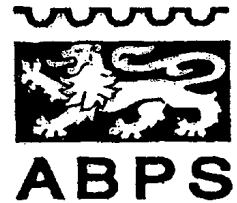


THE PERFIN SOCIETY

BULLETIN



THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Chris Carr
SECRETARY/ TREASURER/ PACKET SUPT. AUCTIONEER	Dave Hill Tony Llewellyn-Edwards
BULLETIN EDITOR	Rosemary Smith
CATALOGUE EDITOR	Roy Gault
LIBRARIAN/ PUBLICATIONS	John Donner

BULLETIN No:- 300 Subscription £5 (UK); £7 (abroad/surface); £8 (abroad/air)

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SOCIETY INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES TO JUNE 1999 Total members 364

New Members

MARK SAMWELL
BRIAN WILLIAMS

Change of Address

JOHN COLES

Death

ALAN BRIGGS

* * * * *

November 1999 London Meeting

The date for the meeting at Baden Powell House, Queen's Gate, SW7, just off the Cromwell Road, next to the Natural History Museum and between South Kensington and Gloucester Road Tube Stations, is **NOVEMBER 13th -1 pm to 5pm.**

Stampshow 2000

It is not too late to offer material for display at Stampshow 2000. John Marriner is co-ordinating this and at the moment he does not want actual stamps or covers: just details of material available in case he is short for any particular part of the display. He will contact members for the necessary material required nearer the time next year.

SOCIETY FINANCES Dave Hill

Our bank have insisted that our account is put on a business footing. I can see their point. There are over 1,000 transactions a year, many with foreign exchange which they have been doing for free for 5 years. Eventually there will be bank charges although these will be phased in over 3 years. It seems cheques paid by the Society will cost 59p and cheques received 27p

It would be helpful if members could keep down the number of cheques. Separate cheques are not needed for subscriptions and auction payments. You can pay 2 years subs at one time. If you habitually make small purchases consider keeping a credit with the Society: many members do. Many members credit their auction sales to the Society, paying their subs and for their auction purchases out of this float, or taking payment in fewer but larger cheques. At any **one** time members' credit is some £1,000's.

European members can use our Giro account (53-907-6708 D Hill Marazion, Cornwall). Small payments can be made in current GB stamps or dollar bills. Obviously I can get a better rate for more dollars, so pay on time. A trickle of dollars mean I get a lower rate. We have no Visa or Mastercard arrangement, the last time I asked it was going to cost the Society many £100's just for the convenience of a few members. Our big dollar buyers are happier to write dollar or sterling cheques. It must be cheaper than Visa etc.

I do not like running bank accounts for members when they can keep their credit with the Society. It is easier for me and the Society gains a little interest.

Members' Wants

Dan Daniel wants a good second-hand old 'Edward's Illustrated Catalogue'. Let Dave Hill know if you have one and he will put you in touch with Dan.

MEMBERS' QUERIES

German Newswrapper

Mick Penfold:- "I have a German Newswrapper, sent from Frankfurt to Switzerland in November 1923 with perfin stamps of Societats Printing Werks, Frankfurt - Fr.Soc./Dr. The wrapper is complete and along one (*long*) entire side is a roller wavy-line postmark of Frankfurt. This means that even at the back and under the sealed flap is the postmark.

"This shows that the postmark was applied before the wrapper was sealed. I know the company sent out large quantities of printed matter (*their perfins are very common*) but I fail to see how the postmark is applied first!"

MEMBERS' COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

46th Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference Stamp Bulletins 266-70

For anyone keeping a check on the perfins found on this easily missed commemorative, John Mathews has C0530.01 - C.B/B of Cadbury Bros.

QE II Commemoratives Perfined Bulletins 271 onwards

Although the following stamps are known with perfin, John Mathews has C8530.01 (C/W/S) on the 2/6d Shakespeare and H1490.01 (H&C°) on the 1/6d value of the same set. It was back in 1994 that this survey began. Is it time we had a list published of the commemorative stamps NOT FOUND with perfin? I always think members respond more readily to a specific list of wants and it is easier to check for described stamps. Any one interested besides myself? Similarly, the list of Stamps Not Recorded As Perfins (up to decimalisation) is past its sell-by-date. In 1994 there were only 30 stamp values which were not recorded with perfin and two have been reported since. This makes 28 to find. Does anyone want this list published again?

Early Advert for Perforators Bulletin 299 Page 18

On the next two pages are two copies of adverts for S. A. Daniell sent in by MAURICE HARP. He received these from JOHN MATHEWS and the 1873 advert is the one mentioned in Bulletin 299. Maurice says that in 1877 there is no reference to a London address for S A Daniell in Kelly's.

Town Directories Bulletin 300 Page 4

From **STEVE DUNDERDALE**:- "In Bulletin No. 300, Dave Hill makes comment regarding Kelly's directories available on microfilm and the cost. I told a friend who is a Family Historian researcher and he supplied me with the name of a company who have some directories on CD's. I am sure many members have their own computer with a CD-ROM and may be interested as these are much cheaper than microfilm at £11-99+ p/p per CD. The enclosed copy of their range and the forthcoming titles list are mostly from the North of England but I still think it may be worth while to publish a note regarding them.

