

HON. SECRETARY and
TREASURER :

John C. Mann.
19 Chartham Road,
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SECRETARY'S NOTES.
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Membership. We are pleased to welcome, with this issue of the Bulletin, two new members; they are :

(261) Mr David Pollard 1612 Walnut Street, Berkeley, CA 94709, U.S.A.

(262) Mr R. R. Smith 10923-135 St, Edmonton, Alberta T5M 1J9, CANADA.

and a change of address :

Mr E. C. Kettenbrink, now, 3605 Sinclair Ave, Midland, Texas 79701, U.S.A.

Values. We wrote about this subject in the June bulletin and several members have sent us their thoughts, we would like a little longer to digest them so will hold over comment until December.

Next Bulletin will be in December, this one is a bit late in appearing, but please let us have news by the middle of November if possible.

CURRENCY CHANGE IN TRINIDAD
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This country changed from £sd to ¢c in 1935 (and Barfoot-Simon duly lists the two currency's on the Neopost LV) but we have never been sure of the conversion rate.

A correspondent in Trinidad gives us some background information and points out that the conversion of \$1 = 4/2d meant that coins of an equivalent value could circulate until 1955 (i.e. for twenty years), they were the half-crown (2/6) = 60c, florin (2/-) = 48c, shilling = 24c, sixpence = 12c, threepence = 6c, penny = 2c, halfpenny = 1c and the farthing = 1/4c. Even today people ask for a penny when they want 2c and a 25c piece is called a shilling.

He has also seen a blank agreement form for licensing meters from the GPO and this quotes 1/2d for printed paper rate. The form was printed in 1967 and quotes the 1938 ordinances.

So much for decimalisation !!

"THE UNITED STATES POSTAGE METER CATALOG"
by Werner Simon and David P. Walsh.

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(Obtainable from Indicia Associates, 250 Benton Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112, U.S.A., price \$10.00 in US funds plus (for Great Britain) \$1.00 surface or \$4.00 air mail).

94 pages, 172 illustrations in a 3-ring binder to take the 11" x 8½" pages.

We have been eagerly awaiting this, the first proper US meter catalogue published for more than 20 years, and having received it are certainly not disappointed.

The introductory part of the book amounts to some 24 pages, an identification guide to the basic types on which the numbering is based, a very good and detailed section on the various manufacturers both past and present - have we ever mentioned Design and Development Inc ? - and an intriguing "family tree" to show the many amalgamations that took place in the earlier years of meter use.

There are sections on terminology and abbreviations, not always the same as the ones we use but this after all is not unusual when we share a common language with minor differences, and a very good list of the various "Section Number" slugs (these refer to sections of the postal regulations) and what they meant followed by a list of postal rates from 1925 to 1974. This last very useful indeed when trying to unravel some of the decimal rates seen recently on 3rd class bulk mail.

Different types of safety underprint on "tapes" are illustrated in full size and described and finally there is an extensive bibliography.

The actual lists, arranged under types of design, are illustrated in a contrasting colour (actually a rather attractive brown) but in a reduced size - apart from saving space we cannot see why they are reduced really - and cross reference is made to the original Barfoot-Simon catalogue numbers and those in the addenda to B/S published by the Meter Stamp Society in the USA. Relative values are indicated where appropriate by R, VR and RRR, as in B/S.

Coming to the more modern machines there is an excellent full size chart of the ten (!) different forms of the figures of value on the Series 5000 machines and details of the special purpose types used by the US Post Office and Government Departments.

There are no listings of the machines used by United Parcel Services or the other parcel carriers (or even a mention of them that we can trace).

We would not presume to comment on the actual listing, suffice to say that with the experience of the compilers we have no doubt as to their accuracy, one thing we were pleased to see was that the "philatelic" varieties that appeared some years ago from the late Henry O. Meisel have been relegated to minor footnotes.

The excellent vinyl binder leaves plenty of room either for additional pages in the future or for collectors own notes on interleaving.

The whole book is very highly recommended.

