

HON. SECRETARY and
TREASURER :

John C. Mann.
19 Chartham Road,
LONDON, SE25 4HN.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.
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Membership. We have no additions or alterations to report with this issue of the Bulletin.

Subscriptions. Members from whom we have not yet received subscriptions for 1976, which become due on the 1st January, will find a suitable note about this enclosed with this issue.

Publications. It seems some time in fact since we had a new publication ourselves (although as will be seen on a later page we are not the only ones writing on meters). Members would perhaps be interested to know that work is nearly finished on a comprehensive listing of the Malaysian area (Malaya, Singapore, Malaysia, etc) and we should be able to give details of the price etc with our next issue.

"IL NUOVO CORRIERE FILATELICO"
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The editor has kindly sent us a copy of the first issue (Oct 1975) of this new magazine - the original ran from 1919 to 1943 - devoted almost entirely to Postal History. Most of the contents, as we would expect, are on Italy and predecessors but we hope to see something on meters in future issues.

Beautifully printed and illustrated, this issue has 64 pages, A4, with some advertisements and contains articles on Letters of the Grand Army, Marine Posts, Fiscals and early Venetian cancellations, among others. Some of the articles appear in English as well as Italian.

A promising start. Details of subscriptions etc from Via Martelli 8, 50129 Firenze, Italy.

Help Wanted. Does any member know of or have a copy of a slogan used at Brighton and Hove (machine unknown) during the latter half of 1967 reading "Make a date for the next Bognor Regis International Chess Congress". If so please contact Mr M. P. Mellish at 113 Orchard Grove, Chalfont St. Peter, Buckinghamshire.

HISTORY OF THE FRANKING MACHINE IN AUSTRALIA

VOL 2 - Catalogue, by Richard C. Peck.

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(68 pages, A4, duplicated with card covers and plastic slide binding)

We received our copy of this book in mid-November and immediately went to our Australian material to see how many gaps there were, alas, a lot.

This, Volume 2 (Volume 1 will be a historical volume to be published for the 50th anniversary of meters in Australia in 1977) is the work of Richard Peck but although he acknowledges the help of earlier collectors, notably John Dallimore and W. John Webster and also the team of collectors who so rapidly record meter happenings in Australia, he must be congratulated for the detailed work he has produced.

All the types are listed and illustrated and that old favourite of ours, the seven different numbering systems, are fully explained and detailed, postage rates too are listed since 1927 to show the more common values on the FV and LV machines at various times. Lists of varieties are given, as we mentioned recently in connection with the Meter Bulletin which Mr Peck also produces.

The Railway machines are fully listed - quite a few we had not heard of before - as well as special uses and machines used in Papua New Guinea etc. Also included is a list of sources of information - a very good idea.

The edition is of 200 copies only, available from Richard C. Peck at PO Box 85, Drummoyne, NSW 2047, Australia, price A\$2.50 plus postage. At the time of writing this is A\$0.85 for letter post, surface mail.

If you are at all interested in Aussie meters get one.

FAROE ISLANDS

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These islands have always formed part of the Danish postal system and although meters have been in use for a number of years they have used the standard Danish design. In an early Bulletin (No 49) we noted four Francotyp machines.

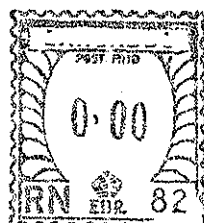
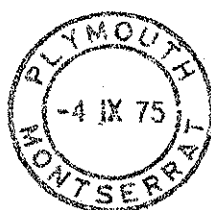
For a short while, during the British occupation of the war-time 1940's, a machine imported direct from England was used as a Post Office machine but this too was inscribed "Danmark".

However, probably coinciding with a degree of postal independence at least, a definitive design for meters has been introduced and we are shown one by Mr R. L. Woodward-Clarke. This is a Francotyp, D 3618 used from Torshavn on 28.5.75 with "FØROYAR" at the top CYRU at the sides and POSTUR at the bottom (? presumably Faroese for Øre and Postage).