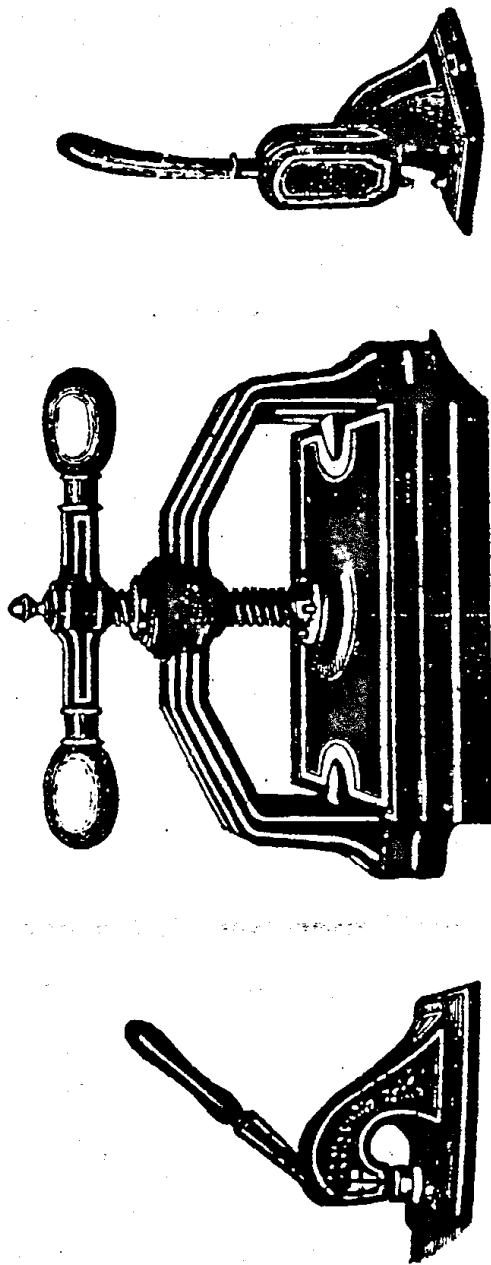
The company may of course know of other firms who produce similar CD's, covering different parts of the country - I have not pursued that line of enquiry at all.

At the price, purchase by individual members for areas of interest to them is not too expensive, but would it be possible to purchase copies of selected editions for the Library? Not for general loan, but available to those members who are involved in research projects. I am sure they would be happier and more comfortable working at home.

What would be the cost of producing the complete Gault Catalogue and other publications in CD form? I am sure the committee could investigate the possibility: it would really bring The Perfin Society into the 21st Century."

After the two pages of S A Daniell adverts are listed a few of the CD's from the list. If you are interested in more information write or e-mail to:- Stepping Stones, 3 George St, York YO1 6JL or Email juddfgmjurison.freeseve.co.uk Web Page stepping-stones.co.uk

S. A. DANIELL,
ST. PAUL'S SQUARE, BIRMINGHAM,

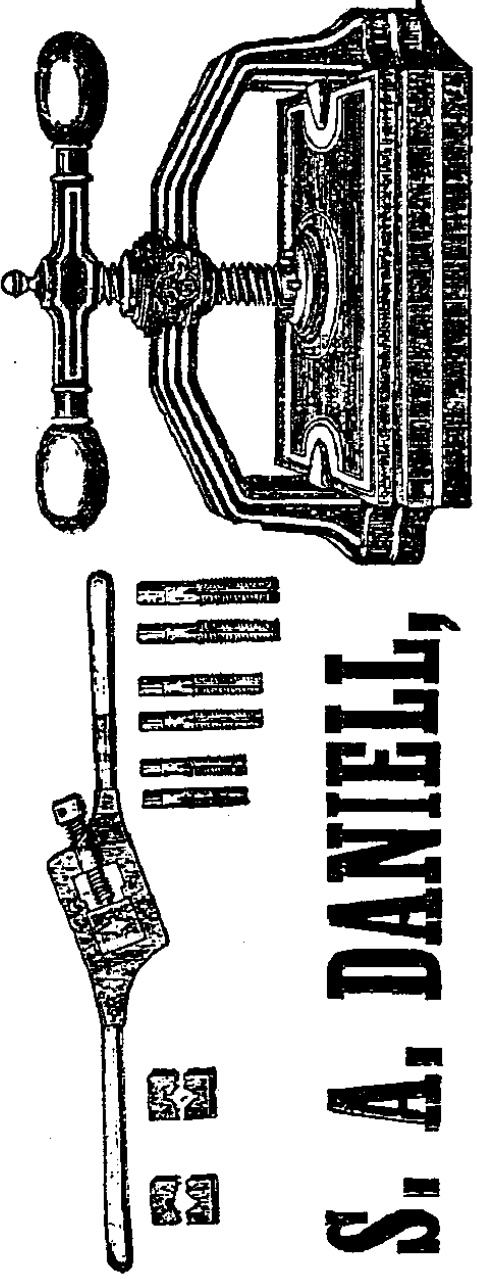


MANUFACTURER OF

**PRESSES, FOR COPYING, EMBOSING, STAMPING, ENDORSING,
EYELETING, CUTTING OUT, PIERCING, RAISING & GENERAL PURPOSES.
MACHINES FOR PAGING, PERFORATING, &c.**

**DIE SINKER, SEAL ENGRAVER,
LETTER CUTTER, MEDALLIST, STAMPER, PIERCER, & PRESS TOOL MAKER.**

Maker of Turned Steel Seals and Forged Dies (for Die Sinkers), Medals, Metallic Address Cards, Tokens, Checks, Brass Labels, Bank, Post Office, Dating, and other Stamps for Printing, Metallic Capsules, Direction Labels, &c., &c.



S. A. DANIELL,
EDWARD STREET, PARADE,
(FORMERLY OF ST PAUL'S SQUARE, AND UPPER DEAN STREET,
BIRMINGHAM,
MANUFACTURER OF
Copying, Embossing, Stamping, Fly and General Presses,
DIES, STAMPS, MEDALS, STAMPED METAL LABELS, CHECKS, TOKENS, &c.,
SCREW STOCKS, DIES, TAPS,
RATCHET BRACES, TUBE CUTTERS, BOTTLE & WAGON JACKS,
BENCH SOREWS, BREAK SCREWS, JOINERS' CRAMPS, &c.

