

The Perfin Bulletin
 { November 1955
 December 1955
 January 1956

Recd 9/19/56

Keith Misegades Editor, 4615 Rosedale Ave, Bethesda 14, Maryland
 David C. Stump Sec.-Treas., 310 So. Wayne St., Wayne, Penna.

New Members

276 Dr. Aeneas Constantine		Harrisville, Mich.
277 Leonard H. Paul	311 Parsons, Ave.	Bala-Cynwyd, Penna.
278 John L. Steele	Wynnewood Park Apts- 20B	Wynnewood, Penna.
279 Matt C. Kaufman	824 Swift Ave.	Sheboygan, Wisc.
280 Mrs. James G. Newman	1123 So. Miles	El Reno, Okla.
281 L.I. Newton	844 Madison Street	Jackson, Miss.
282 John C. Hinrichs	140 Summit Street	Manchester, Conn.
283 Richard B. Robinson	12105 Castlewood Ave.	Cleveland 8, Ohio
284 Charles H. Collander	905 Fifth Ave.	Moline, Ill.
285 Leon Weisel	2 Wainwright Ave.	Yonkers, New York
286 To be supplied		
287 Alois L. Wyman	363 Bellflower Ave., NW.	Canton 8, Ohio

Resignations

James Woodward	John Rassweiler
Paul Wirth	P.D. VanOudenol
Ronald Tiedemann	

Changes of Address

Henry E. Childs, Jr.	15053 Neartree Dr.	La Miranda, Calif.
Samuel C. Prescott	Londonderry Turnpike	Auburn, New Hamp.
Robert Solow	191 Timberline Drive	Brentwood, N.Y.
H. Smit Oranjelaan 30	Zevenaar (Gld)	Netherlands
William V. DeLong	22 North Ave.	Norfolk, Conn.

Letter from the President

Dear Members:

Since the time I was given the news that I was chosen to be the Club's president, I have been impressed with the responsibility of the job. The duties, while not so many, cannot be treated lightly. Since we are the "under-dog" of philately, we must conduct ourselves with a dignity, far beyond necessity and to work astutely toward furthering our cause.

There is much work to do and thus the splitting of the offices of president and editor relieves Mr. Misegades of much extra work. We all work without monetary compensation, thus we cannot devote all of our time to the job. If all of us who can, will help, none of the work need be heavy. Not only that, there is a great deal of satisfaction in knowing you have contributed. Even the identification of ONE new item is appreciated as well as helping the whole membership.

In time, we plan to overhaul and streamline the Contact Committee, to better help the members, new as well as old. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

We all have duplicates to exchange and if SOMEONE will sponsor such an exchange, I am sure they will find plenty to do. Possibly a deal could be arranged for trading used commems or precancels for perfins. Some non-perfin-collectors will trade the same way in reverse, thus stock could be maintained near a level.

The completion of the catalog and its subsequent publication is not in the immediate future but much has been done. There are some errors that are being corrected and new items are being found and old ones identified. While such items are being found in substantial numbers, it would seem useless to publish a "final" edition of the catalog.

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The more help we get, the sooner the job will be finished.

While I have much more enthusiasm than knowledge, I will try to fulfil the office to the best of my ability. However I will appreciate any help I can get. Any suggestion for the improvement of the Club will be given consideration. Remember this is OUR Club, not mine nor yours, but ours. One or a few people do not make a club but it is the work of all, together.

With best wishes for our future,

Chas. H. Regnier

Remarks of the Editor

Several members have inquired how the Editor is so far behind in the production of the Bulletin; if many more had asked, it would not be surprising for things look pretty awful on the surface. Considering all the domestic and business interruptions I have had, it is to be expected that the Bulletin would be several months late and add to that my ingrained laziness and you have things where they are. The original program contemplated that the members would get at least 4 pages of something per month. Very few letters work out to as few as 3 pages of listing and those of us who work on the catalog find that it seems easier to turn out a full letter at one slug. Back when I had more time than money, the members got some extra pages—now its not so easy. If you have patience, things will improve or get worse, in which latter case, I can be fired.

Please do take our president seriously about suggestions. Some of us older members have a wonderful flock of duplicates and if some one of the newer members can propose a fair and easy scheme for our sharing them, put it forward.

News Bits

Member George T. Turner, the big literature man has been made a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society. Definitely, he has arrived.

President Regnier got a blue ribbon at IFPEX at Canton, Ill. for his New York Life exhibit. April 7 & 8.

Member C. Wesley Quinn was given an award at the Peninsular State Convention, April 14 & 15 for a precancel exhibit.

W.W. Wylie, Editor of Western Stamp News, remarks on Feb. 25, 1956 that Perfin collectors have reason to be gratified that a set of the 1933 Falkland Island commemoratives perforated "Specimen" sold for \$28 at a recent Harmer, Rooke & Co. auction in London. I do not believe that these would ordinarily be considered perfins, since we are inclined to treat as perfins only those stamps which still have postal utility after being perforated, even though the purpose of use may be changed by the perforation. For example, an ordinary stamp may be confined to official use by the act of perforation. In line with this, it is pointed out that single stamps of the Canadian O.H./A.S. official perfins bring as high as \$15 and 20, so a set would run even higher than the figure mentioned. Some of us are not too happy about this price war in reverse but, as Mr. Wylie implies, we are on the road to recognition when they begin quoting prices.

A recent quotation observed was for the Bavarian stamps perforated "E". Prices ranged from 5¢ to \$2.

Also, at FIPPEX? one of the Swiss dealers offered a complete set of Swiss stamps perforated with cross for \$185. There are about 40 stamps in this series.

Attention is also directed to the article by Herbert Mocha in this issue, dealing with another type of perforated official stamp.

The German POL (Police) Perforations

by Herbert Mocha, 35 Triftweg, Helmstedt, Germany

It was the practice of the German Police administration to accept unused postage stamps for the fees that had to be paid by the public. Thereafter, the stamps were used as postage by the Police. To prevent government employees or other unauthorized persons from using these stamps, they were perforated with the letters POL at the principal headquarters. Several private firms have used such perforations for the same reason. The perforation POL was first used at the Berlin Police Headquarters. Later, other Headquarters also used the perforation.

The Ministry of the Interior of Prussia (at that time, the largest state in Germany) published on April 8, 1930 (File No. II-C-II, 1-Nr.93 IV/29) a decree in which the Government provided that stamps coming in in payment for fees at the public registration offices in control of the Police, were to be perforated with the letters POL so that the stamps would be recognized as postage duty [official] stamps as it says literally in this decree. After that, not only the stamps received in payment for fees but also others employed for postage, were perforated. the perforation was done with a hand operated machine or by a device resembling a ticket-punch, accomodating single stamps, each provided by the individual Headquarters. The punched stamps show that the machine of each Police Headquarters had individual characteristics distinguished by the height and width, the number and size of the holes as well as the kind of letters in the perforation. Only the Police Headquarters in Berlin used a machine suitable for taking more than one sheet at a time. From these distinguishing characteristics, one can determine the origin of a POL stamp even without the aid of a cover or part of a postmark.

As a result of the research done in Germany, the POL stamps can be arranged in three groups:

A- POL in full capitals

B- POL in capital and lower case letters

C- POL in capital and small capital letters

Within these three groups, the perforation types of the various Headquarters is distinguishable and can be established for each place.

A specialized collection of these stamps is best arranged according to the city of issue, there being about fifty and within each of these categories, may be put the various issues according to catalog number.

