

The Bulletin

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ANNUAL PERFIN CONVENTION - 2003

Bob Szymanski (LM-145)

I stopped counting how many people asked me why I was going on vacation to Pittsburgh in August. If you have even been to one Perfins Convention, then you know that it wouldn't matter where or when the Convention was held, perfin collectors will show up and have a great time. If you haven't made one of the conventions as yet, please know that you are most welcome and, indeed, invited to join us in Manchester, New Hampshire in 2004. Just watch the Bulletin for information as the time nears this coming year.

The following members signed in at the convention: Doug Turner, Bob Szymanski, Dick Mewhinney, John Randall, Bruce Brunell, Bob Schwerdt, Mike Hynes, Gary Hendron, John Foster, Arnie Selengut, Dave Smith, Dick Laetsch, Duane Spidle, Pat and Carol Callis, Bill Cummings, Ted Thiessen, T. George Gilinsky, Ed Linn, Walt Vetter, Ron Carr, Loren Neuharth, Charlie Adrion, Helen and Earl Ratzer, Jim Hirstein, Jean Oberholtzer, Gerald Heyduk, Bob Noble, Miles Manchester, Rudy Roy, Dan Sherwood, Larry Cohen, Marvin Mech, Mike Van Wey, Ken Awe, Mike Strother and Neil Boatwright. Many members brought spouses, none of whom seemed bored in the least as they found many activities to occupy their time and interest.

Most members spent the best part of the week buying, selling, trading and just talking about their collections from 8AM to 11PM. Breakfast, lunch and dinner did not interrupt but rather enhanced the good time. A few members did leave a little early and went on to the APS Show in Columbus, OH.

The Annual Perfin Meeting was held on Wednesday August 6th with 26 members in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 2 P.M. by our President, Bob Szymanski, with the first order of business being the self-introduction of all attending. Last years minutes were dispensed with by unanimous consent.

The following were the items discussed - in order. The election of Steve Endicott as Treasurer was unanimous and Steve will continue in his (presently appointed) position in a new elected term running from Jan. 2004 through Dec. 2006.

At last year's annual meeting three At-Large Board Members were appointed to fill the vacancies created by the membership-approved new By-Laws and Constitution. These members were Rev, John Griswold, Ed Linn, and Doug Turner, all of whom agreed to serve in this capacity until the end of 2004. I thank them for their service! For the term of Jan. 2004 through Dec. 2006; the three members elected to serve are Gary Hendron, Ed Linn, and Doug Turner. A special thanks was given to Rev, John Griswold who had declined running for this office due to health considerations. Thank you again, John!

Hallock Card Award : Rudy Roy

The Hallock Card Award was presented by Ed Linn to our current Vice-President and "temporary" (read 'almost permanent') Auctioneer, **Rudy Roy**. Rudy has been a long and dedicated member of our Club. Rudy was recognized and honored for his countless hours of service to the Perfins Club in supervising the rewriting of the Constitution and By-Laws of our

Club, for the years of providing countless hours in the running the Club Auction, and for his many years of service as Vice-President. Rudy received a round of very richly deserved applause.

Floyd Walker Award : Robert J. "Bob" Schwerdt

The inaugural Floyd Walker Award was to have been presented by Myra Walker but, at the last moment, she was not able to attend. However, Myra graciously wrote the following letter to be read by the President at the award ceremony.

"Nothing could have pleased me more than the establishment of the Floyd Walker Award for outstanding contributions to the Perfins Bulletin.

Floyd Walker loved writing. He wrote on many levels, having made a living by the pen as well as writing recreationally. Teachers praised his writings early on, and journalism served him well in high school, in the military, and later in college.

Floyd loved philately too.... He started collecting stamps when he was a kid and I have often acknowledged that this pastime contributed greatly to his being the most interesting human being I ever knew. I was somewhat amazed over thirty years ago when he began collecting perfins. Those were somewhat lean years but he assured me that collecting the HOLES in stamps didn't cost much. What wonderful doors were opened for him, and in fact, for the entire family.

Floyd enjoyed editing the Perfins Bulletin. He liked writing for it. He loved writing letters and e-mails to the various members of the Perfins Club - and then finally getting to meet many of you in person. I think this award in his name is appropriate, though I admit to being a bit biased.

I am somewhat opinionated also about the first recipient of the Floyd Walker Award. I heard his name first from Floyd, listening to

tidbits about the man personally. I read his articles for the Bulletin and learned to look forward to seeing his handwriting on letters addressed to Floyd. When Floyd finally got to meet him at the Springfield (IL) Convention in '98, he took pictures. When I finally got to meet him in Lexington (KY), he was already an old friend. The same can be said of a number of other Perfins Club members - Floyd had enjoyed and respected and admired so many of you, and I grew to also, and still do.

This award is all about recognizing a richly informed mind and a talent that has been most generously shared through the official communications of the Perfins Club. But this first award is also about sentiment, dedication to a leisurely pursuit, love of research, commitment to knowledge and dedication to sharing and the gentle spirit of a gentle man who has touched us all far beyond the words written and spoken...."

The inaugural winner of the Floyd Walker Award is **Robert J. Schwerdt**. Bob received a generous and well-deserved round of applause.

Under new and old business, there was a lengthy discussion of the printing of the US Catalog and US Preper Catalog. Dave Lightle, our Publications Sales Manager, has found a printing company heavily involved in the philatelic market, to print catalogs on demand and ship for us at a cost that is commensurate with present costs. We are waiting to examine an initial order to see that the quality of the produced catalog is acceptable. If acceptable, we will see if this, also, can be done reasonably, with the Preper Catalog as well (it is now unavailable and John Randall, the editor, has said that it would be some time before a revision would be undertaken).

The National Postal Museum in Washington had requested of us that we provide them with several Perfins Bulletins they were missing from their collection and that was done the week before this meeting. A suggestion was made and seconded that the Museum be sent a complimentary copy of all future Bulletins. Myles Manchester, our member who volunteers at the Museum, indicated that they are also seeking Volumes 1 through 6 of the Perfins

Bulletins and would appreciate a donation of these should any member be so inclined.

And, finally, a minute of silence was held in memory of all our deceased members especially

those who passed away this past year – Eugene Marshall, Richard Benjamin, Everett Pierce, Patrick Fetta, Paul Cook and John Suffka.

Meeting Adjourned

A Harley Davidson Perfin?

Diane R. Eastman

It's 2003, the 100 year anniversary of man's first meaningful controlled human flight, and the 100 year anniversary of the birth and production of Harley Davidson motorcycles. Harley Davidson got started in Milwaukee, WI. Their massive brick edifice still houses the headquarters offices, evidence of a quite functional past. What has this to do with perfins?

I am not a stamp collector, but I happened to notice the perfin H-60 in my husband's catalog. It is an H-D perfin with (only) the notation "Milwaukee", and date "1912-1914". This perfin has never been positively identified. However, having been a Harley owner, my gut feeling is that this has to be a Harley Davidson perfin. But, an envelope or card originating from Harley Davidson with the perfin and Harley Davidson return address has not yet been produced for the catalog editors.

My husband, Doug Turner, Librarian of the Perfins Club, and I are in the same profession. We happened to be at a conference in Chicago, looked at the map, and decided to play hooky one day and drive to Milwaukee to search for the elusive perfin on an identifying cover.

We headed for the Harley headquarters. Once there, we were greeted by a very efficient receptionist, I recall that when we first walked in she had a phone up to each ear. We were not familiar with the corporate structure, so I just asked to speak with the

oldest person there, or in lieu of that, the person who had been there the longest. My logic was, we had a better chance of finding someone at least familiar with perfins that way.

