

CANADIAN METER STAMP NEWSLETTER

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ISSUE NO. 62

2000

This is another double number to save postage and to get the information out. NL 62 is from Rob McGuinness of West Vancouver and is a one page display of Newfoundland meters, a very fine effort for all of us to emulate. He showed these several times at the regional and national level. At the Royal show at Edmonton in 1998 he picked up a vermeil and the best one-frame exhibit. He was awarded the same prize at BNAPS '99 in Vernon. He says it took two years to write it up. Recently he was awarded another vermeil at the National show, PIPEX 2000. Nice rewards Rob for a lot of work.

Questions for you.

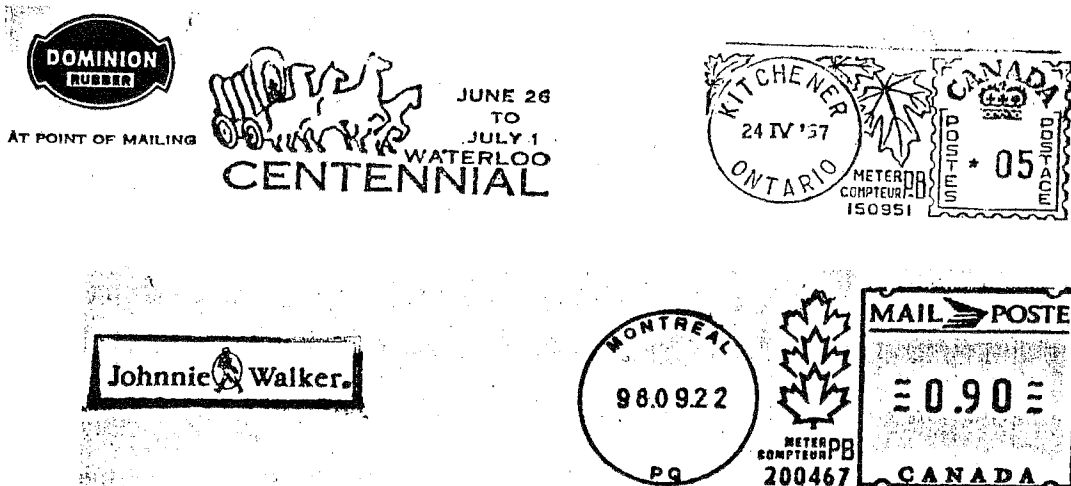
Are RETURN POSTAGE PREPAID in use with the current bunch of meters? Please report any you have seen on the electronic meters.

Friden "F" converted to Neopost "N". The "N" is scarce. How many are there? I have 340287 and 340306. Can you extend this small block?

Notes

The Editor had his life history written up in Canada Stamp News last month. No one asked for money nor sent me any!

An index is almost complete for CMSG NL from 1 to 60. The purpose is to assist the Editor as I tend to reuse material which is a waste of space. I have also noted some errors which need correction.

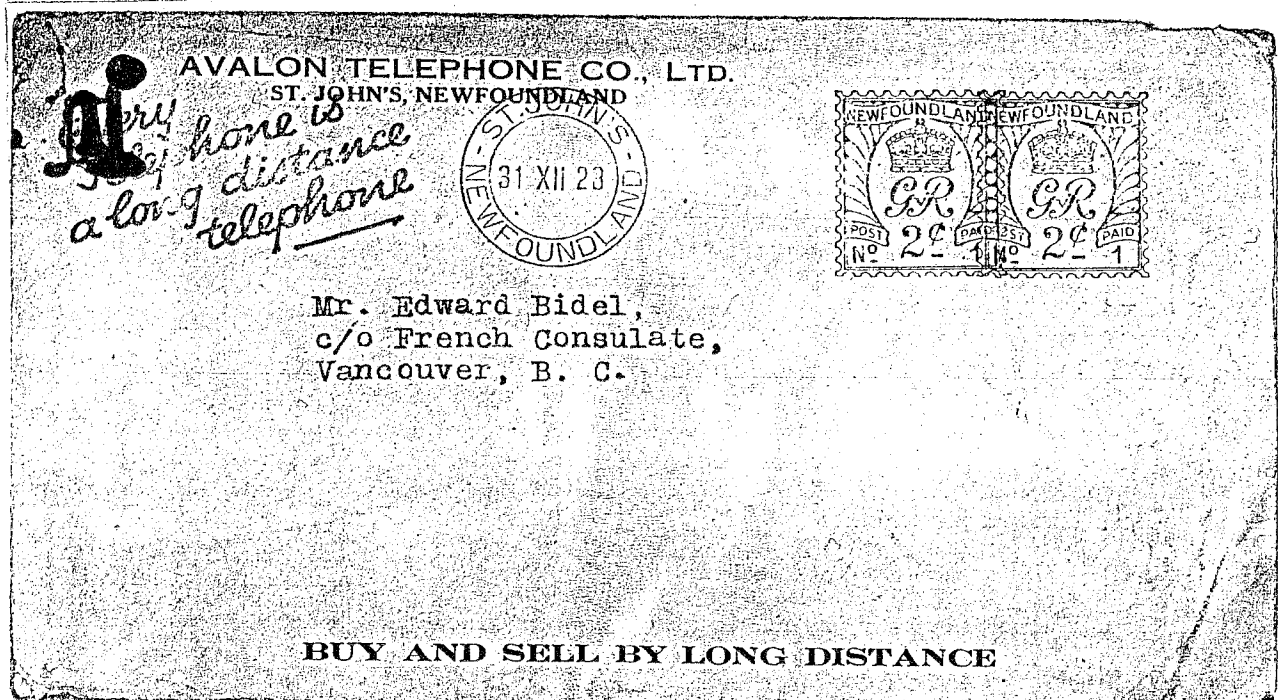


COLLECTING NEWFOUNDLAND METERS 1929-1949

Newfoundland first approved the use of postage meters in 1928. Between then and confederation in 1949 there were a total of four different machine types. The two reasons for introducing meters were to speed up the process of stamping in mailrooms and to prevent staff from pilfering postage stock. Despite the machines being in use for twenty-one years covers are far from common because the percentage of meter mail never exceeded 15% of the total postage collected in any one year.

Meters may be collected by type, machine number, postage rate and slogan design. Examples of each are shown throughout the display

Introduction	p 1-2
Midget Machine	p 3-4
Neopost Co.	p 5-8
Pitney Bowes H5	p 9-11
Pitney Bowes Model R	p 12-17
Conclusion	p 18

