

G. B. PERFIN STUDY GROUP

NEWS-LETTER

No. 37 October 1962

Subscription 10/- per annum.

PRESIDENT: C.Jennings, Esq.,
SEC/EDITOR: R.Bowman, Esq.,
PACKET.SUP: J.Rucklidge, Esq.,
LIBRARIAN: G. Holden, Esq.,
EDITOR: V. Terry, Esq.,

NEW MEMBERS Sorry but there are still no new members to report.

STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31, 8. 62.

	<u>Income</u>				<u>Expenditure</u>		
	£	s	d		£	s	d
Cash in hand at 1.9.61	12	11	8	Duplicating Costs			
Current Subs	32	11	0	Paper & Postage	20	11	0
Advance Subs	6	7	6	Stencils	4	3	0
Duplicator Fund	12	3	7	Secretary's Mcpensea	3	7	2
Other income	1	2	11	Cash in Hand	36	15	6
	£64	16	8		£64	16	8

Cash in hand at 1. 9, 52.
allocated as follows, £ s d
Advance Subs 15 4 2
Duplicator Fund 17 0 0
Surplus 4 11 4
 £36 15 6

DUPLICATOR FUND
Since publishing the last figure for the fund we have seen an increase of £5 8s. 5d. This comes from donations from Messrs. Tomkins and Magurie and transfer from surplus at end of financial year.
Fund now stands at £17 12s. 0d.

NEWS I'm pleased to say that some members are writing in with points of interest which will be very usefull as space fillers in future issues.

The discussion on PERFIN or NOT PERFIN still rages and this month a letter appears from Mr.Nelson. This type of letter is just what is wanted, i.e. it tells us all exactly how a member feels which cannot be taken the wrong way by anyone who reads it but must surely provoke more discussion.

CORRECTION TO IDENTITIES LIST

FRINTON & WALTON UDC should have county address of Essex not Hants as given on the additions page 3.

OUT NEXT MONTH - Catalogue for second perfin auction.

GROUP NAME ??? Mr. Nelson's letter
To the Editor,
Dear Sir,

I fail to understand why Mr. Jennings has seen fit to write in such a way (August-Newsletter) regarding the extracts from letters which appeared earlier. There was no suggestion that "the sole purpose of the group was to collect and study punctured stamps", what was, in fact, indicated was that under and over-prints" do not form a worthwhile part of the group's activities." This view is confirmed by the fact that only a very small amount of space in the Newsletter in over five years has been devoted, to under and over-prints, and every constructive word on the subject has been supplied by one man - Mr. Jennings.

Why is this so? Possibly our President is the only person who collects them seriously. If there are others in the group they have never bothered to say so, let alone put anything in writing on the subject.

Of course, the origins of perfins must be a matter of interest to every collector of perfins in the same way as the origins of the Penny Black are of interest to Collectors of Modern G.B. Accordingly, all members of the group will wish to know all they can about them, but this is quite a different thing from collecting and studying them.

Mr. Jennings has, no doubt, been a collector for a long time. I understand he is in the stamp trade and must have a quantity of material passing through his hands from which he can keep what he wants for his collection at advantageous prices. Most other members must, like myself, have to draw a line somewhere in what they spend and, as we would certainly be unable to acquire a worthwhile number of under and over-prints other than by purchase from dealers, it is almost inevitable that we would spend a lot of money in not getting very far.

Let us make no mistake about it, we are a minority pursuing a "back alley" of philately end always will be. It is quite another thing being recognised as a minority of genuine philatelists doing just that. If changing the name of the group will go even the slightest way towards this end, I'm all for it. On the other hand, if it means I must acquire and study high priced material (and I can see no alternative) I'm not afraid, I'm just dead scared. In that case, I would rather go on messing about with my damaged stamps alone without any illusions as to my own status other than being a person getting a lot of fun out of what I am doing.

A collector who eagerly seeks under and over-prints and who has been throwing away perfins for years, (because he does not already appreciate that they are actually the authorised substitute for what he has been collecting) is hardly likely to be much of a champion of our cause when the light finally dawns.