The receptionist was curious about this odd request, and asked why. We explained about the perfin. She said, "I'll call the archivist". Well, the Archivist was unavailable, so then she called the Historian. The Historian is an obvious Harley aficionado. Interestingly, he has a PhD in history and is a stamp collector, although he was not familiar with perfins.

We were hoping to find an old envelope with the H-D perfin, or perhaps even the perfin machine to prove that the user of this perfin was Harley Davidson. The Historian did his best to find either one, but alas, it seems all such memorabilia are now history themselves.

Is there anyone out there who has an identifying cover with an H-D perfin? It would be a great bonus to settle this mystery during the 100-year anniversary of the birth of the Harley Davidson motorcycle.



Has Anyone Seen this Perfin on Cover?

A Note on Perfined Covers

Rudy Roy (#1124)

In the June 16 issue of Linn's (page 22) is an article about Marcus W. White. Perfins collectors owe him a debt, too, as many of the covers providing IDs came from his hoards of mail addressed to the Norton Co.

I would offer that White, along with Virgil M. Brand of Brand Brewing in Chicago, are probably the sources of a large number of the existing perfins covers.

What's So Special About Special Handling Perfins?

Bob Schwerdt 505L

For years I haven't added any new material to my small group of U.S. Special Handling perfins. I wonder why? Perhaps they are so scarce that collectors hoard them and swap only for like items? Or perhaps not many companies perfined these stamps?

Perfin checklists have been made for many U.S. stamps: airmail, 1902, Kans/Nebr, parcel post, and others. However, I don't recall seeing a checklist for Special Handling perfins (Scott QE1-4). They are those rather plain, green, horizontal stamps intended to give parcels the same care as first class mail.

Scott's Specialized Catalog lists more varieties of these issues than the regular catalog, so there are ways, even with this small group, to increase your perfin collections. There are wet and dry printings of the 10¢, 15¢, and 20¢ issues and color variations of

the 25¢ issue. In addition, there are certain connected letters in "UNITED STATES POSTAGE" on the 25¢ value that catalog four to eight times those of the normal types. I am not expert enough to judge the wet and dry differences, and it is not easy to distinguish the color variations because of aging and cancellations. The connected letters are easy to see with a good magnifier.

Below is a listing of the known types, as best I can determine, including denominations, prepers, varieties, and postmarks. For those of you who collect this specialty, I should appreciate additions to this list to give me some idea of what really exists. If your list amount to hundreds (or thousands) on several pages, I'll be happy to reimburse!

To answer the title question: scarcity(?) and variety(!).

Perfins found in U.S. Special Handling stamps					
Pattern	US Cat #	Denom of stamp	D P V ¹	Postmark Type	City/Town
ABL	A46(?) Not exact	10¢		Oval	
ABL	A46A	15¢		Oval	
AC/CO	A63	25¢	D	Oval	
AE/Co	A99	15¢	P (Chicago)		
AE/Co	A99	25¢			
AEL/Co	A102.1	25¢	D		
ATT	A272	25¢	D	Oval	New York
AWP	A281	25¢			
AY/ER	A287	10¢ 15¢ 20¢		Oval (15)	Philadelphia
[A&]G	A292	10¢		Oval	
BFG/Co	B120	25¢	D V	Oval	Akron
B&S	B289	20¢			
CB	C32	20¢			(South) Manchester
[CC]	C63	15¢		CDS	Chicago
[CC]	C63	25¢		Oval	Chicago
CEC	C109	15¢			Chicago
CEC	C109	25¢	D		
[CP]	C262	10¢ 15¢		Mint	
CSP	C321	25¢	D	Oval	Toledo
CT/C	C340	15¢			

Perfins found in U.S. Special Handling stamps (cont.)					
CUD/AHY	C356.1	15¢			
DH/NYC	D49	10¢			
DM/CO	D68	15¢			Framingham
DM/CO	D68	25¢	D	Oval	
D(I)	D154	15¢			
FIC	F86	25¢		Oval	
FOX	F148	25¢	D		
FP/L	F153	25¢	D P (New York)		
GE	G72-11	10¢			
GE	G72-29	25¢	D		
(G)M(C)	G116	25¢			Detroit
H/oo/D	H146	20¢			Boston
HSB	H170	15¢		Oval	
HS/&CO	H184	25¢	D		
[IHC]	I43.7-23	10¢		CDS	Boston
I-P	I69	25¢	D V		
ISC(o)	I91.1	25¢	D V	Oval	Meriden
JBE	J8	25¢	P (Philadelphia)		
J&F	J177	25¢	P (Cleveland) V		
LOW	L130.1	25¢	D		
L(&)T	L190.5	25¢		CDS	Dayton
ML(C)	M154	25¢	D P (Cleveland)	Oval	Wall St. Sta.
NCR	N53	25¢	D	CDS	
NL	N104.1	25¢	D		
PD	P55	10¢			
PD/Co	P56	25¢	D P (Chicago)		
P.D/Co.	P56-17	25¢			
SAI	S25	25¢			
SSW	S272.9	25¢	D V	Oval	Staten Island
U/OF/M	U55.5	10¢			
US/MC	U82.1	25¢		CDS	
U•S/MC	U82.4	20¢		Oval	Philadelphia
WNV	W142	25¢		CDS	

1- D = Dark green variety; P = Preper; V = Variety- Second 'T' and 'A' of 'STATES' joined at top

MORE ON ARTHUR SIMIONESCU

Vince McDermott (#1787)

The search for information about Arthur F. Simionescu has turned up some very interesting data. He and his brother Edgar were lifelong bachelors who lived in the same house in Hackensack, NJ all their lives. Arthur contracted polio while in his teens and was confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his life. Edgar, a mechanic, dedicated his life to caring for Arthur. He passed

away a few months after Arthur.

The brothers were reclusive, keeping to themselves, but were not recluses. They enjoyed playing cards and Arthur was a member of at least one fraternal organization. They were well known to their neighbors.

Arthur entered high school in 1909. He obviously took up stamp collecting. At some point, perhaps as early as 1917, he became a stamp dealer. He is listed in the incomplete file of Hackensack city directories in that year, with no profession listed. Additional listings appear in 1921 (philatelist); 1940 (no profession mentioned); and 1947 (stamp dealer). There is no mention of a company name. His short obituary described him as having owned a "stamp collecting business", a curious phrase.

Mr. Simionescu died in July 1986, at 91. Jacob Kisner has provided a handwritten invoice dated Sept 9, 1985 from Mr. Simionescu, which shows that Mr. Simionescu was still an active stamp dealer at age 90. Quite an achievement!

After his death, his estate passed to a sister, then to Hackensack High School. The school received a surprise bequest of 1.5 million dollars. School officials had no idea why Arthur made that provision. The brothers had made their money in investments.

The more we find out about Mr. Simionescu, the more interesting the mystery surrounding him and

the ownership of the S344 (S&F) perfin becomes.

One small, interesting detail is that there are at least three versions of the machine produced address label for Arthur. One featured the "Simionscu" spelling. The other two had the spelling with the "e". However, one had a period after Simionescu, while the second had a comma. In addition, the three lines of the name/address were not lined up under each other the same way.

Based on what we know so far, I feel Mr. Simionescu was not the first owner of S344. Arthur was in high school in 1911-12, and a victim of polio. At some point, he did become the owner of the perforator. I believe the first owner was Walter Ossege of Cincinnati. What could complicate the matter, but explain some of the covers bearing the perfin, is the possible presence of a third owner, someone who owned the perfin between Ossege and Simionescu.

Many thanks to Liz Leonard, reference librarian of the Hackensack Public Library, for much of the information contained in this article.

PRIVATE AUCTION #5

Bob Szymanski (LM-145)

Starting this Autumn, I will be holding a second series of private auctions of the Bill and Sylvia Gersch collections, the estate collection of Life Member John Suffka, and certain holdings of Joe Laura.