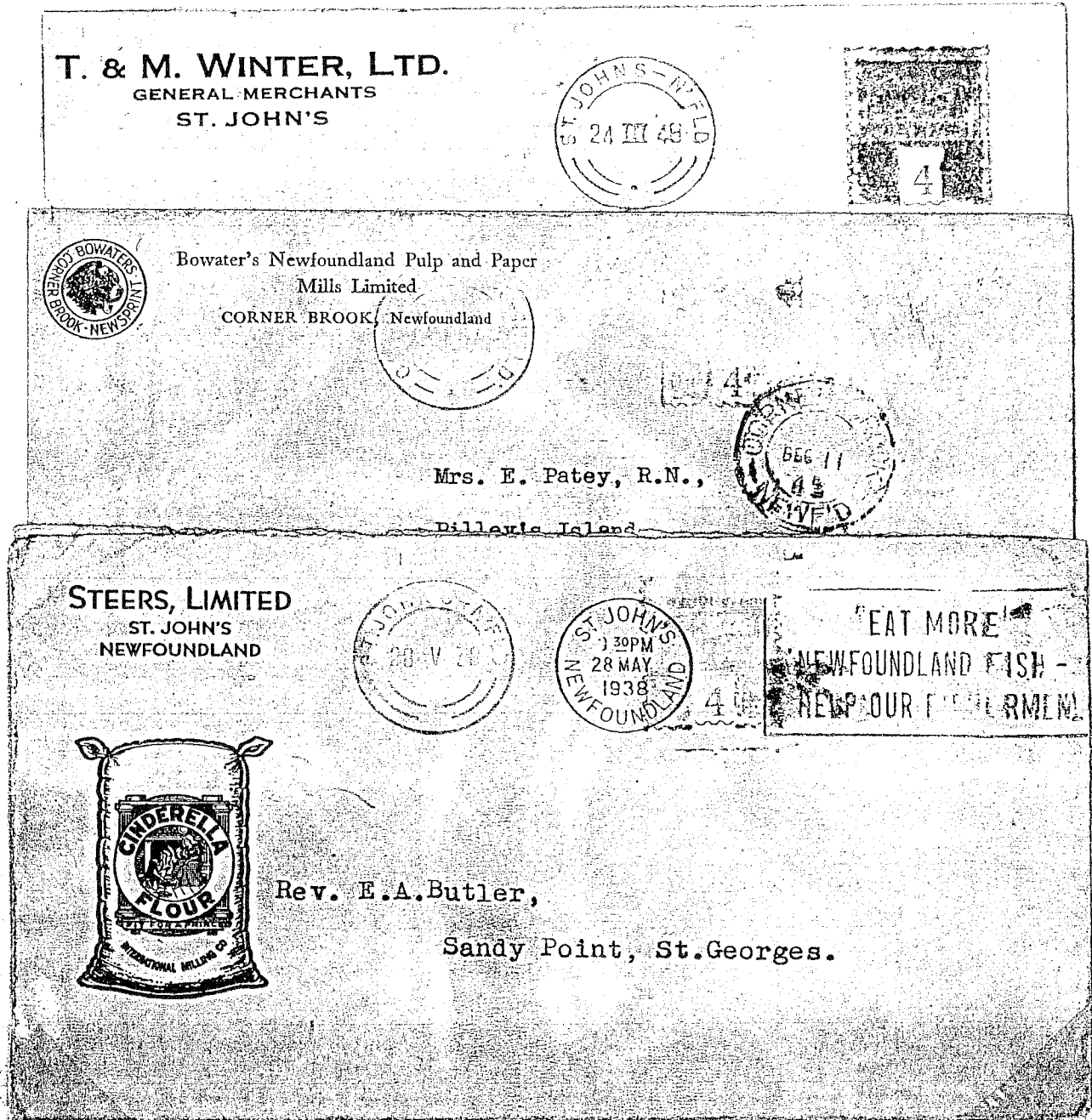


The earliest reported date for commercial mail was 31 XII 28

Condition

As stated on the previous page Newfoundland metered covers are very uncommon. Clean clear examples with readable machine numbers from the first two machines are extremely scarce. (Being able to identify machine numbers is a key element in meter collecting.) Each machine was sold outright to the user who rarely maintained it properly. Inking was especially bad, making most covers difficult to read. Combined with this was the Newfoundland postal administration policy of treating the meter impression as an adhesive stamp and running metered covers through the cancelling machine

Shown below are examples of over-inking, under-inking and a machine cancel masking the meter number.

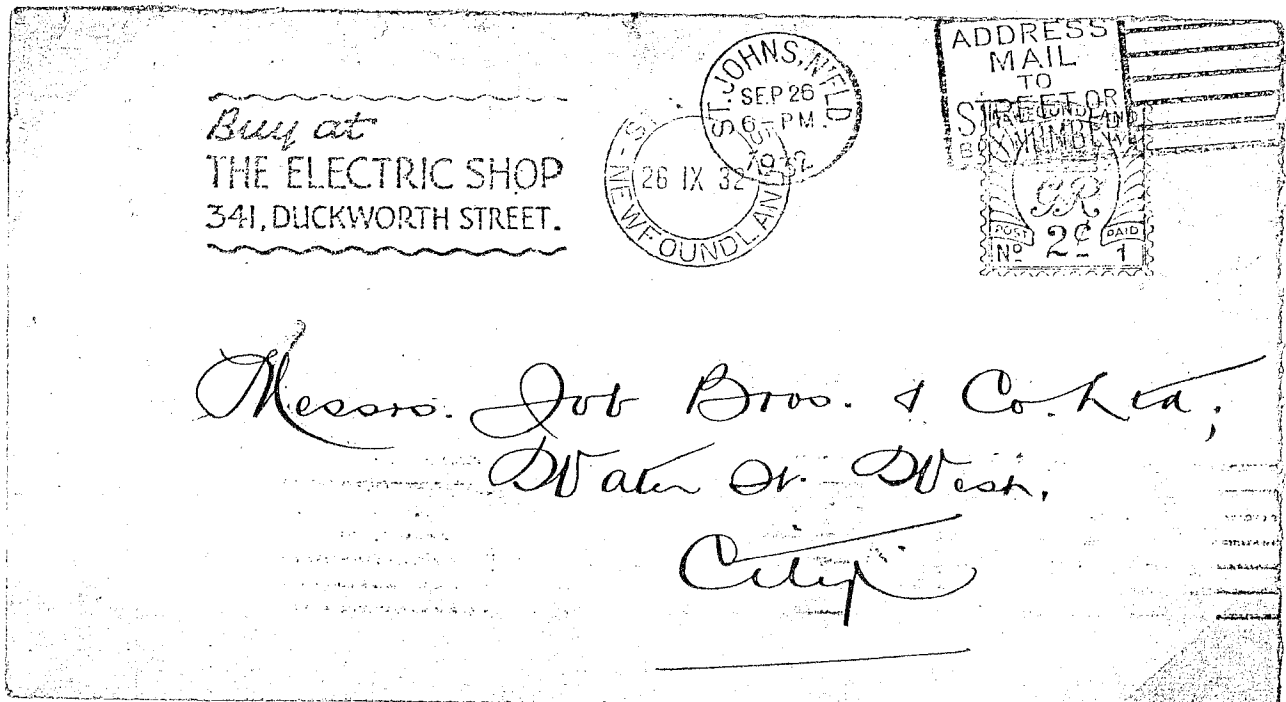


TYPE 1

The first meters used in Newfoundland were manufactured by The Universal Postal Frankers of London, England and were known as their "Midget Type". They supplied three machines to the colony late in 1928. They were relatively simple to operate and proved to be cost effective and pilferage free. The imprint included the Royal Crown and Cypher and all impressions were in red. Each meter came with three fixed values.

