

Having had the occasion to write to the City Treasurer's Department, Sheffield, I took the opportunity of enquiring about their perfin. The reply elicited that the stamps they used were perforated in their Postal Department on a hand operated Jean Sauven machine which dealt with 12 stamps at a time.

The London Telephone Directory gave the address of the Sauven Perforating Machine Company and a letter to them produced a couple of leaflets of stamp perforating machines, (these are illustrated on a separate page), and the information that the firm started in business in 1919.

I have written again requesting more information but to date have received no reply. I had hoped to obtain an illustration of the machine used by Sheffield but since it has been in use since 1942 the machine is probably obsolete as far as Sauvens are concerned.

The details of the two machines illustrated are as follows:-

TREADLE OPERATED - Model No. 50

The machine can perforate 12 stamps in a row and will deal with a thickness of 4 sheets such that 48 stamps are dealt with in one operation.

Complete sheets can be fed through the machine and a marginal guard accurately locates the perforation in the centre of the stamp.

A speed of 1,000 stamps per minute is claimed for the machine and it can be provided with interchangeable dies for Postage and Insurance Stamps.

The leaflet giving this information contained a strip of 12 perforations of the William Whitely die illustrated.

HAND OPERATED - Model No. 6

This machine is a general purpose machine and can be used for a variety of cancellation purposes or marking of books, maps, etc.

When used for postage stamps it is a 6 die machine perforating six stamps in a row, and can deal with a thickness of three sheets at a time. A flat plate is fitted flush with the die for postage stamp use and a marginal guide locates the stamps.

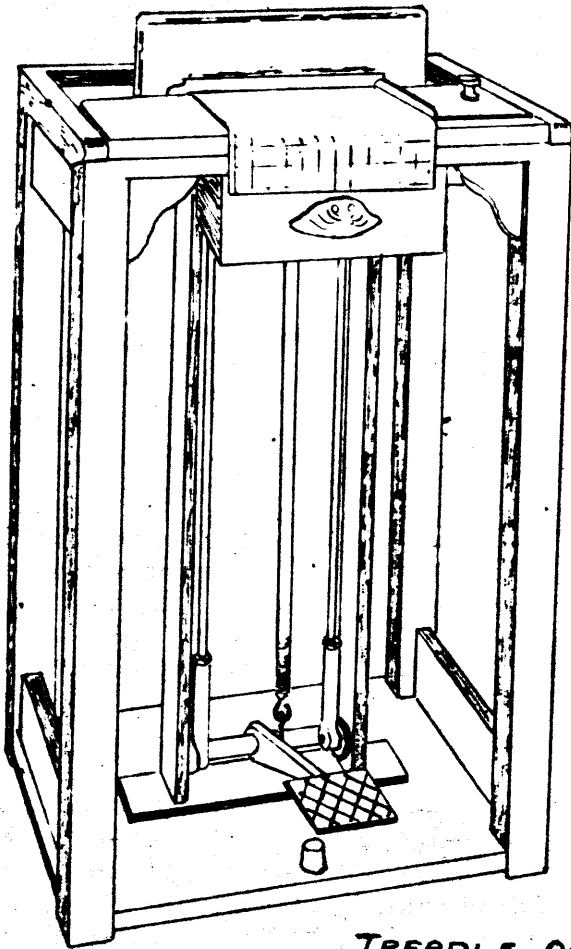
Since it obviously deals with half sheets, one would expect to find that most of the perfins produced on such a machine would read correctly and reversed when viewed from the front, in approximately equal quantities.

It is much easier to fold a sheet than tear it in half and the office junior would not take long to discover this.

If any further information is obtained on these machines it will be duly reported in the News-sheet.

In the meantime, perhaps someone may like to compare the William Whitely die with others of a similar nature and write to the users (if known) to discover whether a Sauvenmachino is used.

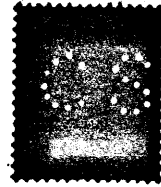
SAUVEN
PERFORATING
MACHINES



TREADLE OPERATED



WILLIAM
WHITELYS
LIMITED.

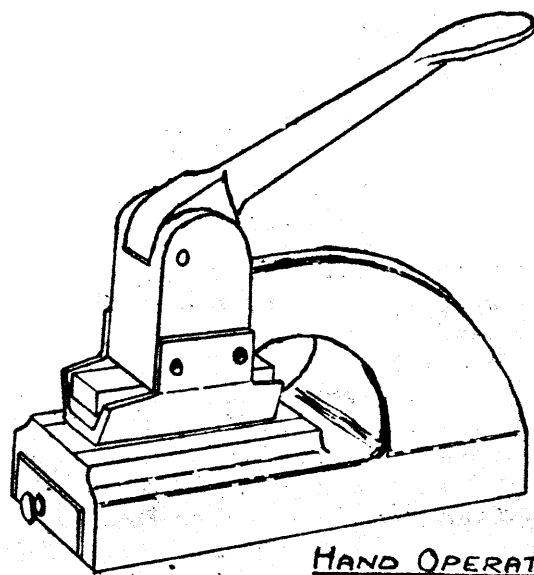


CITY OF
SHEFFIELD

"SAUVEN" DIES

MANUFACTURED BY:-

SAUVEN MARKING
MACHINE COMPANY
11-13 HATTON WALK
LONDON, E.C.1.



HAND OPERATED