

# The Perfin Society Bulletin

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New Identities:- 4 Centre pages.

Auction No. 1 (1996) 12 Pages.

## SOCIETY INFORMATION

### EDITOR'S COMMENTS Rosemary Smith.

Philatelically speaking, December and January seem to be quiet months. I have had little correspondence since the December Bulletin so I have been able to delve into my 'forward file' and resurrect some articles which were new topics that had no bearing on past letters, research or queries. One or two of these articles pose questions and I trust that should you be able to answer any query you will write in so that all members will benefit from your knowledge.

As I was so late with the December Bulletin I would like to thank the printers who pulled out all the stops for the printing, Michael for delivering it so quickly to John and John for posting it off in record time.

If this Bulletin is late I am going to blame Roy. He keeps sending me worksheets for the New Illustrated Catalogue and I get so much pleasure out of checking my covers and stamps against the worksheet, that I neglect the Bulletin. I only get back to the Bulletin once I have posted the worksheets back to Roy. Well, that's my story and I'm going to stick to it.

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES To end of December '95.

#### NEW MEMBERS

JOHN WOODHOUSE

PETER ELSTONE

TERRY HAYTON

MR A NEWTON

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

GRAHAM PERFETT

RESIGNED SUE TAYLOR DIED B L HODDINOTT: B.PRITT.

NEWS FROM SECRETARY/TREASURER Dave Hill.

Thinking of titles of committee members I am reminded that it would probably be more secure if, when sending things to any of the Officers, the following words do not appear in the address:- stamps: auction: packet: treasurer. Letters find us quite easily with just the name and address.

Unfortunately at the time of going to press, BRUCE BRUNELL of Ukiah, California, has not paid the £1481-30p he owes for auctions 1, 2 4 3 despite repeated requests. Of course we have paid the vendors so the debt is the Society's. Rest assured we are taking every step to recover this debt and members help is sought to this end. As has been pointed out to him, this sum is almost equal to our annual subscription income. To replace it each member would have to pay twice so we cannot let the matter rest - even if we have to pay a recovery agency.

It is timely to remind members of the Society rule relating to Auction payments:

Payments should be mailed to reach the TREASURER (not Auctioneer) within 14 days (UK) or 28 days (overseas) from receipt of lots.

I get all the paperwork from Harry after he has sent all the lots out, about the 14th of the month. So by the end of the month, when I am paying vendors, I hope all UK lots are paid for. Any payments outstanding I chase, especially if the buyer is not usually late in paying. This is in case lots have been delayed in the post. Towards the end of the next month I start worrying about outstanding overseas payments. By this time often another auction has closed, with another lot of payments.

On a happier note, most subscriptions are in. Members outstanding will be written to before this Bulletin comes out.

### Bowman Prize

Only one member has sent in a nomination (at 3-1-96). Please look at the Bulletins for 1995 and nominate the article which you thought was the best/most interesting/in-depth/or for whatever reason. Nominations to DAVE HILL.

### Free Perfins

I have some more freebies - the Sloper JS/4C perfin again - this time on the more recent and better looking Castles high values. S.A.E. please.

Also DAVID SCOTT has given me ten 1981 covers from the South Staffordshire Waterworks with SS/W perfins. These are long envelopes so need a long S.A.E. if you want one. (To DAVE HILL)

## OBITUARY

It is with sadness that we heard of the death of Boris Pritt at the very end of 1995. He had been one of our members for well over twenty years and, until he was dogged by ill health, was a regular attender at our London meetings. In fact, despite his ill health, he hired a taxi to be at the meeting in November.

Boris was a very 'gentlemanly' person, courteous to all who came in contact with him. He was a Postal Historian of some note in his own field of philately - that of Russia. He was very knowledgeable about the World War covers of Thomas Cook and had a fine collection of these covers as well as perfin covers and stamps of Thomas Cook from all over the world. Over the years he sent in articles for the Bulletin whenever he felt he had a contribution to make.

Born in Southern Russia in 1904, he married a German! lady and came to this country in the thirties to escape the early persecution of the Jews in Germany. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, who was sorely missed by Boris whilst he was in hospital.

### THOMAS COOK PERFINS FOR SALE      Rosemary Smith.

Whilst Boris Pritt was in hospital he rang me to say that he had Thomas Cook perfins for sale and he wished to advertise them through the Bulletin. The person who is dealing with the disposal of his philatelic effects has told me to go ahead with the advert but offers have to come to me - Editor - and I will pass on your letters to Boris' friend.

The original wording was:-

"Member Boris Pritt is intending selling his collection of Thomas Cook perfins. These are stamps only (perhaps three covers at the most) comprising about 300 different dies or face on GB stamps and about 200 foreign Thomas Cook perfins. These are particularly strong in Far East but wherever there was a Thomas Cook Office throughout the world there was a Thomas Cook perfin.

Boris wishes the collection to go as a complete lot to a serious collector of Thomas Cook - not as a lot to be broken down for resale".

Boris was bitterly disappointed when he knew that his Cook Wartime Mail and other Thomas Cook covers went, at auction, to a dealer who then broke up the collection and sold the covers piecemeal. I do hope this collection will find a good home. Offers to me, Editor, at the address on the front of the Bulletin.

\* \* \* \* \*

### ARTICLE ON RUSSIAN PERFINS

This work has been written and translated by PETER WALKER, a friend of Boris Pritt and member of The British Society of Russian Philately. It is dedicated to Boris and much of the information in the article is from Boris' collection, from fellow members of the BSRP and our own members who sent details of their collection to Boris after he placed a plea in the Bulletin. Acknowledgement is also given to Paul Mazur, former President of the Moscow Philatelic Society, and the late Vojtech Maxa.

The article is 25 pages of A4 size: 13 pages of text, 7 of tabulated data and 5 of illustrations. It is concerned only with the perfins used on Imperial Russian postage stamps, the most common usage being between 1910 and 1918.

There are sections on Private Perfins, Official Perfins, Moscow Perfins, Perfins from other Offices, Punch Holes and general historical background to their use and usage. I must admit the tabulated data was 'beyond my ken' but I have little doubt that if you have Russian Perfins the tables will make sense.

I am a firm believer in research and the passing on of knowledge and this article will be a considerable aid to anyone who wishes to have a collection of Russian Perfins.

Peter Robinson has agreed to bind the booklet for me and I shall then pass it to the Librarian from whom you can obtain copy in the usual way.

