

Canada Meter Stamp Newsletter



No. 37

SPRING 1993

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EDITOR'S NOTES

This issue of CMSG Newsletter returns to regular metered mail and we cover the Type 12 Commercial Controls postage meter. First, we do want to thank Rich Toop for his major effort with the NIXDORF listing in NL 36, and to Dave Cooper for fitting it all into one issue. Please check your collection against the list and let myself or Rich know about any errors or omissions. I even have a short list myself. I would like to run the corrections next NL.

I am not sure I should print rumours, but why not! It is said that postage meter indicia will be modified to read MAIL*POSTE instead of POSTAGE POSTES. If anyone gets one of these please send a photocopy for the NL. There may be some truth in it as I just received a large envelope bearing the standard rectangular envelope appearing CANADA POSTAGE POSTES CANADA which has been in use for bulk mail for 20 years. A label was pasted over it bearing the new MAIL*POSTE indicia. It came from Edmonton. If this happens we will have a few more meter types to catalogue.

METER NEWS

Below is an indicia by Pitney Bowes from a new mailing system that was just introduced on September 22, 1992, as well as one I received in the mail. The advertisement is reproduced so you can read the details of this system. Note that the date of the indicia in the ad is 92.08.18, which is probably close to the time it was approved by Canada Post. The system has also been introduced in the USA.

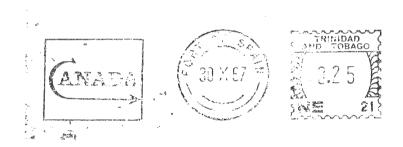
It is called the Mail Centre 2000 Paragon Mail Processor and has all the bells and whistles. It accepts mail of assorted sizes in a tray, feeds and weighs each piece, seals and applies the proper postage, records the transaction and produces a report of the days transactions. Prior sorting by size is a thing of the past. It will process 250 pieces a minute. I have not been able to find much on the postage meter but it has three different stored meter ads. The date is set electronically. It produces a tape for parcels. They call it a "Present Impression" meter.

Note the date is the new style of Y-M-D. Their ad shows an example dated at Ottawa 92.08.18. The ad appears to be a 4-bank meter but the above impression looks as if it might be a decimal meter as well.

Wilf Whitehouse sends the illustation below. This item was not listed on page 35-15. Unless someone produces an illustration of 14.1.2 I will use that number for this specimen, altherwise it has to go at the end.

No one has sent in any new meter towns for a long time. I hardly know what has been reported. In any case I acquired:

CROOKED RIVER SASK	665932	ROUYN NORANDA QUE.	330037
FOAM LAKE SASK	H2002354	E.T.L.C. H3C 1S0	1002122
KUROKI SASK	690471	WICKHAM PQ	590226
MUIRKIRK ONT	579301	ANGUS ONT RUSSELL ONT. GLENCOE ONT COPETWON ONT	563990
WATERFORD ONT.	403202		??????
ROCKWOOD ONT	882940		879346
WALTON ONT	678909		667879