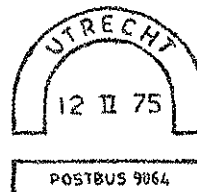
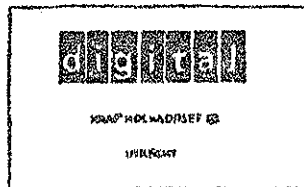
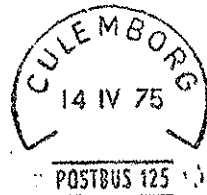
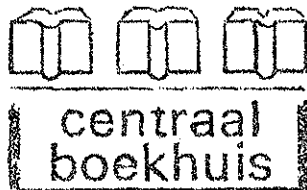
NETHERLANDS - Townmarks on Roneo-Neopost machines.
 (From notes given us by Jan Dekker, Amsterdam)

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There have been two basic designs for the Roneo-Neopost Models 205 and 505 used in the Netherlands. Each type of machine appeared at first in a relatively simple form with stylised posthorns at each side and "CENT" over the number at the bottom. The two models appear to be all numbered in the same series with an RN prefix and the relative thickness of the letters and the figures in the number varies.



SCHIEKADE 26



Netherlands - Townmarks on RN machines (Contd.)

The two types of machine can of course be identified by the figures of value and the date figures. The Model 205 is 3-bank with tall date figures and the Model 505 is 4-bank with smaller date figures. Almost as an afterthought, we do not remember ever seeing the Model 305 (Frankmaster) from the Netherlands.

This initial design was followed by a more complicated one in which the die is squared off by the addition of a series of small horizontal lines and NEOPOST (and the Roneo-Neopost emblem!) is added at the bottom.

Now, each of these four basic types seems also to have been fitted with a bewildering variety of townmarks and the following have been seen by Mr Dekker. Where we have illustrated one of the townmark types it is noted below.

- (a) A single circle. (RN 512)
- (b) A single circle with two arcs at the bottom. (RN 587)
- (c) A single circle with arcs at top and bottom.
- (d) A single circle with a single arc at the bottom.
- (e) A traditional "Broken Inner Circle" with two arcs at the bottom. (RN 499)
- (f) A "Broken Inner Circle" with one arc at the bottom.

A more recent development has been the replacement of the bottom part of the circle with a box containing a Postbox Number address of the user, we are not sure if this is becoming obligatory or just recommended. It has of course resulted in more types of townmark.

- (g) A single line like a letter "C" on its side.
- (h) A single line with small lines at 4 o'clock and 8 o'clock (RN 657)
- (i) The same as (h) but a single arc at the top forming the beginning of an inner line.
- (j) Again the same as (h) but inner line in three parts.
- (k) Complete horseshoe shaped townmark with horizontal ends, inner line broken in two places. (RN 764)
- (l) Complete unbroken horseshoe. (RN 690)

The latter, would you believe, is the definitive type !!!

The following townmark types have been recorded with the two models.

	Original Design.		Squared Design.	
	205	505	205	505
(a)	x		x	
(b)	x			
(c)	x	x	x	x

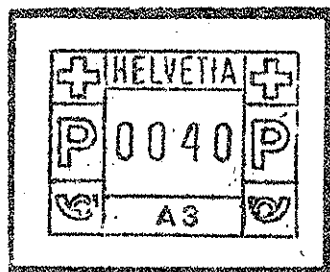
Netherlands - Townmarks on RN machines (Contd.)

(d)	x			
(e)	x			
(f)	x			
(g)	x			x
(h)	x	x		x
(i)	x			
(j)	x			
(k)			x	
(l)	x	x	x	x

Others may well exist and we would welcome reports, with numbers.

NEW SWISS COIN-OPERATED MACHINE.

The 9th August 1976 was the first day of use for a new type coin-operated machine for public use manufactured by Frama.



Electrically operated (mains or by battery for remote locations) it issues a gummed label for any value between 00.05 and 99.95 in stages of 00.05. As coins are inserted the amount accepted is shown and when the required total is reached the whole operation of printing and issuing the label is actuated by pressing a button.

Magenta impression printed through a ribbon on smooth sided label with a dotted security pattern in blue and also coloured fibres in the paper.