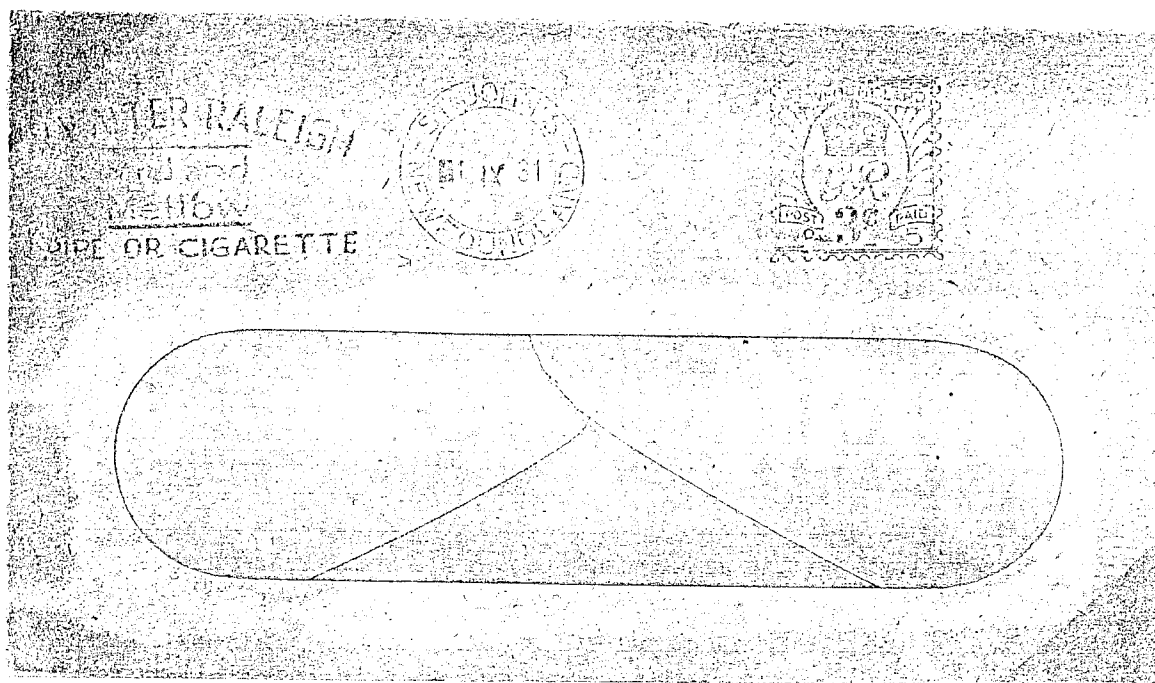
- 1c (printed paper rate)
- 2c (drop letter rate)
- 3c inland rate and the
- 4c Canada rate.

Multiple imprints were used to make up rates which were not in the machine.

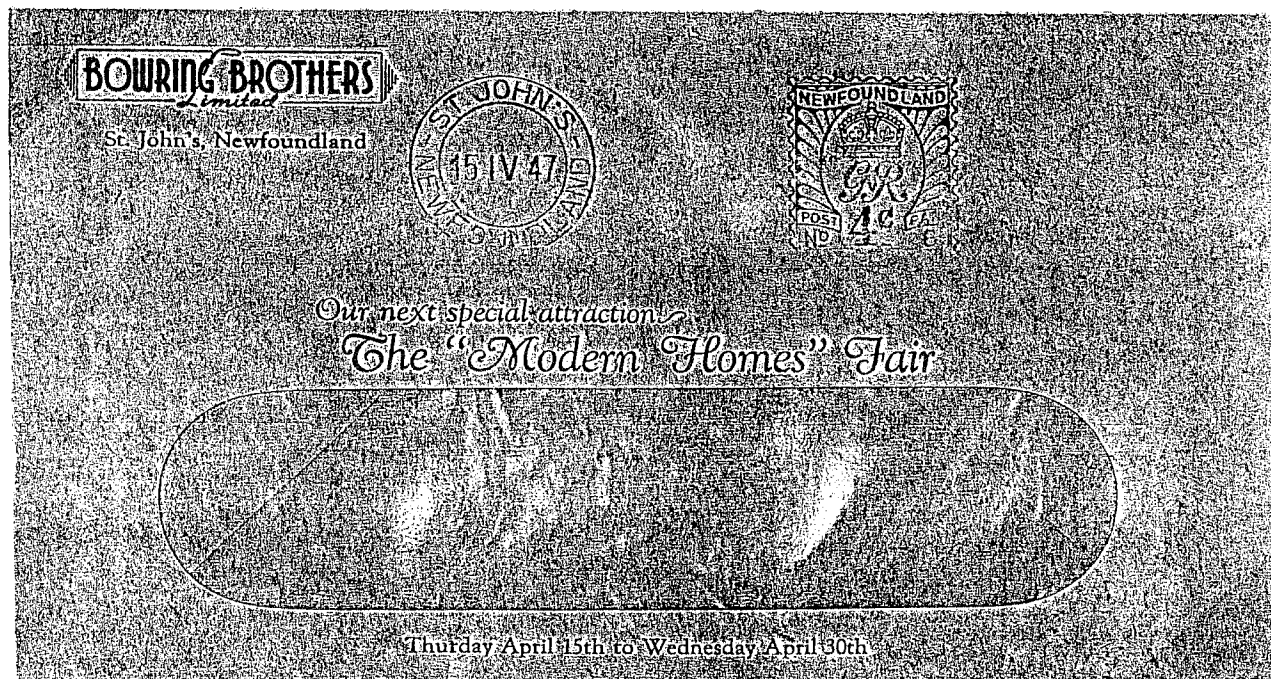


Meter #1 was used by The Avalon Telephone Co. It could print the postage for the 1, 2 and 3 cent rates. The two cent rate on the cover above is incorrect for the drop letter rate which had been changed to three cents on April 30, 1932. It apparently passed without postage due being charged

TYPE 1



Meter # 5 was used by The Imperial Tobacco Co. and could print the postage for the 1,2 and 3 cent rates. It is the scarcest of the three Midget meters. The three cent rate paid the inland rate.

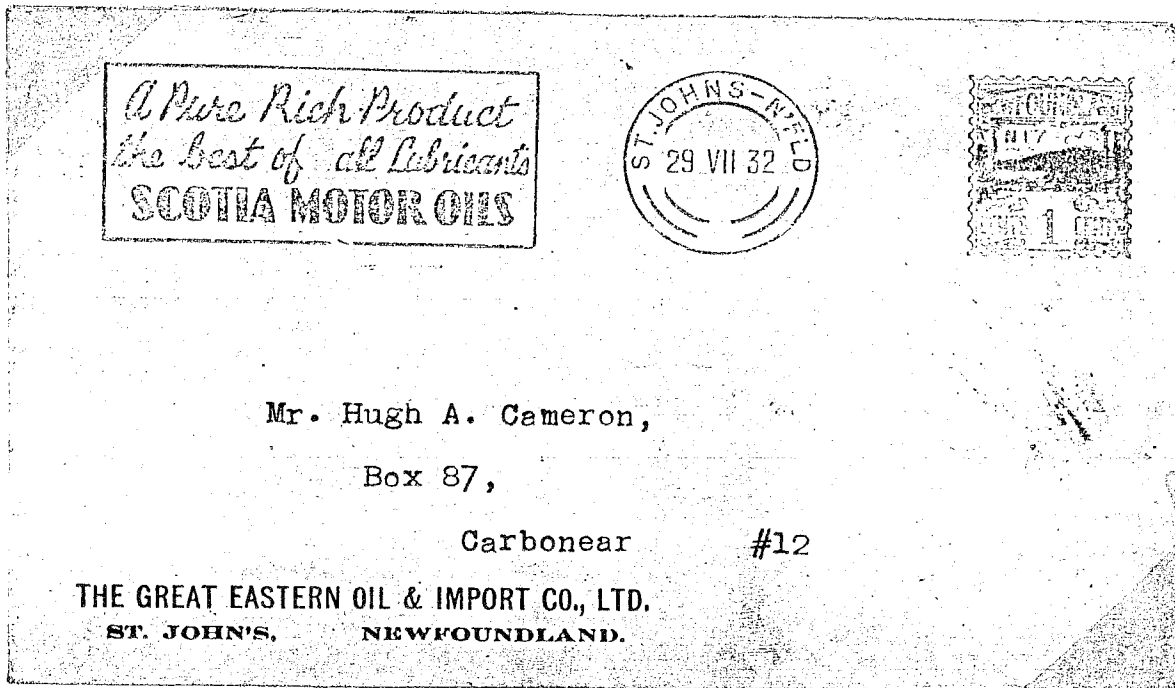


Meter #6 was used by Bowring Brothers Ltd. and originally could print the 1,2 and 3 cent rates. At some point in the 1940's the two cent was replaced with the four cent as it was the current inland rate.

