



# Canada Meter Stamp Newsletter



No. 35

SUMMER 1992

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## METER NEWS

This issue was supposed to contain a major update of the NIXDORF label series. There has been a lot of activity by MAIL\*POSTE in placing these in retail postal outlets. However, I notice locally that the economy has had an adverse effect in the sense few people want to put out a large amount of money for an outlet. Our downtown post office was to close and be replaced by two outlets. No business has accepted the outlet as being viable at this time.

I visited a local RPO to send a NIXDORF label to a member. The transaction was only 42 cents. I was reminded that this request cost her money for such a small transaction; however, she obliged on my account. I could not understand what she was doing pushing so many keys. It took so long to process. It appears that even for lettermail she said she had to key in the postal code for the point of delivery which, similar to a McDonalds franchise, of course the information ends up in the big system in Ottawa. Now they know how many labels you are receiving!

The reason for the delay is firstly I don't have much on hand to report and secondly there is some confusion as to what should be in the list. It is my view that the list is a historic one. That is, if a label existed it should be listed. If the office and/or RPO number changed, or the Nixdorf machine was updated then another listing should be made - not just an update of the old. There have been many updates in equipment, but we still want to record the old as well. It will make a long list but now is the time to do it.

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On the next page (35-2) is the MAIL\*POSTE advertisement recognizing our 125th Anniversary. The first paragraph is interesting as well as a description of "the system".

# CANADA POST CORPORATION



**I**n the past 10 years, Canada Post Corporation (CPC) has been transformed by fundamental changes. In fact, the "post office," as Canadians once knew it, no longer exists. In its place is a postal distribution system—a \$4-billion a year business.

In addition to our own employees, Canada Post is at the hub of a vast network of business suppliers that make up today's postal system. They include the retailers who operate CPC's franchise network, national and regional airlines, trucking companies, advertising companies, printing plants, and mailing houses. They also include computer companies, software designers, systems integrators and suppliers of a range of postal technology, from high-speed mail processing equipment to postage meters.

CPC has documented and built systems, established standards, and achieved efficiencies unheard of 10 years ago. Independent auditors report that on-time delivery is in the 97-98% range. Canada Post handles 50% more mail than nine years ago, and it does this with a smaller workforce.

The Corporation has also invested some \$2 billion in the last five years, and continues to invest \$300 to \$400 million a year to build the postal service of the future. These investments have improved service and are restoring confidence in Canada Post's reliability, as well as enabling some of CPC's supplier partners to land international contracts.

The Corporation has teaming agreements with several Canadian companies to seek new business worldwide. A recent joint-venture agreement with TNT Ltd. and the postal administrations of Germany, France, Sweden and the Netherlands will provide Canadian customers with access to more than 200 countries and better global courier and express parcel service.

Our corporation and our employees are working to achieve our full potential in all aspects of communications and distribution. We want Canadian businesses to depend on us to support their drive to be competitive in domestic and global markets.

While building on a long and colorful past, Canada Post looks to the future with a new purpose and direction. As Canada celebrates its 125th birthday, Canada Post is pleased to be among the many corporations that call Canada home.