\* \* \* \* \*

### GB PERFINS FOR EUROPEAN

Non-member W J MANSSEN

collects European perfins except GB. He will swap GB for European. Write direct to Mr.Manssen.

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE DIFFICULTY GETTING POSTAGE STAMPS PERFINED

Rosemary Smith.

If you look back at Bulletin 272 Page 6-7 you will find reference to London Regional Passenger Committee trying to obtain further supplies of stamps perforated with the initials LR/PC, particularly the 1st & 2nd class (NVI) stamps in sheet form. The LRPC was told by Checkpoint that they (Checkpoint) were unable to purchase sheets of NVI stamps.

Via Brian Merryweather, I have been furnished with the ensuing correspondence from LRPC secretary (Rufus Barnes) to the Royal Mail and Checkpoint. It perhaps gives a pointer as to why firms are no longer using perfins. The following extracts from the letters cover the salient facts appertaining to perfins without distorting the whole tenor of the correspondence.

19th Jan. '95 - from Royal Mail to Rufus Barnes.

"I understand that the London Regional Passengers Committee that you represent wished to purchase a supply of First and Second Class Stamps in sheets of the Non Value Indicator (NVI) variety. Further to this, your organisation prefers to use postage stamps that carry the initials LRPC perforated through each stamp, as an internal security measure.

"Royal Mail originally only sold NVI Stamps in book format. Recognising the economy that NVI stamps offered customers, Royal Mail launched these stamps in sheet form via a mail order facility. The NVI sheets are not normal stock available at Post Offices, and only a limited quantity are provided for Post Office counters specialising in meeting the needs of Philatelists.

"As a result of the success of the mail order, RM has now set up a free mail order network solely for businesses. This provides an immediate response facility, orders can be faxed or phoned.

"These stamps are available in quantities of 100 at a time. There is no reason why these stamps would not be made available to any customer purchasing NVI stamps in accordance with RM normal sales procedures.

"RM cannot undertake the individual perforation of stamps involving company initials, and such work is undertaken by third parties specialising in this service. One such business is Checkpoint Security Services Ltd. I believe they have adopted the business previously dealt with by Slopers. In order to clarify any misunderstandings, I have telephoned Checkpoint Security Services to explain the ease of ordering NVI stamps by post."

7th Feb.'95 - from Rufus Barnes to Checkpoint.

"I understand from RM that (he) spoke to you recently about the procedure for ordering NVI stamps by post, so that your company can perforate them with individual company logos, etc.

"This is a facility which the LRPC has been seeking for some time - we have been customers of both your company and Slopers Ltd for sheets of stamps of various denominations, in the past, but are now looking for NVI stamps to be perforated.

"If your company is willing to provide this service, will you please let me know how much (etc) and what quantities we would need to order".

27th Feb.'95 - from Checkpoint to Rufus Barnes.

"RM did indeed explain the procedure for ordering NVI stamps by post. Although we were already aware of this procedure.

"Unfortunately this element of our business has declined drastically over the years and will not support any increase to the administrative costs it carries. The Royal Mail will not supply us these stamps through our current ordering procedure, which is handled by the local Post Office Counters Ltd organisation. We have considered moving all our business to the postal service (British Philatelic Bureau) however the trading conditions required by that organisation were not acceptable to us.

"However should you wish to purchase the stamps from the Royal Mail and send them to us, we would perforate them on our normal charging basis."

I leave it to members to make what they will of these statements by Checkpoint but it is no surprise that business has declined if all customers have been given a similar run-around.

\* \* \* \* \*

## MEMBERS' COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

### PERFIN AUCTION COMMENTS Bulletin 279 Page 16.

MICHAEL RUCKLIDGE writes:-

I noted Dr. Pocock's comments on auction prices with some interest. I would point out that the shown amounts are reserves and not estimates. That is to say they are the lowest amount the vendor will accept. They are set by the vendor and not by the auctioneer, who long ago refused to set estimates because it was too difficult to assess a realistic amount.

As secretary for many years I was frequently asked by members for advice on auction bidding. The only useful hint I could think of was to bid as high as possible if you really want an item. You will only have to pay one step above the next lowest bid if you are successful. In the event you feel that you have paid too much you can console yourself that one other member was willing to pay nearly as much.

In general it seems that vendors are too modest in their reserves. This may be because they are ignorant of the scarcity of the item or because two or more collectors are particularly anxious to acquire the item - perhaps to fill a gap or to conclude a study.

DAVE HILL writes!:-

Having to deal with the money for successful bids, I can assure Dr. Pocock that over half the lots go abroad. So to that extent the 'colonials' are not being discouraged.

On to more general comment, when buying ordinary stamps, what fraction of Gibbons or Scott prices do you expect to pay? No two auction catalogues estimate prices the same: why? The auctioneers who consistently hugely over estimate seem to still sell and to stay in business.

Whilst basic ordinary stamp prices have been static for some years, the prices of many desirable stamps have increased. Perfins are amongst these desirable stamps, as seen in dealers' stock. Hence the escalation in bids in our own auction.



ROSEMARY SMITH writes:-

When an estimate is given at any auction - be it furniture, antiques, jewellery etc - it is the auctioneer who sets the estimate. The best auctions are those where the successful bids come very close to the estimates each time. Such auctioneers need to spend a great deal of time looking at, testing, comparing etc every article in the auction. Buyers premium, vendors premium, handling charge per lot make this a viable proposition for the professional auctioneer.

Our auction is not a 'professional' auction - although I defy any philatelic postal auctioneer to show us a better run auction. The onus for quality, quantity, description and reserve of each lot rests with the vendor. To a certain extent Harry does cast his eye over every lot, but he cannot be expected to examine everything in such detail that he can give a realistic estimate for the auction catalogue. He does far more for his "big, fat, nothing salary" than many salaried auctioneers.

As Michael pointed out in the first letter, the amount shown in our auction catalogue is a "Reserve" not an "Estimate". These are the prices which vendors are happy to accept. From a personal point of view (and I would think the same goes for many members), if I find I have bought a duplicate cover, I will send it to Harry and my reserve will be my original buying price.

I am not wanting to make money but would like my buying price back. I do not buy my covers from dealers if the price is over the top and so I have no difficulty selling on any unwanted items. At times I am surprised at the profit I have made through the auction but that has nothing to do with the reserve price I have put on the covers. It is the buyers privilege to bid to his limit on any item which he wants. If it is an item to complete or enhance a theme his bid may be far more than the item is worth, but a reserve or estimated price will not alter the bidding of that member I would guess.