METERS ANONYMOUS ?

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We recently found among a bundle of foreign covers one from a "new country", Montserrat, bearing an impression from a Roneo-Neopost Model 305 machine with no country name in July 1975.



Having contacted the user, who kindly let us have this specimen (the original impression would not reproduce so well for illustration) we were told that when the machine was originally supplied by the local agents it was fitted with a die inscribed Barbados. By arrangement with the Montserrat Post Office this part of the die was filed away - very slight traces of the letters are visible on a clear impression - and they have continued to use it in this form. As far as we know it was not used in its original form and another user now has a machine with a definitive Montserrat die. We have not seen one of these but would welcome reports.

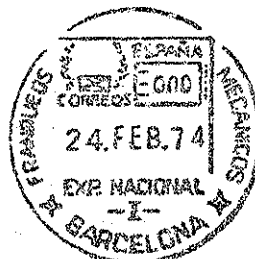
However, this was not the end of the story as we later found another impression from a similarly mutilated die, this time from Roneo-Neopost Model 305 number RN 85 but this time used from St. George's, Grenada.

Definitive dies do exist for Grenada so we can only assume that this was either a mistake or a temporary measure, although no traces of the name remain on RN 85 it seems reasonable to assume from the number that this, too, was originally inscribed Barbados.

It will be interesting to see whether the numbers RN 82 and RN 85 (or the numbers in between) were or are used in Barbados and if not where the others went.

METERS ON POSTMARKS

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Meters on Postmarks (Contd.)

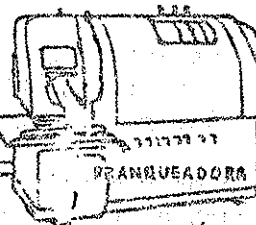
Some time ago we showed a commemorative cancellation from Austria which included in the design the first meter die from that country.

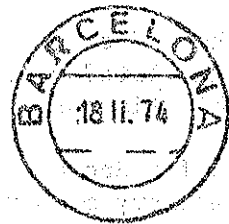
Werner Simon has now sent us these two special postmarks from Spain in 1973 and 1974 which show meters. The occasions they mark also produced some specially printed envelopes which showed the Norwegian machine of 1903 and the first Spanish machine in 1934.

Specimen machines must also have been on show as the covers have, apart from adhesives, various specimen dies. One of these is a Frama for revenue purposes.


FRAMA
 1ª EXPOSICION NACIONAL
 DE FRANQUEOS MECANICOS
 17 AL 24 FEBRERO 1974
 PALACIO DE LA VIRREINA



FRAMA

 GISPERT




POSTALIA
 EN LA
 1ª EXPOSICION ESPAÑOLA
 DE
 FRANQUEOS MECANICOS
 BARCELONA 18 AL 28 FEBRERO 1974
 Palacio de la Virreina.

