

HON. SECRETARY and  
TREASURER

John C. Mann.  
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LONDON, SE25 4HN

SECRETARY'S NOTES.  
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Membership. Again we are pleased to welcome two new members with this issue of the Bulletin, who are :

- (263) Mr N. A. Emms, 89 St. Edmunds Rd, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 1NZ  
(264) Mr Kenechi Yamamoto, 423 Kamihama cho, Minami ku, Nagoya 457, JAPAN.

Subscriptions. Members whose subscriptions are due for renewal on the 1st January 1977 will find a reminder and form enclosed with their Bulletin.

The Bulletin. As some members will know from correspondence and as noted very briefly in the September issue, we seemed to be going through one of those periods in the autumn when everything piled up and a lot of things became delayed.

We normally aim to send the bulletin out at the end of the month shown, thus this one should go out at the end of December, or a few days afterwards to allow for the holiday. To collate the latest news, type up the stencils, produce illustrations and then duplicate and send out takes roughly six or so weeks, what happened was that it took several more than that. This time the timetable is a lot better so there should not be an undue delay.

Apologies to all concerned.

THE METER STAMP SOCIETY.  
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The Bulletin of our American friends, the Meter Stamp Society, has been edited by Harold H. Rugg for some 16 years but now, having reached the age of 80 years he has decided to lighten the load.

From now on the MSS Bulletin will be edited jointly by our old friend Werner Simon and his associate for the new USA Catalogue, David P. Walsh, and they hope to extend the coverage on meter developments outside North America, a move to be welcomed.

All enquiries to 250 Benton Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112, U.S.A.

This might be a suitable opportunity to wish Harold well for the future and to add our thanks for all the good work he has done over the years.

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

The following additions and amendments to the listing in the December 1974 M.S.B. have been compiled by the author, George R. Pearson, as a result of information supplied by S. D. Barfoot, Werner Simon, David Allison and his own findings.

Machines in £sd Currency

1. Note that on machine S.W.A. 1 the words "SOUTH" and "WEST" were spaced more apart than in S.W.A. 2



7834  
SOUTH WEST AFRICAN  
TRUST COMPANY  
LIMITED  
WINDHOEK RO. BOX 246

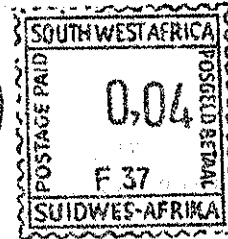
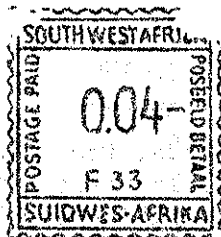


2. Machine N2 known with town-mark reading "SOUTH WEST AFRICA / SUIDWES AFRIKA", i.e. without name of a town

Machines in Rand/Cents Currency

7B Add values: 5c, 10c, 12½c

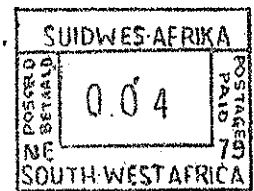
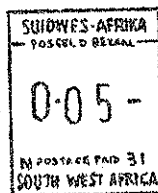
10C re-list as:



GUSTAV ROSENTHAL (PTY) LTD.  
P.O. Box 53, Outjo.

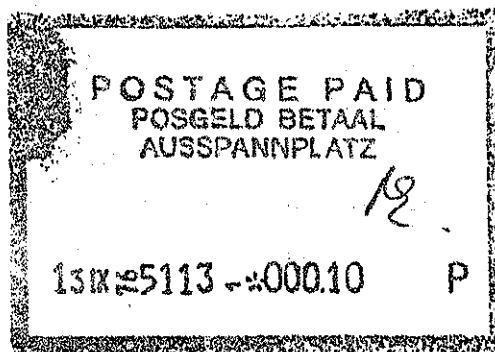
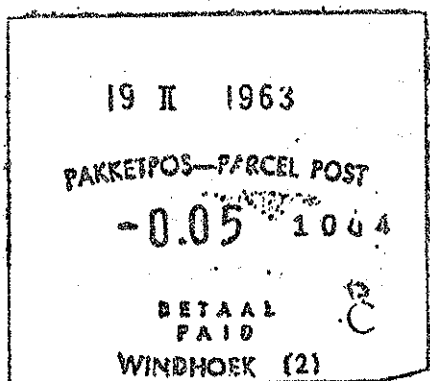