When making bids my only consideration is "how much is it worth to me for the purpose to which it is going to be used?", not "what is the reserve given?".

\* \* \* \* \*

JOHN MATHEWS (Australia) adds the following to this saga.

The article, quoting Ian Burns' letter about the "BP & scroll" perfins on the 1957 Jubilee Jamboree stamps coming on the market again, sent me diving into my correspondence files. I had done some investigating on these; and two other people had mentioned these items to me. All said they came from an auction in Australia!! In view of the latest article, I guess it is not too late to repeat the information direct to you for Bulletin readers.

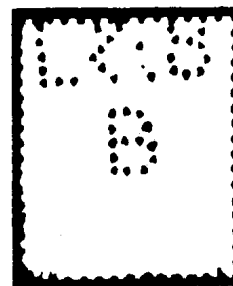
I wrote to the auction house here in Australia, run by a chap I know reasonably well. His reply was a lot more helpful than Ian's from Avon Stamps. The staff member who handles the vendors' material for lotting remembered the items quite clearly. He recalled that they had come in an old envelope with the return address of "British Petroleum". He gained the impression that the owner had been an ex-director of the oil company.

I then contacted another stamp collector who has a very strong connection with the Scout movement. He was able to confirm that, British Petroleum sponsored the 1957 Jubilee Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield. The coincidence of initials for British Petroleum, Baden-Powell and "Be Prepared" was obviously all too much for some publicity guru to resist! The scroll is no doubt styled on that which held the motto or the Scout badge - the dot between the letters "B" and "P" may correspond to the hyphen in the name Baden-Powell.

The puzzle concerns the reason they remained "undiscovered" for 35 years. I think it unlikely that someone would have stockpiled the stamps for so long and then produced 3 expensive perforators about 1990 or so, so I believe that they probably were perforated in 1957. What happened to them in 1957 in that case? Was approval for their use never granted? Did a director decide that they would be a good investment/souvenir for himself? Or, were they issued at the Jamboree, and some remain hidden in "Scout" collections somewhere? My scouting-collector friend has seen covers from that Jamboree, but none with perfined stamps. And of course, what happened to the perforators - has anyone tried to find out if British Petroleum in the UK has a company archive?

**IS THERE A SHERLOCK HOLMES IN THE HOUSE?** Roy Gault

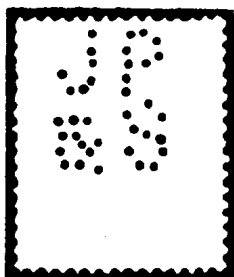
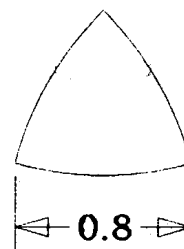
Information is sought from the membership to help solve a couple of problems. The first concerns the new perfin die L&S/B (L4922.01), found on a 1d Lilac clearly dated 12 FE 96. It was sent in by John Nelson, and I para-phrase his letter:



"At first sight it seemed to be a straight forward L&S/B die but on closer examination with a magnifying glass it can be seen that the pins which form the letters are not circular but shaped like tiny arrow-heads.

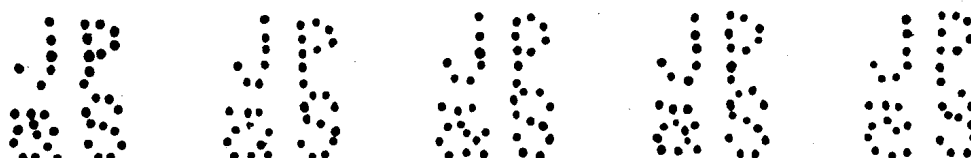
Having never seen anything like it before, could I ask if members have in their collections further examples of this die or any others of the same kind? Since it is impossible to drill arrow-head shaped holes, can anyone suggest a technically feasible method by which such a die could have been produced?"

My attempts at enlargement did not create a very clear picture of the shape of the holes, so I have drawn one of them twenty times full scale



The second request for help from the membership concerns the poorly made multiheaded die based on the perfin JP/&S (J6230.03) and used by John Player & Sons, Nottingham.

Over the years the various heads of the die have been catalogued as J6230.06, 06a/b/c/d/e, and 07, but information from strips and large format stamps have enabled five of the six heads to be positioned relative to their neighbours (see below). Can anyone prove which end the unplaced pattern (illustrated above) sits, and has anyone a proving cover for J6230.03?



## CROSSE & BLACKWELL AND THEIR PERFINS

Rosemary Smith.

A long time ago, with the emphasis on 'long', TERENCE BARNES sent in an idea for a display of different ampersands. He then said that it only expanded the illustrations in the front of the Edwards Catalogue and so the idea was left there.

However, Terence had used the perfins of Crosse & Blackwell as part of his display and he sent copies of their advertising literature. This has been in my 'forward file' waiting to be researched. Recently I wrote to Crosse & Blackwell asking if I could copy the short history of their firm from the leaflet, which Terence had given me. (This was from a free offer of a Commemorative Cover and a 50p Stamp Booklet of the 150th Ann. of the 1d Black, from the makers of Branston Pickle Crosse & Blackwell)

The reply was that they did not know of this particular leaflet but would send a history to me. I sent photocopies of the original "Branston Pickle leaflets" and I have now received a great deal of very interesting information from Nestle - who, in 1960, incorporated CSB into their food empire.

There are no records in the Crosse & Blackwell archives about the use of perfins so this article will go to Nestle to be added to their archive material

### THE HISTORY OF CROSSE & BLACKWELL

In 1706, during the reign of Queen Anne, WEST & WYATT began trading as 'Oilmen' at No.11 King Street, Soho, London: this is now known as Shaftesbury Avenue. In the next hundred years this firm established a reputation for high class pickles, sauces and condiments, mainly selling to the gentry and nobility.

