

NUMERAL PERFINs ON K.G.VI ISSUES

by Michael Burrows

On page 118 of Van Lint's Catalogue of Illustrations of British Perfins there can be found a collection of miscellaneous numerals. As it is well known that most numeral Perfins on modern material emanate from an identity system used by the photographic company Kodak Ltd. in their film-processing laboratories, there is a tendency to ignore numeral Perfins on stamps after the reign of King George V, with the exception of those used by council or hospital authorities.

A short time ago, two stamps, SG 463 1d. scarlet and SG 464 1½d. red-brown, were accidentally soaked off pieces. Only after they had parted company from their respective pieces was it apparent that they were Perfins proper, the 1d. being Perfinned with a 6 (or 9) and the 1½d. with a 4 - and not perforated after being attached.

Going back to Van Lint's catalogue, it was a surprise to discover that he illustrates the following: 1, 2, 6, 8, 10, 11, all of which fall into a distinct series based - not unlike Schermack - on a constant shape of 18 pins arranged in three vertical rows of six. The pins covering an area of 4½ mm x 10 mm.

From my own collection, the Van Lint illustrations and assistance of three fellow collectors, I am able to illustrate the series from 1 to 12. With the addition of two types of 1 and 12. As there is confusion between 6 and 9, only one is shown. Another point to note is that all examples reported so far have the Perfin applied side-

ways. Three pieces exist all with numeral 4 postmarked IPSWICH, SUFFOLK, during April 1939. Other examples show traces of the wavy-line machine cancellation. Following is a check list:

Scott	SG.	Value	Numerals Reported
234	461	1½d. maroon	5
235	462	½d. green	1 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 11 12
236	463	1d. scarlet	1 3 4 6
237	464	1½d. red-brown	1 2 3 4 7
239	466	2½d. ultramarine	5
259	486	1d. pale scarlet	1 7 11 12*

*both types reported.