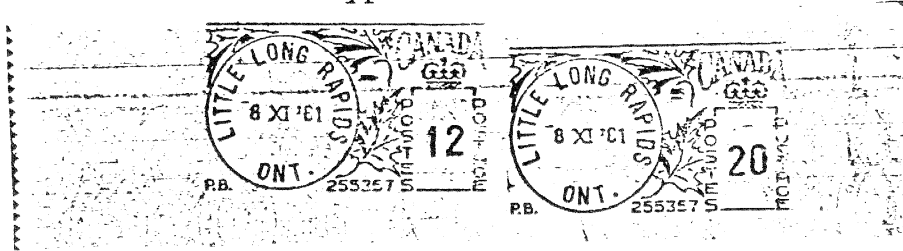
**MAIL  POSTE**

Canada Post Corporation / Société canadienne des postes

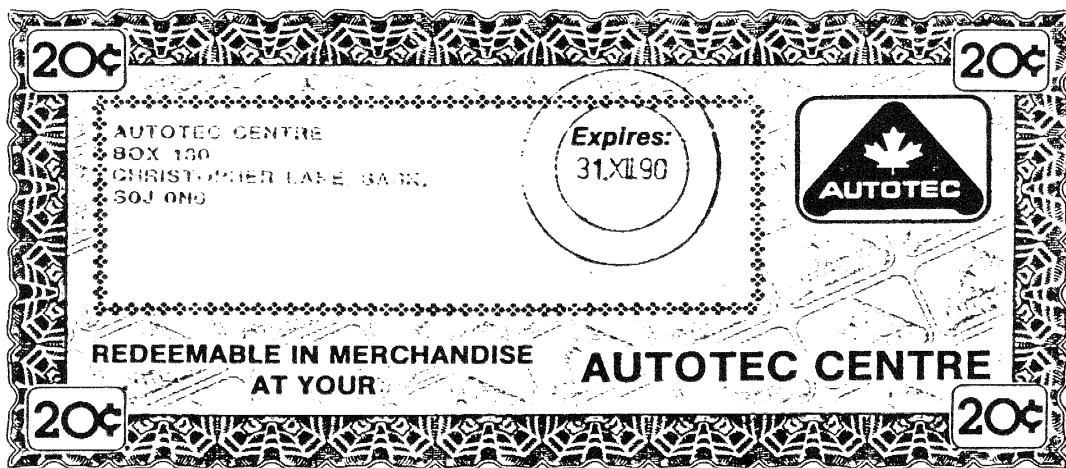
22 THE FINANCIAL POST 500 — 1992

TOWNS

LITTLE LONG RAPIDS - PB Type 14 - 255357 - 8 XI '61



This meter was used by Ontario Hydro at a construction site for the Little Long powerhouse on the Mattagami River which drains into the Moose River near James Bay. Other generating stations constructed on the river were Harmon and Kipling but it is not known if meters were used at those sites. Construction began the spring of 1960 and the site was completed in 1966.

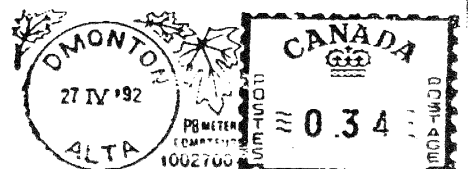


A strange use for a postage? meter. It appears as if an IHC meter has been used to imprint the location of an AUTOTEC gas centre at Christopher Lake, Sask, and the date mark shows the expiry date for the coupon. Most unusual.

Jack Brandt sent the item below with the "E" missing from EDMONTON. It appears to be a broken die rather than poor printing die to the content of the envelope.

**Alberta**  
HEALTH  
PO Box 1360  
Edmonton, AB, T5J 2N3  
Canada

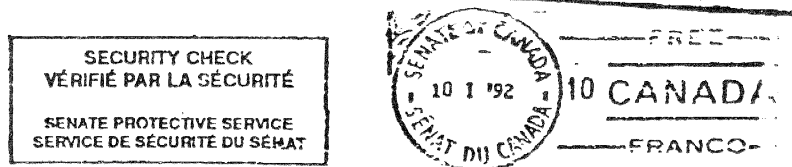
WORKING TOGETHER  
FOR  
BETTER HEALTH



The two items shown are very hard to get. The first is a backstamp on a cover applied by Pitney Bowes meter 501595, with 0.00 rate. The postmark ad shows that the letter was inspected for letter bombs by the mail room of the Governor-General's Office.



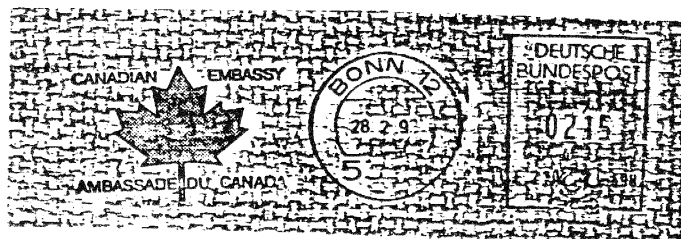
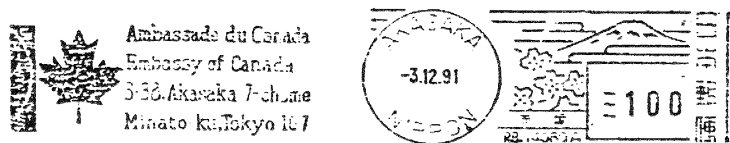
Similarly, a Senate of Canada frank shows the incoming letter went through a security check. All mail does not appear to be checked so these items are real hard to find - but are they postage?