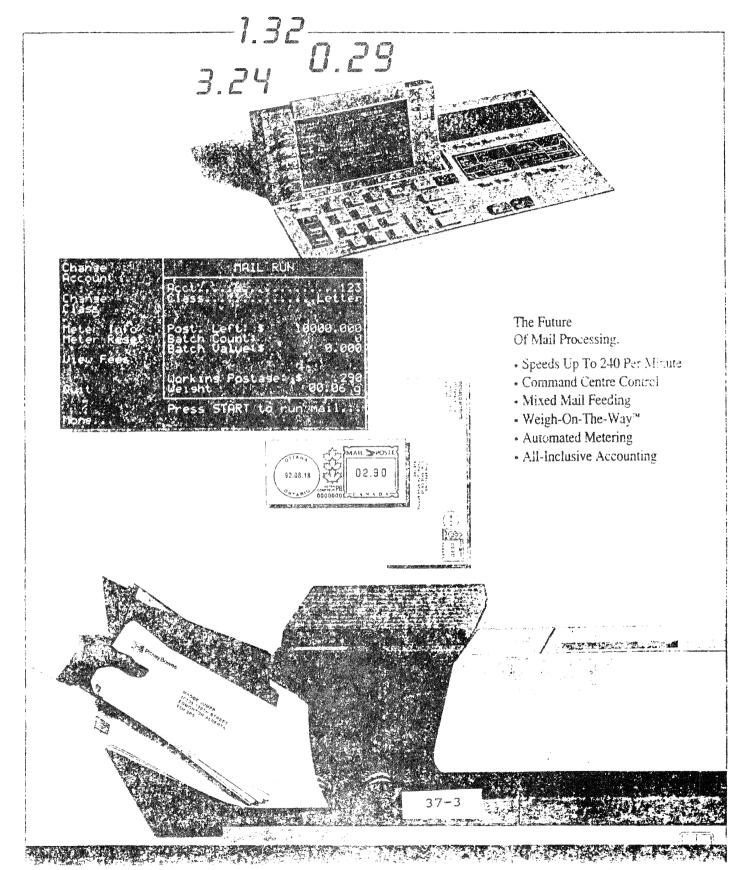


We know how business works. We started in the malfroom.









Pitney Bowes brings you the future of mail processing.

Mail Centre 2000™ -

This is it. The end of mail processing as it used to be. The beginning of the future.

It is Mail Centre 2000™. A whole new generation of mail processing products and systems. Unlike anything you've ever seen before.

The star of the Mail Centre 2000™ family, the leader of the revolution, is the PARAGON™ Mail Processor... a do-everything system that will change your mailroom forever.

PARAGON™,

it's mail processing transformed.

PARAGON™ was created to free you from your limitations. It has rewritten all the rules. From feeding to weighing to metering through accounting, you have never experienced such speed, control, accuracy, reliability and flexibility.

A revolution in control.



You operate PARAGON™ with fingertip control from the Para-Text™ Command Centre. Every function from weighing and metering through accounting is controlled by you on the easy-to-use, computerized master control panel. And every function is monitored and reported back to you... as it happens.

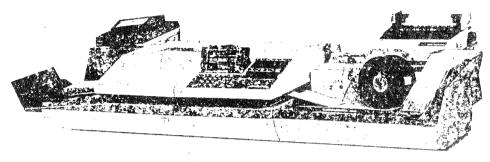
Sorting by size is a thing of the past.

PARAGON™ frees you forever. Because now you feed the mail as it comes. Large pieces

with small. Light with heavy. Open flap with closed. Sealed and unsealed envelopes in

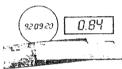


the same batch. Feed sizes as small as 5" or as large as 15" long and 3/4" thick. And every piece comes out sealed, posted and ready to go, saving an average of 12.5 hours per work week!



W-O-W™— Weigh-On-The-Way™.

This high-tech revolutionary system weighs every piece as it speeds through, automatically calculating the correct postage and setting the meter as it goes. PARAGON[™]



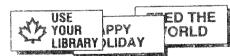
reaches speeds of 240 pieces per minute for uniform mail. And it automatically slows

when the W-O-W™ feature determines it's necessary due to size or weight — unbeatable throughput for all types of mail.

And PARAGON™ handles more than just letters and flats. Its integrated electronic platform scale weighs your parcels and provides meter tapes too!

Metering reinvented.

PARAGON™ gives you choice and control you never had before. You can select from 3 different stored meter ads with the touch of a button. And PARAGON™ not only knows and prints the correct date, but the Present Impression™ meter can be programmed to refill itself at the touch of a button.



Productive stacking.

PARAGON™ gives you the productivity you need. The input feeder accepts a full 7"stack. And your mail will exit into the 600-piece power stacker.

The genius of it all... and, your bottom line.



PARAGON™ knows all and sees all. Its Data Trail™ Accounting System tracks, stores and reports every piece of mail. It gives you formal reports on weight, size, quantity and destination. It lets you charge-back by account or department which shows where it really counts . . . on the bottom line.

Redefining customer service.

The revolutionary PARAGON™ is backed by revolutionary customer service.

- Free comprehensive operator training.
- Diagnostic hot line for instant over-thephone repair assistance.
- National computerized dispatch network assures the fastest local service response.
- Scheduled preventative maintenance for maximum uptime.

Our Unconditional Guarantee

Nobody takes customer satisfaction more seriously than we do. For five years, we'll repair or replace this Pitney Bowes mailing product if it does not perform to specifications when you purchase service from us.

