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# The Bulletin

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Whole Number 625

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## Happy Holidays !!!



### Addendum to The U.S. Perfin Catalog is available

We are pleased to announce that *The Addendum to the Catalog of United States Perfins* has been completed and is now available through Dave Lightle (#3480), the Perfins Club Publication Sales Manager. The member's price of \$15.00, including postage. (Dave's contact information is on page 142 of this *Bulletin*.)

The Addendum incorporates all of the A&C #1 and #2 information to the 1998 *Catalog of United States Perfins* that has been published into one single consolidated document. Future A&C releases will be merged into The Addendum so that collectors will need to look at only one document rather than

several separate, individual releases. (Future A&C releases will also be available on a stand-alone basis for collectors who wish to quickly learn of new changes.)

A draft of The Addendum was well received at the recent Convention in Burlington, VT. Suggestions and corrections were offered that have been included in the published document. Steve Endicott (LM#2284), U.S. Perfins Catalog Editor, has forecast that A&C#3 will be published in the Fall of 2011, both in a stand-alone format and incorporated into The Addendum.

### Opportunities to Help your Club!

#### APS AmeriStamp Expo

February 11-13, 2011  
Charleston Area Convention Center  
5001 Coliseum Drive  
North Charleston, SC 29418

The Perfins Club plans to have an Affiliate Information Booth at the above-referenced APS Winter Show and Convention. If there are any Club members that are planning to attend the Charleston show, and have a couple of hours to volunteer staffing the Perfins Club Booth, please contact Jerry Hejduk (LM#3710). Jerry can be reached by telephone at (352) 326-2117; by mail at P.O. Box 490450, Leesburg, FL 34749-0450; or by email at [flprepers@comcast.net](mailto:flprepers@comcast.net).

#### Library List Proofreader

Doug Culter (LM#126), Club Librarian, reports that he has recently completed compiling a draft of a Library List of all catalogs, publications, documents and items available for loan from the Club Library. The next step, before we finalize this List for distribution, is the final checking and proofreading. The file is in Microsoft WordPad software and is 54KB in size.

If you would be willing to help the Club in proofreading this document, please contact Doug. His information is on page 142 of this *Bulletin*.

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**The *Perfins Bulletin* is the official journal of The Perfins Club - Founded 1943**

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The Perfins Club membership is open to all persons interested in the collection and study of Perforated Initials and Insignia in postage stamps. Yearly dues are \$15 for U.S., \$18 for Canada and \$25 for other Foreign. Since the club is on a June to July dues year, appropriate dues adjustments are made the first year based on the actual date of membership. Annual dues include a subscription to *The Perfins Bulletin*, mailed bulk rate printed matter. Mailing by 1st Class for an additional postage charge. Applications are available at [www.perfins.org](http://www.perfins.org) or from the Secretary listed above.

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Please submit *Bulletin* articles, news, or advertisements to:

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Visit The Perfins Club web site at <http://www.perfins.org> -- Mike Hynes, Webmaster ([mike@precancels.com](mailto:mike@precancels.com))

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## New Members Q & A

### As a perfin collector, I have accumulated a large number of revenue stamps. What do I need to know to start a collection?

Don Woodworth, a member of the American Revenue Association (ARA), wrote "The Perfin Collector's Introduction for Revenue Stamps (An Introduction for Non-Revenue Collectors)." Or, stated differently, an introduction to back-of-the-book United States Revenue stamps for collectors of front-of-the-book postage stamps. What follows is the essence of his message.

Many dealers, when asked for back-of-the-book material, will produce airmail, postage due and official stamps. When a revenue collector (Revenuer) asks for back-of-the-book material, they are really seeking material that is much farther back. They are looking for the revenue stamps in the 30 listed categories (R through RZ) in Scott's *Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers* or even farther back and beyond those listed by Scott, such as Tax Paid material that is found in places like the Springer's handbooks or the Springfield list. A handy way to think about this subject in general is that revenue stamps were used to pay a tax or fee and were not valid for postage.

Perfins are found in the following Scott-listed Revenue Categories:

- Documentary (R) - from 1872 onward. Punched cancels exist on earlier issues.
- Proprietary (RB) - from 1875 onward.
- Future delivery (RC) - all issues.
- Stock Transfer (RD) - all issues.
- Wine (RE) - all issues.
- Beer (REA) - from 1902 until end of use.
- Playing Card (RF) - only a very few examples reported.
- Silver Tax (RG) - only a very few examples reported.
- Narcotic (RJA) - on purple strip stamps.

Most revenue collectors concentrate on federally issued stamps beginning with the First Revenue Issue of 1862. Revenue stamps existed long before then as embossed stamps used during the late colonial/early federal periods. Those stamps tend to be scarce and, pre-dating the perfin period, would not likely be of interest to perfin collectors.

Punched cancels, but not perfins, are found in the First Issue revenue stamps of 1862 onward. Perfins, as familiar to collectors of this genre, do not really begin to appear until the Documentary Issue of 1902 and the Proprietary issue of 1875. Perfins run riot in the Documentary and Stock Transfer issue of the World War I - World War II period.

We have mentioned both Scott-listed Revenues and non-Scott-listed Tax Paid Revenues. Most revenues bear a monetary value and were used to show payment of a tax. Nearly all Scott-listed revenues fall into this category.

When Revenuers talk about Tax Paid stamps, they are talking about stamps also issued by the government which show the quantity of the taxed item but not the amount of the tax. There are also stamps for an item that might normally be taxed but is legally exempt for some special reason, or to indicate payment of a fee. There is a fine line between tax and fee; the best rule of thumb perhaps being that a tax is a tax, but a fee indicates that some sort of service may have been received in return for payment. Licenses or permits tend to fall in the latter category.

One other item perfin collectors might encounter in the broad area of revenues is Lock Seals. They had no monetary value and did not identify something as being tax exempt, but did warn that the commodity they protected (alcohol) required the proper tax to ultimately be paid. Seals have a diamond-shaped area outlined by perforations to show where a key was to be inserted through the paper to the lock beneath. While definitely not perfins, these diamond-shaped punches exist for those who like holes in their stamps!

This concludes a very brief introduction to revenues and their perfin connection. If you would like to read the complete text of Mr. Woodworth's article, it may be found in the introduction to Art Mongan's (LM#3443) 2007 *A Handbook of Perforated or Punched Initials, Numbers and/or Designs in United States Revenues and Fiscal Documents*. For those desiring more information about revenue stamps, you can find it in two excellent references:

- A website maintained by Eric Jackson, former President of the ARA, at [www.ericjackson.com](http://www.ericjackson.com) under a button titled "Intro to Revenues" then the heading "Lesherson Revenues" by Ron Lesherson, also a former ARA president.
- A book by Richard Friedberg, titled "Introduction to United States Revenue Stamps", ISBN 0-940403-63 (hardbound) and 00-940403-62-5 (paper).

*If new members have questions they would like to have answered, or other members have suggestions or alternative answers to this or previous questions, please forward them to Jerry Hejduk, PO Box 490450, Leesburg, FL 34749-0450 or [flprepers@comcast.net](mailto:flprepers@comcast.net).*

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# A Letter to the Editor

Pat Callis (#2383)

This letter is in response to Jerry Hejduk's (LM#3710) article, "Can all U.S. perfin patterns be found on definitives or are some found only on air mail, commemoratives, parcel post or special delivery stamps?" that appeared in the March/April 2010 issue of *The Perfins Bulletin* [64:31].

However, before answering this question, let's first consider some definitions of definitives.

Bob Schwerdt (#505-L) provided the following from R. J. Sutton's 1966 *Stamp Collector's Encyclopedia*:

Definitive – A stamp intended for normal, everyday use, usually put on sale for an indefinite period as distinct from a provisional, commemorative, or charity stamp.

The word "provisional" would probably eliminate air mails, parcel post, special delivery, perfined precancels and possibly experimentals.

Jerry Hedjuk found a definition on [www.askphil.org](http://www.askphil.org).

Definitive – a term used to distinguish a normal, everyday issue of stamps; term developed after World War I to indicate the new stamps made to replace the many temporary issues of new countries.

In addition, Jerry suggested that we might want to consider using the reference "Identifier of Definitive Issues - Arranged by Type Numbers" that is presented in Scott's *Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers*.

Using the above Scott's reference, several of our club members participated in a survey by comparing their collections to it and then distilling a list of stamps that are only on non-definitives. The results of the survey are:

Commemoratives Only:

- F194.6
- H134
- R2.1

Partial Post Only:

- S391

Coil Only:

- C141.5
- C274
- I119I
- L111

Personal perfins were excluded from the survey. Also, there are 21 perfins that are in the U.S. Catalog that are "missing in action" or AWOL and it is unknown what stamp that they were on. (Please contact Steve Endicott (LM#2284), U.S. Catalog Editor, if you are interested in the list of 21. His information is on page 142.) Finally, one of the gray areas is whether coils should be considered as a definitive. Some collectors like to separate coils into a separate collection. Thus, the list also includes the perfins that are found only on coils.

So the answer to the overall question is that most patterns can be found on definitives with only a very few that are only on commemorative or parcel post stamps. Bob Murrin (LM#2) summarized it best:

Most perfin patterns are found on a multitude of stamps covering a span of time measured in years, and encompassing many different size stamps. A few will occur only on one size stamp, but most will occur on several sizes and for different purposes. Most perfin collectors have to decide early what to collect. Collecting every different stamp with every different pattern can be very cumbersome. Reward is in the mind of the collector, so collect what you like. Only be restrained by your imagination.

I would like to thank Steve Endicott, Jerry Hejduk, Bob Murrin, Bob Schwerdt and Bob Szymanski (LM#145) for responding to the request to canvas their collections. If any member finds a definitive for the above list, please contact Jerry Hejduk, PO Box 490450, Leesburg, FL 34749-0450 or [flprepers@comcast.net](mailto:flprepers@comcast.net).

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**Start Making Plans Now to Attend the 2011 Annual Convention!**

August 1 - 6, 2011

Madison Marriott, Madison, WI; Phone 888-745-2032

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# Convention Fun!

## Pattern R7 Identified

Doug Turner (LM#2549)

One of the fun aspects of attending the annual Perfins Club Convention is to show the United States Catalog Editor items that have been found during the past year that provide new information for the catalog.

The cover shown below is an example of this activity. Looking closely, one will notice that the 2-cent Washington stamp used on this cover is perfined with the "C" rated pattern **R7** (Circle (R)). The user on the corner card is Railway Steel-Spring Company, New York, NY.

Previous to this time, the only user information about **R7** in the *Catalog of United States Perfins*, including its Additions & Corrections #1 and #2, was that the user was located in New York, NY. Now, we also know the name of the user.

