

CANADIAN METER STAMP NEWSLETTER

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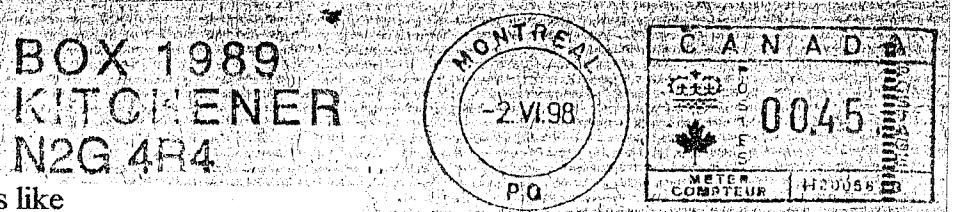
NO. 60

2000

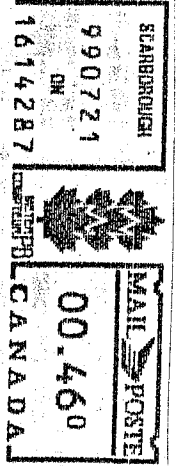
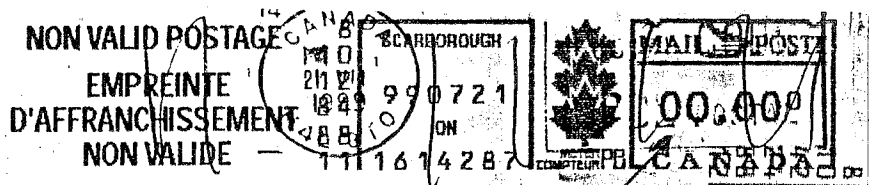
EDITOR'S NOTES

Note above, I have changed e-mail address. No editorial in this issue, just filling the space with good stuff. Strange items noted in the mail.

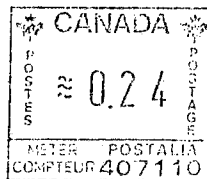
Note the return address is the same; however one cover was mailed from Scarborough and the other from Montreal. Sort of unusual use. What are the short bars at the feeding end?



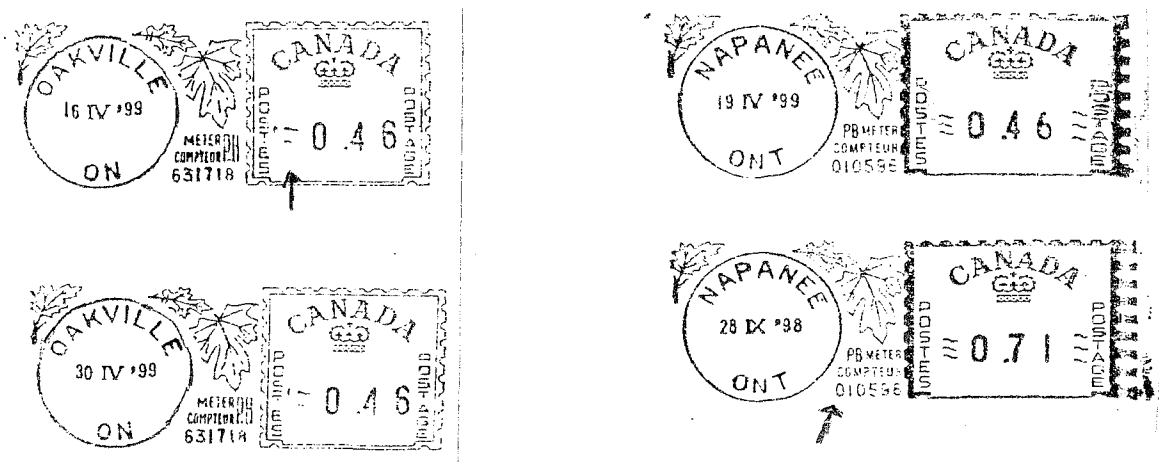
What happened here? Looks like the cover was metered with a 00.00 rate. Does the meter not accept such a rate - hence the NON VALID POSTAGE warning. The second application was made on the same day. Anyone an explanation for this one? (This is part of the design.)



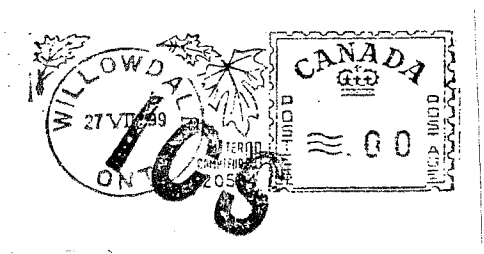
BULK
EN
NOMBRE



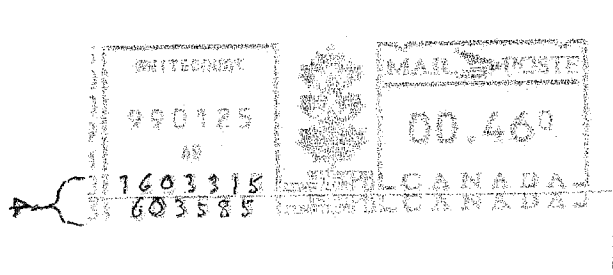
A couple of constant varieties due to machine error. PB meter 631718 at Oakville has a triad that does not print completely. Note the two dates. Similarly PB meter 1010596 at Napanee has the first [1] missing. Again note the dates to indicate a constant variety. Having said this I doubt that such material should be listed as a variety.