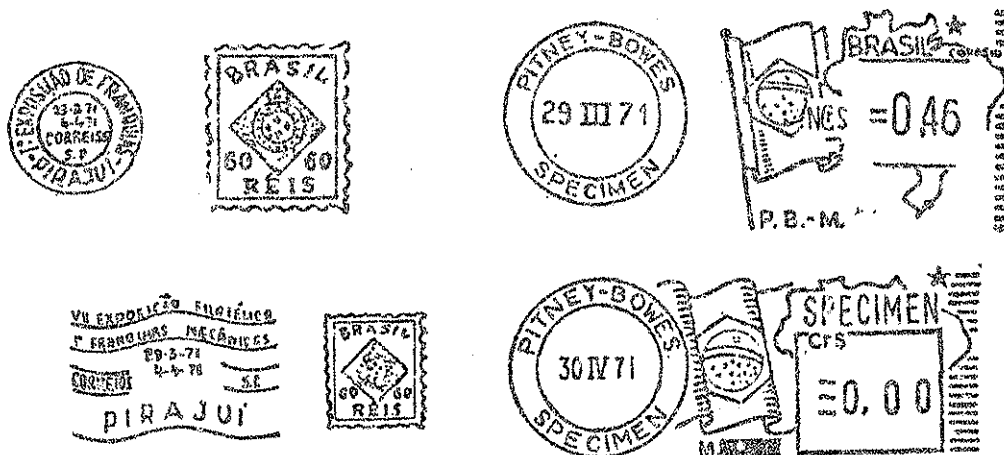


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and METERS ON METERS
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He also shows us two impressions from a Brazilian philatelic exhibition in 1971 which show early meters in their slogans.

Meters on Meters (Contd.)



G. B. NOTES.

Roneo-Neopost Model 205. We recently noted an error of numbering, JZ 9711, the makers tell us that this should have been JZ 971.

Roneo-Neopost Model 105. In our supplement to the Meter Stamps of GB we noted, on page 33, the use of machines in "Emblems" design but with decimal currency values, the LV, Model 305 and the Simplex.

Mr Lapham shows us the Model 105, N 670 D used from London E.8. on the 13 II 75 with value as 5

Pitney Bowes Series 5000. When decimal machines were first introduced they were numbered PBT 001 A upwards with the suffixes running A, B, C etc for new machines and machines converted from £sd to \pounds p were given new numbers from PBT 001 Y then suffixes X, W, etc in reverse alphabetical order.

We tracked these in our "highest number" notes as far as PBT 722 R for new machines and as far back as PBT 667 S for the converted ones (leaving a gap of some 609 numbers in total). 4-digit machines appeared next numbered PBT 1001 A etc, presumably all new machines and leaving the gap, or at least the remainder of the S suffix for converted machines.

Mr Lapham closes this gap slightly with PBT 682 S.

Townmarks. Mr Blakeston shows us an impression from J 225 A from a user at Arle, Cheltenham, on 9 IX 75 which has a townmark reading just GLOUCESTERSHIRE (i.e. without town), there are many cases where the town, correctly, without a county as well as sometimes in error but this is the first one he has seen this way round. Cheltenham itself was not involved in recent boundary changes.

G. B. Notes (Contd.)

"Highest Numbers". Thanks to reports from, among others, W. H. Bogue, D. H. Fletcher, M. L. Blakeston, G. Topp, we have :

Hasler. HGB 1225 *2012 3047 4015 *5034 *6023
HAS *1102 2001 (i) *6009 *7003 *8003

Francotyp. *AC.A 40 Singer. *G.1097

Pitney Bowes. *PBA 91 G PBL 817 R (ii) *PBC 045 A
PBR 045 A *PBS 15 J PBT 1323 H (iii)
*PBR 522 A *PBS 434 P

Roneo-Neopost. *J 57 F *N 689 M *NX 737
W 946 B RM 2698 TN 415

(* indicates no advance since last note)

- (i) Another gap filled.
- (ii) Suffix Q reported.
- (iii) Suffix G not reported but probably used.

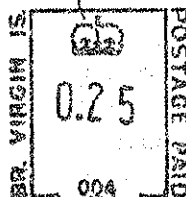
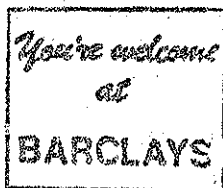
Jersey. Roneo-Neopost Model 505 numbered RM 2002 used on 15 IV 75 shown us by George Pearson. Simple value as 5

NOTES AND NEWS FROM OVERSEAS.

With thanks to our faithful reporters, whom we have indicated sometimes by their initials.