- Frank  $28\frac{1}{2}$  x  $31\frac{1}{2}$  mm. - inscribed POSTGELD BETAALD
- 10C 4-bank, value as  $0.00\frac{1}{2}$  (or 0.01-) (F13 to 15?)
- Frank  $28\frac{1}{2}$  x  $31\frac{1}{2}$  mm. - inscribed POSTGELD BETAAL
- 10D 4-bank, value as  $0.00\frac{1}{2}$  (or 0.01-) (F16, F18 and higher nos.)
- 10E 4-bank, value as  $0.00\frac{1}{2}$  (or 0.01-) (F24 seen)
- 10F ?3-bank, value as 0.0,01 (F39 seen, probably converted machine)
- 10G 3-bank, value as 0,01 (value figures to right)
- 10H 3-bank, value as 0,01 (value figures central)
- 11 N 26 also seen
- 13 re-list:
1967. Neopost 205 Multi-value. N prefix (? N27 upwards). Country name in two lines, frank about 20 x 28 mm.
- 13A 4-bank, value as  $0.00\frac{1}{2}$  (or 0.01-) Month in date in Roman figs.
- 13B 4-bank, value as  $0.00\frac{1}{2}$  (or 0.01-) Month in date in Arabic figs.  
(? N 31 upwards)
- 14 (Safag) - re-list:
1970. Frama Multi-value. A prefix (apparently at first numbered in South African series but then new SWA series starting at A 1 (??))
- 14A 4-bank, value as R 0.01: Value figures spaced from R
- 14B 4-bank, value as R0.01: Value figures close to R



- 1975? Neopost 205 Multi-value. N prefix (? N31 upwards). Revised design with country name in one line.
- 17 4-bank, value as  $0.00\frac{1}{2}$  (or 0.01-) Month in Arabic figures
- 1975? Neopost 505 Multi-value. NE prefix, numbered in South African series
- 18 3-bank, value as 0.0 1

Post Office machines



1963? National Cash Register. Printed in violet, value and record number impressed through ribbon.

PO.1 ? 4-bank, value as -0.01

1976? ? National Cash Register. Printed in violet. Country name not shown

PO.2 6-bank, value as \*000.01

(the item illustrated is from a sub-office of Windhoek)

\* \* \* \* \*

VALUES

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When we wrote on this subject a couple of issues ago we asked members to let us know what they thought on the subject and we are pleased to say that quite a few have taken the trouble to write.

The general opinion seems to be that some attempt should be made to indicate relative scarcity but the problems of translating that to some form of monetary value are considerable, bearing in mind the (at present) limited market for meters and even for some groups of meters. There is no doubt, for instance, that early GB items, Wilkinsons, Wembleys and the like are valued much more highly in this country than impressions of greater rarity from other countries because collectors other than meter collectors want them as postal history, in a similar way early USA experimentals will command a much higher price in their own country. In all branches of philately there are popular and unpopular countries and groups.

A compromise suggested is that we should show relative scarcity and ally this with a form of valuation approximate at the time of listing, such as R = Rare and R =, say, £5. This would overcome to an extent the not inconsiderable problem of inflation. When our GB book was published in 1972 we put a price of £5 on the Festival of Britain Parcel Post machines and this represented, at

### Values (Contd)

that time, a % of an average weeks income, the same % of a weeks income today, at the end of 1976 would probably be doubled, so the original "price" would be wrong unless something else such as demand or supply had changed.

We suggest the following as indications of relative scarcity :

- C - Common; current machines
- O - Obsolete; machines not now in use but that were in use for some time, an alternative term could be Ordinary.
- U - Unusual; Obsolete machines but not generally used, or unusual values on otherwise O types of non-MV models.
- S - Scarce; machines used for short periods only, "provisional" types, early models
- R - Rare; very early machines possibly having some postal historical or meter historical significance, "one-off" models and values used on only a few S machines.
- RR - Very Rare; Pioneer machines, early experimentals, etc.
- RRR - Extremely Rare; Impressions of which only one or at best only a few are known.

In our view, and this is a personal one, RRR would be for the experimental Moss in New Zealand, USA Shields, the Norwegian Kahrs etc, RR would be for the GB Wilkinson, Wembley's, Moss Models for India and Egypt etc, and so on.