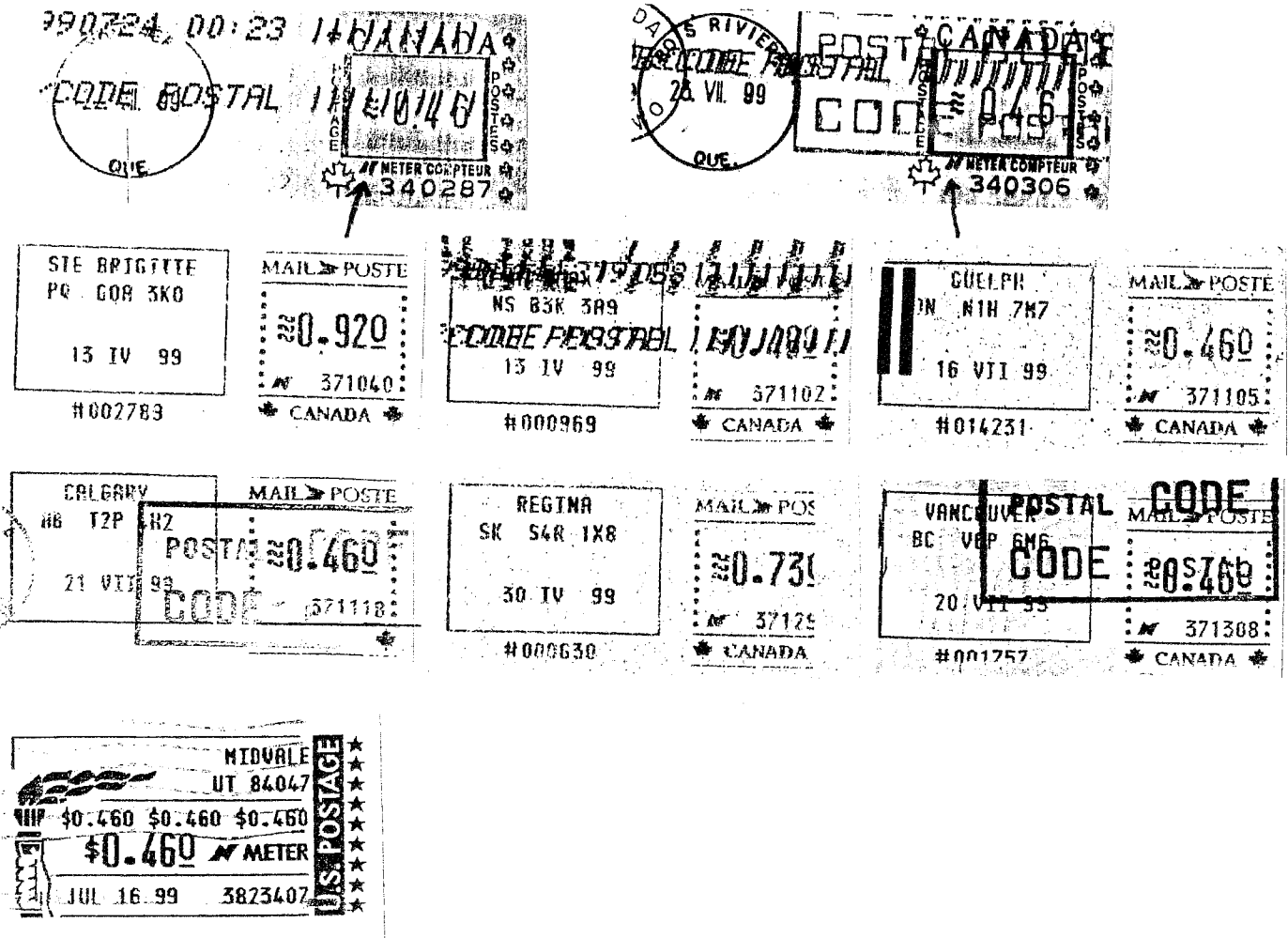
PB meter 620584 at Willowdale was used to mail this cover but the value set was T.00. There is a red "ICS" on it. Does this signify some sort of postage due? Anyone know?



Leland Brown and I have a pleasant disagreement regarding the PB POB postage meter. Leland stated that he had meter 603535. I claimed it was part of the 160000 series with the "1" missing. Leland sent his proof which shows the difference in alignment between 603535 and 1603115. I must admit there is such a difference. Until another example shows up, or someone locates this meter, I admit it is a small variety.



The following pages on Neopost were printed off their website. They contain some useful information. Neopost postage meters are hard to find. Below are some of the very few I have been able to find.



NEOPOST

A twisted history of corporate ownership. The British Post Office approved the use of franking machines in 1922 when the New Zealand Moss meter was offered for use. In 1925 an improved meter was built by E.H. Kinnard and was marketed by a new company he named Neopost Ltd, meaning "new post". Neopost postage meters were used in Canada in 1950 and in Newfoundland from 1928.