The odd new style Friden is to be found but these are still scarce. I don't have details of this meter yet.



Two more foreign meters with Canadian association which I have added to my collection.



"Picked up" two cheques recently with excise meter impressions. The rate indicia is the same, and indeed the serial numbers are consecutive - 49130 and 49131. One has the company name in the "townmark"; the other has the company name above the rate mark.



HAMILTON FEBRUARY 4/49 *Feb 22*

BANK OF MONTREAL T 6006 HAMILTON

FIFTEEN DAYS AFTER DATE PAY TO THE ORDER OF THE BANK OF MONTREAL FOR COLLECTION

THE SUM OF VALUE RECEIVED AND CHARGE OF ACCOUNT OF 2513 DOLLARS

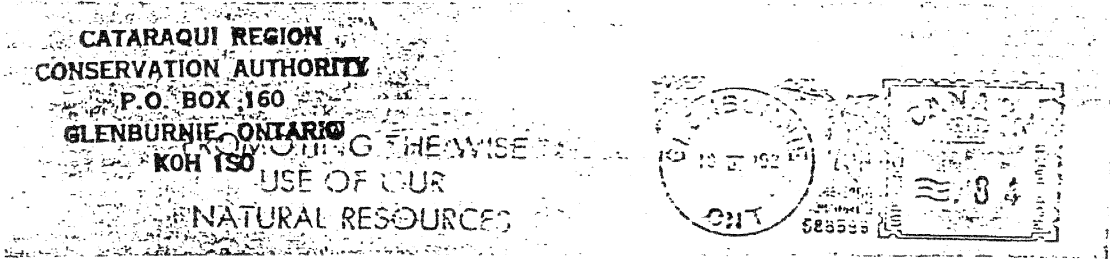
FRED D WHALEN KEENE ONT

ACCOUNT OF TUCKETT LIMITED

*ACCEPTED*  
*Fred D Whalen*  
*Feb 22 1949*

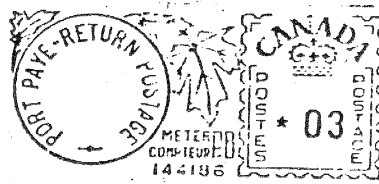
*us*  
*h*

*R. D. [Signature]*  
SECRETARY



GLENBURNIE - PB Type (22222)? - 588599 - 18 III'92  
 Used by Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority  
 35-5

Ed Lapham enclosed another type for our catalogue of Type 11 in Newsletter 33. I guess it will be temporarily numbered 11.1.42.



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Ed also added to our inventory of Type 19 postage meters on page 32-11. These are listed herewith.

100155	TORONTO ONT.	Kilborn
100168	TORONTO ONT.	Denison Mines
100259	CALGARY ALTA.	Bruce Robinson Electric
100268	TORONTO ONT.	
100314	HAMILTON ONTARIO	Can. Westinghouse Supply Co
100332	TORONTO ONT.	Falconbridge
100437	HAMILTON ONT.	Slater Steels
100514	PEMBROKE ONT.	Superior Electric
100772	THUNDER BAY ONT.	MSS Bulletin (Cooper)
100824	SYDNEY N.S.	

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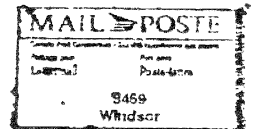
Will you please check your inventory of Postalia against the list on page 32-11 and send me the new numbers, or more complete information. Ed Lapham sent in two pages of additions and I only want to repeat the list once more.

**CRC PRESS, INC.**

2000 Corporate Blvd., N.W., Boca Raton, FL 33431

**WORLD WIDE MAILERS**

2744 EDNA STREET  
WINDSOR, ONTARIO  
N8Y 1V2

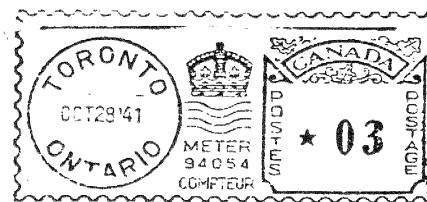


The above item shows that a US company has found it profitable to use our high price mailing system. What appears to be a rubber stamp is probably a printing head which has applied the official permit and the slogan gives the name of the mailing company.

