

METER STAMP SOCIETY

BULLETIN

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REVENUE AND OTHER NON-POSTAGE METERS

Some MSS members may not be aware of the wide variety of non-postage meters which have been and are being used in the world today. Most of us are aware that meters are used by United Parcel Service and other private parcel delivery services. These are closely related to postage meters since they are used to record the payment of a delivery fee. Of course they are used by private firms and have no government or official status whatsoever. The U.S. government does use meters for official purposes unrelated to mail delivery, that is for revenue or tax purposes, and they mirror the issuance and use of federal revenue stamps. Illustrated below are two U.S. revenue tax meters.



MSS member and revenue meter specialist Bill Pieterse says most countries in the world have used and still use revenue meters. Even though many thousands of types have been used, only a tiny fraction have found their way into collectors' hands. Most revenue meters are used on documents that have to be kept for years. Rarely does someone with an interest in saving them have a chance to go through the documents before they are destroyed. For example, years ago Canada had about 500 different excise revenue meters in use, but today only about 50 different examples are in collectors' hands. These sell for between \$10 and \$15 apiece when they come on the market.



Color Range of dates in my collection

Type I - with outer frame; 25 1/2 x 28 mm.

DF-2 - METER 01513

R

8/10/35 to 9/6/35

Type II - with outer frame; 22 x 25 mm.

DF-2 - METER 01513

R

2/15/36 to 5/19/37

DF-5 - METER 55318

R

DF-7 - P B METER 57032

R

Type III - no outer frame; 21 x 23 mm.

DF-7 - P B METER 57032

R

10/29/37 to 4/27/39

Type IV - no outer frame; 22 x 25 1/2 mm.

DF-7 - P B METER 57032

R and P

6/21/39 to 9/20/45

DF-7 - P B METER 57630

R

DF-7 - P B METER 58616

R

DF-7 - P B METER 59233

R

If any members should have additional meter numbers or meter types, as well as earlier or later usage dates, please report your discoveries to the Editor or to this writer in order to make this list as complete as possible. (NO)

Ed. note: Bill Olson's new address is 4714 S. Colonial Oaks Drive, Apt. 610, Marion, IN 46953.

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NEW FRAMA METERS

A new country, Zimbabwe, is the latest country to introduce Frama machines into its postal system. The first day for the service was Oct. 24, 1985. The government Philatelic Bureau and the general post offices at Harare, Bulawayo and Gweio all have machines available for use. The address for the Zimbabwe Philatelic Bureau is not known to your editor. (RS)

Greece introduced Framas several years ago. Recently they issued their first commemorative which honored the Panhellenic Stamp Exhibit (Nov. 22-Dec 1, 1985) in Piraeus. Only one machine was in use at the post office set up at the show. It dispensed labels in denominations of 15, 20, 27, 80 and 100 drachmae. It is doubtful that labels are still available so long after the show, but those of you who may want to try can write the Hellenic Post Philatelic Service, 100 Eolou St., GR-101, 88 Athens, Greece. Orders must be accompanied by bank check or postal money order. (RS, NS)

ESPAMER' 85

19-24
MARZO

0030

CUBA

LA HABANA

Cuba has also released a new commemorative Frama. This one commemorates "ESPAMER '85" which was held in Havana on Mar. 19-24th. (PH)

Not to be left out, Belgium has also gotten into the act and issued a commemorative Frama. This one celebrates a show called "RELIFUL". (PH)

