

# The Perfin Society

## Bulletin

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### THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| PRESIDENT                              | John Nelson                        |
| SECRETARY/<br>TREASURER/<br>AUCTIONEER | Michael Rucklidge<br>Harry Skinner |
| BULLETIN ED.                           | Rosemary Smith                     |
| CATALOGUE ED.                          | Roy Gault                          |
| LIBRARIAN/                             | Maurice Harp                       |
| PUBLICATIONS                           | John Donner                        |
| PACKET SUPT.                           | Dave Hill                          |

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AUCTION No. 5 (1993)

12 Pages

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## SOCIETY INFORMATION

### Tomkins Identities Catalogue

By now, every member should have received their free copy of the Tomkins Catalogue. Some members have written in glowing terms to express their appreciation to the Society as a whole for this generous gesture and to Roy Gault in particular for the many hours of work he has devoted to this task. Thanks are also due to Stephen Steere for pulling out the many hundreds of new identities from the more modern Sloper Record Books so they could be included in this edition: to Kevin Parkhill for proof-reading the pages; to John Donner, our Publications Officer, for packing and posting them all. A first class job by the whole team.

One point worth noting about this catalogue is to remind newer members that this catalogue only notes the dies which have been positively identified with a particular user by means of a proving cover. All known perfin dies, identified or not with a user, are to be found in the Illustrated Catalogue. For any serious collector of perfins, the Tomkins should be used in conjunction with the Illustrated Catalogue. The slight differences in dies with the same letter position cannot be perceived from the Tomkins - examination of the illustrations is essential.

\* \* \* \*

### Sloper Record Books

It is with some urgency that I ask members who have copies of the record books - taken at the London Meeting in November 1991 for study purposes - to let me have a note of the years covered by the books in your possession. I have had two enquiries about very specific dies and dates which can only be answered by the keeper of that particular die book.

### London Meeting

Members are reminded of the date - Saturday Nov 20 93 - and time - 1pm to 5pm - and place - Baden Powell House, Queen's Gate. New members especially will find it useful and will be made welcome. Parking is available nearby and refreshments can be obtained in the cafeteria.

\* \* \* \*

## MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

### New Members

MAY P.

BALLARO D.A.

FORTEY G.W.

SCHEPER D.

### Change of Address

PAGE R.J.

WILSON H.G.

\* \* \* \*

### Subscriptions Dave Hill.

Subscriptions for 1993/94 are now due (see front cover for rates). Members who have paid or have sufficient credit should receive a membership card with this Bulletin. The important thing to note on the cards is your credit balance. If members do not pay by the time the labels are printed for the December Bulletin, your label will bear, in red, the amount you owe. If payment is still not received by 31st December then we have to assume that you no longer wish to be a member of the Society.

Cheques should be made payable to 'THE PERFIN SOCIETY' and sent to the Treasurer.

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### Australian Catalogue

Since reporting in the August Bulletin that I have 4xA4 pages of 'A' & 'B' illustrations to supplement the Catalogue of Commercial Perfins of Australia, I have received 2 update supplements of catalogue numbers and added details from 'A to Z'. A total of 8xA5 double sided pages.

No one requested the update illustrated pages but I would have thought that if you were interested enough to buy the original catalogue, you would need/want any update information. With the new 8xA5 pages I can still supply all new material for 50p.

I shall take all surplus pages to the London Meeting and pass them over to the Librarian or Publications Officer.

\* \* \* \*

Secretary's Report J. M. Rucklidge.

We have had another successful year. Membership continues to increase slowly. Losses due to death, resignations or lapsings are more than covered by new members. It is surprising, to me at least, how many collectors there must be who have some interest in perfins but are not members of the Society. Every time an article on perfins appears in the philatelic press we get several approaches, some at least of which result in membership. Quite often we hear "I've been collecting perfins for years."

On Wednesday 25th August I completed the hand-over to Dave Hill as Secretary/Treasurer of the Society. This was for me a momentous and somewhat sad occasion, having been Secretary for 23 years and Treasurer for 18. It has been a very rewarding time and though I shall miss the tasks I am sure that I have done the right thing.

Obviously no single person can run an organisation such as ours single-handed and I have been fortunate in my fellow officers to whom I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude and that of the Society for all their labours on our behalf. I am sure they will support Dave in the same way.

I am happy to say that my recovery from my heart attack continues, though I still have to take things fairly easily. It has been very gratifying to receive so many messages of good wishes from members. There have been too many to reply to individually and I hope you will accept this as a thank you.

Treasurer's Report J. M. Rucklidge.

In spite of the deficiency in this year's accounts we are actually in good shape financially. The deficiency is entirely due to the cost of distributing the seventh edition of Tomkins free. This is not a change of procedure since previous editions were distributed also free a few pages at a time with the bulletins. Costs were therefore spread over many months and postage absorbed with that for the Bulletin.

Harry Skinner's work on the auctions produces the largest income item and we are extremely lucky to have such a tireless and meticulous auctioneer.

Publications, apart from the Tomkins, continue to generate considerable income.

Income & Expenditure Year ended 31 August 1993

| <u>Income</u> | <u>£</u>    | <u>Expenditure</u> | <u>£</u>    |
|---------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Subscriptions | 1222        | Bulletin           | 1789        |
| Auction       | 2176        | Officer's Expenses | 248         |
| Interest      | 204         | Meetings           | 188         |
| Sales Packet  | 13          | Library            | 114         |
| Donation      | 10          | Publications       | 2758        |
| Deficiency    | 1489        | Bowman Prize       | 10          |
|               |             | Railway Project    | 10          |
|               | <hr/> £5114 |                    | <hr/> £5114 |

Balance Sheet

|                     | <u>£</u>     |               | <u>£</u>    |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Accumulated fund at |              | Cash          | 15          |
| 1st Sept 1993       | £8834        | Bank          | 4900        |
| Less deficiency     | <u>£1489</u> | GIRO          | 598         |
| Member's Credit     | 1903         | Abb.Nat.B.S.  | 3585        |
|                     |              | Premium Bonds | 150         |
|                     | <hr/> £9248  |               | <hr/> £9248 |

