

Perfin collecting is an international hobby, but perfins too are international. A number of perfins are known on the stamps of more than one country. Foremost amongst these are the perfins of Thos. Cook which are known on the stamps of 16 different countries (see issues 215 & 217) but collectors can look for a number of others. Our own monogram perfin is found on the stamps of at least six countries plus a number of local issues. The earlier "SEP//S" must also have been used on the stamps of different countries.

Illustrated below are two more internationals. The diminutive "CL" of Credit Lyonnais is known on UK (overprinted Levant), Belgian and French issues and could exist on the German, Austrian and Turkish issues used in Beyrout. The other is used by the Union Castle Mail Steamship Co. Ltd. and I have seen it on the stamps of UK, Transvaal, Cape of Good Hope, Angola and S. Africa. An interesting point regarding the latter design is that it is apparently identical on stamps from each country. Were stamps brought to a central office for perfinning and redistribution ?

I am preparing some exhibition pages of "international" perfins and would be pleased to purchase or exchange examples.

