

HON. SECRETARY  
and TREASURER :

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

SECRETARY'S NOTES  
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Membership. We have one change of address to record with this issue of the Bulletin :

Dr R. A. McInroy, now "West Royd", 112 Allerton Road, Bradford,  
West Yorkshire, BD8 0AQ

Meters at Exhibitions. We are fortunate in London with normally having two annual exhibitions, Stampex in the spring and the British Philatelic Exhibition in the autumn. The former has for some years been held at the New Horticultural Halls in Victoria and the latter has now moved to vastly improved premises at Wembley.

This year, too, we are looking forward to the London 1980 International to be held at Olympia.

Now, what are we likely to find in the way of meters in these ?

As far as Stampex is concerned there have been in recent years some entries which have been entirely meters, one particularly was a study of the townmarks used on GvR machines and another on General GB types.

From memory there have not been any wholly meter displays at the BPE but there, as at Stampex, we seem to have noticed an increasing tendency to illustrate other things by using meters. Last year at Wembley a display of German material connected with the Olympic Games had quite a few and in another on Czechoslovak currency changes meters were to the fore.

As we ourselves have often said, we regard meters as part of modern postal history so they should play a part in many stories and if they do not then all of us are the losers.

As far as the wholly meter entry is concerned, the fault must lie with us because if entries are not submitted they cannot be included and the

Meters at Exhibitions (Contd)

general collector who visits the show cannot see them or be made aware even of their existence. It is of course not always easy to pick a particular group as being suitable for competitive display, some of what we regard as important points are not so for others but we urge all members to try and submit displays to exhibitions - you might be surprised at the result.

Whether we will see any wholly meter entries at the International we do not know but going from the entry requirements (Silver medal etc at a National exhibition) it seems unlikely, but we will be looking for meters included in other displays and any of particular note will of course be reported here.

NOTES FROM SWITZERLAND  
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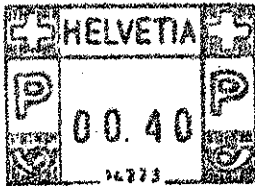
In our next issue we expect to be reviewing Henry Durst's new catalogue of meter stamps from Switzerland and Liechtenstein but just to whet your appetites we thought you would like to see the following :

What is described by Mr Durst as Type 4 has now appeared on most types of machine and the comparative group helps to show the main differences between them.

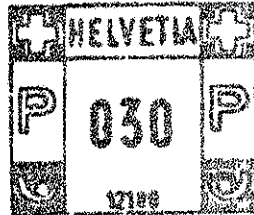
To show how detailed has been his research - and also how consistent is the engraving of the Swiss dies - we also include enlargements of part of the top of the frame and the two bottom corners containing the posthorns of what he has classified as 4D, 4E and 4D1 and 4E1, the main differences are in the positioning of the HELVETIA and the top line and the shape of the mouth of the posthorn.



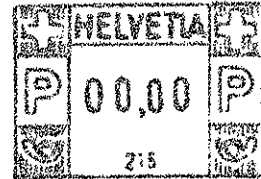
Notes from Switzerland (Contd)



Type 4A - Adrema PB I  
32/33 x 23 mm



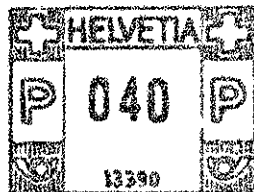
Type 4B - Frama I  
32 x 26 mm



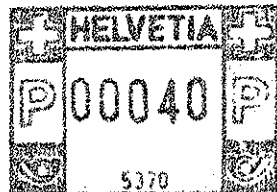
Type 4C - Hasler 215  
32 x 23 mm



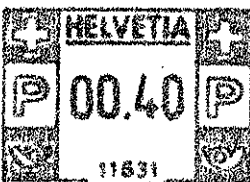
Type 4D - Hasler F66/68  
32 x 25 mm



Type 4E - Hasler F66/68  
32 x 25 mm



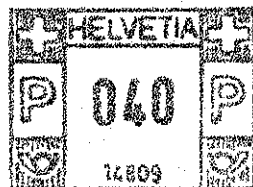
Type 4EE - Hasler 66  
34 x 25 mm (5-stellig)



