

HOW GEORETANT THE ASSESSED John C. Morro

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## REPORT of HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER for 1962

The annual statement of receipts and expenditure is distributed to members with this issue of the Bulletin. I feel that most of it is self-explanatory, but a few points are worth remarking on.

Membership has again remained almost constant; this is a good thing in that most of our long-standing members have already renewed their subscriptions for 1963, but there still seems to be a lack of new members to replace those who inevitably drop out for one reason or another. The recent publication of "Parcel Post Meters of Great Britain" and further publications in course of preparation will help to introduce the Group to prospective members and I hope that the result will be an increase in our numbers. The problem of "introducing" meters to other philatelists is one in which all members can help to overcome at their local philatelic societies — an entry of meters or one that includes meters in an annual competition or display often arouses interest in someone who has never really noticed them before.

With regard to sales of back numbers of the Bulletin, I would like to remind members that they are available, from No.22 onwards, at 1/- each including postage. A few earlier numbers are also available, including copies of the first few made by members, but as these are strictly limited in supply, please do not send any money for them but tell me what you want and then pay on receipt: First Come, First Served. Copies of the "Town List" are still available at 4/- each. For the benefit of new members, this consists of a list of all the towns and postal districts in Great Britain that have used meters and the different makes known from each.

Finally, may I take this opportunity of thanking those other members of the Group who, by either contributing or actually editing, typing and printing, have helped us to continue to produce what is in my opinion one of the best specialist bulletins in circulation today. In addition, may I

REPORT for 1962 (contd.)

thank those who have helped in the administration of the Group in the past year.

Membership Notes.

We are particularly pleased to welcome two new members:-

(157) Miss H. Moutia

88 Forest Hill Road, East Dulwich,

LONDON, S. E. 22.

(158) A. Mace, Esq.,

163 Frimley Green Road, Frimley Green, ALDERSHOT, Hants.

Change of address:-

Mr H. Michalovitz, now

P.O. Box 1255, Milwaukee 1, Wisconsin, USA.

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### FROM THE EDITOR

The appeal in our November issue for more contributions to the MSB has met with a fair response; BUT all came from members who had contributed in the past, and there are still too many members who have not even given any indication of their interests which might at least help us to help them.

The Secretary of the Oriental Philatelic Association of London, faced with a similar problem, put it neatly when he wrote in a recent issue of that Association's journal, "OPAL", -

"This Newsletter needs articles, queries and answers. Have YOU sent anything lately? Why not? Do you know everything, - nothing you want to ask about? If that is so, why did you not answer the questions others put in, and why have you not submitted a long article imparting your knowledge to others? You can't get out of it both ways. No time? Rot, make some. After all, the Editor spends many hours on it every month."

All this applies just as much to us, so do please bear it in mind.

NEXT BULLETIN: To be dated JUNE 1963; copy to reach the Editor by 27th May (highest numbers a week later as usual.)

WANTS AND OFFERS

Hr Heiner Durst, Ruschlikon/Zh., Nidelbadstr. 100, Switzerland, would like to purchase the following Parcel Post meters; page numbers quoted are from the recent "Parcel Post Meters of Great Britain" -

Page 4, types (a) and (b); page 5, various values; page 7, both Birming-ham and Cambridge; page 8, (a) and (b); page 10, Cambridge; page 11, any one; page 12, (a), (b) and (c) if not exceeding £1.

M. M. Michel, 12 Parc Athenée, Nice, Alpes Maritimes, France, wishes to contact members who can exchange meters from Monaco for similar or other foreign material. (Enclosures this month are with the compliments of M. Michel.)

See also foot of page 78.

### BOOK REVIEW

HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF METERED POSTAGE" by William K. Thomas.

Published by The American Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 800, State College,
Pa., U.S.A., price \$4.75 (including postage) (equivalent to 34/- sterling.)