To start revolutionizing your mailroom, call 1-800-465-3777 or 1-416-420-6959 in the Metropolitan Toronto Area.



NATIONAL POSTAGE METER - COMMERCIAL CONTROLS TYPE 12

Ross W. Irwin

Company History

The National Postal Meter Co. of Los Angeles, CA, was formed through a merger of the Mack, Whitlock and Multipost companies in 1933. These were early firms developed postage meters in the United States. The Nationa Postage Meter Co. developed three models of omni-denominational meters. Model 14 developed in July 1938 had a capacity of \$9.99; Model 14A developed in October 1940 had a capacity of \$1.99 and Model 14B to \$4.99. The NPM company moved their head office to Rochester, NY, in 1941.

A Mr Russell of NPM Co., Rochester, called at the Post Office September 11, 1942, and asked for approval after the war of their postage meter stating "authority might not look with favour on the introduction of a non-essential product during the war period". The Post Office replied there was "no point in doing it now."

On January 6, 1943 the N.P.M. Co. again made a request to demonstrate their postage meter to the Canadian Post Office for their approval. A E. Jubinville delivered a hand operated machine January 7, 1943, (Model 45 mailing machine with meter 9922). It was sent to the Mechanical Branch for inspection January 12, 1943. The inspection was completed February 16, 1943.

A field test was to start immediately and was to conclude by May 31, 1943. A condition of the test was the meter was to go to Ottawa after test. The local agent was Mr Watts of Office Appliances Ltd., Queen St, Ottawa.

N.P.M. Meter 9922 was installed at the Sun Life Assurance Co., Toronto, On., under license 1360. The first day of use was April 13, 1943. At the end of the test period, June 4, 1943, the meter had recorded 94,003 impressions. The POD approved the meter for use July 24, 1943. Sun Life replaced the meter with P.B. HX83373.

The first commercial use in Canada was N.P.M. NO 9923 installed at the International Business Machine Co., Toronto. The earliest known use is AUG 15 44, and the latest FEB 13 47. Simon gives a date of DEC 1 43.

The company name was changed to Commercial Controls of Canada, 73 Adelaide St., Toronto, on April 25, 1944. Mr Baenzigger, General Manager. The first example with CC is FEB 25 46.

In addition to the Model 45 mailing machine originally tested a Model 55 electric machine with Model 14 postage meter was put on the market in early 1946. In 1952 Commercial Controls stopped competing in the market. The company was purchased by Friden Inc. in 1956 but the Commercial Controls meter was not manufactured. Manufacturing had been discontinued in 1947.

The Very Confident Davids Systems.

Past, smooth-working mailroom facilities are essential to the efficient conduct of any business. Nothing provides this speed and smoothness more effectively than a USPM Metered Mail System.

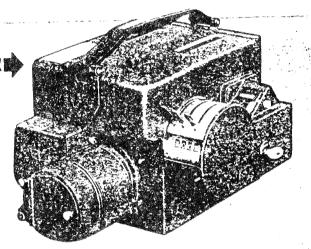
Such a system cuts postage costs, saves clerical hours, increases sales and builds prestige. It gives you greater direct mail returns and the value of your own advertising message printed on every piece of mail. It steps up mail handling in your own office and through the post office. It establishes positive control over your postage account and automatic protection against postage loss. A USPM Metered Mail System makes any mailroom run like clockwork!

HEART OF THE SYSTEM . .

THE USPM OMNI DENOMINATION METER

USPM Omni Meters are built for heavy duty and are capable of withstanding continuous operating punishment for many years. They will print any denomination of postage from ½ cent to \$9.99½ in one impression directly onto envelopes or on gummed tape for overweight mail and parcel post. Convenient fingertip controls adapt the meter for rapid preparation of all classes of mail: first class, third and fourth class, air mail, registered mail and bulk mailings. The Omni meterstamp gives uniform appearance to all classes of mail.

In addition, these meters provide a running record of the amount of postage used, show the amount of postage remaining in the meter and count the pieces mailed—giving a complete audit of your postage account.