I for one have always been interested to read what Mr. Jennings has had to say, but I don't like to see him writing in such a disparaging way of other collectors whose collections and aspirations are on much more modest lines than his own.

Yours faithfully, J. S. Nelson.

P.S. It is interesting to note that a recent catalogue, of quite a well known London firm of Stamp Auctioneers, described a lot consisting of over 50 Copestake, Boyd and O.U.S. under-prints as a quantity of Penny Reds and a Two Penny Blue "with advertisements on the back"!!!

CATALOGUE EDITOR

Mr. Basil Tomkins has offered to take on future editing of the Identities Catalogue and this has been most gratefully accepted.

It is thought that our method of describing a particular type could be simplified by giving only the height of the first letter and holes in first letter. Where applicable the type of ampersand could also be added.

e.g. JB/&Co 2H 7 - 5 - IIIa JOE BLOGGS & COMPANY

Alternatively, just the height and number of holes in a particular distinguishing letter could be added. Taking the previous example again,

JB/&Co 2H 5 (B - 15) IIIa

If anyone has any suggestions to offer perhaps they would be good enough to write direct to Mr. Tomkins as soon as possible. We are almost ready to start revising the catalogue from the beginning again.

PERFIN STUDY GROUP'S OWN PERFIN

Mr. Rucklidge has sent the following comments, will you please send your answers to him for collation.

We collect, identify (if we can) and record other peoples' perfins. Some questions for you:

- 1 Why not one of our own for the use of members ?
- 2 What design should be used ?
- 3 Does anyone know how much it would cost to obtain a machine or have the perforating done ?

OVERPRINT PRICES NOTED

- 1 1903 Crown Agents "C.A." overprint on 1902-10 6d., used on telegram piece offered in Robson Lowe auction realised £11 10s. Od.
- 2 Office of Work overprint O.W. OFFICIAL on Q.V. ½d vermilion - pair on cover from Office of Works, Manchester offered by dealer at 30/-

ADDITION TO LIBRARY

Mr. Enschede of the Netherland, has kindly donated to the library a copy of a catalogue of Dutch Perfins which he produced in conjunction with Messrs. V.J. Van Lint, H. Smit, W.J. Pieterse and J. Krajenbrink.

The catalogue is comprised of 20 pages listing 611 different dies, of which 378 are fully identified.

Many thanks Mr. Enschede.

WHO KNOWS THE ANSWER ?

A Q.V. 1d. Red Plate No. 218 on cover bearing a perfin LB&L. The address given on the back of the envelope is LAKE & Co 10 New Square, Lincoln's Inn. Can someone follow this up and give us the full name appropriate to the initials ?

PERFIN PRICES

By: J. Rucklidge

Being a collector myself, and the organiser of the exchange packet, the recent comments by members on perfin prices has been doubly interesting to me. However, I view the matter somewhat differently from those members whose views I have read. The price of anything is governed by supply and demand. Very obvious but very true. However, in view of the tiny number of perfin collectors, except in a very few cases, the supply must greatly exceed demand. However, the situation is complicated by the fact that for stamps in the price range, say, 10/- to £10, there must be many collectors who, while not interested in perfins and indeed regarding them as spoiled, are willing to accept a perfin into their collections at a discount of the normal market value for an "unspoiled" stamp. Consequently the price must rise, and as the price rises still more, the number of these collectors will rise, the perfin price must rise even more rapidly than that of the "unspoiled" stamp. For the mathematically minded it would be possible to draw a curve relating the ratio of perfin price to ordinary price with the ordinary price. However, as a suggestion.

Stamps catalogued less than 10/-	value as perfin	ld, or 2d.
" " £5		1/50 catalogue
" " £10		1/20 "
" " £50		1/10 "
" " £100		1/5 "
more than £100		1/4 to full catalogue

I am aware that rarity of perfin has not been considered, but as I consider price is largely governed by the non perfin collector, the perfin seems to me to be of very secondary consideration.