This well-produced book of 85 pages, including 16 pages of illustrations, all on art paper and case-bound in cloth, has been awaited with interest for some time, as it is the first publication by the A.P.S. on meters.

It covers in some detail the story of the development and adoption of meters in the U.S.A., dealing with the various designs in roughly chronological order. The "Mailomat", Post-Office and Postage Due machines are also fully dealt with. There is no specialized list, nor are prices or valuations given. Only a passing reference is made to the early machines in New Zealand and none to those in Norway or Australia, but at the same time much of the information is new.

The illustrations (not all to the same scale) have been well produced by the author from items in his own collection, except for a very few and due acknowledgement for these has been given.

Both Mr Thomas and the A.P.S. are to be congratulated, and the book can be recommended to the collector of U.S.A. meters.

(J,C,M,)

# G. b. NOTES

G.P.O. Recommends Meters. An advertisement headlined "Stamp Books Save Time!" appearing recently in "Radio Times" (and probably other journals) ends with the note "And if you run a business you'll find it well worth while to buy stamps in bulk (or install a franking machine). It will save you time, trouble and money." This is the first time we have seen the G.P.O. advocating the use of meters.

Frankmaster "Emblems" Dies. Mr J.T. Brown is so far the only member who has sent any report of further Nos. without the dash between prefix letters and number: he notes ND 419, ND 598, ND 603, ND 617, none of them used by Roneo-Neopost offices. However, all Nos. with this prefix that have been recorded up to ND-394 and all recorded above ND-639 have the dash, and also ND-500, 532 and 537. Who will help to fill in the gaps?

Universal M-V "Intermediates" with O/. Mr J.T. Brown also reports the discovery of two more in this category, both with GviR dies, namely, UE 288 (London E.C.l.) and UE 290 (Birmingham). We possess UE 290 and have a report of UE 288 in the normal =/ style.

For convenience, we repeat the full list of those so far recorded: GviR Dies: \*UB 235, \*UC 285, \*UC 976, \*UE 288, \*UE 290; EiiR Dies: UA 327, \*UB 408, UB 718, \*UE 789, UE 967, \*UF 36, UF 420 \*UG 20, UG 218, UG 331.

(\* These numbers are known with both =/ and with 0/.)
UG 179 and UG 774 were once reported but this is now believed to be a mistake; has any member either of these with 0/?

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G. B. NOTES (continued)
Town-name curiosity. We have mentioned several instances of townmarks in which the names "Bournemouth - Poole" and "Lancaster - Morecambe" are set out with the second name at the bottom as if it were the county in which the first place were situated, or its Post Town. Mr G. R. Pearson reports one from Newcastle-on-Tyne similarly showing the "ON-TYNE" in the place of the county. This occurs with Neopost EiiR die N 127, used by Messrs L.F. Turnbull Ltd. His example is dated 16 VIII 58.

Highest Numbers. Thanks for reports from Messrs J.T. Brown, R. Haggett, and G.R. Pearson, the highest are now:
AF 847 NK-283 PC 89 SS 739 (Parton & G.M. Stelfox. while Neopost has reached N 1669 in London W.1. (Has any other district or city yet reached N 1000?)

No advance is reported for PC and SS this time. Mr Haggett puts forward the idea that more members might be enabled to send in reports if all members were to keep a record of the latest position in their diaries; why not try it?

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# ARRANGING A METER COLLECTION by J. C. Mann

The problems of mounting a collection of meters differ in many respects from those found in a collection of adhesives and in some ways from a collection either of postal history or of postmark material. The following is an outline of the procedure I have adopted for my own collection and is written in the hope that it may be of help to others.

Basically, my meters are arranged in different ways according to the country or group concerned, but the principle remains the same, in that I try to show each different type of machine, in each of its designs and, in the case of FV or LV machines, as many different values as possible; covers are always preferred but where they are not available, strips or pieces are included.