However, an important point to consider at the same time as the relative scarcity is the condition and, in this direction, Ross W. Irwin has recently sent us a suggested table of descriptions. We have slightly altered his wording to suit our own purposes but would recommend something like :  
(all are for complete covers of conventional size)

- Very Fine - No part of the impression within 6 mm of the edge of the cover, colour crisp, ink intensity high, design clear, no creases or smudges, paper not stained.
- Fine - Similar to Very Fine but no part of the impression within 4 mm of the edge of the cover, possible slight stains in the paper.
- Good - The general class of impression for collectors, impression clear and readable, may be within about 2 mm of the edge of the cover and may be very slightly over inked or very slightly smudged.
- Fair - Impressions with small parts of the design either off cover or missing, very small creases or stains, otherwise Good items more than slightly smudged or possibly slightly cut into or overlapping printed parts of the cover.
- Poor - Generally inferior material suitable for collectors only if from a very early or unusual machine. Could be used instead of and whilst waiting for a better class.

As we said at the beginning of this description, they apply to complete covers of conventional size and in general the covers should be of white paper. It must be remembered though that at certain times (for example in Germany in the 1940's) most envelopes were of a very poor quality, similarly covers of

Values (Contd)

brown or kraft paper would generally be reckoned to be reduced at least one or two grades downwards.

Impressions on piece, if of sufficient size, may be reckoned a grade or two down or possibly half price, impressions on Parcel Post "tapes" could be considered as double price.

To summarise then, a list would indicate (a) relative scarcity by means of the letter code, (b) a condition classification and (c) the date on which the list is based, with valuations being relative to the material being listed. We would expect the ratio between the various "values" to be of the following order :

Unusual	-	U	-	10
Scarce	-	S	-	50
Rare	-	R	-	100
Very Rare	-	RR	-	500 +
Extremely Rare	-	RRR	-	1000 +

Common or Ordinary would really have only a nominal value.

- jcm -

THERE IS ALWAYS HOPE  
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The Meter Stamp Society Bulletin reports that Ed Lapham recently found a 1c USA "oval" with "CENT PAID" at the bottom and an "AD'L 2¢ PD" slug. The use of a 1c + 2c had remained unrecorded by meter collectors for over 40 years, this was 8691 used at Seattle, Washington, Feb 6, 1936.

AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION IN HUNGARY.  
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"Stamp Collecting" reported on the 30th September 1976 that a machine had been installed at the Budapest 137 post office for inland standard-sized letters only. The envelope is placed in the automatic registration machine with the appropriate fee - coin operated we imagine - and a receipt is also printed in black on paper similar to an adding machine roll for retention by the sender while the envelope is meter franked. For obvious security reasons the envelope must be drawn into the machine at the time of franking.

We have not seen examples or any illustration of the machine.  
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For the last couple of issues we have continued our listing of overseas items alphabetically but this time we start with some from Zambia and Congo which had to be left out the last time round, otherwise we carry on as usual, with GB first.

Just space here, of course, to thank those who have sent in the notes on which these reports are based, where appropriate they have been shown by initials.

G. B. NOTES.

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New Roneo-Neopost Model ? Several members have reported what appears to be a new series of numbers on what look normal Roneo-Neopost Model 205 franks, these have an initial "2" as 2N 503 A. We had not of course expected any such development for some time as the suffix letters on Model 205's, which have a J prefix, have only reached K so far and the Model 105's, which use an N prefix have only reached suffix M.

However, we have now seen a draft agreement for a new machine which gives a similar number and describes the type as "Model 2205" - we do not yet know what differences there are between the 205 and the 2205.

Roneo-Neopost Model 505. We mentioned in MSB 116 that two groups of numbers were to be used to distinguish between types of base fitted but at that time had only seen the RR prefix with either a low number or a 9000 number and did not know how they would run.

Mr P. Wood and Mr A, Ehreich have reported two with 5-digit numbers, RR 11247 and RR 20068 but we will still have to wait for a while before the system becomes apparent. These two were used in November and October 1976 respectively.

"Highest Numbers". In our last report we did not have much progress to note, this time we have certainly made up for it, mainly thanks to reports from Messrs W. H. Bogue, T. A. Stalker, A. Ehreich and P. D. Wood, among others. (\* = no advance).

<u>Hasler</u>	HGB	1290	*2018	3057	*4018	*5035	*6023		
	HAS	1166	2009	*3005	4008		*6009	7007	*8003
<u>Francotyp</u>			*AC.A 76			<u>Singer</u>		*G.1097	
<u>Pitney Bowes</u>			PBL 092 W (iii)		PBT 1922 P (ii)			PBR 697 A	
								PBR 221 F	
<u>Roneo-Neopost</u>			J 913 K		*W 36 C			RM 2933	
			*N 689 M		TN 475			RR 1263	
			2N 503 A (i)					RR 20068 (iv)	

(i) See note above.

