

THE PRINTING & STAMP PERFORATING CO LTD

Maurice Harp

One of the lesser known perforating companies is The Printing & Stamp Perforating Co. Ltd based at 9 South St, Finsbury, London EC. They described themselves in the 1910 edition of Kelly's Directory for London as "perforators (initial) of postage stamps, printers & perforating press makers". The name of this company first came to light from research carried out by **Stephen Steere** at the Post Office archives, which uncovered the story of how perfins nearly became official (see Bulletin 245/7 and 349/25). **Alastair Walter** also extracted a little information about this company from the same archive documents that showed that the company charged 0.5% for perforating. (See Bulletin 329/32). In a report on perforators made to the Controller of Posts in May 1906 we learn a little more:-

"The Printing & Stamp Perforating Co, which has only recently started, appears to be more or less under the management of Messrs Braham, late of Tabernacle Street T.S.O.. Judging from their known purchases of stamps, their present business is at the rate of about £750 a week or - say - £40,000 a year and is increasing. Their usual charge appears to be 10/- per cent on ordinary stamps but it is likely that lower rates are accepted in some cases, as it is known that was done by Messrs Braham when at Tabernacle Street. One of their order forms is attached."

A reduced copy of this order form is shown opposite. As can be seen it is very similar to those used by other perforators at the time. I have done some directory research and found that although the company is recorded in the 1910 Kelly's London directory there is no mention of them in the 1914 directory. So it appears that the company really didn't last very long – indeed we only have any record of them from 1906 – 1910. Can any other member with access to other directories extend this date range? We know that Frank Braham founded his original business in Tabernacle St in 1883 and that it is recorded that he went bankrupt in 1906. So it seems he bounced straight back by founding the Printing & Stamp Perforating Co. and that this company in turn folded within a few years.

THE PERFORATING & STAMP PERFORATING CO. LTD.

Post Cards } Thin 10/-
 PERFORATING }
 50. PER PANEL } Stout 5/-

1/2d. Wrappers perforated £1 3s. 4d. per 480

Receipt Stamps overprinted

**QUOTATION GIVEN FOR PRINTING ON POSTCARDS
AND GENERAL PRINTING.**

Receipt Stamps overprinted { £5 for 2/-; £10 for 3/3; £15 for 4/-;
 £20 for 4/6; £25 for 5/-

Received by

The Printing & Stamp Perforating Co., Ltd.,
 9, SOUTH STREET, FINSBURY, E.C.

Please forward the undermentioned Stamps

To

	No. of SHEETS REQUIRED.	£	s.	d.
1d. @ 10/- per sheet	240			
1d. " £1	240			
1 1/2d. " £1 10s.	240			
2d. " £2	240			
2 1/2d. " £2 10s.	240			
3d. " £3	240			
4d. " £4	240			
5d. " £5	240			
6d. " £6	240			
9d. " £3	80			
10d. " £4	96			
1/- " £6	120			
2/6 " per single stamp				
5/- " " " "				
10/- " " " "				
£1 " " " "				
CHARGE		-	£	

Amount of herewith.

Stamps received by

Part Sheets should be ordered in Sections value £1 & 10/-
 Orders must not amount to less than £5 worth, the minimum charge
 for which is 6d.

Cheques payable to Company and crossed London & South Western Bank, Ltd.
RECEIPT STAMP WRAPPERS, POST CARDS, ETC., ON OTHER SIDE.