For Great Britain, the collection is divided into makes of machine and then sub-divided into types of die. The pages are numbered within each section and can easily be sorted back into order after disturbing for any reason. Each section starts off with a page describing the machine, range of values, date of introduction, etc.; for Midgets, for example, this is numbered simply "M". This is followed, on pages M1, M2, M3, &c., by any pictures of the machine, advertising material, etc., available. Each die type is then treated as a separate sub-section, and the pages numbered as M-A-1 M-A-2, M-A-3 etc. (I use the notation "A" for the original square ddsign), then M-G5-1, M-G5-2, etc., and so on up to M-E2-1, onwards. Each sub-section is complete in itself and contains, roughly in this order, a good cover or piece that would serve to illustrate the type by itself, together with a list of all the values known, for FV and LV machines /...

## ARRANGING A METER COLLECTION (continued)

(this means that a representative selection can be made up of the first sheets from each sub-section), then, in the case of FV and LV machines, by different impressions showing the various values, then examples showing psculiarities of some kind, such as unusual townmarks, odd dies, etc., and then, finally, proofs and specimen impressions.

The numbering of the pages is derived from the licence numbers on the impression, so that for G.B., we have A, H, P, PB, N, NA, etc. Post office machines are dealt with separately.

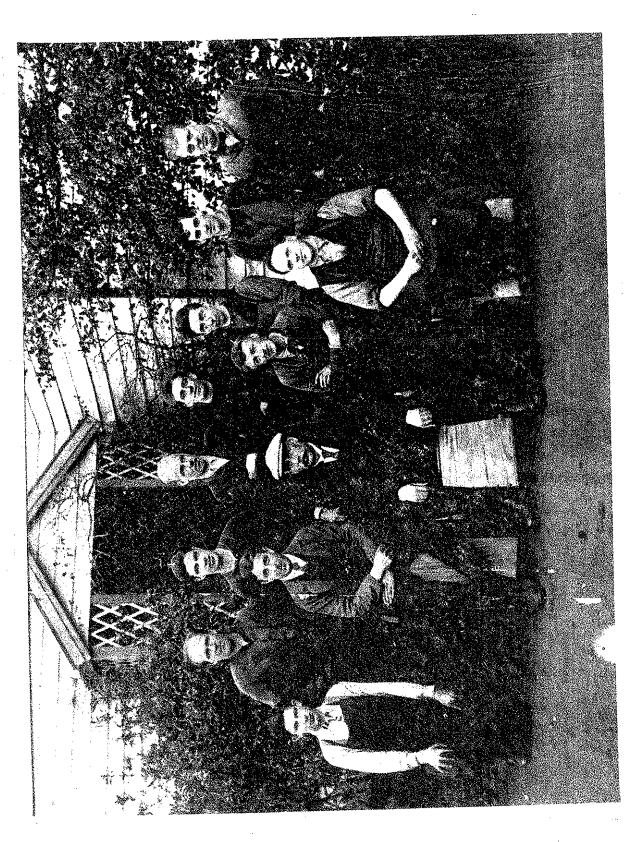
Such a system would also be used for New Zealand, South Africa, and many other countries where the individual makes of machines have separate series of numbers.

In the case of the U.S.A., for instance, where the machines come in groups of a similar design, I have found it best to show all impressions from a group together, thus all the "oval" impressions, with the different makes constituting the sub-sections. Thus the numbering of the pages would be something like Oval-PB-1, Oval-PB-2, etc., then Oval-"hitlock-1, Oval-Whitlock-2, etc. The actual notation of a sub-group is not so important but it needs to be reasonably clear and brief. The arrangement within a sub-section is the same as for G.B., and similarly the Post Office machines are dealt with by themselves, as in the Barfoot-Simon catalogue they come at the end.

Now why have I arranged them in this way? Firstly, the amount of material is large and is always being added to, so all the pages are loose and are housed in card-backed envelopes. This enables extra pages to be added. Using the decimal system of numbering extra pages can always be fitted in without rewriting those on either side; thus if I wan an extra page between 22 and 23 it becomes 22.5, and this can be continued almost indefinitely. Secondly, pages can be removed for a representative display easily and quickly, and, what is just as important, can be replaced correctly just as easily.