Worldwide perfin material will be auctioned with an emphasis on German, British and US material. Most every collector will find items of interest in these not-to-be missed auctions. And remember the Perfins Club receives a percentage of all funds received!

It is expected that there will be a minimum of four auctions held. The first of these (Auction #5) will commence October 15th and end November 30th, 2003. Please e-mail, snail mail or call Bob (info on last page under President), should you wish a copy

of the first auction. All bidders from the previous auctions should automatically receive a copy of the first auction lots on or about October 15th.

The first auction will contain many B, B+ and A rated US patterns, a German POKO collection of 4400+ patterns and 16,000+ issues!, plus many other interesting lots.

ADDITIONALLY, because this material contains two large US collections, there are many C+ and lower rated US perfins that once again will be offered on a direct sale basis, first come first served, to any members providing a want list. You do not have to wait until October 15th to send your want list! C+ perfins will be sold @ \$4.00; C's @ \$2.00; D+'s @ 50¢; D's @ 25¢; and E&F's @ 10¢ each.

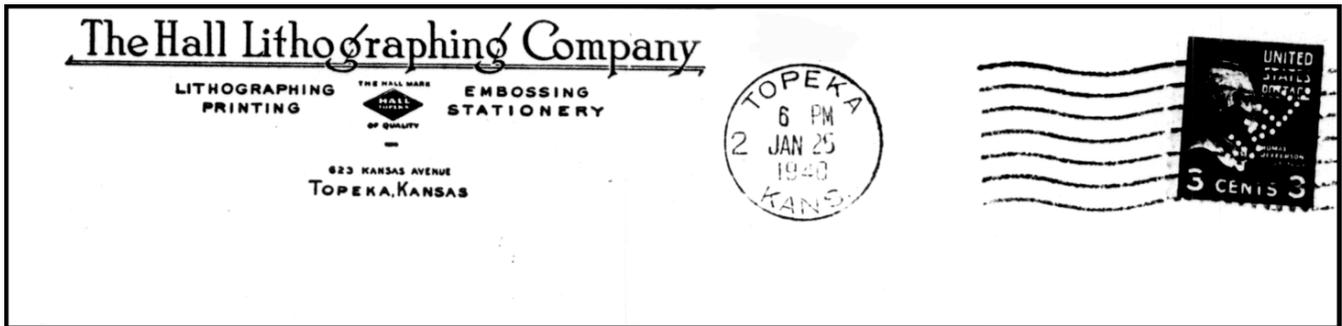
HAVING FUN STUDYING COVER STRIPS

Chuck Spaulding (#2355)

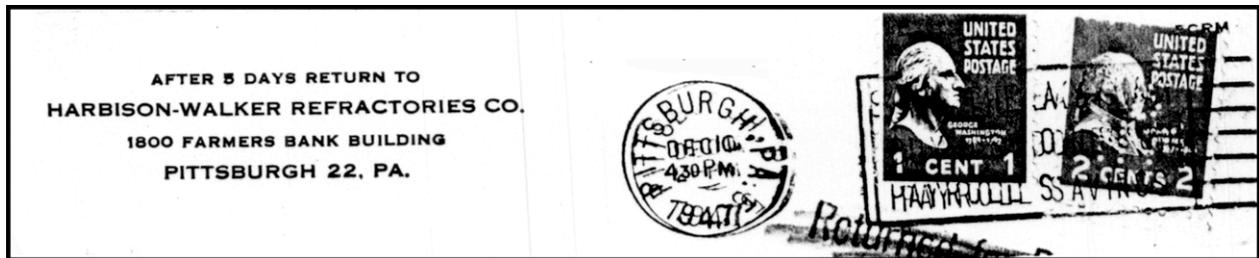
In a recent auction I won a lot with 250 cover strips. I always feel sad when I see the remains of what must have been beautiful covers. But, all the important information is on these cover strips. Each strip has a complete corner card, a cancel with a city and usage date, and even a perfined stamp. I got into the habit of examining covers and cover strips when the revised catalog was being put together. The previous catalog was full of errors and misinformation. I got interested in trying to correct the data. I started a personal index of the users that also included every user related to a perfin design. The interrelationships between companies interested me. Many of my entries weren't included in the Appendixes revised catalog. However, my personal

index was included.

I'm still at it and I continue to log in new users and correct existing data. The index has increased by more than a page or about four columns and a lot of the users names have been corrected. For some crazy reasons I have a lot fun doing this. For the cost of about a half dozen nice covers I got a ton of new information from the new cover strips I acquired. Some of the new data included new usage dates, new cities, correct company names, confirmations not listed in the catalog and a possible user for a design that had no user. The following cover strips shows some of the data I found.



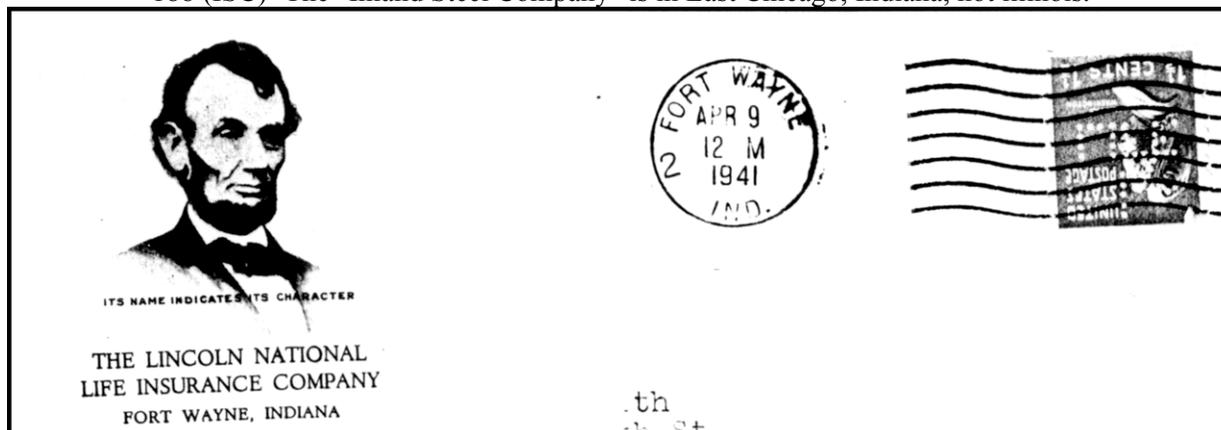
H20 (HALL) -Maybe "Hall Lithograph Company" should be "~ Hall Lithographing Company" !



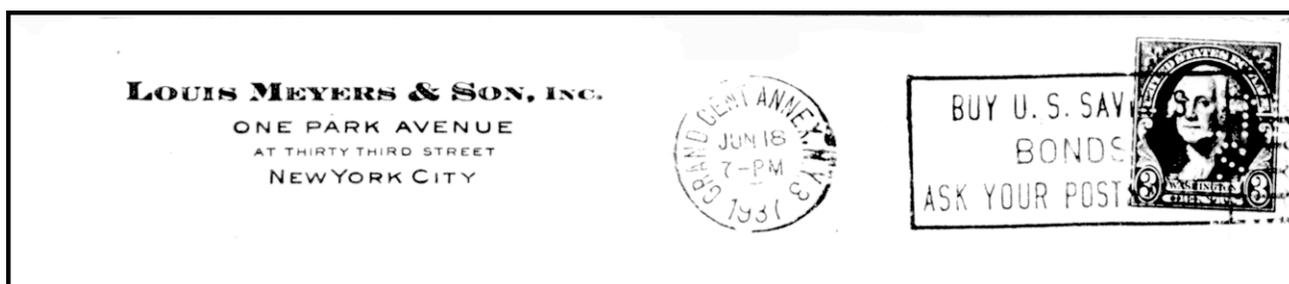
H209 (HW/R) -Could "Harbison Walker Refractory Company" be "Harbison-Walker Refractories Company"?



