

G.B. PERFIN STUDY GROUP NEWS-SHEET

No.14 Sept.-Oct. 1959

Subscription 5/- per annum

PRESIDENT : C.Jennings Esq.  
SEC-TREAS : R. Bowman  
EDITORS : C.Carr Esq. & R.Bowman Esq.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - For year 1/9/58 to 1/9/59

<u>Income</u>	£	s	d	<u>Expenditure</u>	£	s	d
Cash in hand 1/9/58 including £6:5:0d. advanced Subs.	6	16	7½	Duplicating costs. Paper & ink.	5	5	
Sale of Stamps	1	11	3	Stencils.	2	15	8
Subscriptions.	9	2	3	Postage on News-Letter	2	19	4
Advance Subscriptions	9	10	-	Secretary's Expenses.	1	14	2
	<u>27</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1½</u>	Cash in Hand.	<u>14</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11½</u>
					<u>27</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1½</u>

NEW MEMBERS

Mr T.L. Hodkinson  
Mrs C.E. Murk  
Mr F. Summers  
Mr J. Ventura  
Mrs M. Whidden

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr K. Rymer Young  
Mr R.A. Hoggett  
Mr J. Munro

SUBSCRIPTIONS

There are still a number of subscriptions still to come in. May we ask you please to check up to see whether you have sent yours and if not, to remit right away. Please do not wait for a reminder from the Secretary, it only adds to the costs of running the Group.

EXCHANGE

Mrs Whidden, Address as above, would like to hear from someone who is interested in exchanging their duplicate G.B. perfins for some of the U.S.A. The basis she suggests is stamp, for stamp.

ALBUM PAGES FOR PERFINS

The Peerless Album Company of Illinois U.S.A. are now producing album pages specially designed for perfins. These have rows of black rectangles of stamps size to show up the design of any perfin mounted above them. We are expecting a sufficient number of their descriptive leaflet to send each of our members a copy.

Page 2.

If they arrive in time a copy will be included with this issue of the News-Sheet, otherwise they will go out with a later issue.

#### PERFIN ILLUSTRATIONS

Members in Great Britain will find attached to this issue a sample page of the G.B. Perfin Illustrations now being compiled by Mr Van Lint.

Our overseas members are already acquainted with Mr Van Lint's standard of work and we have, therefore, kept his outlay to a minimum by requesting sample pagee for British members only. However, if we have missed anyone who has not seen his previous products, Mr. Van Lint will be pleased to provide a sample on request.

When this work is completed the Secretary will arrange to get the necessary dollars and will place the order on behalf of those British members who require a copy.

The price is not finalized yet but will be around 30/- to members in Great Britain. The actual price, when known, will be given in the News-Sheet.

Perhaps those who are certain of requiring a copy, and who have not yet informed the Secretary since our last issue, would please do so.

#### WHO KNOWS THE ANSWER?

The May-June number of the News-Sheet contained a request for the identificatian of certain Hospital Management Committee perfins. The answer to this request is given below.

3H/MC	Sheffield Hospitals Management Committee
BL/HMC	Brighton & Lewes Hospitals Management Committee
CA/MC	Cromer Area Hospitals Management Committee
EH/MC	Enfield Hospitals Mamageent Committee.
HMC/6	) Norfolk, Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth
6/HMC	) Hospitals Management Committee

The following additional information to the identification of one of the 'Full Name' punctures has been sent in by Mr Peedo.

FORCE/FOOD Force Wheat Flakes are manufactured in Great Britain by A.C. Fincken & Company Limited, London.W.C.l., by, arrangement with The Best Foods (Canadian) Limited, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

The rhyme on the side of the packet nowadays reads,

"High o'er the fence leaps 'Sunny Jim'  
'Force' is the food that raises him".

#### WANTED URGENTLY

More material for future News-Sheets.

A SHORT HISTORY OF MESSRS. J. SLOPER & Co.

The following short history has been extracted from "History of J Sloper & Company's Stamp Security Service Through Five Reigns" and "British Stamps Perforated with Firms Initials" by H. Vallancey.

Mr Joseph Sloper who was the inventor and patentee of the first machine for perforating figures, initials, and other devices through postage stamps, established the original firm in 1858. However, it was not until nine years later, in the latter part of 1867, that the Post Office had under consideration this method of protecting firms from the theft of stamps.

There had also been a similar proposal by Messrs. Joseph Travers & Sons for obtaining this protection by overprinting the initials of firms on the front of stamps, and both systems were being considered.

On 27th February 1868 Mr Sloper wrote to the Post Master General, the Duke of Montrose, and requested an official statement regarding his position and authority to continue his work.

The P.M.G. replied as follows,

G.P.O.  
13th. March 1868.

Mr Sloper

Sir, - The Post Master General has under consideration your letter of 27th, ultimo, and his Grace desires me, to inform you that, under the circumstances, he will not object to the perforation of Postage Stamps in the manner described by you, with a view to protecting merchants and others, as far as possible, from the theft of stamps used by them.

I am, sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
R Parkhurst.

Almost a year later the Post Master General instructed Postmasters in the following manner,

March 1st. 1869.

