

CANADIAN METER STAMP NEWSLETTER

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*My (Irwin's) e-mail address was again wrong in NL 67. I have gone high-speed so send me something. **Please note the new addresses above.** Also, if you are on the net, send Dave or I a message so we have your email address.*

Sad Passing

Just missed in the last NL. Our good friend Ed Lapham died April 21, 2003. He was born in 1911 and had a large collection of Canadian material. Canadian towns were one of his early specialties. Ed could always be relied upon to add another piece or information to our Newsletter from his collection. He was President of the Meter Stamp Society for 39 years. The hobby will miss him very much.

Bad News

Remember the enthusiasm which we used to collect Nixdorf labels only to find they faded away like our money. I had occasion to search some of our early Newsletters and they now suffer the same fate. I suggest you look through your files and have Staples? recopy the pages before they get unreadable. I recopied about 15 pages that I thought were fading away. Most are in the very early years.

New Items

Pickings have been very thin this summer. I haven't added a decent piece to my collection for quite awhile. Some items show up on e-bay but I haven't been active in that area. Just acquired a digital camera so maybe I should start - its just too much trouble.

Post Office

The most southerly post office in Canada is **Pelee Island** in Lake Erie served by ferry from Kingsville, ON and Sandusky, Ohio. The Township Council has a meter. Scudder at the north end is served from Leamington.

Township of Pelee
1045 West Shore Road,
Pelee Island, Ont. N0R 1M0



Newfoundland Mail Bid Sale

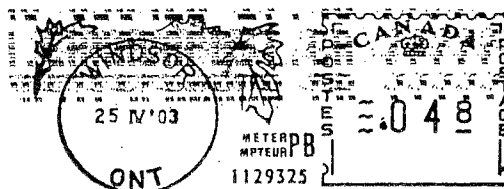
Newfoundland meter material is rather rare and expensive but listed below are the meter items in the Sale on July 9, 2003, by Eastern Stamp Auctions. This was a "bid" sale. The information is from the meter illustrations. Did you bid on any? Are the estimates realistic?

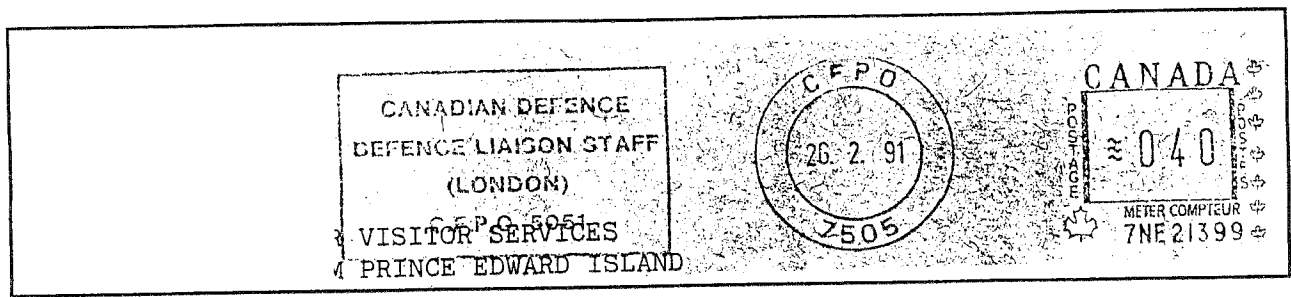
LOT	DATE	V	USER	METER	EST.
2067	Aug 26, 1932	3¢	George Neal	N	45
2074	1945	4¢	Corner Brook General Hospital	N	45
2075	Nov 8, 1930	3¢	Harvey & Co	N-4	45
2076	1931	3¢	Bowring	M-3	25
2077	1947	4¢	Royal Stores	N	35
2093	1949	19	covers from Canada & Nfld		125
2127	Dec 17, 1948	4¢	Bowring	180007	40
2128	1948	4¢	Bowring	180007	40
2129	1948	4¢	Bowring	180007	45
2131	1948	4¢	Imperial Tobacco	35500	30
2132	1948	4¢	Imperial Tobacco	35500	55
2133	1948	4¢	Imperial Tobacco	35500	55
2134	1948	4¢	Imperial Tobacco	35500	55
2135	1948	4¢	Imperial Tobacco	35500	55
2136	Aug 2, 1932	2¢	Harvey & Co	N-4	30
2137	May 10, 1932	2¢	Bowring	N-11	45
2138	1948	4¢	Imperial Tobacco	35500	55
2139	1950	4¢	Royal Stores	N-30	35
2140	1950	4¢	Royal Stores	N-30	35
2144	Nov 4, 1931	3¢	Bowring	N-11	45
2145	1950	4¢	Royal Stores	N-30	50
2146	Feb 16, 1932		Harvey & Co	N-4	45
2151	1948	4¢	Imperial Tobacco	35500	55
2152	1947	4¢	Imperial Tobacco	35500	55
2153	Jul 23, 1932		T & M Winter	N-18	50
2154	1948	4¢	T & M Winter	N-18	165
2207	Oct 7 1948	4¢	Bowring	180007	105

Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue - J.M. Walsh and J.G. Butt, 2002, 324 pp, \$75

Some unusual items

A bank saving on postage! A strange item below - note the value. Postage should be 48 cents but is actually metered as 4.8 cents. Never seen this operator error before.