Carl Friden was born in Sweden and emigrated to the United States. In 1934 he started his own business in Oakland, CA, the Friden Calculating Machine Co. Friden acquired the postage meter business from Commercial Controls Corp. of Rochester, NY, in 1956. In 1960 Friden developed their first postage meter model. These were approved for use in the USA in 1963 and in Canada in 1967. The Singer Corp. acquired Friden Corp. in 1963. In 1976 investors purchased the postage meter division of Friden and renamed it F.M.E. Corp (for Friden Mailing Equipment).

In January 1979, F.M.E. was acquired by CIT-Alcatel, a subsidiary of Compagnie Generale d'Electricity of Paris. Postage meters were now marked under the name Friden-Alcatel. Their first electronic postage meter was launched in March 1979. Neopost was a separate company in the Business Systems Group of Alcatel.

In February 1980 Alcatel bought the Roneo Division of Vickers Ltd which was marketing the Roneo-Neopost postage meters. Fonds Partenaires of Paris, in 1992, acquired the Business Systems Group of Alcatel which included Friden, Roneo and Neopost postage meter divisions. It became Friden Neopost in 1992 when the company was separated from Friden Alcatel. However, the longstanding name Neopost was chosen for global identity in 1995.

Digital thermal meter technology was adopted in late 1996. Neopost now market the mailing machines listed below, all electronic and interfaced with an electronic postage scale.

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<http://www.neopost.ca>

Postage Meters:	Francotyp Postalia Postage Meters with the new Totally Digital T-1000 meter offering Teleset - Remote Resetting by Modem
Postage Meter Advertising Plates:	Stock Layouts or Design Your Own
Mailing Systems:	Francotyp Postalia Mailing Systems with superior design. Also Remanufactured Equipment from Ascom, Neopost and Pitney Bowes.
Weighing Systems:	Weigh Scales to calculate the correct postage and even set the meter for you. A variety of other scales at low cost or designed for accuracy.
Paper Handling:	Folding, Inserting Equipment, and Letter Openers to cut through stacks of paper work.
Supplies:	Quality Postage Meter Labels, Gummed Tape, Ink and Replacement Ink Rollers for Most Postage Meters & Mailing Machines.
Service:	Annual Service Agreements or Per Call plus parts available for most brands including Pitney Bowes.
Fax:	Brother Fax and P-Touch Machines.

Neopost developed the world's first electronic postage meter and interfaced it with an electronic postage scale to produce more accurate application of postage and efficient utilization of mailroom resources.

Neopost's line of mailing machines incorporates the latest in new technology: opto-mechanical sensors which monitor the movement of envelopes to eliminate possible document damage. Should a misfeed occur, the sensors will stop the mail machine before postage is spent or the envelope is damaged, reducing the chance of wasting postage. This new technology also helps to avoid the dust problems associated with the older-style, infrared sensors on current competitive equipment.

SM22: Neopost's SM22 mailing machine combines the postal security of a digital meter and no more messy ink, with crisp thermal printing. It's everything a small office needs for professionally metered business mail.

With SM22's thermal printing technology, you can communicate even better. Not only will you have the cleanest postal indicia, but you can also add advertising messages and slogans to your mail. Plus, thermal printing means no more messy ink cartridges to handle.

The SM22 includes features like:

Automatic date advance - never post the wrong date again

Departmental accounting - track postage costs for up to 31

numeric departments or customers
Report printing - print status or expenditure reports on labels or to an optional external printer

Integrated quick reference guide - quick access to operator information

Low postage warning - alerts you when it's time for more postage

SM26: Designed for low volume mailers, the SM26 mailing machine is a multi-functional digital postage meter that combines an integrated scale with clear thermal printing technology. Integrated scale technology allows the scale to be operated from the keyboard of the mailing machine and provides automatic setting of the meter when a "mail piece" is weighed. Digital technology ensures that the SM26 comes fully loaded with high end features at a low cost, including:

Automatic date advance;

Standard departmental accounting for up to 31 "alphanumeric" departments two levels of security, provided by password protection and individual department PIN numbers that keep track of accounts for chargebacks;

User definable text for up to eight personalized messages for promotional and/or informational purposes; and

An automatic label dispenser, eliminating the need to manually feed individual labels into the meter.

The SM26 is available with Neopost's exclusive Postage-On-Call™

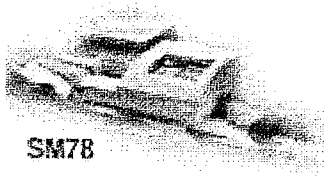
SM58: The modular design of the SM58 Electronic Mailing System makes upgrading easy. Just "Get the Basics" now, and add-on as needed. If a service call is necessary, the SM58's modularity allows for quick substitutions minimizing downtime. The SM58 offers a push button meter, and scale interfacing to speed operations when weighing. Mail accounting is standard with 14 or 99 departments for charging back accounts. Options on the SM58 include a printer for 8 1/2" x 11" hard copy accounting reports and the IS1 interface which interfaces the SM58 to the System One Series Desktop Folder Inserters for one step folding, inserting, sealing and metering.

Other features include:

Speeds of up to 120 letters per minute

Automatic adhesive label dispensing
Variable reset Postage-On-Call

SM78: Neopost's mailing machines are designed to accommodate the diverse needs of varied mailing quantities. Ideal for mid-volume mailers, which are the majority of Canadian companies, the SM78 is a fully electronic, modular system that seals, stamps and stacks. Designed with the postage meter integrated into the base unit, the SM 78 is available in both power-feed and automatic-feed configurations. All mail accounting options and scales offered by Neopost can be connected electronically to the SM78, which can operate with both label strips or 5-inch roll tape options. The SM78 features a Touch Command™ control panel which provides self-diagnostics and clear feedback to the user.