Selection of Directory CD's from Stepping Stones

Pigot's 1822 Trade Directory for Northumberland

This features the following villages:- Alnwick. Alnmouth. Bedlington. Cowpen. Belford. Barnborough & Lowick. Bellingham. Berwick upon Tweed. Tweedmouth. Bythe & neighbourhood. Hexham. Morpeth. Newcastle & Gateshead. North Shields & Tynemouth. Rothbury. Harbottle. Seaton Sluice. Hartley. Monk Seaton. Holywell.

Kelly's 1872 Post Office Directory for the East Riding of Yorkshire

Contents:- History of the East Riding Surnames in an alphabetical list surnames in Towns & Villages North & East Riding Court Directory Hull:- Postal Services, Street Court, & Commercial Directory *[verbatim!]*

Principal Cities 1822 Trade Directory

Contents:- Principal Trade's people of the following Cities & Towns Birmingham Bristol Coventry Kidderminster Kilmarnock Leicester London Macclesfield Manchester & a list of London Bankers.

City Centre Only CD's - £7-99 + P/P

Leeds & Bradford	1822
Sheffield	1822
Hull	1872
Scarborough	1902
Middlesborough	1897

All the City Centre CD's are on the Full CD's except Sheffield 1822.

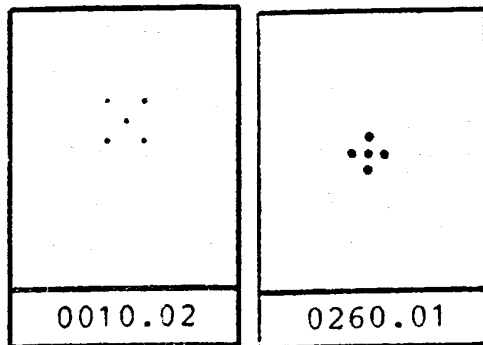
A Sample of the Forthcoming Titles over the coming year Register your interest.

1872	White's Lincolnshire & the City & Diocese of Lincoln
1872	White's Sheffield: William White, 1872
1876	Littlebury's Hertfordshire to 1877
1885	London/Middlesex Hampstead & Highgate to 1886
1912	Kelly's Nottinghamshire
1917	Kelly's Leeds
1922	Kelly's Sheffield & Rotherham

BOVIS LTD and W H GOLLINGS & ASSOCIATES LTD

DERRICK MUGGLETON has sent me a photocopy of an article from the October 1983 edition of *'Stamps & Foreign Stamps'*. (Derrick thinks the organ is no longer published and there was no mention of copyright in the issue.) The article was about "**Unusual advertising postcards tell a tale of WWII shortages**" by Robert Boyer.

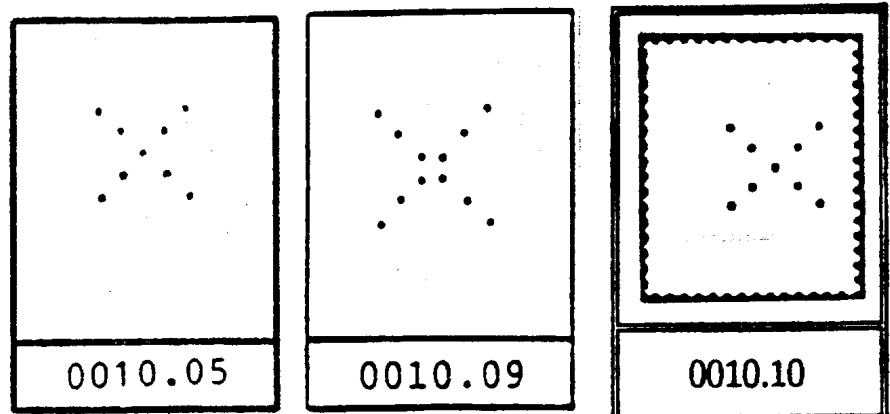
Illustrated were two advertising picture postcards, the picture side showing the name of W. H. Gollings and Associates Limited: the address sides, dated 22 AUG 1946 and 10 SEPT 1946, have KGV1½d and 1d stamps (presumably light colours) with perfin X0010.02M. Derrick had thought it was Des.0260.01 of Bovis Ltd.



However, there is a link between the two. Bovis Ltd are in Tomkins at Des 0260.01 (used 1935-1939) as plain *Bovis Ltd*; X0010.02M (used 1945-1957) as *Bovis Ltd, Building Contractors, London W11 and NW2, later as Bovis Holdings Ltd, 1 Stanhope Gate W1. Associated with*

W H Gollings & Associates Ltd, Advertising Agents, and Good Advertising Ltd.

Still in Tomkins, X0010.05 (used c1957) is identified as *W H Gollings & Associates, 1 Stanhope Gate, W1* and also a second identity *Good Advertising Ltd, 82 South Audley St, W1*. X0010.09 (used c1945) is identified as *W H Gollings & Associates Ltd, 21 Hereford St, W1* [this is the address which is on the Aug 1946 Advertising Postcard], and X0010.10 (used c1945) identified with *W H Gollings and Partners, and Good Advertising Ltd.*



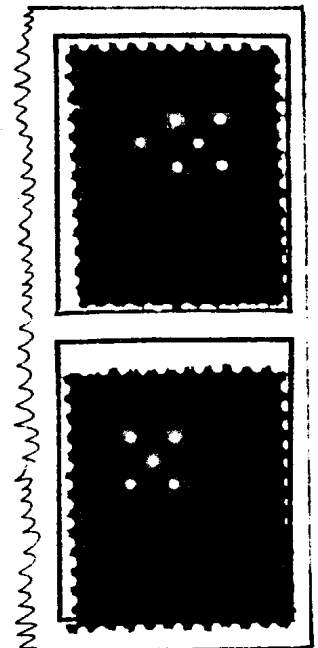
When the information was shown to Roy Gault he sent me a copy of an entry from a Sloper post-war ledger showing some link with advertising. Note, after 'Bovis' the 'Ltd' has been crossed out and 'Holdings Ltd' added. At the bottom, after 'Remarks', is "Associated - Good Advertising Co." The perfin shown is X0010.02M.

