

Canadian Meter Stamp Newsletter

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EDITOR'S NOTES

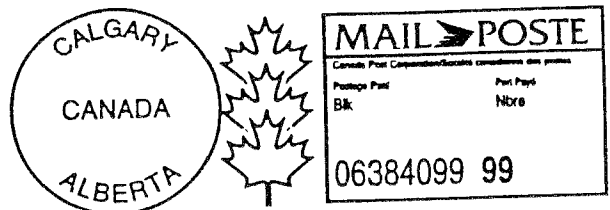
I had an opportunity to examine over 50,000 cut square meter impressions. These were from a hoard of mail from the Seagram Co. Of Kitchener. The period covered was from 1978 to 1988, with a few from 1959 to 1960. From the 50,000 I don't think I added one item to my collection that I did not already own, other than some postal rates. I analysed a sample of 2,418 from this large lot and found that 28 percent was Type 20; 21 percent was of US origin; 16 percent was PB 1,000,000; 15 percent was Type 23; 9 percent was Hasler and 7 percent was Friden. There were only 11 examples of Type 11 and Type 163000. The pickings were very slim indeed. I kept a showbox for illustrations and sent the balance to the garbage.

Noted that 74 percent of the mail carried by Canada Post is sent by business; that is, utilities, banks, credit card and other financial institutions. Another 13 percent is from individuals to business, ie. paying bills. So almost 90 percent of mail is business related, and most is sent below the 45¢ rate. Only a fraction of people send a letter at the 45¢ rate.

Canada Post is to customer encoding of mail. My own computer will do a US bar code. A new Canadian bar code will soon be available. It will likely cost more for non-encoded mail. This is discussed in the December issue of Performance, published by Canada Post.

Will you check these high numbers against your collection? These are all Pitney Bowes. You will recognize the series without my mentioning our type.
163172; 501550; 520334; 557122; 590677; 607613; 631625; 1011474; 1053676.

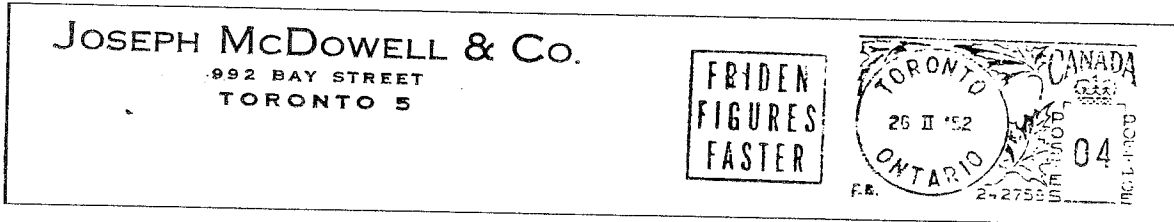
Jack Brandt sent a photocopy of a Calgary Red Cross flier with an unusual permit.



FRIDEN POSTAGE METERS

Corporate Background

Carl Friden of Sweden devised a calculating machine in 1934 that expanded into the Friden Calculator and Machine Co of San Leandro, CA. Friden were manufacturers of adding machines, calculators and data processing equipment. Friden purchased Commercial Controls of Rochester in April 1956, and also International Postal Supply Co in 1959. A postage meter was authorized in 1960 but U.S. distribution did not occur until 1963. In 1963 Friden Inc. was

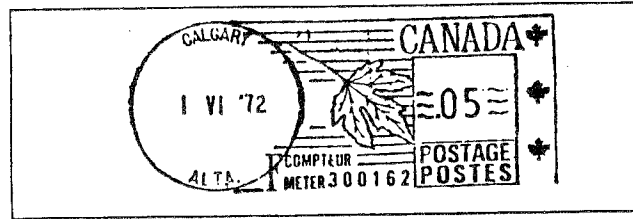


purchased by The Singer Corp. and in August 1972 was renamed the Singer Business Machine Division. In September 1976 a group of investors purchased the Friden assets and in January 1977 renamed the company the Friden Mailing Machine (FME) Corporation. The immediate plan was to launch a new electronic postage meter. In January 1979 FME was acquired by CIT-Alcatel of Paris, France, and the company became FRIDEN-ALCATEL. In February 1980 Alcatel purchased the Roneo Division of Vickers Ltd., manufacturers of the Roneo Postage meter. FRIDEN-ALCATEL became FRIDEN-NEOPOST effective Sept 1, 1992. A very long list of corporate changes.