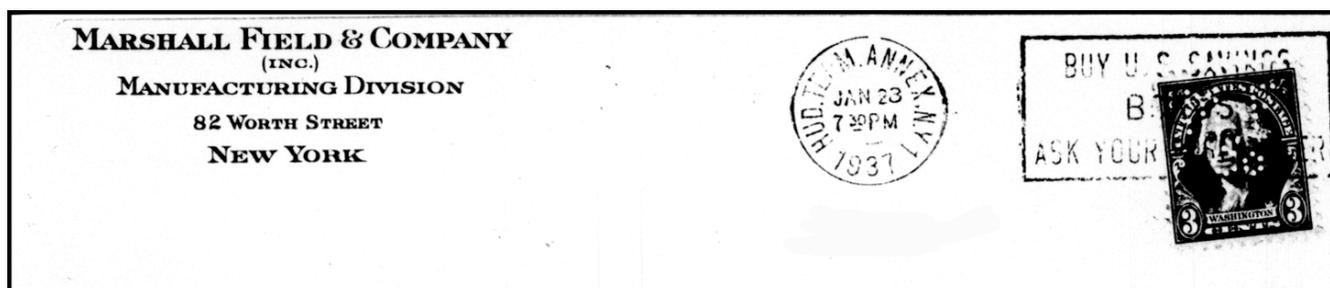
188 (ISC) -The "Inland Steel Company" is in East Chicago, Indiana, not Illinois.



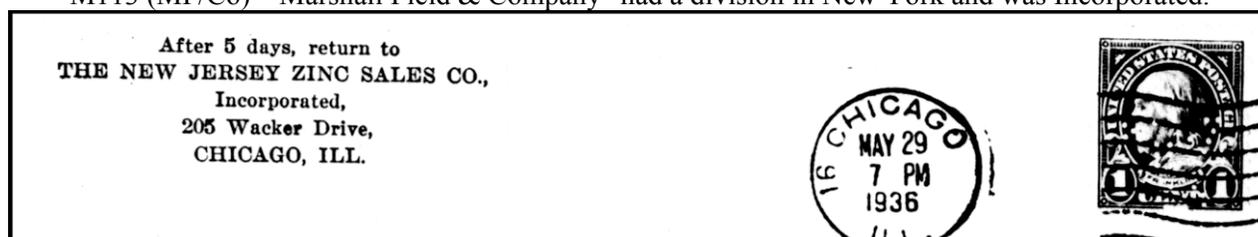
L 112 (L/LIFE) -Maybe "Lincoln Life Insurance Company" should be "Lincoln National Life Insurance Company"



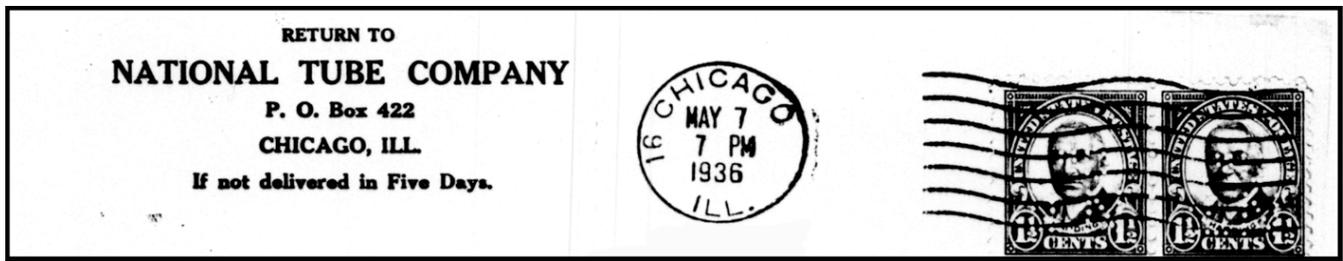
L123 (LM/S) -In 1937 "Meyers & " was "Meyers & Son. Inc." He may have had another son but I don't think he changed his first name.



M113 (MF/Co) -"Marshall Field & Company" had a division in New York and was Incorporated.



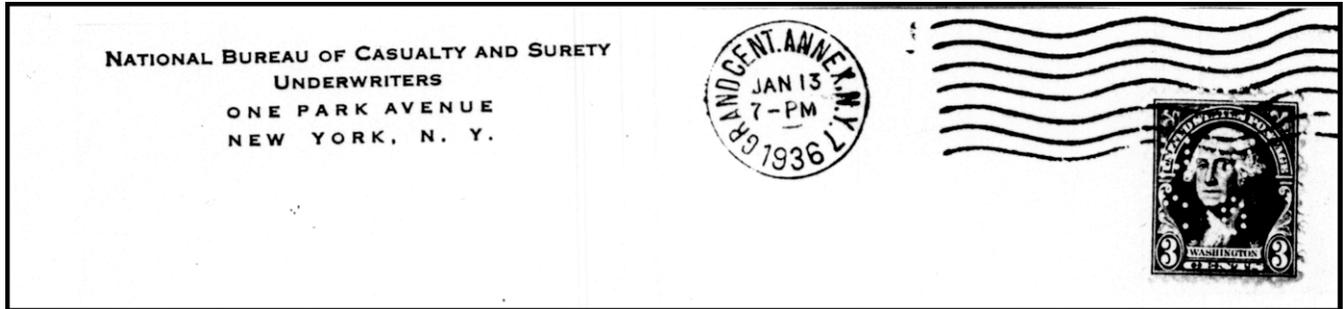
M213 (MPZ/Co) -There is no user listed in the catalog. Could "The New Jersey Zinc Sales Company, Inc." be the user? They also used perfin designs N98, N99 & N100 and had an office in Chicago;



RETURN TO
NATIONAL TUBE COMPANY
P. O. Box 422
CHICAGO, ILL.
If not delivered in Five Days.

16 CHICAGO
MAY 7
7 PM
1936
ILL.

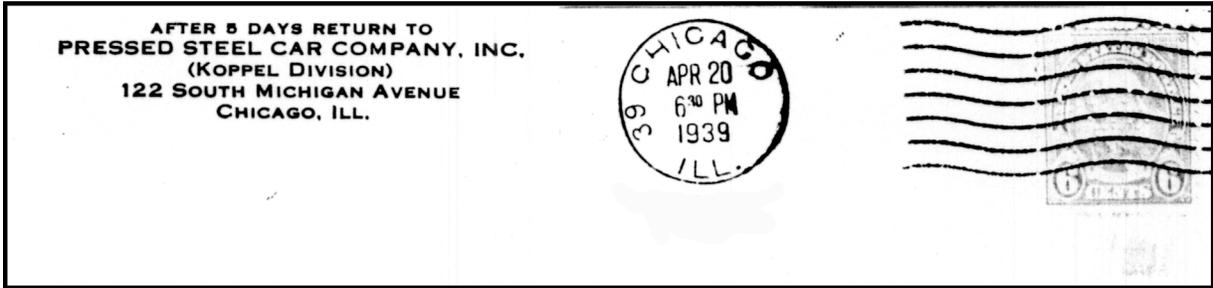
N163 (NT/Co) -"National Tube Company" also had an office in Chicago, IL.