In 1819, two 15 year old boys began their apprenticeship with West and Wyatt. They were EDMUND CROSSE and THOMAS BLACKWELL. They became firm friends and in 1829, when William Wyatt decided

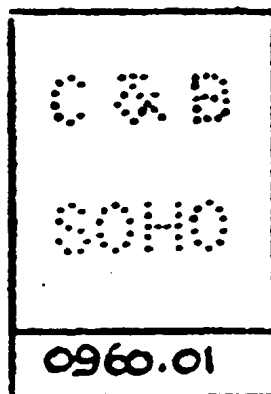
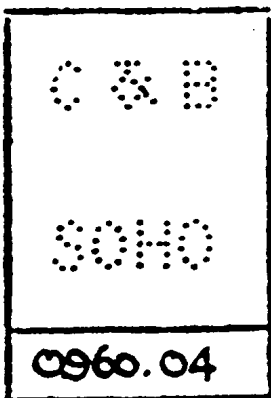
to retire, the two young men agreed to purchase the business. On January 26th 1830 the papers were signed and the firm bought for £600. Crosse and Blackwell were in business.

Their energies, ideas and foresight took this well-established old firm to even greater distinction. They sought unique recipes from world famous chefs: quality of ingredients and the finished product was their watchword. In 1839 they moved from the shop and factory in King Street to Soho Square, building a house cum shop at No.21 with which address the name of the company was linked for more than a century. By 1860 the firm had expanded into other food products including canned meats and fish, jams, preserves, soups, crystallized fruits etc.

In 1906 Crosse & Blackwell opened a fish canning factory at Peterhead which is still in production today, turning out the 'Branston' lines. Soups and Beans etc. 1919 saw C&B acquiring Lazenby's Sauce and James Keiller's Dundee Marmalade. In 1922 the BRANSTON pickle made its appearance and in 1960 Crosse & Blackwell joined the Nestle Group.

### THE PERFINNS OF CROSSE & BLACKWELL

At the present time there are seven perfins which are identified as being used by Crosse & Blackwell and one possible - a wartime provisional. Instead of listing them in catalogue order I will show them in date order - as far as we know.

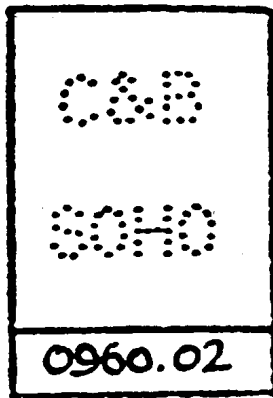


Crosse & Blackwell must have been one of the early users of perfins as a means of preventing the theft of their postage stamps from their offices. ;

C0900.04 - CSB/SOHO - is found on 1d Plates from Nos. 81 to 169. Plate 81 was put to press on 1-3-64 and by the time Sloper was granted permission by the Post Master General, on 13th March 1868, to perforate stamps, Plates 71 to 106 were in print. ;

C0960.01 - CSB/SOHO - is found on later 1d Plates - Nos.124 to 220. No 124 was put to press on 18-1-69.

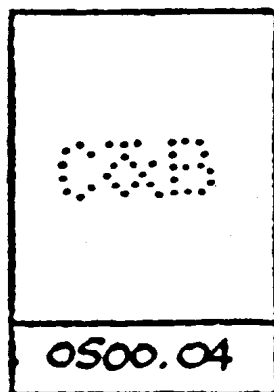
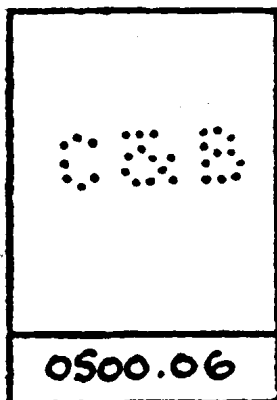
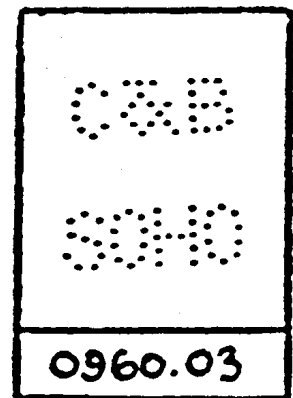
This latter die is also found on issues up to and including the 1d lilac of 1881.



C0960.02 - C&B/SOHO - was the next die to be used. The ampersand has changed to IIIa from I, the 'C&B' are much closer together as are the two lines of letters. This follows the pattern of early perfin letters set to miss the Queen's face (as C0960.04) and later dies having letters closer together.

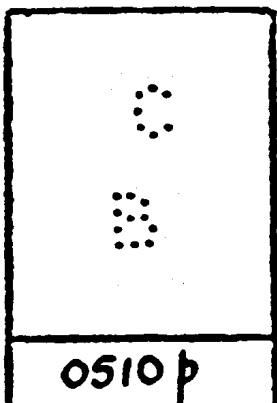
This die is found on the 1d lilac of 1881 through to QV Jubilee issues.

C0960.03 - the last of the C&B/SOHO dies - is found on KEVII to KGV issues. I have a cover dated 1919 with this die and wonder if the date of the change over to just 'C&B' can be pinpointed. 1924-5 seems to be a date of some importance in the history of Crosse & Blackwell as the new Head Office was erected on the site of 20 Soho Square. Perhaps the new perfin was introduced at the new office.



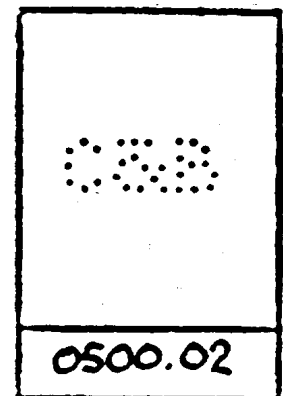
C0500.06 - C&B - is known on stamps of KGV and C0500.04 - C&B - from KGV to KGV I dark colours.

I would be interested to hear of date and issue of these dies.



C0510.01p is a possible Crosse & Blackwell die, used during the Provisional period when Sloper's Works were destroyed in the blitz. Issues of KGV I dark and light colours are known. A positive identification would be useful.

From KGV I light colours to QEII Wilding issues we find the last of



the known Crosse & Blackwell dies - C0500.02M - Again this would fit the history of the firm as they merged with Nestle in 1960.

I have two very interesting early perfin covers from Crosse & Blackwell with die C0960.01 dated 1880 and 1882 respectively. Both have the cachet on the flap "Purveyors By Appointment To The Queen - Crosse & Blackwell - London" printed in a red-brown colour.