IDENTITIES

The following identities are dies which have already been listed but are now identified with the following additional users.

				'D'
DB	H	9,11	4½, 4½	EDWARD DEANE & BEAL LTD., London E.C.4.
				'F'
FG	H	7,9	4½	FAULKNER GREENE & Co. LTD. London S.E.1
				'H'
H	H	10	4½	C.W. HARDRODT & CO. LTD., Liverpool
HB/C	2H	10,11/7	4½/4½	HOUNSLOW BOROUGH COUNCIL
HC	H	10,7	4½	HAYWOOD CORPORATION, Heywood, Lancs.
HC/S	2H	10,12/9	4½/4½	H.C. SLINGSBY, Hitchen, Herts.
				Type 1 a
H&S	H	10,12,9	4½	HIDWELL & SONS LTD., Sharnbrook, Beds.
HU/DC	2H	10,8/9,7	4½/4½	HUNSTANTON URBAN DISTRICT COMM.

SOME NOTES ON SECURITY PUNCTURES
ON THE K.G V COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES

By: K. Rymer Young

These notes are based on my own-collection only and are, therefore, very incomplete. They are compiled in the hope that the information may be of interest and help to our members:

There were four commemorative issues during the reign of King George V but the first two, namely, the Wembley issues of 1924 and 1925 can be conveniently taken together. These stamps were not widely circulated. Their size made them unpopular with large commercial users and they were awkward to perforate. Not many can have been perforated and the only dies that I have found are:

ABC	H	8,10,7	5½	1925 - 1½d.
ACF/&Co	2H	8,7,7/14,7,4	4½/4½,2½	1924 - 1½d.
B&M/Ltd	2H	13,12,15/7,5,7	4½/4½,2½	1924 - 1½d.
C.B	H	8,13	5½	1924 - 1d.
DM	H	14,17	9½	1924 - 1½d.
ETC	H	10,7,9	5	1924 - 1½d.
F.G	H	8,10	5½	1924 - 1½d,
GSN/Ld	2H	9,9,11/6,7	4½/4½,2½	1924 - 1½d.
G.W/Co.	2H	12,15/10,6	6/6	1924 - 1d., 1½d.
HW/Ld	2H	10,11/6,7	4½/4½,2½	1924 - 1d.
J.S/&Co	2H	7,11/12,8,6	5/4½,2½	1924 - 1½d.
JT/S	2H	6,6/9	4½/4½	1924 - 1d., 1½d.
J.W	H	7,16	6	1924 - 1½d.
LB/&S	2H	6,12/12,10	5/5	1924 - 1d.
M&P/P	2H	15,13,10/10	5½/5½	1924 - 1½d.
MW/C°	2H	15,14/8,4	5/5,2	1924 - 1d., 1½d.
O&Co	D	5,14,7,4	4½,2	1924 - 1½d.
PBL	H	8,10,6	5	1924 - 1½d., 1925 - 1½d
R	H	16	9½	1925 - 1½d
RL/&S	2H	11,7/12,10	4½/4½	1924 - 1½d.
S&B/Ld	2H	10,12,13/7,7	4½/4½,2½	1924 - 1½d.
S.P/L	2H	10,10/7	5/5	1924 - 1½d.
TP/Ld	2H	6,8/6,6	4½/4½,2½	1924 - 1½d.
W/&Co	2H	14/14,8,4	5/5,5,2	1924 - 1d.
W&S	H	15,12,11	6	1925 - 1½d., 1d.
W&S	H	11,9,9	5	1924 - 1d., 1½d.
Totals				- 1924 1d. - 7 1½d. - 19
				- 1925 1d. - 1 1½d. - 4

The next commemorative issue was for the Postal Union Congress in 1929. The four low values were widely distributed and of normal size so that many more of this issue were perforated.

My figures show; 76 x ½d. - 32 x 1d. - 151 x 1½d. - 24 x 2½d, a total of 283 stamps from 274 dies as in only 6 cases have I seen two or more values perforated with the same die. It may be accidental only but I find that in many cases I have no stamp of any other issue perforated with the die used for the P.U.C. stamps. The fifth value, the £1 has not been seen perforated and probably does not exist in that condition.