The arrangement of the perforation, whether vertical, inverted, reversed, oblique or otherwise, is unimportant. As there were many stamps to be perforated, no special care was taken in applying the perforations and they may be found applied in various manners.

But it is important whether the stamps are found on government papers or on parts of them. This includes parcel post tags as well, as some Police Headquarters had a parcel office attached to them.

Single used copies of POL stamps are not worthless. They should have a good legible cancellation for the office of issue of the given type of perforation. Therefore, it is not reasonable for a stamp cancelled in Frankfurt/M. to have the perforation characteristic of Berlin or Hanover. There are instances of perforations that were applied at a later date by favor. A complete collection would be made up of covers or cards but less expensive collections may be made up of pieces or stamps. Stamps of this kind from certain cities such as Marienburg (West Prussia), Ratibor, Elbing, Merseburg, Tilsit and others are scarce.

The last POL stamps from the large Police Headquarters, at that time, situated in Prussia, are for the year 1941; after that, the stamps were no longer perforated.

After World War II (1945) some Police Headquarters, on their own initiative, ordered the restoration of the use of perforation of stamps bought for official use or for use as return postage for official re-

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quests to prevent the stamps from being misused. It is known that only the old punching machines have been used for the perforating so it is unnecessary to record any new types of perforation.

Besides the values of the usual regular series, commemorative stamps and sometimes even semi-postal stamps were perforated during the period from 1926 to 1941 and even after 1945.

Stamps were perforated after 1945 at the following Headquarters:

Halle/Salle (Soviet Zone) 1946-48

Frankfurt/Main (U.S. Zone) 1946-48

Essen (Brit. Zone) 1945 to date

Oberhausen (Brit. Zone) 1948 to date

It is not known whether the perforations in Essen and Oberhausen will be discontinued. Probably postage meters will also be used there since they are found everywhere today.

Compared with perforations of private firms, POL perforations are more frequently collected in Germany because of their official nature.

Mint POL stamps should not be collected, even though they may be offered. It was never possible to buy such unused stamps. Wherever they exist, it is obvious that they were offered as favors to collectors.

For further information, the writer is prepared to answer requests accompanied with return postage. (Please write in German if possible)

Translated by the Editor who assumes responsibility for it.

Mr. Bowman calls attention to Stamp Collecting (London) for Feb. 24, 1956, p. 794 reporting the letters D.S.I.R. being used by the British Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. It has been used from June 1937, initially on all mail but now only on foreign mail and on parcels. The information was obtained from official sources.

Member Van Lint sends from the Netherlands, his article, "Belgian Postage Stamps with Company Perforations" in Het Postsegel of Brussels Mar.-Apr. 1956, p. 19 & 20 and from Luxembourg, he reports that he is bringing back with him, 50 copies of a Dutch Perfin catalog. There was no indication of price. Please send your requests to Mr. VanLint.

FIPEX NOTES

Through a fortunate coincidence, the editor had an opportunity to visit FIPEX on its opening day. It would have been more fortunate if another day could have been chosen but that was the only one available. The crowd, which included many children, made it difficult to see much of what was desired besides tending to overemphasize the commercial aspects of collecting. It is not suggested that children should not be kept out of such affairs nor that dealers are not a necessary part of stamp collecting but at FIPEX, you got a little too much of the worst aspects of both. In the short time that was available, no exhibits showing perfins were seen—that is not to say there were none. All of the Club Lounges were carefully canvassed in search of persons who might have information on or interest in perfins. Whether any results were had will have to wait until the missionary work digests. One stamp and one cover represent the total purchases made. Not all the dealers were visited but every likely one was approached. Most amusing were the large operators. Frank Warner, the Minkus Group, H.E. Harris and Stolow each proclaim in one way or another that their stocks are large and that they can satisfy the wants of every collector. Each of these firms was solicited by the Editor and each gave a polite but firm "No". For the present perfins are safe from commercialization. Maybe we should be pleased.

The Perfins Bulletin
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Mailed Sep 10/2/56

Keith Misegades, 4615 Rosedale Ave., Bethesda 14, Maryland, Editor
David C. Stump, 310 S. Wayne Ave., Wayne, Penna., Subscriptions & Secty

New Members

- ✓ 286 E.W. Hilbert 1733 Fifth Ave. Oakland 6, Calif.
- ✓ 288 Dr. Wm. N. Hoffmann 215 West Prairie Ave. Decatur, Ill.
- ✓ 289 Mrs. Richard W. Fee 2110 Simon St. Philadelphia 24, Penn.
- ✓ 290 Mrs. W.J. Williams 320 No. Buckeye Coffeyville, Kans.
- ✓ 295 Dave Lockwood 877 Leetonia Road Marion, Ohio
- ✓ 291 S. Tauber 708 E. Tremont Ave. Bronx 57, N.Y.
- ✓ 292 Edward S. Hoyt 1330 Penn St. Harrisburg, Penna.
- ✓ 293 Donald Anderson 1510--19th Ave., NE. Minneapolis 18, Minn.
- ✓ 294 Llewellyn G. Ludwig 1252 No. Edgemont St. Los Angeles 29, Calif.
- ✓ 296 Clarence C. Hiorth 407 MacDade Boulevard, Milmont Park, Penna.

Change of Address

- ✓ Frank J. Votava ? 2727 West Cermack Road Cicero 50, Ill.

Resignation

- ✓ John K. Rassweiler

New Officer

Due to illness, Charles V. Metz, one of our charter members and, almost from the organization of the Club, its Vice-President, has asked to be relieved of his duties. In some organizations, people make jokes about the duties of the vice-president but in this one, our veep has done much through his work on the contact committee to introduce new members into greater enjoyment and understanding of our branch of the hobby. The Executive Committee has named Mrs. Frank Crosby to fill out his term. Also, a nominating committee consisting of Carl Rhoads, JoRo Jung, Jr. and Stanley Waite has been named to propose officers for the coming year. Suggested nominations should be sent to one of them.

Exhibitors

Miss Flora Clark was awarded the Spielman Trophy for the best exhibit by a woman in the Trans-Mississippi Stamp Exhibition, Sept. 8 & 9

Literature ad Data

E.M. Pickop reports that, on April 29, 1954, the Governor of Hawaii rescinded the order of July 6, 1931 which required the use of perfins.

Stamp wholesaler, April 10, 1956, p.22-30 "there's Gold in Them Thar Culls" by C.R. Timpany contains suggestions for selling Canadian OH/MS as a sideline to regular Canadian issues.

Stamps, July 21, 1956 carries a brief note by Harold A Abramson of his interest in covers bearing OH/MS stamps.

Western Stamp Collector, Aug. 4, 1956, p.7 carries a report by W. Dennis Way of the death of Charles Bein who had a large collection of British perfins, besides having written on the subject. Mr. Way also says that the British P.O. will apply perfins to order for its patrons but there seems to be some disagreement about this.

Mijn Stokpaardje, April 1956, p.12, an article on the Dutch perfin HENNY with literature list.

Postsegel, Mar.-Apr. 1956, p.12, a general article on Belgian perfins by member VanLint. Receipt of this was previously noted.

Bull's Eye, Sept. 1955, another article by W. Ahrens

K. Bileski of Winnipeg now advertises that he is dealing in perfins, especially OH/MS, even offering to buy them. Ten years ago, in answer to an inquiry of the editor, he intimated that they were not worth any one's notice.