Inside the 1880 cover was an itemised bill of goods bought by a grocer in Ryde, Isle of Wight, which makes interesting reading. One item in particular caught my eye: "½ doz. Mushroom Catsup" and written on the reverse of the bill was the message, "In consequence of the failure in the crop of Mushrooms we are unable to supply Catsup in bulk this season". I had to turn to "Mrs Beaton" to find the meaning of 'Catsup'.

Also in this envelope were two price lists dated November 1st 1880. One for "French Crystallised Fruits etc" and the other covered Plum Puddings, Cordials, Salmon, Lobster and many other delicacies. How the other half lived!!

The 1882 cover has a receipt inside which uses a 1d lilac stamp for receipt purposes and it is overprinted in black, 'CROSSE & BLACKWELL'.

Any new or additional information, or photocopies of allied items will be gratefully received and an update published in a future Bulletin.

I thank Terence Barnes for putting this idea in my head in the first place and sending the first bits of information which led on to the rest.

From Nestle UK Ltd I acknowledge the two quite lengthy histories of Crosse & Blackwell and Nestle which were very kindly sent to me by Marion Irving, Senior Public Affairs Officer with the company.

As Nestle have used perfins, I will research these for a later Bulletin.

## RHODESIA PERFINS From Dave Hill

Non-member O J PEETOOM publishes "The Rhodesian Philatelist" from Ormskirk Stamps

He wrote me about Rhodesian perfins. Only one, BSA/C, could have been a true perfin as against perforators used to cancel fiscal stamps on documents. Even then I am unsure whether this was ever used on postage stamps.

He has asked me about straight line perforations like the ones I wrote about in the last Bulletin (279 Pg.13) which appear on the 1897 Rhodesian Large Arms stamps. The perfin takes the form of two parallel rows of straight line perforations, varying distances apart and not lined up one with the other.

Does any member know the reason for these or anything about them?

## BOOKS ON HISTORIES OF FIRMS From Dave Hill

If you have any book tokens left over from Christmas perhaps might like to buy "How It All Began" by Maurice Baren, published by Smith Settle at £8-99p. It gives short illustrated histories of over 80 famous firms, some of which were perfin users.

I would be interested to know if any member has a similar book called "The Shell Book of Firsts" which gives information on inventions etc.

(From Ed:- if you know of other books which give short histories of firms - particularly those using perfins - please let me know title, author, publisher and we can compile a list for reference.)

\* \* \* \* \*

## GRAPHITE LINED WILDINGS By Richard L Mewhinney.

My very good friend. Bob Schwerdt, and I have each developed speciality collections of a British series that may be of interest to others. These collections involve the gathering of all specimens of perfins we can find on the graphite lined Wildings. The quantity of which we know is very small although we have each gone through thousands upon thousands of British perfins. I would like to offer to the society our combined lists of those we have located over the years.



<u>Design</u>	<u>Cat. No.</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>S.G.No.</u>
CP/R	6120.01	1d	541
	"	2d	543
	"	3d	545
C.W.	8280.01	1d	541
C/W/S	5830.01	2½d	591
	"	4d	593
	"	4½d	594
FU/DC	4270.01	1d	541
	"	1½d	542
	"	2½d	544
	"	3d	545
	"	2d	590
	"	3d	592
LINE	3880.01	2d	543
	"	3d	592
M/C	??	4d	593
MV/C°	5860.01	1d	541
NC	0510.04	1d	541
	"	4½d	594
NI	1760.01	4½d	594
P.H/C	2350.01	2d	590
RM/L	3490.01	4d	593
SW/GB	8120.01	4½d	593
S&S	??	4d	593
T&S	4040.03	2d	543
	"	2½d	544
	"	3d	545
W/G	??	4d	593
WILLS	4370.01	4½d	594

Where question marks appear, I do not have the stamp in my collection or readily available to check.

It would be greatly appreciated if we could receive information on any other perfin design and issues upon which graphite lines are known. I'll be more than happy to share any information I may receive. Please contact Richard L. Mewhinney

\* \* \* \* \*

REFERENCE TO FRANK BRAHAM  
PERFORATOR OF POSTAGE STAMPS

At a Stamp Fair in Glasgow, Gary Shayler bought a pile of "The China Clipper", the magazine of The China Stamp Society Inc. In Volume 42 - No.6 - SEPT 1978 was the story of Barclay & Fry, (themselves users of perfins), producing the stamp issues of 1893-1896 for the Shanghai Local Post. The paper was written by Charles W Dougan and the following are the extracts which are of interest to the perfin specialist.

The paper deals with the events leading up to the production of the Barclay & Fry postage stamps and postal stationery for the Shanghai Local Post. Barclay & Fry printed the excellent Bank Notes for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and this may have influenced the Municipal Council to engage B&F to print the postal material.

The London Agents for the Council of Shanghai, who were in charge of issuing the new stamps, were John Pook & Co., 8 Jeffreys Square, St.Mary Axe, EC. on 4 July 1892 they wrote to B&F setting out the specifications for the stamps and postal stationery.

On 30 August 1892 Frank Braham wrote to B&F stating, - "I shall be willing to perforate for you, sheets of stamps (Shanghai Corps) perfectly, and in a similar manner to those used by the British Government and as produced by De La Rue & Co for the sum of one penny per sheet of stamps. The various sizes of stamps shall make no difference in price and to redeliver to you the same in as good a condition as you leave them to me in quires of 25 sheets."

On 8 September 1892 B&F sent to F. Braham two sheets of each size of stamps for trial perforations.

On 2 March 1893 Braham requested of B&F one sheet of each finished stamp to complete adjustments for perforating. On 28 Apr 1893 he notified B&F that he was prepared to perforate the stamps for 50 shillings per 1000 sheets for the first 25,000 sheets, after which the price was reduced to 45 shillings per 1000 sheets.

The link with our own speciality comes in the photocopy of the letter of 30 August 1892 from F. Braham. It shows his letter head perforated "F.BRAHAM - PERFORATING PRESS MAKER" and with the legend 'Postage Stamps Perforated<sup>1</sup> and 'Stamps Overprinted for

receipts'. The name of Frank Braham is quite well known and references have been made to him in a number of Bulletins - the latest being 271 Pg.11 and 262 Pg.13.

As Frank Braham perforated between the stamps on these sheets of Shanghai Local Post stamps, if perfins are found on these issues, it could be that Braham was responsible for the perfins as well as the perforations.

The illustration of the letter head is not to scale

POSTAGE  
STAMPS  
PERFORATED.