\* \* \* \* \*

MEMBERS' QUERIES

NM/C° (N2100) Rosemary Smith

I have an envelope, dated 12-10-61, postmarked from London S.W.I, stamp 3d Wilding with perfin die NM/C° 11,11/7,4 4½mm. Tomkins lists this as National Magazine Co Ltd, London SW1 with stamps in the Wilding to Decimal Machin range. However, on the reverse of the envelope is printed 'Deloitte, Plender, Haskins & Sells, 5 London Wall Buildings, Finsbury Circus, London EC2. '

John Nelson informs me that Deloitte, Haskins & Sells (they have since dropped the Plender) are a very large firm of accountants and his suggestion is that they may have been auditors to the National Magazine Company. Whilst doing their audit in 1961 on the NC/Co premises, it may have been necessary for them to communicate with customers of the Company, using their own stationery but the stamps of the company whose books they were auditing. John suggests that some of our accountancy members may be able to express an opinion on his theory.

J. SLOPER & CO. - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Rosemary Smith.

Some time ago I once again wrote to Mr. E.F. Laver, former director of J. Sloper & Co., asking more impertinent questions about Slopers and mentioning the directors whose names appeared on the Advert Letters which have surfaced. The list of names was M.M. Firminger, W.O. Hawkins, S.J. Derden, E.F. Laver, A.W. Slater and W.E. Cokayne. Mr. Laver very kindly wrote back with the following information.

"Percy Sloper died in the 1930's when Mr. Rowley was Works Manager and a Mr. Steadman (Stedman?) was Company Secretary and in control of the then City Office. On the death of Percy Sloper (the only other known Sloper survivor, Eustace, having evidently preceded by death), the accountants and solicitors to the Company, which really meant Percy Sloper, quickly arranged the sale of the business to another client of theirs - viz Mr. R. T. Firminger.

At the outbreak of World War II Mr. Firminger, wishing to take some active part, took over the control of the Works in West Hampstead and Mr. Rowley retired. A further change took place when Mr. W.O. Hawkins took over Mr. Steadman's position as Company Secretary at the City Offices.

Mr. Firminger died in the mid 1950's when Mrs. M. Firminger assumed the position of Governing Director though she never took any active participation in the daily running of the business at either the City Office or the Works. She died sometime in the 1970's. Mr. Marshall retired at the end of 1977 (another director whose name had not been on any of the leaflets we had seen - Ed) and of the other directors, whose names you stated in your letter, only Bill Cokayne and myself remain.

Concerning the closure of the New Bridge Street Offices, I think this took place in 1972."

Our thanks are extended to Mr. Laver for these further pieces of information. One question I am asked by members:- "Is there a photograph or portrait of Joseph Sloper?" Nothing has yet come to light but we can live in hope.

\* \* \* \* \*

"NASH" - Full Name Perfin

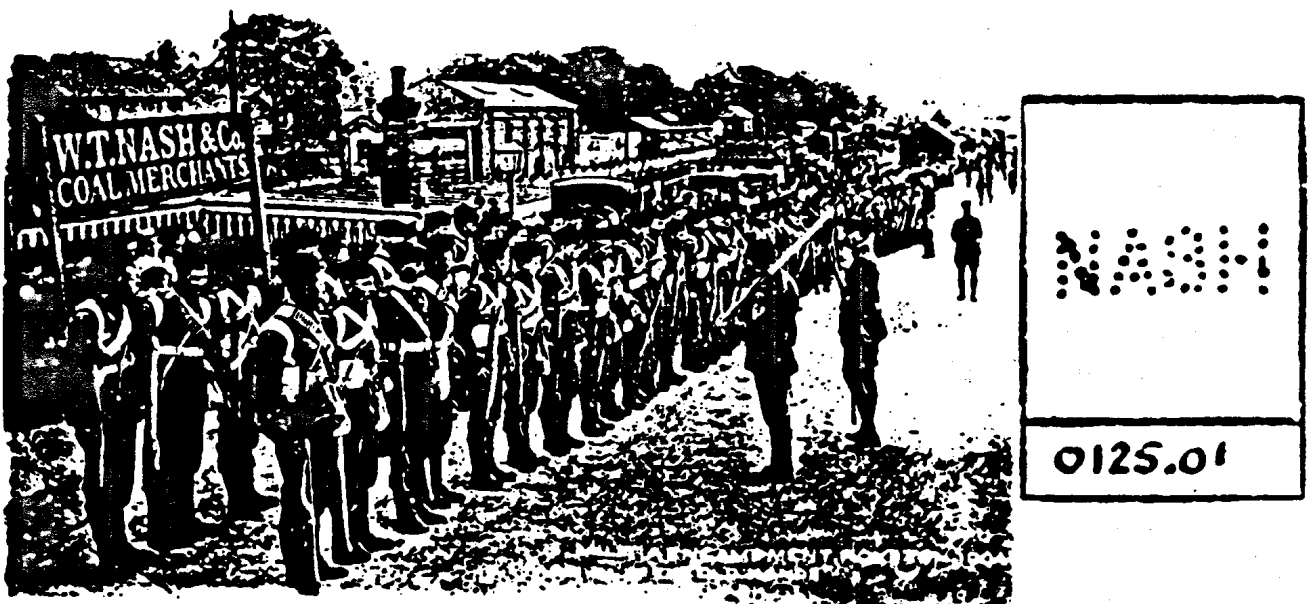
DERRICK MUGGLETON showed some very interesting items to the members who attended the Cambridge Meeting in June. One of the topics displayed was a series of Statements and Invoices from the Anglo-American Oil Co Ltd. They all bore perfined stamps for receipt purpose.

The Invoices from 1902 to 1908 were all for Oil bought from the Royston Depot by Mr. J. Smith of Buntingford. The driver's name was Geo Pickett and the Id EVII stamps were perfined AAO/C°. Nothing unusual so far.

Two Invoices did not fit into this pattern: one for DEC 4 05 with Geo Pickett still as driver but perfin P.F: one for AUG 24 08 with W. Coles as driver and perfin NASH. The P.F is still a mystery but Derrick also showed the postcard, illustrated here, which would appear to give the identity of NASH.