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The following letter, addressed to Mr. Stump, is not reproduced as an advertisement for the dealer but as an example of where perfin prices actually go.

"We understand you are the secretary of the PERFIN Society of USA, and, if of interest, could offer you probably the scarcest, or at least, one of the scarcest issues of this kind—namely

Polish official war-stamps, issued in May, 1940 by the Polish GHQ before the collapse of France. These—as you may see in the appropriate catalog [Ed. note: Y & T] consist of 17 ordinary stamps, also 8 semi-postals perforated "W.P." (abbreviation - Polish Forces).

We have only three sets of 17 ordinary / 8 semi-postals, and would charge \$350. per set of 25, mint or used, also about 10 sets of 17 ordinary stamps, mint or used, @ \$100. per set, apart from that there are a few strips of 10 (ordinary, low values) mint.

Each stamp is strictly genuine, and could be signed on request. Each set will have our guarantee letter of genuineness—whether a set of 17 or of 25. As far as we know, there are no more sets of this kind in existence, apart from a few, in possession of specialist collectors. As you are aware, France virtually collapsed on 10th June, 1940; no more stamps were issued after that date (of above kind), and almost the entire stock of remainders was lost at the embarkation in the south of France on 23rd June, 1940. If interested, please let us know."

M. Hodson, 29 Viewforth, Edinburgh 10, Scotland

List of German PLO Stamps (see Jan.1956 issue)

Prussia, Group A (POL in full caps)

1. Beuthen, Hindenburg, Gleiwitz.
2. Frankfurt/Main
- 2a. Wilhelmshaven
3. Stettin
4. Hannover

Group B (POL in caps and small letters)

1. Dortmund
2. Tilsit
3. Halle/Saale
4. Weissenfels
5. Wesermünde
6. Düsseldorf
7. Herne
8. Merseburg
9. Bochum
10. Zeitz
11. Witten
12. Berlin I
13. Berlin II
14. Kassel
15. Essen
16. Erfurt

Group C (POL in caps and small caps)

1. Rechlingshausen
2. Oberhausen
3. Königsburg
4. Wandsbeck
5. Marienburg
6. Breslau
7. Altona
8. Koblenz
9. Schneidemühl
10. Duisburg-Hamborn
11. Magdeburg
12. Elbing
13. Waldenburg
14. Ratibor
15. Harburg-Wilhelmsburg
16. Hagen
17. Oppeln
18. Wiesbaden
19. Bielfeld
20. Hamm

Other

Frankfurt/Oder

Aachen

Gelsenkirchen

Potsdam

Gladbeck

Other States

Rostock, Mecklenburg

Bayreuth, Bavaria

Hamburg (Free City)

Foreign Catalogs

Mr. Vanlint had produced for him in Europe, a catalog of Dutch Perfins, prepared by him in collaboration with several Dutch perfin collectors. He offers it for 50¢ for the text and \$1 additional for illustrations. He has now arranged for the completion of a Danish catalog which it is estimated will run to about 24 pages. The stencils are in the process of being cut and it is expected that this will be distributed in lieu of an issue of the Bulletin. Meanwhile the U.S. catalog committee is continuing with its work of revision of the data in its hands. The sponsor of the N material in the present issue is the editor, Keith Misegades. It is requested that any additions and corrections on this be sent to him.

Publication Plans

Since the present editor took over the combined editing and publication of the Bulletin in September 1952 to September 1954, he had quite a few occasions to be away from home for extended periods but somehow the Bulletin managed to get out at least within a month of its supposed date at the masthead. However, since he moved to the Washington area two years ago, addition responsibilities both at home and at the office have been demoralizing to the Bulletin. In order to both carry part of the problem of production, as well as to reduce the expense of production, publication is being moved with this issue to the home of the Secretary in Wayne, Penna. There is an entire room there available for the job so that it will no longer be spread on the dining room table at the time when it should have been put to a more appropriate use. Also, Mr. Leonard Paul, one of the newer members has volunteered to crank the mimeograph. The editor will be left to sort out the news that comes to him, to organize that and the catalog data provided by the catalog committee and to cut the stencils. He will probably still be responsible for many of the delays but they will not be the excuse they once were. Members should take note of this change as it may affect their problems. Information for the Bulletin should go to the editor. Changes of address and requests for copies of the Bulletin should go to the Secretary. The entire stock of catalog pages is being moved to Wayne also. We have a number of committees, each with specific duties and requests for information plainly within the scope of that committee should be sought from the head of that committee before writing someone else. General requests should be addressed to Mr. Rhoads or one of his fellow members since the object of the contact committee is to help the member desiring information or a start in collecting to attain his desire.

An Exchange Plan

For some time there has been a need for an exchange plan but it seem that a simple plan and someone to run it just didn't get together. Now we are going to make a try. The Exchange manager will be Mrs. James G. Newman, 1123 So. Miles, El Reno, Okla. Members are invited to send packets of 105 plus 3¢ postage to her. The 5 extra will be her commission. You will get a packet of 100 and be entitled to select what you will from it. Return the remainder and you will be sent others until your credit of 100 is used up or until others can not find anything of value in your packet. Hence there is no point in you offering the common types because they will just be returned to you undisposed of and your credit will be correspondingly reduced. More detailed rules will be prepared but now is the time to send packets.

PERFINS OF THE NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Of all the PERFIN types employing extra holes for the identification of branch offices, those of the New York Life Insurance Company are by far the most involved as to number of offices. Based upon our analysis of the arrangement of extra holes, a theoretical possible total of about 210 varieties may exist, and of these, over 175 have been reported - the majority being at least tentatively identified as to location of usage.

Efforts to obtain the aid of the Company in completing the identification have met with little success due to company policy. However, it was learned through informed sources that the method used herein for identifying the varieties does not differ much from that used by the company. There are two variable factors as to hole location that determine the ultimate variety. The first of those is fixed by the holes in central letter "L", which is 7 holes high and 4 holes wide. Although the company plan is believed to begin at the top and number each hole consecutively around, it is more natural to count down from the top on each side. We have therefore arranged the numbering so that the holes to the left and bottom are numbered from 1, while those on the right are numbered from 11, so that there is a mental aid built in the plan.

The 2nd hole limiting factor is thought to be related to the government imposed limitation that the design must fall within a $\frac{1}{2}$ " square. The four extra holes located at the corners of a square drawn about the basic design have been designated "A", "B", "C" and "D" from the upper left, counterclockwise in accordance with the company practice. Although it is reported that the company designates the four holes just inside the 1st four holes by doubling the letters, we have felt it wiser to use the lower case letters instead, for convenience in reference to specific holes. In almost every case, the individual type consists of only one (or no) hole adjacent to the "L", and from none to 4 holes in the corner arrangement, - the inner holes only being used if the corresponding outer hole is used. A few exceptions are known.

One of the exceptions to the normal basic arrangement is used by the central office in New York City. It has only 3 holes in the lower arm of the "L" instead of 4. This is also used in Canada on revenue stamps. Another is used at Knoxville. It should be described as "Dc", but for convenience is listed as "D-10". Four or five other exceptions have been reported, none well verified.