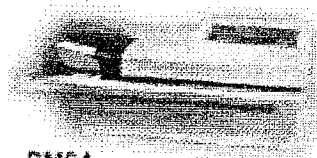


SM78

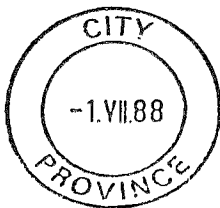
SM94: The SM94 is the supreme mailing machine for knocking the big jobs down to size with automatic features and full system performance. A Touch Command™ control panel makes the system easy to operate. The opto-mechanical jam sensors protect each letter as it is sealed, stamped and stacked. The latest technology in sensors prevents the down time associated with dusty sensors on older style or competitive equipment. Convenient roll tape loads at the touch of a button. The SM94 also takes technology one step further with an improved moistening unit and an all-new inker adjustment that works at a single touch. A wider envelope feed deck with an advanced envelope conveyor helps process bulky, uneven mail.

Neopost mailing machines are available with Neopost's exclusive Postage-On-Call™, which allows remote meter setting by phone.

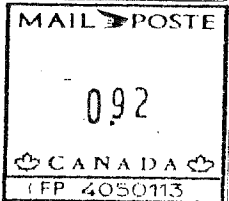
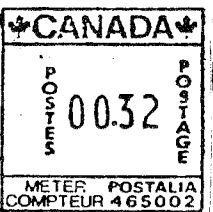
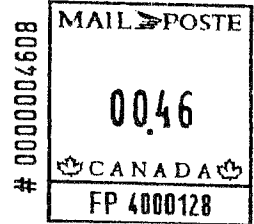
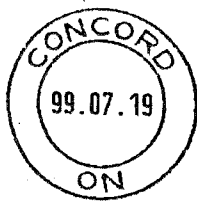
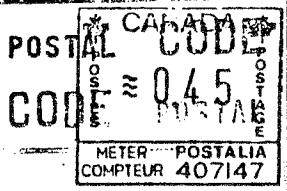
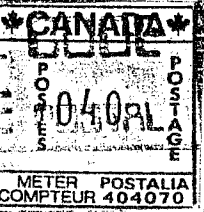
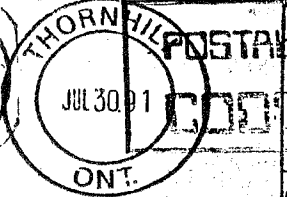
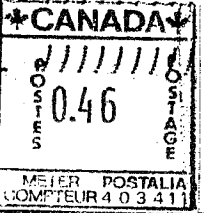
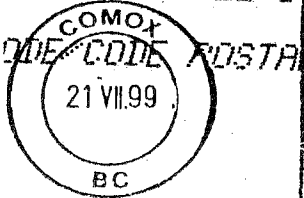
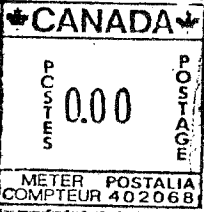
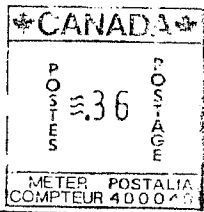
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SM94



POSTALIA RECTANGULAR RATE BOX INDICIA
 Variations in type font size and style are not included here



Serial	Value	Top Box	Serial Box
400047	T.00	CANADA	MC/P
402946	000	CANADA	MC/P
403411	0.00	CANADA	MC/P
404070	000	CANADA	MC/P
407147	T 0.00	CANADA	MC/P
465002	00.00	CANADA	MC/P
404179	000	M>>P	POSTALIA
4000128	00.00	M>>P	FP
4050113	0.00	M>>P	FP
4002128	00.00	CP O PC	FP
4050245	0.00	CP O PC	FP

Data for the Postalia meters shown in the previous table

SERIAL	TOWNMARK	RATE BOX	OVERALL	SETTING
400047	21	26 x 25	55	8
402946	27/18	26 x 27	61	7
403411	27/18	26 x 28	64	11
404070	27/18	26 x 27	62	10
407147	22	26 x 24	64	16
465002	27/18	26 x 27	62	10
404128	27/18	25 x 27	62	10
4000128	25/17	27 x 30	60	8
4050113	27	29 x 26	65	10
4002128	25/17	30 x 25	63	9
4050245	26	26 x 25	65	11

NEOPOST

Townmark box 29 x 21, with #000000 below. Town/Prov (in 2 letters) and the postal code. Date mark is:- DD MM YY. Rate box is 20 x by 24 h. MAIL >>POSTE in box at top. 9 dots at end. ML CANADA ML below separator line. Serial - N 371000. Value:- triad 0.00 small number.

From "The Address Manager", Canada Post, Nov. 1999

Changing Postage Meters

Canada Post is working with postage meter manufacturers to introduce a new eight-digit date format that will display the month, day and year in a consistent manner on all meters. Postal meters currently display dates in a six-digit format, using either roman format or the year/month/day format. For example: January 1, 2000, can either be displayed as 01 1 00 or 00 01 01. Both formats are accepted by Canada Post and mail is processed normally.