Commercial Controls Postage Meter

By 1959 there were no further spare parts available and available machines were cannabilized. The reason for their continued use by such large mailing companies as Bell Canada was these postage meters were ideal for use with the Phillipsburg Inserting machines. Pitney Bowes could not supply a satisfactory meter.

After 1960 the supply of gummed tape had been used up but as the meters were used on inserters it did not matter.

In September 1969 the Post Office gave notice that Commercial Controls postage meters should be withdrawn. Permission was granted at the end of the year to print in the date stamp:- 2 JAN 19-0 since the highest year on the meter was 1969. The meters were used during the period of conversion but were withdrawn by August 1970. Only 5 had been in service that year.

Postage Meter

The NPM and CC mailing machine and postage meter was heavy, weighing over 40 pounds. The date circle was made of brass as well as the denomination wheels. There was a descending register and ascending register for postage accounting as well as an operation counter to record the number of pieces of mail processed. The control lock was set in units of \$10.00 up to \$9900 and locked out at the first impression below \$10.00. It was slow and noisy, but very reliable.

The townmark is a single circle 27 mm in diameter with broken inner arcs. The town and province are usually in full. The datemark reads: month in letters, day, year. The frank follows the general Post Office guidelines with CANADA above and POSTES and POSTAGE at either side. The three bank postage meter has two figures of value preceded by 5 wavy lines and a period. Below the value is the word COMPTEUR/N.P.M. NO 9922. This is Irwin Type 12.1. Irwin Type 12.2 has the word COMPTEUR replaced by METER-COMPTEUR. Irwin Type 12.3 has CC instead of N.P.M. in the frank. The townmark is 26 mm x 21 mm BIC. The rate frame is 25 mm x 32 mm. The indicia is 59 mm overall and the setting is a close 2 mm.

Slogans were used. The ad plate is 1" x 1-7/8". Parcle post tapes were also used. Meters had a 1/2¢ capability but was not used in Canada.

Serial blocks used in Canada by the Commercial Controls Model 14 series postage meter were: 40001 - 40020; 40071 - 40087; 40131 - 40140 and 40191 - 40225. At any one time less than 40 postage meters were in use. One meter was used for Excise Tax purposes.

The series is interesting to collectors, particularly in the later years, as the indicia contain many errors in spelling and other surprises for the observant person.

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These meters were moved around the country. Instead of trying to record each user I have just recorded the town name for each of the meter numbers. The list is probably incomplete as a chech of CMSG Newsletter pages 8.4 and 12.7 indicates some towns not listed here. Can anyone supply the meter number for the additional towns?

I do not own an example of meter numbers: 40197, 40198, 40201, 40203, 40212, 40213, 40214, 40216, 40218, 40221 and 40223. Can anyone supply information on these meters?

Simon reports that Type 12.2 was used by the International Business Machine Co. Ltd., Toronto. He gives a date of DEC 1 43. For this N.P.M. 9923 postage meter can we narrow its period of use. My analysis is as follows:

9923	First use	DEC 1	43	40019	Last use	MAR	28	51
9923	Last use	APR 3	3 47	40136	First use	AUG	15	52
40019	First use	MAR 2	2 48	40136	Last use	FEB	5	58

Companies using Commercial Controls postage meters on Phillipsburg Inserting machines were:-

Bell Phone, Don Mills	5 machines
Bell Phone, Pointe-Claire-Dorval	40010, 40073, 40076, 40215
Bell Phone, Montreal	40009, 40071
BC Phone, Vancouver	40209
Manufacturers Life, Toronto	40193
TransAmerica Finance, Toronto	40223
Ont. Hospital Commission, Toronto	40135
R.L. Polk & Co., Toronto	40221
Heather Advertising, Toronto	40002, 40008, 40211,
Grolier Enterprises, Toronto	40203
Robt Simpson, Toronto	40013
T. Eaton, Toronto	40014
Southern Murray, Toronto	40075
Hydro Electric Power Comm, Toronto	40204
Prov of Ontario, Toronto	40210
McLean Hunter, Toronto	40219
Royal Trust, Toronto	40224
Superior Envelopes, Winnipeg	40136
DF Marketing, Scarborough	40216
Automatic Mails & Printing, Montreal	40017
Aluminum Co of Can, Montreal	40012
Canadian Broadcasting Corp, Montreal	40200
Credico Ltd, Montreal	40105
Commonwealth International, Montreal	40222
Columbia Records, Don Mills	1 machine
·	

40008 was used on an inserting machine by Canadian Petrofina in 1961 at Montreal.

