

the technical side of printing. Could you recommend one?

KENYON: Well, it is very difficult without knowing more precisely what particular technical subject the questioner has in mind. You see, there are trade journals specialising in various aspects of printing, but if the listener writes to The British Federation of Master Printers, 11, Bedford Row, London, W.C.1, giving us some more details, we shall be glad to help him. May I just add one more thing. I think many of the listeners on the

Continent will have seen samples of the work done by British printers in wartime.

PLOMLEY: Why? What do you mean?

KENYON: I mean the propaganda leaflets and miniature news-sheets which British printers produced by the million for delivery by our bombers all over Europe. Some of them were quite remarkable productions; and this was just one small way in which the printing industry played a part in the prosecution of the war.

The LAGONDA AUTO-PLATEN

IMPORTANT POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT

What promises to be a most important development in British post-war printing is the marketing in this country of a British-built Auto-Platen with a very high speed run and to be sold at a most reasonable price. The advantages claimed for the Lagonda Auto-Platen are enumerated under the following heads:

The Impression

A full-size crown folio forme, 15 in. by 10 in., can be printed without throwing any extra strain on the machine. A very strong semi-steel platen and specially reinforced ribbed main casting. Micrometer adjustment of the impression is provided. The check action of the platen is controlled by electric Solenoid and push button by the operator. There are no levers to fiddle with. The type bed and platen are ground finish.

Inking Mechanism

Every detail of the inking mechanism from ink duct to the forme roller has received very careful and scien-

tific design. Double reciprocation for perfect milling of the ink is introduced so that the ink on the rollers is never in a stationary state. The ink drum carrying the supply to the forme rollers is not large enough in diameter to carry surplus unused portion, therefore

virgin ink is always available. Runners on the ends of forme rollers are V shaped to prevent skidding over the forme, and the circumference of the forme rollers will carry sufficient ink to roll a full-size forme. Ink checking device is incorporated. All rollers on machine are covered with a dust cover, which can be pushed back for cleaning.

Feed and Delivery

This is entirely a new idea embodying a straight line feed and delivery, both driven by one common member taking a sheet from the pile on the left side of the platen and delivering it on to the moving lays on the platen and after impression has taken place, the sheet is delivered by grippers from the forme to delivery table, at the right side of the platen. The main idea of this is to make one machine a unit of a multi-colour machine, several of which can be coupled up and operated by a master switch; four or more colours can then be printed at one loading. Many of the medium size printers have felt the need for a two-colour machine of small size. The Lagonda Auto Platen will give him the same result, and he can still use his two machines as separate units when desired. There are no cumbersome parts in front of the platen; the operator can get over his platen for make-ready.

Main Drive

The machine is driven by electric motor and V belt and provided with three speeds (standard equipment) of (variable speed control extra) the belts are moved by simple arrangement from larger to smaller V pulleys, all attached to the machine. Push buttons are used for operating the clutch and brake; these are conveniently placed both in front and at back of machine on a control panel.

Capacity of Work

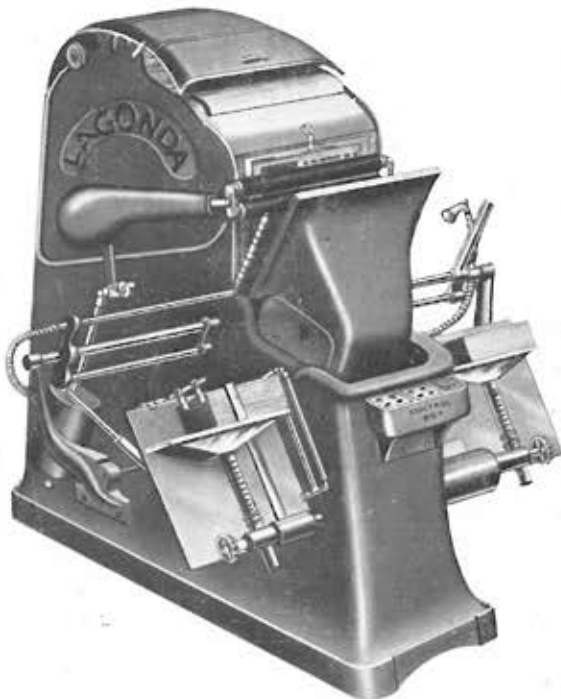
From a visiting card to crown folio size, in thickness of stock varying from 7 lb. bank paper to 12-sheet board. Small formes of cutting and creasing can be done and a special steel plate provided to be secured to the platen surface. Spraying the printed sheet to prevent set-off can be supplied with each machine at small extra cost.

Equipment

A full set of spanners and screwdrivers. Two chases, one full size and one card chase. One set of clothed rollers and one set of stocks. Two sets of rubber suckers for use with thick card.

Simple Operation

The aim has been to provide a first-class machine to run at very high speed of 5,500 prints per hour without vibration and with simplicity of operation. Any printer can operate this machine after a few minutes' instruction. Service depots will be established in every district.



tific design. Double reciprocation for perfect milling of the ink is introduced so that the ink on the rollers is never in a stationary state. The ink drum carrying the supply to the forme rollers is not large enough in diameter to carry surplus unused portion, therefore