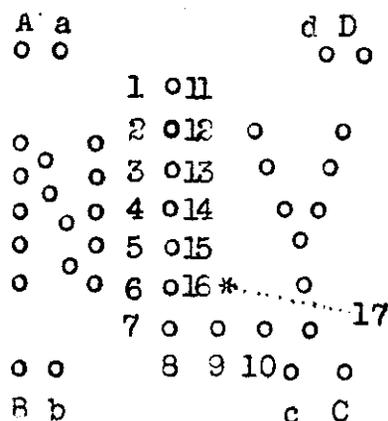
Company policy influences the distribution to offices using the identification system. In such large cities as New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, it appears that the company operates a number of offices out of which its full-time employees work. Each such individual office has its own identification. Outside of these areas it is known that there are central offices under company control and with identifiable PERFINS, but agents located at a distance from these offices supply their own postage, for which there is no need for identification. Consequently, at least 15 office varieties have been located with New York City postmarks, while the comparatively populous state of Michigan has but two offices in Detroit and Grand Rapids. As many of the offices with a large volume of mail now use meters, there is only a limited amount of current material available.

It must be remembered that not all of the dies for the various offices were made at the same time so there is some variation in the dimensions of the product. There is about 10% variation in the sizes of the letters. Hole A is found from 1.9 to 2.9mm. above the top hole of N. There are two types of Y differing in the angle between the two branches of the upper arms. While these factors may later offer an opportunity for still further specialized examination of this interesting subject, for the present, it is assumed that the variations in the design will not be indicative of presently valuable information.

In the catalog listing, the presence of a city name in the appropriate space indicates either positive or reasonably strong evidence of use with no conflicting reports. Some dies have been moved from one city to another and where this appears to be the case, it is indicated by two city names. A question mark following the city name, shows that the identification is less positive, either by a single reporter or there may be a single conflicting opinion among a larger number of agreed identifications. The question mark alone means that there has been no satisfactory resolution of the conflicts. Where NI appears, the variety is known but no identification has been practical.

An interesting feature of this design is its international scope. At least 1. varieties varieties are found on Canadian stamps alone and another on Argentine stamps. In addition two other varieties are found on both U.S. and Canadian stamps where the U.S. offices are near the border, implying that business is transacted across the border in these offices and besides these, there are two other varieties not as easily explained.

Insurance papers of many kinds are frequently kept for long periods, frequently in their original envelopes; The New York Life is a large company with many policy holders, some of them stamp collectors. In the interest of completing this research, readers who may be able to locate such envelopes are urged to examine them and report any information that can be used to supplement that contained here.



An older numbering system is used by some collectors; for convenience in converting the two systems the following tables are given:

New A	a	B	b	C	c	D	d	1 to 10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	--
Old	20	19	21	22	25	11	23	24	same	13	17	16	15	14	13	26
	26	27														

Old	1 to 10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
New	same	c	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	a	A	B	b	D	d	C	A	a	--

N-7 New York Life Insurance Company-1

A	N	B	N
0 Birmingham (P)		NYC- G.C. (P)	0
1 Dallas (C)		Portland, Ore. (P)	1
2 Madison (P)		NYC- Manhattan	2
3 Buffalo		Boston Clearing House	3
4 Chicago, Central (P)		NYC- Metropolitan	4
5 Charlotte, N.C. Clearing H.		Montreal, Can. (BNAPS)	5
6 Chicago C.H. (old)		Boston NE.	6
6 Little Rock (new)(P)		Halifax, Can.(BNAPS)	6
7 NI		Reading	7
8			8
9			9
10 NI			10
11 Chicago (C)		Watertown, N.Y.	11
12 Cleveland (C)		Boston, Old Colony	12
13 Denver (P)		NYC Tulsa	13
14 Columbus, O.(P)		Philadelphia C.H.(P)	14
15 Detroit (C)		Quebec, Can. (BNAPS)	15
16 Jacksonville		Providence (P)	16
C	Y	D	Y
0 Rochester	Also Can.(BNAPS)	Nashville	0
1 NYC- Bronx (P)		Omaha	1
2 Milwaukee		NI	2
3 Chicago (P)		Reno	3
4 NYC- Boulevard		Oklahoma City	4
5 Fresno		Portland, Ore.	5
6 Montgomery (P)		Pittsburgh	6
7 Sacramento			7
8 Newark (P)			
9 Buenos Aires, <u>Argentina</u> (Bose)			
10 Boise (P)		<u>Knoxville</u> (C)	
11 Erie (P)		St. Joseph, Mo.(P)	11
12 Chicago (P)		Oakland (P)	12
13 Springfield, Ohio (P)		St. Paul (P)	13
14 Manchester, N.H. (P)		San Francisco	14
15 Vancouver, Can. (BNAPS)		Savannah (P)	15
16 NI	(BNAPS)	Seattle	16

Notes: (C)- Cover, (P)- Postmark, (BNAPS)-Handbook published by the British North America Philatelic Society, (Bose) Catalog of Argentina Perforated Initial Stamps by Walter B.L. Bose, NI Office of use not definitely identified, A completely blank space indicates that no type corresponding to this position has been reported. Many of the Company offices in large cities have names; these are given where reported. Also given in some cases is the postoffice branch through which most of this office's mail is dispatched.

N-8 New York Life Insurance Co.-2

Aa	N̄	Bb	N̄	
0 Grand Fork ?		San Diego (P)	Richmond	0
1 Indianapolis (P)		Los Angeles (P)	Scranton (P)	1
2 Salt Lake City		NYC- Church St.		2
3 Des Moines (C)		Syracuse (P)	Chicago	3
4 Jackson, Miss. (P)		NYC- Church St.		4
5 Kansas City (P)		NYC- Madison Sq. (C)		5
6 Little Rock (P)		Detroit		6
7		Richmond		7
10		NI		10
11 Los Angeles		Washington, D.C.		11
12 Louisville (P)		Springfield, Mass. (C)		12
13 Memphis		Wheeling		13
14 Minneapolis		Charleston, S.C.		14
15 St. Louis (P)		Spokane		15
16 Butte		NYC ?		16
Cc	Y	Dd	Ȳ	
0 Toledo (P)	NYC	Shreveport		0
1 NYC- Grand Central (P)		Sioux City (P)		1
2 Fort Wayne		Columbia, S.C. (P)	Waterloo	2
3 NI		Norfolk (P)		3
4 Toronto, Can. (BNAPS)		Duluth (P) Also	Can. (BNAPS)	4
5 Burlington (P)		Winnipeg, Can. (BNAPS)		5
6 Trenton (P)		Pasadena (P)		6
7 Grand Rapids (P)		Fargo (P)		7
10				10
11 NYC- Grand Central (P)		San Jose (P)		11
12 Chicago (P)		Worcester (P)		12
13 New Haven, Conn. (P)		Tacoma		13
14 NYC- Gen. P.O.		Stockton (P)		14
15 Peoria (P)		Ohio		15
16 Chicago (P)		Pueblo		16
		Chicago ?		17

N-9 New York Life Insurance Co.-3

AB	Ṅ	ABb	Ṅ	
0	Albuquerque (P)	Atlanta		0
1	Chicago also Ottawa, Can.(P)	Los Angeles(P)		1
2	Pougkeepsie (P)	NYC- Grand Central		2
3	Honolulu	Chicago (P)		3
4	Tucson (C) Phoenix (P)	Sioux Falls (P)		4
5	Los Angeles- Hollywood (C)	Chicago, Los Angeles, Ft. Worth		5
6	Cincinnati (P)	Davenport (P)		6
7	Reading (P)	Raleigh Philadelphia		7
		San Francisco (C)		8
		New Orleans		9
		Los Angeles (C)		10
11	Trenton (P)	Washington		11
12	Macon	Long Beach (P)		12
13	Flushing	Portland, Ore. ?		13
14	NI	St. Louis		14
15	Hollywood	Akron (P) Peoria (C)		15
16	NYC- Gen. P.O. (P)	Dayton (P)		16
			••	
	O	BbDd	NẎ	
0	NYC- Main Office	San Diego (P)		0
1	Albany			
2	Baltimore			
3	Binghampton (C)			
4	Brooklyn			
5	Philadelphia- Drexel			
6	NYC- Hudson Term. Also Can (BNAPS)			
7	NI			
8				
11	Chicago Also Can (BNAPS)	Eau Claire		11
12	Harrisburg	New Haven	Seattle	12
13	New Haven	NYC- Grand Central		13
14	NI	NI		14
15	Philadelphia			
16	Los Angeles			
17	NI			

Note: The OO type (without any extra holes) is known with both 3 and 4 holes in the lower bar of the L, both used from New York and also both found on Canada.

