

HON. SECRETARY  
and TREASURER :  
  
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19 Chartham Road,  
LONDON, SE25 4HN

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Membership. We have two new addresses to report :-

Dr Alan Hauck is now at PO Box 103, Somers, Wisconsin 53171, U.S.A.

Mr W. H. Thomas is now at 3 Rex Close, Tile Hill Village, Coventry,  
West Midlands, CV4 9JB

(Having moved Mr Thomas tells us that he has a lot of material for disposal which he describes as a real hotch-potch, mostly within the last 15 years or so, quite a lot of pre-decimal and some foreign. Please write direct to him if you are interested.

Members Wants and Offers Mr J. E. Downey, 70 Coneygree Road, Peterborough, Cambs, PE2 8JX, is compiling a collection of meters used in Peterborough for the local philatelic society. Can anyone who has meters please write to him with details and any offers ?

Barfoot-Simon Catalogue. We have several requests for help in obtaining copies of this long out of print book. If anyone either has a spare copy they would be willing to dispose of or knows of someone who has, can they please let us know so that we can bring the parties together.

Enclosure. As far as weight limits will allow members will find with this issue a German specimen - they are described later in this issue - with the compliments of Ernst Muhr.

"Highest Numbers". We do not seem to have much space for this issue to show every machines series with the highest numbers reported, so we have restricted ourselves to listing only those that have changed since our last report. Thanks are due of course to members for their reports.

Hasler. HGB 2026 and 4105. HAS 1318 and HF 18602

Pitney Bowes. PBT 1474 W

Roneo-Neopost. N 842 N, 2N 226 L (the "J" suffix is now confirmed as having been used), TN 647 and finally RR 25923.

BOOK REVIEW

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From time to time we get requests for help from non-members, sometimes purely for some fragment of information, sometimes for more than the basic facts, and sometimes for help for someone who is writing a book on a country and wants to include information on the meters used there.

Naturally, we always try and help where we can and usually this seems to result in notes on the meters being included, even if rather briefly for our liking. On some occasions though real gems result from such contacts and this is one.

"TRINIDAD & TOBAGO POSTAL METER STAMPS" by R. G. Wike.

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In this book Ron Wike has brought together all the facts that we were able to give him together with all those he has been able to obtain from the members of the Trinidad Philatelic Society.

He starts with an introduction to describe the basics on meters, how we define them, who uses them, when they were first introduced in Norway, etc. and the various types of machines and the constituent parts of the impression. He then goes on to relate the more local details of their introduction in the islands, reproducing the ordinance that allowed their use and details of a users licence.

A table to illustrate the (to us) somewhat confusing currency change in 1935 onwards and 1948 is followed by notes on townmarks, slogans and the various makes of machines used.

The actual listing, fully illustrated with slightly reduced size of impressions, follows a pattern we have used ourselves in the past, listing each make separately, thus all the Neopost LV's, then the 305's and so on. The list of normal postage machines is followed by details of the Post Office parcel machines (which we did not even know existed in some cases until we started corresponding with the author) and although Mr Wike has not attempted to put prices against various types he has indicated their relative scarcity or rarity, based on a sort of "census" of who has what. We do not disagree with any of his classifications of scarcity but of course if any of our members has a superfluity of TIM or Satas we would be delighted to hear from them !

Finally he gives a list of all the known users, many more than we had imagined, with details and dates where known of replacements or transfers.

The whole book, 50 pages, offset on good quality paper with card covers, is handsomely produced by Harry Hayes, whose work on philatelic publications certainly deserves support.

Available from the author, R. G. Wike, 15 Oaklands, Curdworth, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B76 9HD at the specially reduced price for MSSG members of £3.60 including postage, etc. Fully recommended.

THE BULLETIN

As members will know, this is the first issue of the Bulletin we have sent out for some time. The reasons for our long absence are several, entirely unconnected, but adding up to prevent your Hon. Sec. having the time for the necessary preparation.

However, the greater part of these difficulties (changing job, a spell of not being very well and an increased involvement in other activities which could not be avoided) have now resolved themselves and we hope now to be able to catch up gradually.