Most countries would justify a sheet or two at the beginning giving the system of numbering (if any, of course) and this can also show the arrangement of the material that follows.

Naturally, any collector will realise there are exceptions to such a system of arrangement, but so far, I have found that it certainly seems worth while to try and think out a logical order before mounting and writing up. For sheets I use ordinary Bank Quarto paper, which is large enough to take almost all covers and strips; if I want to mount a cover or piece temporarily it is done just the same, usually without a page number and with some notes added to draw attention to any peculiarities. This is only because sometimes I might have material for a long time before it is properly mounted and included with the collection proper.



THE MANAGER & STAFF OF THE AUTOMATIC FRANKING MACHINE CO.L.D., N.Z. (see description on opposite page)

# THE AUTUMATIC FRANKING MACHINE Co. Ltd.

On the opposite page is reproduced a photograph showing Mr Ernest Moss and the staff of the Automatic Franking Machine Company Ltd., Wellington, New Zealand, taken about 1924; the original was kindly sent to us by Mr C.R. Hawkins along with the photographs of proof impressions of the dies for machines manufactured by the Company.

Mr Moss is in the centre (wearing cap) and Mr Hawkins behind him. Mr Horsfall, who brought the first machines to London in 1921, is on Mr Moss's right. Whether the building behind is the factory, we do not know.

The complete list of names, reading from left to right on the photo., is as follows:

back row: F. Vilson, C. Trowbridge, C. Bowden, C. Hawkins, H. Lemmon, S. McCausland, F. Woods; front row: L. Trowbridge, E. Horsfall, E. Moss, W. Ritchie, C. Mander. (One member of the staff, V. Stubberfield, was absent.)

IRELAND: UNIVERSAL M-V, NEW DIE

In the MSB of Sept.1960 we referred to a new die, having "éiRe" much larger with the accent over the "é"close to the top frame, the "U" thinner, and other slight differences. The lowest number then seen in this new die was U 175; we have since found U 172 and U 174, but the highest number in the old die remains U 160. Has no other member any Irish "Universals" between 160 and 172? Like U 175, 172 and 174 are "Intermediate" (III-bank) models. ("e have had no further reports of the new Meopost die described in the same MSB.)

### AUSTRALIA: NEOPOST "KANGAROO" VALUES

For a long time, a group of Australian meter collectors has been engaged on the formidable task of compiling a list of all the meters used in Australia, in order of licence number, recording town, name of user, make of machine, denominations, dates of changes, etc. The original list was compiled by our member in J.T. Dallimore, and in the "Australian Stamp Monthly" since January of last year in W.J. Webster with a number of collaborators has been publishing additions to the original list, - revisions and later changes.

From one of the recent lists, we learn of a unique machine with the Neopost "Kangaroo" type frank operating in 4d. units, having denominations of 4d., 8d., 1/8, 3/-, 6/- and 8/-. The 4d. and 8d. values are now fairly commonly found on this type but the four higher values occur only on the machine with licence number Cl3, the user of which is the Gross Knitting Mills Pty. Ltd., of Melbourne, Vic.

None of these six values are included in the list in the Barfoot & Simon Catalogue, and there also have to be added  $\frac{1}{2}d$ ., ld., 5d., 7d.,  $7\frac{1}{2}d$ ., ld., 1/2, 1/6 and 2/-, though the  $4\frac{1}{2}d$ . apparently should be deleted.

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### BRUNEI METERS

Brunei, which has been much in the news lately, is one of the last places one would expect to use meters, but a letter to Mr S.D. Barfoot from the Superintendent of Posts ("Pejabat Perkhidmatan Pos"), Brunei, in April last year gave the information that there were four machines in use there: a Universal multi-value used by "The Borneo Bulletin" at Kuala Belait (its first day of use, 3 December 1956) and three Neopost L.V. machines used by the Borneo Shell Petroleum Company, "td., at Seria (first days of use, two on 1st May 1954 and one on 20 August 1957.)