The PERFINS BULLETIN
March-August 1956 Number
Issued November 1956

Keith Misegades. 4615 Rosedale Ave., BETHESDA, 14, Maryland, Editor.
David C. Stump, 310 So. Wayne, Ave., WAYNE, Penna., Secy-Treas.

Treasurer's Report.....as of.....November 15th, 1956.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on Hand, March 1, 1956.....	\$302.20
Dues and New Memberships.....	90.50
Other Income.....	9.60
TOTAL.....	\$402.30

EXPENDITURES.

Editor's Expense.....	\$ 41.42
Secretary's Expense.....	111.80
Cash on Hand, November 15, 1956.....	249.08
TOTAL.....	\$402.30

With this issue is distributed the complete Danish Catalog, as edited by member VanLint and his associates. Our policy has been to issue at least 4 double spaced sheets per Bulletin. As this catalog contains 15 single spaced sheets, (the equivalent of 7 normal issues) the present issue is treated as a six-month's issue. All editorial work on the Danish Catalog has been in charge of Mr. VanLint, and all suggestions pertaining to it should be addressed to him.

The editor recently had submitted to him a large approval lot by a British dealer. This lot contains a quantity of 1d, perforated, red, stamps of Britain, some overprinted "O.U.S." between wavy lines, some underprinted similarly, and some underprinted with the names of private firms. The Oxford University Society overprint is believed to be the oldest device for controlling the use of postage. The British Postoffice required the printing to be transferred to the back of the stamp and the practice was then taken up by a few firms. Soon after, when Perfins became available, the Postoffice prohibited printing. Thus, these stamps furnish a valuable background for a Perfin collection. Some duplicates retained by the editor, and as long as these last, they are available at near cost - \$4.50 per set of 4. A few additional varieties can also be had.

Members who have additions or corrections to the New York Life listings published recently, are asked to report them to the editor.

A current membership list is planned for an early issue. At that time, a number of delinquent members will be dropped from the rolls. During the past, many issues have come out late, but no one is considered delinquent until he has received all the issues he is entitled to - regardless of date of issue. Thus, you are paid up to date if the month printed on your membership card is September 1956.

****A D V E R T I S E M E N T S ****

I do not collect Perfins, know nothing about them. In making up US packets, put them aside until now I have a cigar box packed full, at least 25,000, but did not count them. Someone could have a lot of fun with them. Best offer by December 20th takes them.
William A. Stark, 86 Manning Road, BUFFALO, 21, New York.

I offer 1,000 Danish Perfins, mixed, \$4.00; 1,000 different Danish for \$8.00; 1,700 different Danish, \$20.00. Also Dutch and Danish Perfins Catalogs. V.J. VanLint, 8163 Sewell Ave., FONTANA, California.

The PERFIN BULLETIN

September-October 1956 Number

(Issued January 1957)

Keith Misegades, 4615 Rosedale Avenue., BETHESDA, 14, Maryland, Editor.
David C. Stump, 310 So. Wayne Avenue, WAYNE, Penna., Secy-Treasurer.

Best wishes for a complete and a Happy New Year - and our hopes that all your friends will remember to save their PERFINs for you!!

The nominating committee, consisting of:
Stanley H. Waite, (#214), and Jo Ro Jung, Jr., (#152) have contacted the present officers of the Club and report that they have all agreed to serve in their same capacities during the year 1957. Therefore the officers for the year 1957 are as follows:
PRESIDENT: Charles H. Regnier, (#62), Ashkum, Illinois.
VICE-PRESIDENT: Mrs. Frank Crosby, (#44), Manhattan, Montana.
SECRETARY-TREASURER: David C. Stump, (#32), Wayne, Pennsylvania.
EDITOR: Keith Misegades, (#63), Bethesda, Maryland.

These officers have asked that a notation be made in this issue of the Bulletin expressing their gratitude for the expression of confidence extended them by their reappointment, and claim that they will all redouble their efforts to work for YOU and YOUR CLUB. Many thanks are also due to the chairmen of the various committees, who have all graciously consented to serve for another year.

Their names and committees are as follows:

U.S. CATALOG: K.F. Lougee, (#52), Jackson, Michigan.
CONTACT: C.E. Rhoads, (#159), Bloomington, Illinois.
PUBLICITY: A.J. Krauss, (#254), Uniondale, New York.
TOPICAL: H.A. Warrell, (#6), New York, N.Y.
GENERAL FOREIGN: V.J. VanLint, (#172), Fontana, California.

Note that the officers and chairmen are pretty well located throughout the country, which we feel is good. Members of your Club reside in 32 of the 48 states, as well as in Hawaii, Canada, England, The Netherlands, Argentina, and Venezuela. Should you have interests centering in any of these countries or any of the represented states, why not get acquainted by mail? Your Club Number is all you need for introduction and reference, so try a letter - you'll get an answer; check the listing at the end of the Bulletin for complete addresses.

Miss Flora Clark, (#11), recently won honors at a large Mid-west Stamp Show. What she won, where she won it, and how she did it, will be discussed in detail in the next Bulletin. Her collection will be described, her methods of mounting and displaying will be given, and it is hoped that many members will benefit from the news.

There are other members who have exhibited at various Stamp Shows and whose displays have won awards. Such collections are not always noted for their size or completeness, but are outstanding because of their manner of display and general interest. Information of this character should be shared with other members, and if enough interest is shown in such write-ups, other such articles will appear. We would appreciate comments or requests after the article is read.

This issue of the Bulletin differs somewhat from previous issues in that it has been written, mimeographed, assembled, and mailed by your Secy-Treas, with the aid of neighbor-member Paul, (#277). Unfortunately for some readers, it may well be the last issue that they will receive - for there are those who are quite delinquent with their dues, and it has not been the policy to carry "dead wood" on our mailing

list. Because writing, mimeographing, collating, addressing, sorting, and mailing the Bulletin is a time-consuming job, (and really too much for one man to carry on alone), your Bulletin has been quite late in dropping in your mail slot. However, as explained in a recent issue, we have made many changes in our methods and are making valient efforts to get back on schedule. The Editor writes the Bulletin and cuts the stencils, then mails them to the Secretary's home. Here a room is reserved for PERFIN Club use only, and the Bulletin is printed assembled, and mailed to you with the help of member Paul. A small charge is assessed for this labor, which is at present entirely "plowed back" to the Club by the purchase of necessary equipment to have efficient operation. A mimeograph machine, a large double-desk, chairs filing cabinets, built-in shelves, and many small tools have all been purchased (in used condition) and these are the permanent property of your Club. A cordial invitation is extended to any member to drop in for a visit, inspection, or just a chat, at any time. "310 South Wayne Avenue, WAYNE, Pa." is on Route #252, just two blocks south of the Lincoln Highway or Lancaster Pike, Route #30, and if any of you have occasion to be in the vicinity, please stop in and see for yourself how we operate. For those of you who live within driving range, a telephone call (Wayne 3439-R) will secure for you an invitation to spend an evening or a Sunday afternoon, and even dinner with us.