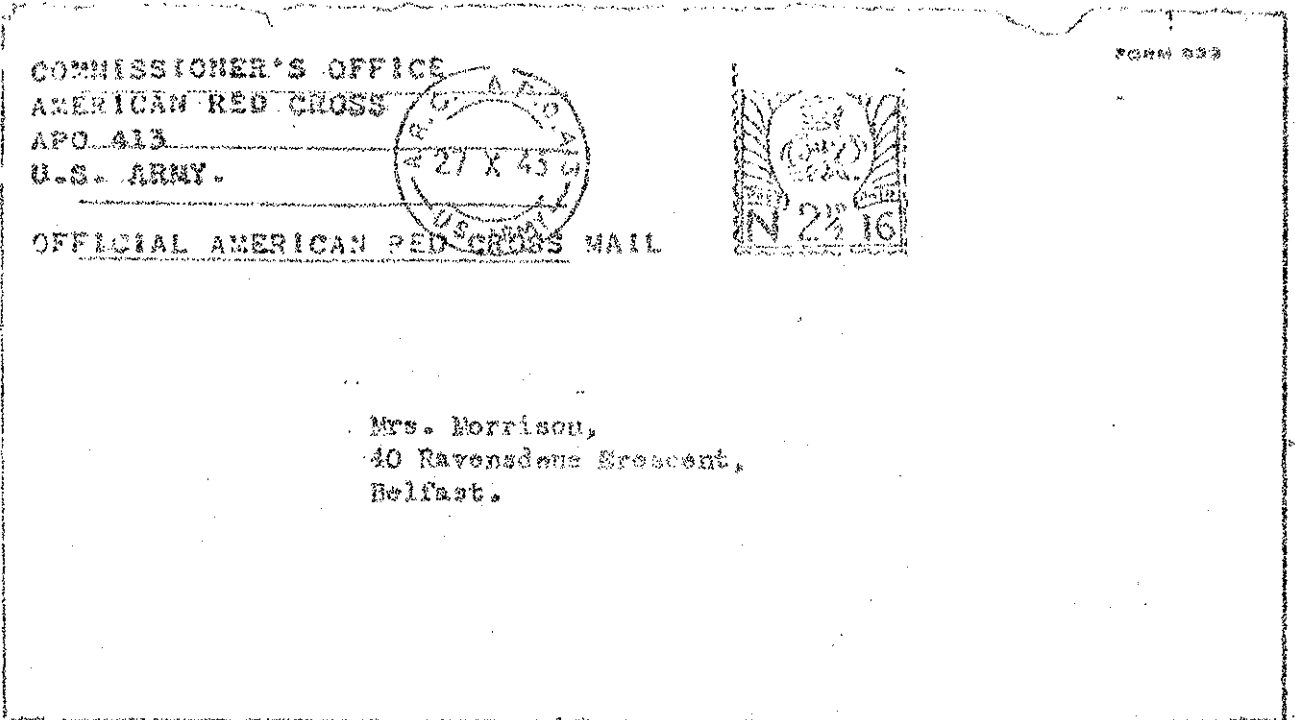
Some members have written to enquire about their subscriptions and what we propose to do is to consider subscriptions for 1980 to last until issue number 133 and for 1981 to number 137, etc.

Please do not send any subscriptions at the moment, each member will receive a note of their personal position shortly, but, of course, keep us informed of any changes of address, etc.

Finally, there is a back-log of correspondence to catch up with, this also we have now been able to make a start on.

John Mann.





A G.B. RARITY and a query on it.

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Mr K. B. Millar recently showed us this impression of Barfoot-Simon number 94(e), a Neopost L.V. used with a townmark specially inscribed for the American Red Cross as "A.R.C.A.P.O. 413/U.S. ARMY" and described in the catalogue as "RRR".

It is one in fact that we personally have never seen before and we have no idea how many there are about, but looking at it does raise one query in our minds which members may be able to answer.