TYPE 2

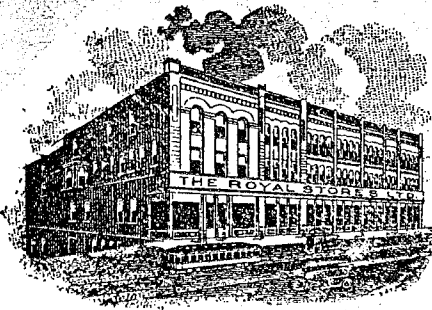
Ronco Neopost Co. Ltd. of London England designed and supplied the second meter used in Newfoundland. Like the Midget it was able to print only a fixed number of values (six) and it was owned outright by the individual company. There were thirty machines supplied to the colony with the meter numbers 2-4 and 7-32. As with Type 1 slogans could be used for company advertising. Most machines used red ink with a small minority favoring green. The town name could be set not to print and this allowed combination values to be used and also for the machine to be used in different towns. There was limited maintenance provided by Ronco Neopost and most covers show poor inking. Following confederation with Canada seven of the machines (nos. 8,9,13,14,28,30 and 32) had their numbers transferred to a Canadian meter with the same number

The design for the meter was based on the one cent value of the 1921 Pictorial Issue which pictured the Twin Hills at Tors Cove.

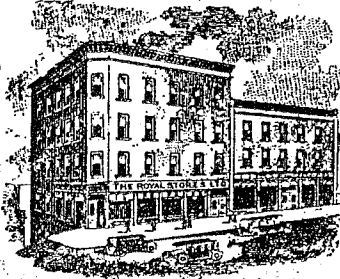


Meter #17 used by The Great Eastern Oil & Import Co. Ltd on a one cent (printed paper rate) cover sent to Carbonear, Newfoundland.

TYPE 2



THE ROYAL STORES LIMITED



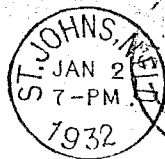
CLOTHING FACTORY

The Royal Stores
MAIL
STREET
John's
Newfoundland

Mr. W. J. Edgar,
Rennie's Mill Road,
City.

Two cent drop letter rate on an advertising envelope with Meter #21

*Rainbow Tea
is always good!*



SHOP AND
MAIL EARLY
INSURE
PARCELS

**GEORGE NEAL
LIMITED
ST. JOHN'S, N.F.**

Wholesale
Provisions and Groceries

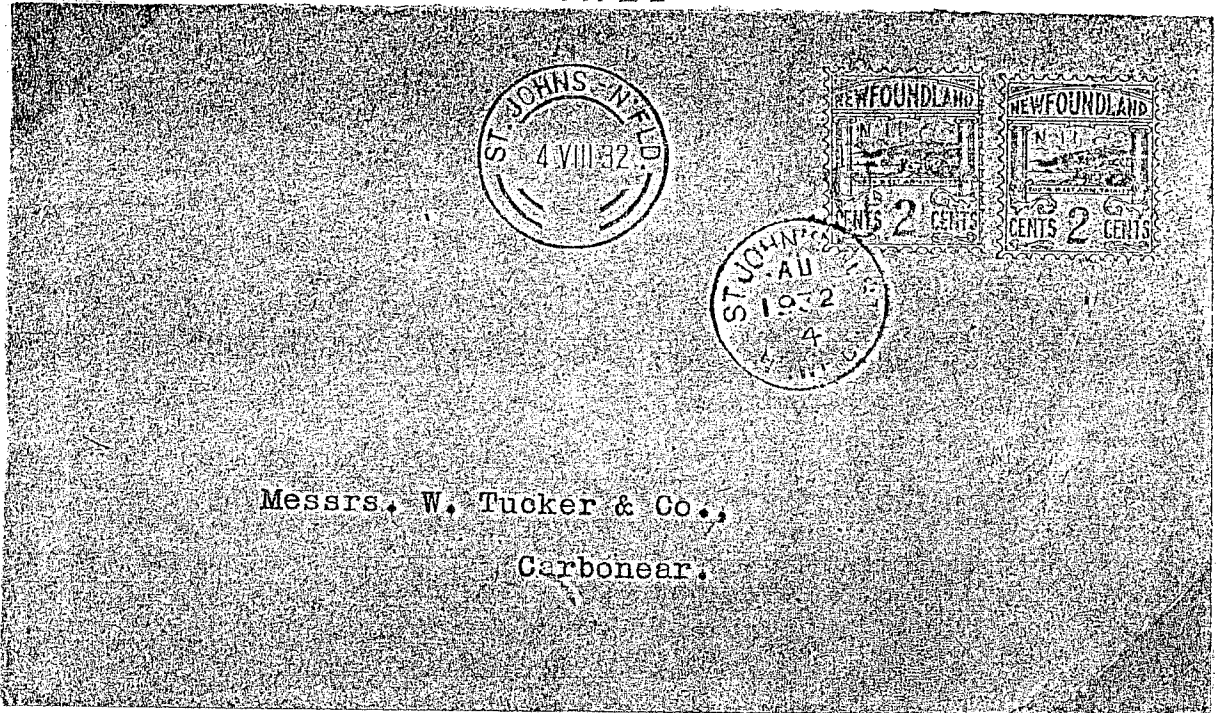
Sole Agents:

**KIRKMAN'S SOAP
RAINBOW TEA**

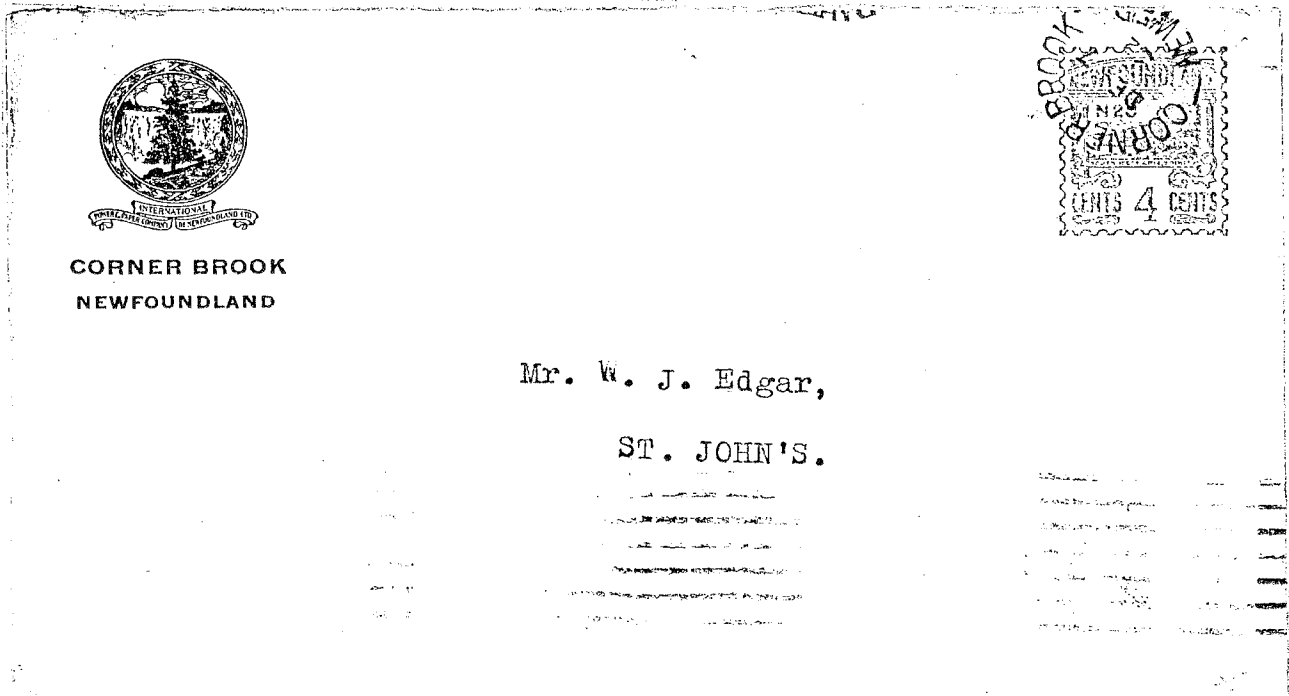
Mr. Frank Pike,
Port aux Basques.