At the bottom of the picture side of the postcard is printed the following words, 'Militia Encampment, Royston 1904. Arrival of the "Old Hands". Published by Robert H. Clark.' The photograph is taken in the Station Yard, as trains and wagons can be seen in the background. Note the board on which is the legend, "W. T. NASH & Co, COAL MERCHANTS". They must have been the users of the 'NASH' perfin on the Anglo-American Oil Co. receipt from Royston Station.

This full name has not yet been identified with a proving cover, but I suggest that Derrick has solved this one with his memory for a name on an old postcard.



## THE MOST PERFINNED STAMP IN THE WORLD?

Roy Gault



In The Perfins Bulletin for April 1993, Joseph Laura lists 2,060 (approx) perfins found on the 2c red Washington head (Scott #332 and related issues). This is the result of an admirable long term project but I was intrigued by the comment -



"In all probability no other stamp issue in the world has had as many different patterns used on it as this one does."

Having just finished the latest set of updates for the current Illustrated GB Catalogue I can report that some 21,450 different perfins are now known on GB postage stamps. This large number of patterns coupled with the long lives of some of the GB issues led me to believe that Joseph's total could be beaten, but could I prove it? The simple answer to that is no, not yet, but I could at least make a reasonable prediction.

Recently I have been recording details of stamp issues, denominations, postmarks etc. for a number of GB perfin letters in readiness for the *New* series of Illustrated Catalogues planned to start in 1994. The initial batch for which I have detailed information covers 1,568 dies, and represents about 75% of the dies known on those particular letters, and so should form a reliable guide as to what can be expected from the remaining letters. Tabulated below are the results of an *Issue count* of these dies. The figures in square brackets are the pro-rata predictions for all 21,450 GB patterns.

|                   |           |                 |           |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| QV 1d Red         | 90[1231]  | QV 1d Lilac     | 382[5226] |
| QV Jubilee        | 388[5308] | E7 Definitive   | 618[8454] |
| G5 Downey head    | 254[3475] | G5 Typograph    | 535[7319] |
| G5 Photogravure   | 282[3858] | E8 Definitive   | 192[2627] |
| G6 Dark Colour    | 461[6306] | G6 Light Colour | 222[3037] |
| G6 Changed Colour | 83[1135]  | E2 Wilding      | 172[2353] |
| E2 £sd Machin     | 44[ 602]  | E2 £p Machin    | 41[ 561]  |



So it would seem that over half of these issues have the potential to surpass the 2c: Washington total, with the inland letter rate of the day a likely candidate for the most common value. Encouraged by these figures, I carried out another analysis on the 1,568 dies, but this time against each issue I kept a tally of each value encountered. Although this proved to be somewhat tedious, it did produce some interesting figures. The 'Top Dozen' results for this *Value count* are shown below, with the pro-rata predictions in square brackets.

|     |                 |             |     |     |        |
|-----|-----------------|-------------|-----|-----|--------|
| 1.  | E7 Definitive   | (1902-1911) | 1d  | 429 | [5869] |
| 2.  | QV 1d Lilac     | (1881-1902) | 1d  | 382 | [5226] |
| 3.  | E7 Definitive   | (1902-1911) | ½d  | 330 | [4514] |
| 4.  | G5 Typograph    | (1913-1934) | ½d  | 275 | [3762] |
| 5.  | G5 Typograph    | (1912-1934) | 1d  | 271 | [3707] |
| 6.  | G6 Dark Colour  | (1937-1942) | 1½d | 258 | [3529] |
| 7.  | G6 Dark Colour  | (1937-1941) | ½d  | 248 | [3393] |
| 8.  | QV Jubilee      | (1887-1902) | ½d  | 187 | [2558] |
| 9.  | G5 Typograph    | (1912-1934) | 1½d | 184 | [2517] |
| 10. | G5 Photogravure | (1934-1936) | 1½d | 182 | [2490] |
| 11. | Downey Head     | (1911-1913) | 1d  | 181 | [2476] |
| 12. | QV Jubilee      | (1887-1902) | 2½d | 178 | [2435] |

Thus, the most perfinned GB stamp is likely to be an Edward VII one penny, in use for just under nine and a half years. However, we will not have confirmation of this until the new series of Catalogues is complete in about ten years time so Joseph's record may well survive into the next millennium!

In complete contrast, I recently came across a perfinned copy of the definitive sized GB stamp commemorating the 46th Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference held in London in 1961. The stamp has the perfin T.B.B. (T0370.01) and is the first perfinned example on this issue that I have seen in a decade of perfin collecting.



Is this a true reflection of it's scarcity as a perfin or have I just not been looking hard enough? I would be pleased to hear from anyone who knows of other perfins on this issue.

## HISTORY OF PERFIN USERS

DOLPHIN SQUARE, LONDON W1 by Dave Hill.

D4360.05 (DS 9,9 4½mm) is identified with Dolphin Square, W.I. Some of our members may know this area more intimately than I.

It was planned initially by an American but he could not find the balance of the purchase price so Richard Costain, the builders, stepped in and bought the 7 acres of land on the Thames at Pimlico, the site of an old army clothing depot. The plan for 1250 bedsits with its own shops and social amenities cost over £1,000,000 in 1935. Costain was persuaded to fit out the flats for the middle and upper classes but the war and rent restrictions reduced the profitability. It was sold in 1958 to Maxwell Joseph for £2½ million who, shortly afterwards, sold it on again for a considerable profit, much to Costain's chagrin.

It was still a self contained community when I used to go there a few years ago, visiting the offices of a small consulting engineer. The basement had all kinds of shops. It must have made up for the loss of the servant class!

\* \* \* \*

HALLS OF DARTFORD, KENT by Arthur Smith.

The works of J. & E. Hall Ltd., was founded by John Hall senior in 1785, and there was no break in the continuity of the firm until recent years, when the existing refrigeration business was taken over by A P V Baker. Visiting the site of the old firm I found that B & Q AND MFI have large concerns on the site whilst a considerable part is still derelict.