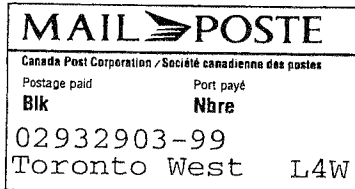
According to Aaron Nichols, Director, Sales Support, the new eight-digit format will display dates in accordance with ISO standards showing year/month/day only. The use of roman numerals will be eliminated. For example, using the new format, January 1, 2000, would be displayed as 2000 01 01. It is anticipated that this standard will be adopted within the next year and phased in over the next several years.

However, in the interim, customers should note that Canada Post will continue to accept and process metered mail using the six-digit format.

BULK MAIL

Some bulk mail have the postal indicia applied with a postage "meter". Canada Post states that phosphorescent ink, such as used with postage meters, is not acceptable for use in printing the postal indicia to bulk mail. Bulk mail can still be metered with a bulk plate if the mailing weighs less than 50 grams.

Typically, the bulk permit number and name or postal code of the office of induction (post office where it is dropped off) have been included in the bulk postal indicia as shown below.



As of 15 Jan 1997 the inclusion of the name or postal code of the office of induction became optional. Many firms continue to use the old style, others have adopted the new style where only the mailers number is shown.

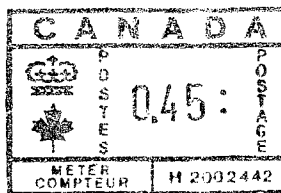
Canada Post has established that the bulk postal indicia must measure at least 12 mm x 25 mm and must not exceed 40 mm x 74 mm. Characters printed within the indicia must measure at least 2 mm and not exceed 5 mm.

The use of the "Nbre Blk" and "Blk Nbre" depends on the source of mailing. If the return address on the piece is in the Province of Quebec then the French first indicia must be used. The English version must be used for any other parts of Canada.



TOWN MARKS, NOT CHECKED WITH LIST

ALBAN, ONT	682656	RED BANK, NB	1052835
ALEXANDRIA, ONT	337800	RED WATER, ALTA (2 words)	611223
ATTAWAPISKAT, ON	2012073	RIVERVIEW, NB	1113651
AUGUSTIN DES MAURES, PQ	351261	RIVIERE BEAUDETTE, QUE	334639
BARRIERE, BC	661505	ROBERTSONVILLE, PQ	619589
BLUBBER BAY, BC	1503323	SAINT HUBERT, QUE	336875
BLUFFTON, AB	1610480	SOUTH PORCUPINE, ONT.	547105
CAP-PELE, NB	601965	SPRINGSIDE, SASK	841085
CONNIE RIVER, NF	1114557	ST PIERRE, PQ	1113289
E.T.L.C./H3C 1S0	1008561	ST. PROSPER DE DORCHESTER. PQ	687779
EDWIN, MB	0228597	ST.BASILE DE PORTNEUF, PQ	338549
EMERYVILLE, ONT	1050417	ST.BERNARD-DE-DORCHESTER, PQ	500440
EPIPHANIE, QC	2006313	ST.JEROME, PQ	0223324
FABREVILLE, ON	338516	ST.JEAN-SUR-RICHELIEU, PQ	1108668
FAIRMONT HOT SPRINGS, BC	0230382	ST.JOVITE, QUE	337355
FORT-COULONGE, PQ	680871	ST.NICOLAS, QUE	337503
GRACEFIELD, PQ	603692	ST.ZOTIQUE, PQ	881464
GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR, NFLD	1011817	ST-CUTHBERT, PQ	696632
GREEN VALLEY, ONT	0228708	ST-FERREOL-LES-NEIGES, PQ	685286
HALEY STATION, ONT	1008147	ST-JEAN-PORT-JOLI, PQ	1553247
HERIOT BAY, BC	843188	ST-MICHEL-DE-NAPIERVILLE, PQ	1554782
IQUALUIT, NT, X0A 0H0	1553164	ST-PASCAL, PQ	615699
KINISTINO, SASK	1125461	STE-AGATHE-DES-MONTS, PQ	1551052
LAC DU BONNET, MB	1120324	STE-ANGELE-DE-MERICI, PQ	876300
LANTZVILLE, BC	877105	STE-CLAIRE, PQ	1553042
LES EBOULEMENTS, PQ	2011337	STE-CROIX, PQ	676708
LONG-SAULT, ONT	1553033	TANTALLON, NS	884125
L'ORIGINAL, ONT	0220460	THORHILD, ALTA	552693
MAFEKING, MAN	1118495	TRACY, PQ	2062505
MAPLE RIDGE, BC	1109279	VITTORIA, ONT	0223206
MARYSTOWN, NFLD	877599	WEST VANCOUVER, B.C.	330789
MORRIN, ALTA	567638	WOBURN, PQ	575815
NARAMATA, BC	4003007		
NORWAY HOUSE, MB	0227222		
PASADENA, NFLD	500565		
PITT MEADOWS, BC	878340		
PLUM POINT, NFLD	690916		
POHENEGAMOOK, PQ	355070		
POINTE-AU-PERE, PQ	600797		
PORTERS LAKE, NS	1004916		
PORTUGAL COVE, NFLD	1052734		



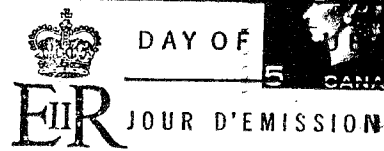
Broken inner circle! Faulty meter, packaging, or actual design? You pick.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Pitney Bowes began to sell ad plates in 1947-48. A new set was advertised each year. With the ads were data on each machine in use at the time. I list these below.