Three cent inland rate on an advertising cover with Meter #13

TYPE 2

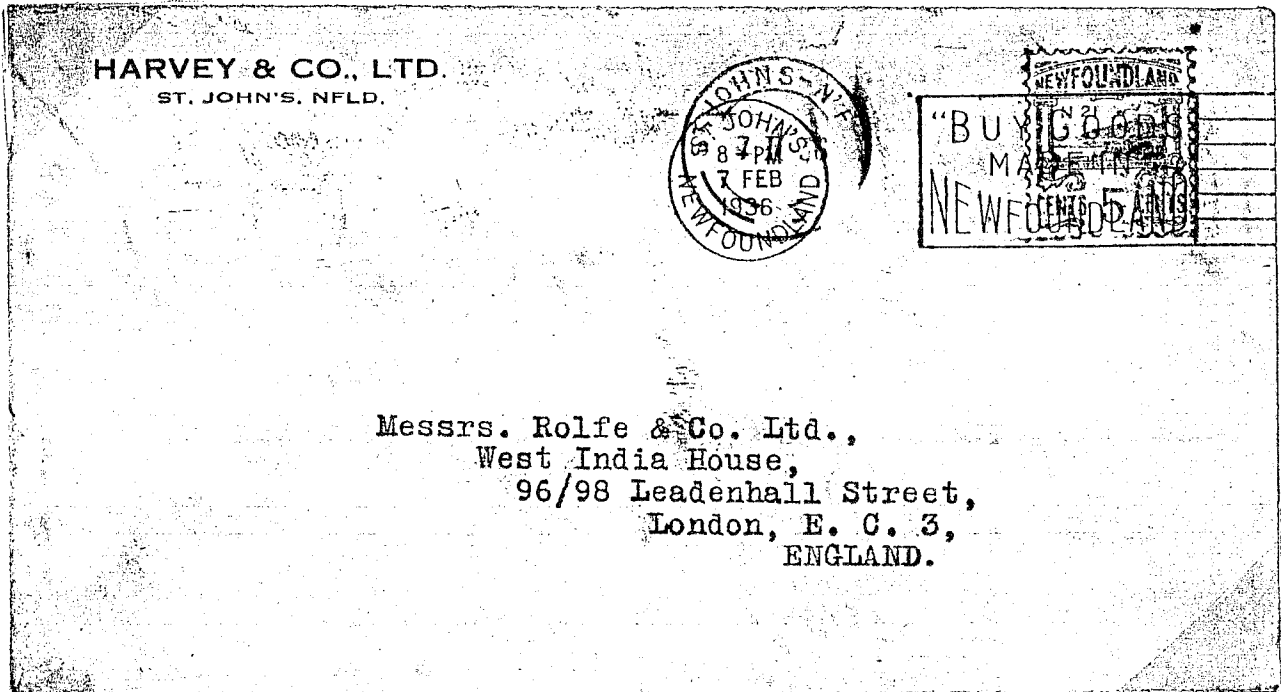


Four cent inland rate with a double two cent strike. The rate had changed on April 30, 1932. Meter #11 is one of the machines known to have used green ink.



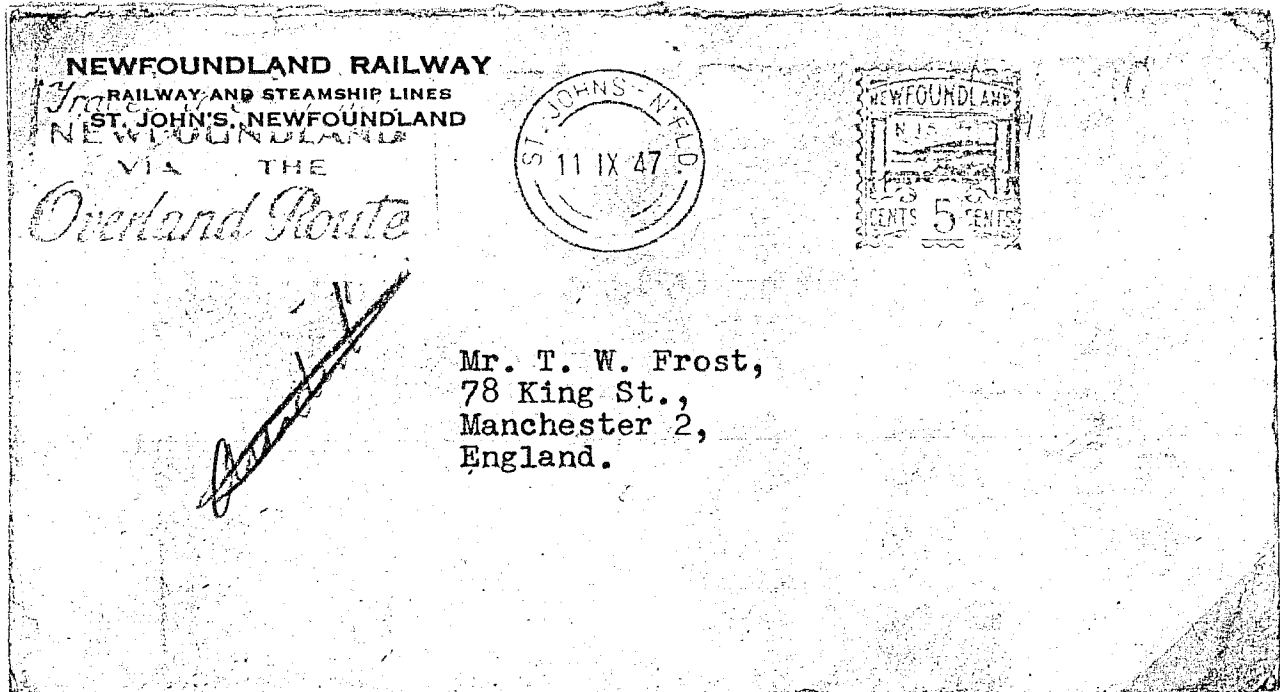
Meter #20 paying the four cent inland rate. The Ronco Neopost could print the value indicia and leave out the townmark and date.

TYPE 2



HARVEY & CO., LTD.
ST. JOHN'S, NFLD.

Messrs. Rolfe & Co. Ltd.,
West India House,
96/98 Leadenhall Street,
London, E. C. 3,
ENGLAND.



