## Truck Registration \$15.00

John Lyding (LM-116)

As many of you may know, I retired as Maryland's Director of Driver Licensing and School Vehicle Safety in 1995. When that occurred, I promised my wife that I "would do something about that mess in the garage." Well, I did do something about it, I gathered up all of the boxes, bags, albums, stock sheets, etc. and put them into plastic bins. That was a good deal because I could stack these up neatly against a wall and forget them.

Actually, I didn't forget everything. While I was loading the bins, I separated the perfin material. Then I sorted all the perfin covers alphabetically and I wrote a series of articles for the Bulletin (A is for Apple, B is for Ball, etc.) That series and my enthusiasm died somewhere in the first quarter of the alphabet. The plastic bins gathered dust until August of last year, when we moved out of our four-

bedroom home with a large den, garage, and storage room/laundry into a two-bedroom apartment in a retirement community. There was nowhere to fit "that mess in the garage." So, I did what any redblooded, macho American male would do. I rented a climate-controlled storage locker.

That solution worked for a while, but after two months a bill for the third month arrived. Determined to do something, I moved twenty 20gallon plastic storage bins into the second bedroom. Since then, I have been sorting, putting items in albums, selling (eBay and three local stamp clubs) and throwing away the things that I didn't think I could do away with. I had completed working on perfins (well through the letter W anyway) when I came upon the Automobile Certificate shown below.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AUTOMOBILE DIVISION

INSTRUCTIONS TO HOLDERS OF AUTOMOBILE LICENSES FOR PMEUMATIC AND SOLID TIRED VEHICLES.

Attach your 1918 license plates to your motor vehicle after December 31, 1917. Put e seen at a gitance.

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By always in a careful meaner. Eachless arity and most important, operate year car always in a careful meaner. Eachless inc. is responsible for nearly all of the accidents which occur. See that you are not

fault provisions of the automorile law will be enforced rigidly.

document interesting for a number of reasons. This is the registration for a solid tired truck an

As a former state-licensing official, I found this

- 8,500-pound Autocar, .The fee was \$15.00,
- The form for 1919 was personally signed,
- Replacement license tags were available for \$1.00.

And the card was posted on Christmas day 1918 with a 2¢ red Washington head stamp punched SHD, perfin pattern SI42 of the State Highway Department, Harrisburg, PA.