There are four trial machines in use :

- A 1 - Zurich (station)
- A 2 - Berne (main post office)
- A 3 - Grindewald
- A 4 - Geneva (main post office)

Grindewald was deliberately chosen as it is fairly well up in the mountains and has a varying climate, the others of course are busy places and will give the machines an intensive trial.

"Stamp Collecting" of the 16th September 1976 had an article on the new machines and included an excellent photograph of the unit.

New Swiss Coin-Operated Machine (Contd.)

The author of this, Mr M. Rutherford, wondered whether they would be classed as stamps and rather surprisingly (to us) the following week a note appeared to say that the well known Swiss catalogue published by Zumstein will list them - we do not know how yet but it is certainly an interesting development for meter collectors.

Sending us a copy of the impression Heiner Durst also remarked that if the members of the Swiss Booklet Stamp Collectors Society collect all the possibly values it will at least solve the Swiss Post Office deficit problem! The machines are designed to replace vending machine booklets.

JAPANESE METER GROUP.

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We recently received a bulletin called "Postal Franking Machines" (No 35, 1976 - 1) from Japan and were very pleased to see that collectors there are publishing regularly. At the same time they were kind enough to send us a copy of an illustrated listing of "transport" slogans used on meters in Japan (ships, trains, cars, aircraft, hovercraft, motor-cycles and cable cars) and even though this is mainly in Japanese and our knowledge of the language is almost non-existent they are very interesting.

Details from Mr Takaaki Ishii 37-7 Ryogoko 4-chome
Sumida-Ku, No 130,
Tokyo, Japan.

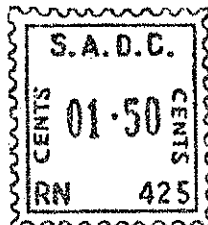
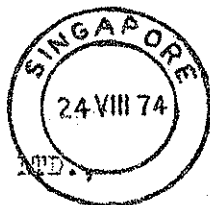
ANOTHER "NEW" COUNTRY

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Werner Simon reports the Roneo-Neopost Model 205 from St. Vincent, our first report from there.

and a NEW "NAME"

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Mr Bogue shows us this Roneo-Neopost Model 305 inscribed "S.A.D.C." at the top instead of SINGAPORE in the frank. It was used by the Singapore Air Defence Command (hence the initials) but only in this state between, at least, 24 VIII 74 and 12 XI 74. It was later fitted with a new frank die inscribed with the usual SINGAPORE, the earliest date for this we have seen is -6 II 75

G. B. NOTES.

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Neopost L.V. Mr Lapham shows us an impression from N.9., Bristol, GviR cipher design, our Type 39, used on 15 IX 58 but with the value as 1/= (i.e. two lines after the shilling bar instead of one line).

Pitney Bowes Series 5000. Yet another machine (or even one of the others in a new place ?) without any trace of prefix, number or suffix comes from Tim Richards. This was used in Cardiff on -6 II 76 and he has another 6 days afterwards.

A different type of omission occurs however on two machines shown us by Mr K. B. Millar, these have no PB at all. They are 1229A used at Abington, Cambridge on 13 VII 76 and 1951A at London E7 on 26 XI 75

Roneo-Neopost Model 505. We have recorded machines with the RR prefix (a continuation of RN and RM) with numbers in the lower range - our latest is something like 1103, and also a group in the upper range, 9991, 9995, 9996 etc. We understand that all are the Model 505 detachable meter but that the two groups of numbers allow a distinction to be made between the types of base fitted. The actual pattern of numbers used and whether only the 1000 and 9000 groups or something similar are to be used may become clear later.