NAME Bovis ~~Ltd.~~ Holdings Ltd.
 ADDRESS Stanhope Gate,
W.I.

DELIVERY	Post Paid
RECEIPTS	DEDUCT
COMMISSION	WITH ORDER ^{AC}
CHEQUES	WITH ORDER

CHARGES	ORIGINAL	REVISED
POSTAGE S	107-00	£1 7s
do. R	107-00	£1 5s
PRINT S		
do. R		
INS. S & R		

DEMANDER. Associated - Good Advertising Co



I am at a loss as to the connection between Bovis and an Advertising Company. Can anyone shed any light on this link? The following is the relevant entry in the 1956 Stock Exchange Year Book for BOVIS HOLDINGS LIMITED.

"Registered 11 July 1928 as Bovis (1928) Ltd; name changed June 1931 to Bovis Ld; name changed (to present title) 31 Mar 1949. Company is now mainly a holding company. Formed to acquire undertaking of Bovis Ld. (regd. 1908 as C. W. Bovis & Co. Ld.). Owns works at Cricklewood, NW2. Also owns (inter alia) all shares of Bovis Ld., (regd. 1949) and Gilbert-Ash S.A. (Pty.) Ld., Gilbert-Ash Structures Ld. (formerly Preload (great Britain) Ld.), Yeomans & Partners Ld., Compactom Ld. (manufacturers of "Compactom" clothing cabinets), Audley Properties Ld., and Construction Units Ld. "

Derrick thought the contents of these two cards would also raise a smile and the following notes are taken from the article by Robert Boyer.

During the Second World War many things were in short supply and paper was high on the list. This state of affairs continued for some years after the end of the War.

Today, advertisement managers are crying out for advertisers. Not so in the 1940,s. There was a fixed legal proportion of advertisements to editorial matters, adverts were usually limited to the locale of the advertiser and space was at a premium: no "full-page" or "half-page" options.

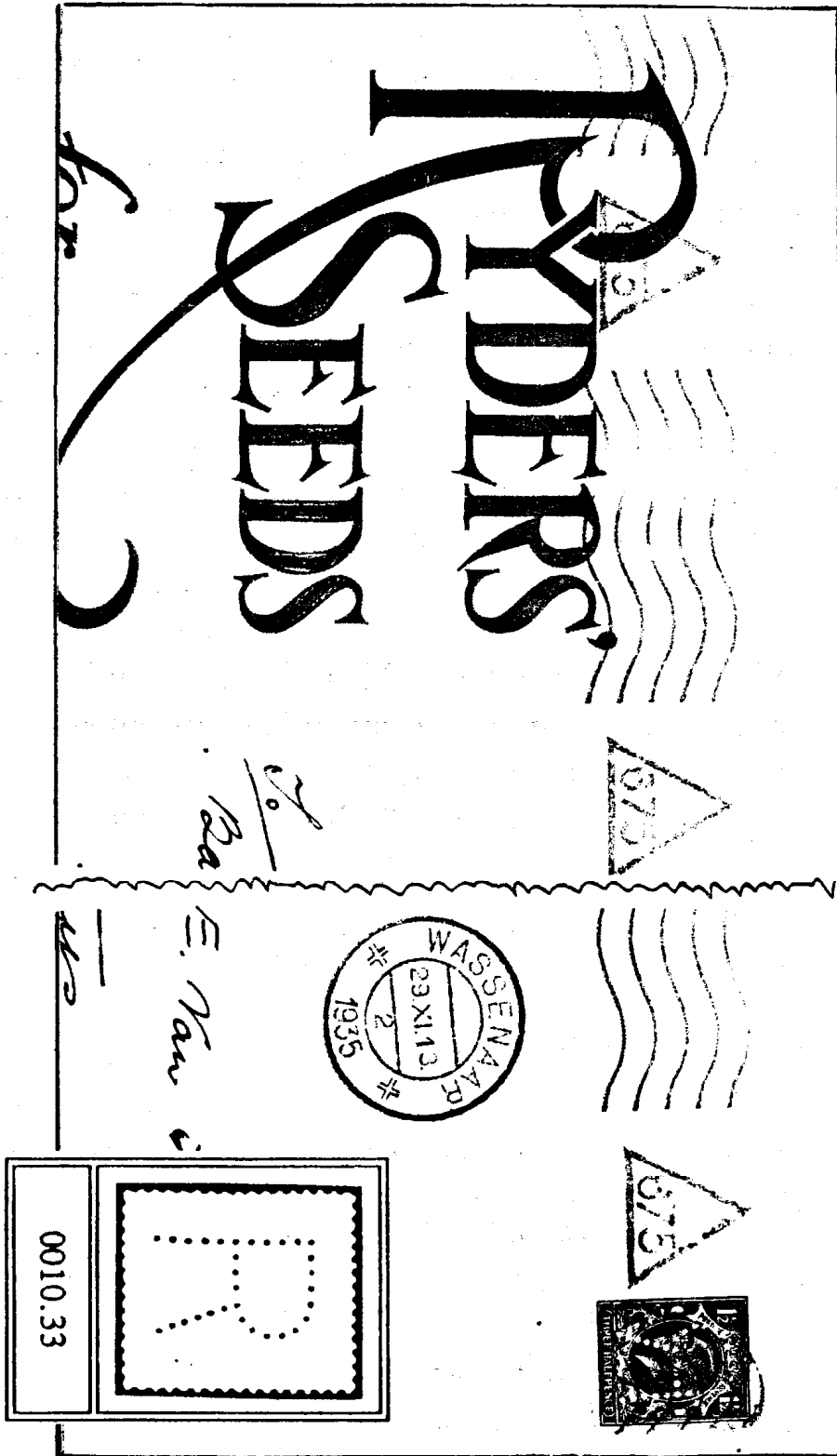
Rather than *ordering* advertising space, you *begged* for it and the two postcards in the story illustrated this. The pictures are almost identical showing the offices of W H Gollings & Associates Ltd, Advertising Agents, with typists, artists and writers at their desks. The August caption being *"Don't be discouraged it may be in the next issue "* with the typed message on the reverse, to The Radio Times, *"We hope there may still be some chance of an August insertion"*. The office workers in this picture are looking somewhat downcast.