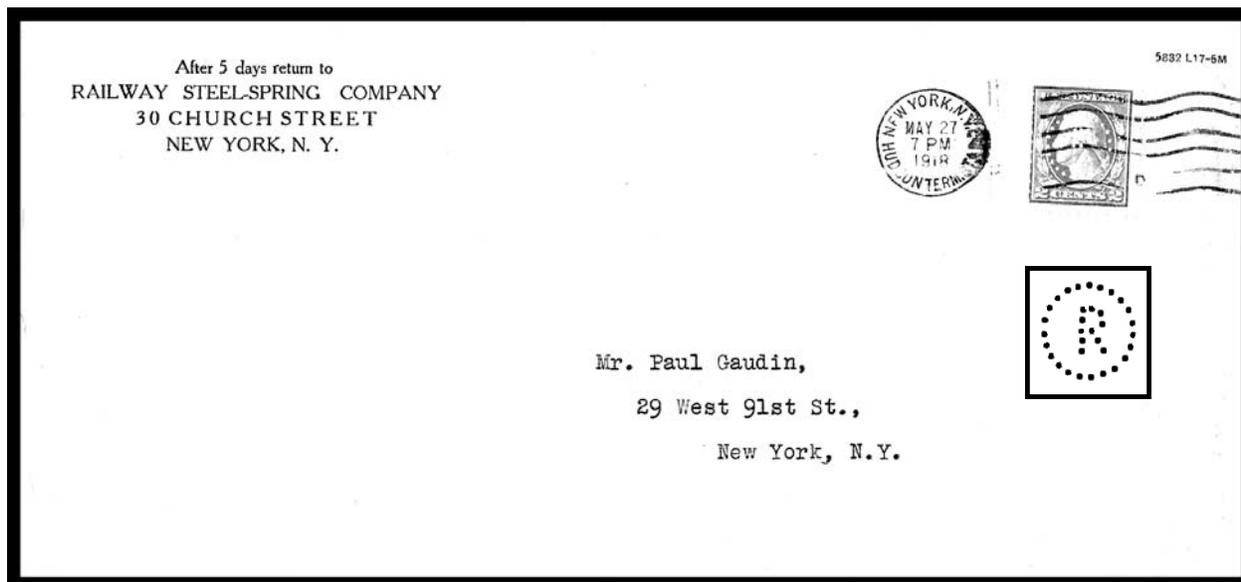
An Internet search provided only sketchy information about Railway Steel-Spring Company. It appears their primary business was railroad springs, locomotive and railroad car wheels, and

other assorted components for railroad equipment.<sup>(1)</sup> In 1905 they purchased the Latrobe Steel Company, Latrobe, PA, for about \$4.5 million.<sup>(2)</sup> Then, in 1916, they were absorbed into the American Locomotive Company.<sup>(3)</sup>

The U.S. Catalog Editor agrees with this identification. He will include the Railway Steel-Spring Company, New York, NY, as the verified user of pattern **R7** in the next A&C of the U.S. Catalog.

### References:

1. [http://thelibrary.springfield.missouri.org/lochist/frisco/magazines/fem\\_1930\\_07/fem\\_1930\\_07\\_66.pdf](http://thelibrary.springfield.missouri.org/lochist/frisco/magazines/fem_1930_07/fem_1930_07_66.pdf)
2. <http://query.nytimes.com/mem/archive-free/pdf?res=F40C10FC3E5E12738DDDA10994D9415B858CF1D3>
3. <http://query.nytimes.com/mem/archive-free/pdf?res=F30B1EF9355B17738DDDA0A94D0405B868DF1D3>



Railway Steel-Spring Company cover  
franked with an R7 perfin.  
Perfin electronically lifted from cover.  
(Cover approximately 70% of actual size.)  
(Perfin actual size.)

# Undistinguished perfin cover identifies G43

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

What can we say about the cover shown below with a three-cent Washington stamp from the WWI era? Well, on February 23, 1918, the first class postage was the war time rate of 3 cents. Second, the stamp is greatly off center and, gosh, it has some holes in it! Could it be a perfin?

Even with new glasses I couldn't quite figure out what I was holding, except to observe that the perfin is split and, over all, a clean, but not very desirable cover - unless there is something unusual about the perfin. I always carry my US Perfin Catalog with me to any stamp show so I can easily and immediately check any item that I might find.

Looking closely at the perfin, I could see a clear *B* as the middle letter of three letters running diagonally down to the right. The partial letters seemed to be *G* and *C*, and the lower left is printed the return address and probable user; Gillespie Bros. & Co., 11 Broadway, New York, NY.

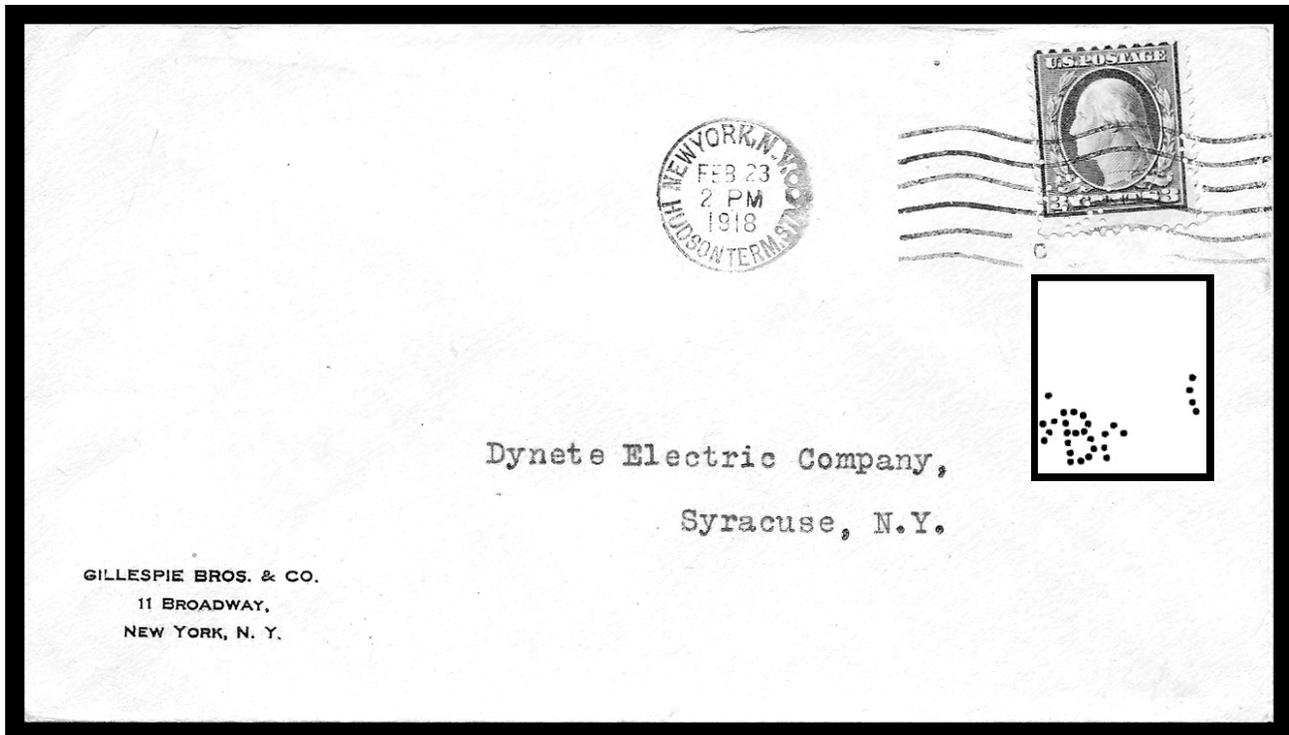
In the *Catalog of United States Perfins*, both patterns **G42** and **G43** are "GBC" on a diagonal down to the right. The user for **G42** is identified as George B.

Carpenter Co., Chicago, IL. However, the user for **G43** has not been identified - only a New York, NY, postmark.

When one compares the two patterns, the most noticeable difference is the number of vertical holes in the *B*; specifically, **G42** has 5 and **G43** has 6. The *B* in the perfin on the cover has 6 holes and its bottom loop matches **G43**. (See insert below.) The New York address and the partial letters in the perfin also match **G43**. So now answering the lead question, we can say that a clean cover with a clear identification of a previously unknown user for perfin **G43** has been found. This fact alone makes it a nice addition to my collection!

A scan of this cover was sent to the U.S. Catalog Editor for his opinion about this identification. He agrees and will include Gillespie Bros. & Co., New York, NY, as the user for pattern **G43** in the next A&C of the U.S. Catalog.

The moral of this article - keep your eyes open and carry your U.S. Perfins Catalog!



Undistinguished WW1 era cover with 3-cent perfinned stamp.  
Split and partially incomplete perfin electronically lifted from cover.  
Note the 6 vertical holes in the *B* - a match to pattern G43.  
Positive user ID of Gillespie Bros. & Co., New York, NY.

# Where did U.S. pattern V8 come from?

Rudy Roy (#1124)

For many years I have been working on a specialized collection of Indiana perfins. The pursuit has led to some interesting discoveries about those Indiana firms that used perfins, but none probably more than that for the U.S. Slicing Machine Co. of La Porte.

In looking at pattern **V8** at the right and the accompanying cover and advertising postcard below, there appears to be no association of the pattern's letters "vBP" with the company's name. Surprisingly, the pattern's identity was listed as confirmed as far back as the Mimeographed catalog which began publication in 1957. However, I have found no record of any explanation of the relationship of the letters in the pattern to the name of the company in perfins literature.



Figure 1  
Pattern V8  
in a stamp.  
(Actual size.)

Deciding that there ought to be an explanation, I used the Internet to search and eventually came up with what I believe the pattern's letters represent. The letters are for **Van Berkel's Patent**.

In the late 1890's in the Netherlands, a Wilhelm Van Berkel invented a meat slicing machine, patented the device, and started manufacturing the meat slicer in Europe.<sup>(1,2,3)</sup> Until the advent of this machine meat

cutting was almost exclusively done by hand. He expanded his firm to the U.S. and began his first operation in Chicago, IL, in 1909.<sup>(2)</sup> The company he began in the U.S. was named the U.S. Slicing Machine Co. Needing larger space, the company was moved to La Porte, IN, in 1915.<sup>(3)</sup> It is now part of Avery Berkel, and slicers and food processing equipment are still sold under the Berkel brand through its company distribution network.

I have not done a search of the current *Catalog of United States Perfins*, but I wonder just how many patterns have no apparent direct relationship to the name of the firm that used them? Perhaps an area for an interesting research project.

## References:

1. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meat\\_slicer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meat_slicer)
2. [http://www.berkelequipment.com/Berkel/About\\_Us/](http://www.berkelequipment.com/Berkel/About_Us/)
3. <http://www.averyberkel.com/main.aspx?p=1.1.3.7>

[Editor's Note: The results of this research have been shared with the U.S. Catalog Editor and will be reflected in the Catalog's next A&C. If you have any additional information about pattern **V8**, please forward that to him. His contact information shown on page 142.]

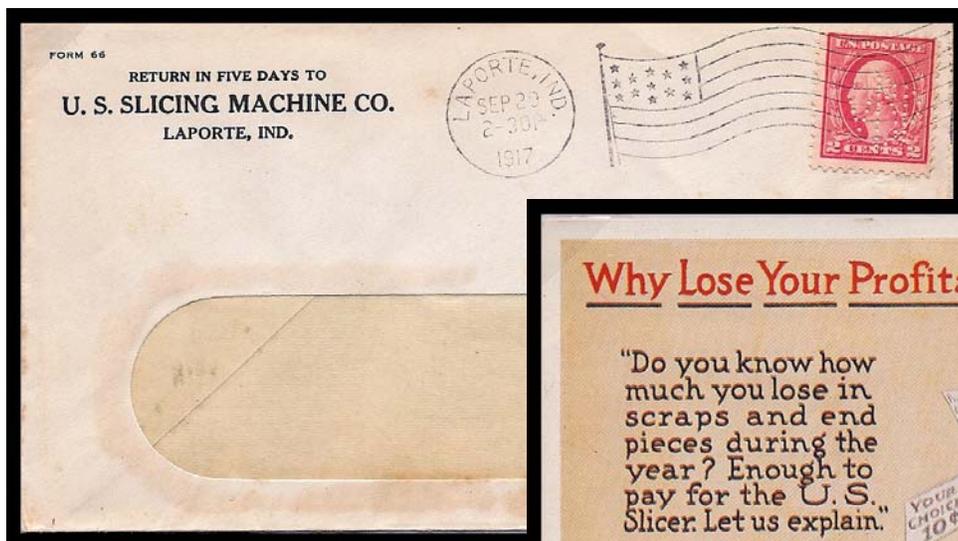


Figure 2  
U.S. Slicing Machine Company,  
La Porte, Indiana,  
Perfined cover and  
advertising postcard.  
(Approximately 75% of actual size.)