Meter Model	From edge of cover	Dimension of ad
R	5	3/4 x 1-1/4
JD	4-5/8	13/16 x 1-1/2
H	5-1/2	3/4 x 1-1/2
DM	2-3/8	11/16 x 11/16
CV	5-3/16	1 x 1-1/2
CVS	5-3/16	1 x 1-15/16
CJ	4-1/8	1 x 1-1/4

Favor cover from Ellen Fairclough, Post Master General to stamp collector Lloyd Sharpe of her Hamilton riding.

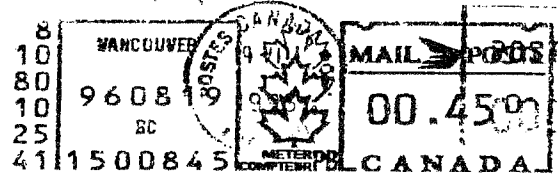
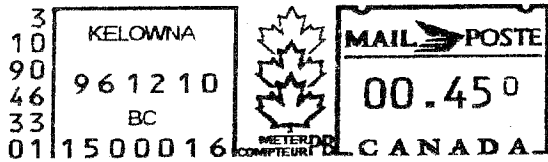


Mr. Lloyd W. Sharpe, Q.C.,
 47 Grant Boulevard,
 University Gardens,
 Dundas, Ontario.

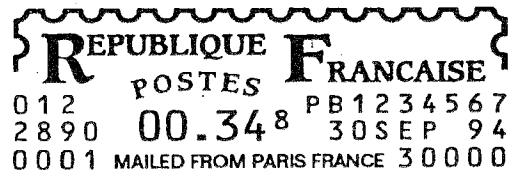
*E. L. H.
 D. H. C.*

Pitney Bowes "Post Perfect" meter

This article is the blind leading the blind. Not sure where we will end up. From 1995 Pitney Bowes began to print all-digital omni-denomination stamp by thermal mylar or dot matrix processes instead of the old die-ink method used in all previous Pitney Bowes meters. Stamp design can be changed through software, as well as slogan ads. So, to the easy one first. Below are two examples of this indicia. Note the different townmark fonts. Are these important?



From Issue 237 of the Meter Stamp Society I show below specimen impressions from two countries. Note that on the left side there are three groups of numbers - 3, 4, and 4.



Now, look at the two examples for Canada, above. The numbers are arranged 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, and 2. In a simple minded approach I looked at a lot of covers and noted the first single digit ranged from 0 to 9 and all values were used. The second number, of 2 digits, ranged from 10 to 15. The third and following were random numbers. That analysis was unsatisfactory.

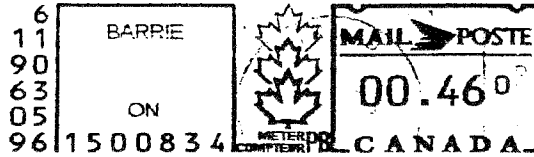
Second approach was to rearrange the numbers to agree with the foreign meters. So, for meter 1500016 above the numbers become 194 - 3030 - 0631. When a number of specimens are examined it is apparent that the final 4 digits are just counters which ratchet up 1 for each use. The other numbers are encrypted information which is said to relate to the date, meter history and amount of postage unspent. If this is true, who can read it? Will the meter output a history of use? We need to spend some more time on this problem. Let me know when you solve it.

We will spend more time on this meter in another issue but just a couple of items for you to check against your hoard. The first POP meter indicia began with a serial number starting at 450001 ???. At about 451120 they noticed they were in Postalia territory so added a "1" to the serial. These were printed using the dot-matrix method, hence the solid leaf with visible printer lines. The highest number I have seen is 451121. The lowest number after the "1" was added is 1451197 and the highest is 1453456. There seems to be a jump between that and 1460064. Any numbers between? The same design and dot matrix printer was used for a series from 1600002 (lowest seen) to 1614020. Is there a different in meters between the 145 and 160 series? The series from 1500011 (lowest seen) to 1505631 (highest seen) is laser printed on mylar. The PB web site gives a monthly rental of \$20 - \$24, plus \$5 for a scale. It tracks up to 8 users. Modem refills are free for 4 and \$5 for additional. Used by small offices.