Bell Phone, Montreal, used meter 40132. When they converted to 40016 November 26, 1964 there were 2,039,003 impressions from meter 40132!

The Friden Agency also maintained a stock of replacement meters.

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Legris illustrates two indicia in his catalog supplement, both from meter 9922. The first day of use as a test meter was April 13, 1943. He shows a double circle townmark with OTTAWA ONTARIO and the prior date of MAR 31 43. The rate frame is a standard 9922 imprint; however, at the right, vertically, is SEC.562,P.L.& R. which is a US mail category not applicable in Canada. This proof indicia must have accompanied the machine from Rochester and was used in the test procedure by the Mechanical Division of the Post Office.

The other proof indicia is the standard single circle with arcs. The townmark is TORONTO ONTARIO, the same as that used on April 13 except the date is APR -1 43. One can surmise that this indicia was prepared by Commercial Controls for immediate use by the test

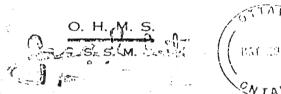


company. This example is in black instead of the usual red ink.

Legris also lists in his catalog a PORT DE RETOUR PAYE. Can anyone supply a photocopy to confirm this listing?

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
BUREAU FÉDÉRAL DE LA STATISTIQUE
OTTAWA, CANADA

IF NOT CALLED FOR IN 15 DAYS SI NON RECLAMÉE DANS 15 JOURS





TYPE 12 NON-STANDARD INDICIA

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2.3.2 -- 40001, 40078, 40140
2.3.3 -- (ONT.) 40003, 40010, 40011, 40013, 40016, 40072, 40133, 40139, 40191 (B.C.) 40013, 40140

2.3.5 -- 40010, 40076
2.3.6 -- 40009, 40071
2.3.8 -- 40008, 40012
2.3.9 -- 40017, 40132
2.3.10 -- 40001, 40017, 40200
2.3.12 -- 40131
2.3.13 -- 40016
2.3.14 -- QUBEC 40078, ONTARI 40001, 40013
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TYPE 12 TOWNS

METER TOWNS WHERE METER WAS IN USE

40001	MONTREAL	VANCOUVER	HAMILTON	TORONTO	
40002	RENFREW	TORONTO			
40003	BELLEVILLE	TORONTO	HAMILTON	-TORONTO-	OTTAWA
40004	MONTREAL	DON MILLS	TURONTO		
40005	BELLEVILLE				
40006	TORONTO	VANCOUVER	OTTAWA	MONTREAL	
40007	TORONTO	KITCHENER			
40008	TORONTO	MONTREAL			
40009	NIAGARA FALLS	TORONTO	MONTREAL		
	TORONTO	MONTREAL	POINTE-CL	AIRE	
40011	TORONTO	OTTAWA	SASKATOON		
40012	OTTAWA	HULL	MONTREAL	TORONTO	
40013	OTTAWA	VANCOUVER	TORONTO		
40014	TORONTO				
40015	OTTAWA	HULL	DON MILLS		
40016	MONTREAL	TORONTO			
40017	OUEBEC HULL	TORONTO	BELLEVILL	E VANCOUVER	MONTREAL
40018	DON MILLS	TORONTO	MONTERAL		
40019	TORONTO	EDMONTON			
40020	TORONTO	MONTREAL	DON MILLS		
40071	TORONTO	MONTREAL	OTTAWA		
40072	TORONTO	MONTREAL			
40073	MONTREAL	TORONTO	POINTE-CL	AIRE	
40074	HAMILTON	MALTON	TORONTO		morarm of a
40075	HULL	VANCOUVER	MONTREAL	LONDON	POINT-CLA
40076	OTTAWA	TORONTO	POINTE-CL	AIRE	
40077	TORONTO	VANCOUVER			
40078	OTTAWA	WINDSOR	LONDON	MOMTREAL	
40079	MONTREAL	MONT-LAURIER			
40080	MONTREAL	HAMILTON	TORONTO	VANCOUVER	
40081	TORONTO	MONTREAL			
40082	DON MILLS	TORONTO			
40083	MONTREAL	TORONTO			
40084	LONDON	TORONTO AG	INTREAL		
40085	TORONTO	MONTREAL			
40086	OTTAWA	TORONTO			
40087	TORONTO				