Roneo-Neopost Model 605. TN 296, used at London S.W.19., has the date in "American" style, as MAR 29'74 and is the only one we have seen like this. (ESL)

"Highest Numbers". Although we have no reason to suppose that sales of meters are falling off, quite the reverse in fact, we have fewer advances to report this time than for a long while. Thanks to reports from, among others, Messrs E S. Lapham, E. Keith-Lloyd, W. H. Bogue and J. M. Beard :-

<u>Hasler</u>	HGB	*1244	*2018	*3052	*4018	*5035	*6023		
	HAS	*1160	*2001	*3005	*4003		*6009	*7003	*8003
<u>Francotyp</u>			*AC.A 76						
					<u>Singer</u>			*G.1097	
<u>Pitney Bowes</u>			PBL 859 U		PBT 1950 L			PBR 653 A	
								*PBR 166 F	
<u>Roneo-Neopost</u>			*J 359 K		*W 36 C			*RM 2901	
				*RR 1103				*TN 453	

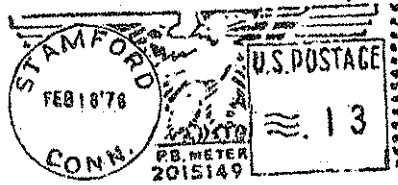
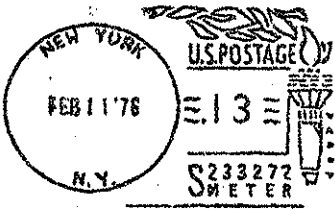
London Town Names. Many years ago, June 1963, Vol VII page 87, we had a note on the few machines in London which showed the name of the postal district instead of LONDON and at the same time wondered if anyone knew the name of the user of one at PECKHAM S.E.15. (a New Zealand machine, town-name in wavy lines, numbered "2")

Mr Lapham, whose memory and filing system must be very good, has recently received a copy on piece and on the back is pencilled Holdrons (or Holdrows) Ltd. Neither name appears in the current telephone directory but this is not surprising after all this time.

NOTES AND NEWS FROM OVERSEAS

===== Once again we are in the fortunate position of having more news than we have space for. As promised, we are carrying on at letter "U" and hope to catch up with the next issue or so. Although we keep on saying it, we are grateful to our faithful reporters for the news.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. We have already reported the Friden/Singer 9222 when used by the US Post Office with an "S" prefix instead of an "F", we now have one from a private user with similar prefix.



In Bulletin 114 (XIV/25) we mentioned that Pitney Bowes were conducting trials in Connecticut with machines which could be re-set by telephone. Mr Lapham has seen some impressions from Series 5000 machines with a 7-digit (instead of a 6-digit) number and to accomodate the extra figure a smaller "PB". Those he has seen,

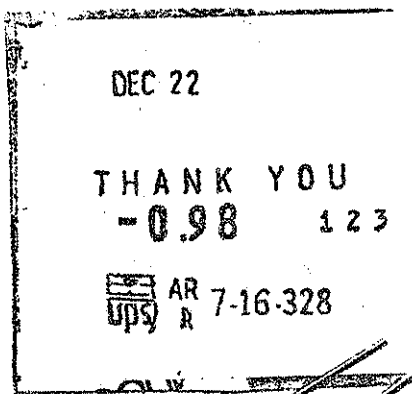
- 2015105 Shelton
 - 2015144 Bridgeport
 - 2015149 Stamford
- are all in Connecticut and

he suggests that these are the long distance re-set machines we reported.

United Parcel Services. We have not mentioned UPS for some time but have been working on a short history of the Company and its activities together with what we hope will be a complete listing of meters used.

In the meantime Mr Lapham has sent us an article which appeared recently in "News-day" (1 Mar 1976) concerning UPS's progress which reported that they are now operating in all the 48 contiguous States plus the District of Columbia. He has seen memers from all except Idaho, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota.

This NCR impression has "Thank You" added in the design, the only one we have noted like this and certainly a nice touch.



Notes and News from Overseas (Contd.)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. Mr Bogue shows us the Pitney Bowes Model 6300, design similar to the Series 5000 and numbered P.B.81 Used from Snarjah (that would have been a new country at one time) on 20.3.76

U.S.S.R. Postalia, shown us by Mr Lapham.



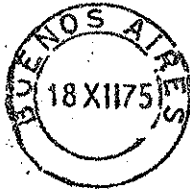
URUGUAY. This Francotyp shows signs of a currency revaluation as the ribbon at the bottom now has "N\$" and "Cts" - presumably "New Pesos" etc - instead of the old "CENTESIMOS" or "PESOS", as do the two Universal MV. (ESL and WS)

AUSTRIA. Postalia machine used at Post Office, identifiable by the Postal Zone number at the bottom of the townmark (this is being removed from the small number of private machines that did have them and a small letter under the town name. Used from Wien 1096 on -5.3.76 with figures of value 4-bank, as 0001 (ESL)

BOLIVIA. Postalia 107 has figures of value 5-bank as \$b 000.01 instead of the 4-bank previously noted. (ESL)

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd.)