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## New Greek perfin pattern

Dick Scheper (#3311)

For many years I exchanged perfins and information with my Swedish friend and former Perfin Club member Magnus Werner who collected perfins from many countries worldwide. Magnus was an enthusiastic collector and a regular contributor to *The Perfins Bulletin*. In his articles he presented many findings of new perfin patterns.

In 2005 Magnus sent me a black-and-white photocopy of a Greek stamp with the perfin **M**. The stamp was on a piece of a cover and there was a clear postmark of the Greek city Patras. Based on his research, Magnus was convinced that the perfin **M** was used by the Greek company Messinezis in Patras.

Last year I acquired the unused Greek stamp (Scott #168, first issued in 1901) with the perfin **M** illustrated below.



Front and Back of  
Greece Scott #168  
with M perfin.

In an attempt to learn more about the user of this perfin, I asked my Greek friend Mr. Koutsounakis to help me to find information which would confirm that there was a company Messinezis in Patras. As a result of his efforts my friend has told me that the

time of use of the perfinned stamp fits into the period when the export of raisins was the main commercial activity in Patras. So it seems very possible that an export enterprise whose name starts with the letter “M” would be the user of this perfin. Indeed, my friend confirmed to me that there was a company named M.L. Messinezis in Patras and that company’s business was exporting raisins.

However, from a list of 45 important raisins exporting enterprises in Patras, there are seven companies with the first initial of their name being the letter “M.” These companies are:

- G. Marcopoulos and son
- Mayer and Co.
- M. L. Messinezis
- Moscovitch and Mills
- Th. Maltezos
- N. Mathios
- M. Maniakis

Consequently, one cannot exclude the possibility that one of the above names is hidden under the perfin **M**. More research is needed for the actual user to come into the light.

Maybe members of The Perfins Club can help with additional information about this perfin. If you have a single Greek stamp perfinned with the **M** or a cover (partial or complete) franked with this perfin, please contact me at: Dick Scheper, Hogeland 1, 2264 JX Leidschendam, The Netherlands; email [dick.scheper@planet.nl](mailto:dick.scheper@planet.nl) or contact the Editor. (His information is on page 142.)

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## Warning!! Counterfeit Canada OHMS Perfins

It has recently come to our attention that probable counterfeit Canada OHMS perfins are being offered on eBay and elsewhere. The stamps in question in this current instance are higher value items, such as coil pairs from the King George VI issue (Scott #239-240) as well as from the Royal Visit issue (Scott #246-248). Genuine OHMS perfins in these two issues are Canada pattern **O8** as shown in the Canadian perfins catalog, *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials*. The counterfeits do not match pattern **O8**, and in many cases it appears the **O9**

pattern was used. The old adage “Buyer Beware” has never been more true. Be very careful when considering a purchase of ANY high value OHMS material. Counterfeiting of OHMS perfins is widespread and the counterfeiters do not limit themselves to these two issues. If you have any specific questions on this subject, please forward them to the Editor (contact information on page 142). He will pass them on to the Canadian OHMS perfin experts for their consideration and reply.

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## Black Bearded Queen!

Ron Whyte (2586)

Upon reading my friend Jack Brandt's (LM#14) article "Red Nose King??" in the September/October 2010 *Bulletin* [64:128], I thought of my "gotta have item" shown below. I discovered this item while shopping at a dealer's bourse a few years ago, and, after some searching, I found it mounted with my Canada **W10** perfin collection.

When looking at the stamp, it appears the perfin was carefully planned to respect the Queen by not puncturing her portrait. However, it is a different story when it comes to the rubber hand stamped, oval, Toronto, Ontario, postmark. Note that the CDS (circular date stamp) is inverted so the "1" gives Queen Victoria a Pharaoh type beard. While one would normally say SON, (socked-on-the-nose); for this one, I say SOC or "socked-on-the-chin."



Canada #30 with  
**W10** perfin  
Note the Queen's  
**Black Beard**

Canada **W10** was one of two different perfins used by the W. J. Gage Company Limited, Toronto, Ontario. According to the 1985 edition of the Canadian perfins catalogue, *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials*, **W10** was used between 1885 to 1913, with an earliest known postmark of October 2, 1887. Also, I see that Conrad Tremblay's (#1786) "Canadian Perfin Position List" indicates **W10** has been reported in 6 of the 8 possible positions on Canada #30. W. J. Gage's other pattern, **W9**, which is smaller and has no periods between the letters, was used as late as 1937. As a side note, I recall reading sometime ago that at least one of these patterns was provided by Joseph Sloper, the chap that started the security perforations

hobby of ours in 1868 in Great Britain.

After a further checking with a local BNAPS (British North American Philatelic Society) friend, Bill Pekonen, and an Internet search, it seems that the W. J. Gage Company Limited was formed in 1879 by Sir William J. Gage.<sup>(1)</sup> This was a result of his purchase of all of the assets of the Adam Miller Company, a book publisher and stationary concern, where he was a partner.<sup>(1,2)</sup> Of further interest, Sir William was one of Canada's greatest philanthropists, and had a US mother from South Carolina<sup>(3)</sup> who was possibly an Empire Loyalist and came to Canada in the early days of confederation.

The 15-cents stamp, Canada #30, is part of the series known as "Large Queens" that was issued between 1868 and 1876. Thus, this could be an early find. However, the postmark is still in question. It does not appear in Bob Lee's *Proof Strikes of Canada*, Vol. 18 and 23, making it an NIPB (Not in Proof Book). If any of our readers are a Large Queen specialist or can shed any light on the postmark, I would appreciate hearing from them. My contact information is: Ron Whyte, 406-7500 Granville Avenue, Richmond, BC V6Y 3Y6, Canada; email: [lokopoko@shaw.ca](mailto:lokopoko@shaw.ca).

Bottom line: as a perfinned stamp known to be in 6 of the possible 8 positions with a possibly unique cancel on this very early stamp, I believe it could be a rare item. At least it is to me!

### References:

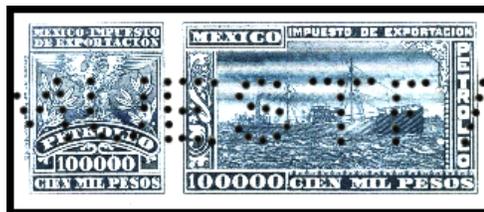
1. <http://www.lib.uwo.ca/programs/companyinformationcanada/ccg-gage.htm>
2. [http://www.biographi.ca/009004-119.01-e.php?&id\\_nbr=8146&interval=25&](http://www.biographi.ca/009004-119.01-e.php?&id_nbr=8146&interval=25&)
3. <http://www.lung.ca/tb/tbhistory/people/gage.html>

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## Mexico MUESTRA perfin

Bruce Brunell (#2831) discussed Mexico's new MUESTRA perfin in his "Perfins of Mexico" articles that were in the November/December 2009 and March/April 2010 *Bulletins* [63:139-142 and 64:49-51]. Recently, Mike Roberts, Editor of *Mexicana*, the Journal of the Mexico-Elmhurst Philatelic Society International (MEPSI), forwarded the *Bulletin* Editor a scan of the Mexico stamp (Stevens #PE-14) shown at the right perfinned with MUESTRA. Mike indicates these are rather rare items that only recently came to the surface. Rumor is that they are from the vaults of Talleres de Impresoras y Estampillas

Valores (TIEV), the Mexican equivalent of the U.S. Bureau of Printing and Engraving, and somehow inadvertently made their way "out the back door."



Mexico stamp with MUESTRA perfin (partial).  
Note: Blue color electronically lightened to highlight perfin.

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## Holiday Greetings from the B&O

Leland Huss (#3200)

Many years ago I acquired the rather plain Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company (B&O) 1927 perfined cover shown in Figure 1 below. The *E* rated pattern **B279** (B&O) perfin is one of the several perfins used by the B&O at this time. The surprise was when I looked inside and found a Holiday Greeting card commemorating B&O's 100-year anniversary. (Figure 2, page 151.)

Then I started wondering about the relationship between the sender, L. G. Reynolds, and the recipient, A. D. Jordan. Were they friends or was A. D. Jordan a former B&O employee or both? Also, why is LeRoy B. Liming's (not Reynolds') rubber stamp signature on the card and how does Liming fit into the picture? We may never know the answer, but it makes for interesting speculation.

Some time later I noticed that the engine shown in the Holiday Greeting's wreath appears to be much the same as the old engine in the 3-cent 1952 U. S. stamp issued to commemorate B&O's 125th anniversary, Scott #1006. (Figure 3, page 151.)

Another intriguing facet of this cover is the fact that it has an Omaha, NE, postmark and the sender, L. G. Reynolds, was evidently B&O's Omaha District Freight & Passenger Representative. As the farthest west that B&O operated was St. Louis, MO, and Chicago, IL, the question is why did B&O have a representative in Omaha in 1927 (or at any other time)?

The Editor asked club member Bob Combs (LM#24) if he could provide any answers to these questions. Bob responded:

It was a common practice for all major, class one railroads to have a branch office in major shipping hubs or destinations. Larger railroads even had offices outside the U.S. to attract shippers. For instance, Southern Pacific (the railroad I am most familiar with) had offices in Canada (even had Canadian perfins **S12**, **S15** and **S16**), England, France, Mexico and likely a few Asian countries. The European locations could be linked to any destination in the U.S.



Figure 1

Front and back of perfined Holiday Greeting card's cover.

Note: December 19, 1927, Omaha, Nebr. postmark and Sender's Omaha address.

(Approximately 80% of actual size.)

## Holiday Greetings from the B&O (cont.)

via Southern Pacific Steamship Lines and then the rail links. Also, Southern Pacific, Western Pacific and Union Pacific each had freight representatives in Hawaii. Omaha was (and still is) a major rail hub and a key point for shipment of beef, grain and other commodities, and had direct connections to St. Louis, Chicago other cities via various railroads. Thus, it is likely that B&O had agents in Omaha so they could entice shippers to ship on the B&O to the U.S. East Coast rather than other lines that served the region. In summary, this was a common and effective marketing

practice.

I am not familiar with LeRoy B. Liming. We can only speculate that he was a B&O executive, possibly the person in charge of their operations in Omaha or higher up the organization.

Now it is your turn. Do any of our other club members have additional information about B&O's Omaha operation or know anything about Mr. Liming? If so, please send it to the Editor (his contact information is on page 142) and we will share it in a future *Bulletin*.