The frank of the Universal is in the corresponding Malayan design with appropriate change of name, but the Neoposts are of the usual small format showing the State Emblem. From the Petroleum Company, Mr Barfoot has learned that one operates in one-cent units and has the values 4, 8, 10, 12, 15, 20, 23 and 25 cents; the second in five-cent units with the values 30, 35, 50, 60, 70, 95 cents, \$1.00, \$1.25; the third (that issued in 1957) is in one-dollar units with the values 3, 4, 5, 8, 10,12, 15 and 20 dollars.

As the Malayan dollar is worth 2s.4d., a complete set of the Neoposts, totalling \$83.82 would be equivalent to £9.15s.7d. - rather a lot to pay for an unused (or made-to-order) set!

### KENYA - UGANDA - TANGANYIKA

Following the reference in the last MSB to the new die on the Frank-masters, without the "AND" connecting the names, Mr Barfoot has shown us an example of the Neopost L.V. die without the "&" between "KENYA" and "UGANDA" these names consequently being placed closer together; its number is N 268, and the townmark reads "DODOMA / TANGANYIKA" (the introduction of the name of the country in the TM also is a fairly refent innovation.)

Mr Barfoot also showed us an example of the older type, N 129 (MOM-BASA) on "Frankopost" patterned paper.

# NEW ZEALAND: The New Make (continued)

A second example from the new, as yet unidentified, machine described on page 65 of the last MSB shows that the description then given was not quite correct. The first example was printed close to the top of the envelope: the second example, of the same value and from the same machine (A 19), is printed on a slip of paper and gummed to the envelope and shows that there is a chequered border also above "NEW ZEALAND"; overall, the frame measures about 22 x 30 mm. The "label" is crookedly cut, apparently by scissors, and is clearly not a machine-cut label.

# MEMBERS' WANTS (continued)

"ROAD SAFETY" meter slogans, post-office slogans, envelope stickers, rubber-stamp cachets - in fact, anything that will fit into a thematic collection called "Road via the Mail". Also meter slogans connected with the subject of Tuberculosis. = R. Haggett, 40 Burford Way, Hitchin, Herts.

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# DEMONSTRATION DIES for "MOSS" MACHINES

Among the proof impressions of dies for the Moss "Model D" machines photographs of which were sent to us not long ago by Mr C.R. Hawkins (as mentioned in connexion with the article on "The First Meter Stamps of New Zealand", concluded in the last MSB) there were included dies for the prospective trials of these machines in several other countries.

All are in the same basic design as the three illustrated on page 65 of the last MSB but inscribed as below (without, of course, "N Z") and the impressions are all in black. The annotations indicated are in manuscript except for the date "21 OCT 1921" (rubber-stamped).

For South Africa -

CAPETOWN / KAAPSTAD in two lines between value boxes at top; POSTAGE PAID in one curved line; PORT BETAALD at bottom. No. 1 in centre. Values: 1/-,  $6^{D}$ ,  $1^{1D}_{2}$ ,  $1^{D}_{2}$ ,  $1^{D}_{2}$ . PRETORIA between value boxes, otherwise as last.

(These are annotated "2 Sets of Dies to This Machine.")

For Great Britain - POSTAGE over PAID as for New Zealand; LONDON at bottom. No. 1 in centre. Values: 1/-,  $6^{D}$ ,  $1^{1}_{2}^{D}$ ,  $1^{D}$ ,  $1^{D}_{2}^{D}$ . Ditto but No. 2 in centre. Ditto but No. 3 in centre. Ditto but No. 4 in centre.

For the United States 
POSTAGE over PAID as for New Zealand; WASUINGTON at bottom. No. 1
Values: 20°, 10°, 5°, 2°, 1°. / in centre.