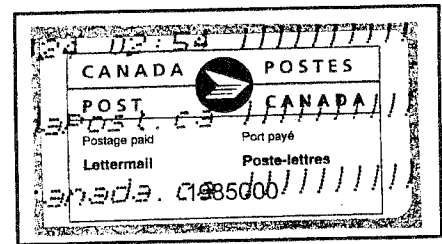


Wilf Whitehouse has come up with another scarce item. This is from the Canadian Defence Liaison Staff in London, UK, to Canada. The boxed postal ad reads:- CANADIAN DEFENCE / DEFENCE LIAISON STAFF / (LONDON) / CFPO 5051. The townmark reads:- CFPO 7505 and the datemark 25.2.91. The ratemark is the standard Friden type; however, the serial number reads 7NE21399. I didn't think Friden had purchased the Neopost name in Canada before 1996? Nice item.

I don't have an illustration but recently saw a Type 7 townmark with MONTREAL / P.Q. and dated NOV 20, 1937. In a lined rectangular box at right was "RECEIVED / GENERAL / OFFICE"

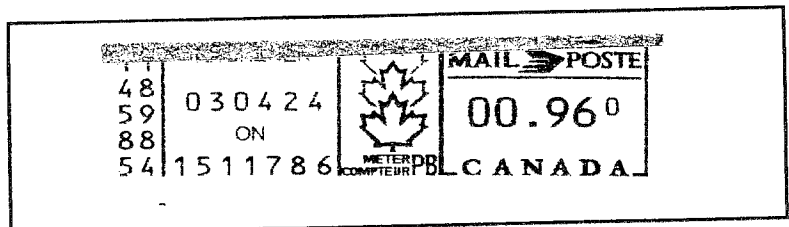
First Class Lettermail

Getting many of these nasties in your mail? These are the reason postage meter use is rapidly declining in Canada. First Class Lettermail posted using a postage meter costs 48¢ each. Large companies which generate most mail, such as bills, in Canada now see a saving. Instead of paying Pitney Bowes an ever increasing fee for the rental of a meter they not find it economical to hire a mailing company to process their mail.



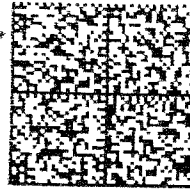
To use the illustrated "Lettermail" category the cost is only 42¢; however, the mailing must be more than 5,000 identical pieces, which is not hard to achieve. That is why utility bills often come with this form of indicia. Address ad-mail is also taking a large chunk out of our postage meter resource. Since Canada Post issues the indicia design there is not much opportunity for variation. On the bright side, maybe postage meters impressions will become scarcer?

This postage meter label is too small. The PB agent says many customers do this to save money on labels.

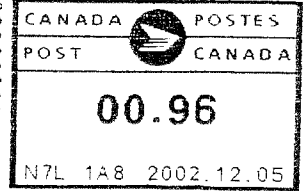


Interesting postage advisory with this new Pitney Bowes meter. It reads MEDIAPOSTE. Is this a French or English word?

MEDIAPOSTE



PB 0301701244
005603 eR1299
1205 13595880

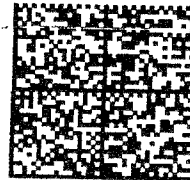


Board of School Trustees
School District No. 67
(Okanagan Skaha)