The September card shows the workers in attitudes of despair, the caption reads *"It's bound to be in the NEXT issue"* and the message on the

reverse of this card is "We hope very much to hear from you that you will be able to give us increased frequency of insertions".

The September card also bears a slogan postmark for the "Britain Can Make It" Exhibition, - sure we could, but what use was that if we couldn't advertise and sell it?

* * * * *



GOLF & PERFINS

Rosemary Smith

Yesterday I was watching on TV the exciting, and sometimes hilarious, final shots of The Open Golf Championships at Carnoustie. After Paul Lawrie had been presented with the Claret Jug the commentator said we would be seeing Lawrie playing in the Ryder Cup in September. This reminded me that two years ago I had intended to write an article about the "**Ryder**" perfin but by the time I got round to it, the 1997 Ryder Cup Tournament was long gone in people's memory. If I get it into the August Bulletin you may remember the connection when watching or reading about the next Ryder Cup Match which I believe will be in the USA.

SAMUEL RYDER was a nurseryman and he made his fortune by being the first seedsman to put seeds into small packets and sell them through stores such as Woolworths: at a stroke it increased his outlet many hundred fold.

Ryder came to play golf late in life, after he retired from active participation in his business, and he was impressed by a match in 1926 at Wentworth, Surrey between touring American pros and their British and Irish counterparts. (GB winning 13*Vi* matches to 114)

He presented for competition between the professionals of both countries a solid gold cup with a smaller figure of a golfer on the lid. It was first played for in 1927 at Worcester, Massachusetts, USA and is played biennially alternately in England and the USA. In 1979 the GB base was broadened to include players from Europe.

The perfin in question is R0010.33 and identified with Ryder & Son (1920) Ltd., Seed Merchants, 27 Holywell Hill, St.Albans, Herts, in use 1930-1952. The pins on the die rapidly deteriorated after c1946 and examples can be found with very few of the original 31 pins.

The illustration is from part of a large 1935 envelope showing a '675' St Albans triangular counting postmark.

WHS Perfins and Postmarks

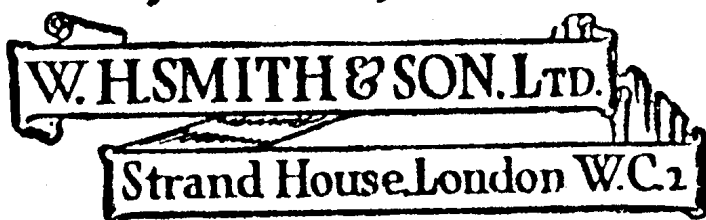
Tony Llewellyn-Edwards

The Editor's comments, in Bulletin No 300, with regard to firms which used both perfins and special postmarks, caused me to check my W H Smith collection to see if I could add anything.

I have the special postmark illustrated as No 7, but only on Victorian postal stationery items with embossed stamps and the Advertising Ring of W H Smith. These were most likely printed paper wrappers and could be expected to be found showing pre-cancelled use. A number of the printed wrappers in my WHS collection also bear stamps used to make up additional postage, so they could possibly be found pre-cancelled, although all mine seem to have standard Newspaper branch cancellations.

The postmark illustrated in the Bulletin article as No 2311 seems to have gone out of use about the end of the 19th century, and the WHS perfins did not come into use until the King Edward VII period. Consequently there was only a very small overlap or none at all which accounts for the lack of perfins with the special W H Smith obliterator. Nevertheless,, this obliterator was replaced by a similar one having "LONDON" instead of the 'S' in its upper half and more radial dashes. This was still used as a pre-cancel by W H Smith and I have an example of one on a SG 221 perfined with WHS (Cat No. W3800.03). It (or an almost identical one) was still in use by this company as a pre-cancel in the late 1930's - see illustration.

In case of non-delivery to be returned to



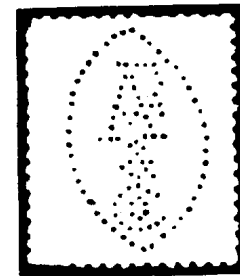
HELP SOUGHT FOR IRISH PERFIN DETAILS

Collectors of Irish Perfins will know that there are fewer than 450 dies known used in Ireland. Around 80% of these occur on Great British stamps (i.e. they came into use before 1922) and so naturally appear in the "New Illustrated Catalogue of Great British Perfins".



In the past, where a G.B. die is also known used on Irish stamps, I have simply recorded in the New Catalogue "known on Eire stamps" or words to that effect, without giving any details. To remedy this lack of information I propose to conduct a survey of Irish Perfins by appealing to collectors to pool their knowledge - in effect form an "Irish Perfins Study Group".

To kick off the survey I have prepared worksheets for the letter "A", illustrating 23 dies, most of which are also known on G.B. stamps. For example, the lovely perfin illustrated alongside is known used in Dublin in the late 1870's probably by Alexander Findlater & Co. If you would like to contribute (even if you do not collect Irish perfins), please write to me for a set of worksheets.



By pooling information we will be in a position to answer with some certainty, such questions as:

What is the earliest known perfin used in Ireland?

Which are the longest lived Irish perfin dies? –

Are there any dies still in use in Ireland?