Ditto but NEW YORK at bottom and No. 2 in centre.

(The above six are annotated "Six M/cs sent to London by E. Horsfall, per Wakaroa (?), Feb. 4th 1921.")

The proofs include several sets of the "N Z / ANYWHERE" dies as we illustrated on page 65; of the first two listed, there are a single impression of each, and these have unbroken side frames; the rest are all in sets of

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# MOSS MACHINE DEMONSTRATION DIES (continued)

five each differing only slightly in the positioning of the central number, and all these have the side frames broken on a level with the top of the word ANYWHERE. The annotations are as follows;

O in centre: "Sample Machine No 1 March 9th 1917"

O " " "Brought up to date, April 26th 1918"

8 " " ) (Two apparently identical sets. "Sample Machine No 2.

8 " " ) (Gone to the Conference with Sir Joseph Ward. April 1918.

2 " " "Sample Machine for Peace Conference. Dec.4th 1918."

"Keys: - Side - M.11 Back - M.7"

O " " "Exhibition machine sent to Wgtn for Tariff Exhibition.

21 OCT 1921"

0-0-0-0-0-0

### U.S.A. PITNEY-BOWES NUMBERING

The numbering of the P-B "Model R" meters, introduced in 1940, was at first in the 100000s (certain batches were used in Canada, Newfoundland, and the Philippines); when 199999 was reached, as the 200000s had been taken by the smaller "DM" machines, the numbering jumped to the 300000s. Now 399999 has been reached, they have apparently jumped to the 600000s, as the 400000s have been used for the "DM" (after exhaustion of their original 200000s) and the 500000s allocated to the new "Model 5500".

This seems to disregard the fact that the 600000 series has been adopted by the Postalia (T-N) machines, which at first used the 300000s and deliberately changed such numbers in order to avoid coincidence with the P-B meters.

### GUATEMALA BANS METERS

"Stamp Collecting" of 1st February, quoting the journal "El Quetzal", reports the issue of an official decree by the President of Guatemala, stating that all letters leaving the country must be franked by adhesive stamps. This is said to be so as to use up stocks of stamps for which the demand was falling owing to the increasing use of franking machines by business organizations who are responsible for up to 90% of the mail handled in the country.

We find it difficult to understand the logic behind this decree: the Guatemalan Post Office presumably has to pay for the printing of the adhesive stamps and can scarcely profit out of their sales to business organizations for use on mail; whereas meters (again, presumably) have to be paid for by the users themselves and cost the P.O. nothing.

So far as we can judge, many of the meters in Guatemala are in fact used by the P.O, and the "Departamento Filatelico" of the "Direccion General de Correos y Telecomunicaciones" franks its own mail - at least until a couple of years ago - with a meter, a Pitney-Bowes Model R, number P.B. - 71.

### BRAZILIAN ABBREVIATIONS

Many Brazilian meter townmarks (and postmarks) include, besides the actual name of the city or town, abbreviations which may puzzle the reader. Mr Ernst Muhr (Rio de Janeiro) explains these as follows.

"D.R." means "Directoria Regional" which is a regional G.P.O. the Director of which superintends all the postal services in his area. Other letters are an abbreviation of the State name, which is shown for most meters outside (and many in) Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo City.

Rio de Janeiro was formerly "D.F." (= Distrito Federal) but since the national capital was transferred to Brasilia, it has become "GB" (= State of Guanabara) and Brasilia is now "D.F." Each State possesses a "D.R." in its State capital, and in addition São Paulo has three others: Bauru (abbreviated BRU-SP), Botucatu (BTU-SP) and Ribeirão Preto (RPO-SP); likewise, Minas Gerais has Diamantina (DTA-MG), Juiz de Fóra (JFA-MG) and Uberaba (URA-MG). Rio Grande do Sul (RGS) has two D.Rs.