SD 67 OK SKAHA

425 Jermyn Avenue
Penticton, BC V2A 1Z4

425 JERMYN AVE



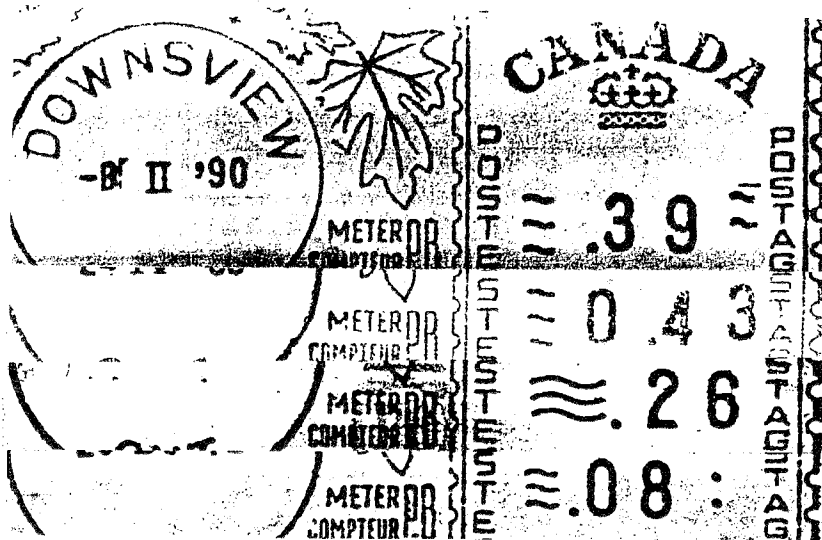
NE 0103300126



A new Neopost, but look at the ad plate. It reads School District 67, Okanogan Skaha and the street address as 425 Jermyn Ave. I guess they use the postal code in the rate mark to show it is Penticton, BC.

Remember when Henry Ford added an engine to a buggy? Development is always incremental and depends on what has gone before. No point in wasting good technology. So it is with postage meters. Notice how Pitney Bowes has utilized old technology in a new product. On the left, from the bottom Types 11.1; 18.2, 18.3, 18.1, 28.1 and 39.1. The townmarks are identical as is the centre design. When the left edge of the rate box is lines up we see four rate wheels. The first has a star or triad. The second wheel lines up but then the spacing is modified for other values.

The second group is Type 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, and 20.4. Similar comments but greater variety. We should search to see if these are all there are.



Canada

Literatur: F. Aretz, Deutsche Briefmarken-
Ztg. 1930 S. 13

1923. Breites Querformat, Ziermuster. (Pitney-Bowes) T.

1 oben: License-Nr. —.20



Diese Apparate sind zählende Stempelmaschinen mit unveränderlicher Wertstufe. Siehe auch Vereinigte Staaten.

Für jede Wertstufe war ursprünglich eine bestimmte Farbe vorgesehen. Wir finden daher Abdrücke in

1 Ct. gelb, orange, grün, 2 Cts. braun, grün, rot, lila, 3 Ct. grün, 4 Ct. oliv, 5 Ct. rot usw.

1927. Quadratisches Format, Höhe 22 mm. (Postage Meter Co., Midget) T (250)



2 Canada und Postage enger anstehend . —.15

1928. Hochformat, Höhe 25 mm. (Postage Meter Co. Midget) T (400)



3 Canada und Postage weiter abstehend . —.10
4 desgl. mit M-Nr. —.08
5 Inschrift **Metre** statt **Meter** —.30

Vorkommende Wertstufen: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 Cts.
Apparat-Nr.: bis 4.000 Midget; über 4.000 und 40.000 Postage Meter Co.

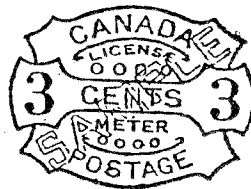
In Canada ist Barfreimachung (Einführung, Gruppe 4c) gebräuchlich. Entsprechende Vermerke des Absenders sind nicht mit Freistempeln zu verwechseln, da ohne „Meter-Nr.“! — Für Pakete sind aufklebbare Francozettel mit Inschrift Canada, Postage Paid, Wert usw. in Verwendung. Dienstbriefe erhalten Maschinen-Stempel mit Inschrift: FREE (frei).

SPECIMEN METERS - from the Editor's View

Meter impressions with the word SPECIMEN or similar serve several purposes but are not to be used for postage purposes. The first official despatch of metered mail in Canada was a letter sent by the Pitney Bowes representative to the Honourable Charles Murphy, Post Master General, on August 7, 1923.

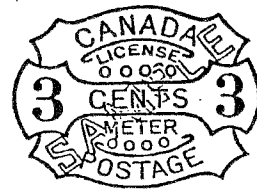
The company printed advertising post cards to promote their new meter. The indicia bore the OTTAWA ONT. townmark and the ratemark was overprinted with SAMPLE. The license number and serial number was "0000". A card exists dated MAY 25, 1923, predating the formal approval of the meter. The OTTAWA meter was used for advertising purposes to at least OCT 5, 1925. Rate frame 32x25, setting 14, overall 73 mm. Similar cards had been used in the USA since 1921.

Pitney Bowes displayed their postage meter at the Canadian National Exhibition (Aug. 27 - Sep. 10) in 1927. Below is an example from that exhibit that visitors could take away with them or mail to a friend. Since the period of use was short the Toronto meter is scarce. They also exhibited their new Model H at the same exhibit (See below). By 1927 all the Model M meters were out and the need to advertise was less. This is the last use of Model M SAMPLE indicia.



CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION
POSTAL EXHIBIT

SPECIMEN ONLY

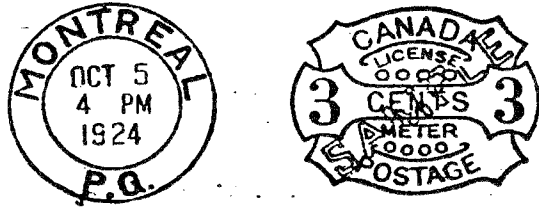


POSTAGE METER MACHINE

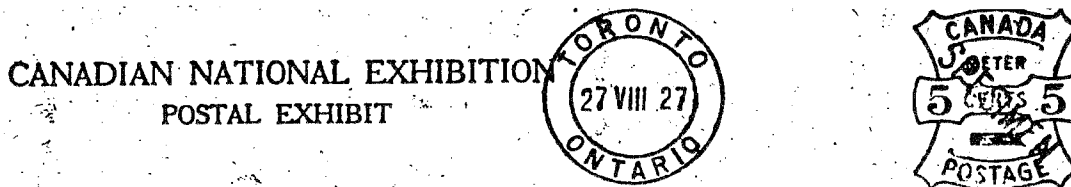
POSTMARKED, STAMPED, SEALED, COUNTED AND STACKED
IN ONE OPERATION

Available for Business firms. For information apply to your POSTMASTER

Pitney Bowes exhibited the Model M meter in Montreal in October 1924. The next year they displayed at the 3rd Canadian Philatelic Exhibition, Montreal (Oct. 5 - 9, 1925) Again, this was a short period of use. The rate frame is 32 x 25, setting 10 and overall 69 mm. Most examples are dated OCT 5, 1924.



At the 1927 Canadian National Exhibition Pitney Bowes also exhibited the new Midget postage meter. Notice the post card is identical to that used for the Model M meter at the Exhibition. The meter is dated 27 VIII 27. The indicia is over printed SPECIMEN. The serial number is blanked out. Again, this is a short 10 days of use and are quite scarce.

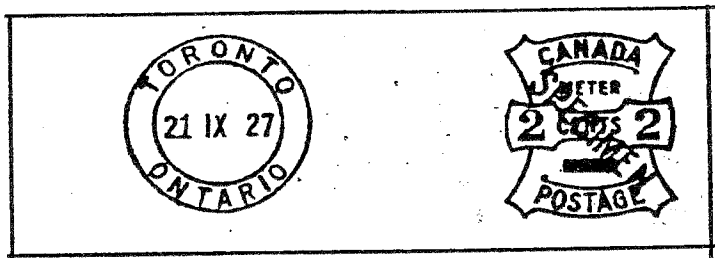


SPECIMEN ONLY

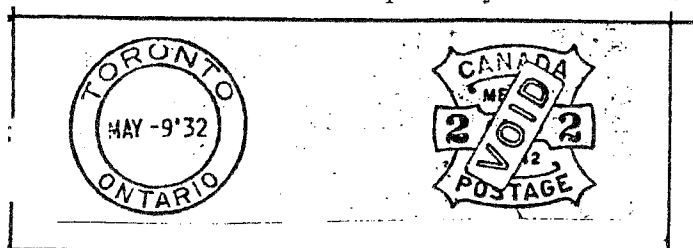
POSTAGE METER MACHINE

POSTMARKED, STAMPED, SEALED, COUNTED AND STACKED
IN ONE OPERATION

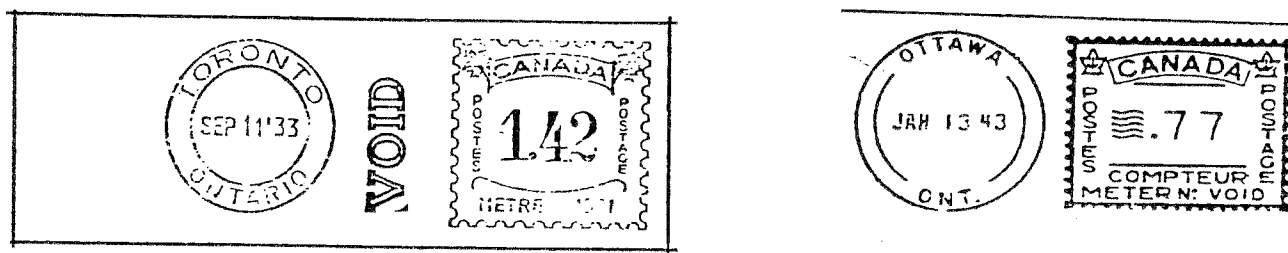
Available for Business firms. For information apply to your POSTMASTER



The next specimen example is for the Pitney Bowes Model H dated MAY 9, 1932. It is over-printed VOID. It has a very early date and was probably used for sales demonstration.