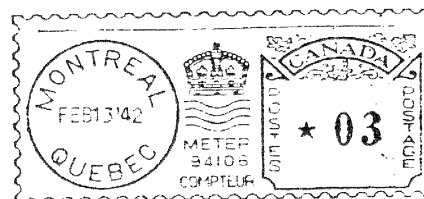
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A few years ago Wilf Whitehouse completed a major inventory of World War II patriotic cancels. What I show below is in his list. The purpose here is to show the dates of use of some of the ads. To remind you the dates for the several Victory Loans were:

- 1st Jun 15, 1941
- 2nd Mar 1, 1942
- 3rd Nov 1, 1942
- 4th May 1, 1943
- 5th Nov 1, 1943
- 6th May 1, 1944
- 7th Nov 1, 1944
- 8th May 1, 1945



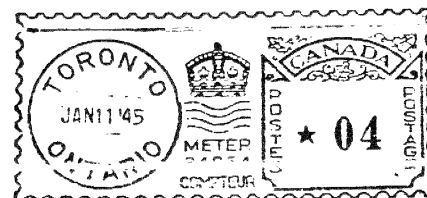
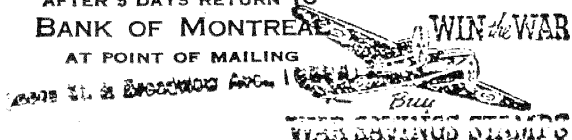
AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO  
**BANK OF MONTREAL**  
AT POINT OF MAILING



AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO  
**BANK OF MONTREAL**  
AT POINT OF MAILING



AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO  
**BANK OF MONTREAL**  
AT POINT OF MAILING

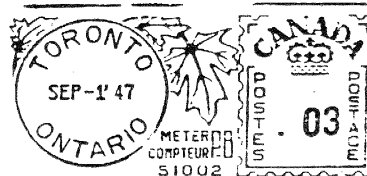


## POST CARD

Please do not write directly below.



Free instructional post card. Mail in "Mailomat" for 3c. to any destination in Canada or United States.



This Space for Your Greeting

This Space for Address Only

Emil Auer  
16 Duerstein Street  
Buffalo 10  
New York

Kenneth Campbell Dalglish died at Cobourg, June 4, 1992, in his 90th year. He worked for Pitney-Bowes from 1925 to 1970, serving as President for several years. I visited with him in his home at Grafton to discuss the introduction and use of postage meters in the early days of the company. He was a real gentleman and generous with his information. I begin a serial history on the company with this issue. Much of the information will be from my interview with "KC", and with several other pioneers of the company.

#### PITNEY-BOWES IN CANADA - PART 1

Ross W. Irwin

Arthur H. Pitney of Chicago looked for a substitute for licking adhesive postage stamps which took a major portion of his time in an early job. He invented a postage meter and obtained the services of Eugene A. Rummler to design and build this first meter. They applied for a patent December 9, 1901, and it was granted on October 14, 1902. The Pitney Postal Machine Co., of Chicago, was formed to promote its use.

Rummler demonstrated the meter to the U.S. Post Office in Washington in March 1903. While the device was looked on with favour the decision was that the Postmaster General did not have the authority to introduce this novel form of postage. In May 1912 another trial was arranged at Washington. In January 1914 successful tests were conducted at the Addressograph Co., Chicago, where 10,000 pieces of mail were processed in one day.

Following a refinancing of the company the name was changed to the American Postage Meter Co. in September 1912. The company continued to experience great difficulty in gaining Congressional approval for the use of the postage meter.

Walter Harold Bowes joined the Addressograph Co., in 1906. There he met George H. Graham, inventor of a high-speed cheque-endorsing machine. They formed the Universal Stamping Machine Co. in 1908. Bowes was the salesman. He and Graham perfected a stamp-cancelling and postmarking machine. This machine was accepted by the Post Office in 1910 and they ordered 50 for their own use at a unit rental of \$150 per year. The Universal machine cancelled 700 letters a minute.

