Bogus German Perfins Reported

Dr. Hans D. Hilmann

Since the completion of the German perfins catalog, I have been receiving perfins from various collectors who could not find the pattern in the catalog. Such reports are very welcome for catalog improvement.

I recently received 41 unlisted patterns from an American friend who had received them from a collector in the United States. Most of these patterns looked like they had been clumsily and poorly counterfeited by hand. A detailed analysis by two collectors in Holland proved beyond doubt that 38 of the 41 perfins are counterfeits. The exact method of analysis should not be publicized in order to prevent the counterfeiter from using that information to improve the quality of his work. I have registered these counterfeits, but they will not be published in additions to the German catalog. The patterns are shown on the accompanying figure on page 4. The Numbers under each illustration are of no significance. This information is published to warn other collectors. The stamps were purchased by the owner from a source in Rumania. The identity of the counterfeiter has not vet been determined.

Rumania. The identity of the counterfeiter has not yet been determined. Both collectors and counterfeiters should be aware that the positive identification of such counterfeits is reliably possible.

Editors note: This article also appeared in the December edition of the German Club's Rundbreif and will appear in *The Bulletin of* The Perfins Society (GB).

We are indeed indebted to Dr. Hilmann

and Gerald E Soutar (LM 68), who provided the English translation of this article, for this information. Dr. Hilmann's catalog Katalog der Deutschen Firmen.lochungen recently was awarded a gold medal in a philatelic literature competition (see page 1.)