In the U.S. the letter "F" replaced the letter "S" for a brief period on some indicia. No examples of such a change appears on Canadian indicia.

A postage meter division was activated by Singer and a new meter was patented. The Friden postage meter, Model PM-4, was authorized for use in U.S., 20 Feb 1963. First known U.S. use is 1 Mar 1963. It was used on a Model 410 hand fed meter base and the Model 420 fully automatic meter base. It was manufactured at Sparks, Nevada.

The indicia of Friden meters consisted of three printing components. The rate and decorations; the townmark; and, the ad plate. Any slippage between any one of these would create an odd variety, many of which we list in the catalogue. The length of the indicia often varies due to the same cause. The meter was detachable for setting at the post office.



Introduction in Canada (Ref: NAC RG3 file 13-1-43)

In May 15, 1963, R.W. McDowell, vice president of Joseph McDowell Sales Ltd, 36 Mobile Dr., Toronto, enquired of the Post Office Department about the procedure for approval of a postage meter. The Friden postage meter had been mentioned as early as March 1961 in an article in the Financial Post. The immediate intent was to replace the 70-80 Commercial Controls postage registers then in use.

McDowell imported to Canada from the U.S. a Model PM-4 postage meter and a Model 410 mailing machine. The unit was received for evaluation 13 Oct 1964. Notice of its approval on 9 Jul 1965 appeared in the Post Office Weekly Bulletin of 31 Jul 1965 with an illustration of the CITY PROVINCE SPECIMEN indicia. There was some delay in placing it in service because the standard rolls of gummed tape supplied by the Post Office Department did not fit the meter and the meter could not be modified to use them.

New post office regulations, effective 1 Apr 1968, stated that all postage meter indicia were to be manufactured in Canada. The Post Office Department gave Friden one year to conform. Legg Bros. of Toronto produced the early indicia for Friden. By 20 Mar 1967 there were 40 Friden postage meters in use.

The Canadian branch also moved, usually to larger facilities.
36 Mobile Dr., Toronto
270 Yorkland Blvd., Toronto
4500 Sheppard Ave. E, Agincourt
33 Melford Dr., Scarborough
20 Dovedale Ct., Scarborough

The form of provincial abbreviations used by Friden have been: B.C., ALTA., SASK., MAN., ONT., P.Q., QUE., N.S., N.B., P.E.I., LAB. with and without the periods.

Type 21

Description of Indicia

Indicia top frame line and right frame line continuous. Parallel lines of varying length in centre with a large inverted maple leaf. At right, three filled maple leaves. Above the rate frame in serified capitals the title CANADA; below, POSTAGE/POSTES.

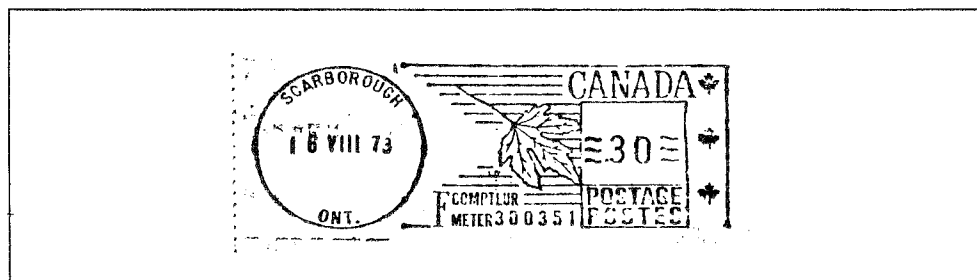
Below the maple leaf a large "F", with serifs, COMPTEUR/METER and a six digit serial number. The PO Weekly Bulletin authorizing this postage meter shows a double circle townmark. The single circle townmark, 22 mm, was not adopted until 1966.