In Canada, the Canadian Postal Supply Co. had produced the Bickerdyke cancelling machine from 1897. The capacity was a scant 250 letters a minute so the Universal cancelling machine was purchased to replace them. It was familiarity with these cancelling machines that eventually led to the acceptance of the postage meter by the Canadian post office department.



Bowes moved his factory to Stamford, Conn. in 1917 and through a mutual acquaintance, Bowes met Arthur Pitney in October 1919. Each had something the other needed. The Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter Co., was formed April 23, 1920, as a merger of the American Postage Meter Co., of Chicago, and the Universal Stamping Machine Co., of Stamford.

The product to be marketed was a modified Model D Universal cancelling machine, with a detachable postage meter. The machine was capable of postmarking 250 letters a minute. The postage meter was fixed value recording single units of postage. Pitney had developed an improved postage meter in 1919. Its patent was assigned to the new company. A demonstration was arranged with the U.S. Post Office of the new Model A mailing machine and the Model M postage meter. Walter Wheeler was successful and the machine was approved by the Post Office for First Class mail on September 1, 1920. The company was surprised, they had no stock on hand.

It was not until November 16, 1920, that the first official setting of a postage meter, and the first date of mailing, took place at Stamford, Conn. First day covers did not occur until December 10, 1920.

The approval has strings attached. While it was approved for First Class mail it was only to be used in quantities of 300 or more at a time. Time would change these restrictions.

Metered mail was introduced to much of the developed world about the same time. In Germany, the Francotyp Co. was formed in 1921. The Universal Postal Union held its first Congress since 1914 in Madrid, Spain, beginning October 4, 1920. The German delegate suggested under Article VI that Section 1 of Article 13 be amended by adding "impression of machines, under the immediate control of the post office", to postage stamps. According to the Convention signed November 30, 1920, this regulation became effective January 1, 1921. Canada agreed to this regulation for international mail.

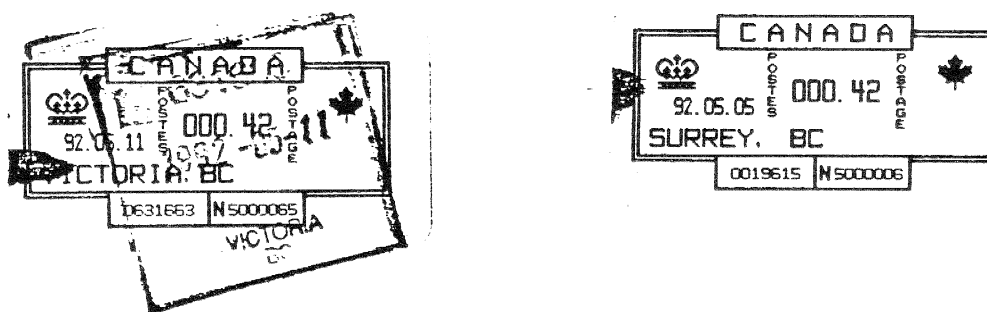
The Regulations of the Universal Postal Union agreed to at Madrid set out, that, effective January 1, 1922, mechanical prepayment impressions must include the country of origin and be in bright red colour, whatever their value. The value was to be represented in Arabic figures. These changes were mailed by the Canada Post office to all postmasters by Circular H-135, December 3, 1921.

In the United States, prior to the formation of the Pitney-Bowes Co., Pitney and Bowes had managed to get the approval of the U.S. Congress and Senate to permit the use of the postmark system for handling First Class mail. It has been approved for other classes of mail in 1904. On June 11, 1920 Bowes wrote the Deputy Postmaster General of Canada informing him the "postmark system of

handling First Class mail came into effect June 8" in the United States and enclosed official data as well as the appearance of the indicia and use of the permit and hoped that Canada might consider its use.