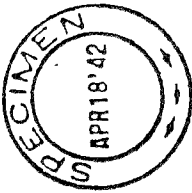
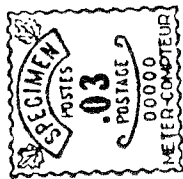
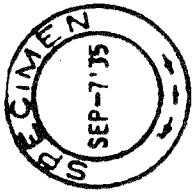
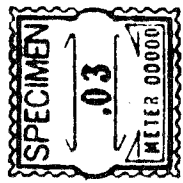
The Multi-Valor postage meter of 1933 distributed by Pitney Bowes also used the word VOID to identify items that were not to be mailed. VOID was also used by the National Cash Register Company for their initial examples in 1943..



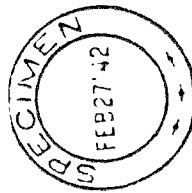
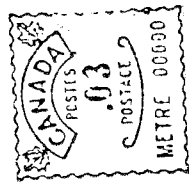
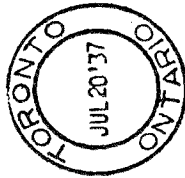
The Pitney Bowes Model H postage meters after 1930 were able to use a postage ad to the left of the indicia. Pitney Bowes saw an advantage in making and selling these ads. Most of the early SPECIMENS on the market come from a Hamilton hoard which was produced by Pitney Bowes to send to the customer as a proof for approval the postmark ad the company had ordered. Were words spelled correctly, was the appearance satisfactory, etc. The meter impression itself was made so it was not usable for postage. These SPECIMENS range in the 1930's and 1940's and were set for the type of meter the person owned. There is a wide variety in SPECIMEN meter design for this use.



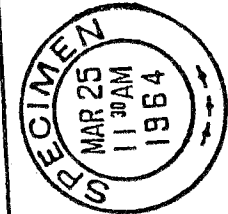
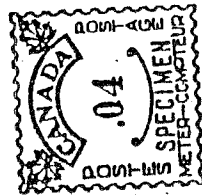
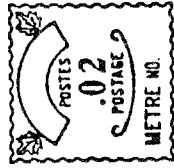
Examples of SPECIMENS from Model H, HX, AV and R meters



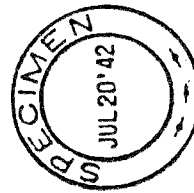
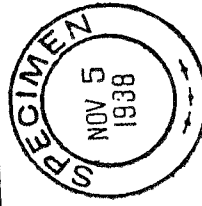
**SAVE TIRES
GAS**



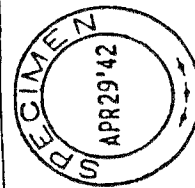
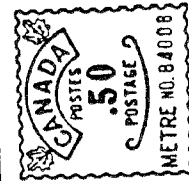
"BRAVE MEN
SHALL NOT DIE
BECAUSE I FALTERED"



Save Your Tires
with
"RUBBER-LIFE"

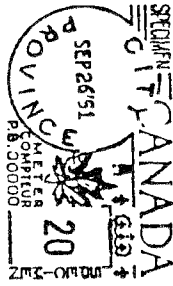
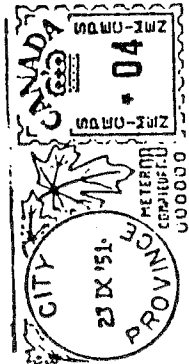
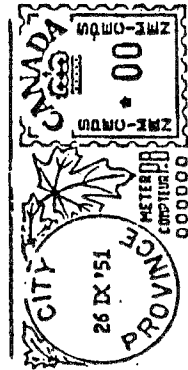
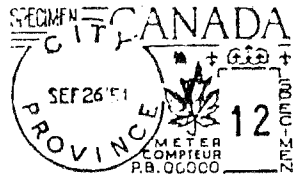
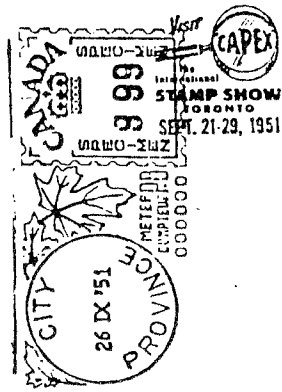


LOBLAWS
for **FOODS**
OF QUALITY

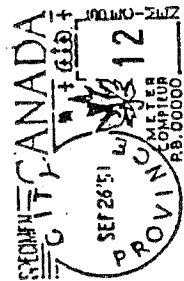
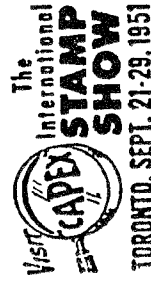


The indicia shown above appears to be an essay produced by Pilney Bowes probably for the introduction of the Model K meter series. While it also appears to be similar to the Model J meter series any dates that have shown up are usually not in the 1930's. The essay is reasonably easy to find and it is unusual that no one can state for sure the purpose of it.