NATIONAL BUREAU OF CASUALTY AND SURETY
UNDERWRITERS
ONE PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

GRAND CENTRAL ANNEK N.Y.
JAN 13
7-PM
1936

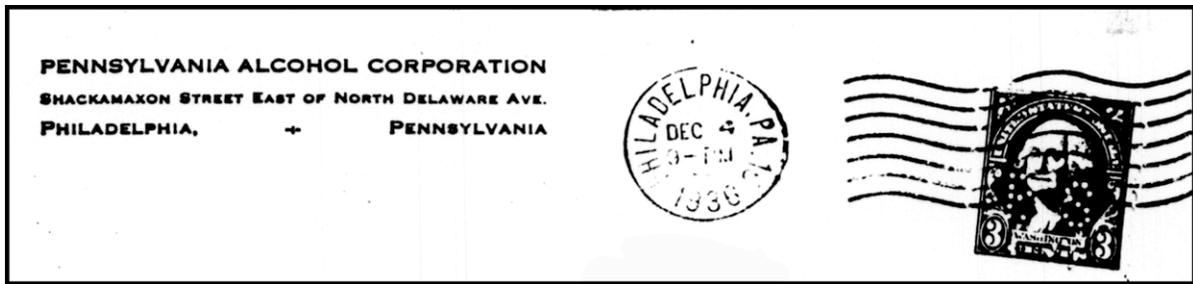
N170 (NW /CB) -Maybe the "National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Writers" should be the "National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters"?



AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO
PRESSED STEEL CAR COMPANY, INC.
(KOPPEL DIVISION)
122 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL.

39 CHICAGO
APR 20
6³⁰ PM
1939
ILL.

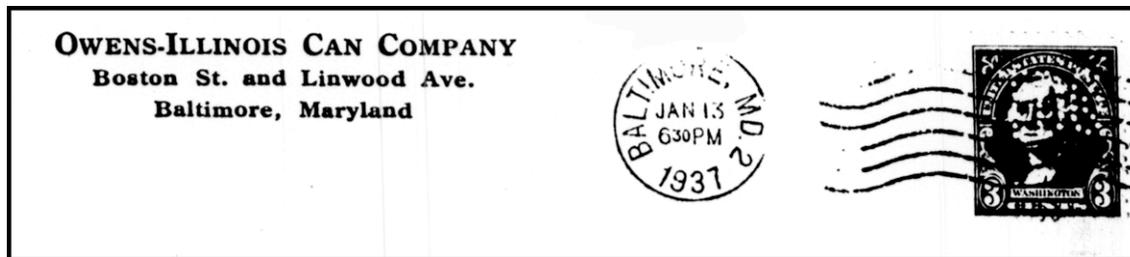
P205 (PSC) -"Pressed Steel Car Company" also had a division in Chicago that was Incorporated.



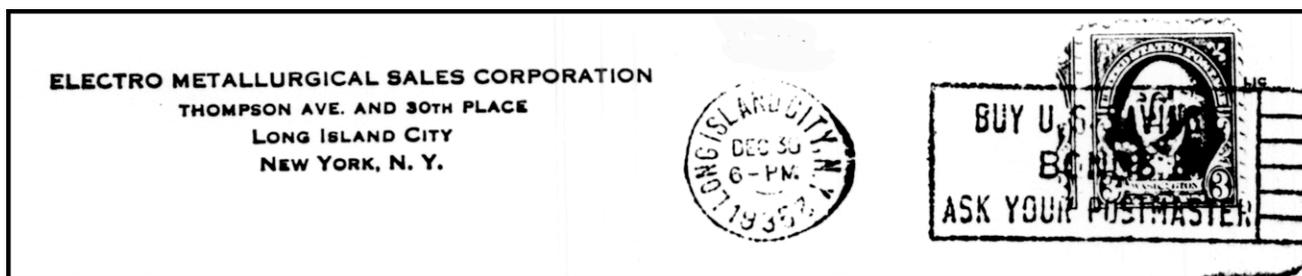
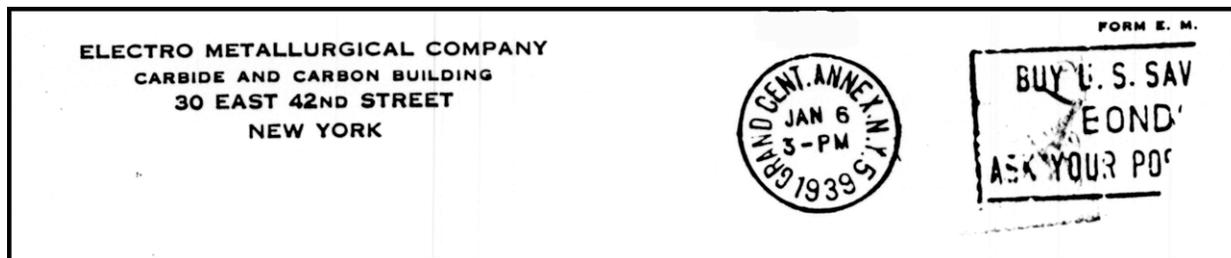
PENNSYLVANIA ALCOHOL CORPORATION
SHACKAMAXON STREET EAST OF NORTH DELAWARE AVE.
PHILADELPHIA, + PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
DEC 4
3-PM
1938

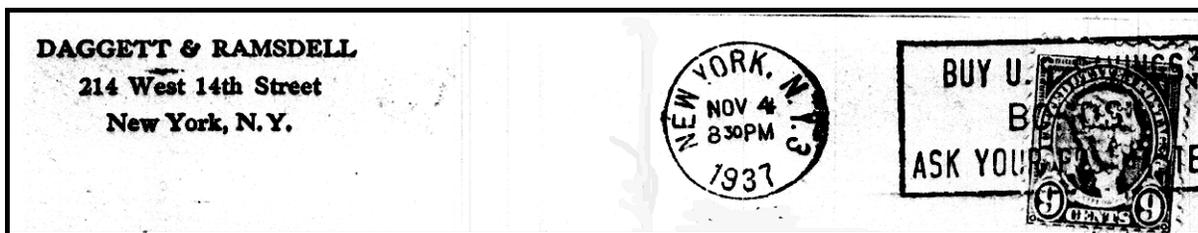
P220 (p.S./C.) -The "Pennsylvania Sugar Company" may have owned the "Pennsylvania Alcohol Corporation"!



T31 (TDCo) -"Owens-Illinois Company" may have been doing business with "The Tin Decorating Company of Baltimore" and exchanged courtesy perfins or were they part of the same company!



U23 (UC/&C) -The two "Electro Metallurgical. ..." companies may have been doing business with the "Union Carbon & Carbide Company" or were they part of the same company? The Manhattan office was in the "Carbide and Carbon Building" !



No.18 (Circle [26]) -"Daggett & Ramsdell" were probably doing business with Standard Oil and used a courtesy perfin!

Comments on Channel Islands Perfins

Chris Carr (#LM-9)

Reference Bob Schwerdt's article on Channel Is. Perfins (PB July/August 2003: 108-110), for footnote #5 (p.110), the date could only be in August as there were no other Thursday 26th's in that year! In addition the stamp at top right on page 109 [7d

Jack Counter, V.C.] is not a "regional stamp"; the Independent Postal Administration of Jersey issued it in 1971, having taken over from the British Post Office on 1 October 1969.

RAMBLINGS OF A HERETIC

First in a series

Lawrence H. 'Larry' Cohen (#3724)

Every fairy tale I ever read started out "once upon a time..." When writing about Black Hardings I get the feeling I should start every article this way. Nothing about this issue every seemed quite real. Like President Harding himself, this stamp and its history takes more twists and turns than the best penny novel of the day. Rules were cavalierly ignored; traditions swept away, and even international agreements totally overlooked just to lay homage to the memory of Warren G. Harding. President Harding, like President Kennedy, was almost instantaneously canonized after his sudden death in office. Everyone went out of their way to show their love and respect for this most popular President.

The Postmaster General, a personal friend of President Harding, ordered a memorial stamp be produced to honor the "nation's fallen hero", and in less than a month a black stamp was designed, produced and issued which was neither a commemorative nor a regular issue. This memorial issue was to show public sentiment in which every American could partake. And use this stamp they did!