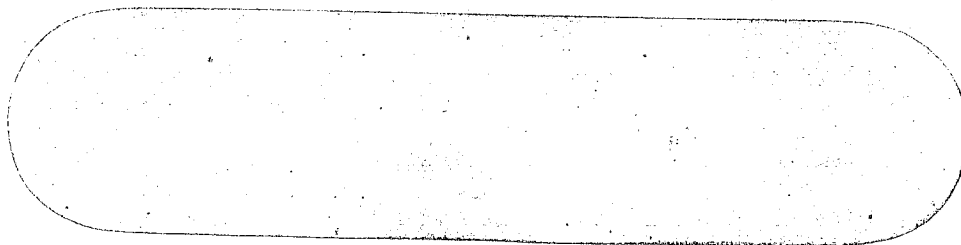
Meter #15 used by the Newfoundland Railway and Meter #21 used by Harvey & Co. Ltd. pay the five cent rate to England

TYPE 3

The third meter to be used in Newfoundland was produced by The Pitney Bowes Meter Company of Stamford , Connecticut USA. The meter was known as an H5 and permitted the printing of any value from 1c to \$9.99 This was a major change from the fixed values of the two previous meters. The design has the Royal Crown & Cypher over Newfoundland and the value tablet is in the centre of the box. The townmark is enclosed in a double circle with the M/D/Y on the inside. The fancy design at the bottom contains the Newfoundland Caribou and the meter number. On this page and the next two you will see examples of the six machines that were sent to the colony.



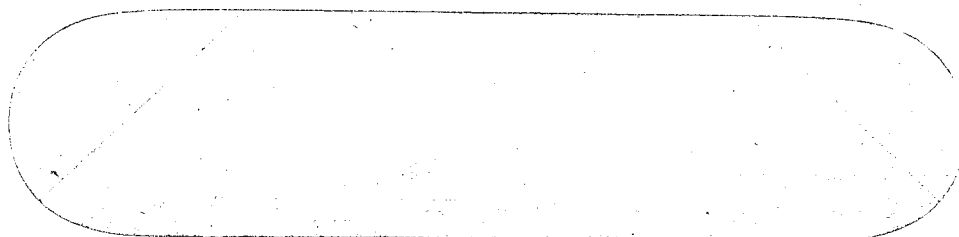
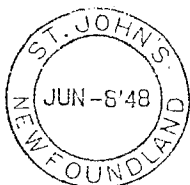
BROWNING HARVEY
LIMITED
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND



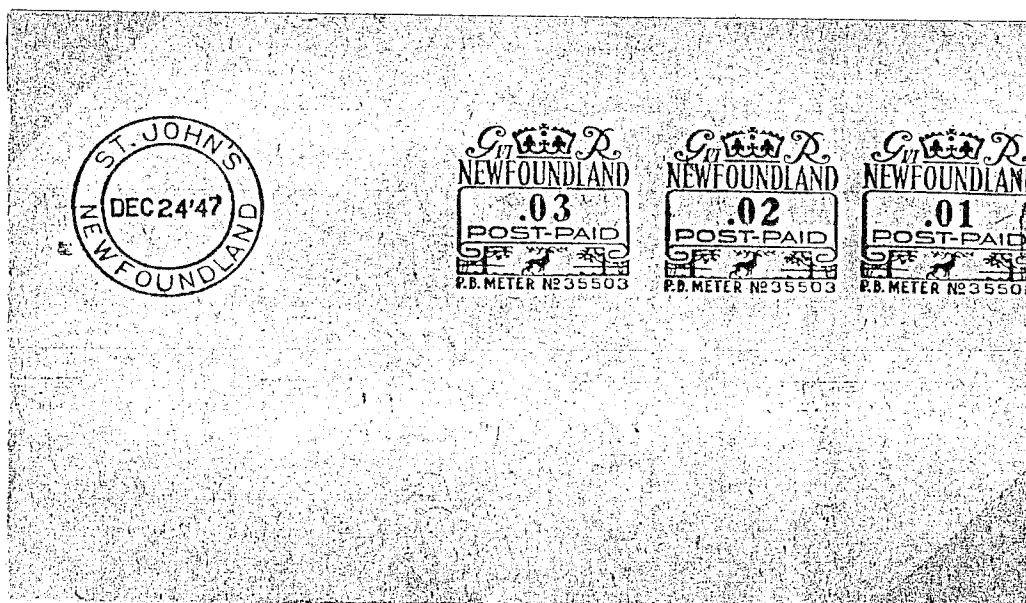
Meter #35500 used by the Imperial Tobacco Co. and Meter #35501 used by Browning Harvey Limited. Both are paying the 4c inland rate.

TYPE 3

CANADA PACKERS, LIMITED
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND



Meter #35502 used by Canada Packers Limited to pay the 4c inland rate



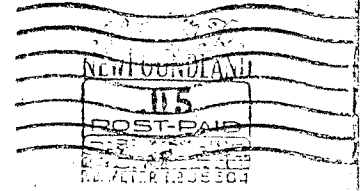
Meter #35503 used by The Imperial Life Assurance Co. This is a proof example, possibly taken at the installation of the machine.

TYPE 3

NEWFOUNDLAND RAILWAY

RAILWAY AND STEAMSHIP LINES
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND

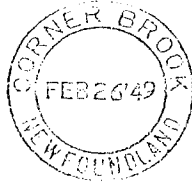
FOR
VACATION
SUGGESTIONS
CONSULT
NEWFOUNDLAND
RAILWAY



Mr. T. W. Frost,
"Woodville,"
Longhurst Lane,
Meller,
Marple Bridge,
Nr. Stockport,
Ches.

Meter #35504 used jointly by the Newfoundland Railway and Ayre & Sons Ltd.
The 5c imprint pays the sea mail rate to Great Britain.

CANADA PACKERS LIMITED
AT POINT OF MAILING



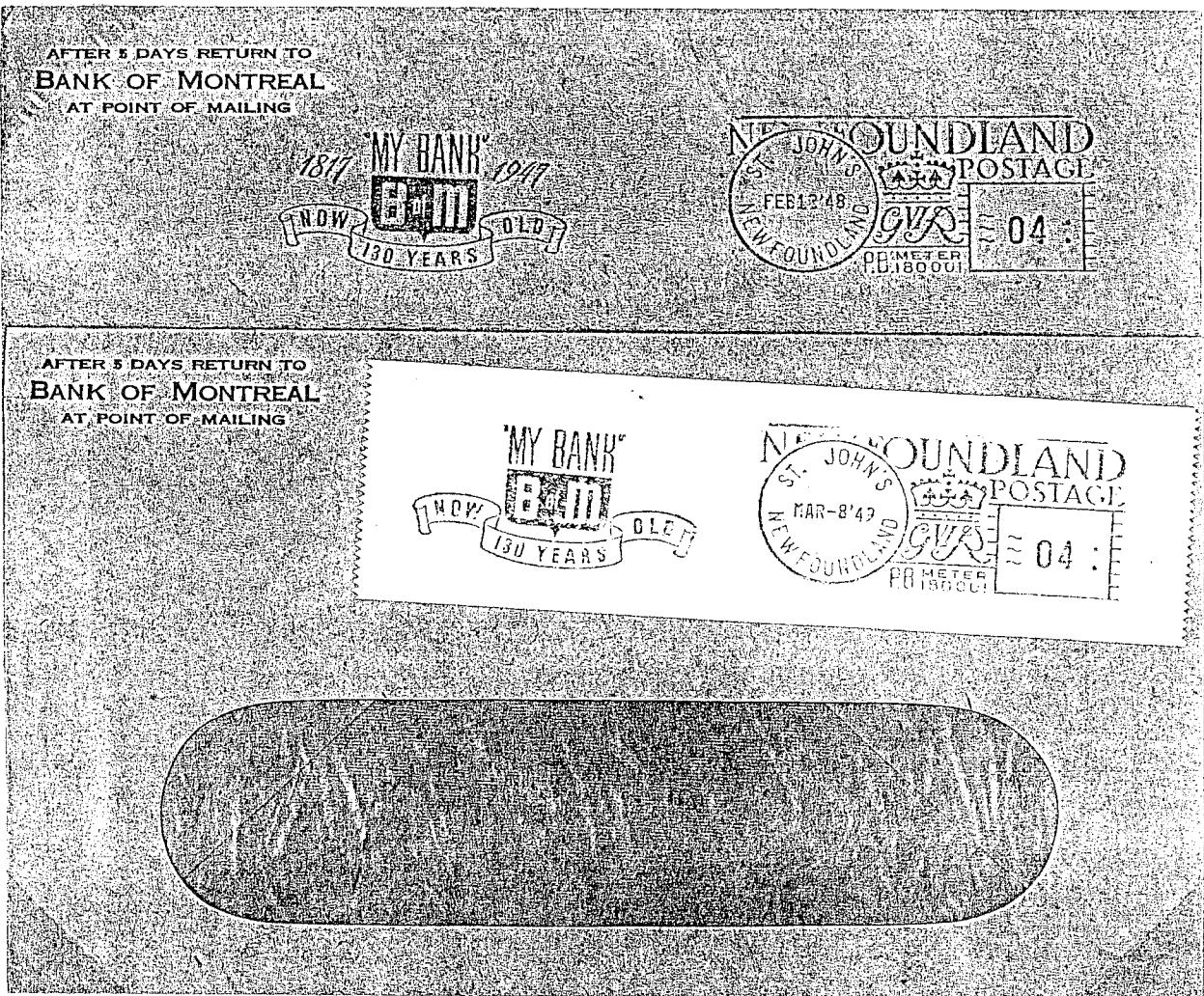
Mr. P. Blackmore,
Pilley's Island,
Newfoundland.