BELGIUM. Jan Dekker tells us that Postalia C 1639, which has "Belgique / Belgie", shows the date in "USA" fashion as FEB -7 '75

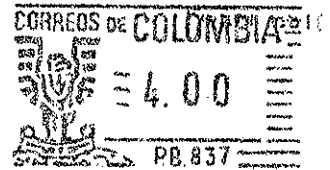
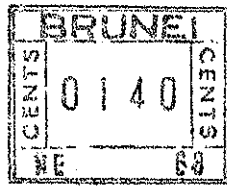
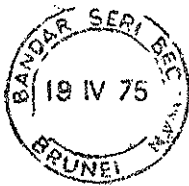
BRAZIL. Michel de Wailly shows us an Automax P.B.-M.5923 with the value as =001 followed by a solid block.



BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS. This Roneo-Neopost Model 205 is the first we have seen from this "new country", thanks to Mr R. L. Woodward-Clarke.

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)

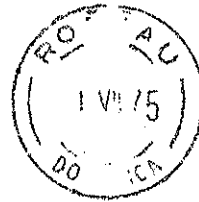
BRUNEI. The Roneo-Neopost Model 505. (W. H. Bogue).



COLUMBIA. The Pitney Bowes Model 6300, already reported

BRITISH HONDURAS. Mr R. L. Woodward-Clarke shows us an impression from a Pitney Bowes Model 6300 specimen die (SPECIMEN at top, horizontal lines and P.B.6300 at the bottom, the same pattern as seen in this country), used commercially from a bank in BELIZE CITY / BELIZE on 11.7.75 We had understood that the name of the capital was being changed at the same time as the name of the country was changed to BELIZE.

DOMINICA. The Roneo-Neopost Model 205.



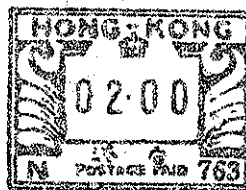
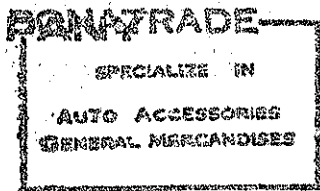
GERMANY. In Bulletin 111 (XIII/100) we illustrated what we thought was a Roneo-Neopost Model 505. Jan Dekker tells us that he has a similar one from Hamburg 13 and that this has at the extreme left one of the descriptive slogans usually associated with Francotyp machines. In this case it is Drucksache reading from lower left to upper right.

GREECE. In Bulletin 106 (XIII/14) we illustrated a Pitney Bowes Series 5000 machine with a number M-5357 between the townmark and the die without, at the time, realising that this was the model number. Mr Lapham shows us PB 19 with the same number and as he points out PB 163 which we showed later also has the model, in this case M 6300.

GRENADA. Roneo-Neopost Model 305 number RN 85 without a country name and probably ex Barbados seen used in April 1975 from St George's. (See also the note re this machine on page 15 of this issue).

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)

GUYANA. The Roneo-Neopost Model 305 has now appeared with the Crown and EiiR at the bottom removed and replaced by the National Shield. N 32 used from Georgetown on 26 VI 75 - we have illustrated RN 32 before but this one has quite clearly an 'N' only, it could be the same machine with the prefix changed.



HONG KONG. Roneo-Neopost Model 505.

One often hears stories from international travellers of the tailors of the far east and their speed of despatch. It may have affected meters, as Roneo-Neopost Model 205 N 227 is used by a mail order tailor and certainly has an additional bank for no doubt high postal charges, 00.io (? a fixed zero) instead of the previously recorded 0.01 (ESL)

HUNGARY. The Barfoot-Simon catalogue notes that Francotyp machines were numbered in the townmark Fr 1/1 up in Budapest and Fr V/1 upwards in the provinces. Postalia are similarly numbered as Mr Lapham shows us P V/6 (with a "1" between the P and the V/6 - there is usually a ? postal district number between the two components of the licence number) used from a town called SZOMBATHELY on 75.11.20

He also shows us Postalia P I/65 with the date, unusually, shown as day, month, year instead of the usual Hungarian year, month, day.

Also Satas with figures of value as *001 and date as d.m.y.