The stamp was so wildly popular that the traditional printing methods employed at the Bureau of Engraving & Printing (BEP) could simply not keep up with the incredible demand. It became apparent, even before the official date of issue (September 1, 1923 a Saturday!), that supplies would be woefully short. The Bureau pressed into service the new "experimental" Stickney rotary printing press. This press was capable of printing 4 times faster (6 million stamps a day) than the regular flat bed printing presses (1.6 million stamps per day) that were in use at the time. The Stickney press could also perforate and gum the paper all at the same time in one almost seamless operation.

Personnel at the BEP were by no means the only ones to be creative about what and how this new issue would gain recognition. The public in general - and stamp dealers in particular - were having a great old time finding new and creative ways to stretch

and blur the definitions of "real" or "imagined" uses of this issue. Favor items became the norm not the exception. Philatelists, stamp dealers, even stock speculators got into the act. People would go from town to town and ask Postmasters to precancel a sheet of "Black Hardings". Amazingly enough, almost all were all too willing to accommodate the seemingly endless requests for all kinds of "services".

George Lynn and his companion, Henry S. Adair, posted his now famous "Mourning Covers" in Marion OH on the first day of issue and then he and his friend took the 45 mile trip home to Columbus going from town to town in between (Waldo, Delaware, Powell, Dublin, Linworth and Worthington) getting covers with this stamp (which could only have been bought in Marion) postmarked September 1, 1923 at each stop. And when he ran out of hours in the day on September 1st, he simply asked the Postmasters to back date the cancellation even though it was September 2nd or 3rd! Hence we have loads of "unofficial" FDCs from towns in Ohio that didn't even have the stamps on September 1st and would not get them for a week.

Actually, precancel collectors owe a great debt to the creative genius of Bill Briggs and others who single handedly elevated the collecting of precancels to a fine art. What could be better? If you could not find a precancel from a given city or town, you made one. If you did not like the color of a precancel, you changed it. And, if you really wanted to have a one of a kind freak or error, no problem, you simply created it.

So the bottom line in collecting the fabulously interesting Black Hardings issue is, what do you want to collect? All the precancels you can find. Plan on a lifetime of excitement and frustration while you try to acquire well over 7,000 positions from some 1,500 cities and towns. At least 85% of which are the results of someone's imagination as opposed to every day commercial and private use. How about collecting all the perfins there are? Well

that's more possible. There are somewhere between 1000-1200 patterns reported on the Black Harding issue; a nice manageable size, for a specialty collection, to be sure. But even here, take my word for it; there were no shortage of shenanigans going on, although far less than with the precancels.

Now, if you decide that only officially issued, commercially used Harding memorial stamps will do, then "prepers" (PREcanceled PERfins) are for you. Of course, to date there are only 22 reported patterns from 14 towns. These select few could give the term "hen's teeth" a whole new meaning. Let's see that's 7,000 to 22 a pretty amazing ratio. But

chances are that they are about the only traditionally accepted "real usage's" out there that we can dependably assume at this time were issued, bought, used, received and now collected as we have always understood these terms.

I myself had an epiphany about this issue a while ago. Simply stated, this stamp is well designed, and interesting, with a history like almost no other in US philately, and isn't that what stamp collecting is all about. Collect this issue and no one will ever accuse you of being just a space-filler, as you hopefully live and collect happily ever after.

HANDBOOK OF AUSTRALIAN PRIVATE PERFINs

A REVIEW

David Andersen, Editor South Pacific Perfin Bulletin

John Mathews has just published his *Handbook of Australian Private Perfins* (Canberra 2003 softcover A4.)

The first book on Australian private perfins *Commercial Perfins of Australia* was published in 1992. Since then a very large amount of additional information has been provided by members of the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia and other collectors. The new *Handbook of Australian Private Perfins* includes an additional 1200 patterns and around two thirds of the patterns previously listed have been updated with additional information. In total around 2700 perfin patterns are listed in the new Handbook, resulting in a substantial volume.

The catalogue listing follows the same format as the earlier book. Each pattern is illustrated, the user identified if known, usage information provided and an estimate of scarcity provided. The detail provided for each pattern exceeds that provided in many perfin catalogues. Brief comments about pricing are provided and these reflect the normal market for this material. The scarcity ratings provide a most useful guide to assist in pricing perfins both for the buyer and seller.

Information about the history of perfins in Australia is provided at the beginning of the catalogue. This

section includes very useful detail about the different perforating services and perforator manufacturers encountered on the Australian scene. Lists of multiple die perforators, applications for approval to use perfins, Sloper-supplied patterns and possible users are also provided and are of interest. This background information is often not included in perfin catalogues but is very helpful and interesting. The list of possible users clearly indicates that great care has been taken in checking the accuracy of information provided.

This Handbook clearly will be the standard work on Australian private perfins much as the earlier book has been. If you collect Australian private perfins you will need this Handbook to enhance your collecting experience. Considering that the number of patterns listed has nearly doubled from the previous book, it really is essential for collectors of these perfins to have a copy on hand even if they have the earlier book. This Handbook is a good example of how to list the perfins of a country and has features others should emulate.

The Handbook is available from John Mathews, 21 McConnel Cres, Kambah ACT 2902, Australia. Email - JohnMa@ise.canberra.edu.au Price- A\$75 plus postage [Members of the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia A\$65 plus postage].

A Newsletter from Africa. 3. "Rhodesia"

Brian Dennis (#2581)

In October 1995, Bob Schwerdt published a thorough update of the Africa Section of the World Perfins Catalogue. Since then a number of new records have been published in the Bulletin. Also, I have maintained my own reference data and records, which will add a lot of interesting information to Bob's catalogue. In this and future *Newsletters from Africa*, I intend to update members with the sort of new information which exists. I hope, though, that members will be motivated to send any other information they have so that the next version of the Africa Catalogue can be more complete.

In this Newsletter, the subject is "Rhodesia" whose philatelic history is very complex with various administrations such as Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland (now Zimbabwe), Zambia, and Malawi. There have been at least twelve different postal administrations since the 1890's. However, the simplest picture, from a perfin point of view, is to concentrate on two and note the others as exceptions.

Rhodesia, over the period 1892 to 1924, was represented by the British South Africa Co. Most of the perfins found from this period are fiscals although there are three recorded commercial patterns.

1) Fiscal Perfins:

- The BSA/C perfins of the British South Africa Co are all fiscal cancels (although there may be one or two rare postal exceptions) and were used for fees for legal documents, permits, licenses etc. The Catalogue notes three different versions of this pattern, but I have now identified at least nine similar but different types of this basic perfin. There could be more as the administration of such a large territory would have required a perforator to be available at many different centres. I will include these in the next version of the Catalogue, but if anyone wants a copy please contact me.
- The three tier date perfin is also a canceller for fiscal purposes. I have not yet studied these in detail, but logically there could be several versions of this

pattern. I have a little information on the "two tier date" type.

- The "USED" pattern is well known but found only in the BSACo period as a cancel for fiscal purposes.

These three perfin types are found on legal documents. I have one such document, from the Deeds Registry in Bulawayo, which was cancelled with a single round punch, an unusual example of a "one hole perfin" as it played a similar purpose to the better known patterns?

There is also an article, probably written by Otto Peetoom, showing early revenues with two, parallel, perforated lines. Both this and the one-hole pattern would be new to the catalogue.

2) Commercial Perfins -there were three from this period:

- A.A./T.C. - which is not now thought to be the Anglo American Tobacco Co, is more likely to be from the Anglo African Trading Co. Can anyone comment?
- H&S - which is likely to be from Haddon & Sly, a well-known department store in Bulawayo.
- RM - which is a new record. The pattern is identical to one used by R. Muller in South Africa.

After the Rhodesia BSACo period, Southern Rhodesia (from 1924 to 1954) has several commercial perfins.