STAMPS  
OVER PRINTED  
FOR RECEIPTS.

F. BRAHAM  
PERFORATING PRESS MAKER  
& MACHINIST,  
POST OFFICE, TABERNACLE STREET, E.C.

In reply refer to

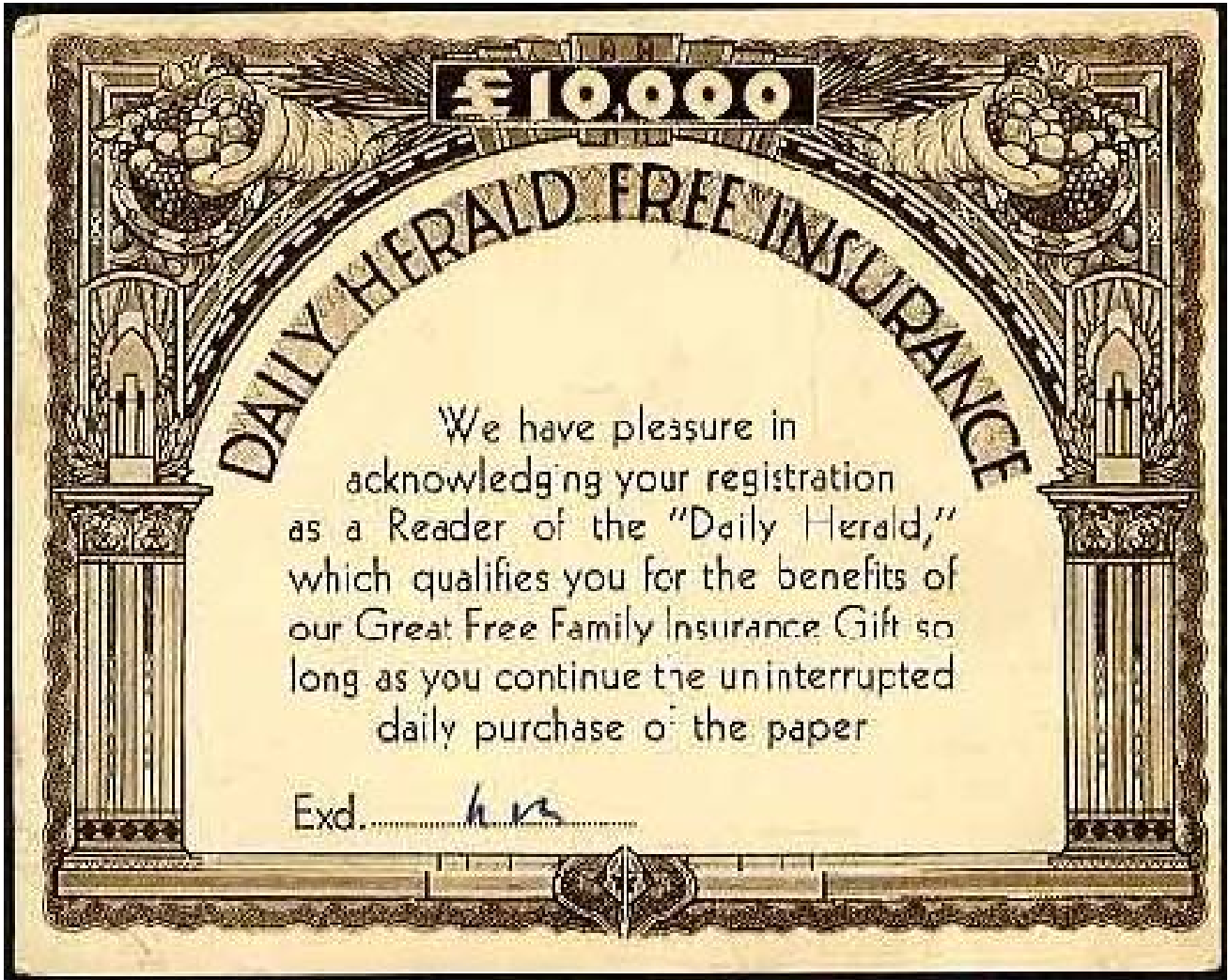
WORKS. ~~47 Rivington St~~  
47 Rivington St

Reference to yours

London, 30 Aug 1892  
Messrs Barclay & Fry  
Gentlemen.

Relating to my  
interview with you, I shall  
be willing to perforate for  
you sheets of stamps (Shanghai type)  
perfectly, and in a similar  
manner to those used by the  
British Government and as  
produced by De la Rue & Co.  
for the sum of one penny  
per sheet of stamps.  
The various sizes of stamps  
shall make no difference in

DAILY HERALD INSURANCE CARD



Early in December, member BILL HANSON sent to me a similar card to that illustrated above, asking if it was worth a mention in a future Bulletin. As my card was slightly different I wonder if anyone else has any other details.

Both cards have ½d GV Typo stamps with perfin DH (D2210.02). Bill's has no date but an NP pink; mine is dated 14-6-34. Mine gives the address of the Daily Herald Insurance Department; Bill's has no address.

The artwork on both cards is exactly the same but my card, 1934, is for £10,000; Bill's is for £20,000. Are there others with differing amounts? Can anyone pin-point by dates on cards which came first - the £10,000 or £20,000?

Comments to the Editor please.

\* \* \* \* \*

## NEW IDENTITIES submitted to the CATALOGUE EDITOR (Roy Gault) - 14 Contributors.

Note: Underlined Catalogue Numbers are also New Dies and have been illustrated at the end.