In Great Britain the numbering of these Neopost L.V. machines at that time, like others at the time, started at 1 in each town or postal district so that we had N 1, N 2, N 3 etc in many different places. There were some cases of machines migrating during the war years and retaining their original numbers, which have been described as abnormal (e.g. N 50 used in a small town where the numbers had only reached, say, N 10 and thus the 50 did not clash with an existing licence even though there were gaps.

Now, where was US Army Post Office 413 in 1945 and did this town, or district, have an N 16 as well as this one, was it numbered in with others or was it a migrant. Alternatively, was a local N 16 converted by a new townmark ?

CeBIT at the Hanover Fair.

by Ernst Muhr.

A few issues ago we wrote some notes on a recent exhibition held in London where meter manufacturers showed their wares, as they used to do at the old Business Efficiency Exhibition. Ernst Muhr recently went to the Hanover Fair and these notes are of what he saw at CeBIT (that is an abbreviation of World Centre for Bureau (Office) and Information Technology and was as far as he could tell the largest singular part of the fair covering an area of over 80 000 m<sup>2</sup> or nearly 1 million square feet. The largest part was devoted to computers but one section was concerned with mail processing.

He visited the stands of Frama, Francotyp (this one jointly with Postalia), Hasler, Pitney Bowes and Stiélow, who is the German agent for Roneo-Neopost. Krag had a stand (in fact next door to Pitney Bowes but for some reason he missed visiting this one. On all the stands he saw meters were shown as part of an integrated mail handling system from letter opening, addressing, labelling, sorting, collating to folding, enveloping, franking and bundling. The German word for such a complete production line is Postrasse, literally postal street, and it was used by all these makers.

Frama had a relatively small stand with little equipment to show, among it a paper "shaker" used to open up bundles for further processing and for aligning collated paper. There was only one model of meter, model number not noted, 3 or 4-bank, motor driven, automatic switch-on and motor transportation. As with all the others the frank proper was the usual German one, in the size and with the details for this make but the town-mark had the German equivalent of "Demonstration Stamp". The date was in the usual Frama style with Arabic month, as all have in Germany. Again, as required in Germany, all meters print an exchangeable advertising slogan plus a small vertical Postage Paid when required, and, another feature which now seems to be available on all meters used in Germany except the Postalia, the mailing class indicator. The date and slogan may be omitted but German regulations require that they be shown. (Figs 1 & 2)

Francotyp gave much more space over to meters and shared a very large stand with Postalia, each using half of it. They point out that their own meter does not have to be taken to the Post Office for resetting because of their "card" system, the values of which now go up to DM 5000. All of the meters now have very narrow setting and all of them have the C-style oval figures of value (i.e. the A & B style with different 4's, is out), the C-style date figures, with the second dot before the year, slogan, postage paid and mail classification. (Fig 3)

The smallest is the Ccm6000, 3- to 5-bank (though for postal use they only supply 3 and 4 bank, as also in the larger models), manual exchange of slogan, class and postage paid, manual feed, motor driven. The Cc6000 is crank driven but a motor can be fitted later. Francotyp say that over 100 000 meters have been sold in the Cc series. The speed is 3600 per hour, Cm7000 (for 7000 pieces per hour) and Cm10000 are two meters of the same basic model with slogan, automatic change of mail class (3 different plus

### CeBIT at the Hanover Fair (Contd)

none) and postage paid. The meter is built to be added to postal streets and goes up to 5-bank. A 9000 is apparently a heavy-duty meter, with up to 6-bank, slogan, mail class, postage paid, subtotal, fittable to postal streets. With 6-bank the lever for mail class disappears, but as 6-bank is only used for tax this does not matter.

Editors Note It was the model A 9000 that was sold in Great Britain by Acral Ltd as the Acral A 9000 using the prefix in service of AC.A

A completely new model is the A 9100, modern styling and of course quite different mechanically. It goes up to 6-bank, has all the features of the A 9000 and can be fitted with an AZ 9050 feeder device, which adds up to a small postal street.