The datemark is a single line DMY, month in Roman numerals, province abbreviated.

Indicia size: 22 x 62. Overall: 111. Setting: 7. Adhesives used, slogan to left.

Technical Detail

Friden Model PM-4 postage meter was assigned a serial block from 300000. The meter was approved for use 9 Jul 1965. The Model PM-4 postage meter was used with the Model 410 semi-automatic hand fed mailing machine and the Model 420 fully automatic mailing machine. Meter capacity: \$9,999.99. Meter speed: 130/min. Denominations: 1¢ to \$9.99. The meter also printed postmark ads.



Model PM-4C printed fractional values. There were 550 in use 4 Mar 1970 and 612 by Oct 1970. The earliest known use was 1 IX '65. The highest known serial number is 300689. The PM-4 postage meter was replaced by the Model 9120.

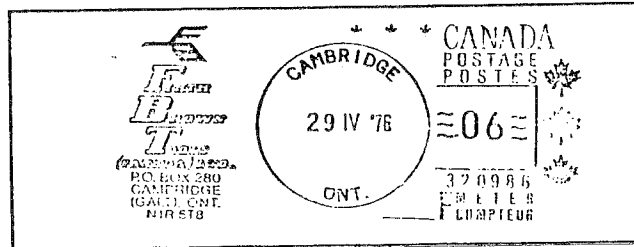
Type 22

Description of the Indicia

At right, 3 large maple leaves, the centre one unfilled. Above the rate frame, CANADA/POSTAGE/POSTES. Below, the serial number, the letter F sans-serif and METER/COMPTEUR. The rate frame is 13mm x 11mm, open at the left.

The rate consists of a triad, dot, 2 figures of value and a triad.

The townmark is single circle, 22 mm, containing the date mark DM'Y. The province is abbreviated with a period. Overall size is 27 x 42. Slogan to left. Adhesives used.



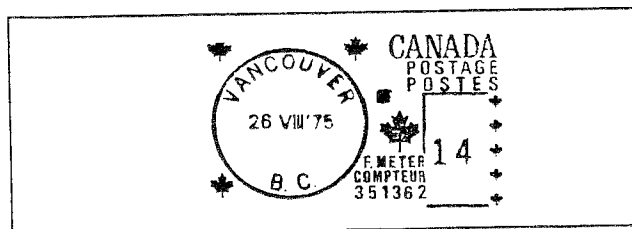
Technical Detail

Friden Model 9225 postage meter was approved in February 1968 and was used on Models 9020, 9030 and 9010 mailing machines. The assigned serial block begins at 320000. The ad plate is 25mm h x 15mm w. The meter prints postage to \$9.99 and the capacity is \$9,999.99. The earliest known use is 14 II'69. The highest known serial number is 323041.

Type 23

Description of Indicia

At right, CANADA/POSTES/POSTES above a rate frame and 5 small maple leaves at the right. One large filled leaf between the rate frame and townmark. Below, F METER/COMPTEUR/SERIAL NUMBER. Above a dark die marking. Three maple leaves surround the townmark. The townmark is single circle, 20mm, province abbreviated with periods. The datemark is MD'Y single line.



Technical Detail

Friden Model 9205 was approved 23 June 1969. It was assigned a serial block from 350000. Overall size: 23mm x38 mm. Setting: 4 mm. Ad plate: 17 x 18. Overall: 60 mm, with ad. Hand operated, with lever to omit the date and/or the ad. Values printed: 1¢ to 20¢ and \$1.00. F/V 00.

This Mini meter was developed as competition to the PB DM3.
Earliest known use 1 VI'70. Highest known serial number: 351754.

Type 24

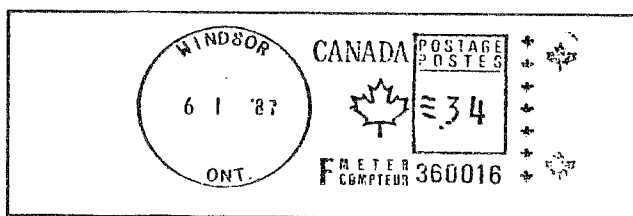
Description of Indicia

At top centre, CANADA above a single large unfilled maple leaf. Below the maple leaf F/METER/COMPTEUR with the serial number at right below the rate frame. The rate box is 12mm by 17mm with POSTAGE/POSTES above. At right of the rate box are seven small maple leaves vertically and two larger maple leaves at right. The serial number is in two sizes and with different fonts.