- A.A./T.C. and H&S continued in use, but new dies appeared.
- UM of Umtali Municipality is found in postal and fiscal stamps.
- D.R/Co which is likely to be Dunlop Rubber Co. The pattern is similar to several used in neighbouring South Africa and in GB.
- LL - has been confirmed as Lennon Limited, Chemists in Salisbury.
- S.R./G. was used by the Southern Rhodesian Government and probably only in revenue stamps for passport fees.
- The BSA/C and Date perfins continued in use into this 1924-1954 period.

After 1954, and until 1963, the territory's stamps were identified as Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Records show only one postally used perfin at that time, the UM perfin of Umtali Municipality. No postal perfins have been reported from the modern states of Zambia, Malawi, and Zimbabwe.

Apart from the above, there are a number of fiscal cancels of the "PAID/DATE" style and such types are recorded from S. Rhodesia, Rhodesia & Nyasaland, and N. Rhodesia (now Zambia). Kodak cancels are known on more recent stamps from Zambia, Rhodesia & Nyasaland, S Rhodesia, and Rhodesia (post Federation). The Catalogue lists a partial "D.O.?" under the Nyasaland Protectorate. I have also seen a King George V high value revenue from Nyasaland with a perfin cancel but could not record details. Can anyone comment and add to

these, or provide good images of these last two uncommon patterns?

Since the Catalogue more perfins have been recorded and identified, and some of the background on how they were used has been established. Can anyone comment or add to this before it is turned into a re-write for the next Catalogue?

Dave Morton of the Rhodesia Study Circle is also opening up an awareness of these perfins amongst their members and more information could come from this source. My thanks, also, to Peter Maybury for his input into this article.

If any member can comment, clarify, or add to this information please contact me at bdennis@mweb.co.za or 28 Pyracantha St, Heldervue, Somerset West 7130, South Africa or via the Bulletin.

TIGER! TIGER!

Bob Schwerdt 505L

Tiger! Tiger! burning bright
In the forests of the night

II Wm. Blake

In the reduced living areas of the wild, tigers are not burning brightly; rather, they are fading away - some species are on the road to extinction. Perhaps in zoos and in perfin albums, tigers will continue to have a happy existence.

Speaking of perfins, I examined the catalogs containing Federated Malay States (FMS) tiger perfins. The chart on the next page shows the comparative entries for three catalogs: Giffen's *Perfins of British Malaya*, Schwerdt's *World Perfins Catalog* (Asian section), and Lavender's *Perfins of Malaysia*. Catalog numbers, number of issues reported, and postmark information are listed.

The earliest FMS stamps, also tiger designs, were those overprinted from Negri-Sembilan and Perak, but none with perfins have been reported by Lavender. I have a few of the early ones with date punches.

Other Malay states show tigers on more modern stamps. However, we are concerned in this article with only those small, horizontal FMS issues depicting the full, magnificent beast on the attack!

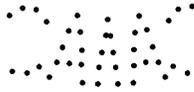
These are the stamps that fascinated pre-teen collectors who had never heard of perfins.



The Scott catalog indicates that the FMS tiger stamps were issued from 1901 through 1934 on ordinary and on chalky paper with three different watermarks. Only Lavender lists the known issues using Gibbons catalog numbers. The FMS stamps were a sort of interim project between the earlier and the later individual states issues. Political changes created many name changes in the Malay peninsula.

Both Giffen and Lavender illustrate a "CANCELLED" punch, but do not attribute it to FMS stamps. I have a smaller (9mm) item on the tiger issue (see illustration). This freak was caused by a paper fold before punching.

Like the tigers themselves, there are a limited number of FMS tiger perfins. Both deserve to be preserved!



Pat	Giffen		Lavender		Schwerdt	Postmarks	Notes
	Cat #	# iss	Cat #	# iss	Cat #		
B+Co	No List	---	B3b	2	A1	Penang ¹	
B+Co Ltd	B4	6	B4a	7	A2	Kuala Lumpur Port Seetenham	
CBI	C5	8	C5	12	A3	Kuala Lumpur Singapore ¹	
Cbi	C4	---	C4	---	A3.5	Penang Kuala Lumpur ¹ Ipoh ¹	Neither Giffen nor Lavender list this type for FMS A3.5 rounder C than A3
MBI	M5	13	M5	17	A4	Kuala Lumpur	
ORI ENT AL•	O1	5	O1a	7	A5	Kuala Lumpur	Giffen catalog illustration shows no hole in the 'O'. Both others show it
S.T.C.	S10	---	S10b	3	A6	Singapore & Branches Kuala Lumpur ²	Giffen does not list for FMS
S.T.Co.	S11	5	S11	5	A7	Ipoh ...borend ²	
W& Co	W1	17	W1	28	A8	Klang (Kelang) Penang ¹	

1 – Listed in World Perfins
Catalog
2 - Schwerdt collection

General:
Selangor State: Kuala Lumpur, Klang, and Port Sweetenham
Perak State: Ipoh
Malaysia: Penang
Crown Colony: Singapor

e-Bay Watch

Bill Shields (#2951)

Item number: 2946065651 – “AUSTRALIA, 1926-30 sg 0106b Small Multiple Wmk p13.5 x 12.5 KGV 3d Deep ultramarine Die II perfin OS with ERROR, 'THRIE PENNY' fine used & rare.” Won for the single bid of US\$400.

Item number: 2944532994 – “483 3ct Schermack Pair Used W/Perfin ‘Low’.” 5 bids begun at \$14.99 went to a winning bid of \$102.60.

And a Nutmeg Auction Item

Chris Rueger (#1834)

Spotted in the September 4, Nutmeg (of Danbury, CT) auction. **Lot 935** (67th Sale) – “Australia to California (Australia #28 flts), "ED&Co" perfin, tied by Sydney NSW "Empire Exhibition" repeating slogan machine cnl to cover addr West Berkeley California, Edwards Dunlop c/c on face, ED flag on

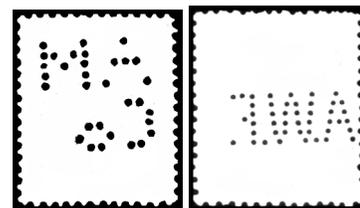
reverse, 50 centimes short, the rate was 4d for a brief time (Feb 1922 to July 1924) which led to the high postage due of 10 cents on this interesting cover, pair of 5c dues affixed, VF.” Sale Price appears to be \$55 from Nutmeg’s website.

Victoria Perfins with Tasmanian Postmarks

Bob Schwerdt (#505L)

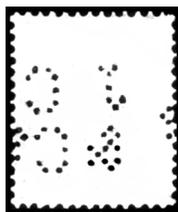
The majority of my legible Victoria perfins show postmarks of Melbourne. There are a few listed below in my collection which are inscribed with Tasmanian cancels.

In one of his articles, Australian collector D. W. Anderson mentions that Victoria issues are known with Tasmanian postmarks, but none are listed. In the Australian Perfins Bulletin of July 1988, there is a report that two patterns of New South Wales are found with Tasmanian postmarks. And, in the first supplement to the *Private Perfins of Australia* mention is made of New South Wales postmarks on South Australian stamps.



Scott #	Denomination	Perfin Pattern/Cat. #	Postmark	Date
201	6p	AM/Co (AMCO.2)	Bu(rnie)?, Tasmania	Au ? 02
224	5p	AWF (AWF.2)	Lau (nces)ton, Tasmania	4 My 07
200	5p	JC/Co (JC&Co.5)	Hobart, Tasmania	Se 13 1901

Numbers are from the Grant, Matthews catalog, *Commercial Perfins of Australia*, but designs vary slightly from catalog illustrations in the spacing between letters.