Whilst at the Francotyp stand Ernst had a discussion with one of the engineers on two subjects that occupy the minds of us meter collectors. Why so many variations in the distances between individual figures of value and in the setting between the value and the townmark. The answer really was as we have often suspected, each model is mechanically different one from the other and added to that the fact that wheels, levers and what not have to be moved to fit 3, 4 or more figures of value would account for the variations. The second point was the variations in the designs of the frank in smaller details such as the posthorns and the lettering. The answer here is quite simple, there was no standard master die to start with and when the current master die was worn out a new one was made, starting from scratch. Pitney Bowes as we have recently mentioned elsewhere have tended to have a standard master die but Universal in Great Britain certainly seemed to have made new ones every so often.

However, back to the exhibition.

Hasler showed their F 204 with manual and automatic feed, with or without sealing, plus of course other postal street equipment. It has all the features, slogan, postage paid and mail class and comes in either 3- or 4-bank models but in both cases there are four figures, a fixed zero being added to the left of the 3-bank. On being asked why the representative on the stand said that it was to stop people altering values like 900 to 1900 but Ernst thinks this is a bit far fetched, especially as most 3-bank or even 2-bank machines have the figures centred. Date figures are standard Hasler. (In Great Britain this is called the F 1204, is this to distinguish them from the Roneo-Neoposts 205, 305, etc numbers ?) (Fig 4)

Pitney Bowes showed many different lines of products although it must be said that the accent was on postal streets. For the first time in Germany they showed the Model RF (3½ bank) billed as Model 2276. The RF is known on USA reference charts as the 2280 so it is possible that this 2276 is either a new version or one modified for Germany. He was given to understand that one of the reasons that it had never been approved before was the very large amount of postage with which it can be credited, in this case it is DM 99000. Figures of value are w005 and the date is the same as those used in Great Britain, i.e. Arabic month with stops. No mail class printed.

CeBIT at the Hanover Fair (Contd)

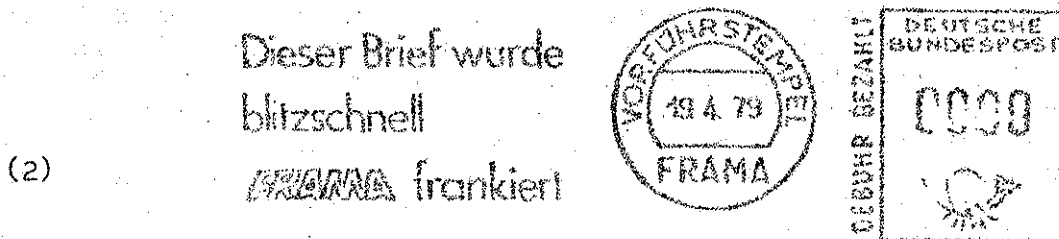
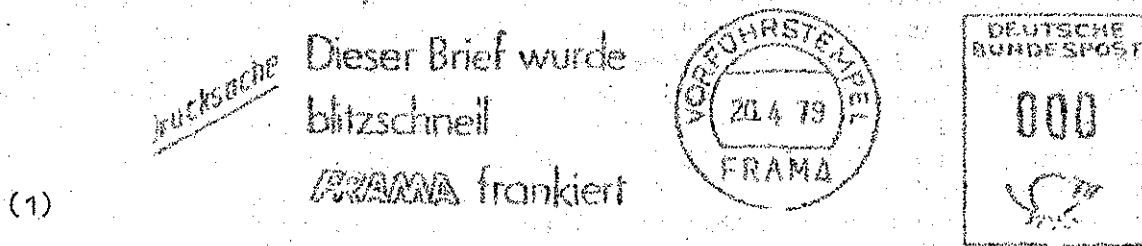
It will not be possible with German impressions to distinguish between the Series 5000 and Model 6300 machines (Britains PBT and PBL) because both have the figures of value in line with the date figures, whereas elsewhere the Series 5000 has them lower. All of them print the wavy line (wool) whether they are 3-bank (5337, 6337) or 4-bank (5347, 6347). Date figures too are the same for all, thicker and smaller than the older ones. The 5300 has slogan, postage paid and mail class, the 6300 does not have the mail class facility but of course the slogan can be changed to add this. (Figs 5 & 6).