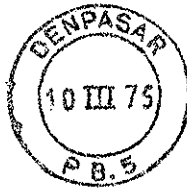
HYDERABAD. In our Meter Stamps of the Indian Sub-Continent we list (and illustrate with a specimen) the Universal MV number U 1 used by the Agents, Messrs Argus & Co. The townmark is inscribed in Urdu at the top and bottom but has the date in "European" figures.

Thanks to Werner Simon we have seen the relevant chapter in a handbook on Hyderabad Postal History by M. A. Nayeem and this tells us that the inscription at the top of the townmark we show is "Sadar Tappa Khana" and at the bottom the name of the user.

He also shows, from the Supplement of the "Zapta-e-Tappa" (Postal Manual) of the State, dated 1 Khurdad 1348 F (6 Apr 1939) giving the regulations for Meter Franking Machines, a second townmark but still with the same die. This has the same inscription at the top but only 2x at the bottom (the "2" is in Urdu) and the date also in Urdu, translated as 21-4-48 Fe which is 24 January 1939.

Mr Nayeem remarks that there is no doubt that the machine was used but no original covers have been seen with the Hyderabad die, copies are known from the machine in a later state, with an India die.

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)



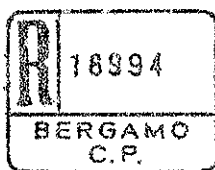
INDONESIA. There may be two machines numbered P.B.5 This one has a "normal" value with initial "=" and Rp at bottom right whereas we have already reported in MSB 105 P B.5 with value as ==140 (i.e. two "=") and no Rp. Mr Lapham says he has a copy of the == one with a later date than this one. The other machine is used in Djakarta.

The Roneo-Neopost Model 205 in simple design.



IRAN. We illustrated a Pitney Bowes Series 5000 with a solid block at the right of the value recently but did not notice at the same time that the number was shown simply as P.B.T.0153 (without "No" between PBT and figures). Mr Lapham shows us P.B.T.0221 but this has figures of value as w00.oi (or ? w00.io) without the solid block in place of the final digit.

ITALY. A Pitney Bowes machine from a "private" user with R and number for registered post. (W. H. Bogue)



BANCA
POPOLARE
DI
BERGAMO
24100 BERGAMO



Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)

JAMAICA. Mr K. B. Millar shows us the Pitney Bowes Model 6300, P.B.6089 used from Kingston on 20.6.75 with value as w0.01 in horizontal design, name at top and Crown at top right, Mr Bogue shows us P.B.6001 used on 18.4.75 but this has the value as 00.01

JAPAN. Satas F 0024 in the same design as others previously reported, with SATAS over the number, figures of value *01 and large date figures. (ESL)



JORDAN. The Pitney Bowes Series 5000 has a design similar to the Model 6300 but is numbered as P 0051 (i.e. 4 digits). Value as w001 (MdeW)

MEXICO. Recent Pitney Bowes machines have the number preceded by "1-" and Mr Lapham shows us Model R MAQ M 1-2686 and (GB) Series 5000 MAQ M 1-2885

NORWAY. We have recorded and illustrated the Pitney Bowes (GB) Series 5000 in a 9000 series of numbers. These have presumably been exhausted as Mr Lapham shows us 22077 from Oslo on -7.7.75

PERU. Automax P.B 582 in design as the one shown in Bulletin 105 (XIII/6) has an extra zero cut into the frame at the right giving figures of value as =000.io (ESL)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. The "Meter Stamp Society" Bulletin reports that the initials "P" and "O" at the bottom left and right of the townmarks on Post Office machines are being replaced, at least on new machines, with "US" and "PS" respectively. This must be the result of changing the name and the status of the service from Post Office to Postal Service.

S T O P P R E S S N E W G . B . P R E F I X ?
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George Pearson shows us this previously unrecorded "RR" prefix on what looks like a Roneo-Neopost machine and Denys Fletcher reports a similar one, RR 9991 used from a town in Cheshire on 10 XII 75 - we hope to have more details for our next issue.