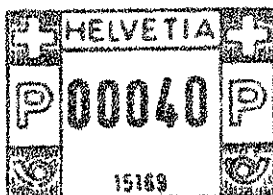
Type 4F - Francotyp  
32,5 x 23 mm



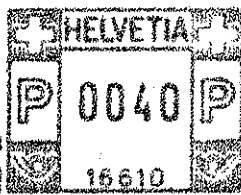
Type 4G - Adrema PB II  
29,5 x 22 mm



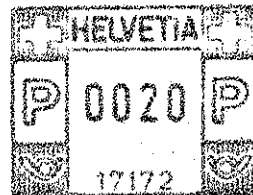
Type 4H - Frama II  
32 x 24 mm



Type 4H1 - Frama II  
34,5 x 25 mm (5-stellig)



Type 4J - Probe 16610  
30 x 24 mm (Hasler)

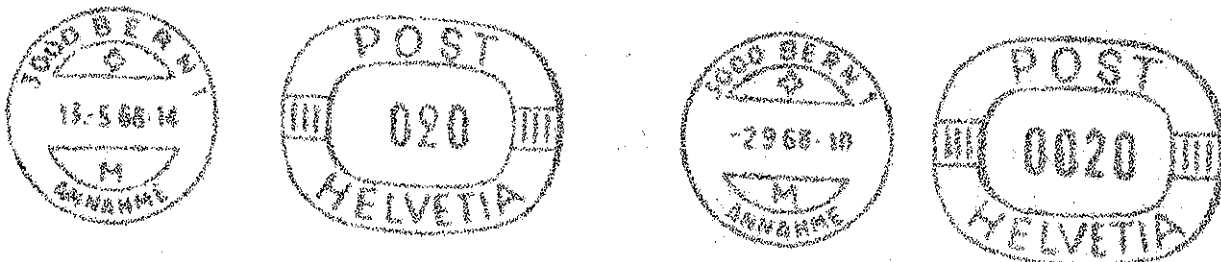


Type 4K - Mailmaster  
32 x 25 mm (Hasler)

Some years ago (MSB 67) we wrote on the subject of the machines used to value postal stationery sent in by customers - rather like our "stamped to order service" that was - and showed two oval designs used from 1960, each without townmark.

The two illustrated overleaf are in the same design but with a townmark and were used for two months each by the Postal Authorities in Berne in 1968. The earlier is a Hasler and the later a Frama.

Notes from Switzerland (Contd)



G. B. NOTES

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Francotyp C (Acral A.9000) We have never published much about this small group of machines - in fact apart from one regular correspondent we have only seen one or two anyway in our own mail - and some time ago we asked members to check on numbers. The reason was that we were querying the "highest number" recorded, for a long time A.C.A.40 and then a large jump to a higher number which we now think was incorrectly interpreted from a bad impression.

Peter Wood has since then sent us a list of those he has and they are 3, 6 to 12, 15, 18, 19, 23 to 26, 28, 34, 35, 39 and 40.

This list covers all those mentioned in the Bulletin except AC.A.1 reported as coming into use but not actually seen and confirms us in our belief that 40 was the highest number reached.

He also notes one other detail we had missed. AC.A.40 has the month in Arabic figures as 30.6.77 whereas all the others have the month in Roman figures.

Hasler Model F1204. These machines, introduced in 1978 with an HF prefix, have a 5-figure number which we assume is the actual machine number. Those we saw at an exhibition were in the 183-- range and reports since then have been in the 185--, 186-- and latterly 188-- ranges. However, George Stelfox also reports HF 29226 used from London W.1. and this seems too big a jump even for the most optimistic meter salesman. We wonder if there are in fact two separate series of numbers currently being used and also whether, in fact, either one or both of them is international, i.e. the particular group is not necessarily all sold in one country.

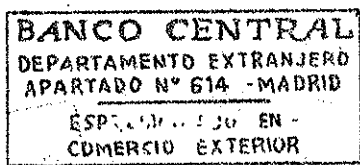
Pitney Bowes Model 6300. Ernst Muhr wonders whether some of these machines have been fitted with a limit of 50p. The query is prompted by a cover addressed to him which has on it 4 "tapes" from PBL 1839 B, two of 50p, one of 45p and one of 24p. We understood that the upper limit was 99½p so surely it could have been done in two impressions - or would the maths have been too difficult !!



Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)

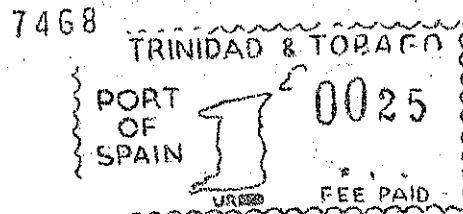
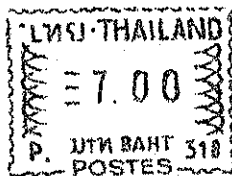
SWITZERLAND. We have already noted that the "production" order for the Frama coin-operated machine would have no numbers on them and that A - 1 to A - 4 were having the numbers removed from the trial dies. Thanks as usual to Heiner Durst we show (on the previous page) one of the un-numbered dies - Helvetia and the "P"s are smaller now - and even a further development of the Parcel Post machine with a square townmark, this now has the time (09) shown after the date.

The Pitney Bowes Parcel Post machine we illustrated in MSB 122 (XV/37) has now appeared on a pink "tape".



SPAIN. Pitney Bowes Model R with 5 figures of value instead of 4 as we have shown before (ESL)

THAILAND. Pitney Bowes Model 6300. (ESL)



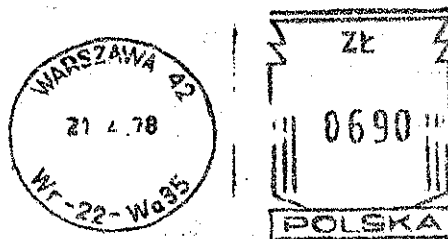
16 X 1159

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. "Revenue" machine used for postage, there is also a much larger version. (Ed Lapham and Ron Wike)

Editors Note: We have been wanting to mention this design and also the larger version of it for some time, ever since we started corresponding with Ron Wike whilst he was preparing his recent excellent book on the meters of Trinidad and Tobago. It is of course one of the penalties of helping an author with his work that of course we cannot publish anything which is in the nature of a "discovery" well in advance/

Notes and News from Overseas (Contd)

POLAND. Yet another form for the Postalia (MdeW)



URUGUAY. Another variety of the Hasler in the new currency is Permiso No 419, without "CTS" after the N\$ (ESL)

ZAMBIA. Hal Hoyte shows us an interesting impression from Roneo-Neopost Model 305 number RN 706 used from Lusaka in November 1976 - the day is missing - and decimal currency value as 0.05- but still with the Eagle at the bottom. This latter should have been removed at the time the currency was changed.

He also notes that Postalia have reached P<sup>44</sup> and mentions Pitney Bowes PB 0052 with a townmark reading ACH KABWE in 1976, he wonders what the ACH stands for.

OUR FRIENDS OVERSEAS  
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From time to time we mention groups such as ours in other countries, we quote from their publications and even on some occasions are able to help them in some small way. Naturally, we are pleased to co-operate in any way with like minded groups of collectors, there is no "copyright" in collecting and the more we can help each other then the more will our collecting interests spread, and that can only do good.

Merely mentioning them does, however, seem to be rather assuming that all our members know what they, the groups, are doing, but because the joint membership seems to be small it seems opportune to devote a little space to them.

Longest known to us is the Meter Stamp Society in the U.S.A.

For many years they have published the "Meter Stamp Society Bulletin" and although for a long time it concentrated mainly on U.S.A. news and views in more recent years they have branched out with news from many other countries. The number of pages has also been increased.

## Our Friends Overseas (Contd)

The bulletins themselves are produced offset-litho in a reduced form - this does mean smaller illustrations of course but the clarity is still very good - and are sometimes issued in double numbers.

Nos 167 and 168 issued in 1979 (Nos 3 & 4) had a wide variety of notes, with, as would be expected, a bias towards USA and USA territories. It included articles on the Frama self-service machines, US Official Mail, Armed Services Meters, History and Types in Czechoslovakia, prices realised at auctions and new publications.

Another field of activity that members of the Meter Stamp Society are very interested in is recording all the USA towns and locations from which meters have been used and new "discoveries" are listed so that interested members can keep their lists up to date.