Pitney Bowes showed, as against the other makers, self-adhesive strips on backing instead of the normal tapes. There are two strips on a card and when they are peeled off the centre of the card remains. They are white as is tape now in Germany (though in Brazil they have yellow with the PB logo as a background).

Postalia showed their standard 3- and 4-bank "pressing iron" which can be hand operated or used with electric, electronic (?) or automatic drives. The townmark is DC-A not the new standard German. There is a slogan but no postage paid or mail class. One could add of course that this machine has been around for so long that it was invented before such things as postage paid and mail classes were even thought of ! (Fig 7)

The bringing together of these two, Francotyp and Postalia by the one owning group means that all new developments appear to be coming under the name of Francotyp.

The Roneo-Neopost machine on the Steilow stand is of course the most recent one, the Model 505, but Mr Muhr did not add any more details on this particular one (Fig 8)





CeBIT at the Hanover Fair (Contd)


(3) *Päckchen*

**Francotyp**  
Postbearbeitungssysteme

Francotyp.  
Ihr Partner  
für Postbearbeitung.

VORFUHRSTEMPEL  
20. 4. 79  
0000

DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST  
000




(4)

**Die Neue von Hasler**

VORFUHRSTEMPEL  
20. 4. 79  
HASLER

DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST  
0060




(5)

**Pitney Bowes hilft Ihnen Postkosten scharf beschneiden**

VORFUHRSTEMPEL  
19. 4. 79  
PB

DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST  
E 060




(6) *Ein-schreiben*

**Pitney Bowes hilft Ihnen Postkosten scharf beschneiden**

VORFUHRSTEMPEL  
19. 4. 79  
PB

DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST  
E 000




(7)

**POSTALIA Elektrik „Standard“ die elektrische Ausbaustufe für nur DM 795,-**

VORFUHRSTEMPEL  
20. 4. 79  
POSTALIA

DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST  
000



(8)

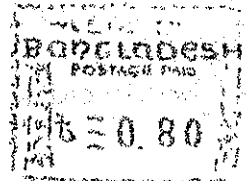
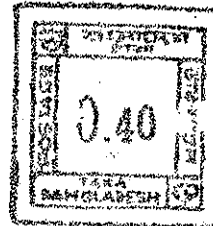
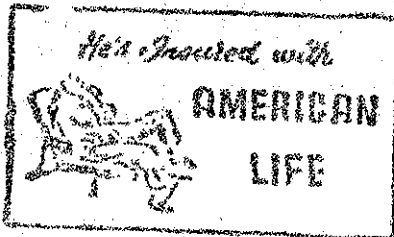
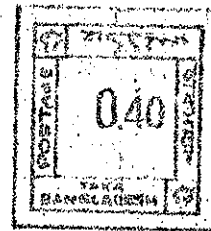
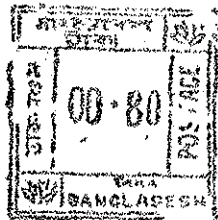
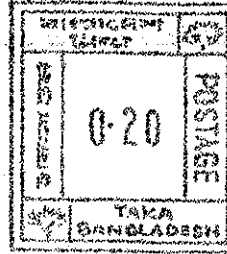
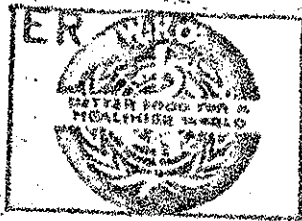
*Stielow*

