

## BALLOT PAPER CANCELLATIONS

DAVE HILL writes to say that as a Poll Clerk at the recent Euro Elections, he was amused to find that he was in charge of a "perfin machine" for stamping the voting papers. It was made of aluminium similar to a modern hole punch. It has a square of 25 holes, 5x5. Pins can be inserted into the holes to make any letter, number or design and the holes made by these pins are quite large. Dave presumes each polling station has a slightly different pattern for their cancellation. With a bed of 5x5 it makes for a vast number of permutations.

The machines are supplied, but not manufactured, by Shaw & Sons Ltd Shaway House, Bell Green Lane, Lower Sydenham, London SE. The name of the manufacturer was not on the canceller.

Dave has looked at the design pages of the Edwards Catalogue and thinks 0250 and 0890 could be holes made by this type of machine (The

distance across 3 holes is the same) and 0760 by something similar. It is certainly a new idea and perhaps worthy of more research. Fig. 1 shows the actual ballot cancellation used by Dave Hill's machine and Fig. 2 is the photocopy of a similar, but slightly smaller machine, supplied by Shaw & Sons. Figs. 3,4 & 5 are the above mentioned illustrations from the Design Pages.

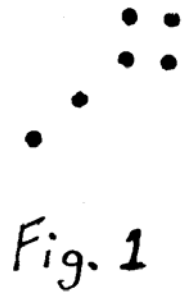
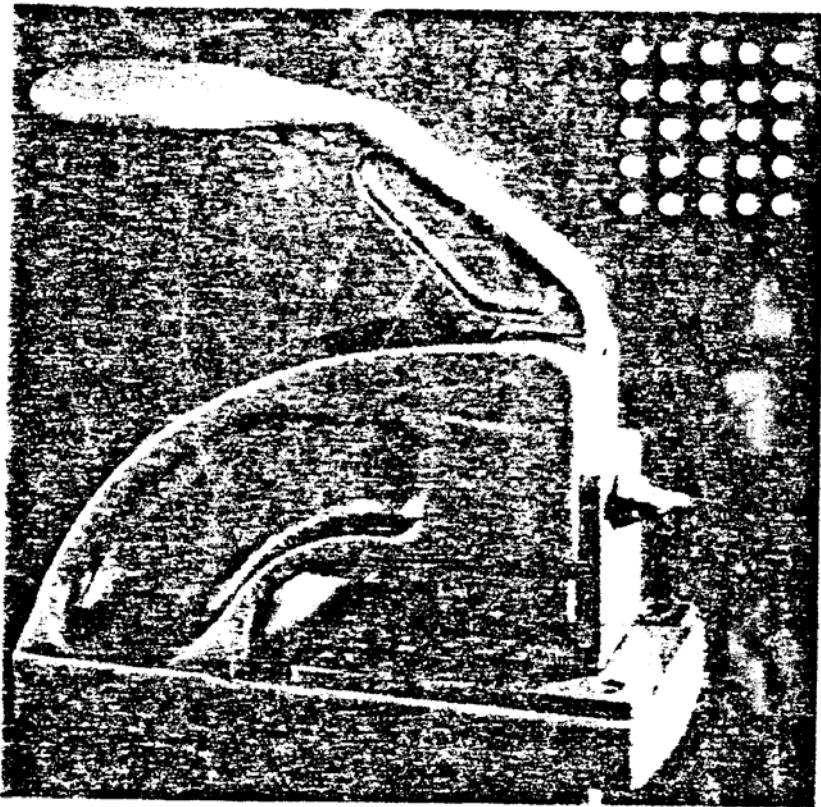
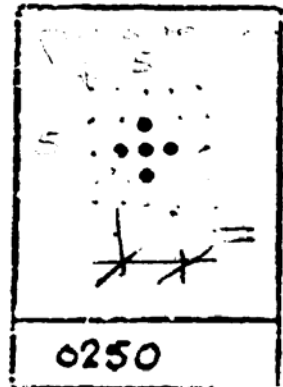


Fig. 1



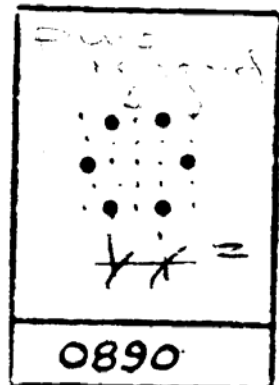
Perforator Press. Base size  $5\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{4}''$   
 Weight: 11lb 10ozs aluminium  
 $25 \times \frac{1}{16}''$  perforations in area  $\frac{5}{8}'' \times \frac{5}{8}''$   
 All pins removable or interchangeable.  
 Suitable for ballot paper cancellation.

Fig. 2



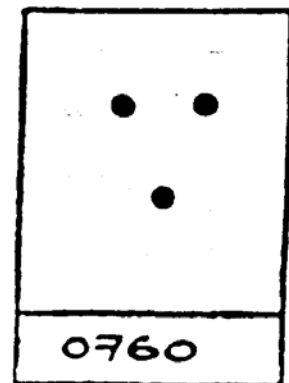
0250

Fig. 3



0890

Fig. 4



0760

Fig. 5