Meter #35513 paying the 1c printed paper rate for Canada Packers Limited. It is the only Type 3 used outside of St. John's (at Corner Brook)

TYPE 4

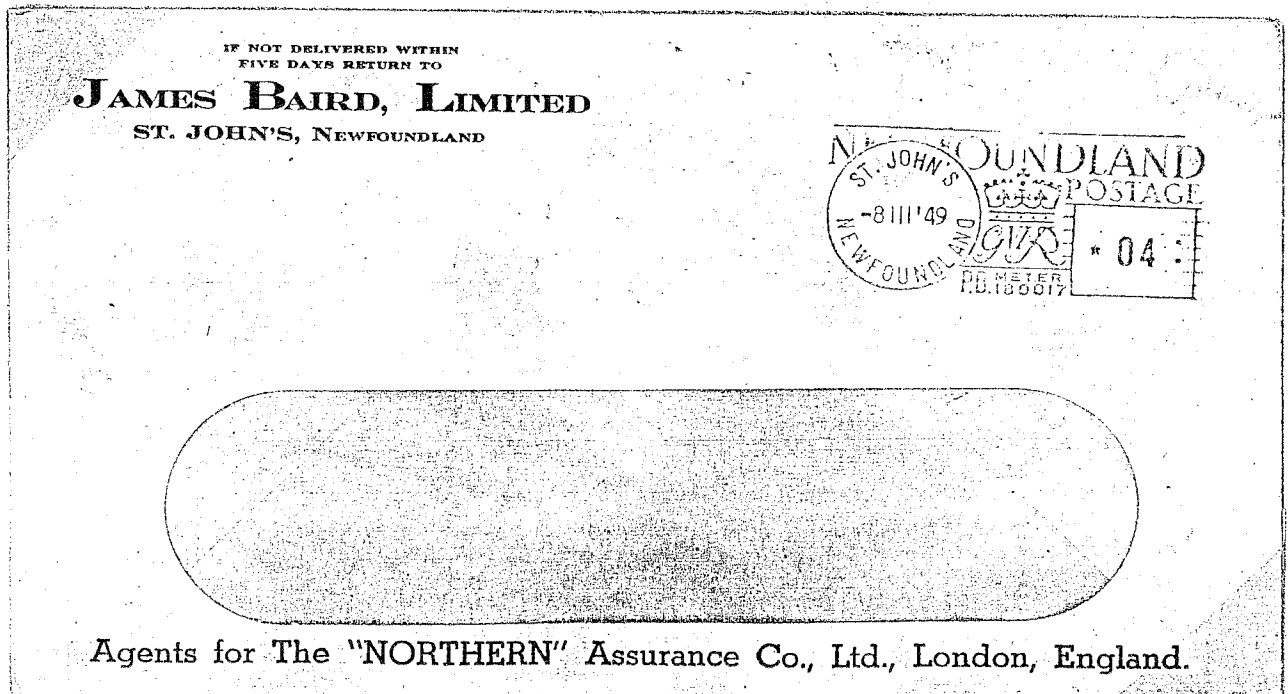
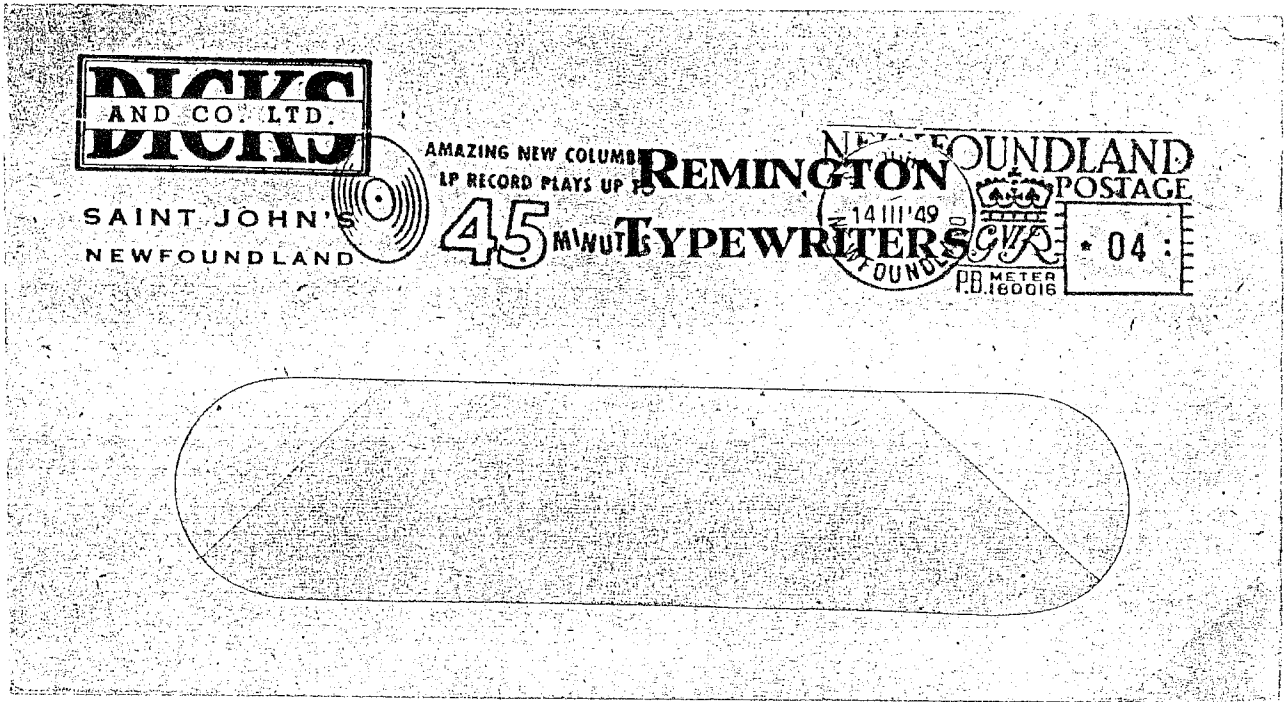
The last meter machine introduced into the Colony of Newfoundland was the Pitney Bowes Model "R" Type. Like Type 3 this machine could print all values from 1c - \$9.99. The indicia has Newfoundland across the top with the Royal Crown and Cypher, a value box and town mark all as a single unit. There are two types of datestamps used: the first has M/D/Y and the second D/M/Y with the month in Roman numerals. The meters are numbered 180000-180017.