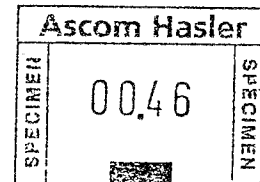
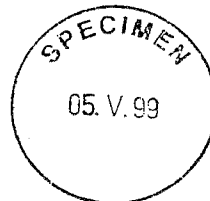
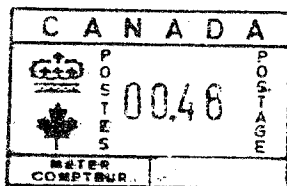
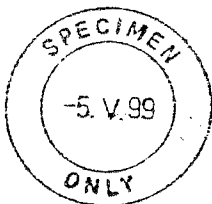
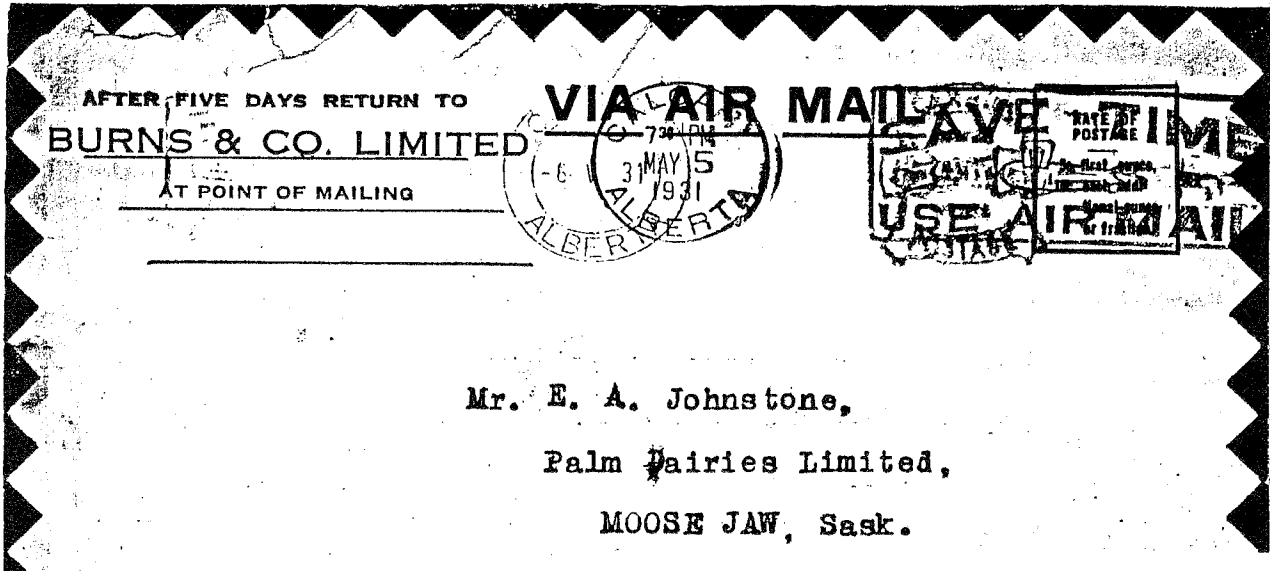
FP meter with new CP bi-lingual logo
 Province in full. DM is D.M.Y
 Value has decimal, cents are smaller
 Lighter style font



Pitney-Bowes Personal Post Box
 Note the DM is missing even with 46
 cents. This is common use.



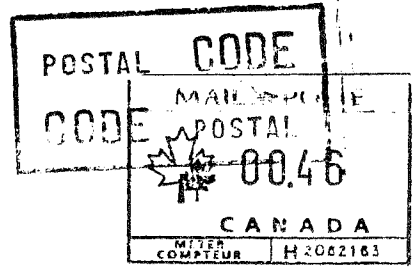
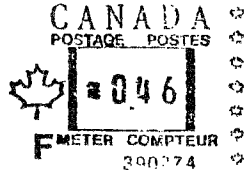
Below is a very poor cover. Of interest because it was mailed at Calgary (May 5, 1931) and sent via airmail to Moose Jaw (backstamped May 6, 1931). Unreadable Midget indicia (M687) is a 6 cent value. The earliest metered airmail I have seen. Unusual as the Calgary machine cancel is for 7:30 pm on May 5 and the meter is -6 V 31. Can't explain how Burns metered the next day's date on the cover.



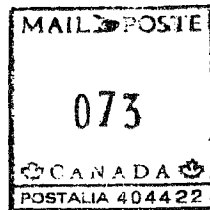
Some of Wilf's favorites follow

New self-adhesive tapes (like current stamps)
No townmark, H2062183, MAIL>POSTE

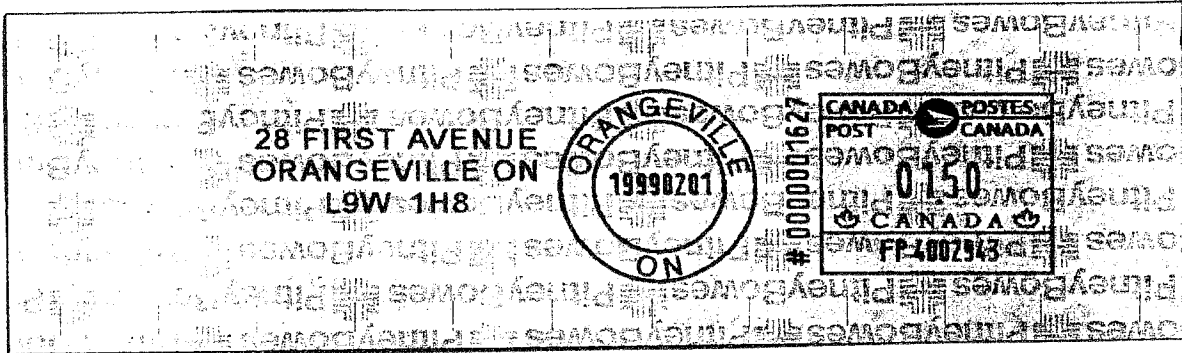
Friden meter, split townmark circle, 390274