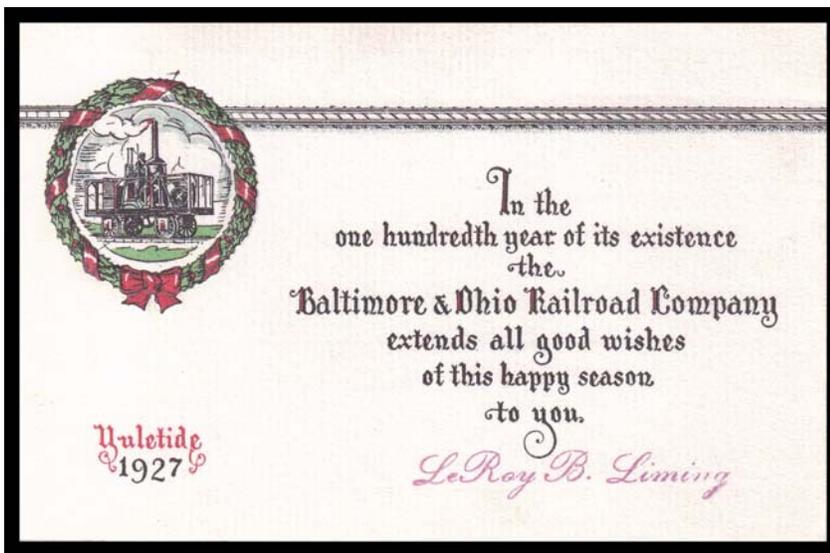


Figure 2

Holiday Greeting card rubber stamp signed by LeRoy B. Liming  
(Approximately 80% of actual size.)



Figure 3

B&O 125th anniversary commemorative stamp.  
Note: Similarity between old engine on stamp and one on Holiday Greeting card.  
(Actual size.)

## Snapshots from the 2010 Burlington, VT, Convention

Courtesy of Diane Eastman



Several of the "Tolerators" (Spouses).

Left to right from front left: Diane Eastman (flowered blouse), Judy Turner, Lynda Hendren, Marilyn MacNeall, Sue-Ellen Szymanski, Nancy Cayford, Gary Callis, Jeanne Hejduk, Jackie Linn (mostly hidden), Marilyn Byers, Edna Bartow, Rose Smith, Sue Spidle.



A group of the "Tormenters."

Left to right from front: Doug Turner, Bob Schwerdt (yellow sweater), Ken Masters, Dan Baugher, Jerry Hejduk, Ed Linn, Steve Endicott, Gary Hendren, Bob Szymanski.

# Additional Dated Perfined Precancels

Bob Murrin (LM#2)

Dated perfined precancels have always been one of my favorite collecting areas. So I enjoyed Dave Smith's (#1514) article about them in the May/June 2010 issue of *The Perfins Bulletin* [64:67]. His explanation of the reason we have dated precancel stamps along with the examples of several very desirable dated perfined precancels was particularly interesting. However, our Perfin Club members who are not familiar with and/or do not collect these specific items may not realize how difficult it is to find such high quality examples.

In my inventory I have over 50 dated perfined precancel stamps, all of the handstamped variety. Unfortunately on many of them, the date information is incomplete, i.e., the company initials are missing, the month and/or year are missing, etc. Also on several, the perfin is split or incomplete. This was

probably due to inattention paid to their job by the person in the mail room who was applying the handstamp and/or perfin.

After some sorting and searching of my stock, the Editor and I found three examples of dated perfined precancels where the information is complete. These are presented below in Figures 1, 2 and 3.

The moral of this short follow-up article is to stress to the less informed collector the difficulty in finding high quality dated perfined precancels for your collection. Do not become discouraged in your search!

[Editor's Note: In the handstamps below, "PD" is Parke Davis and Company and "USMC" is United Shoe Machinery Company. In the past, several non-perfin articles have incorrectly identified "USMC" as belonging to the United States Marines Corp.]



Figure 1  
Perfin P56.20  
Precancel Type 63  
Apr '39 PD Handstamp



Figure 2  
Perfin U82-1  
Precancel Type 71  
Jan' 42 USMC Handstamp



Figure 3  
Perfin 82-1  
Precancel Type 61  
Jan' 43 USMC Handstamp

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## The Florida Precancel Club Presents the Southeast's Largest Precancel Bourse and Perfins Exchange February 16 thru 19, 2011



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Additional meeting information from  
Jerry Hejduk at (352) 326-2117 or write/email  
PO Box 490450, Leesburg FL 34749-0450  
[flprepers@comcast.net](mailto:flprepers@comcast.net)

# The Perfins Club Publications

David Lightle (#3480)

Perfins Club Publications Sales Manager

The following table contains the most current and updated listing of the catalogs and other club publications available for purchase by both members and non-members. Included are new additions to and deletions of out-of-date items from our offering since this list was last published in the May/June 2009 *Bulletin* [63:62-64]. In addition, the prices to reproduce these publications were verified with our printer over the past few weeks and are adjusted where required.

We believe you will find all of these very helpful in

increasing your knowledge and enjoyment of this great hobby. We encourage you to carefully look over this list and seriously consider adding those of interest to you to your perfins library. Remove it from the *Bulletin* and keep it handy for future reference.

As usual, the member price includes U.S. postage. Please contact David Lightle at 10616 Cielo Vista Del Norte NW, Corrales, NM 87048 or [perfinpaul@msn.com](mailto:perfinpaul@msn.com) to purchase any of these.

<u>Title and Description</u>	<u>Member Price</u>	<u>Non-Member Price (Plus Postage)</u>
<b>World Perfin Catalogue - America's</b> Schwerdt, Robert. 1992. <u>The World Perfins Catalog. American Section.</u> Poughkeepsie, NY: The Perfins Club. 91 p.	\$15.00	\$17.25
<b>World Perfin Catalogue – Africa</b> Schwerdt, Robert. 1995. <u>The World Perfins Catalog. African Section.</u> Poughkeepsie, NY: The Perfins Club. 51 p.	\$10.00	\$11.50
<b>World Perfin Catalogue – Asia</b> Schwerdt, Robert. 1996. <u>The World Perfins Catalog. Asian Section.</u> Poughkeepsie, NY: The Perfins Club. 59 p.	\$10.00	\$11.50
<b>World Perfin Catalogue – Europe</b> Schwerdt, Robert. 1994. <u>The World Perfins Catalog. European Section.</u> Poughkeepsie, NY: The Perfins Club. 70 p.	\$10.00	\$11.50
<b>Australia</b> Mathews, John. ; Grant, J. 1992. In English. The Perfins Club of New Zealand and Australia. 372 p.	Out until Exchange Rate Improves	Out until Exchange Rate Improves
<b>Bavaria</b> Needham, John. 1990. <u>Catalog of Bavarian Perfins.</u> USA: The Perfins Club. 67p. Bavaria -Supplement 1	\$10.00 \$3.00	\$11.50 \$3.50
<b>Belgium</b> Hammink, Ruud J.; van der Hoorn, Jac M. 1997. <u>Perfins van Belgie: Timbres Perfores de Belgique:</u> The Perfins of Belgium. [in Dutch with English introduction] Tilburg, Netherlands: Perfins Club Nederland. 145 p.	\$22.00	\$25.50
<b>British Malaya</b> Giffen, P. 1989. <u>Perfins of British Malaya.</u> Nelson, NZ: MacKenzie Print. 66p.	\$2.50	\$2.88
<b>Denmark</b> Køster-Kofoed, Ove; Hansen, Ole; Mathiesen, Kaj. 2001. <u>Katalog over danske firmaperforeinger.</u> [in Danish with English instruction for use] Odense, Denmark: A/S Handelstrykkeriet. 109 p.	OUT	OUT
<b>France</b> Dedecker, R.D.; Herbert, M.; Janot, R. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition. 200? <u>ANCOPER: Timbres Perfores France et Colonies.</u> [in French] Aniche, France: ILP. 364 p.	\$75.00	\$82.50
<b>France- Colonies</b> Dedecker, R.D.; Herbert, M.; Janot; Tschaen, E.; Leger, G. [in French] 2008 106p.	\$30.00	\$34.50

## The Perfins Club Publications (cont.)

<u>Title and Description</u>	<u>Member Price</u>	<u>Non-Member Price (Plus Postage)</u>
<b>Germany</b> ArGE Lochungen. 1985-1995. <u>Katalog der deutschen Firmenlochungen</u> . [in German] West Germany: ArGE. [1327 p]	\$273.00	\$313.95
Germany per Letter	\$13.00	\$14.95
Germany - Supplement 1	\$6.00	\$6.90
Germany - Supplement 2	\$5.00	\$5.75
Germany - Supplement 3	\$5.00	\$5.75
Germany - Supplement 4	\$6.00	\$6.90
Germany - Supplement 5	\$6.00	\$6.90
<b>India</b> Werner, Magnus. 1990. <u>The Perfins of India and Indian States</u> . USA: The Perfins Club. 116 p.	\$10.00	\$11.50
India - Supplement 1	\$3.00	\$3.45
India - Supplement 2	\$3.00	\$3.45
<b>Ireland</b> Mewhinney, Richard L. 1994. <u>Ireland: Catalog of Perfins</u> . USA: The Perfins Club. 34 p.	\$8.00	\$9.25
<b>Italy</b> Bertazzoli, Enrico; Ermentini, Beppe. 2000. <u>Catalogo dei Perfin Italiani: Italian Perfins Catalogue</u> . [in Italian with English preface] Vignola, Italy: Vaccari. 253 p. with 32 Transparent Plates and CD	\$85.00	\$97.50
<b>Ottoman Empire, Turkey, Crete</b> Scheper, Dick. 2009. 69p. English	Out until Exchange Rate Improves	Out until Exchange Rate Improves
<b>Netherlands</b> Verhoeven, Jan L. <u>Perfins Club Nederland</u> . 2007. 320p.	\$50.00	\$57.50
<b>Romania, New</b> <u>Catalog of Romanian Perfins</u> . Romania Perfins Club. FREE Printing at <a href="http://www.romaniastamps.com/perfin/perfins.htm">http://www.romaniastamps.com/perfin/perfins.htm</a>	N/A	N/A
<b>Switzerland</b> Baer, Martin. 1998. <u>CH Perfins: die privat gelochten marken der Schweiz; les timbres perfores privees de Suisse; the private perfins of Switzerland</u> . [in German with French & English introductions] Zurich, Switzerland: 240p.	OUT	OUT
<b>United States</b> Randall, John M. ed. 1998. <u>Catalog of United States Perfins</u> . Long Beach, NY: The Perfins Club. 812 p.	\$60.00	\$70.00
U.S. - Supplement 1	\$5.00	\$5.50
U.S. - Supplement 2	\$6.50	\$7.50
U.S. Blank Pages - each (Minimum Order 25)	\$0.15	\$0.17
<b>United States Catalog Addendum ** New**</b> Endicott, Steve. 2010. <u>The Addendum to the Catalog of United States Perfins</u> . USA: The Perfins Club. 90 p	\$15.00	\$17.25
<b>U.S. by Location</b> Ottenheimer, Adele. 1999. <u>Catalog of United States Perfins by Location</u> . Long Beach, NY: The Perfins Club. 123 p	\$12.00	\$13.80