Value is a triad, dot, two figures of value. The triad has two sizes.

The townmark is single circle, 23mm, province abbreviated with periods.

Datemark is single line DM'Y. Overall: 56mm. Setting 13mm; 22mm x56mm, rate box 12mm x17mm.



Technical Detail

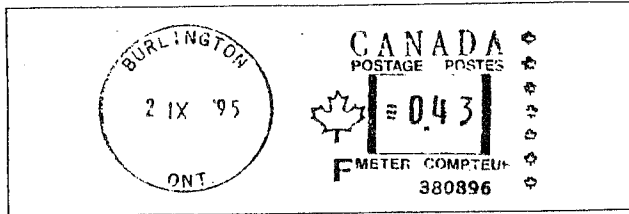
Friden Model 9235 was approved for use in July 1972 and was used on Models 9110, 9112, 9114 and 9120 mailing machines. It was assigned a serial block beginning at 360000. The meter printed all values to \$9.99 and held \$9,999.99 of postage.

The earliest known use is 15 III'73. The highest known serial number is 361673.

Type 25

Description of Indicia

Above the rate frame is CANADA/POSTAGE POSTES. Below, F METER COMPTEUR with the serial number below. At right of the rate frame are 7 small maple leaves. At left, a single unfilled maple leaf. Rate box is 15mm x 12mm, the vertical lines are heavier than the horizontal. Value is a triad, value, dot, two figures of value. The townmark is single circle, 23mm, setting 13mm. The province is abbreviated with periods. The datemark is single line DM'Y. Overall 58mm x 23mm.



Technical Detail

Friden Model 9232 electronic postage meter was approved for use in June 1981 and was first installed 26 Jun 1981. The assigned serial block is from 380000.

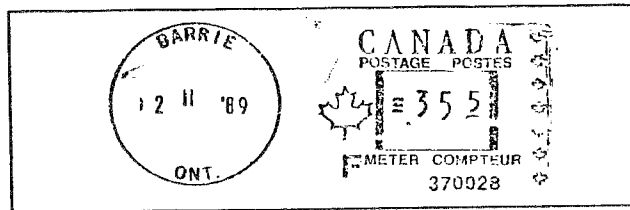
Earliest known use is 26 VI'86 (380003). The highest known serial number is

Type 25.2

Description of Indicia

The indicia is as for Type 25.1.

The value is triad, dot, 2 figures of value and a triad. The period is often well below the rate. The right triad is larger.



Technical Detail

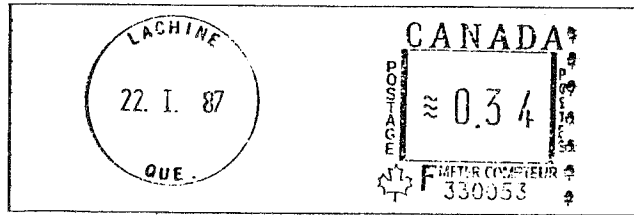
Friden Model 9257 postage meter prints postage rates from 1/10¢ to \$9.999. The assigned serial block begins at 370000. It is a decimal meter.

Earliest known use is 12 II'89. Highest known serial number is 370028

Type 26

Description of Indicia

CANADA above rate frame with F METER COMPTEUR/serial number, below. POSTAGE and POSTES vertically at sides. Seven small maple leaves at right edge and a large unfilled maple leaf at lower left. The six digit serial number is in two sizes and not in a constant location. The rate is triad, value, dot, two figures of value. The townmark is single circle, 22mm. The province is abbreviated with periods, DMY. Indicia overall 66mm x 25mm; rate box 15mm x 20mm; setting 18mm.