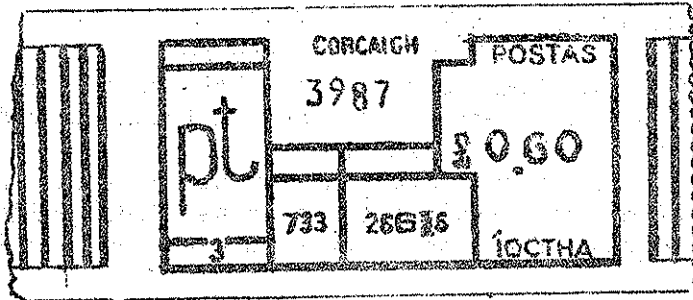
(ii) Both suffixes "M" and "N" have been recorded.

(iii) Suffix "V" has been seen.

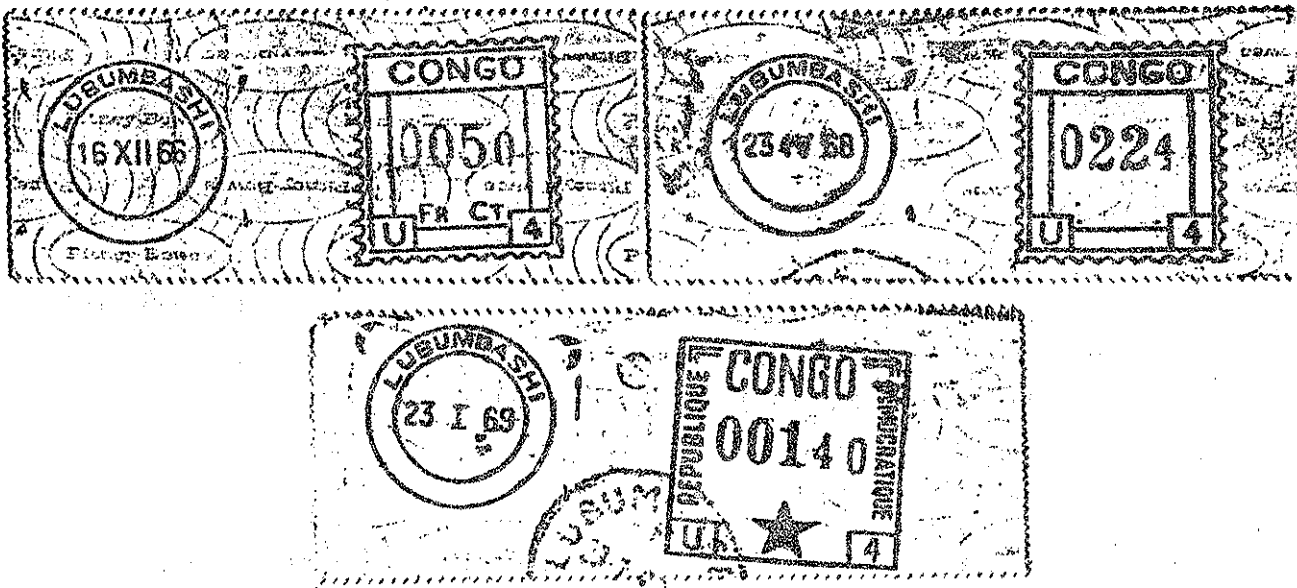
(iv) See note above.

(We happened to be discussing the vagaries, and delights, of meter numbering with a (non-meter) philatelist recently and when we came to the Model 205's with J 1 up to J 8xxx, then JA 1 to JA 1000, JB -, JC -, etc from 1 to 1000 for each prefix to JZ 1000, then P 1 to P 869 (some of these are still about by the way), then J 1 A to J 999 A, J 1 B to J 999 B, J 1 C etc and now ? 2N 1 A etc he gave up and decided that the whole thing was obviously designed to confuse everyone !)

IRISH NOTES.