Many interesting features are planned for future Bulletin issues - which we hope will be mailed on a definite schedule. This issue brings you an alphabetical listing of all members who receive this copy, together with their addresses. It also brings a friendly warning that those of you whose dues do not cover October 1956 will probably not receive another issue. Because of the lateness of many issues of the Bulletin, it had been decided that no member would be considered delinquent until he or she had received the Bulletin for the month corresponding to the month printed on their membership card. Also, no letters "dunning" for dues have been sent out for many months. This is partly because we could not tell a member he was late sending in his dues for fear he might call to our attention the fact that we were even later in sending out the Bulletin. However, with the new methods now used in printing and mailing, we are almost up-to-date, and with the next issue we will be nearly on schedule. Therefore no further leniency can be shown to any non-paying members. It is not generally known but nevertheless quite true that NO complimentary copies are given out - not even to officers. No attempt is made to build up a circulation, and copies are mailed to only those members who evidence their interest in PERFINs by keeping up with their dues. No one is dropped without notice, however, and usually one or two months grace is given to forgetful members. Look at the wrapper of this issue! If it bears a big RED check-mark like this: you will know that YOU are one of the members who may not receive future issues unless we hear from you!

If you are no longer interested in collecting PERFINs, would you like to dispose of your holdings? If they are small and not classified - we have "shut-in" members who would be glad to have them. You could send them to your Secretary for distribution, or ask for a list of names and you could send them direct to members not as well equipped with health and money as you may be. If they are elaborate, send a description to the Secretary and he will find a member who is willing to buy them from you. On the other hand, if you feel that in any way you have not received sufficient value for your annual dues, we would like to know what you think has been lacking. If you will drop us a brief memo, perhaps steps can be taken to correct things.

We want to keep all of our members, but from those who are in arrears, we would like to hear from you - by a letter enclosing your dues. (The \$1.50 can be sent in any convenient form - check, cash, mint commemoratives, etc. Will even accept mint commemorative plate blocks at 15 cents each, and for those residing in foreign lands who have trouble with sending money, an equivalent value may be sent in cancelled foreign stamps. In the later cases, the stamps will be sold to members and money thus realized will go to the Club.) But if you are no longer active a memo so indicating will be appreciated, so that we may clear our files.

Much work has been done by your Secretary and Mr. Paul. We have concentrated on reprinting pages identifying the users of PERFINs. So far, all pages of all letters, designs, and numerals, are available with the exception of the following: "P", "Q", "R".

These pages will be sold to any member at a price of 2 cents each plus postage. For members who do not know if their sets are complete, we show a complete listing of what the present catalog consist is.

"A", 11 pages, #1 -#284, including "AFT/CO" and a page of "AR"
 "B", 9 pages, #1 -#256.
 "C", 13 pages, #1 -#392.
 "D", 5 pages, #1 -#145.
 "E", 5 pages, #1 -#128.
 "F", 7 pages, #1 -#197.
 "G", 8 pages, #1 -#183, including a page for "G(E)".
 "H", 7 pages, #1 -#183.
 "I", 5 pages, #1 -#122.
 "J", 5 pages, #1 -#137.
 "K", 2 pages, #1 -# 61.
 "L", 7 pages, #1 -#162, including a page of illustrations.
 "M", 9 pages, #1 -#243.
 "N", 12 pages, #1 -#212, including 5 pages of "NL".
 "O", 4 pages, #1 -# 94.
 "P", 10 pages, #1 -#247, including a page of "PD".
 "Q", 1 page, #1 -# 9.
 "R", 5 pages, #1 -#140.
 "S", 13 pages, #1 -#302, including one of "Swift", and one of "SO".
 "T", 5 pages, #1, -#132.
 "U", 5 pages, #1 -# 98, including a page of "US/MC".
 "V", 1 page, #1 -# 30.
 "W", 10 pages, #1 -#226, including a page of "WE", and one of "WU".
 "X", "Y", "ZZ", and "&", are all on one page.
 One page of Designs, numbered from #1 to #44.
 One page of Numerals, numbered from #1 to #28.

If you wish to replace torn or worn pages, or if you are incomplete, an order to the Secretary will be promptly filled. All letters will be available soon, so if you desire pages not in stock, (P,Q,R), send order without money and your name will be placed on a list and pages will be mailed to you when ready. Upon receipt of pages, please remit 2 cents per page, plus postage. If you wish pages to be punched to fit standard 3-ring binder, so indicate, and it will be done.

It must be remembered, however, that these pages are merely reprinted - not revised - although in many cases new stencils have been cut. All letters will continue to be revised but copies of the revisions will arrive with future issues of the Bulletin. We plan to continue to try to issue 4 new sheets with each Bulletin.

THE PERFIN BULLETIN
November-December 1956.
(Issued February 1957)

Keith Misegades, 4615 Rosedale Avenue, BETHESDA, 14, Maryland, Editor.
David C. Stump, 310 South Wayne Avenue, WAYNE, Pennsylvania, Secy.

NEW MEMBERS

- #297. Mrs. Jacob Kasselmann, 1711 West River Drive, PENNSAUKEN, N.J.
- #298. R. N. Fritchard, 211 LeGrand Boulevard, AURORA, Illinois.
- #299. Mrs. Earl J. Fleischli, 808 Fayette Street, SPRINGFIELD, Ill.
- #300. Samuel S. Neroda, 57 Adelaide Avenue, PAINESVILLE, Ohio.
- #301. Mrs. Howard D. Johnson, 123 East Elm Street, COLUMBUS, Kansas.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- #157. C. Wesley Quinn, 4317 Tonawanda Avenue, ROYAL OAK, Michigan.

REINSTATED

- #233. H. Smit, Oranjelaan, 30, ZEVENAAR, (GLD), The Netherlands.

The Editor and the Catalog Committee are both working hard on catalog revisions, so while they are not looking, your old Secretary-Treasurer has taken it upon himself again to write and publish the Bulletin for this issue. His only helper is member Paul who has developed into quite an expert at turning the crank on our mimeograph machine.

It is pleasing to note that our enumeration has passed the "300" mark. With this issue of the Bulletin we wind up our publishing activities for 1956. We are gradually closing the gap between date of Bulletin and actual date it tumbles into the mail. Give us just a little more time and we will be right on schedule.

