

BIRD PERFIN, by "Rosemary Smith"

I have a cover with BIRD perfin (B 5690). The identity in the cat. is William Bird & Co. Lon. EC. My cover, dated 1917, has the name Bolling & Lowe, London. Anyone know the link or the reason?

Bulletin No. 240(June 89) Pg. 3.

MEMBERS COMMENTS ON ARTICLES IN PREVIOUS BULLETINS

'BIRD' Perfin in Bulletin 240 Pg.3

RICHARD TARRANT tells me that his Kelly's Directory of 1968 lists Boiling & Lowe Ltd., portable railway manufacturers, 180 Romford Road, London E7. Their Telegraphic Address is Bird, London E7.

JOHN NELSON also states that the 1895 Post Office London Directory has the following entry:- Boiling & Lowe (formerly Bird Wm. & Co) engineers, iron, tinsplate & metal merchants, contractors for railway & engineers' plant, gas & waterworks, 2 Laurence Pountneyhill, EC - TA 'BIRD' TN 1530.

There is no indication as to when the change of name took place prior to 1895 (My BIRD/Co cover is dated 11.5.72 1d plate) but as Boiling & Lowe were still using "BIRD" as the telegraphic address in 1968 they probably saw no reason to change the perfin either. The latest recorded period of use of "Bird" is the KGV Typographed issues. Has anyone any later copies? Also, can we narrow down the use of "Bird/Co". Earliest and latest for this one too please.

BIRD PERFIN Bulletin 240 and 241.

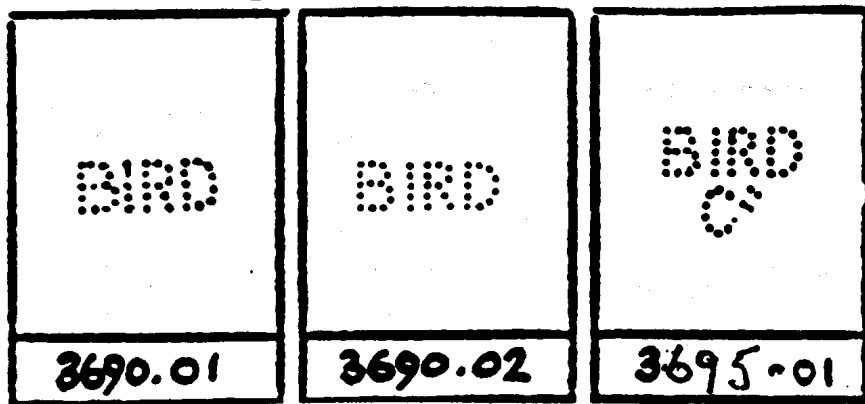
HARRY SKINNER says that to his knowledge the BIRD/C⁰ perfin is only known on 1d. red plates 120-164 - no other stamps. The only two he has with dates both show 1872 - as does mine. He believes the BIRD perfin without C⁰ is scarce on KGV. He has a ½d and 1½d Royal Cypher Wmk, but no dates.

"BIRD" Perfin Bulletin 240/3; 241/13; 243/10.

The identity for this perfin (BIRD) was numbered 369 in Tilles and identified as William Bird a Co. London. From members' comments in Bulletin 241/13 we learnt that William Bird had been 'taken-over' by Boiling & Lowe at least as early as 1895. However, they were still using the word BIRD as their Telegraphic Address.

When the B section of Edwards catalogue came out, we saw that there were two dies of 'BIRD'. The 369 in Tilles turned out to be 3690.02 in Edwards with identity of William Bird & Co. London. In view of the comments by Harry Skinner in Bulletin 243/10 I would suggest the identity needs amending. The perfin BIRD/&Co is for the original William Bird & Co., but the two 'BIRD' perfins for Boiling and Lowe.

I have now acquired a cover dated 21-7-30 with 2 x GV stamps with perfin BIRD, die 3690.01. The identity on the envelope is Boiling & Lowe (Overseas) Ltd., London E.C.4. This pushes the date of use a little further. No one sent in any other dates so if you have acquired a later dated cover, please write in.



MEMBERS' COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

"BIRD" Perfin Bulletin 240/3; 241/13; 243/10; 254/8.

MAGNUS WERNER has sent me-a cover dated 10-10-34 with BIRD die 3690.02. Up to date this is the latest date reported. Magnus also points out that the 'D' has a missing pin on the ½d stamp. He has B3690.02 on QV ½d Jubilee stamps and has noticed missing pin varieties on these as well. He thinks this suggests that a multiple die was used. If anyone has a number of these BIRD perfins, perhaps you could check and report any missing pin varieties - with date if known.