ARGENTINA. An instructional inscription we had not seen before on the Francotyp TME is a plain "CERTIFICADA" shown us by Mr Millar on machine 45.



One for the record, the Pitney Bowes Model R with an additional zero cut into the frame before the currency revaluation in 1970, another Pitney Bowes Model R in a previously unnoticed design (posthorn on shield) and, finally, a recent impression from a Universal MV with an odd-shaped fixed zero and still, in XII 75 without a "Ley No". (ESL)

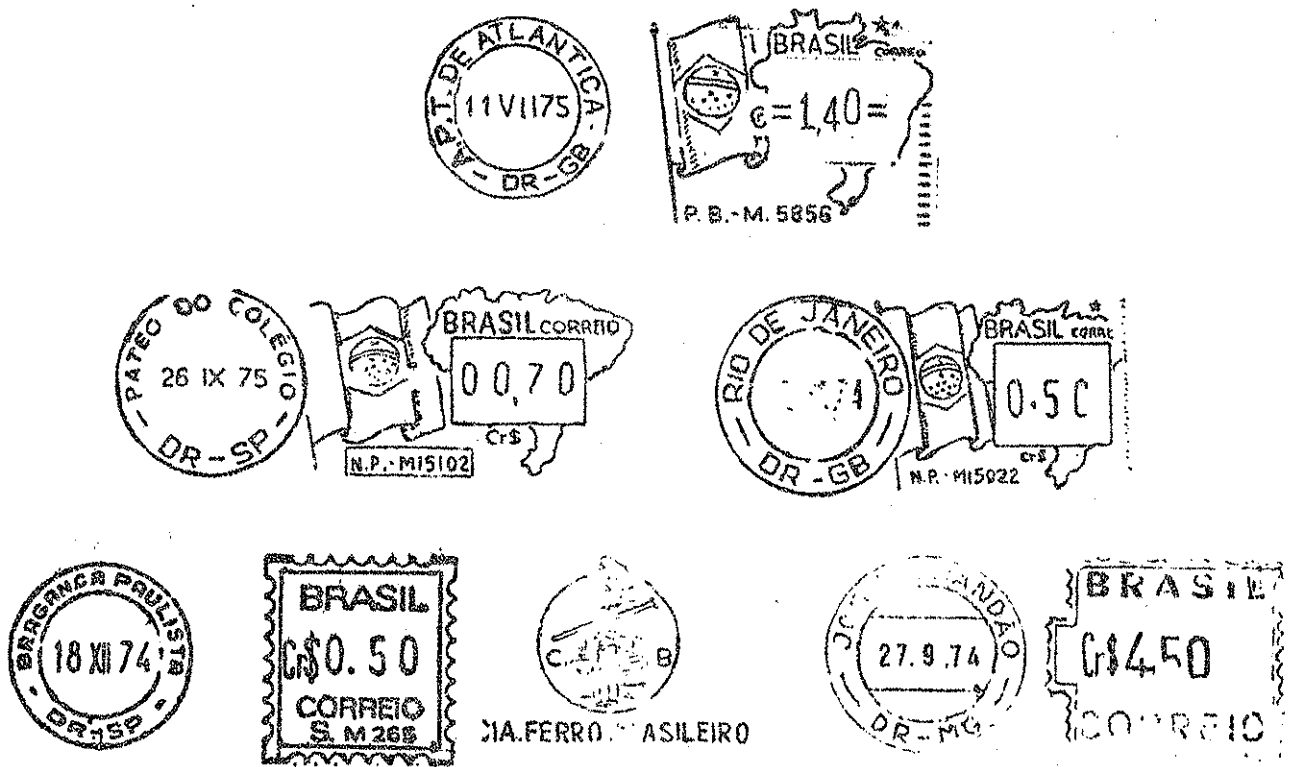
Mr Bogue shows us another Pitney Bowes Model R with the additional zero in the frame at the right but in this case the townmark is double-circle, a faint impression but ? 1470 used as recently as 10 III '76 and still without the "Ley No".