## The Perfins Club Publications (cont.)

<u>Title and Description</u>	<u>Member Price</u>	<u>Non-Member Price (Plus Postage)</u>
<b>U.S. Check List <b>**New**</b></b> Lightle, David. 2010. <u>Checklist of United States Perfins</u> . USA: The Perfins Club. 21 p.	\$5.00	\$5.75
<b>U.S. Perfinned Precancels</b> Randall, John M.; Cummings, William. 1991. <u>Catalog of Perfinned Precancels of the United States</u> . El Cerrito, CA: The Perfins Club. 231p.	See Note 1 below.	See Note 1 below.
<b>U.S Rev-Perfins Volume 1</b> Mongan, Arthur J. 2007. <u>A Handbook of Perforated or Punched Initials, Numbers and/or Designs to United States Revenues and Fiscal Documents</u> . - Transaction Revenues (Documentary, Stock Transfer, Future Delivery, etc.). USA: The Perfins Club. 288p.	See Note 2 below.	See Note 2 below.
<b>U.S Rev-Perfins Volume 2</b> Mongan, Arthur J. 2007. <u>A Handbook of Perforated or Punched Initials, Numbers and/or Designs to United States Revenues and Fiscal Documents</u> . - Commodities Revenues (Beer, Wine, Tobacco, Oleomargine, etc.). USA: The Perfins Club. 420p.	See Note 2 below.	See Note 2 below.
<b>U.S Rev-Perfins Volume 3</b> Mongan, Arthur J. 2007. <u>A Handbook of Perforated or Punched Initials, Numbers and/or Designs to United States Revenues and Fiscal Documents</u> . - Fiscal Papers and Others (Checks, Stocks, Sales Slips, etc.). USA: The Perfins Club. 140p.	See Note 2 below.	See Note 2 below.
<b>U.S Rev-Perfins – All Three Volumes</b>	See Note 2 below.	See Note 2 below.
<b>U.S. Railroad <b>**New**</b></b> Baughner, Dan. 2010. <u>Railroad Perfins of the United States and Canada</u> . USA: The Perfins Club. 56 p.	\$12.00	\$13.80
<b>U.S. 1902 Issue Check List <b>**New**</b></b> Endicott, Steve. 2010. <u>Checklist of Perfins on the 1902 Issue</u> . USA: The Perfins Club. 24 p.	\$6.50	\$7.50
<b>Exhibit Guide</b> Gersch, Sylvia; Schwerdt, Robert. 1995. <u>Guide to Perfin Exhibiting</u> . USA: The Perfins Club.	\$2.00	\$2.30
<b>Perfin Bulletin Cumulative Index</b> Roy, Rudy. 1993. <u>Cumulative Index to Perfins and the Perfins Bulletin: Issues 1-453 (1945-1992)</u> . USA: The Perfins Club. 125 p.	\$15.00	\$17.25
<b>New Member Handbook</b>	\$2.00	\$2.30
<b>How to Speak Perfins</b>	\$1.00	\$1.15

Notes:

1. Arrangements are being finalized to offer the updated, 2009 edition, of the U.S. Perfinned Precancel Catalog. An announcement will be made in a future *Bulletin* when these are completed. In the interim, we have one copy of the 1991 edition in stock at a price of \$20.00 for members and \$23.00 for non-members.
2. Pricing for the 2010 revision of the U.S. Rev-Perfins catalog is being finalized. An announcement will be made in a future *Bulletin* when these are completed and this new edition is available. In the interim, we have one copy of the 2007 edition in stock at a price for all three volumes of \$70.00 for members and \$80.00 for non-members.

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# Perfins Club Stamp Sales Circuit 101 - Revisited

Bob Combs (LM#24)

Perfins Club Stamp Circuit Sales Manager

Hello, Perfins Club Members! It is time to refresh all of your memories about the happenings and habits of the Perfins Club Stamp Sales Circuits, that some of you still may not know exists.

The stamp sales department has an accumulation of nearly 45,000 + stamps on hand for members to look through. The percentage of US versus the World is about even, spread between the United States versus the rest of the world. Within the US, we have nearly every type, definitive, commemorative, revenue, Airmail, Prepers, Back of Book, you name it. Ratings normally cover the range from C+'s downward to F values (occasionally B, B+ and A rated patterns show up as well). Foreign has many countries to choose from with a fairly good spattering from around the globe. Some are in abundance, some are not. Values of foreign material are not checked for A through whatever values, so one never knows what treasures one may find.

**BUYERS:** Are you thinking of joining the group? Do you need something to fill a hole in your collection? (Disclaimer: If you are searching for those A & B patterns to fill your collection, the Sales Circuit is probably NOT for you – if you are a Beginner or an Intermediate collector, we have the stamps for you!) If you have any interest, email or write me and I will get a few forms out your way that explains what you need to know, such as:

1. You can expect a circuit about 4 times a year, maybe more depending on your collecting interests.
2. The club fees charged are nominal (1% of total circuit value). **However, you are responsible for postage and insurance in both directions.**
3. Your circuits can be tailored to be either US or Foreign, or a mixture of both.
4. Circuits contain a number of envelopes or booklets, each containing a number of Perfins. Lower value items are in packages of up to 100, more expensive types are in booklets of up to 100 items.
5. I cannot, due to the number of items on hand, do specific stamp, town, pattern, series or

whatever want lists. Looking through the packages is most of the fun anyway.

6. One can keep the items for several weeks to look through, and if you need longer, let me know.
7. Pricing varies from \$0.05 to \$15.00 each depending on item and rating.

**SELLERS:** Have spare items sitting around? Why not sell them through the sales circuits and help out a few members to boot! If interested, contact me and more forms (don't you just love them?) will be on their way to you so that you can become an active member of the sales team.

1. Submissions have no time limit. Sales items are returned either when they sell out, or the seller requests them back.
2. You, the seller, determine the pricing of your items. **TIP: Lower priced items sell faster than higher priced items (go figure).**
3. The club charges a 15% fee on all items sold.
4. Group all like items in the same package, F's & E's can be grouped, D's, C's, B's & A's should be separated, unless they are to be contained in sales booklets, available from the Circuit Sales department (\$0.50 each or 12 for \$5.00). Group foreign items by country, again, unless mounted in sales booklets, which should be grouped at least by continent.
5. I can supply you with a rough guide for pricing if you need one.
6. Payments and statements are usually mailed 2 times per year, unless low sales deem it otherwise.
7. Circuit numbers are assigned by the circuit sales department.

So now that you know what to do, onward to the sales pitch! We are in need of just about everything! Better US or Foreign ALWAYS needed. Please contact me if you have any items you would like to sell! We can use ANY foreign material! Got a lot of airmails sitting around? We can use them on US material as well! In this case it is sort of like Burger King, in that you can have it your way!

# Interesting Santa Fe Railroad Items

Jack Brandt (LM#14)

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company (Santa Fe) with General Offices in Topeka, KS, was one of the most prolific users of perfin in the United States. Four perfin patterns, **S120**, **S121**, **S122** and **S123**, were utilized at various times by the Santa Fe starting in 1912 and ending in the late 1960's. The first two are rated *F*, while **S122** is an *E* rate and **S123** is a *D+*. In spite of the fact that these perfin are fairly common, examples of interesting and unusual items that include them can be found to enhance your collection.

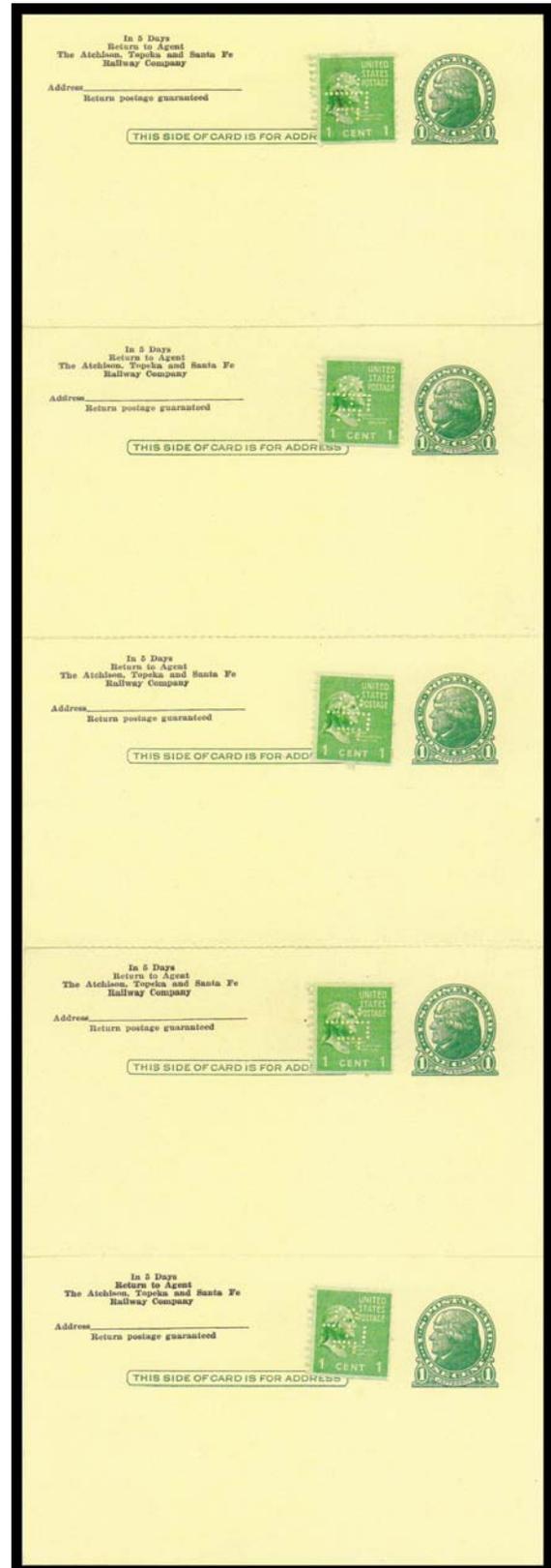
The first such item is a strip of five unused 1-cent U. S. postal cards, Scott #UX27, with roulette perforations between the cards. A 1-cent coil stamp from the 1938 Presidential Series, Scott #839, that has been perfinned with pattern **S121** (SFE) has been added to each card. (See Figure 1 at right and Figure 2 on page 158.) The back of these cards (Figure 2) shows that they are a freight notice form that the local Santa Fe station used to notify freight recipients that their freight shipment had arrived and was ready to be delivered.

Scott's *Specialized Catalogue of U.S. Stamps and Covers* indicates that the #UX27 postal card was issued between 1914 and 1916. The card was revalued to 2-cents in 1952, probably due to a rate change. Thus when they were revalued, it would seem that Santa Fe uprated their supply of these postal cards that they had on hand with the 1-cent perfinned stamp.

As there is no mention of roulette perforated cards in the *Specialized Catalogue*, I wondered how they might have been produced. Then, I remembered that postal cards were sold in sheets to facilitate printing a message, form, address, etc. on them before they were used. So, it is speculated that Santa Fe purchased the sheets, printed the form on the back and return address on the front, rouletted between the cards in a horizontal direction, and then cut them into vertical strips of 5. Now, what I would like to see is a used example of this card with the added perfin.

[Editor's Note: During the peer review of this article, Associate Editor Rudy Roy (#1124), found some additional information about these postal cards in the United Postal Stationary Society (UPSS) 1990 edition of the *United States Postal Care Catalog*. It states

**Figure 1**  
**Strip of 5 unused, unseparated Scott #UX27 postal cards**  
**uprated with Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe**  
**Railway Company perfin pattern S121**  
**(Approximately 52% of actual size)**



## Interesting Santa Fe Railroad Items (cont.)

that Scott #UX27, UPSS #S37 was first issued on June 4, 1914. The total printing was 58,367,261,000. Until 1925 it was sold in sheets of 48 (4x12), then in sheets of 40 (4x10).