### From Dave Hill.

A0820.01	A.B/R.C	10,13/12,8	5½	Anderson's Bristol Rubber Co Ltd, Bristol.	I
C2340.01	CE/D	7,9/9	4	Siemens Brothers & Co Ltd, Stock & Share Dept, Caxton House, Westminster, London SW1. TC pmk London SW 1, 20/12/1932.	I
Note: A single headed die with these initials appears in the pre WWII Sloper ledger against the entry "Caxton Electrical D." Presumably the 'D' stands for department.					
G0420.01	G&/B	10,14/14	4½ III	Grimshaw & Baxter, 29-37 Goswell Rd, London EC. Cover dated 27/6/1904.	F
Note: Cover had a joined horizontal pair of E7 ½d(bl-gn) showing the same blunt pins in the 'B', indicating a single headed die.					
<u>I1240.01</u>	IIC	5,5,9	6	Cables and Wireless Ltd, Electra House, Moorgate, London EC2. TC dated 31/3/1933.	I
Note: Company registered as "Cable & Wireless" in 1934, having been originally registered in 1929 as "Imperial and International Communications Ltd". The die HC (H1160.18) can be deleted - the bar to the 'H' is a photocopy blemish!					
<u>J7812.01</u>	JT/M	7,7/15	5	J T Medd Ltd, West Hartlepool. TC pmk West Hartlepool, 16/1/1924.	I
L0960.01	LC	7,8	4½	Ø Leeds Corporation.	M
Note: Identity suspected from 'Leeds' appearing on the back of a machine receipt.					
M2320.01	M. E/&C <sup>o</sup>	17,10/13,8,6	5½ III	Mann Egerton & Co Ltd, Norwich. Cover pmk Norwich, 25/5/1955.	U
Note: There are many blind/missing pins in the strike.					
N0510.01	NC	10,7	4½	Nelson Corporation, Town Hall, Nelson. PC dated 30/10/1937.	O
P0420.03	P.B	10,14	6	Paul Bros, Flour Mills, Liverpool. TC pmk Birkenhead, 10/10/1910.	F
R2280.01	RHC	12,12,8	5½	R J Collins, Manufacturer, 29 Bartholomew Close, London EC. Cover pmk London EC, 16/10/1912.	H
W0010.04	W	12	4½	23. Willing Lumi-Neon Ltd, Neon, Electronics, Lighting, 2 Hertford Rd, London N1. Cover pmk London N1, 8/10/1958.	U

### From John Nelson

G2010.01	G.G/&/S	11,11/13/11	5 III	George Glanfield & Son, Wholesale Clothiers, 462-464 Bethnal Green Rd, London E. (Identified from piece).
R0835.01	R/&/C	13/12/10	5½ III	Romeike & Curtice, Press Information Agency, 359 Strand and 221 High Holborn, London WC. (Identified from piece).

From Roberto Eissler.

A2220.01	A.F.	10,8	5		Appleby Frodingham Steel Co Ltd. Censored cover dated 1940.	Q
K0310.01	KC/&C <sup>o</sup>	10,8/14,8,4	5½	I	Kolp, Coleman & Co Ltd, Manchester. Cover dated 7/10/1918.	I
L0320.01	L.B./B.C.	7,13/13,8	5½		Leisler, Bock Bros & Co, Manchester. Cover dated March 1916.	I
P2650.01	PJ/C <sup>o</sup> L	10,7/8,4,7	5		Pinchin, Johnson & Co Ltd, Minerva House, Bevis Marks, London EC. Cover dated 8/12/1915.	I
R4620.01	R.S./&C.	13,10/12,9	8	IIIa	R Steinmann & Co, Liverpool. Cover pmk Liverpool, 30/10/1914.	I
S3805.01	SI/&C <sup>o</sup>	10,5/14,8,4	5	I	Simon, Israel & Co Ltd, Bradford. Cover pmk Bradford, 26/9/1914.	I

From John Frost.

A0185.02	A.A/&C <sup>o</sup>	10,10/13,8,6	6	III	Aspinall, Aspinall & Co, New Cross, London SE. TC dated 23/12/1889.	E
F0090.01	F.A./&Co.	11,12/12,9,6	6½	IIIa	F Albrecht & Co, Liverpool. Cover pmk LONDON, 23/9/1914.	I
H4430.01	HL/C	11,8/10	5½		Humber Ltd, Coventry. [POKO die] Cover pmk Coventry, 26/4/1934.	I
M1510.07	M&C <sup>o</sup>	15,14,8,6	4½	III	Morgan & Co, 42 Cannon St, London EC. (Morgan, Allsopp & Co successors to Morgan Bros. ). Entire pmk London, 1/3/1876.	A
N3060.01	NS/&N	13,10/12,13	4	IIIa	Newman, Smith & Newman, Carey Ln, London EC. Cover dated 21/4/1915.	I
S2010.02	SD	11,12	6		The Illustrated Sporting & Dramatic News, 16 Essex St, Strand, WC2.	I
W0470.01	W&B/B	15,14,15/15	4½	III	Wright & Butler, Lamp Manufacturers, New John Street West, Birmingham. Entire pmk Birmingham, 1/3/1882.	A

From Paddy Murphy.

J5510.01	J/MS (in shamrock)/L	6/11,9 (47)/6	15½		Ø J Matterson & Sons Ltd, Bacon & Canning Factory, Roche's St, Limerick, Eire. [Established 1820	B&E
Note: Identity suspected from Limerick postmarks on loose stamps and the fact that 'Shamrock Brand' was the trade mark of the company.						
Y0560.01	YIC	7,5,8	5½		Yorkshire Insurance Co Ltd, 3 College Green, Dublin. Cover has 1d '1922 Irish o/p', pmk 17/6/1922.	I

From Boris Pritt

R0060.02p	R/A	12/8	4½/5½		2. Mullard Wireless Service Co Ltd, Century House, Shaftesbury Ave, London WC2. Cover Pmk London 1/11/1941.	Q
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From Rosemary Smith, - Note, entry for BG/IC is 'additional information'.

A0780.01	ABM	10,13,15	4½		The Associated Biscuit Mfrs Ltd, London SE1. Cover dated 20/9/1926.	I
B0590.02a	BB/CL <sup>d</sup>	14,14/8,7,6	5		Brooke Bond & Co Ltd, Wholesale and Blended Tea Dealers, London. Receipt dated 12/6/1922.	I
B3060.01	BG/IC	11,9/4,7	4½		British General Insurance Co Ltd, Cross House, Westgate Rd, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Dated 15/7/1949.	R
B6530.03	BSC	14,12,9	6½		Beath, Schiess & Felstead, Australian Merchants, 47 Aldermanbury, London EC2. Cover dated 26/1/1926.	I

Note: John Nelson adds that Beith, Scheiss & Co were trading from this address in 1896, so the 'Co' part probably accounts for the 'C' in the perfin. Presumably Mr Felstead joined the partnership later but no alteration was made to the die.

C0060.06	CA	8,10	4½		The Church Army, H/Q Bryanston St, Marble Arch, London W1. Cover dated 6/12/1933.	I
E 1330.02a	EE/C <sup>o</sup>	10,10/8,4	5		The English Electric Co Ltd, Bradford. TC pmk Bradford, 7/5/1935.	M

Note: Examples with Rugby postmarks are also known.

