

ANOTHER PERSONAL PERFIN

As they put it themselves, "there's a couple of kids down the block who have a new 'toy,'" a personalized perforator. The two ARE Jim Hamilton and Don Clark (#1763) who operate a part-time mail order business offering packets of assorted U. S. used stamps.



Their personalized design is the J+D pattern shown above. Members wishing to add this Perfin to their collection may do so by sending their request to JIM AND DON, 6911 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64132.

Members may send one or more of their own mint stamps so that the Perfin can be applied and returned on cover. Jim and Don caution, however, that any stamps sent should be those currently available at local post offices.

Those wishing to do so may send mint postage in any denomination to cover the cost of any stamps desired. A current regular issue will then be perforated and returned on cover. You should also specify whether you want the Perfin to read correctly from the front or from the back of the stamp. A self-addressed envelope for each Perfin requested will be appreciated. There are no extra charges for handling.

Jim and Don ordered their J+D perforator this summer from Baddeley Brothers (92/94 Paul Street, London EC2 4NN, and state that the director, Mr. R. J. Pertwee, was cooperative and helpful in every respect.

Three different designs were submitted by the company for approval, along with the total cost in English pounds, which included the manufacture and shipment by air post. The normal amount of time for making the the perforator is approximately six weeks, and it takes 5-6 days, one way, for air mail between England and the United States. The perforator itself is an excellent example of craftsmanship, a heavy table model instrument made of brass and steel. Instructions are included along with replacement pins in case the original ones get damaged in use.

Jim and Don point out that, as in everything else, inflation has taken its toll in the manufacture of perforators. Where the same thing would have cost less than \$100 two years ago, the cost had risen some 75 percent at the time the J+D perforator was ordered.