Your Catalog Committee, under the splendid leadership of K.F. Lougee, (#52), has been "burning the midnight oil" and I have been allowed to see some of the results of their many long hours of toil. The advance sheets of the new listings for the letter "C" have been given to one or two members for checking, and the final reprint and revision of this letter will appear in the Bulletin very soon. To give an example of the work that has been accomplished and the new items that have been uncovered, checked, and verified, the "C" lists now number 17 pages instead of only 13, and the number of items has increased to 434. There may be more to be added, and in this task EVERY member is asked to assist. The last page of this Bulletin contains a list of PERFINs starting with the letter "C". DO NOT, under any circumstances, add this page to your catalog! These are the PERFINs which have been reported as existing but which no member of the Catalog Committee has ever seen or verified. Please take this list and compare it with your holdings of this letter and see if any of the listed PERFINs are represented in your collection. If you find any - even only one - please jot down on a postcard all information you have about it, with particular emphasis on any proof that you have of the user or city in which it was used. Send your card to K.F. Lougee, 203 Pierce Street, JACKSON, Michigan. It will not be necessary to send the stamp, just send the details and if more dope is needed, he will contact you. But unless you do this promptly, there will be no use in doing it at all. As soon as we can complete this check we will incorporate any newly identified PERFINs in the new catalog listing and print and distribute the new lists with the Bulletin. As soon as we can print the revised "C", we will be able to follow immediately with the revised "D".

HOW MANY MEMBERS WERE ABLE TO ATTEND THE ... exhibition of the Illinois Federation of Stamp Clubs, held February 16th and 17th, in the Chicago neighborhood? You can be sure that our President was there! It is a most satisfactory experience to actually meet some of the members you have come to know through correspondence in the Club. Member Paul, (#277), reported recently having met on a single vacation trip, two such widely separated members as Polly Vandyke, (#224), of Florida, and our President, who lives in Illinois. Earlier this past fall, your editor was able to stop off in Rowayton, Connecticut to see Rev. Leach, (#81). His accumulation and collection are most impressive; their possessor and his wife are both charming. Your Secretary, on a short trip to Cleveland talked to Dick Robinson, (#283) by 'phone, and spent the evening having dinner at the home of Jim Lambert, (#230). After a most tasty meal, the evening was spent viewing his hobbies and his gold-cup winning PERFIN Collection. Jim is a past president of the well known Garfield-Perry Stamp Club and specializes in Schermack Coil stamps with their special type of perforated identifications. He would be glad to swap some of his many duplicates of these rather scarce varieties with other members.

LITERATURE

A brief note in "STAMPS" of November 10, 1956 reports that the rarest experimental Bureau Precancel - the 6¢ New Orleans, 1917, 10x10 - exists mostly with perforated initials of a railroad company. The word "mostly" should really be "entirely" as there are probably only a dozen copies in circulation. Therefore the catalog quote of \$325.00 is not expected to induce any of the owners to sell. (By the way, did you check your collection for this elusive item?)

Two fine articles are found in "STAMP COLLECTING" for November 23rd and 30th, 1956, pages 331, 333, 371, 373. They were written by Charles Jennings, secretary of our British affiliate, the PERFIN STUDY GROUP. Entitled, "Security Endorsements of Great Britain", the term used by Mr. Jennings to include both printed devices as well as PERFINs, the article traces the early history of the practices including adequate mention of the "OUS" underprints and overprints such as were offered by your editor in the last issue of the Bulletin. There is an interesting discussion of the practice frequently used in England of changing the shape of the ampersand (&) to indicate different office locations of the same company. There is also a list of railroad companies with identified PERFINs. Correspondence is invited. Address: Charles Jennings, 96 Marmion Road, SOUTHSEA, Hants, England.

ADVERTISEMENT

WANTED TO PURCHASE - 3¢ STUART PERFINs ONLY. (Scotts #720) Designs: Acorn, anchor, castle, spinning wheel, etc., as shown in our design page of our catalog. Also want ILLUSTRATED COVERS of 3¢ Stuart - Railroad and Steamship PERFINs. Please describe and price any items you can supply. (Only Stuarts wanted) Do not send on approval until requested. My check by return mail for all items purchased. O.H. Milburn, (#156), 361 East 5th St., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

NOTICE

Delinquent dues are slowly coming in, but many members are still holding off. If a RED CHECK MARK appears next to your address label - then YOU are one of the ones we would like to hear from. (We forgot to add the check marks last issue, but we are not dumb all the time, and it will be added, if necessary, this time!)

Many collectors are at a loss as to the best way to mount their PERFINs. Other collectors having fine representative collections would like to exhibit at local or sectional stamp shows, but do not know how to go about it. Often they are timid and feel that exhibitions are only for the display of large costly collections. But originality, neatness, and knowledge of the subject, all count high with the judges in their decisions. I have seen several prize winning PERFIN exhibits where even a PERFIN Collector would not have given more than a dollar or two for the entire group of stamps had they been loose in an envelope. (Other philatelists might have given the stamps away free!) But these collections had been mounted in an interesting manner, brief concise information was given, and they attracted the eyes of the judges and were honored by an award. These displays were not handsomely embellished with colors and shaded lettering - they were either hand-lettered in a readable style, or typewritten. To show what can be done with very little, a description of the award winning collection of Miss Flora Clark, member #11, will be given. This will be followed by details of her method of mounting and housing her collection. Mention is made of blueprint reproductions, and this will also be detailed.

Miss Clark is a member of the Iowa Women's Philatelic Society. Her PERFIN Collection could probably only be described as "average" in size. However, her method of presentation, her neatness of arrangement, her originality, and her painstaking care, won her the attention of the judges and the Spielman Trophy given by the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society at their 23rd Annual Convention and Exhibition held last September. That this was a signal honor, and that she and her subject are well thought of in philatelic circles, is evidenced by the invitation she recently received. She was asked to display her collection and give a talk to the Des Moines Philatelic Society. This Club has a membership of men only, and in their twenty years or more of existence, have only had four or five women speakers at their monthly meetings.

The Spielman Trophy is a beautiful one given to the Trans Mississippi Philatelic Society by Fred A. Spielman, former Director Emeritus of the Society, in honor of his years of loving companionship with his wife, Harriet. It is awarded to the woman presenting the best exhibit, and is treasured as representing friendly encouragement to women collectors and exhibitors.

It must be realized that mounting a collection for display and mounting for one's own interest are widely different. When mounting for your own interest the method used must be merely one which will enable you to locate any particular stamp quickly and easily, at the same time providing adequate storage space plus room for expansion and growth, without upsetting the entire arrangement when new acquisitions are added. When mounting for exhibition purposes, you cannot display all of your collection so you must choose wisely the stamps you elect to display. The rarest ones may not necessarily be the best ones to use, for you are showing to people who probably know little about your topic. Therefore you must mount your entry in a manner which will first catch the eye, and then retain the interest by giving the viewer who might not be a PERFIN Collector, an idea of what you are collecting, why you collect it, and at the same time arouse his interest by teaching a little about PERFINs.

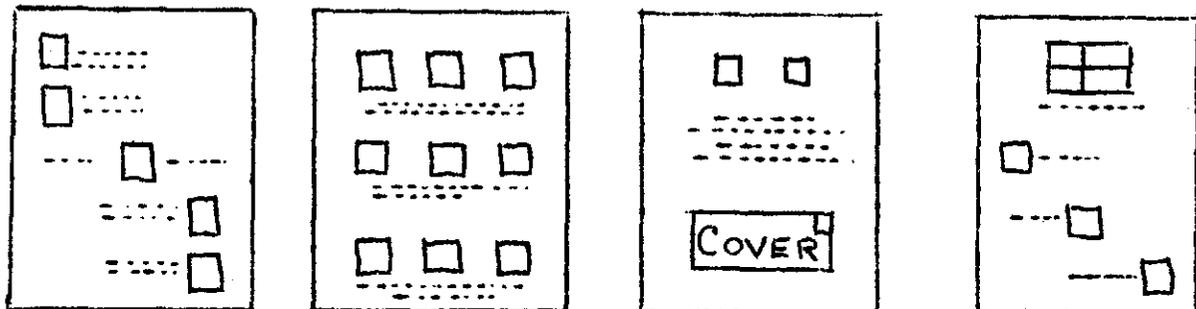
To quote Miss Flora in her description of her exhibit -"I did not specialize in one design or one type of design, as I just wanted to have an exhibit which would be pleasing and informative, and at the same time interesting as well as attractive to everyone - including the judges."