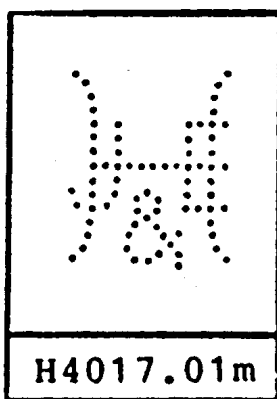
During the first century of their existence the works had been general engineering. With the development of refrigeration their work was mainly on the production of CO<sub>2</sub> and refrigeration machinery, together with the equipment for collecting and bottling CO<sub>2</sub>. In 1897 Messrs Elders - shipowners - and Fyffes Ltd. - fruit importers - together with the Colonial Secretary, discussed with Halls the manufacture and installation of duplex CO<sub>2</sub> machines, air coolers and fans in ships. A contract was eventually given to Halls and two steamers were lengthened to carry the contract number of bananas in the insulated chambers and to allow space for refrigeration equipment.

The old system where bananas were packed in crates and carried on deck, except in very cold weather, was thus changed to transporting large quantities of them, together with other types of fruit, from all parts of the world.

During the early part of this present century, an ammonia compression system was developed as opposed to the CO<sub>2</sub> type. Business rapidly increased for installation on land in addition to marine requirements.

During the two world wars, work at Halls increased greatly and a very large work force existed. In the last 30 years various parts of the firm have gradually closed down and often one hears discussion of the old days at Halls. An uncle of mine was made redundant when his job as a pattern maker ceased on the section closing down.

John Hall was a remarkable man and at the time of his death in 1836 he owned the gunpowder works at Faversham, paper works at Chislehurst, and diverse works in other areas. One can well understand why the outstanding perfin, illustrated below, was adopted by him for his works of J. E. Hall (Ltd., Dartford).



Editor:- There still seems to be some doubt about the identity of this perfin. In the Illustrated Catalogue it is listed under the letter 'H', as it was in Tilles Catalogue.

It was not identified in Tilles nor has it been reported to Roy Gault to enter into our Tomkins Identity Catalogue.

John Coles mentions it in his Monograms and Designs Catalogue and so does John Nelson in his book, 'The Handbook of British Perfins', on pages 20 and 25.

Stamps are seen with Dartford postmarks I am told but can anyone come up with a proving cover? Send details to Roy if you have one.

\* \* \* \* \*

Members are asked to help establish the identity of the following users listed in Slopers' first ledger. This has few factual illustrations of the perfins, just a manuscript entry showing the arrangement of the letters.

Where the perfin or its arrangement is unusual and the address of the user is known then confirmation that perfins are known with the relevant town postmark will give a provisional identity.

10. WHB (W3470) is shown for W.H. Bailey & Sons Ltd. They had two works in Manchester - Worsley and Patricroft - and another in Dagenham, Essex. Do members have copies of the perfin with any of these postmarks?

11. BK/OF/T (B4030) is shown for the Bank of Taiwan, yet Tomkins lists B4030.01 as a provisional identity for the Bank of Toronto. Did Taiwan exist in 1939 when we think the ledger was written; where did the provisional identity come from?

12. Still on the subject of Banks - B/BK (B740) and BBK (B730) are both listed for Barclays but the B730 is for Barclays Bank (Foreign). Is this perfin known more on the higher values that would have paid postage overseas?

13. There are cases where the initials of a perfin do not match the apparent user. One such is Beck & Inchbold against the perfins LF/CoLd (L2230), WEY/Ld (W2390) and WP/L (W5980). The first is known used by Leeds Fireclay Ltd., of Farmley, Leeds, makers of sanitary ware, and the second by W.E. Yates Ltd., of Bramley, Leeds, worsted manufacturers. Presumably Beck & Inchbold acted as local agents for Slopers and it is fair to assume that the unknown user of the third perfin will turn out to be from Leeds too.

14. H.W. Brake is listed as the user of HWB (H7650). There is only the one candidate H7650.01 but I am reluctant to claim a new identity without supporting evidence. What was their address and are perfins known with this postmark?

15. The perfin N/IB (N1770) is listed against the British Chamber of Commerce. Can anyone tell me why N/IB?

16. British Industrial Plastics are listed as the user of BI/P (B3680). Again there is only one candidate,(B3680.01) Is it known with the postmarks of Oldbury, Worsley, Manchester, where this firm was located?

17. Is Geo Bell & Sons (the user of GB (G0360.01)), the same firm as the user of Design 0020.01?

18. CB/B (C0520) is listed as used by Blackpool Corporation. Is this supported by postmark evidence?

19 The user of B/LD (B4320) is listed as Boland Ltd. I believe these were another firm of biscuit makers in Deansgrove, Blackrock, Co. Dublin. Again is this confirmed by postmark evidence and which particular B4320 was it?

20. H. Bushill & Sons is shown as the user of the distinctive perfin HB&S/Y (H0920). The 'Y' was presumably the town but which one and do postmarked copies confirm it?

A similar name, T. Bushill & Son, is shown as the user of TB/&S (T0640). A firm of this name was in Canley, Coventry. Do post-marked copies support this?

21. The user Bonds (Somerton) has part of the address in their name. The perfin BS/Ld (B6720) is shown against them. Any stamp perfined with a B6720 and postmarked Somerton will tell us which B6720.

22. The perfin for E.H. Booth & Co., EHB/Ld (E1910) is shown vertically. Are any E1910 perfins known thus to prove this i'd?

23. A bit different, and I can't believe we havn't identified it before. Nuneaton Corporation is given as the user of a coat of arms which can only be design 0200.01 Can members confirm that this is the shape of their coat of arms?

Please send any information about these queries to Dave Hill.

\* \* \* \*

### MEMBERS' WANTS

MR.A.D.WALTER

is

seeking a second-hand copy of the Illustrated Catalogue. Could anyone who can help, write to Mr. Walter with price wanted etc. before sending any actual copies.