	TORONTO	ETOBICOKE	marine in a comment		
	VANCOUVER	MONTREAL	TORONTO	HULL	
	HAMILTON	OTTAWA	TORONTO	11 4	
40134	TORONTO	MONTREAL			

40135 40136 40137 40138	TORONTO OTTAWA	VANCOUVER OTTAWA VANCOUVER	TORONTO
40138 40139 40140		TORONTO MONTREAL	MT LAURIER
40191 40192 40193 40194 40195 40196 40197 40198	OTTAWA OTTAWA	TORONTO TORONTO TORONTO TORONTO TORONTO MONTREAL	DON MILLS MONTREAL VANCOUVER OTTAWA
40198 40199 40200 40201	TORONTO TORONTO	MONTREAL VANCOUVER	VANCOUVER
		TORONTO	
40206 40207 40208 40209	MONTREAL DON MILLS TORONTO TORONTO		
40215 40216 40217 40218	MONTREAL TORONTO		
40219 40220 40221 40222		DON MILLS	
40222 40223 40224 40225	TORONTO		

The article below from Stamp Collector shows the Unity for Victory postmark ad which was used with the Canadian NPM Type 12.1. I wonder if this ad was created for the Canadian meter as the form seems more Canadian than American. Will we ever know?



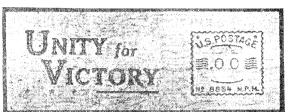


Fig. 1. NPM meters from the 1940s.





Fig. 2. These NPM meters are from the same machine (8854), but with different slogans.

Meter company evolved from 1930s

By HOWARD L. LUCAS For Stamp Collector

The National Postage Meter Co. (NPM) of 1933-1944 has gone through several changes of ownership, eventually becoming what is today Friden, Inc.

In the 1940s as the Allied nations were becoming ever more involved in World War II, the NPM developed advertising slogans for use with its meter postage machines.

The two NPM meters illustrated in figure #1 gave space to slogans urging unity and perseverance. They are classified as types GA and GB, and the letters NPM are incorporated in the base of the design. The "UNITY for VICTORY" slogan was printed in dark blue ink on NPM paper. I'm puzzled about why it has no date/town mark, and suspect that it has been clipped off this sample. The examples in the other illustrations were printed in red ink.

Note that the meters in figure #2 are from the same postage machine, but with different slogans. The NPM meters illustrated in this article are printed on oakcolored tape stock with "NPMco" and six wavy lines printed repeatedly down the strip in very pale green (figure #3).

I understand that early US postage meters of the 1920s were printed in the same colors as the US stamps they replaced. I am curious as to when this practice was changed. Printing in color was not the case of these World War II slogan meters.

The NPM Co. name was changed to Commercial Controls Corporation (CC) when the US Postal Meter Co. acquired NPM and IBM in 1944. (figure #4). Type GC meters show the initials "CC" at the base of the meter design.

In 1959 Friden (F) acquired CC, and in 1963 Friden was acquired by Singer Co. The designs have changed over the years and there have been other business changes, but Friden continues to manufacture meter machines today under that name. I will illustrate Friden Meters in a future article.

If you find an interesting

meter, send a photo copy, or if you would like the US Meter Stamp Society's address — send an SASE to me at the address below.□

You may write to Howard Lucus, Box 532, Manassas, Virginia 22193. Please include an SASE if you would like a reply.

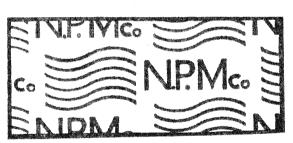


Fig. 3. An example of the stock used to print the NPM meters illustrated here.