Her exhibit consisted of 24 pages, or four exhibition frames. (The number of album pages that may be included in one exhibition frame varies not only with the size of the page, but also with the size of the glass-covered wooden frame used at the exhibition. Frames are not standard, but are all alike at any one exhibition. If considering entering an exhibition, be sure to first ascertain the size of the frame that will be used. This is always given in advance notices and invitations.)

On a single white quadrille page, Miss Flora mounted her stamps in small rows. Three rows, and three stamps to a row were often used. First a blueprint reproduction, next the stamp mounted face down on a small piece of dark paper, next the stamp face up. At the top of the page a heading was neatly lettered:

"Perforated Identifications"
United States Postage Stamps
- Users Identified -

Under each row was given the name of the user and his city and state. On other pages the same general format was used, often however, the stamp mounted face up was a commemorative, an air mail, or a special delivery - showing the various types of stamps which can be found with perforated initials. One entire page was devoted to commemoratives. Here the Washington Bi-Centennial Issue was chosen, and one stamp of each value was used. They were arranged in a "O" shaped design, with the descriptive information grouped in the center. To the right of center was mounted a block of four. Various groupings were used on different pages in order to avoid monotony. (When mounting a group of pages in an exhibition frame, the general overall effect of the several pages must be considered.) Below is given some of the arrangements used by Miss F. They are not difficult or unusual, and you can devise many similar arrangements to suit yourself.



The above samples are only a few of the many that you can use. Blocks, covers, precancels, strips, - anything goes. Plan your arrangement on a sheet of paper first, and do not neglect to allow room for your "write-ups"; as indicated above with broken lines. Miss Flora had never seen a PERFIN display before, but that was no handicap to her - it might even have been an advantage!

"Those of us who know Flora - either personally or through the mails - can appreciate the thrill that must have been hers in receiving the award for her efforts with her "perforated initials" collection. "This is another example of what one can do with any phase of stamp collecting, and proves the value of originality" (Quote from "The Stamp & Coin Collector", September 1956.)

The method used in mounting a collection for storage and "at home" pleasures, is simple and easy to do. Bear in mind however that each individual always has the choice of mounting his collection in the manner that pleases himself most. For those who have not decided upon a method, or are not satisfied with the one being used, we give you the details of how Flora mounts hers. This is not the only way to mount a collection, but it is a good one, and is given with the hope that some of you may get ideas from it. If you find it helpful or interesting, it would be nice if you were to drop Miss Flora a brief note telling her so. (Her address is: 1325 East Court Avenue, Des Moines, 16, Iowa.)

She uses a loose leaf note book which accomodates pages size 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "x 8". Blueprints are made of the perforated designs and mounted opposite the stamps, followed by identifying description. (How the blueprints are made will be told at end of this article.) The reproduction is mounted about an inch from the right-hand edge of the sheet; then the stamp, face up, and mounted close to the blueprint. Seven stamps, or prints, are mounted in a vertical row, then the identification of the user is hand lettered. (If you can not letter, then use the typewriter. If you want to try lettering, use Higgins India Ink, and a Gillote#303 steel penpoint.) In order to prevent one side of the album from becoming too thick, the mounting is alternated - that is, on one sheet stamps are close to right edge, on next sheet close to left, etc. This equalizes the unavoidable bulk caused by the stamps and keeps the covers of the album level.

The stamps are mounted alphabetically - much like they are listed in our catalog - and frequent spaces are left for new stamps which may be acquired. If making blueprint or any other type of reproductions of your stamps, remember "it is the holes we collect" and that is what you want to reproduce. In other words, keep the stamp face down - to reproduce the design of the stamp is illegal.

We now come to the method used by Miss Clark to make her blueprints. It may sound like a lot of trouble, but it really is quite simple. If she can do it - so can you. I will let her tell you in her own words.

"This is the way I make the blueprints.

I use a 5"x 7" glass which fits in a photographer's printing frame. The frame has a back which has a clamp on it to secure the blueprint paper so that no direct light or air gets to the sensitized paper before you are ready to expose it. Mount your PERFINs with just a very small amount of Carter's Gico Liquid Paste on one corner of the stamp, with the perforated design reading correctly from right to left. I usually mount 30 stamps on a 5"x 7" glass; this leaves space between the stamps and serves as a frame or border for the blueprinted design.

The frame is then exposed to direct sunlight for a few moments. I have never observed any set time for exposure. I just look to see if I think that the uncovered spaces on the blueprint

paper are colored or light enough - that they have changed color enough to suit me. A little experience will tell you how long to expose the paper to the sun. I like to do blueprinting at this time of year (Nov. to March) as I think the sunlight is not too intense for good results. Of course there should be no clouds in the sky. I like to use a south window, and the time about noon or a little after. Suit yourself!

Before I begin the actual process of blueprinting I partly fill 3 pans - dishpans will do - with water. After the stamps have been exposed to sunlight I immediately place the paper in Pan #1 to wash the chemicals out of the paper; this shows the design. A few minutes in this bath will do, but I do change the water frequently. Next I put the paper in Pan #2 in which I have added peroxide to the water. I never measure the amount - try about 2 tablespoonsful to start and increase the amount if you care to. That's the way I do. The peroxide washes more of the chemicals off and helps "set" the color. Let stand for a few minutes. See how bright and clear the PERFIN designs are!! Next I place the paper in Pan #3 which has only fresh water in it. This washes off any remaining chemicals and also the peroxide. I sometimes leave the paper in this pan for 15 minutes, but this is not necessary.

I then place the washed blueprints on newspapers and let them partly dry - then put between dry newspapers so that they will completely dry.

After all this I am ready to cut the blueprints apart and sort, file, and mount them, in my PERFIN Album alongside the stamp from which the print was made.

I didn't make several directions quite clear. In pan #1, I have only one or two sheets at a time, otherwise the water becomes too filled with chemicals. In Pan #2, I place as many as 6 or 7 prints at a time. But in the 3rd pan there can be almost any number of blueprints. Suit yourself!

Now, do you think I have made the directions for blueprinting perforated designs understandable? If you want additional information, just write to me.

One thing more - after making as many blueprints from each group of stamps on each glass, as I want, I soak the stamps off the glass in a pan of water - stamps will slide off in a few minutes. Then I soak the stamps in fresh water with peroxide in it to help dissolve off the paste. Dry the stamps the same way you would any that you have soaked from paper."

I am sure our readers join with me in thanking Miss Flora for telling us of her exhibit, her methods of mounting, and her home-made blueprints. Undoubtedly other members have other methods both of mounting and of reproduction of the designs. If you think you have a good one, write in to us and tell about it so that others can share your knowledge.

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The sale of back pages listing identifications of PERFINs is progressing fast and furiously. These pages are sold at 2 cents each plus postage, and are mailed flat if your order totals 50¢ or more. Pages will be punched to fit standard three-ring binder if requested. Incidentally, if you file your Bulletins in the same type of looseleaf binder, we will be glad to punch it to fit, also. If you want this added service, drop a note to your Secretary.