SPECIMEN meters used at the Pitney Bowes booth at CAPEX in 1951



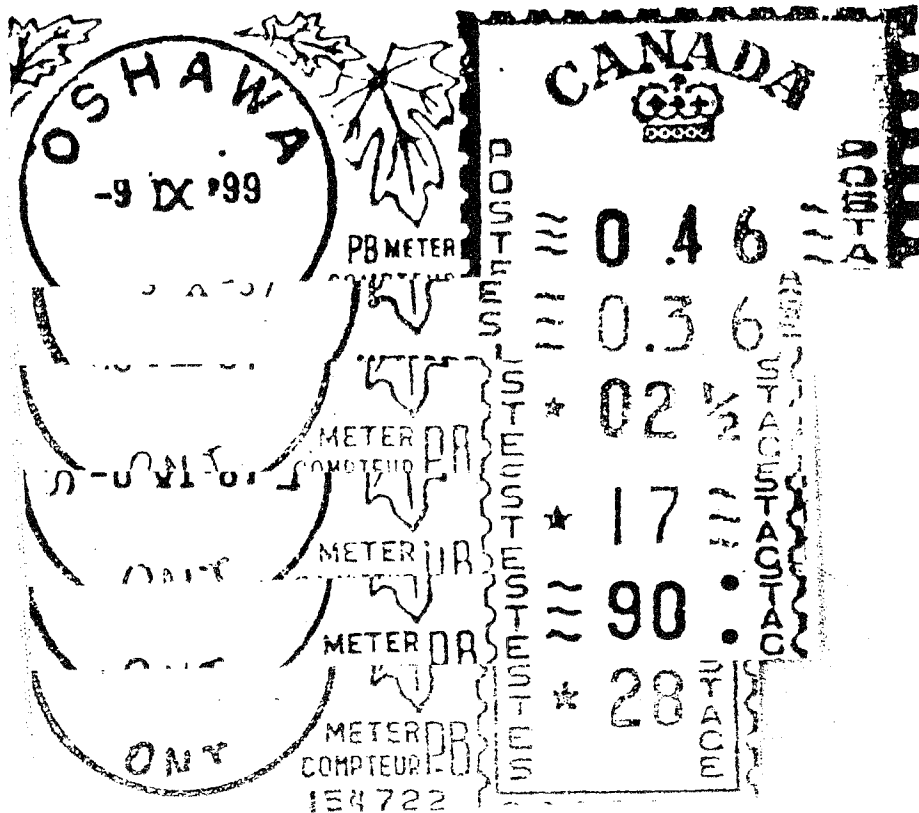
Special issues used by Pitney Bowes at their booth at the Canadian International Philatelic Exhibition (CAPEX) held at Toronto, September 21 - 29, 1951.



PITNEY-BOWES OF CANADA, LTD.
AT POINT OF MAILING



Diagram continued from page 68-4



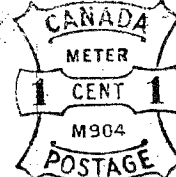
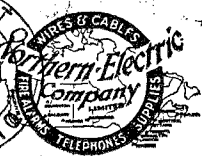
If undeliverable, please return to: Jordan & Co Intl Ltd SPI UK 067 4002 Basel Switzerland	P.P.
	Swiss Post
	CH-8058 Zurich

Some interesting tapes below.



FORM G-23

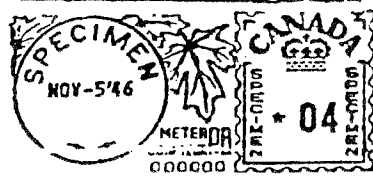
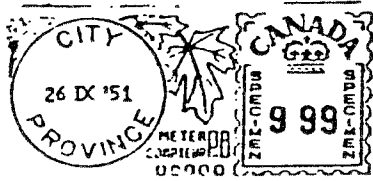
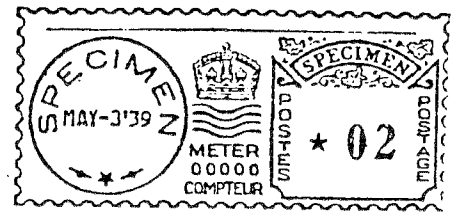
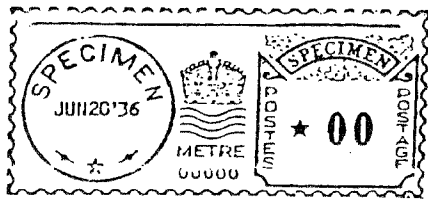
IF NOT DELIVERED IN 5 DAYS RETURN TO



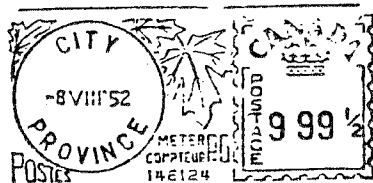
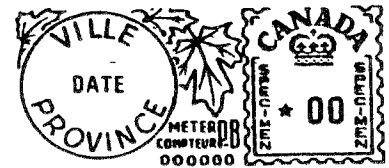
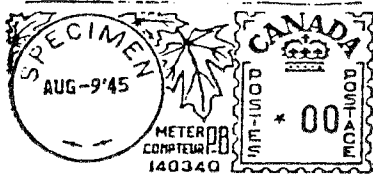
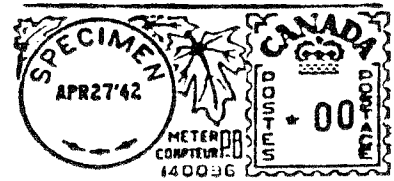
OFFICE OF MAILING