No doubt many more questions will spring to mind and be answered as the survey progresses. Meanwhile, I look forward to hearing from as many of the 360 membership as possible! Remember that you do not have to collect Irish perfins in order to help.

POSTMARK PROOF OF PERFIN USER

Rosemary Smith

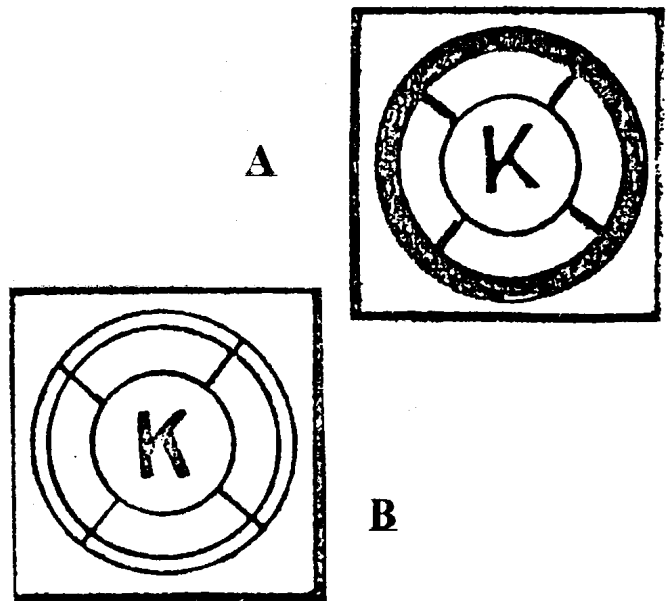
On page 25 of Bulletin 300 I rather thoughtlessly said that I could publish a list of the known stamp issues with perfin tied by the special obliterators. I thought I had such a list but after a member writing for this list I find I have numerous bits of paper, various cuttings, a few letters and my collection. I have endeavoured to make a readily understandable list of these stamps and just hope that I get everything in.

Some years ago Harry Skinner answered a letter from myself about this very subject. Harry gave me details of quite a number of stamps, which are included in this list, but did put in his letter, in more than one place, such things as *through to QV Jubilees*' and *'most common on 1883/84 lilac & green set'*. I have therefore only included the stamps which were identified by value or SG number. The ones which are underlined are stamps which are mentioned in articles about the cancels (not the perfin) and as the articles came from a non-perfin journal, it is not clear if the cancel was on a perfined stamp or an ordinary stamp.

Type 2 (K in circle)

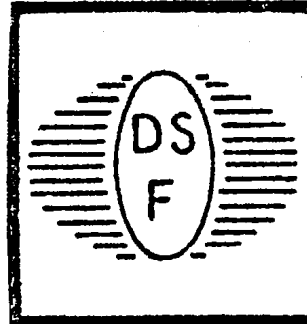
There are two types of this cancel in the first the outer ring was solid and the 'K' in heavier type (1868). The second one has a double lined outer circle and thinner 'K' (1875). Make a note of them as 'A' and 'B'.

SG 43	<u>1d plate 190</u> 192, 203, 206
SG46	2d plate 15
SG48	½d plate 3
SG51	1½d plate 3
SG119	<u>2/- plate 1</u>
SG 143	<u>3d plate 18</u>
SG 150	<u>1/- plate 13</u>
SG 153	<u>4d plate 17</u>
SG158	3d plates 20 & 21
SG 166	1d
SG.167	1½d
SG 168	2d
SG 172	1d lilac



Type 5 DS/F in oval with thin horizontal lines 1880

SG 151 1/- plate 13
SG 156 8d orange plate 1
SG 159 3d on 3d
SG 160 4d brown plate 8
SG 166 1d
SG 172 1d lilac
SG 179 2/6d
SG 188 1½d
SG 189 2d
SG 191 3d
SG 192 4d
SG 194 6d
SG 208 6d
SG 209 9d
SG 211 1/-



Type 6 DS/F in oval of heavy bars 1890

Harry tells me these are found on Jubilee issues only.
He reports:- SG 179 2/6d
The only value I have is:- SG209 9d



Type 7 SS/F in oval with thin horizontal lines

This is not known on a perfin. I have a QV ½d embossed W H Smith newswrapper to Sumatra with this cancel and there is an illustration of the cancel on a 6d Jubilee (SG 208) in an article in *PRECANCELS June 1989 by Roy Osborn entitled PRECANCEL MARKINGS ON G.B. STAMPS AND POSTAL STATIONERY.*

John Marriner sent me a photocopy of a 2/- plate 1 (SG 119) with perfin D&S but with Type 2 (K in circle) cancel.

Please report any others and it would be of interest to know which Type 2 you have, A or B.

KE7 EXPERIMENTAL COILS on the POKO MACHINE

Terry Pusterla

A similar article of the following was written in the GBJ following a series of articles on the subject, written by Messrs Homer-Woof and Jones in the same Journal.

In their article they describe and show an example of a POKO perfin HS/L - Harrods Store Ltd. As the illustration is larger than actual stamp size the dimensions are unknown, the number of holes however are 11, 12 (2 broken pins included) and 8. A 1d dated July 6 1911 was apparently known to the authors and was considered to be the earliest date for a POKO perfin. The position of the L is centred on the H with the top two holes almost in line with the lower holes of H.

Six years after the series of articles appeared, I wrote a small article showing two different dies to that shown by Messrs Woof and Jones, one of which showed earlier dates than that described by the above authors. The question, 'Were these the earliest dates known?', met without any response. Not being a member of the Perfin Society at the time of the above it may be of interest to the Society to ask the question again.