# THERE IS NO COLOUR BAR IN THE U.S.A. by Rex Haggett

I have been collecting Road Safety meter slogans of the world for over six years and it probably goes without saying that the country which has outstripped all others as regards output is the U.S.A. I have amassed somewhere in the region of 400 different, and I am constantly adding to them. My knowledge of meters, apart from the thematic angle, is practically nil, but two factors have emerged from a scrutiny of the accumulation.

These are:

- 1. There seems to be no rule laid down as to what colour a meter impression should be. (If there is, it is not adhered to.) In my collection, the predominating colour is red but there is also quite a percentage in green, blue, and violet. I also have a couple in black, and I have seen them in brown.
- 2. An examination of the slogans themselves reveals that I have about a couple of dozen designs which are repeated on numerous different machines and not all belonging to the same firm. Then again, in the case of Pitney-Bowes, some of the U.S. slogans are repeated in Canadian meters. This suggests to me that the manufacturers have several standard slogans from which customers can choose. On the other hand users can commission their own design, which is probably the costlier of the two methods. I do not know if users commissioning their own dies acquire a copyright over them. If they do, it would account for the fact that several excellent slogan designs I have are used only on a single meter or on one firm's meters.

I have a page in the collection which admirably illustrates the foregoing observations. It displays five meters from different firms. They all bear the same slogan and each one is in a different colour, viz. red, green, blue, violet and black. Is it too much to hope that I shall one day get it also in brown?

# CATALOGUE SUPPLEMENT

As usual we have to thank Messrs S.D. Barfoot and Werner Simon for most of the information in this supplement. This instalment completes the first run through all the countries in the Catalogue with the sole exception of China - a difficult list which has long been deferred owing to the necessity of preparing diagrams but which it is hoped to include in the next MSB.

Since these supplements started in March 1955, there have of course accumulated many additions to the countries first dealt with (Commonwealth countries) - though certainly not so many as in the case of adhesive stamps. A definite decision as to the continuation of the supplements has not yet been reached, and the ideas of members are sought. The first question is: How many members are interested?

Undoubtedly it would be best to reprint the supplement for each country in turn, incorporating all subsequent amendments and additions, in loose-leaf form; but this would involve a great deal of space and of time (both for preparation and for publication). Is it worth it?

### VIET-NAM (SOUTH)

1953. Type 1. Satas C. As type 1 of Indo-China but inscr. VIET-NAM at top and POSTES below value; 8 wavy lines or slogan above =date=town= SC 3001 upwards.

/1/ W 0 \*0.io (month in letters)
/2/ W 0 \*00.io (" " " )
/3/ W 0 \*00.io (Roman M.F.)

1959. Type 2. Postalia. Plain rect. frank, inscr. VIET-NAM at top, BUU-CHINH below value, So máy (& No.) at bottom. (Illus. in MSB, Jan. 1962.) TM as below.

/4/ VN 0 000io SC, Rm.M.F. Slogan left. /5/ VN 0 \$000io DC-A, Ar.M.F. 5 wavy lines & slogan at left.

/6/ W O OO.oi DC-A, Ar.M.F. 5 wavy lines between TM & frank.

/7/ W 0 \$VN 0010 DC-A, Ar.M.F. Slogan C.

19??. Type 3. Satas R. 78/ N 0 \*00.10

#### POST OFFICE MACHINES

196?. Type PO.1. C.A.M.P. Similar to type 1 but inscr. VIET-NAM at top and BUU CHINH over So may (& No.) at bottom. TM SC, Rm M.F. and hour in date. Frinted through ribbon on white adhesive label, 58 x 27 mm.

/PO.1/ VN O \*Olo

# VIET-NAM (NORTH)

1954. Type 1. Satas C. As type 1 of Indo-China but inser. VIET-NAM / BUU-CHINH at top.
/1/ W 0 \*0.io (month in letters) (SC 3005)
/2/ W 0 \*00.io (Roman M.F.) (SC 3010)