Pitney Bowes Model R SPECIMEN variants



SUBSCRIBE BY MAIL
... SAVE AGENTS'
TIRES AND GAS
"Order NOW for Victory"



Newer SPECIMENS will be included in the next Newsletter. The balance of this will include Canadian extracts from meter publications of 1950. They were attempting to develop a catalog at the time. I find it interesting although I haven't seen anything new.

Meter-Slogan Associates

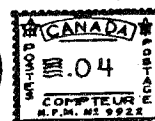
MONTHLY BULLETIN

Vol. 5, No. 10

APRIL-MAY, 1943

Whole No. 58

NATIONAL POSTAL METERS IN CANADA: Collectors of Canadian meters now have a new type to add to their collections, for NPM installed its first Canadian machine with the Sun Life Assurance Company in Toronto on April 13. The indicia, illustrated at the right, resembles our Type JW1a, although, as there is no need for half-cents, no group of wavy lines appears at the right of the figure of value. A slogan, the same as No. 46 on the U. S. patriotic list, was used and will give Mr. Pollock another new design to add to his chronicle of Canadian varieties.



NEW CANADIAN VICTORY LOAN SLOGANS: We illustrate below a new series of slogans offered to Canadian meter users by Canadian Postage Meters Limited in connection with the Fourth Victory Loan Drive which is about to be launched.



VL 14

CANADIAN NOTES:

The date line of nearly all Pitney-Bowes meters shows the month expressed by its first three letters, such as JAN, FEB, etc. However, several meters in use in the Province of Quebec indicate the month in Roman numerals, probably in order to satisfy French-speaking users who find it inconsistent to have English month-names on their meters.

The following meter numbers are known with this special date arrangement: 04016, 04017, 04018, 82515, 82529, 82725, 83199, 83338, 83868, 84037 and 140023. All these meters use the English style date with the month following the day except 140023, which shows the month first according to the American fashion.

VL 16

CANADIAN NOTES: The increase in the domestic letter rate from 3¢ to 4¢ on April 1, 1943, caused comparatively few changes on Canadian meters. Most of those in the 80000 series already were equipped to print the 4¢ denomination and therefore required no alteration. The majority of those in the 40000 and 54000 series were not so equipped, however, but changing them was not a difficult operation and the meter company completed the job within a month. Until the changes were made, users took care of the increase by printing two 2¢, or a 3¢ and 1¢, impressions on envelopes. About 17 meters of the first type, which corresponds to the U. S. Type EE, were still in use and in the case of those which were of the 2¢ denomination, the Post Office gave permission to print two complete impressions, one in the upper right and the other in the lower left corners of the envelope pending the ability of the meter company to supply 4¢ meters.

Thus far, two 4¢ meters of this first type have been noted, meters 4123 and 4124, both without License number. It is interesting to note that 4123 has been known for some time as a 4¢ meter, while 4124 is a number that has never been reported before, although it may have been a reserve meter. Members finding any meters of this type used after April 1, 1943 are asked to report them to me.

The first meter in the 54000 series with narrow spacing between town circle and indicia has just appeared, although on the corresponding U. S. type it has been in use for years, or ever since the introduction of Type F2b meters numbered 57000 and higher.

The 45000 series is reserved for Excise Tax meters printing a single 3¢ denomination. Two-denomination meters printing 3¢ and 6¢ values are being numbered in the 49000 series. These meter prints take the place of adhesive Excise Tax stamps on checks. The design shows "CANADA" at the top, with "EXCISE ACCISE" underneath. In the center we find the figure of value with "CENTS" at left and right and "TAX PAID" below. At the bottom the meter number is shown and the whole indicia is framed by the imitation perforation lines common to the 80000 meters.

-----Werner Simon

Referring to the articles on these machines in the November 1960 and January 1961 MSBs (pages 51 and 63), Mr. E.S. Lapham (New York) writes as follows:

"Your Canadian article interested me so much that I have been through my collection for additional information.

"I note the following as to style of figures: My highest 'old style' is 145250. Then comes the 'U.S. new style' from 145252 to 145478. These have several different figures from the 'old style', most notably 3, 4, 6, and 9 (flat-topped 3, open 4, 6 and 9 with ends pointing upwards and downwards, instead of round-topped 3, pointed 4, 6 and 9 with ends nearly horizontal.) The 'old style' continues from 145479 to 145766. Then comes the 'Canada new style' from 145770 up. This differs from the 'U.S. new style' in that the only new style figure that is the same is the 4 (open top), whereas the 3, 6 and 9 are like the 'old style'.