Technical Detail

Friden Model 9250 postage meter was approved for use in February 1985. The serial block assigned is from 330000. The meter prints postage to \$9.99 (and Model 9215 to \$99.99) Postage capacity is \$9,999.99.

Earliest known use is 22 I 87.

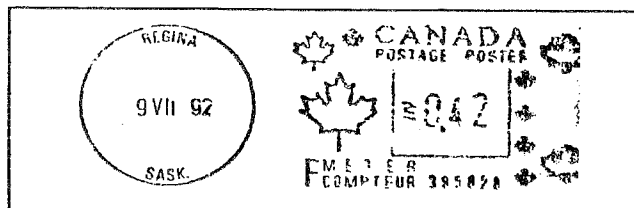
Highest known serial number is 355625.

Type 27

Description of Indicia

CANADA/POSTAGE POSTES above with one small maple leaf at left of "C" and open maple leaf at each top corner and lower right. To right of rate are 4 coloured maple leaves. To left of value one large open maple leaf. Below, at left, "F" with METER/COMPTEUR and six digit serial number. Two vertical lines often print at left and right of the rate indicia.

Rate 37x22. Rate: 15w x 12h; setting 5; 22x65; value /0.00 using numerals 4.5 mm high. 4 maple leaves and 2 large Townmark single circle, 22mm, province is abbreviated with periods. Datemark is a single line DMY.


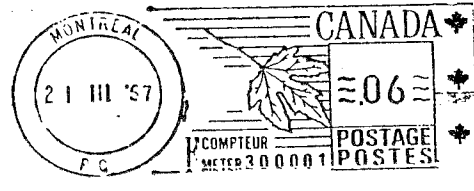

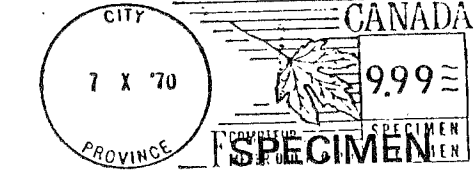
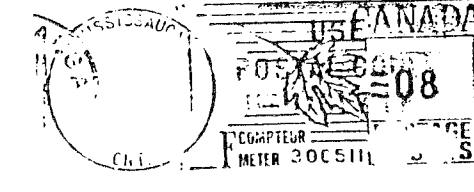
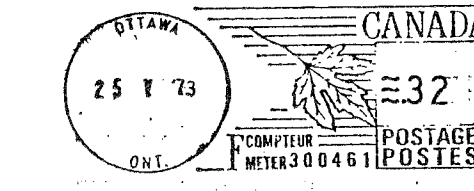
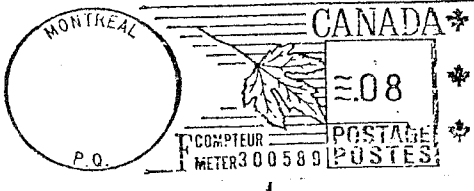


Technical Detail

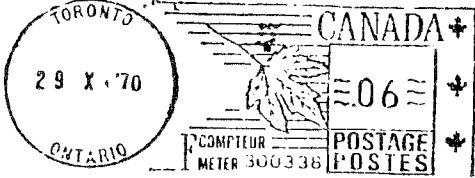
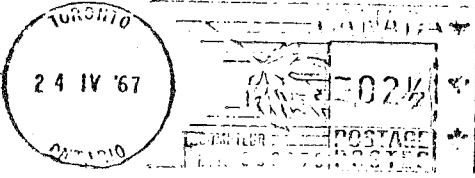
Friden Model 9255 Electronic postage meter was approved in the U.S. 24 Sep 1986 and was available in Canada the Spring of 1987. It is a 4-bank postage meter printing postage to \$99.99. It is also available as a 3½-bank postage meter (9183). The serial block begins at 385000.

Earliest known use is 17 II '89. Highest known serial number is 385878.

