors of and writers about meter stamps in Great Britain must have been Lieut.-Col. Guy R. Crouch, of Aylesbury; articles by him were published in "The Stamp Lover" of January and November, 1923, and January 1924. Although Mr Crouch lived until August 1956, in the November 1926 issue of the same magazine, Mr J. H. Daniels wrote that he had found on enquiry that Mr Crouch was unable to continue these articles as his professional duties occupied so much of his time, and he (Mr Daniels) therefore took over.

Mr S. D. Barfoot has shown us letters received by Mr Crouch from the then manufacturers and users of franking machines during the period December 1922 to December 1923, from which we have been able to derive a number of interesting sidelights.

The only suppliers of the machines at this time were Universal Postal Frankers Ltd., of Strand, London W.C.2, and Postage Meters and Machines Company (not "Ltd.") of Kingsway, London W.C.2, who describe themselves as "Sole Distributors of the Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter and Universal Stamping Machines", and who apparently were an American Company and effectively a subsidiary of P-B.

The first letter from U. P. F. Ltd., dated 6th December 1922, stated that

"The Universal Postal Franker consists of a compact machine which will frank (stamp) and postmark (with date) ready for despatch from one to forty thousand letters per hour, at the same time automatically metering the exact amount expended in postage.

"The Universal Postal Franker is provided with six dies of different values, any denomination desired being brought into instant operation by a small indicating handle. Simultaneously therewith, a cancellation mark and postmark containing the district and date of postage (sic), are impressed. The Franking stamp may be operated independently of the cancellation and postmark, which may be subsequently applied as and when desired.

"The Universal Postal Franker is manufactured in four different types:-  
Model N.Z. Hand Machine (improved New Zealand type). Capacity 1,000 to 3,000 envelopes per hour.  
Model E.D. N.Z. Model Electrically driven. Capacity 2,000 to 6,000 envelopes per hour.  
Model H.S. High Speed Machine. Automatic and electrically driven. Capacity 15,000 to 24,000 letters of any thickness per hour.  
Model E.H. Extra High Speed Machine (as Model H.S.) Capacity 20,000 to 40,000 letters of any thickness per hour.

"The Universal Postal Franker, with its record of ten years' practical and successful use in New Zealand, eliminates any sense of its being in the nature of an experiment, and, as may be seen from the Company's Directorate, it is a wholly British enterprise supported by prominent and influential business men."

EARLY METER COLLECTOR AND THE MANUFACTURERS (Contd.)

This last paragraph may be interpreted as a "dig" at the P. M. & M. Company, which listed on its letterheads the names of seven directors, six of whom were U.S.A. citizens, including Arthur H. Pitney, and only one British, Walter H. Bowes.

Incidentally, the Managing Director of U. P. F. Ltd. at this time was Edward H. Kinnard, who subsequently founded the Neopost firm. The other directors of U. P. F. Ltd. named are not otherwise known to us.

The rivalry - not to say hostility - between the two firms is brought out by their attitudes in several respects.

In a letter of 30th November, 1923, P. M. & M. insisted that "the (Universal) Postal Franker is not a Postage Meter Machine in the same sense as the Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter, which is in a distinctive class." This may be true, but which of them is better termed a postage meter is a matter of opinion: the Pitney-Bowes machine seems more like a simple counting device, without the possibility of varying the rate of postage.

Earlier (26th Jan., 1923) P. M. & M. stated that "advertisements will not be allowed on the indicia of any Postage Meter or Franking Machine. Only this morning we heard from the Secretary's Office that this matter had been definitely settled by the Postmaster General." and they implied that U. P. F. were acting illegally in doing this. Yet, only a few days later (31st January) U.P.F. wrote that "No objection whatsoever has been raised by the Authorities to the use of our "slogan" nor to any other advertisements that we have submitted nor do we anticipate any objection thereto."

P. M. & M. also stated that U. P. F. were advertising machines which could frank up to 40,000 letters per hour, which was "very misleading as they have no machine other than the small hand machine, a temporary licence only for which they have obtained from the Post Office, which is capable under ordinary working conditions of stamping not more than 600 to 1000 per hour, .. Their Models HS and EHS have not been approved by the Postmaster General."