"My highest number in the 1000 series is 1352. My unverified theory as to these numbers is that, as you suggest, 141000 to 142999 were assigned for fiscal use, and that by mistake the postage machines from 1000 up were originally numbered from 141000 up, and that the '14' was cut out of the die when the error was discovered (probably before any were put in use.) One reason for this theory is that the numbers in the 1000 series are off-center to the right. The other is that I have proof that at least some of the 141000 series were for fiscal use. / Mr. Lapham sent us a photo copy of impressions from Meter PB 141155, in a somewhat similar design but without townmark and date, inscribed for "Unemployment Insurance". 7

"I have two machines of the $\approx 0\frac{1}{2}$ type, 145776 and 145778.

"There is a fifth type of date, IX 10 '43 used on 140023, listed as No. 54a in the B & S Catalogue (townmark QUEBEC / QUEBEC)

"As for the range of numbers with different date types:

(b) goes as high as 144275

(c) goes as low as 144279

(d) goes as low as 145653, although (c) goes as high as 145779.

U. S. A.

Mr. Lapham continues:

"As for U.S. numbers, my Model R meters are not all sorted out, but I note that I have 'old style' up to 179054 and 'new style' from 179235. A few lower numbers have replacement 'new style' dies. On the DM, my 'old style' go to 211662 and 'new style' start with 211669. As far as I know, no Mailomats were originally made with 'new style' figures, but I have 51044 and 51053 with both styles."

(I had overlooked the distinction between the "Canada new style" and the "U.S. new style" meter numbers, which explains why the flat-topped 3 had not been mentioned in my original article; in Canada, it occurs on only a very small range of numbers. - A..A. D.

CANADA - New Style Pitney-Bowes Tapes.

We noted in the last MSB the new bi-lingual "tapes" from Canada. Mr H. K. Warren has now sent us some long strips of these and it is apparent that there are at least three types, and that the English and French insignia are not strictly alternate.

(In these diagrams "E" represents the insignia worded in English and "F" represents those worded in French).

E E
F E E
E E
F E E
E E
F E E
E E
F E E
E E
F E E
E E
F E

(Type "A")

F F
F E E
E F
F F E
E E
F F F
E E
F F F
E E
F F E
E E
E E E

(Type "B") (Both $33\frac{1}{2}$ mm wide)

In the first type the insignia are larger, the size of the oval formed by the curved tablets being 11 mm from top to bottom. The pattern is arranged as Type "A" above. Reeled gummed side inwards. The pattern seems to be continuous and there are no apparent breaks as in the second type.

In the second type the size of the ovals is only $8\frac{1}{2}$ mm from top to bottom and the pattern is arranged as Type "B". Reeled gummed side inwards. The pattern extends for about 4" and then repeats itself. Every three times, or about 12" there is a larger gap between insignia, this is probably the join in the printing cylinder.

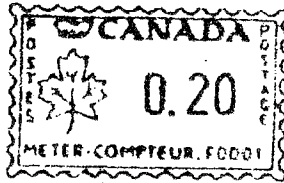
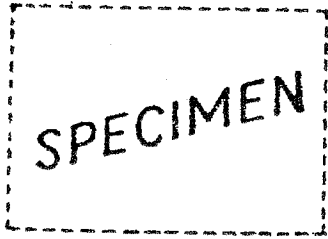
The third type is the same as the second except that it is reeled gummed side outwards.

It should be noted that these tapes are obviously printed in wide reels and then divided into narrow strips, and as the pattern extends further than one strip it may be that different combinations occur on different positions. The arrangement of the insignia in Type "B" seems to be almost at random, and there are many more French than in Type "A".

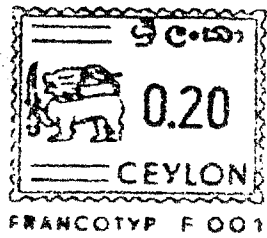
Mr Warren also points out that the tapes are designed by the Post Office and are supplied, free of charge, from the Post Office. This is in contrast with Great Britain, where the user has to pay for the tape. It seems probably that they are actually produced by Pitney-Bowes, the main difference being in who pays! The large tapes (225mm x 100mm, perforated down the centre in pads) for the Pitney-Bowes Model "H" machines are no longer obtainable. These have not been seen in a bi-lingual form.

From what might be called "The Department of What Might Have Been" we show these Francotyp essays or proofs, thanks to George Pearson.

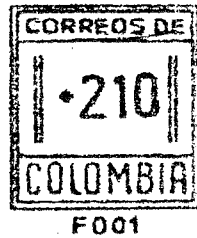
As far as we know none of them were used in this form although the one from Pakistan did appear later in decimal currency.



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