P.T.O.

K.G. V Commemorative Issues (continued)

The final commemorative issue was the Silver Jubilee in 1935. The size was large again but more of the stamps were used than of the Wembleys and the figures are what might be expected, namely,

36 x ½d. - 10 x 1d. - 58 x 1½d - 6 x 2½d.

A total of 110 stamps from 101 dies. The 2½d. prussian blue is a very unlikely candidate for perforation.

There are probably many stamps to be added to the P.U.C. and Silver Jubilee listings but not very many to the Wembleys.

Editor - Will anyone who has any additions or further comments on this article by Mr. K. Rymer Young please forward the particulars to him and they will be included in the Newsheet at a later date.

Mr. G. Collison of Cambridge has kindly prepared the following notes on G. B. Protective Overprints and Underprints. It has been decided to number the paragraphs in order that comments and further information can be easily located.

- 1) The Oxford Union Society overprint is of particular interest as the Society is the only establishment of its kind ever given permission by the Post Office to overprint on the face of stamps used for postage.
- 2) The Society came into being in 1825. Mr. W. E. Gladstone was president in 1830 and life members of the union are voted at every period to include members of the government and other influential people which may explain why the Society was granted the privilege of using the overprint. The Society was formed of course, as a debating society and people from all walks of life have used its debating hall.
- 3) Members were allowed to have their letters stamped free. This privilege came to an end in 1919.
- 4) There is no record as to whom the printers were of the OUS overprint. Permission was given in 1857 for its use but it is thought to have been first used in 1859. It is found on the Penny 'Stars' and Penny 'Plate Nos.' Existing of the letters O.U.S. between two wavy lines set $2\frac{1}{2}$ m/m apart. It is printed in vermilion and reads upwards. An error is known of a double overprint. The sheet having been printed twice.
- 5) In 1870 the privilege of overprinting on the face of postage stamps was withdrawn. The OUS was informed that they could have their initials on the back of their stamps and immediately approached Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. to prepare these.
- 6) The underprint which is printed under the gum on the Penny Plate Nos. consists of the letters O.U.S. between two wavy lines, printed in vermilion and reading upwards as with the overprint but the wavy lines are $3\frac{1}{2}$ m/m apart, though it is said to exist in the narrower setting. It is found with the "Oxford Error" "613" postmark. There also exists an error with no dot after the O.
- 7) In 1880 the narrower setting was used on the Penny Lilac and Penny Venetian Red, printed privately in carmine and violet over the gum.
- 8) The O.U.S. overprint is found on the Penny Stars from plates. 27; 36; 39; 42; 43; 46; 47; 48; 50; 52; 55; 56; 57; 58; 59; 60; 66 and R.15; R.16
- 9) On the Penny Plate Nos. from plates. 71; 72; 73; 74; 76; 78 to 107; 109 to 119; 121; 123; 125; 129 to 135; 137; 139; 140 and 142, and possibly from plates 124 and 136. It is also said to exist on stamps from plates 150; 156; 160 and 205.

P.T.O.

10) The O.U.S. underprint is found on the Penny Plate Nos. from plates:-

119; 124; 130; 134; 135; 136; 143; 146; 150; 155; 156; 159; 160; 162;
163; 164; 165; 166; 169; 170; 171; 174; 177; 179; 180; 182; 183; 185;
197; 199; 204; 205; 208; 212; 213; 215 and 218.

Said to exist also on stamps from plates 134; 174; 199 and 223 but with narrower setting, and probably printed over the gum in the case of these four plates.

The information came from the following sources.

- 1) Stamp Collecting 11. 11. 33.
- 2) Stamp Collecting 26. 7. 47.
- 3) "The College Stamps of Oxford and Cambridge" (Chapter on o/ps. and ups.) by Rev. H. Cummings.
- 4) "The Stamps of G.B." part II by J. R. Seymour.

Further notes on other aspects will be published later.