D. SCHEPER (address under New Members) would like to exchange his GB perfins for Dutch or Swiss perfins.

## CONNECTED IDENTITIES FROM SLOPER'S LEDGERS

Whilst researching some of the Sloper Record Books, STEPHEN STEERE has come across names of companies who were marked as being associated with other companies. Some association was by the use of perfins, others because of overprinted stamps - marked in the following list by (0). This article will link in with the different perfin dies found on one cover which have been featured in past Bulletins.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Alliance Assurance Co Ltd associated with<br>(A0190.01M) | Sun Insurance Office<br>(S0060.01)  |
| Associated Newspapers Ltd<br>(A4230.03M)                 | Daily Sketch<br>Daily Graphic Ltd (0)   |
| Bainbridge & Co Ltd<br>(B0010.04M)                       | Bainbridges Wholesale,<br>Ltd (0)   |
| Baxters Leather Co Ltd<br>(B0300.01)                     | Baxters Group of<br>Companies (0)   |
| Barclay & Fry Ltd<br>(B2810.02)                          | Pritchard & Burton<br>(0)   |
| B&N Line Royal Mail Ltd<br>(B6600.02)                    | Bergen Steamship Co<br>(added to record)  |
| Buntings Ltd<br>(B684 0.01;N3350.01;N3380.01)            | Chamberlins Ltd<br>(0)  |
| Crosse & Blackwell<br>(Mftg Co) Ltd<br>(C0500.02M)       | Chocolat Tobler Ltd<br>Maggi (Distrib') Ltd<br>E. Lazenby & Son Ltd<br>James Keiller & Son Ltd<br>Che Products Ltd<br>R.A.Barclay Ltd (0)<br>Cerebos Foods Ltd<br>A.& R.Scott Ltd<br>Scott-Brand Foods Ltd<br>Stamins Foods Ltd (0)<br>Cunard White Star Ltd<br>(old deleted identity<br>die unknown) |
| Cerebos Ltd<br>(C4640.02)                                | Palatine Ins. Co Ltd<br>Edinburgh Assurance<br>Co Ltd<br>National Insurance Co<br>of G.B.Ltd (0)<br>Newey Brothers Ltd<br>(N0360.02M)   |
| Cunard Steamship Co Ltd<br>(C7210.01)                    |   |
| Commercial Union Co Ltd<br>(C7860.01M)                   |   |
| D.F.Taylor & Co Ltd<br>(D1940.01)                        |   |

|  |                 |   |
|--|-----------------|---|
| Emu Wine Co Ltd<br>(E3100.01b)                           | associated with | P.B.Burgoyne & Co Ltd<br>(0)  |
| George Angus & Co Ltd<br>(G0090.01M)                     |                 | F. Reddaway & Co Ltd<br>Telamite Ltd (0)  |
| G.A. Harvey (London) Ltd<br>(H1530.03M)                  |                 | G.A. Harvey Group<br>Services Ltd (0)   |
| LEP Transport Ltd<br>(L1900.01aM)                        |                 | E.& G.E. Co Ltd<br>Crowe & Co Ltd<br>Pulling & Son Ltd<br>Feden & Son Ltd (0)                             |
| London & Sons<br>(L3690.02)                              |                 | Sunleigh Sports Wear<br>Ltd (0)   |
| Law Union & Rock Insurance<br>Co Ltd<br>(L5600.01)       |                 | Royal Insurance Co Ltd<br>(Association mentioned<br>on record)  |
| C. & E. Morton Ltd<br>(M0010.01M)                        |                 | R.S. Murray & Co Ltd<br>C. Barry S Co Ltd (0)   |
| Marshalls Ltd<br>(M0010.01M)                             |                 | Marshall & Snelgrove Ld<br>(In brackets under<br>Marshalls Ltd)   |
| Mobil Oil Co Ltd<br>(M4290.01)                           |                 | Vaccum Oil Co Ltd<br>(V1330.02)<br>(Record shows Vaccum<br>Oil as previous name)                          |
| McVitie & Price Ltd<br>(M4440.01aM; M4430.01p)           |                 | United Biscuits Ltd<br>(0)  |
| Modern Transport Co<br>(M5600.01; M5610.01)              |                 | Modport Fuels Liverpool<br>(M2720.01)<br>(Record shows Modport<br>Fuels as new name)                      |
| Matthews Wrightson & Co Ltd<br>(M6020.01)                |                 | British Standard<br>Assurance Association<br>Record shows Br.Stan.<br>Assurance c/o Matthew<br>Wrightson) |
| Solicitors Law Stationery Soc.<br>(O2160.01aM; 02170.01) |                 | Law Fire Society Ltd<br>(0)   |
| A.E.A. Prowting Ltd<br>(P0010.04M)                       |                 | L. Bilsby Ltd<br>(Records shows assoc.)   |
| Wall Paper Manufacturers Ltd<br>(S0520.01a)              |                 | Smith & Butler<br>(0)   |
| Thomas S Son Ltd<br>(W0010.04aM; W1340.02aM; W5160.03aM) |                 | Watney, Combe & Reid<br>& Co Ltd (0)  |

Coote & Warren Ltd associated with  
(W1340.02aM)

F. Warren & Co  
(0)

L.& J. Weber & Phillips Ltd  
(W2510.01)

Weber Footwear Ltd  
(0)

Wayne V. Myers & Co Ltd  
(W7840.01)

Redex Ltd  
(R5910.01)  
(Record shows now Redex)

\* \* \* \*

### MEMBERS' COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

'BELL' PERFIN Bulletin 265/11 (plus 258;260;261)

DERRICK MUGGLETON has pointed out that the 159 numeral cancel was also used by Glasgow, but between straight lines rather than in an oval. He has a perfin Design 0020.01, on a 6d Plate 18 grey, SG 161, cancelled with a cds GLASGOW MY 25 82 which seemed to point to Bert Johnson's stamp being from Glasgow.

Bert has checked his Bell perfin again and agrees that the 159 on his Design 0010.01 perfin is indeed from Glasgow. However, the more interesting premise seems to be that this could link together Designs 0010.01 and 0020.01 as being from the same user.