The clean clear imprint from this type and the previous one are a result of the meter machines being owned and regularly serviced by the Pitney Bowes Company



Meter #180001 paying the 4c inland rate. Type 4 was the only Newfoundland Meter capable of producing a meter tape as well as the regular imprint.

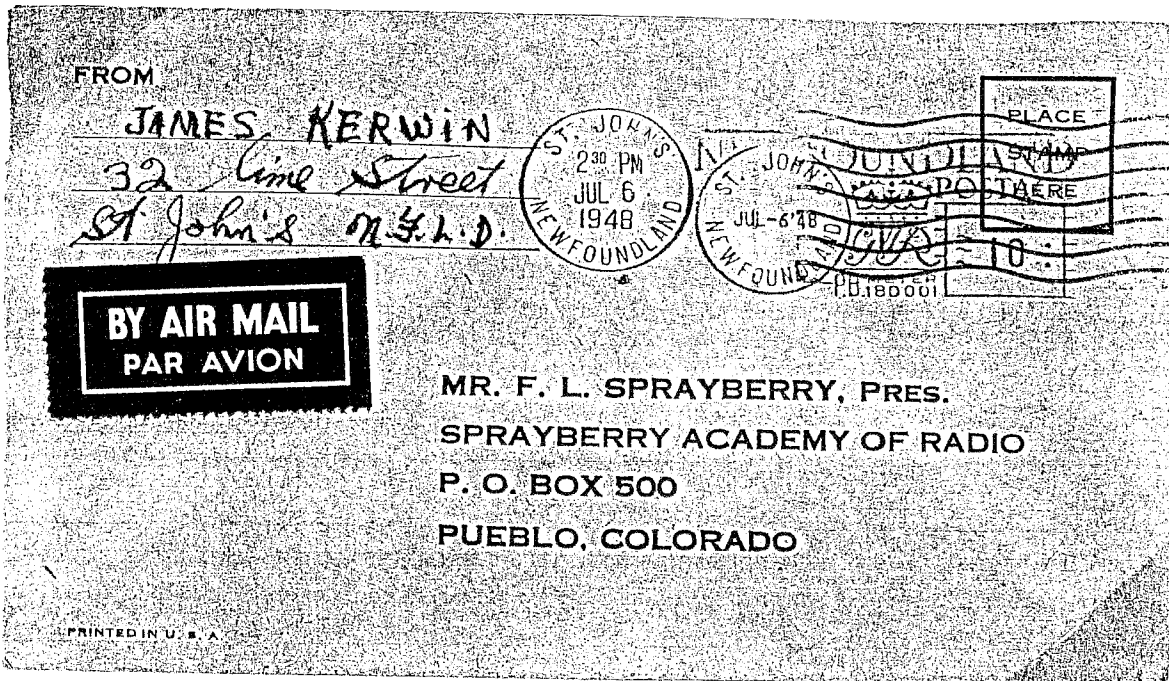
TYPE 4



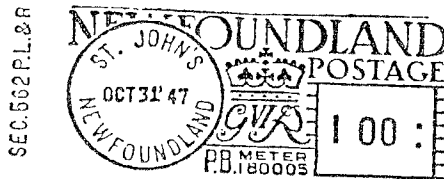
Meters #180016 and #180017 both pay the 4c inland rate and show the date as a Roman Numeral variety.

62-14

TYPE 4



Meter #180001 pays the 10c airmail rate to the USA

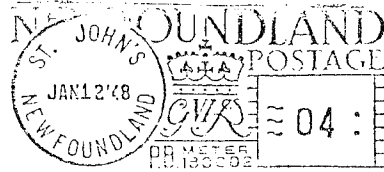
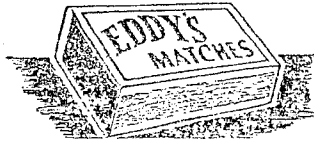


Meter #180005 paying a \$1.00 rate is a proof produced at a Business Machine Trade Show. The vertical SEC.502 P.L.&R (an American marking) and slogan are meant to show the versatility of this particular model

TYPE 4

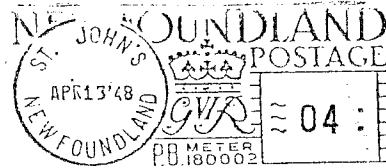
F. M. O'LEARY, LIMITED

WATER STREET EAST
ST. JOHN'S, NFLD.

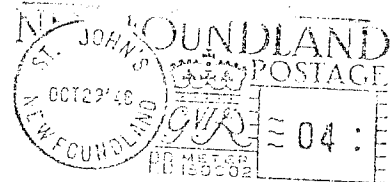
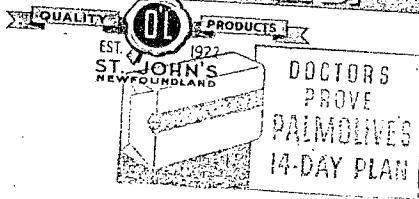


M. O'LEARY, LIMITED

WATER STREET EAST
ST. JOHN'S, NFLD.



F. M. O'LEARY LTD.



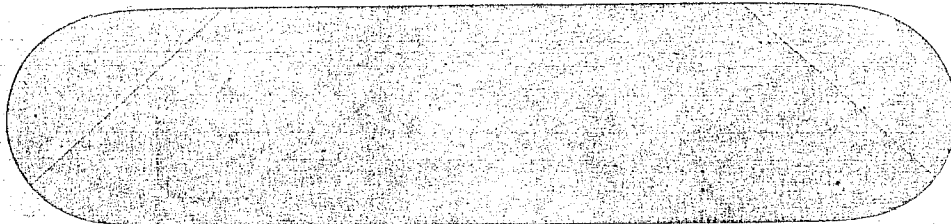
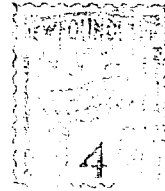
Mr. P. Blackmore,

Pilley's Island.

Three examples of F. M. O'Leary Limited meter slogans. It was the most prolific slogan user in the Colony of Newfoundland. Nine new slogans were used between October 1947 and March 1949.

CONCLUSION

JOB BROTHERS & CO., LTD.
GENERAL MERCHANTS
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND



Companies were permitted to use the Colonial meters for a short period after Confederation. A Type 2 (Meter #9) used 21 VII 49.

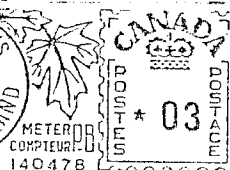
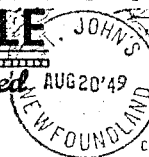


THE BLUE BOTTLE

GERALD S. DOYLE

ST. JOHN'S
NEWFOUNDLAND

Limited



Mr. P. Blackmore,
Pilley's Island.

Within four months of Confederation all Newfoundland meters had been replaced by Canadian models. The example above is a Canadian Pitney Bowes model RT