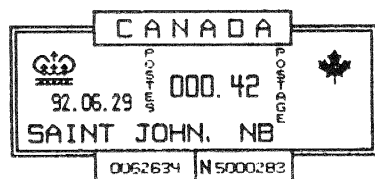
Walter H. Bowes had mailed his first letter on November 16, 1920. He immediately began a campaign to interest other governments in his postage meter and machine. On December 17, 1920, Bowes wrote the Postmaster General of Canada advising him of the approval by the U.S. Post Office of his machines, and enclosed a cover with the indicia M0000 and advertising on the Model A machine and Model No.1 meter. Promotion of the system ran away ahead of production. The first commercial use of a mailing machine and meter was by Travellers Mutual Accident Association of Utica, NY, in late 1920. It was not until August 6, 1921, that the company commenced delivery of meters to selected prestige companies.

(To be continued)



Wilf Whitehouse sent the Editor two covers. Note the excess? ink at the left side of each label. Why? Also note the POCON cancel right on the label - no offense Wilf just strange things come out of the west.

Wilf also sent along a copy of a "whatchacallit". It appears that this is something to do with the startup operation but the exact purpose is not clear at the moment.



PPOS 3.2.1

92.06.29

BACK1-00177

BACKUP DISK #1

EOD# 00177

P0062634

PITNEY-BOWES DESK MODEL POSTAGE METER  
(TYPE 13)

The first new postage meter introduced by Pitney-Bowes Co. after the war was intended for use by small business. The unit combined the mailing machine and postage meter in one small portable unit. It was called the DM (Desk Model) Mini-meter. This meter had been in development at Stamford prior to the war and experimental units were placed in service in 1943. Actual production of the meter did not occur until 1948. About 10,000 units were put in service during the first year.

In Canada, the new postage meter was submitted to the Post Office for test on May 7, 1947. The DM postage meter was approved in principle on May 13, 1947, subject to the usual six-month test before final approval would be given. Final approval was given October 15, 1949. The reasons for the delay are not known.

The earliest Canadian use of this meter I have located is November 19, 1949.

The DM postage meter could be "set" in any amount up to a capacity of \$99.99. The lock-out was the first impression under \$1.00. It was a limited value meter and printed all values from 1c to 20c, but no fractions. The descending register went from 9999 and the ascending register rose to 99999. The meter was hand operated and weighed 15 pounds so was quite portable to take to the post office for setting.

Unlike previous meters this unit used a flat plate die for printing, other used a rotary die. The tape unit was separate and had its own ink pad. This is the reason one sees different densities in inking of the indicia and the postmark ad. The postmark ad was not used as much so the ink is more prominent. Some used separate colours for each ink pad to attract notice.

The Type 13 indicia comprises a single circle townmark with datemark as month-day-year. After 1950 the standard bilingual day-month-year was adopted with the month in serified Roman numerals. A large maple leaf is between the townmark and the frank. The frank has two figures of value and a Crown above. POSTAGE is vertically at right and POSTES and CANADA are at the top of the design. Two die guard marks are usually found in the indicia under the maple leaf. The letters "PB" is under the townmark. The province was in full but is also found abbreviated.

RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID dies were available for this meter but are very scarce. SPECIMEN meters also exist. These have the letters "P.B." moved from the lower left corner to a prefix for the serial number.

The serial block for the Pitney-Bowes Model DM postage meter began at 240000. The highest number located is 240716. Of note, serial 240714 was used at Oshawa September 15, 1950, so this series

of 700 units was all out within a year. METER/COMPTEUR is above the serial number.

In 1963, there were 146,000 DM's in use in the USA and Canada. In Canada, of the 33,454 Pitney-Bowes meters in use, 14,500, or 43 percent were DM's. Due to the ever increasing postal rates and the introduction of newer postage meters, the PB Model DM was declared obsolete in July 1979. This means that Pitney-Bowes would not supply a DM postage meter to a new customer but continued to service those in use. When postage rates for first-class mail exceeded the upper limit (20c) of the DM meter in 1982 its use declined rapidly.

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#### TYPE 14

The Model DM indicia did not conform to post office regulations which required that POSTES and POSTAGE be vertically in the rate frame. Pitney-Bowes had modified the finger-tip control to change the date and a few other minor modifications. The post office required the indicia be changed for approval of the modifications. Pitney-Bowes named the meter the "DM-3".

In the indicia, CANADA became smaller at the top of the rate box. POSTES and POSTAGE were put in the rate frame. METER-COMPTEUR were removed, the maple leaf was enlarged and placed lower in the design, the fleur-de-lis was also removed.