G2200.02	GHF/&C <sup>o</sup>	10,12,8/14,8,4	4½	I	G H Fletcher & Co, Liverpool. Cover dated 1/2/1906.	F
H6605.01	H.S/FC <sup>o</sup> .	11,11/8,8,6	5½		Hellyers' Steam Fishing Co Ltd, Hull. Cover pmk Hull, 29/6/1907.	F
L2810.01	L&HB	7,12,12,13	4	IIIa	London & Hanseatic Bank Ltd. Cover dated 10/10/1914.	I
R5240.01c	RT/&C <sup>o</sup>	10,6/12,7,4	4½	Ia	Robert Tucker & Co, 23 Coleman St, London EC2. Dated December 1959.	U

From Gary Shayler.

K0315.01	K.C./E.	10,8/10	5½		Keighley Engineers Office, College St, Keighley, Yorks. Cover pmk Keighley, 2/11/1945.	R
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From Arthur Smith

N2260.03	NN	10,10	4		Nicholsons Ltd, Newcastle-on -Tyne. Cover dated 19/7/1922 bears their "Double-N" logo.	I
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From Peter Burn.

K1110.01	KK	11,11	5½		Kolok Manufacturing Co Ltd, Rochester Works, Tottenham, N17. Covers dated 22/7/49 & 2/9/49.	R
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From Stephen Steere - Identity from Sloper ledger.

E1550.01b	EF/L	9,7/6	4½		Elders & Fyffes Ltd, 15 Stratton St, London W1. Previously at Astor House, Aldwych, London WC2.	
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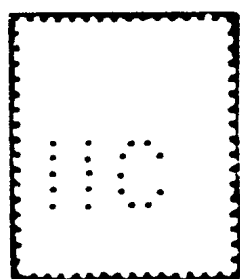
The following new identities are the result of Stephen Steere's article illustrating unreported Sloper dies (Bulletin No.278). All are single headed dies except N1170.01aM (12x1). Thanks go to Jack Brandt, Tony Swales and George Greenhill.

<u>L3260.02a</u>	L&J	6,12,5	4½	Ia	Lee & James Ltd, Gardec Works, Green Lane, Birmingham. Previously at 185 Moseley St, Birmingham.	R
<u>L3690.02b</u>	LL/&S	6,6/12,9	4½	Ia	1. Louis London & Sons, Alie St, London E1. Previously at 14b Henrietta St, London W1. 2. Lyon Lohr & Sly, Cunard House, 88 Leadenhall St, London EC3.	U
<u>L5820.02a</u>	LW/C <sup>o</sup>	6,12/7,4	4½		Liverpool Warehousing Co Ltd, The Old Hall, Liverpool.	R,S
<u>M0810.02a</u>	MBW	11,11,12	4½		Mark Brown's Wharf & Cold Store, Potter's Fields, London SE 1.	R
<u>M1320.03a</u>	McK/&C <sup>o</sup>	11,7,9/12,7,4	4½	Ia	McKenna & Co.	R
<u>N1170.01aM</u>	NE/GB	11,9/9,11	4½		North Eastern Gas Board.	R
<u>P0980.01b</u>	P/CC	8/7,7	4½		Peterborough City Council, Cambs.	

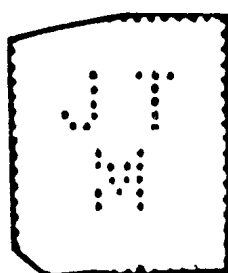
Errors noted in recent Bulletins.

A5760.05	A.W	10,17	5½		Should read A5670.05.	(B279).
C7950.01cM	CU/DC	7,8/9,7	4½		Should read Carlton UDC.	(B278).
C6480.01	CR/&C <sup>o</sup>	8,11/12,8,6	4½	IIIa	Positive identity Cock Russell & Co.	(B278).
H7740.02					HW/&C <sup>o</sup> should have read HW/&D	(B279).
W3950.01					Should read WH/W not WH/H	(B276).

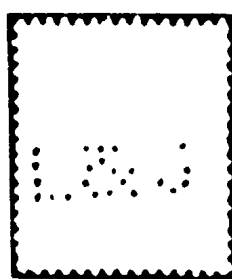
#### NEW DIE/IDENTITY ILLUSTRATIONS.



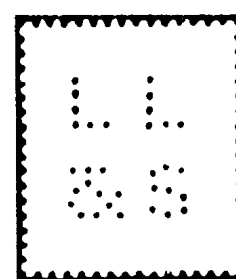
I1240.01



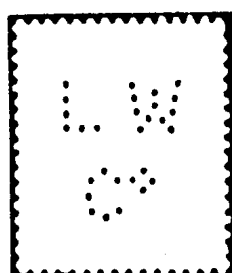
J7812.01



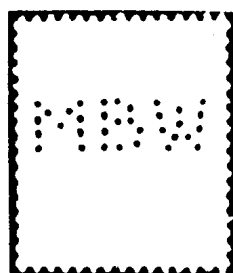
L3260.02a



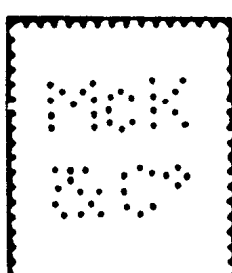
L3690.02b



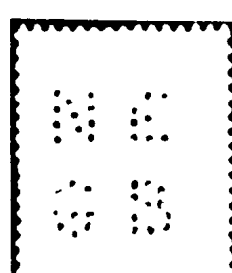
L5820.02a



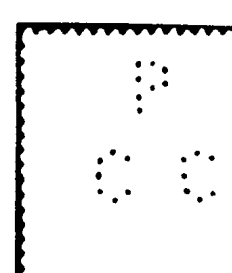
M0810.02a



M1320.03a



N1170.01aM



P0980.01b



pressed, and to redeliver to you  
the same in as good a condition  
as you hand them to me in  
quires of 25 sheets.

The work to be commenced in  
six weeks from this date.

Payments to be made for property  
monthly.

The tools and machinery  
necessary to do any perforating  
are my property and do not  
in any way belong to yourselves  
or be at your disposal.

I should be pleased if you  
will confirm this letter and  
send as early as possible one  
sheet of each stamp, so that  
I may progress with the  
tools required.

Yours truly

J. P. Drake