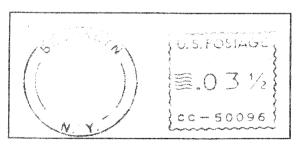
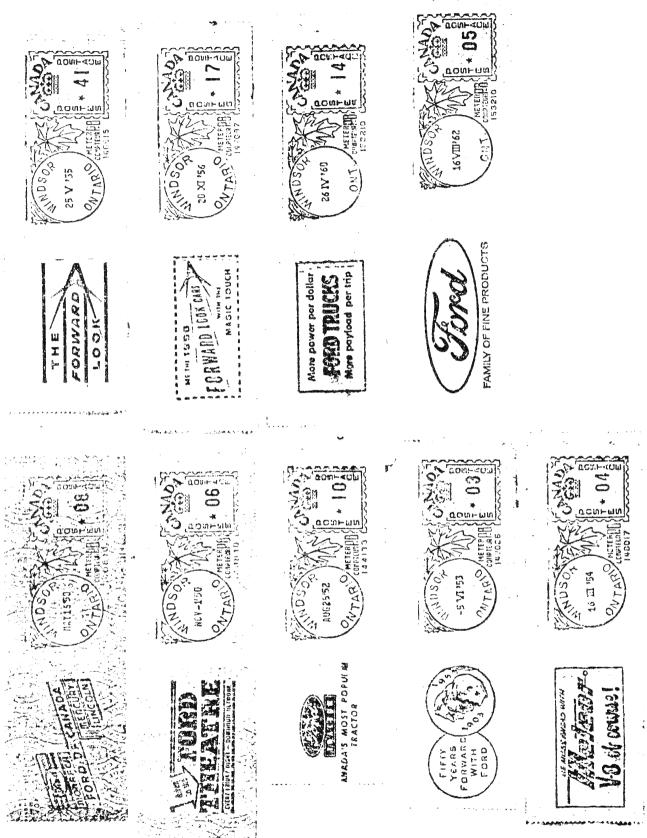


Fig. 4. The CC designates Commercial Controls Corp., new name for the NPM Co., in 1944.



37-13

CMSG METER CATALOG

Туре	lndicla	Remarks
12.1	APR 15 43	Basic type COMPTEUR N.P.M. No 9922
12.1.1	JAH 13 43	Specimen VOID for 9922
12.2	DEC 15 43 ONTARIO O	Basic type METER-COMPTEUR N.P.M. No 9923
THE REAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY	UMITY for VICTORY	
12.3	DEC 19 4E ONTARIO CANADA DOS METER-CCMPTEUR E CC-Nº 40007	Basic type METER-COMPTEUR CC-No 40001
12.3.1	CANADATE CANADATE CANADATE CONTROL	RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID
12.3.2	CANADATA CANADATA CANADATA CANADATA CANADATA CANADATA CANADATA CANADATA CANADATA CANADATA CONTROLLADA CONTROLLA	TM, CANADA for province

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CMSG METER CATALOG

Туре	Indicia	Remarks
12.3.3	(14 - 9 53) (24 - 9 53) (27 - 9 53) (27 - 9 53)	TM, period after province
12.3.4	NOV 21 46 POST AGE CONTINUES METER-CONTINUES METER-CONTINUES CONT.	TM, province abbreviated
12.3.5	CLAIRE OF CANADA PROPERTY OF A CONTINUE OF A	Prov. abbr., no periods
12.3.6	POSE O LA GORDA CONTROL DE CONTRO	TM, omitted
12.3.7	MAR-4 54 CANADA) CANADA) CANADA) CANADA) CO-40196	DM, small year numerals
12.3.8	QUEBEC CANADA PORTEUR CONTEUR	DM, blank
12.3.9	MAR - 5 T CANADA MAR CANADA MAR RESIDENCIA PROPERTIES OF THE PROPERTY OF THE P	DM, blank for "7"

CMSG METER CATALOG

Туре	Indicia	Remarks
12.3.10	(JAN 25 55) (JAN	5 wavy lines after rate
12.3.11	MAJESTÉ 7 63) \$ \$0.00 0	Rate .00, government frank
12.3.12	AUG 1064 SECONDITION CONTROL	Serial "No" inverted
12.3.13	OCT 22 47 OCT 22 47 OCT 22 47	Serial No., no dash CC and No
12.3.14	QUBES CO-N2 40078	Province misspelled
12.3.15	JAN 20 M JAI PAID OF PERMIT I E	POSTAGE/PAID/PERMIT 1
12.3.16		