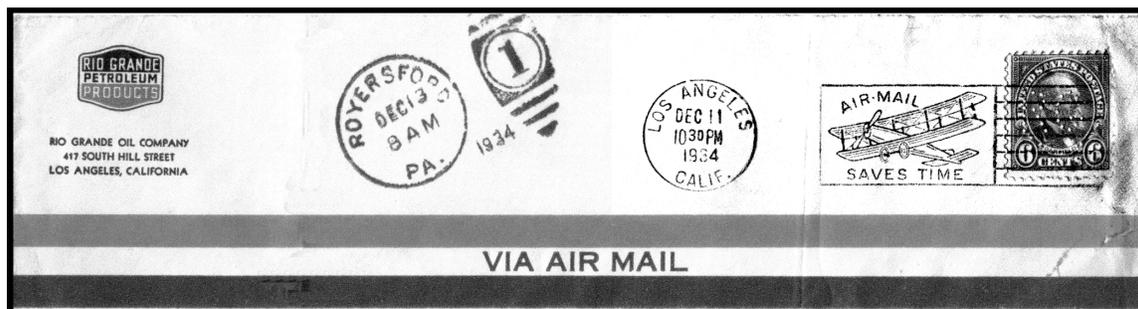


I wonder just how much interstate use of perfined stamps was permitted or accidentally accomplished? Perhaps some collector of Australian perfins has already provided a checklist of these items? If so, I trust that he or she will provide an article for the *PB* with further information on this subject.

User of Pattern R63 Identified

Ken Rehfeld (#3394)

Below is shown a cropped cover which identifies the user of perfin pattern R63 (RG) as the Rio Grande Oil Company of Los Angeles, California.



Clubmember Ads

Wanted: Perfinned Washington Irving stamps (Scott #859) on and off cover for exhibit. Gary Denis, P.O. Box 766, Paxent River, MD 20670. e-mail: GaryD@olg.com.

Wanted: Brazil perfins 'ZB/&CO' and 'US/MC' both on and off cover. Bob Bergstrom, 1711 Driving Park Rd., Wheaton, IL 60187 -or- email bergstros@ourmail.com.

Advertisements are published without charge for members on a space-available basis. Members are entitled to one free ad per year. Additional ads will be accepted at the following rates: one insertion at 10¢ per word (do not count membership number and heading); three consecutive insertions of the same ad at 20¢ per word; six insertions of the same ad at 40¢ per word. Paid ads relating to perfins are accepted from non-members. Non-member rates are 15¢ per word for a single insertion, 30¢ per word for three consecutive insertions, and 60¢ per word for six consecutive insertions of the same ad. Neither the Perfins Club nor the editor accepts responsibility for the validity of the advertisements. Payment for the ads should be made payable to 'The Perfins Club' and sent to the editor with the request for insertion.

Secretary's Report

Ken Rehfeld (#3384)

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3729 Karl J. Kerzel
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Rudy Roy

3730 Francine T.R. Craven
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5694
Beginner, U.S, BNA, Europe
Linn's

Address Change

LM111 Paul Mistretta
4148 Commodore Dr.
Atlanta, GA 30341

Membership 589

e-mail addresses please

Please, if you haven't already done so, send me an e-mail so that the membership list to be published in the December Bulletin will have accurate e-mail addresses. Thanks.

Editor Moves

By the time you receive this issue of the *Bulletin* I will have a new address. Please, if you plan on sending anything for publication in the *Bulletin*, make note the change above in the Secretary's report.

Counting the Catalogs – Next Installment

Here's the next group of countries + with catalog counts. The counts here reflect the new catalogs announced for the Club Library in the September *Bulletin*. In the November-December issue I will try to wrap up this count along with updating the citations for the new catalogs used in this and the next notes.

Current (2002) Catalog Counts

Country or Territory	CATALOG	POST	REV	SPEC	OTH	TOT	Comments
Nicaragua	Schwerdt Amer 1992		1		1	2	oth = postal tax stamp
Niger Territories	Schwerdt Africa 1995	3				3	
Nigeria Colony (GB)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	4		4		8	
Nigeria - Federation	Schwerdt Africa 1995	2				2	
Nigeria - Republic	Schwerdt Africa 1995	1				1	
North Borneo	Schwerdt Asia 1996		2	1		3	
North China (Japanese Occ.)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	2				2	
Northern Nigeria	Schwerdt Africa 1995		1			1	
Northern Rhodesia (1925-1964)	Schwerdt Africa 1995			4		4	
Northwest Pacific Iss.	Schwerdt Asia 1996				1	1	oth = officials
Norway	Schwerdt Europe 1994	81	2		26	109	
Nyassaland Protectorate (GB)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	1		4		5	
Off. in Morocco (Spain)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	2				2	
Off. in Alexandria (Fr.)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	11				11	
Off. in China (Fr.)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	4				4	
Off. in China (GB)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	11				11	
Off. in China (Germ.)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	8				8	
Off. in China (Japan)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	13				13	
Off. in China (Russ.)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	3			1	4	
Off. in Constantinople (Italy)	Bertazzoli 2000	4				4	
Off. in Crete (Austria)	See... Levant					0	
Off. in Morocco (GB - British Currency)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	1				1	
Off. in Morocco (GB - French Currency)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	4				4	
Off. in Morocco (GB - International Zone)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	1				1	
Off. in Morocco (GB - Spanish Currency)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	2				2	
Off. in Morocco (Germ.)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	1				1	
Off. in Morocco (Span.)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	2				2	
Off. in Port Said (Fr.)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	4				4	
Off. in Tangier (Fr.)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	2				2	
Off. in Tangier (Spain)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	1				1	

Current (2002) Catalog Counts

Country or Territory	CATALOG	POST	REV	SPEC	OTH	TOT	Comments
Off. In Turkey (Austria)	See... Levant					0	
Off. In Turkey (Fr.)	See... Levant					0	
Off. In Turkey (Germ.)	See... Levant					0	
Off. In Turkey (GB)	See... Levant					0	
Off. In Turkey (Italy)	See... Levant					0	
Off. In Turkey (Russ.)	See... Levant					0	
Off. In Turkish Empire (GB)	See... Levant					0	
Orange River Colony (1901-1910)	Schwerdt Africa 1995	27	2		3	32	oth = officials
Pahang (Malaya)	Schwerdt Asia 1996			1		1	
Pakhoi (Fr.)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	3				3	
Pakistan	Werner 1990	9				9	
Palestine	Schwerdt Asia 1996	4		2	1	7	
Panama	Schwerdt Amer 1992	1	1			3	
Papua	Schwerdt Asia 1996				2	2	oth = officials
Papua / N. Guinea	see... Papua					0	
Paraguay	Schwerdt Amer 1992	1	1			2	
Patiala (India)	Werner 1990		1			1	
Paulu Penang (Malaya)	see... Penang					0	
Penang (Malaya; also as Pulau Pinang)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	3			2	5	oth = officials
Perak (Malaya)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	4		1		5	
Persia	Schwerdt Asia 1996	2	8		4	14	
Peru	Schwerdt Amer 1992	7	16	2		25	oth = officials
Philippine Iss (Spanish to 1848)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	3				3	
Philippine Iss (US 1899-1946)	Schwerdt Asia 1996	9	3			12	
Pitcairn Iss	Schwerdt Asia 1996			2		2	
Poland	Schwerdt Europe 1994	76	1			77	
Poland - City locals	Schwerdt Europe 1994	1				1	
Poland - North	Schwerdt Europe 1994	4				4	
Poland - South	Schwerdt Europe 1994	6				6	
Poland in French stamps	Schwerdt Europe 1994	1				1	
Ponta Delgada (Port.)	See... Madiera					0	
Port Gdansk (Poland)	Schwerdt Europe 1994	1				1	Schw as Pol-Ofc in Danzig

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