According to this catalog:

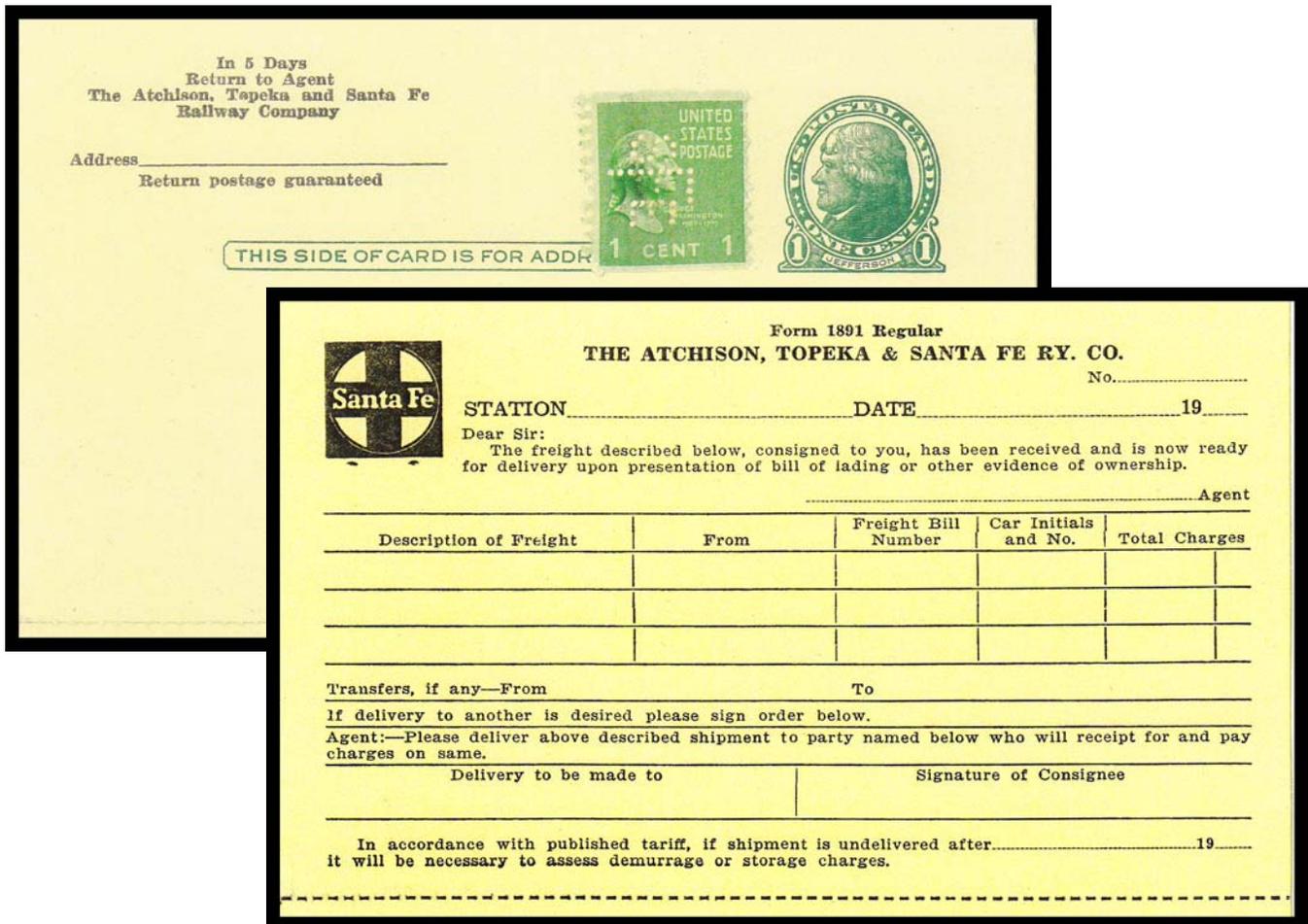
Cards of nearly every issue have been privately perforated or rouletted in strips or booklet form, to facilitate their use by clerical workers or salesmen. Many companies perforated cards in strips of five to be fed through a typewriter. . .

For those who remember using a typewriter, a strip of 5 cards would facilitate getting them aligned properly before typing on them.

Rudy also found a used card in his collection with roulette perforations visible at the bottom.

However, Rudy's card was used by the Southern Pacific Company and was uprated with a 1-cent regular issue 1938 Presidential Series stamp that was perfined with one of their "SP" perfins.]

The second interesting Santa Fe item is shown in Figure 3, page 159. This is a nice cover commemorating the inaugural trip of the "San Francisco Chief" between San Francisco, CA, and Chicago, IL. The cover is franked with a 3-cent, Scott #807, that has been perfined with Santa Fe pattern **S121**. The addressee, John Bobo, was a well known revenue stamp dealer from whom I purchased many revenue perfins. Even though the stamp was damaged during its travels, this is still an interesting and collectable piece of Santa Fe memorabilia.



**Figure 2**  
Front and Back of top postal card cropped from the strip of 5.  
Note: A portion of the second card is included to show the Roulette Perforations.  
(Actual size)

## Interesting Santa Fe Railroad Items (cont.)



Figure 3  
San Francisco Chief Inaugural Trip cover  
(60% of actual size)

Perfined coils, particularly strips of multiple stamps, are somewhat unusual and difficult to find. Thus, the strip of three Scott #842 perfined with pattern S121 shown in Figure 4 below is a nice addition to my collection.

In addition to perfined stamps and covers, I have been fortunate to acquire a couple of punched Santa Fe labels. Figure 5 shows an Excess Value label with a B punch. (Yes, there are people who collect punches.)

Then there is a Baggage Service label with a partial perfin, probably the start of the word **VOID** (Figure 6). I suspect this label is a “specimen,” and the serial number suggests it may have been from the first sheet. However, we will leave confirmation of those suppositions to someone else’s further research.

With this article I hope we have demonstrated that an interesting and fascinating collection of fairly common perfins and perfin related items can be developed. The only requirements are an open mind and a little luck.



Figure 4  
Strip of three Scott #842 coil stamps  
Perfined with Santa Fe pattern S121  
(Actual size)

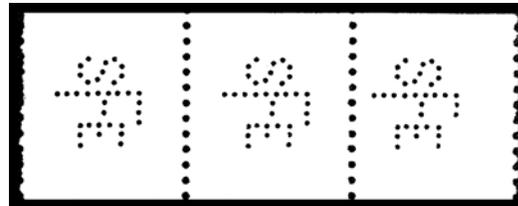
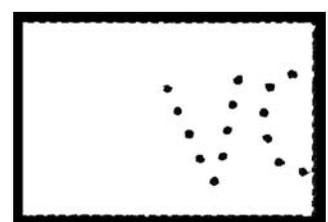


Figure 5  
Santa Fe Excess Value Label  
“Cancelled” with a B punch  
(Actual size)



Figure 6  
Santa Fe Baggage Services Label  
“VO\_\_” perfin, probably VOID  
(Actual size)



# James and Alexander Allen - A fascinating cover with contents

Dave Smith (#1514)

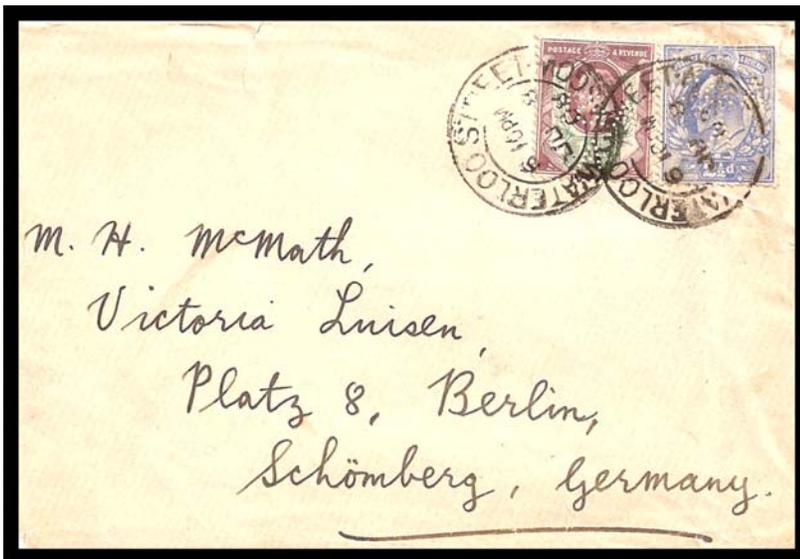
At the recent convention I acquired a dog eared cover with contents that have proven to be fascinating. The cover, shown in Figure 1 below, is franked with two British Stamps - 1½ pence, Scott #129, and 2½ pence, Scott #131. Both are perfinned with pattern “J&A/A” (Thompkins catalogue pattern **009.01**), which was used by James & Alexander Allan (or the Allen Line) – a Scottish steamship company. (Figure 2.) A small image of the company logo is printed on the cover’s back. (Figure 3.)

The Allan Line was founded in 1854 as the "Montreal Ocean Steamship Company." The

company was later known as the Allan Line after one of its founders, Hugh Allan. In 1891 the company took over the State Line and the company was often referred to as the Allan & State Line. The Allan & State Line name was retired by the end of 1905 in favor of the Allan Line. Then in 1917, the company was acquired by the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services Ltd. (CPOS, now CP Ships) and the Allen Line name was dropped by the end of 1918.

The cover was mailed June 10, 1908, from the Waterloo Street Station in Glasgow, Scotland, to Berlin, Schömberg, Germany. It is addressed to M. H. (Morrison Hughes) McMath and is from his wife “Lulu.”

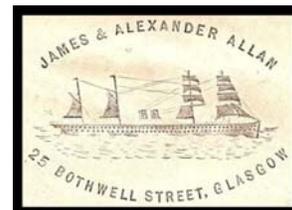
The letter is a very formal handwritten business letter in reply to his letter of June 8. The purpose of her letter is to



**Figure 1**  
Cover mailed to M. H. McMath  
Franked with British perfinned stamps.  
(Edges trimmed to eliminate “dog ears.”)  
(Approximately 80% of actual size.)

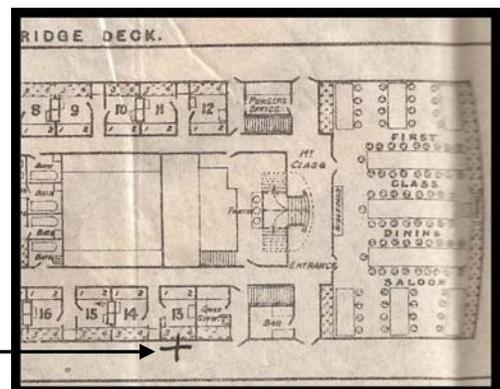


**Figure 2**  
Perfin electronically lifted from  
Scott #129.  
Thompkins pattern 009.01  
(Note: “J” missing one hole.)



**Figure 3**  
James & Alexander Allan logo  
(On back of cover.)

**Figure 4**  
Part of cabin plan with  
Cabin #13 marked.



“X” marks the spot!

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## James and Alexander Allen - A fascinating cover with contents (cont.)

tell him that she has forwarded him £10 sterling through the Deutsch Bank in Berlin. He is to credit this to her and then purchase a ticket on the HESPERIAN for berth "13" on its Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup> sailing. She and her daughter plan to travel on it to Canada.