**neopost**  
FRANKIERMASCHINEN

VORFUHRSTEMPEL  
20. 4. 79  
STIELOW

DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST  
0060





BANGLADESH - THE DEFINITIVE TYPES

We have so far only illustrated one definitive design from this country and mentioned another. To be honest, nearly all the impressions we have seen have been either a bit on the faint side or on brown paper, or both, and difficult to reproduce. As time goes by though, clearer ones come to hand and thanks mainly to Karl Topf we can now show them. The Roneo-Neopost Model 305 comes in two versions, 3- and 4-bank, the first with a large die and the second with a much smaller one. The next appears to be an Automax but if so it has lost the "=" which normally precedes the value on them. The Pitney Bowes Universal MV and finally the one we have mentioned, the Series 5000. The design of this last seems to have pillars at each side and we assume that the sign rather like a musical cleff at the left of the figures indicates the currency of Taka. Looking at all the others we are intrigued by the variations in the distance of the outer frame from the inner box and wonder whether something happened similar to the Indian State adhesive many years ago when the engraver was given an illustration and reproduced the perforations as well. The Automax and the Universal certainly look at first sight to be cut-outs !

## NOTES AND NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

= with, as always, thanks to our band of faithful reporters.

GERMANY. In Bulletin 117 (MSB XIV/75) we illustrated an impression that Werner Simon had sent us and wondered if anyone knew what it was.

Heiner Durst writes to say that a friend of his showed it to Postalia and was told "This print is from a trial model which has never been in use and for which they have not asked and postal authority for concession.

IRAN. Dates on Iranian machines have normally been shown in the form we are used to, day month year with the month figure in Roman figures or, on some machines, with the figures in "Persian" types and on others in both side by side or above each other. A variant which may have been somewhat short lived in the light of recent history is one on a Pitney Bowes (GB) Series 5000 which has 12.11.35 The written date is 31 JAN 77 and Mr Lapham suggests that the 35 is the 35th year of the accession of the Shah in 1941. Such similar date systems have been used elsewhere, such as Italy and Japan.

ITALY. The Lirma in a five-figure version (ESL)

LESOTHO. George Pearson shows us the Roneo-Neopost Model 505, design similar to the 105 but in horizontal form. LP 9 used from Maseru on 10 II 78 with value as 0,01

NETHERLANDS. We do not appear to have ever recorded the Francotyp with 5 figures of value. Ed Lapham shows us FR 20701 used from Eindhoven on 15 XII 77 with value as z0001

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES. Pitney Bowes Model 6300 in a design similar to but smaller than the one used for the (GB) Series 5000. PB 016 used from Curacao on 12.10.77 with value as w001 (GRP)

NEW ZEALAND. Additional values for the New Rotex (Prefix B) are 5 and 10 and for the Mailmaster (Prefix Y) the 7 (ESL)

The Moss machines used by various Government Departments with specially engraved dies have always been an interesting group, not least for the fact that even after many years "new" ones keep turning up.

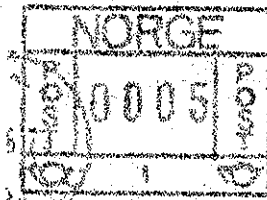
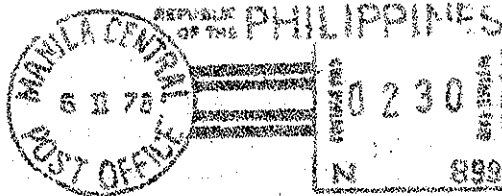
George Pearson shows us two new ones on one piece - a label from what must have been a hefty parcel - and these are in Barfoot-Simon Type D 37 inscribed "TOURIST DEPT WELL" at the bottom "A" in centre and values of ONE PENNY and ONE SHILLING. There are actually two 1d and three 1/- impressions on this rather spectacular piece.

The same two values are recorded for the Tourist Department on the earlier and much less common Type D 1 - the circular die used in 1907.

PHILIPPINES. The Automax comes in a version with 5 figures of value, as =00.01 as well as the 4-figure version we have recorded. Ed Lapham shows us PB.22957 used from Manila on -1 X 75.

The Roneo-Neopost Model 505 (ESL)

Notes and News from other countries (contd.)



NORWAY. The Frama Parcel Post machine has now been introduced here. This one, from George Pearson, was used on 14.5.79 from Oslo.

ROUMANIA. All machines we have seen from this country have had a number at the bottom of the townmark. Mr Lapham shows us a Francotyp used from Bucharest on 18.8.77 which has SERIA 2 at the bottom. We are not sure what the SERIA stands for.