Plessey Parcel Post Machine. Mr K. B. Millar shows us this further variety of the later "pt" design. In this case the number "3" appears mostly below the line instead of midway as on the number 11 we illustrated in MSB 104 (XII/96), there is a complete (day, month, year) date at the centre right - note the large squat month figure, we wonder what Oct, Nov and Dec look like - and an additional number 733 in place of the day at the centre left. The value figures themselves are shorter and the vertical bars at the left appear to have horizontal lines at top and bottom but these latter may not have come out clearly on the earlier one.



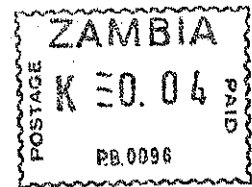
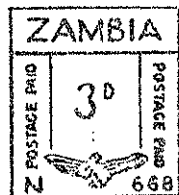


NOTES AND NEWS FROM OVERSEAS.

CONGO (KINSHASA) A type we do not seem to have recorded for this country, formerly Belgian Congo and now Zaire, is the Universal MV in a plain "Congo" design and value figures as 000i (with and without Fr and Ct). We also show the same machine after conversion to a Democratique Republique design and the acquisition of an extra figure, as 000io which we have mentioned. (Hal Hoyte)

ZAMBIA. We have mentioned before that Roneo-Neopost Model 105 number N 441 still had KITWE/NORTHERN RHODESIA in the townmark as late as December 1966 although it had, by then, been fitted with a definitive (£sd) Zambian die. When it was in due course fitted with a decimal die the Northern Rhodesia was removed, leaving just Kitwe at the top.

The later design of die for the Model 105 - we illustrated N 678 in MSB 95 - appears from ? N 631 onwards, it appeared in Zambia at about the same time as a change to a similar design for Rhodesia, at first in £sd, which we do not seem to have recorded before and now show N 668 and later, of course in decimal form.



A new machine for this country is the Pitney Bowes Model 6300, in a simple design with PB prefix.

Two Neopost machines, N 764 and N 767 both have the error LUSKA instead of LUSAKA in the townmark, we have not seen 765 and 766 but wonder what they too have.

Some "highest numbers" are :

Roneo-Neopost Model 105	-	N 774
Roneo-Neopost Model 205	-	NE 78
Roneo-Neopost Model 305	-	RN 799
Roneo-Neopost Model 505	-	RV 002
Postalia	-	P 09
Simplex	-	S 38
Francotyp	-	F 54

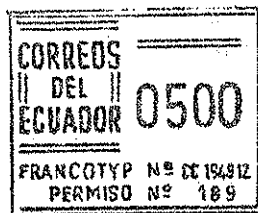
(all the above from notes and material received from John Case and Hal Hoyte)

CONGO REPUBLIC. Mr Bogue shows us SR 6144 used from Brazzaville on 27 4 76 but this is inscribed REPUBLIQUE/DU CONGO, unlike 7001 which we noted in MSB 106 as having "Rep. Pop" etc.

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)

CANADA. There are two types of National Cash Register machines used for Postage Due listed in Barfoot-Simon (Types P.D.1 and P.D.2, Class 1100 and Class 1900 Models respectively) and in the Irwin Catalogue of Canada, 40.3.1 and 41.5 The second of these, the Class 1900, is a machine numbered 739 used at Winnipeg.

Werner Simon tells us that a second one has turned up, number 729 and also from Winnipeg and generally the same except that several parts of the lettering are in seriffed form instead of just "Due" as on 739.



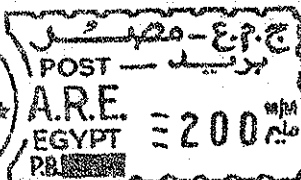
ECUADOR. There are at least three different forms of the figures of value on Francotyp machines.

Francotyp No 12946, Permiso No 0051, has z001

Francotyp No CC104912, Permiso No 189, has 0001 (illustrated)

Francotyp No 99508, Permiso No 172, has x0001 (ESL)

We cannot trace ever having mentioned the Universal MV, Mr Bogue shows us ? PB 0024 used from Guayaquil on 25 II 76 in a perforated frame design, name at top in curved box, value as 000oi with ¢ and c underneath and CORREOS over the number at the bottom. Townmark double-circle.



EGYPT. Pitney Bowes Series 5000 in one of the increasingly popular "inset-townmark" designs, now with ARE (for Arab Republic of Egypt). (WHB)

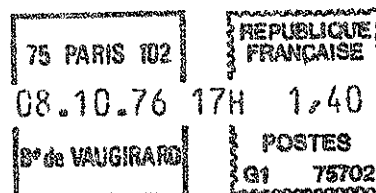
Barfoot-Simon originally recorded that the 50m value of the first machine used, a Moss Model D introduced on 27 Feb 1922, was only known as a specimen, although an addenda published in MSB 51 records its use on 14 Mar 1922.