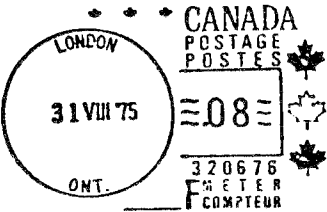


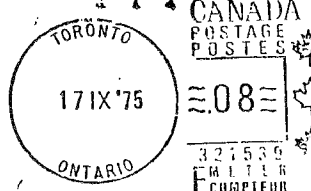
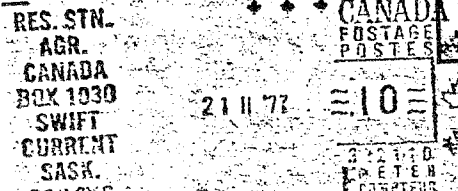
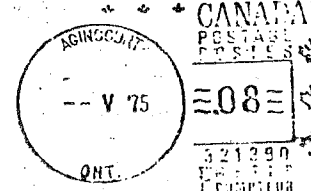
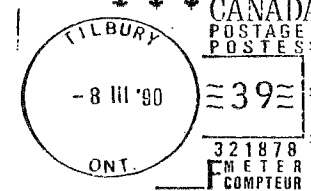
CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
21.1		Basic type, TM - dc, prov in full Serial 300000
21.1.1		Province abbreviated with period
21.2.2		TM - SC 22, prov in full
21.1.3		CITY PROVINCE SPECIMEN
21.1.4		DM - blank
21.1.5		VALUE - no triad at right
21.1.6		<p>RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID FRAIS DE PORT PAYÉ</p> <p>RETURN/POSTAGE PREPAID FRAIS DE PORT PAYE in slogan No DM</p>

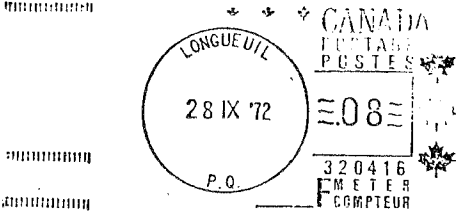
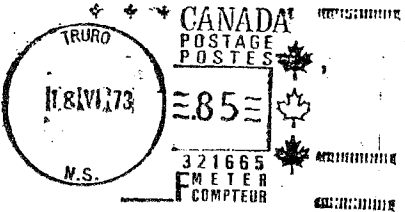
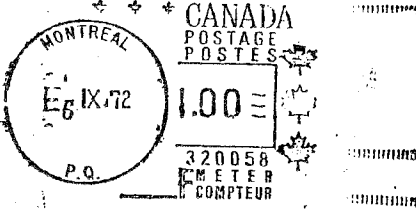
CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
21.1.7		Serial - round "0" and wider
21.1.8		VALUE - fractional value
21.1.9		

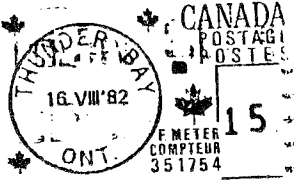

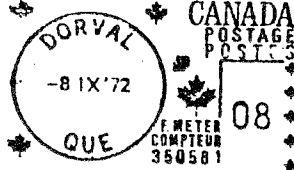
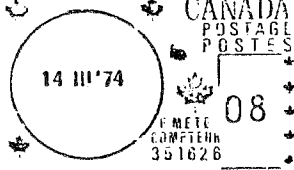
CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
22.1		Basic type Serial 320000
22.1.1		CITY PROVINCE SPECIMEN
22.1.2		TOWN PROVINCE SPECIMEN
22.1.3		Province in full
22.1.4		TM - omitted, DM only
22.1.5		DM - day omitted
22.1.6		VALUE - No dot in value