Figure 1 11,11,8 6mm:

One undated copy

Figure 2 11,13,8 6mm

Two undated copies

Figure 3 as 2 but with missing pins

Nine copies - 3 dated

MR 20:11 MY 13:11 SP 27 11

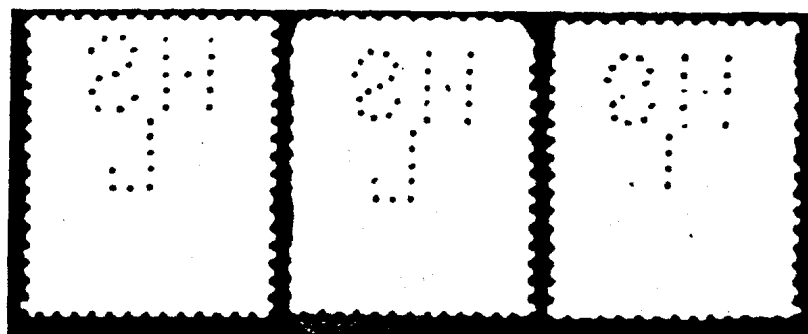
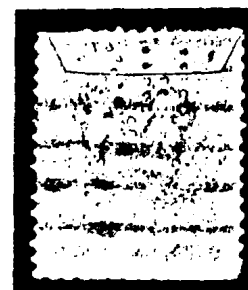


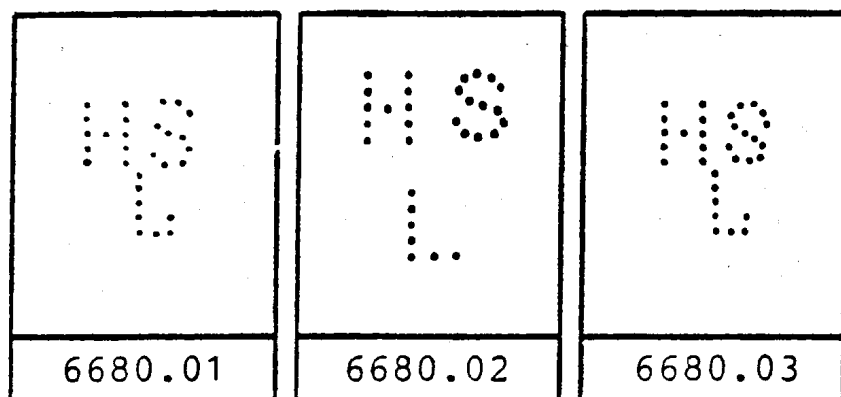
Fig.1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3



[The following three dies are from the Illustrated Catalogue and I (Ed.) would suggest Figure 1 is H6680.01 and Figure 2 is H6680.03]



I understand these POKO types for Harrods are not as yet part of the Tomkins Catalogue of Identified GB Perfins.

A recent find is another undated copy of Figure 1 which was a marginal top copy and has the margin cut to shape, bent over and stuck to the gum side. A portion of the perfin has cut through both thickness'. (*See illustration after Figure 1-3*)

These early coil strips were formed out of sheet material, joined together by tape. This example is clearly not a join and I can only assume that it was the lead stamp on the made up roll. It implies it came out of the machine "head first".

Is this reasoning correct? I would welcome members views.

1. GBJ VOL 22: 1:4
2. GBJ VOL 16: 1:16

* * * * *

SPBA PERFINS

Dave Hill

There are a number of perfins with the initials SPBA and according to the catalogue these stand for *Society of Produce Buyers Association*. Unfortunately we cannot remember from where this information came. It has always worried me how they should be both a Society and an Association.

The perfins are:-

SPBA	S57090.01	user unknown
SPBA	S5790.02	R & W Paul founded in Ipswich
SP/BA	S5800.01	Gillman & Spencer, London SE16
SP/BA	S5800.01ap	Sloper ledger - Gillman & Spencer
SP/BA	S5800.01b	ditto

Gillman & Spencer Ltd were registered in 1886: they produced malt, brewers grain and yeasts. They were bought by R & W Paul at the turn of the century but continued to trade under their old name until c. 1950.

Paul's had been founded in 1830 and R & W Paul Ltd were registered in 1893: they had interests in brewing, shipping (a fleet of Thames Barges) and grain. They are now BOCM Pauls, known for animal feeds.

I have recently found a reference to *The Scientific Poultry Breeders Association* which makes more sense than Society of Produce Buyers Association.

In 1941 they had a subsidiary SPBA Supplies Ltd providing poultry keeping supplies and FEEDING STUFFS from Deerstead House, St Johns Hill, Woking, Surrey.

In 1952 I find SPBA Supplies Ltd at Wigton House, 206-212 John St., Clerkenwell, London EC1 advertising SUPERBRA beehives. (Later this trade mark should have been worth £1,000's!)

I wonder if this is what happened:-

In the 1930's there was increasing interest in the scientific feeding of farm animals, including poultry, with balanced prepared feeds rather than the old grains as harvested. R&W Paul were involved in this and may have been encouraged in the war by the Government (dig for Britain etc). Paul's supported the Scientific Poultry Breeders Association and formed a subsidiary firm SPBA Supplies Ltd to supply their prepared feeds, amongst other things. To make out the SPBA were impartial, the perfins were ordered through Gillman & Spencer and the Society of Produce Buyers Association was invented.

SPBA Supplies Ltd had some woodworking machines for making poultry houses etc and after the war this was utilised to produce Superbra beehives.

Slopers Ledgers list the following:-

Ledger 1 lists Gillman Spencer as using provisional 'GS' (G4460.01ap) & 'G&S/L' (not known but possibly G4670.01)

Ledger 2 lists Gillman Spencer as using 'GS' (G4460.01 M) and 'SP/BA' (S5800.01)

Ledger 2 lists R&W Paul as using 'SPBA' (S5790.02) and 'RW/P' (R5810.01)

R&W Paul are also thought to have used a POKO 'RW/L' (R5810.04)

Can any members add to or confirm any of this?

* * * * *

SEEN IN AUCTION

FRANK BROWN sent the following from MAT Stamp Auctions for May 19th.