SOUTH AFRICA. Two additional values for the Neopost LV (Barfoot-Simon Type 29) are the 1/3 and 2/-

The Pitney Bowes Model R in the Republic design - it can be distinguished from the similar (US) Series 5000 by its smaller value box, different date figures and ornaments to the left of the townmark circle - comes with the value figures in two forms.

P.B.011 has  $W00\frac{1}{2}$  and P.B.016 has  $000\frac{1}{2}$  and each of them is numbered in the same series as the 6000's

Additionalas to the listing of Decimal machines prior to the Republican dies are -

Francotyp  $24\frac{1}{2}$  x 31mm with value 3-bank as 0,01 (comma, no stop) (F.562)

Francotyp  $28\frac{1}{2}$  x 32mm with value 5-bank as  $z000\frac{1}{2}$  (no stop)(F.324)

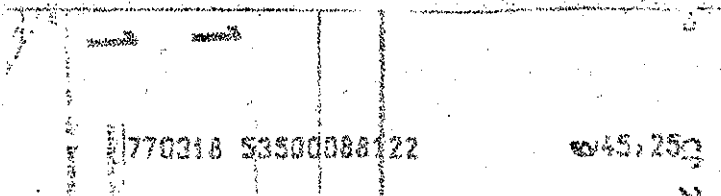
Pitney Bowes Automax with R in frank and hyphen between SUID and AFRIKA

4-bank as  $RO.00\frac{1}{2}$  (UA 3)

4-bank as  $R=.00\frac{1}{2}$  (UA 5)

SWEDEN. Various machines in what seems to be new groups of numbers are the Pitney Bowes (GB) Series 5000 - 25069, the Francotyp C - 27028 and the Francotyp Cc - 70132 (ESL).

Parcel Post machine at Gothenberg on 18.3.77: impression is in black. ? make. (GRP)



Notes and News from other countries (contd)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. Mr Bogue shows us a Postalia, PA 1, used from Dubai on -1.4.78 in a design similar to that used for the Pitney Bowes. Value is 3-bank, as 001



VATICAN. Two more versions of the Francotyp with figures of value either x001 Angular or 001 Oval, which are both in a narrower setting than the one we showed in MSB 122 (XV/40) and have "Italian" type side ornaments and, unusually, POSTE VATICANO instead of the usual CITTA DEL VATICANO, as does the Lirma, again with foliage at the sides. (ESL)

WERE ANY OF THESE ACTUALLY USED ?

Heiner Durst writes to tell us that he has recently acquired, from the collection of an old German collector, now deceased, these Kumosina proofs (for the benefit of newcomers, Kumosina was the predecessor of Postalia).

He asks if any of our members can tell him if they have actual postally used specimens. If so, he would like to know of them, he is at Ruschlikon/Zh, 8803 Alte Landstrasse 60, Switzerland. Postalia was authorised during the German occupation of Norway in 1944 but this was revoked in 1945. They were re-licenced later, but in both cases in a different style.

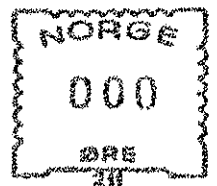
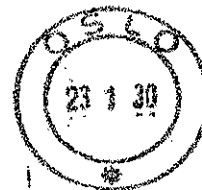
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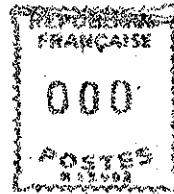


GUSTAV A. RING

Were any of these actually used ?

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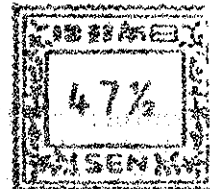
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Для про-паганды и рекламы



Для учреждений или фирмы

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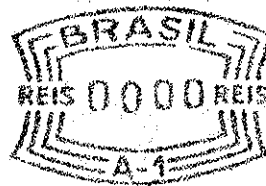
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PROPAGANDA



NOME DA CASA COMMERCIAL