JOHN MATHEWS, who has been researching 'The Bell Organ & Piano Co; says the Bell brothers who went to Guelph, Ontario, Canada and formed the Bell Organ & Piano Co. came from Scotland. The London and Sydney offices came later. John does not believe there was a Glasgow Office.

So he suggests the Glasgow postmark could be on a stamp either:-

- a) used by the family? (less probable) or
- b) b) used by a company salesman on his travels? (more probable)

\* \* \* \*

CRETE PERFIN Bulletin 265/8

BRIAN BIRCH informs me that this perfin could be mentioned in Perfin Abstracts 0208, 0227 and possibly 0372.

\* \* \* \*

SLOPER PERFORATING MACHINES Bulletin 258/9; 261/17

ENIT JOHN MATHEWS writes that ENIT stood for "Enti Nazionale Italiano per il Turismo", which was the Italian State Tourist Board. It's forerunner had been the common perfin CIT.



COPESTAKE, HUGHES, CRAMPTON & CO Bulletin 257/11-13; 258/7-8

(In the Index to Bulletins 206 to 261, the reference to this firm should be corrected to read 258.7-8 not 288.7-8)

ERIC WHITEHEAD has identified Fig.15 (C4370) in Bulletin 257 Pg.13 with Copestake, Lindsay, Crampton & Co. The cover is dated 5-10-98 and the stamp was a 1d lilac. So by 1898 both Hughes and Moore had disappeared from the scene and Lindsay had joined the company.

This leaves C3130; 3160.01 and 3160.02 still to be positively identified with this firm which is thought to be the first user of perfins.

\* \* \* \*

'CURRIE' PERFIN Bulletin 265/12

I have had six replies to this query. One fact has been established without a doubt, all three perfins - C7980.01; .02; .03 - were used by James Currie & Co., The Leith, Hull and Hamburg Steam Packet Co., Leith.

Only one die - 7980.03 - has been reported on a cover from Donald Currie & Co., 3 & 5 Fenchurch St., London E.C., but no link with James Currie & Co. has been established.

Two members have this 7980.03 die on cover with "Garth, Aberfeldy, Perthshire" on the back of the envelope. One member has this die on a 1d lilac, on cover from James Currie & Co., 40 St. Enoch Squ., Glasgow and 2 x ½d Jubilee stamps on a cover from James Currie & Co. The Leith, Hull & Hamburg Steam Packet Co., Leith. Both covers were posted in August 1892 from Glasgow and Leith respectively, yet all three stamps have the same missing pins on the 'C': i.e. holes 4 & 5 counting left anti-clockwise from the top of the 'C' over the centre of the 'O'.

No members reported 7980.02 with London postmarks, but .01 and .03 have been reported with London postmarks.

Any more bits of information? Please send to the Ed.

\* \* \* \*

NEWS FROM THE AUCTIONS - Rosemary Smith.

Sloper Experimental Cancels seem to be mentioned more than usual in recent auctions.

J. WESTCOTT spotted the following from Bristol Stamp Auctions, 1 Ashton Way, Keynsham, Bristol and he says the items will probably be available until the end of October.

"1873 ½d P/C used locally in Manchester & 'cancelled' with the Sloper machine by clipping an arrowhead shaped piece from side.

- est. £16."

"1874 ½d P/C used Liverpool to Harrington & 'cancelled' by the Sloper machine by punching out an 'arrow' shaped series of holes in stamp. - est. £27."

From Cecil Court Stamp Shop, 6 Cecil Court, London WC2N 4HE. In their Postal History Auction Catalogue for 9 October I noticed:-

"1874 ½d P/C from Liverpool office of the 'MERCURY' (printed) receipt for a subscription to the newspaper. The P/C being a very fine example of the EXPERIMENTAL cancel with a SLOPER'S machine PUNCHED ARROW OF DOTS. Addressed to Mollington. - est £45."

"1934 PUC £1 ON COVER. Corner marginal on a registered letter sent via the German Air Mail (Red Luftpost cds) with 4x1/- Bistre + 2x1½d. Red brown lower values perfined "S&A", The Smithfield and Argentine Meat Company. A fine and extremely scarce cover.

- est £395."

In Stamp Magazine for June was the result of a Cavendish auction when:- "A small group of 1870-74 postal stationery cards with a variety of Sloper security markings including London Arrows, Manchester Clips, Liverpool Spike and Liverpool Arrows. Accompanying them was a fine copy of the booklet 'A History of J. Sloper & Co's Stamp Security through 5 Reigns - Victoria to G.VI and the lot realised £120 (est £100). Realisation quoted is hammer price." - presumably VAT and buyers premium to be added.

I would guess the 'Liverpool Spike' mentioned is simply the common missing pin variety of the 'Arrow' from Liverpool.

\* \* \* \* \*

## WHAT IS A PERFIN by Brian Birch

Michael Rucklidge stirred up a hornets nest in Bulletin 251/7 by posing the seemingly innocent question "What is a Perfin?". Since the responses, in Bulletin 252/5-7, merely served to obscure the subject further, I attempted to clarify the situation by means of a short article dealing with all the points brought out in the correspondence - Bulletin 256/8-10.

In Bulletin 259/4-5, David Andersen contributed a critique of my definition which prompts me once again to respond.

(Ed:- this article has been in my 'in-file' for some months awaiting a suitable slot for inclusion.)

### ANDERSEN'S POSITION

Andersen voiced two doubts about the following definition of a perfin, which I promulgated:-

"A perfin is a number of holes in a distinct pattern applied to postage and other stamps as security against theft."

This definition was not intended to be a rigorous definition. It was not really my definition in any case, it was simply a definition derived from Mike Rucklidge's contribution and its purpose was merely to demonstrate how easily a workable definition could be devised. As a definition, it certainly has shortcomings, two of which immediately spring to mind:-

- a) It does not admit of a perfin comprising a single hole.
- b) It does not differentiate between stamps bearing holes produced by a perforating machine, a punch or even a rouletting machine.

Still, it serves its purpose as a workable definition for those not really concerned with absolutely correct definitions.