Mr Pustel tells us that he has recently acquired a copy used on a Registered cover dated a little earlier, 9 Mar 1922.

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)

FINLAND. In our last report we listed the new 6-figure groups with the first one indicating the manufacturer. Mr Lapham shows us a Pitney Bowes (GB) Series 5000 number 23/4126 (in two lines between the townmark and the frank) so suggesting that Pitney Bowes are using the 200000 range.

GUATEMALA. We recorded the Pitney Bowes (USA) Series 5000 some time ago, we now have the (GB) version which as usual in such cases has the larger date and value figures. (ESL and WHB)



FRANCE. Michel de Wailly sends us this new machine, a GAPA, which is a development of the BAA apparatus we described in MSB 93 and which used the prefixes BAA and later SA.

An article by Peter Ibbotson in "Stamp Collecting" tells us that the initials stand for Guichet d'Affranchissement Postal Automatique and that it is in effect an automated counter clerk. It weighs postal items, determines the correct postage and then produces the frank.

In this case only the centre line is printed by the meter in a slightly purplish shade, whilst the rest of the (conventional) frank design and the (un-conventional) square townmark are pre-printed in red on a self-adhesive label. This label, white, measures 70mm x 26mm, has rounded corners and on the one we have seen has a black line at the left hand edge, this latter may be to indicate where to peel the label from the backing.

First day of use was 14 Jun 1976.

He also reports the NJ prefix, NJ 0001 had figures of value 2001 but NJ 116 had figures as \*001

HONDURAS. The Pitney Bowes Model R also exists, in a similar design to the Series 5000 (coat of arms between townmark and frank) but as is usual smaller wavy lines preceding the value figures, which are 3-bank as w01: LIC 32 used from San Pedro Sala on 6 XII'76 (ESL)

HUNGARY. There are three different designs of frank for the Postalia. We have previously illustrated P.45 with nothing at each side of FILLER at the bottom (4-bank as 0001) and recorded a similar but 5-bank P.76 We later illustrated P?? with a rectangle at each side of FILLER, 3-bank. Mr Lapham now shows us P112 with 3 wavy lines at each side of FILLER (used 63.VI.27 so ante-dating the others - don't forget that Hungarian dates usually have YMD) and this has 5 value figures. The final zero, however, is slightly smaller than the others and is very close to the frame so could be fixed.

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)

HONG KONG. Some time ago (MSB XIII/102) we noted that one machine had a townmark with a new name to us, Mong Kok, instead of the usual Victoria. This note brought reports of several other towns from members and we have now had a long list from Mr Rydings. Adding to this still further names from Mr Bogue and Mr Simon we now have a total list of :

	Beaconsfield House	17.5.63 -
	Causeway Bay	3.3.70 -
Sha	Chang <del>Ha</del> Street	23.10.65 -
	Cheung Sha Wan	18.4.66 -
	Des Voeux Road	26.6.68 - 23.9.76
	Gillies Avenue	1.11.68 -
	Hennessy Road	2.7.69 -
	Kai Tak Airport	1.6.52 -
	King's Road	26.9.64 -
	Kowloon	5.7.1898 (reopened Sept 1945) - 9.8.67
	Kowloon Central	10.8.67 -
	Kwun Tong	3.12.62 -
	Ma Tau Wai	14.10.57 -
	Man Yee Arcade (now defunct Mr Rydings tells us)	1960a61 - 22.6.68
	Morrison Hill Road	13.4.66 -
	Mong Kok ( <u>not</u> Mongok as we had put it)	1.12.59 -
	North Point	25.11.57 -
	Sai Ying Pun	1.5.41 - (reopened 15.4.46)
	San Po Kong	24.10.64 -
	Sha Tin	18.10.55 -
	Sheung Wan	1.8.14 -
	Tsat Tsz Mui	1973a74
	Tsui Sha Tsui	10.8.67 (previously Kowloon)
	Victoria	
	(Victory) - an error we have reported previously	
	Wan Chai	1.3.15 - (reopened 8.10.45)
	Yau Yat Chuen	1.2.67 -

Queen's Rd. 27.9.76 -  
 Repulse Bay 26.9.66 -

Stanley 8.30 - (reopened 1.1.47)

\* after Japanese occupation

He goes on to tell us that the current (1976) directory shows 68 Post Offices in the territory although he estimates that only about 40 of these are in areas likely to have franking machines, so we have something over half the probable total above.

