


*The Meter Stamp Society Quarterly*



# Bulletin

NEW Website: [www.meterstampsociety.com](http://www.meterstampsociety.com)  
Discussion Group: <https://groups.io/g/meterstampsociety> #343 Bulletin since 1948

## Pinocchio on Postage Meters

Miriam Congedo

Thanks to Karim's question, who asked me "Do meter stamps exist with Pinocchio design?", my interest was roused! And I started looking for the meters with the little puppet! Certainly, most of us know Pinocchio, the most famous puppet in the world, which was born from the pen of the Italian Carlo Collodi. A sweet story of a carpenter who creates a puppet, who among a thousand adventures, thanks to the intervention of the blue fairy, becomes a real child! The story has been translated into many languages, and the book is distributed throughout the world. The "Boston Store" (Figure 1) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, used the oldest known Pinocchio meter (Figure 2) in 1939. In the town mark, we find Milwaukee, but

the same meter stamp is present on envelopes with return address of the Kansas City headquarters, as we see in Figure 2.



Figure 1. BOSTON STORE, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, return address found on envelopes with Pinocchio meters.

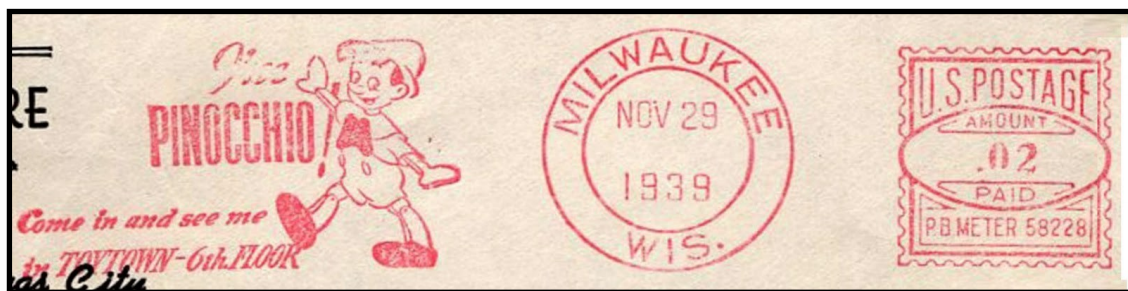


Figure 2. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 1939 - Pitney Bowes meter 58228. On the left, a part of the BOSTON STORE, Kansas City, return address is found.

# Serbia or Yugoslavia

## Bernard Lachat

Recently, I acquired a small archive of letters mailed from Serbia. These are letters from the Philips company in Belgrade (Beograd), all stamped with meters issued from the Francotyp "C" machine (IPMSC<sup>1</sup>: Serbia #A1). The catalog mentions a first use in 1941, however, the first year I have among the letters is 1934 (Figures 1 and 2).

But it is not to point out this new date that I am writing this article. In the chronological series of these letters, there is suddenly a meter stamp dated 7.9.1940 which no longer contains "SERBIEN"<sup>2</sup> in the frank, but "JUGOSLAVIJA" (Figure 3). The die also changed, and corresponds to IPMSC : Yugoslavia #A5. However, the town mark and advertising remain unchanged. Only the die changed.

I do not have sufficient records from around September 1940 to be able to specify the dates of use. After this date, in 1941 the word "SERBIEN" appears in the franks (Figures 4 and 5).

Does anyone have an explanation for the sudden use of a die other than « SERBIEN » ?

Bernard Lachat  
Cras du Mottet 5  
CH-2824 Vicques  
Switzerland  
Email : [bernard.lachat@bluewin.ch](mailto:bernard.lachat@bluewin.ch)



Editor's Notes:

<sup>1</sup> IPMSC: International Postage Meter Stamp Catalog.

<sup>2</sup> SERBIEN is the German word for SERBIA.



Figure 1. SERBIEN (A1) BEOGRAD 25.IX.1934; Francotyp 'C' - Spacing between town mark and frank = 54.7 mm.



Figure 2. SERBIEN (A1) BEOGRAD 1.X.1934; Francotyp 'C' -



Figure 3. YUGOSLAVIA (A5) BEOGRAD 7.IX.1940; Francotyp 'C' - Spacing between town mark and frank = 54.2 mm.



Figure 4. SERBIEN (A1) BEOGRAD 18.X.1941; Francotyp 'C' - Spacing between town mark and frank = 54.7 mm.



Figure 5. SERBIEN (A1) BEOGRAD 24.X.1942; Francotyp 'C' - Spacing between town mark and frank = 54.7 mm.