The one included with this particular bulletin lists new "towns" from no less than 37 of the 50 States and also APO (Army Post Office), MFZC (Mailed From Zip Code) as well as the Caroline Islands and the Marshall Islands. This is a huge task but as a group they have been working at it for years and must be congratulated.

President of the MSS is Ed. Lapham, Editor in Chief Werner Simon and the Secretary

Gabriel Pustel,  
34 Laurelton Avenue,  
Jackson,  
NJ 08527, U.S.A.      all friends and members.

At the other end of the world we have the "Meter Bulletin" which is published by an Australian group and printed by another old friend,

Richard C. Peck,  
P.O. Box 85,  
Drummoyne, NSW 2047,  
Australia.

This is duplicated, originally foolscap but now on A4 and contains regular notes on matters in Australia and also Papua New Guinea.

Again, the main work of the group is the monumental task of recording what has been used, in this case every machine, and they are carrying on the work started many years ago by some early collectors and published regularly at the time in the Australian Stamp Monthly. All the problems are there: the incredibly complicated systems of numbering used in the Commonwealth from time to time, the use of meters for Railway Parcels, which they include, and the sheer effort of actually going through many thousands of covers to find each new one.

They have the nucleus of an archive collection which when mounted is being kept at Philas House in Sydney, a unique establishment devoted



Our Friends Overseas (Contd)

to philately in its many aspects and to which the Australian meter collectors, particularly Mr Peck, have contributed.

Still a long way away from us is a group led by:

Mr Takaaki Ishii,  
37-7 Ryogoku, 4-chome,  
Sumida-ku No 130,  
Tokyo, Japan.

who are kind enough to send us copies of their occasional bulletins.

These are all in Japanese and we do not always fully understand all the contents but they consist mainly of illustrated full lists of all the machines of a particular group, with tables of sub-types, etc. One we have in front of us as we write this includes details of the Satas SG and SV machines running to 22 pages of illustrations and 6 of lists. There are even some blank spaces left for new additions (and of actual examples?)

Very attractively produced - illustrations in red - and each issue enclosed in a cover, using what appears to be offset-litho or some kind of electrostatic process and all copies individually numbered.

We must say again, the recording of all machines must be a huge task for a country using as many machines as Japan.

Coming nearer home we have in recent years come to know a group in Czechoslovakia where our contact is:

Dr Miroslav Bouska,  
Jodasova 1069,  
180 00 Praha 8 - Kobylisy,  
Czechoslovakia.

and they too produce bulletins using a reduced format offset-litho process similar to the MSS in the USA. These are called "Vyplatni Otisky" (Meter Stamps in English) and apart from the notes and articles - well illustrated - on matters Czech, also have notes from other countries.

This group has also had included in "Filatelie" Nos 6/1979 to 21/1979 a catalogue of Meter Stamps used in Czechoslovakia from their introduction in 1926 to 1939 when the country was occupied and divided by Germany.

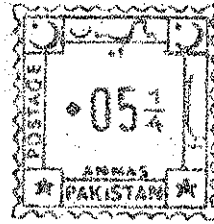
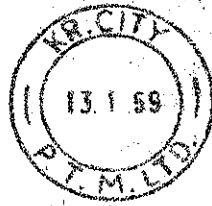
This is divided in parts and actually lists all the machines used during the period, with varieties, and lists and illustrates known essays. The bulletins are of course in the local language but not difficult to follow. An English version of the list has appeared in the MSS bulletin.

Both the American and Australian groups have produced handbook/catalogues of the meter stamps used in their countries and we have noted and reviewed these already.

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN

===== In our last issue we showed some Francotyp essays and we finish this issue with some more. They are all thanks to George Pearson.

**M.F.M.Y.I.**  
**M.F.M.Y. Industries Ltd.**  
 22-23 MARRIOT ROAD  
 KARACHI-2



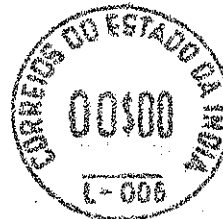
**R. J. MELAMED**  
**REPRESENTACIONES**  
 ASUNCION, PARAGUAY  
 C.C. 676



**VOLKSWAGEN**  
 o bom senso  
 em automóvel!



**ROBERT NEPP - C.P. 60 GOA**



**Francotyp**