AUSTRALIA. The variety of "segment of frame below value" also occurs on the Neopost in Kangaroo design. Mr Lapham shows us this one and mentions that they all seem to be from Western Australia and only on replacement values such as the 5d and 8d.

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd.)

BRAZIL. In his articles on the Automax machines, the second part (MSB XIII/27) Ernst Muhr mentioned two machines without a currency symbol. Mr Lapham shows us this further refinement, which has the ¢ over an N but no \$ (the N almost looks as if it had been partly removed.)



Ernst Muhr shows us these, Roneo-Neopost Model 505, Roneo-Neopost Model 205, Satas and a very peculiar shape for Francotyp.

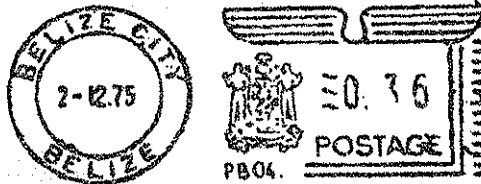
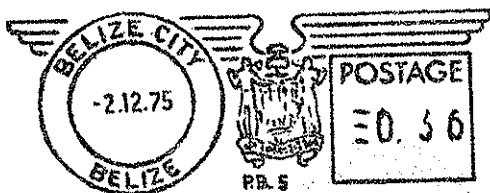
Werner Simon records three more values for the old Universal Midget we mentioned in MSB 114 (XIV/34), they are the CR\$10- CR\$30- and CR\$100- and all are on the same machine, M55.

BAHAMAS. The Pitney Bowes (GB) Series 5000 exists with the month figures of the date either in Roman or Arabic figures, PB 1017 has the former and PB 1118 has the latter. (ESL)

BELGIUM. Mr Lapham shows us three forms of value on Postalia machines (all with the name as Belgie-Belgique), 0.01 on C 1297, 00.01 on C 1208 and w00.01 on C 1640.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS. Roneo-Neopost Model 505, numbered 002 and used on 20 XII 75 from Valley/Virgin Gorda - a different island to the Model 205 which we have already recorded - value as 001 (ESL)

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd.)



BELIZE, (formerly BRITISH HONDURAS) We now show the Pitney Bowes Series 5000 and the Model 6300, the latter now in a definitive design (R. L. Woodward-Clarke and E. S. Lapham.)

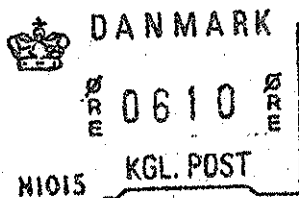
The capital Belompan is a new city some 60 miles away from Belize, built as Werner Simon tells us to be more storm proof.

CAMAROONS. Satas SR 7200 was being used with an unengraved townmark on the -9 1 76 (ESL)

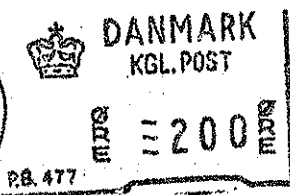
CAYMAN ISLANDS. Pitney Bowes Simplex numbered S 1 used on 24 I 76 from "Georgetown/Grand Cayman" (no "W.I.") with value .03 Traditional perforated frame design with Crown at bottom. (ESL)

CHILE. Recent impressions from two Francotyp machines, F 410 and CT 59 (the latter is one of the machines used for Registered etc) - both on 27.2.76 - have the "EO" preceding the value replaced by a \$ and the figures themselves as 00.01 Our last report of the Francotyp was the addition of a zero at the right so this change of symbol and arrangement of figures is presumably the result of a revaluation of the currency. (ESL)

Werner Simon similarly reports Hasler H2 now \$00.01



Pitney-Bowes
SERVICE MASKINE NR. 3



DENMARK. The Roneo-Neopost Model 505 - note that this, unlike other machines in the same design, has the "KGL POST" below the value figures.

A Pitney Bowes relief machine. (ESL)