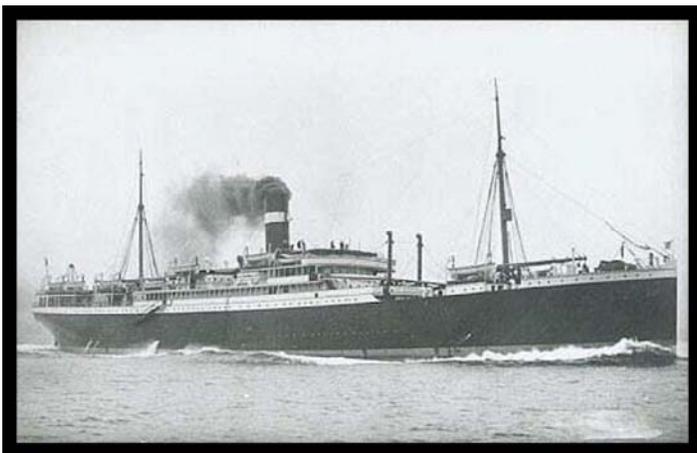
The letter also includes a very detailed 17" x 22" folded cabin plan of the ship where she has marked her cabin in First Class on the Bridge Deck, indicating they had money to be able to afford these accommodations. (Figure 4, page 160.) In addition to these directions, she requests that he get them seats at one of the long tables for their meals, and also discusses handling of her large luggage which she does not need until the sailing.

The HESPERIAN was built by A. Stephen & Sons, Glasgow, in 1907 for the Allan Line. (Figure 5.) She was a 10,920 gross ton ship and was 485.5 feet in length with a 60.3 foot beam. She had one funnel, two masts, twin screws and a speed of 15 knots. There were accommodations for 210 First class, 250 Second class and 1,000 Third class passengers. Launched on December 20, 1907, she left Glasgow on her maiden voyage to Quebec and Montreal on April 25, 1908. Mrs. McMath's trip was the HESPERIAN's fourth round trip to North America after its christening. The sailing date from Glasgow, Scotland, was July 17, 1908, and she would arrive in Montreal on July 23 and Quebec on July 24.

The HESPERIAN was one of those ships designated as a Royal Mail Steamer. She made over 80 round trips in her eight year life. Most of those voyages were between Glasgow and Montreal/Quebec City, with Halifax, NS, and Saint John, NB, as her most common winter destinations. In January, 1910, the HESPERIAN was chartered to Canadian Pacific and completed a single round trip voyage between Liverpool and St John, NB. It was not until 1917 that the companies revealed that they had merged in 1915.

The third class of the HESPERIAN held many immigrants including parties of children and domestics. Over its life, she delivered 1,052 immigrants to Boston, 39 to Portland, Maine, and thousands to Canada. All adult immigrants received a handbook (Figure 6) in an Allan Line burlap bag. One of those bags was recently offered on eBay with a starting bid of \$3,750. The bids closed August 16, so you missed it!

Many of the children were boys, age 12-14, who were brought to the Quarrier Home in Brockville, Ontario. From there they were dispersed to be employed, mainly as farm hands. The home's founder, William Quarrier, was a man who had started life poor in Glasgow and saw that children needed a place to care for them. He required that all children had written permission of their guardians



**Figure 5**  
**The HESPERIAN**  
One of 27 ships of the Allan Line in operation in 1908.



**Figure 6**  
Allan Line "Emigrant" Handbook

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## James and Alexander Allen - A fascinating cover with contents (cont.)

before he would accept them for the trip. He also checked out the families that would adopt the boys. The Quarrier home in Brockville was known as Fairknoule. The Quarriers is still in operation.

One trip that stands out was in 1912. The HESPERIAN left Portland, Maine, April 2, 1912, and passed the outbound TITANIC Thursday, April 11, as they both neared the Irish coast. Both ships had the new Marconi telegraph and probably communicated with one another. The TITANIC struck an iceberg and sank Sunday, April 14, 1912. On April 17, the HESPERIAN reported field ice while passing 43.30°N, 48.00°W as she was headed back to Canada.

As the war in Europe heated up the HESPERIAN was called upon to transport Canadian troops. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders left Montreal June 10, 1915, and arrived in Plymouth, England, June 19. On July 18 the ship carried the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Mounted Rifles. It is interesting to note that the 4<sup>th</sup> had 31 officers and 602 enlisted men and that their horses traveled on another ship. On August 17, 1915, she embarked at Montreal for England with the second draft of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Battalion. They arrived in England August 27, 1915.

On September 4, 1915, as the ship was heading back to Canada she was torpedoed off Fastnet, Ireland, by the German submarine U-20, under the command of Kapitanleutenant Walter Schweiger. (Figure 7.) Two days later she sank 130 miles west of Queenstown (now Cobh) after unsuccessful attempts to tow her to port. There were 32 deaths; most were kitchen staff and waiters; two were infants. The

German Government at first denied that any of their subs were in the area, and insisted the HESPERIAN must have hit a mine.



**Figure 7**  
**Kapitan Walter Schweiger**  
**(April 7, 1885, Berlin -**  
**September 5, 1917, North**  
**Sea)**

Kapitan Schweiger commanded U-20 from December 16, 1914, to November, 5, 1916. (Figure 8, page 163.) During his command the U-20 sank 37 ships and damaged two others. The HESPERIAN was the third largest ship his submarine sank. The largest by far was the LUSITANIA which he sank May 7, 1915. The U-20 was scuttled November 4, 1916, after it ran aground on a sandbank while aiding another submarine. (Figure 9, page 163.) Kapitan Schweiger was given another command. That sub hit a mine September 5, 1917, while being chased by a British warship. He is entombed with his sub.

Lest we forget the McMath family, Morrison Huggins McMath, was born in December, 1852, in Millport, NY. He left the University of Rochester in 1877, began the study of law, and became a Rochester, NY, lawyer in general practice. He was also noted locally as a good baritone singer.

Morrison and Eliza S. (Lulu) had two children; a girl, Eloise M., age 27 and a boy, John N., age 20 in 1908. In the 1900 census his mother-in-law, Sarah Rapalje, born in March, 1821, and one servant were living with them. The son, John may have been in Berlin with Morrison when his wife's letter was written. Why the parents traveled separately, why the letter was so formal: who knows?

Morrison died February 22, 1932, and his obituary appears in the Rochester, NY *Democrat and Chronicle*. His wife and children survived him. There is also a history of him in the January 17, 1941, issue of the Webster, NY *Webster Herald*.

Who could imagine the curiosity that a letter written by a woman in Scotland to a man in Germany about a trip to Canada could generate! Perhaps the most surprising is that they were residents of Rochester, NY, and that he was born in Milport, NY, a small village about half an hour drive from my home.

What a personal surprise when I realized that the woman who wrote the letter was a "Ropalje." That fact appears in the 1900 census and in both the obituary and the history cited above. In her signature "Mrs. Morrison H. - Lulu S. R. McMath" the "R" stood for "Ropalje." There was only one Ropalje immigrant family, although locally the name is

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## James and Alexander Allen - A fascinating cover with contents (cont.)

usually spelled Rappleye. Through my mother, I am descended from that immigrant family by three lines. Thus, I am related to the woman who wrote the letter.

Just to make it more personal, we recently found out that he, Morrison McMath, was somehow related to my wife, Rose, through his mother's line. Just as with my connection, the exact links are missing, but when surnames and place names match, lights go on. Of well, we are all at least cousins.

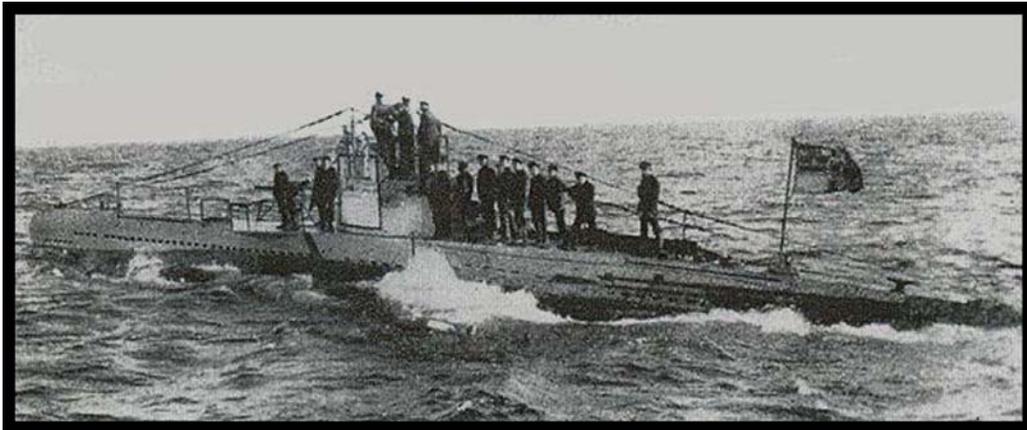
Thanks to the many internet sites for providing information acquired in preparing this article. These include:

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allan\\_Line\\_Royal\\_Mail\\_Steamers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allan_Line_Royal_Mail_Steamers)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugh\\_Allan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugh_Allan)
- <http://www.gjenvick.com/AllanLine/1908-Brochure->

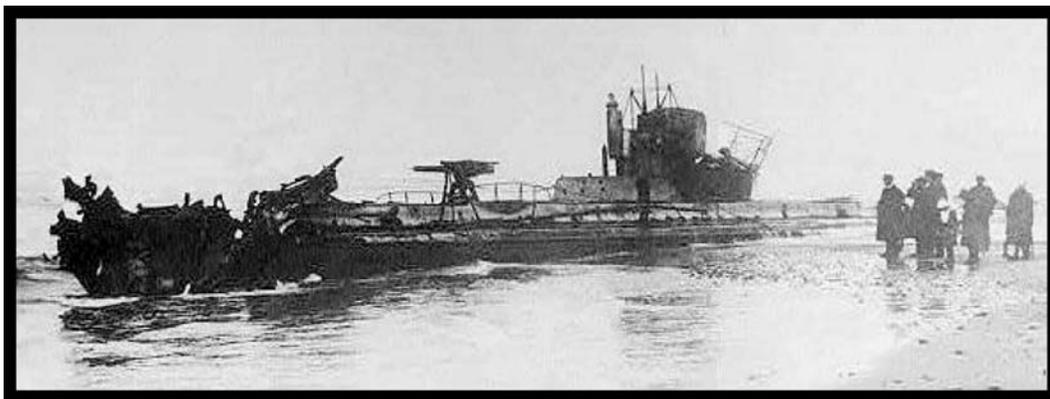
AllanLine-SteamshipFleet.html

- <http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/lines/allan.html>
- <http://jubilation.uwaterloo.ca/~marj/genealogy/allantour.htm>
- <http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/lines/cp.html>
- [http://www.norwayheritage.com/p\\_ship.asp?sh=hespe](http://www.norwayheritage.com/p_ship.asp?sh=hespe)
- [http://www.norwayheritage.com/p\\_shiplist.asp?co=allan](http://www.norwayheritage.com/p_shiplist.asp?co=allan)
- <http://www.medievalhistory.net/hesper-n.htm>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walther\\_Schwieger](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walther_Schwieger)
- <http://www.encyclopedia-titanica.org/who-talked-to-titanic.html>

[Editor's Note: Due to the discoloration of the original letter's paper and faintness of the writing, an image of the letter is not reproduced in the *Bulletin*. However, if any member would like a copy of the scan of the letter, please contact the Editor. His information is on page 142.]