### ANDERSEN'S FIRST DOUBT

The motive behind the production of the perfin (i.e. "as security against theft") can not be proven even for commercial users never mind private individuals.

This is in fact the inversion of an extremely important attribute of a definition:- the provision of "tests" within the definition to determine whether an item meets the requirements of the definition or not.

The above definition then, provides three tests, all of which must be satisfied in order for an item to be called a perfin:-

- 1) Is it a stamp?
- 2) Has it got holes in it?
- 3) Has it been marked with a distinct pattern intended to provide security against theft?

It should be noted that all stamps, including trading stamps, meet the first test. The second test is satisfied by stamps separated by perforations and even with worm holes in. Finally, many items are indelibly marked to prevent theft and thus would pass the third test. However, only a perfin meets all of these tests.

Thus, it is entirely consistent to say that stamps bearing the perforated insignia of a certain company, which were produced only for advertising purposes, are not perfins. Such an item fails the "test" of being "to provide security against theft". However, it is not acceptable to say that the definition is faulty because there are instances where the motive for perforation is in doubt or cannot be proven and where, therefore, the test can neither be passed nor failed. Under such circumstances, it is the item which is in doubt, not the definition.

#### ANDERSEN'S SECOND DOUBT

Historically, the term perfin encompassed items other than those perforated to prevent theft.

Here, Andersen quotes Warren Travell, an American writing in the late 1940's, as his authority. My files also confirm that Travell considered that perforated revenue cancellations should be included in the perfin field. However, those views are from an article on what to collect, not one devoted to definitions.

A single reference is not sufficient authority upon which to condemn the definition. In reality, Americans have a problem with perfins on revenue stamps to such an extent that perfins (not perforated cancellations mind you!) found only on revenue stamps are not listed in the Perfins Club Catalogue. (American Revenues can be found bearing the same perfin as is found on postage stamps, with perfins never found on postage stamps and with perforated cancellations which can not be distinguished from perfins once the stamps have been soaked off their documents.)

## ANDERSEN'S SOLUTION

Andersen suggests that a wider definition based on the method of production and the end result would be better than one based on a condition that is impossible to verify. - why?

I can not accept that the language of philately is so impoverished that it is unable to distinguish between the various categories of perforations known to be applied to stamps.

Inevitably perhaps, we must return to basic principles when considering the definition of perfins. It must also be borne in mind that nothing should be defined in isolation and that perfins are only a part of the field of Security Endorsements. I would therefore refer Andersen and others to my original "Glossary of Security Endorsements", serialised in the Society's Bulletin in 1987. Here can be found the definition of all the perfin-related items found perforated:-

Commemorative perfin; Film processing perfin; Perfin;  
Perforated cancellation; Perforated precancel; Personal  
Perfin; Philatelic Perfin; Private perfin; Pseudoperfin;  
Specimen perforation.

Even this list shows that a balance must be struck between absolute accuracy and what is generally used terminology. For example, it is obvious that items defined by the terms Commemorative perfin; Film processing perfin and Philatelic perfin would fail the test of being used to provide security against theft, and that such items should rather be called Commemorative perforation; Film processing perforation and Philatelic perforation. However, custom and practice demands that they are all termed "perfins" and I am not so much of a purist as to fight against that tradition.

## CONCLUSIONS

It does not seem right to me that we should willingly relinquish one of the English language's greatest assets - its tremendous diversity which gives it such versatility and enables it to accurately describe small variations and nuances.

In consequence, I can see no useful purpose in extending the definition of perfins to incorporate all perforated stamps.

\* \* \* \* \*

From Kevin Parkhill

|                 |                      |             |         |  |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|---------|--|
| B2390.01        | BE/C                 | 14,10/8     | 5       | The Hull Oil Manufacturing Co Ltd, Hull. PC dated 21/9/27. I   |
| C4135.01        | C.&.K                | 8,12,10     | 4½ IIIa | The Clifton & Kersley Coal Co Ltd, Robin Hood Sidings. PC pmk Pendle(bury) 31/8/05. F  |
| C5090.01        | CMS/D                | 7,11,10/9   | 4½      | Church Missionary Society for Africa and the East - founded 1799. (Pin count correction). I  |
| B0010.22        | B                    | 12          | 8½      | The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corpn, 9 Gracechurch St, EC3. PC postmarked London 8/6/22. I   |
| H8070.01        | H&Y                  | 12,14,8     | 5 III   | Wm Hooton & Yates, 12 Fenchurch St, London. Registered 10/7/14. I  |
| J6005.01        | JP batons            | 7,10 (27)   | 6 (14)  | Issued 11 May 1985 by the Polish Philatelists Association in UK to commemorate 50th Anniversary of the death of Josef Pilsudskiego, Marszal of Poland. Sloper single impression die. W                           |
| R4530.08        | R&S                  | 12,13,11    | 5½ III  | 2. S Redmayne & Sons Ltd, The Durafit Works, Wigton, Cumberland. PC dated 10/1/27 I  |
| <u>W1310.07</u> | W&Co.                | 15,13,8,6   | 5 III   | Whitbread & Co Ltd, Britannia St, King's Cross, WC1. Statement postmarked London WC 14/9/1925 I  |
| W5020.01        | W&L/L <sup>d</sup>   | 13,13,7/7,7 | 4½ I    | Same user, additional address – 45 Buchanan St, Glasgow. Receipt dated 16/6/1924. I  |
| <u>W5395.01</u> | W.M./L <sup>td</sup> | 15,15/7,5,7 | 5½      | Wood-Milne Ltd, Preston, Lanes. Envelope pmk Manchester, 5/5/18 I  |
| Z0240.01        | Z/HP                 | 8/10,8      | 4½      | Additional information - Issued 11 Oct 1985 by the Polish Philatelists Association in UK to commemorate 75th Anniversary of the Polish Scouting Association. The initials are from Zwiasek Harcerstwa Polskiego. |

From Eric Whitehead

|          |                     |             |    |  |
|----------|---------------------|-------------|----|--|
| C4370.01 | CL/+CC <sup>0</sup> | 8,7/8/8,8,6 | 4½ | Copestake, Lindsay, Crampton & Co, London. Envelope dated 5/10/98. B |
|----------|---------------------|-------------|----|--|