The earliest known date is November 13, 1950. All postage meters above 240717 is of Type 14. When earlier meters were returned for servicing the new indicia was added so Type 14 indicia is often found below 240717.



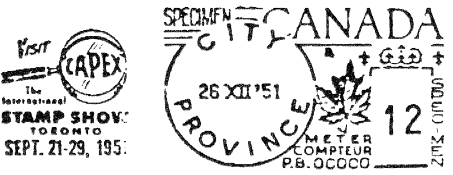


In 1967 it appears that the new style of numbers used in the serial was used, more easily recognized by the open "4" and the short tail "9".

The highest number found is 264231. All DM meters were in service by 1970.



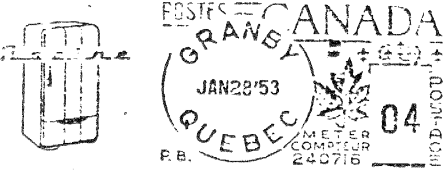


MODEL DM (Type 13) Essay design, dated AUG 31'47  
not approved by Post Office for use

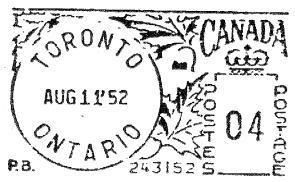
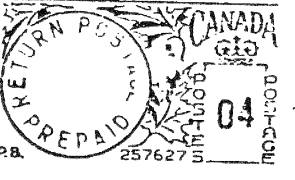
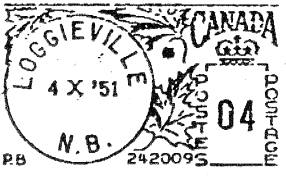
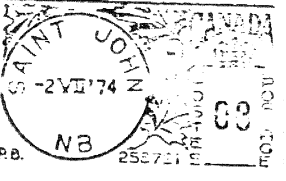
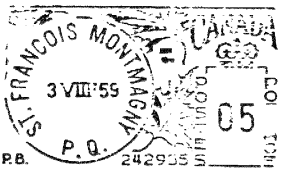
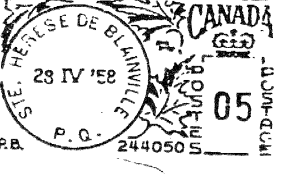
# CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
13.1		Basic type
13.1.1		CITY PROVINCE SPECIMEN, MDY
13.1.2		CITY PROVINCE SPECIMEN, DMY, month in RN
13.1.3		RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID
13.1.4		PORT DE RETOUR PAYE
13.1.5		Province abbreviated, with period
13.1.6		Date mark blank

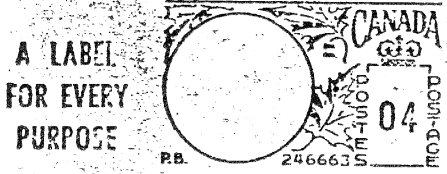


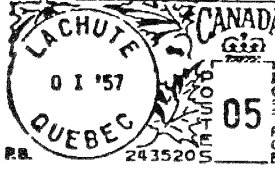

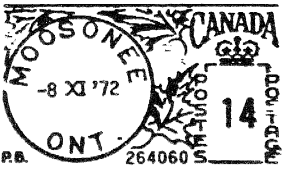
# CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
13.1.7		Date mark - DMY, month in RN
13.1.8		Date mark - DMY, "0" for day
13.9 of		Two gear marks below "N" of CANADA

# CMMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
14.1		Basic type
14.1.1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4 %</b> INTEREST ON DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS</p> 	RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID
14.1.2		PORT DE RETOUR PAYE
14.1.3		Province abbreviated, with period
14.1.4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>E2L 3X8</b></p> 	Province abbreviated, no period
14.1.5		Two gear marks between townmark and ratemark
14.1.13		Small font face in townmark

# CMSG METER CATALOG

Type	Indicia	Remarks
14.1.6		Town and date mark blank
14.1.7		Date mark blank
14.1.8		Date mark - DMY, month in RN
14.1.9		Date mark - DMY, "0" for day
14.1.10		Date mark - MY
14.1.11		Serial number with closed "4"
14.1.12		Thinner serial number