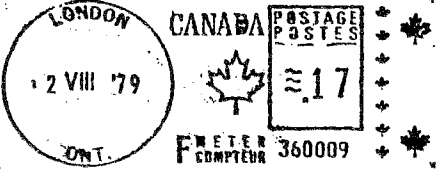
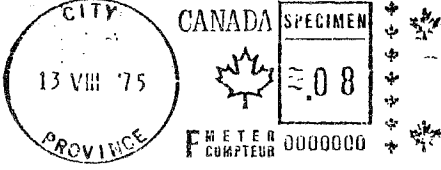
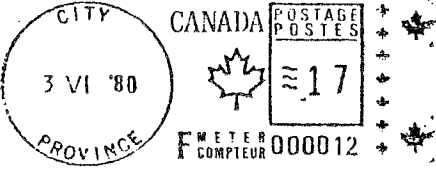
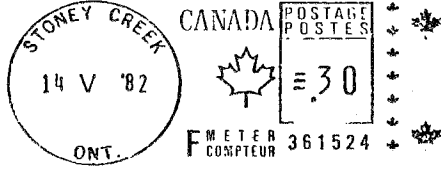
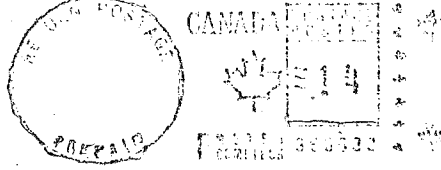
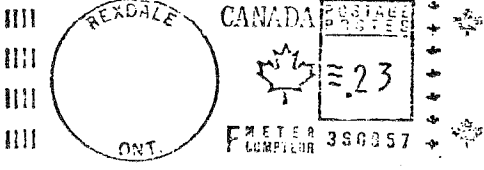
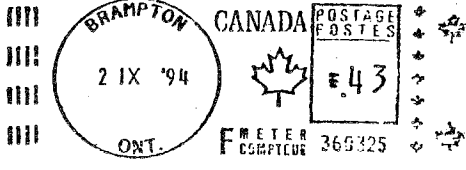
CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
22.1.7	 <p>LONGUEUIL 28 IX '72 P.O. CANADA POSTAGE POSTES 320416 METER COMPTEUR</p>	3 feed marks at left
22.1.8	 <p>TRURO 11.8.IX.73 N.S. CANADA POSTAGE POSTES 321665 METER COMPTEUR</p>	3 feed marks at right
22.1.9	 <p>MONTREAL 6 IX '72 P.O. CANADA POSTAGE POSTES 320058 METER COMPTEUR</p>	DM - "E" from dirt or overinking
22.1.10		
22.1.11		

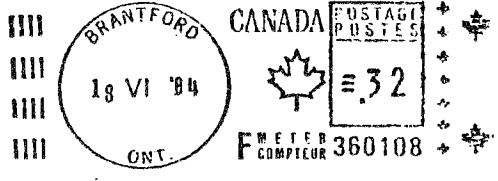
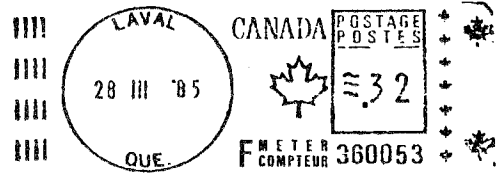
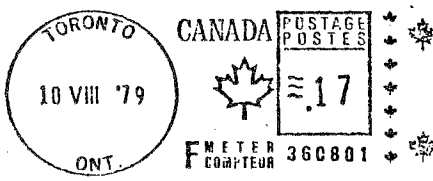
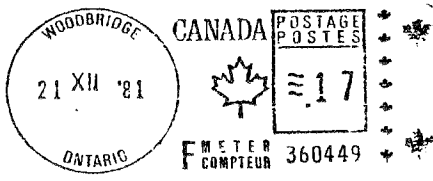
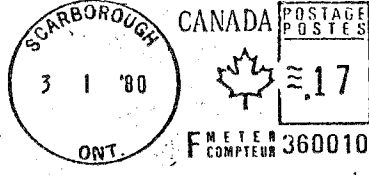
CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
23.1		Basic type, Serial begins 350000
23.1.1		CITY PROVINCE SPECIMEN
23.1.2		CITY PROVINCE SPECIMEN
23.1.3		TM - no period after province
23.1.4		TM - town and province omitted
23.1.5		
23.1.6		