From Bert Johnson

|                 |       |             |        |  |
|-----------------|-------|-------------|--------|--|
| C3040.01        | C&H   | 8,14,12     | 4½ III | Chapman & Hall, 193 Piccadilly.<br>Postmarked London W, 5/7/76. A  |
| D4550.01        | DS/&R | 11,10/12,12 | 4½IIIa | Doughty, Son, & Richardson, Seed<br>Crushers, Lincoln.<br>Postmarked Lincoln, 30/7/89. B   |
| J4810.09        | JL    | 7,7         | 5      | Correction to entry in Tomkins.<br>Joseph Lingford & Son Ltd, The<br>Model Factory, Bishop Auckland,<br>County Durham. Envelope carries<br>adverts for Lingfords Baking Powder<br>& Milk Puddings - dated 14/9/39. Q |
| K0365.02        | K&Co  | 11,13,8,6   | 6 III  | Kessler & Co, Manchester. Entire<br>postmarked Manchester 3/7/1884. D  |
| L0530.01        | LB/&L | 7,13/12,7   | 4½IIIa | Lake & Co, 10 New Sq, Lincoln's<br>Inn, London WC. Pink 3/9/89. B  |
| <u>P5060.09</u> | PWC   | 11,11,10    | 7      | Borough of Portsmouth Water Works<br>Co. Cover postmarked 12/9/1901. B   |
| <u>P5060.10</u> | PWC   | 11,13,10    | 6½     | Stamp on same cover as above. E  |
| W0430.03        | W.B.  | 15,13       | 6      | Walpole Brothers (London) Ltd,<br>87-91 New Bond St, London W1.<br>Other London & Dublin addresses &<br>factories in Belfast & Waringstown.<br>Receipt dated 9/4/40. Q   |

From Martin Knight

|          |   |    |    |  |
|----------|---|----|----|--|
| B0010.21 | B | 14 | 5½ | Butterworth & Co, Bell Yard,<br>Temple Bar, London WC2.<br>Trade Card dated 20/6/21. |
|----------|---|----|----|--|

From Alan Briggs

|          |      |         |    |   |
|----------|------|---------|----|---|
| G1540.01 | GE/C | 11,10/8 | 5½ | 2. The General Electric Co Ltd<br>Maguet House, 32 Market St,<br>Aberdeen – dated 30/6/49 R |
|----------|------|---------|----|---|

From Bill Hanson

|          |         |          |         |  |
|----------|---------|----------|---------|--|
| G3150.01 | Ld in G | 7,7 (22) | 5½ (12) | Gooch's (1928 Ltd) – Est 1852<br>Knightsbridge, London SW3<br>Receipt dated 16/11/1932 I |
|----------|---------|----------|---------|--|

From John Mathews

C0260.01 CANCLD./JA&Co.. 4 IIIb J Allard & Co, London  
8,10,14,8,7,11/10,10,15,8,8 Revenue stamp dated 23/5/1877

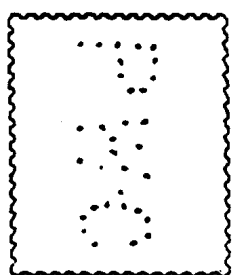
From Arthur Smith

R4710.01 R/SD 12/10,11 5 Royal School for Deaf Children  
93 Cannon St, London EC  
PPC postmarked London, 12/4/10 F

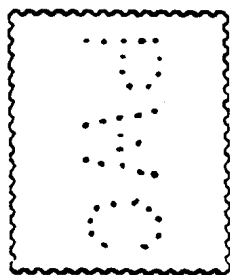
From Rosemary Smith

C4210.01am CL 7,6 4½ 5. Cargills (Ceylon) Ltd, SW1. U  
C6480.07 CR/&Co 8,12/12,8,6 5½IIIa Clarke, Rawlins & Co, Solicitors,  
66 Gresham House, Old Broad St,  
London EC. B  
E2760.06 ELW 13,7,15 5 Evans Sons Lescher & Webb Ltd,  
London EC. F  
K1690.01 K&T 10,12.9 4½IIIa Kearley & Tonge Ltd, London EC B  
K1710.05 K&T/Ld 10,12,9/7,7 4½IIIa Kearley & Tonge Ltd. London EC. B  
Note: Reference in Tomkins to Kearley & Tongue should read Kearley & Tonge.  
S4920.06 SM/&Co 11,15/13,10,6 5½III2. Schill, Modera & Co,  
Manchester.

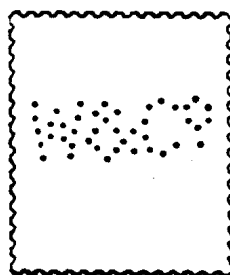
S7770.03 S&U 13,14,10 4½ III Samson & Unna, Dundee A



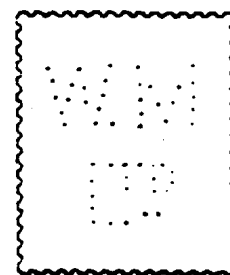
P5060.09



P5060.10



W1310.07



W5395.01

A number of errors have crept into the New Identities pages recently and should be corrected as follows:

|           |           |                          |                |
|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------|
| C5550.01a | COL       | Should read Columbia     | (B265 page 28) |
| C6800.01  | C&S       | Should read C6800.10     | (B265 page 25) |
| F2630.02a | F&M       | Should read 7,12,11      | (B264 page 23) |
| 0310.02   | JWB(Diag) | Should read J8310.02     | (B265 page 27) |
| L2670.02M | LH        | Should read L2760.02M    | (B260 page 22) |
| P0600.01  | P.B/&C°.  | Should read 14,17/12,8,6 | (B263 page 23) |
| S4920.06  | SM/&C°    | Should read 5½ III       | (B264 page 23) |
| T5100.01  | TW/~/JW   | Should read 7,15/14/8,15 | (B262 page 19) |
| W0010.15  | W         | Should read W0010.51     | (B265 page 26) |