On the other hand U. P. F. retorted that the P-B postage meter machines had no detachable meters, also that these had an envelope-sealing attachment forming part of the machine which, in their opinion, was detrimental as it was almost impossible to avoid the gummy mixture getting into the working parts, and they themselves supplied a separate sealing machine if desired for use with their franker.

These disagreements between the two companies now appear somewhat ironic, in view of the fact that Pitney-Bowes, owner of P. M. & M., subsequently acquired control over U. P. F. Ltd., and in 1960 the two were amalgamated under the title of Pitney-Bowes Ltd.



EARLY METER COLLECTOR AND THE MANUFACTURERS (Contd.)

The correspondence showed that Mr Crouch wrote to each of the first users of the Pitney-Bowes machines and secured examples of the impressions of their meters; he also sought to obtain the names of the users of the U. P. F. machines, for which he was reproached by the firm, but he was able to obtain examples from a few of them. The only refusal on record in this correspondence was a curt note (dated 11th Dec., 1923) from "Credito Italiano", London E.C.4. : "The Manager is in receipt of Mr G. R. Crouch's letter of the 10th inst. enclsing Postal Order for 2s/- which are returned herewith as his request cannot be granted." Mr Daniel's later list shows that Credito Italiano were using one of the U. P. F. (NZ) machines, with black townmark.

U. S. A. : COLON VARIETIES  
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The current Pitney-Bowes "Model R" meters (introduced in January 1940, B & S Type H 1) all print a colon after the "cents" figures when no fraction appears, even though some machines cannot print a fraction, and the Bulletin of the Meter Stamp Society for Sep-Oct 1965 points out that there can be found three varieties of spacing of the dots, - approximately  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mm which they designate "Type A", "Type B" and "Type C" respectively.

Type A was used on the first Model R meters. Type B seems to have first made its appearance at around meter 136100, and the earliest date noted is JAN 2'48, since when most of the new meters until recently have used Type B. However, when meters are returned for repair and rebuilding, it appears that both Type A and Type B printing die wheels are used indiscriminately, so that both types are now found throughout the entire meter number series.

The wide-spaced Type C colon appears on meters beginning in the high 615000 meter numbers, and also are beginning to show up on older meters when they are rebuilt. It has been learnt that this has a special significance.

It has been the manufacturer's practice, when a meter is replaced for any reason by a new one (which always has a different serial number), to send the old unit back to the factory, where it is completely re-built, worn parts are replaced, and it is returned to stock. If the printing die is not replaced, it still carries and prints the old serial number.

It now develops that the Model RT-3 and RF-3 meters, which do not have  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent settings (since the beginning of 1964 the new postal rates for third class mail have eliminated the need for a  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent denomination on postage meters) have superseded the RT and RF, and are now fitted with the wide colon. Apparently all returned RT and RF meters are rebuilt as Models RT-3 and RF-3 and also the wide colon for identification purposes. The Model RT-3 and RF-3 meters were introduced in 1964 but the wide colon was not applied to them until late 1965, so there will be many RT-3 and RF-3 prints with Type A or B colons, and these cannot be distinguished from the older models except when the "BLK RT. AD'L  $\frac{3}{4}$ c. PD" is used rather than "AD'L  $\frac{1}{4}$ c." with the other  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. included in the meter setting.

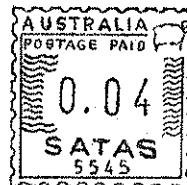
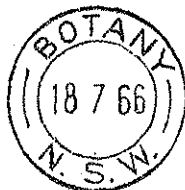
NOVELTIES FROM OVERSEAS

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AUSTRALIA. Meters which had not been converted to decimal currency by the date on which this was generally adopted were, conversely to the earlier situation, used taking 1 penny as 1 cent, thus 1/8 (One Shilling and Eight pence) represents 20 cents.

We now illustrate (1) Pitney-Bowes Series 5000 (all so far reported show numbers with suffix "D"), (2) Neopost Model 205 (numbers with prefix "NE", two letters and one digit) (value with initial zero or star). (3) Satas - a new type, having date and value figures identical with the Neopost 205 and apparently an individual system of numbering. It seems that the original Australian system of licence numbering has now come to an end and been abandoned.

(news from E.S. Lapham and J.T. Dallimore)



G.P.O. BOX 4874  
MELBOURNE  
AUSTRALIA



TAKE  
**VINCENT'S**  
POWDERS  
FOR  
HEADACHE  
and all pain



NOVELTIES FROM OVERSEAS (Contd.)