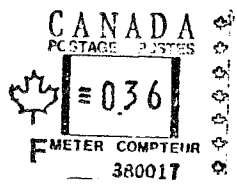


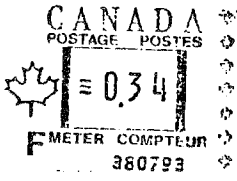

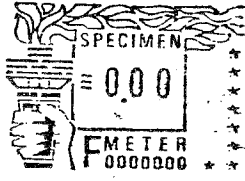

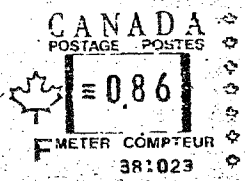

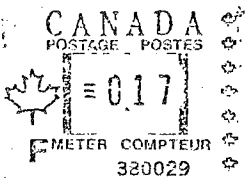


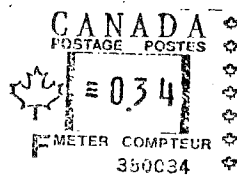
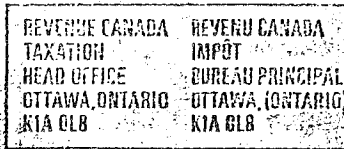
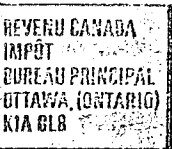


CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
24.1		Basic type Serial begins 360000, straight "6"
24.1.1		CITY PROVINCE SPECIMEN (small serial)
24.1.2		CITY PROVINCE (large serial)
24.1.3		Serial font "6" smaller
24.1.4		RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID
24.1.5		DM - blank
24.1.6		VALUE - Narrow triad at left

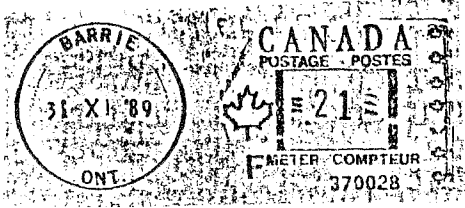
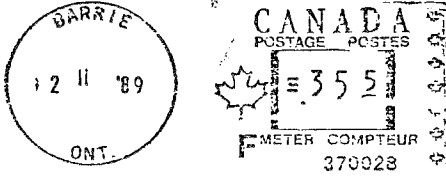
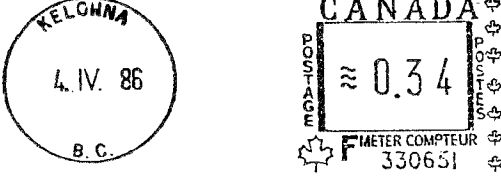
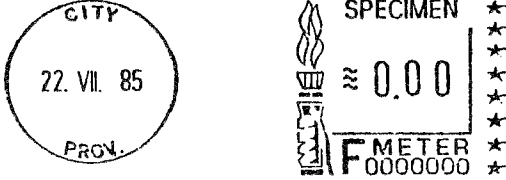
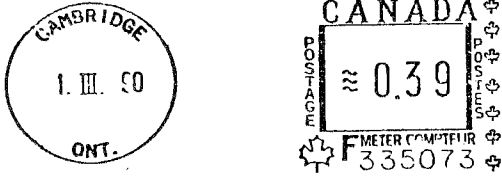
CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
24.1.7		Large serial number
24.1.8		16 gear marks
24.1.9		Serial - round top "6"
24.1.10		Province in full, small font
24.1.11		Wider space between "cent" figure and the rate frame
24.1.12		
24.1.13		

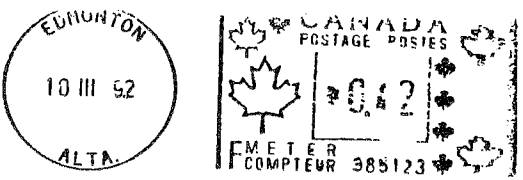
CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
25.1	 	Basic type Serial 380000, prov abbr
25.1.1	  	CITY PROVINCE
25.1.2	 	CITY PROVINCE SPECIMEN (US)
25.1.3	 	DM - blank
25.1.4	 	RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID
25.1.5	  	2 feed marks at left
25.1.6	   	*RATE: 00 government

CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
25.2.1		Basic type Serial 370000
25.2.2		VALUE - decimal rate
26.1		Basic type Serial 330000
26.1.2		CITY PROV SPECIMEN (US)
26.1.3		Larger serial number

CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
27.1		Basic type Serial number 385000