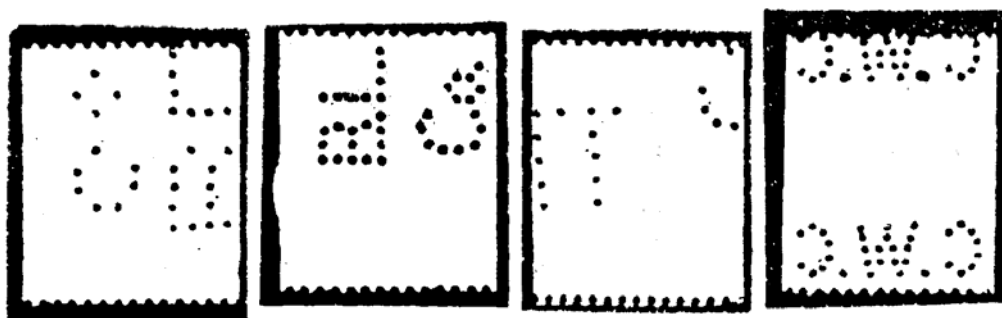


THE COIL PERFINNS OF SOUTH AFRICA by B.I.Dennis

Of the approximately 150 perfin types on record for South Africa and the pre-Union period, only four patterns have been found on the coil stamps. None are common, but the two types in regular use were the BL/C^o types of B. Lawrence & Co who were merchants in Cape Town. Type 1 is recorded from 1920 to 1922 and seems to have been superseded by Type 2, which is known from 1922 to 1924. They are known only on the ½d, 1d and 2d coil stamps of the KGV early Union period, S.G. 18, 19 and 21, p14 x imperf. The perforators were clearly coil fed as each pattern type is always of the same sideways orientation.

Two other types were known only from single copies. Type 3 is incomplete and found on a 1d KGV Head (S.G. 19); the user is not known. Type 4 was used by C.W. Champion of Bloemfontein and is normally recorded on sheet stamps of the early Union period. However a single example is known of this pattern on a 1d KGV coil stamp (S.G. 19) dated 1917. The pattern is displaced and perhaps this example resulted from a crude attempt to run a coil through a sheet perforator.



Type 1

Type 2

Type 3

Type 4