BELGIUM. We now have the "P" series as mentioned in June, printed directly on to the envelope and with -BELGIE- at top and -BELGIQUE- at bottom from ANTWERPEN ; TM SC with hour (17H) between TM and frank. No.P 2272.

We doubt whether these multi-value "P" machines are the same make as the small octagonal fixed-value dies with this letter; Mr Lapham points out that "P 011" in this type is still in use in 1966 after 35 years! (BELGIE-BELGIQUE 1 Fr., surely not the original die!)

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. A Hasler meter ten years old but hitherto unreported, has "Arms" design similar to but larger than the P-B "Model R". An example shown us by Mr Lapham has number "M.F.N.º 000" though postally used, not a "specimen". The TM reads "CIUDAD TRUJILLO / D.S.D." with date 18.VII.56 (thus before the city reverted to its original name of San Domingo.) F of V are z001. Slogan at left.



DUBAI. We had supposed that most of the small Persian Gulf States, with names unheard of until a few years ago, issued stamps solely for the income obtainable thereby from stamp-collectors, but the fact that Dubai is now using a meter shows that it has an effective postal service. Automax, number P.B.3 below "POSTAGE" (? are P.B.1 and 2 used in Dubai or in other States?).

JAPAN. The English name, shown in the townmarks has hitherto appeared as "JAPAN" but a recent P-B (British Series 5000?) shows "NIPPON". A similar change has been made on the adhesive stamps.

LUXEMBOURG. Another "Automax". Frame similar to Belgium, "FRANCS" below value (as =00.io) Number (505) in small figures in narrow "box" at bottom without perfs.

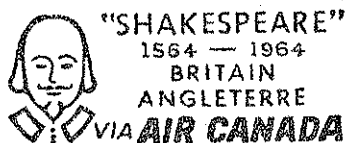
RHODESIA. Mr Barfoot reports a Neopost 4d value converted from 4½d by the deletion of the fraction, leaving a space between the 4 and the D, on N 329 (frame inscribed "SOUTHERN RHODESIA") and on N 375 with similar frame but "SOUTHERN" removed.

NOVELTIES FROM OVERSEAS (Contd.)

SOUTH AFRICA. Mr Barfoot mentions a Neopost 3c converted from 3½c in the same way as the Rhodesian item described above. (Springbok design, NA 274).

SWEDEN. The new "Crown and Posthorn" design as illustrated for the Postalia in the March MSB has also been used for the P-B Model R (American) (numbers P.B. 14000 etc.) and Series 5000 (British) - or possibly P-B Adrema (German) (numbers 15000) (photo-copies sent by Mr E. S. Lapham.)

UNITED STATES. The first "Addenda to the United States Section of the Barfoot/Simon Meter Postage Stamp Catalogue" compiled by Werner Simon, was published as a 12-page booklet in 1960 by William Edwards, who was at that time running a little journal "The Meter Collector". Mr Simon has now brought the "Addenda" up to date by publication in the Bulletins of the "Meter Stamp Society" (Pittsburgh, PA.) for Jan.-Feb. 1966, to be completed in their issue for July-August.



CANADA - A "SHAKESPEARE" SLOGAN

In a recent Bulletin we illustrated two types of slogan that were made available to meter users' by Pitney-Bowes to commemorate the recent William Shakespeare quater-centenary celebrations. Mr H. K. Warren has shown us a similar slogan from Canada and tells us that this was used by Air Canada from at least Halifax, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver, all main points of touch-down for the Trans-Canada flights. Mr Warren would like to hear from anyone who can add to this list of slogans, he is building up a collection which will also include townmarks with a Shakesperian connection, such as "Agincourt", "Tempest", "Juliet", etc.

"frank ing sense" Referring to the note on Page 50, the following appeared in "The Guardian" on the 13th January 1967 :-

"Opening a one-day conference of the Institute of Office Management on how the Post Office can help business men, (the Postmaster-General, Mr Edward Short) said 'Business men are not using franking machines sufficiently .. ' The report did not say how he proposed to induce them to do so.

... and finally, S T O P P R E S S ... a new machine, of an unknown make, in a new design, numbered "fml 4001" has appeared in Great Britain, we hope to have more details in the next MSB.