Looking back through our own collection it is interesting to note that the great majority of addresses are PO Box Numbers and apart from Kowloon (the other main office) until recently all were Victoria. This includes a PB Series 5000 used in Des Voeux Road recently and a Universal MV used in Man Yee Building in 1967.

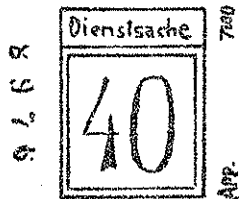
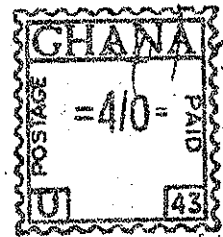
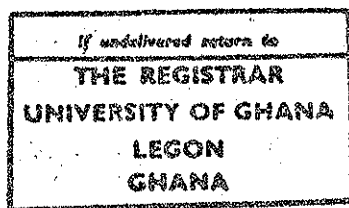
One theory put forward is that originally all machines were inscribed Victoria and later some Kowloon. It was a change of policy that led to "local" townmarks, probably associated with the growing number of machines in use.

Mr Rydings tells us that the annual report for the Postmaster General for 1975/76 records 1,519 current licences for franking machines, including 296 new ones in that year.

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)

GHANA. Not a country from which we frequently have news, most of our reports seem to refer to some years ago and this is no exception.

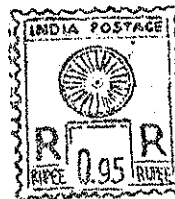
The Automax in £sd currency. (ESL)



GERMANY. Does anyone know what this is. Werner Simon has another with slogan Salem Gold (a cigarette) and "Deutsche" above and "Republic" below the 40 in the centre. They are printed in red and look like a meter print. No clue as to origin or age.

Postal Codes are being changed to four digits, so that Berlin 1 becomes 1000 for instance.

INDONESIA. Werner Simon reports the Roneo-Neopost Model 505 in a design like the Francotyp.



INDIA. Two new values for the Neopost LV Type 10.1 are the 0.95 and the 1.20 We illustrate the former on a Post Office machine which has the town name as Hindi - Postcode No - English (ESL)

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd) - India.

Mr K. B. Millar shows us a "K" machine which is inscribed in Hindi at the top of the townmark, which has rosette ornaments, and BOMBAY GPO 400001 at the bottom (no licence number), used on 28 IV 76. He also shows us two impressions from Neopost LV D-2106, the first on -6 V 75 has DELHI G.P.O. at the top and rosette ornaments whereas by -4 XII 75 the top had been altered to DELHI 110006 and the rosettes had been replaced by small arcs.

ICELAND. This Pitney Bowes (GB) Series 5000 has a solid block to the right of the value. Comparison with PB 98 which we showed in MSB 98 (XII/29) shows that this block replaces what might be a fixed zero on PB 98. Could it be that inflation has meant now that figures after the decimal point are no longer wanted so the final (fixed) zero has not been engraved and the value wheel for the penultimate figure (small figure preceded by the decimal point) has been omitted, thus leaving a "normal" 3-bank machine with the figures set a bit to the left.



ITALY. By what amounts to a process of elimination we do not think that we have shown this design for Registered, similar ones exist with the Postal Code in the townmark circle. (WHB)

Werner Simon reports PB R 16 in blue with a large "T" at the left and value as w001 used for postage due.

KUWAIT. The only reference we can trace to the Universal MV was as long ago as MSB 86 (X/70) when we illustrated U 2. This had KUWAIT at the top left, the value in both "Arabic" and "European" figures and an inner frame indented at the corners. Mr Lapham shows us U 1 used on 10 IV 55 in an entirely different design. This has KUWAIT in a curved box at the top, value simply as 001, ANNAS and POSTAGE at the bottom, U and 1 in boxes at the bottom corners. There is no Arabic inscription at all.

MEXICO. We appear to have only mentioned the Postalia in a passing reference to the new initial numbers. Mr Millar shows us Postalia 01589 (thus without one) used from Mexico I.D.F. on 30.VI.76 and value as CTS 00010 (the final zero is very squeezed) in a design with an eagle catching a snake at right.

MONACO. Another newcomer is the SL, value as \*001 (MdeW)

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