POSTAGE STAMPS

"In consequence of representations made to the Post Office by various firms that their Postage Stamps are purloined by persons in their employ, the Department has recommended that the Name or Initials of Firms etc., be perforated through the Stamps, so that, inasmuch as the Sale of such Stamps would be thereby rendered difficult, the temptation to steal them might be lessened or altogether removed.

Postmasters will take care not to purchase any Postage Stamps thus marked which may be offered to them for Sale."

In the same month the Post Office rejected the

Page 4.

suggestion by Messers J Travers & Sons in favour of Sloper's method.

The following year, 27th. June 1870, the Inland Revenue granted permission to Mr Sloper to extend his system to revenue stamps.

The earliest advertising material put out by Sloper's read as follows,

#### POSTAGE & OTHER STAMPS

The very numerous complaints that have been made to the Post Office Authorities of the purloining and misappropriation of stamps- removal of stamps from letters, documents, etc. - either previously or after having been posted, have induced the Authorities to give this subject their serious consideration.

Many and various plans have been suggested to the Authorities by large firms in London and the Provinces as a remedy against this evil, and amongst the many plans was one from Mr Joseph Sloper of Wallbrook House, London.

The Government, impressed with the importance of this subject, and with a view of effectually protecting the public against such depredations, have considered it expedient to recognise Mr Sloper's plan - and the P.M.G., and the Board of Inland Revenue, having approved of the plan as proposed by Mr Sloper - i.e. to perforate in a certain way (for several reasons) the initials, etc., of Firms on their stamps, have in accordance therewith, specially authorized and licensed Mr Sloper to put his system into operation.

Mr Sloper's system is recognised for the following and other reasons. 1st It renders useless the object for the fraudulent removal of stamps from letters etc. 2nd - It is a prevention against misappropriation or purloining of stamps. 3rd - It effectually prevents the sale of stamps so marked etc.

In accordance with the above, notices have been issued from the Chief Office in London to all Postmasters and Receiving Houses in the U.K. - to recognise this system- and not to purchase any stamps so marked.

(An illustration and scale of charges followed)

The earliest of Sloper's records of work done were arranged in order of receipt of instructions, and later with the name of other clients in alphabetical order. Mr. Vallencey's booklet gives the first three customers to appear in the early records as,

- 1st Mr T J Allmen, the publisher of Oxford St. (TJA)
- 2nd J C Bailey & Co., Tower Hill. (J.C.B&Co)
- 3rd Messrs Baker & Baker & Co., Bristol. (B.B.&Co.)

Unfortunately all Messrs Sloper's records were destroyed by bombing in the 1939-1945 war so very little other than that given by Mr Vallencey is known.

## EXCHANGE PACKET

A member has now offered to take over the role of Packet Superintendent and has put forward an excellent scheme for its operation.

The method proposed will operate as follows:

1. Approval books will be made up with perffins arranged alphabetically and priced accordingly to it's assessed rarity. A points system will be used and in general the prices are expected to vary from 1 to 10 points, 5 points being equal to 1d.
2. Books will be sent to members on request and must be returned within 7 days of receipt. Further books will be made up and sent to those members, as available, without further request unless the Superintendent is instrcted otherwise. Remittances for stamps purchased may be made in postage stamps, of denomination of 3d or below.
3. Members duplicates will be accepted and credit given at the following rates,
  - i. Stamps sorted alphabetically,

Q.V.-K.E.VII.	2/- per hundred
K.G.V.-Q.E.II.	1/- per hundred
  - ii. Unsorted,  
Half the above rates.
  - iii. Mixtures of equal quantities,  
1/6d per hundred (9d if unsorted)
4. Records will be kept of all contributing members and cash settlements made every six months. Should the sales during any period more than adequately cover the initial credits and running expenses, the excess will be shared proportionately among contributing members as a bonus on settlement day.

Members wishing to participate in the Exchange, either as selling or buying members, should contact the Exchange Superintendent,

Mr J.R, Rucklidge.

NOTE All stamps should be off paper.

PERFIN ILLUSTRATIONS

The preparation of the negatives for the complete set of G.B. Perfin Illustrations has now been completed by Mr Van Lint, and he is offering them to British members at a reduced price for a limited period only.

The catalogue consists of 123 pages containing a total of 9,550 illustrations of different types.

If ordered through the Secretary before 31/1/60 the price will be \$5 (36/-).

After that date the illustrations must be ordered directly from Mr Van Lint and will cost \$7.50 (54/-).

An Order Form is attached below for your convenience.

The catalogues arrive in this country as a bulk order and will then be distributed individually by the Secretary. It is estimated that postage and packing in the British Isles will cost approximately 1/6d per copy, therefore, the price of a set, including postage on this side of Atlantic, will have to be 37/6d.

We hope that all members will find it possible to take advantage of this offer since it will simplify the task of recording identities immensely. To refer to a particular type it would only be necessary to quote the page number, line, and position in the line. This can easily be done by means of a simple code, e.g. 112/5/7.

Remember also, that cut up the illustrations would give a perfect picture of a type when mounted in the album.

G.B. PERFIN ILLUSTRATIONS

Please order me ..... set(s) of the above illustrations at the rate of 37/6d per copy.

I enclose cheque/postal order No.....for..... to cover cost and postage in this country.

Upon receipt please send the copy/copies to .....

.....

Signed ..... Date .....