Lot 1012 2½d mauve SG 139 plate 1 pair - perfin 'H&G'; single plate 3, same stamp but perfin 'I.H.S/&C^o'; 6d on 6d SG 162 pair - perfin 'M&S' slight clip but good colour and nicely cancelled.
£36

Lot 111 Perfins Collection of approx. 400 from QV through to modern Machins. Arranged in alphabetical order. Usual mixed condition but also incl. QV 2/6 & GV 2/6. Mostly Wildings and Machins.
£40

UNDERPRINTS & PERFINS

This is a letter to Dave Hill in response to an article which Dave had published in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*. As many of our members collect both underprints and perfins and there is a good deal of history and social history involved, I think this will be of interest to most of our readers.

Dear Mr Hill,

Your article on "Underprints & Perfins" in the July issue of the "Gibbons Stamp Monthly" was of particular interest to me because back in 1940 I was an employee of Copestake Crampton & Co, albeit for only a few months as explained later.

As you have said, Copestake Crampton & Co were Wholesale Drapers and in 1940 had a warehouse and offices in Bow Churchyard, which was a cul de sac adjoining St Mary le Bow Church in Cheapside in the City of London. St.Mary le Bow Church is of course well known for "Bow Bells" and the link that states that to be a true "Cockney" you have to be born within the sound of those bells. The Company was, what would probably now be called "old fashioned" and when I was interviewed for and subsequently got the job of "office boy" (the lowest rank in the office) I was required to sign a "contract of employment" in a bound book. My salary was, if I remember correctly, the sum of £3-10 shillings per month, say 85p per week in today's money. This salary was paid monthly in arrears and on pay day I collected my earnings from the pay office in the basement. The money was handed to you in a small black tin box with your number on it and you returned the tin so that it could be used next month, all very economical, no wasteful pay packets!

Now to explain my "Perfin" connection. I was employed as office boy in the Post Room and I used to go round all the various departments distributing and collecting the post. The Post Room was on the first floor overlooking the road known as Bow Churchyard which led up to Cheapside and on the bench in front of the window was the machine that affixed the "perfin" stamps to the envelopes. (*Ed:- I guess this was a POKO machine?*) One of my jobs was to put the envelopes through the machine (approx. 24"x16"x16" in size), by turning the handle. The stamps came to us in large reels and were loaded into the machine by my

"boss", a very pleasant lady. So I suppose I may have been responsible for the use of the "perfin" stamp illustrated in the magazine!

I was very happy working at Copestakes but sadly my job didn't last very long because of course the "Blitz" had started in the autumn of 1940 and one day after a particularly heavy night raid I arrived (eventually) at Cheapside to find that the warehouse and offices in Bow Churchyard had been badly damaged and that St Mary le Bow Church had also been severely damaged. My "employment cards" were eventually returned to me undamaged and I imagine that they had been held in the safe in the basement. The Company did try to find me another job with another Company but my own home had been damaged in another raid and my parents and I moved away so travelling to London was not convenient and I therefore took another local job until I went into the Army. When I returned to England from the Far East after the war ended I was given to understand that Copestake Crampton & Co had had offices in St. Pauls Churchyard but I could find no trace and have no idea what happened to the company. (*Ed:- the Company [limited since 1920] is in my 1956 Stock Exchange Year Book*)

Yours sincerely,

L.W.Pheby.

In Bulletin 257 (1992) Page 11-13 I wrote an article about Copestake/Moore/Hughes/Lindsay/Crampton & Co. All these names have been associated with the Company at one time or another. Bulletin 258, 266 & 274 saw other information sent in by members.

Only this week, DEREK MUGGLETON sent in a Sale Catalogue from H & B Philatelists Ltd with twelve examples of Copestake Moore Crampton & Co underprints. The prices range from £12-50 to £250, depending on stamp issue and plate number plus the type of underprint. There are two 2d blues, plates 12 and 15 (£22 range) and 3d rose plate 5 (£195) and 2½d rosy-mauve plate 5 (£250).

There is also two 1d Venetian reds, both with underprint but one with the perfin C/BOX/HC (C3400.01) for £75. Two years ago I paid £16-50 for the one stamp with perfin and underprint.

ANSWERS TO MEMBERS' QUERIES

WR Publishing Office Bulletin 300 Page 7

John Mathews writes. "I presume this is in regard to perfin WR (W6210.02a) which has the identity of Publishing Office, 63 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC, In the London Directories over the period mentioned by Dave [1905-1915] all but one of the tenants at that address are solicitors. The other one is William Robinson, with no occupation shown. However, in the Commercial Section. William Robinson is described as a "publisher", with an address of 17 Furnival Street, EC. If the solicitors were some of his major clients, he may well have had a business office in their area. Furnival Street is only about 400 yards from Lincoln's Inn Fields."

H&S Perfin Bulletin 300 Page 10

Again from **John Mathews**, "Mike Bavin asked about "'H&S" with Taunton postmarks, on KEVII-KGV. The only 20thC Somerset Directories in our library are for the years 1902 and 1923. In the Taunton alphabetical commercial listing, the only match for these initials (occurs both years) is the following:-

1902 edition *Hatcher & Sons Ltd., 11-13 and 54,55 High Street, silk mercers, linen drapers, funerals completely furnished' cabinet makers, upholsterers, house furnishers and bedding manufacturers.*

In the 1923 edition, additional trades were "*glass and china merchants*" and "*furniture removers*". Their telegraphic address was "Hatchers, Taunton" and phone TN9 5.

Editor's Comments Rosemary Smith

Once again I have not had to resort to racking my brains for space fillers. Keep up the good work. Dave is trying to use our funds very wisely - try to follow his suggestions when making any payments. Some societies seem to spend members money in a most profligate fashion. Your Officers try to be as economical as they can with expenses.