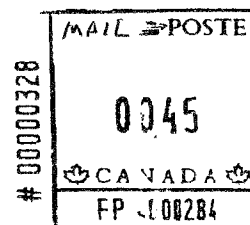
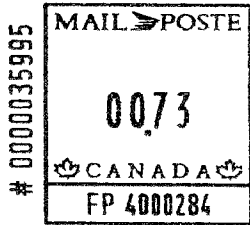
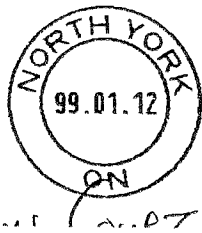
Postalia meter 404422, MAIL>POSTE
DM is MDY, province with period
No decimal in value



FP meter with new CP bi-lingual logo, Province abbr, DM is the new YMD. Value is 00.00. Note the FP indicia is printed on a Pitney Bowes label.

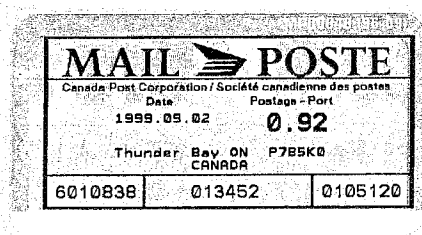
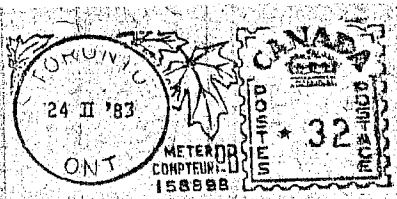
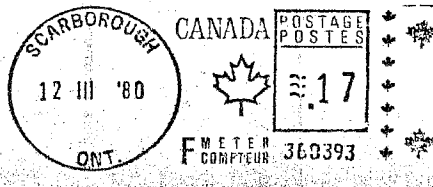
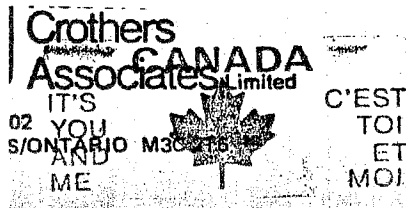
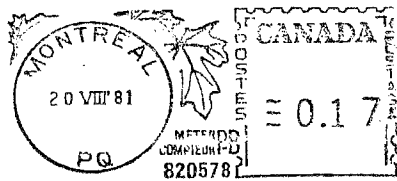
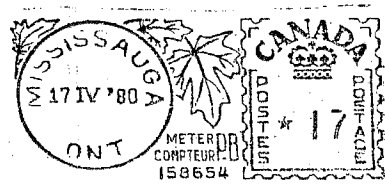


FP meter 4000284 showing lower frame line did not print.



Bob Kitchener sent an envelope of material. One which I will not illustrate now was the dust cover from "The Story of Pitney-Bowes" by William Cahn, published by the company in 1961. Bob found his copy in a used book store. I got mine from the company many years ago. Good company history but not much on meters. The British book "The history of Pitney-Bowes Limited" published in 1975 is much better. Both are good references.

Bob sent in a number of "patriotic" postmark ads which I show here without comment. Some copies are quite light.



Remember a few years ago when you had to beg for a Nixdorf label. How life has changed. Now, even for 46¢, they want to use a label instead of a stamp. Reason - RPO's make 17% on labels and only 4% on the sale of stamps. Note the Thunder Bay label is for only 92¢.

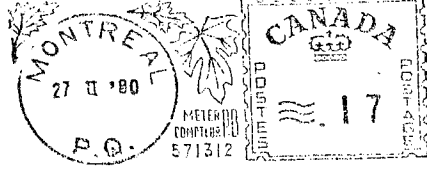
LTD
LTEE

CANADA

IT'S
YOU
AND
ME



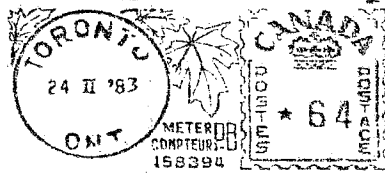
C'EST
TOI
ET
MOI



ONTARIO
SUPPORTS



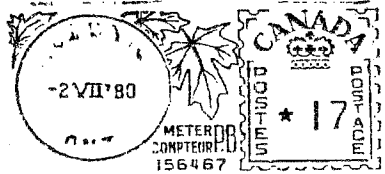
Project
Canada.



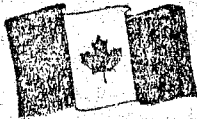
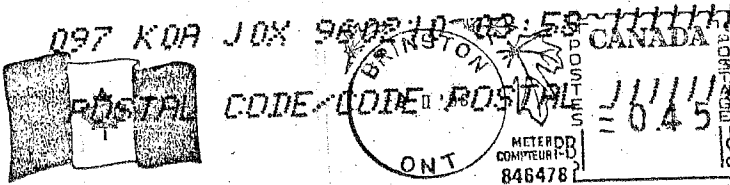
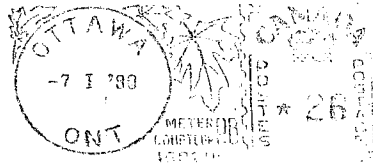
Canada's Birthday



Les Fêtes du Canada



Labour Travail
Canada Canada
Ottawa, K1A 0J2



Canada, its you and me
C'EST TOI ET MOI