**Figure 8**  
U-20 Somewhere at sea.



**Figure 9**  
U-20 After being scuttled.

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# Request for Help - U.S. Catalog Editor

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

In the course of performing my duties as U.S. Catalog Editor, questions often arise about information provided in the listings in the current *Catalog of United States Perfins* including A&C #1 and #2. Sometimes these questions are from members who do not understand a listing or have a valid question about it. Other times they are a request to help identify a perfin that has been found. Three such questions that I

have been unable to resolve are discussed below and on page 165. If you can help answer any or all of these questions, I would appreciate receiving any pertinent information you might have. My contact information is on page 142 of this *Bulletin*. Thank you very much for participating in this important effort to improve our knowledge of these patterns.

---

## U.S. Patterns B160 and B160A - Dates of Usage?

The Berger Manufacturing Company is known to have used commercial perforator devices in Canton, OH, (pattern **B160A**) and in New York, NY, (pattern **B160**), starting with the 1908 issue and continuing through the 1920's (and possibly 1930's). The two devices are very similar and there is some question as to the period of usage in each city.

The company was established in 1886 in Canton, OH, and in 1930 Republic Steel was formed with Berger Manufacturing as one of its divisions.<sup>(1)</sup> The division remained in Canton until 1962 when Republic consolidated Berger with three other divisions to form the Manufacturing Division of Youngstown, OH. The former Berger returned to Canton in 1973 as the Industrial Products Division of Republic Steel. After

several corporate buy-outs and mergers, the employees purchased the company in 1973. Today they operate as Republic Storage Systems LLC, a leading producer of steel storage products including lockers, shelving, pallet rack and mezzanine systems. Over the years, they had several branch offices, including the one in New York.<sup>(2)</sup>

I would like to see firm evidence of the dates of usage for each pattern. Please check your collections and report any covers, precancels and postmarks on patterns **B160** and **B160A**.

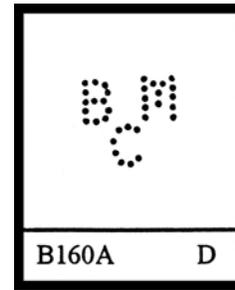
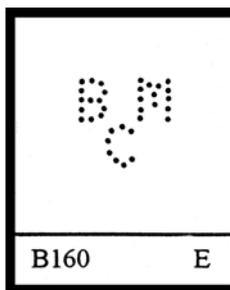
### References:

1. [http://republicstorage.com/about\\_republic\\_storage/history](http://republicstorage.com/about_republic_storage/history)
2. <http://glassian.org/Prism/Berger/index.html>

### Side-by-side comparison of patterns B160 and B160A.

Note the following differences:

1. Horizontal bar in **B** in B160 angled down.
2. **B** in B160 leans slightly to right.
3. **M** in B160A leans slightly to left.
4. Shape of bottom part of **C** different in two patterns.
5. Shape of bottom loop of **B** different in two patterns.



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## Mystery Perfins - Can you identify one or both?

Kurt Ottenheimer (LM#86) recently sent me the two perfins illustrated below for identification. After consulting with several long standing members of the Club, we have not been able to identify them. Do any of you recognize them?

The first pattern (Figure 1) is an apparent letter V or partial A, has no blind holes, and is on a Scott #701. The second pattern (Figure 2) has one blind hole at the bottom, just to the right of the vertical bar (marked by an arrow). This is on a Scott #504.

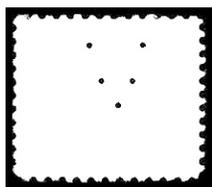


Figure 1  
Is it a V or A or ?

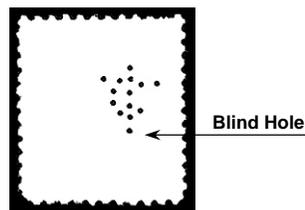


Figure 2  
What is it ?

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## Request for Help - U.S. Catalog Editor (cont.)

### Please check your copies of U.S. Pattern C134

Perfins **C133** and **C134** were used by Fleishman Transportation Company in the early 1900's. Pattern **C133** was used in their New York, NY, office while pattern **C134** was used in their Cincinnati, OH, office.

When compared to **C133**, pattern **C134** can be easily identified by the control hole at the bottom right corner of the pattern (far below the letter *O*). See Figures 1 and 2. Approximately one dozen of **C134** perfins have been seen by the Catalog Editor. However, none of them have the additional hole shown in the 1998 *Catalog of United States Perfins* illustration (the interior hole between the letter *C* and

the horizontal leg of the letter *F*). They are all similar to the altered pattern **C134** shown in Figure 3. We wonder if this interior hole is a printing error (such as a "flyspeck") or a random hole that was inadvertently included in the illustration used for the catalog.

Please check your collections and inform the U.S. Catalog Editor if you have any copies of **C134** exactly as shown in the 1998 *Catalog of United States Perfins*.

As a sidebar note, given the user name, these two patterns more properly belong in the letter "F" section of the catalog. This will be noted in the future A&C#3.

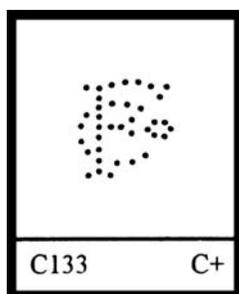


Figure 1  
Pattern C133  
Note absence of control holes.

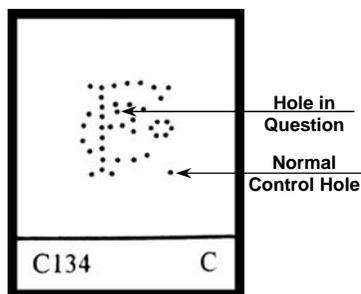


Figure 2  
Pattern C134  
Note "Normal Control Hole" and "Hole in Question."

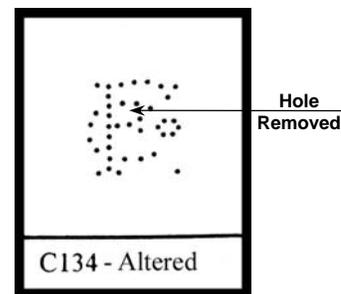


Figure 3  
Pattern C134 - Altered  
Note "Hole in Question" has been electronically deleted.

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## Catalogue Review

"Perfins of the Ottoman Empire, Turkey, Crete and the Foreign Post Offices in the Levant"

Alan Sandy (LM#2539)

Dick Schepers' (#3311) handbook and catalogue of the perfins of the Eastern Mediterranean, including European and British Offices as well as Crete and Turkey, is the indispensable reference work for anyone interested in these Levant perfins. Both a lesson in history and a rated list of all perfins known for the Levant and associated countries or entities, this book teaches the fine points of identifying and categorizing these perfins as well as their relative value. I think it answers all of the somewhat complex questions I have had about these stamps. This work will change the way we collect Levant perfins.

The colored illustrations are excellent and abundant. The presentation of the material is easy to follow, especially given its complexity. The cost, at roughly \$40 (USD), is reasonable for such a fine work and a costlier binding might have priced many potential

users out of the market.

The ratings of the separate patterns or dies are especially useful. Now neophytes as well as experts can bid aggressively on the scarcer items.

I think this change marks another step in the development of perfin collecting. We are a long way from dependable priced catalogues but the ratings of such countries as Canada, France, and the United States have stimulated more intense collecting and led us toward a sense of the relative scarcity of different types.

[Editor's Note: Dick has advised us that he has less than 8 copies of this handbook and catalogue available. If you would like to order one, please contact Dick Schepers; Hogeland 1; NL-2264 JX Leidschendam; NETHERLAND or email at: [dick.scheper@planet.nl](mailto:dick.scheper@planet.nl).]

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# Secretary's Report

Ken Rehfeld (#3394)

## New Members:

#3940 James Sands  
302 Marlborough Rd  
Rochester, NY 14619-1414  
Convention, Beginner

#3941 Richard Podwell  
PO Box 85  
Fawn Grove PA 17321-0085  
Convention, Beginner

#3942 John McNeilly  
25 N Atwood Rd  
Bel Air, MD 21014-3603  
Convention, Beginner, USA  
[mceillj@aol.com](mailto:mceillj@aol.com)

#3943 Edward Dorey  
110 Wheatly Court  
Colchester, VT 05446-7047  
Convention, Beginner, USA  
[edorcy\\_787@comcast.net](mailto:edorcy_787@comcast.net)

#3944 Edward Ptak  
16 Alba Ave  
Pittsfield, MA 01201-4411  
Convention, Beginner

#3945 James Lehr  
2501 Genito Place  
Midlotdian, VA 23112-3980  
Convention, Beginner

#3946 Marwan Nusair  
PO Box 498788  
Cincinnati, OH 45249-9788  
Convention, Beginner, Middle East/Ottoman  
[hejaz@tccincinnati.com](mailto:hejaz@tccincinnati.com)

#3947 Catherine Fields  
3313 Star Light Vista  
Round Rock, TX 78665-6280  
Katie Foster, Beginner, USA  
[ccfields@mac.com](mailto:ccfields@mac.com)

A great job of recruiting new members at the convention!

## Address Changes:

#3745 Mutsuo Kozuka  
#503 Aig de Blanche  
323-3 Ebiya-cho  
Nakagyo-ku  
Kyoto 604-8076  
JAPAN

#2774 Glenn Mallory  
739 Golfmore Dr  
Grand Junction, CO 81506-1831

#3768 Ed Mehlmauer  
147 Harshaville Rd  
Clinton, PA 15026-1422

#3699 Dr. Bruce Nesbitt  
76 John St  
Ottawa, ON K1M 1N4  
CANADA

#2770 Robert Selles  
5507 S Hurricane Ct  
Tempe, AZ 85283-2051

## Closed Album:

#293 Donald A. Anderson

**Membership** 490

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The following members made a donation to the club along with their dues.  
Thank you very much. Your continued financial support of the club is greatly appreciated!!

## Sustaining Members

#3595 Robert Beasecker  
#2086 Stephen R. Belasco  
LM#142 Frederick M. Bimbler  
LM#42 Neilen W. Boatwright  
LM#126 Douglas J. Cutler  
#3817 Steve A. Dirksen  
LM#71 Millard J. Driscoll  
#3783 Jack R. Dykehouse  
#2019 Harold V. Eason

#2687 Thomas J. Gerace  
#744 Paul H. Gault  
#3788 G. R. Haas  
#2490 Gary G. Hendren  
#3054 James J. Hirstein  
#1448 James V. Kenyon  
#3903 Al Layton  
#3907 Cynthia P. Leffler  
LM#116 John F. Lyding

#3371 Bruce Mallott  
#1255 David F. Murray  
LM#18 August Ramhorst  
#1124 Rudolph J. Roy  
#3809 Terry W. Sitch  
#3541 Dale E. Smith  
LM#128 James E. Sneed  
#3754 Robert A. Stoldal  
#3744 Frank Sweet

#3737 Ronald R. Tellier  
LM#3673 Susan L. Tucker  
LM#2549 Douglas E. Turner  
#3739 Douglas Walker  
#3879 Wayne H. Weatherl  
#3757 Kirby E. Willems  
#3845 George F. Wood  
#3437 Donald J. Young

# Secretary's Report (cont.)

## Contributing Members

#2979 Neil R. Abbey	LM#131 Michael E. Falls	#3917 Kenny McKean	#3613 Rick Schrier
#2873 Charles A. Adrion Jr.	LM#70 Carl J. Faulkner	#2986 Rene A. Michaud	LM#505 Robert J. Schwerdt
#3893 Robert A. Alheim	LM#52 Randal Gabrielan	#3098 Donald D. Nelson	#3758 Jeffery Sigler
LM#137 William F. Baekers	#3006 Stanley J. Gasior	#3436 Donald H. Nelson	LM#101 Willem A. Smetsers
#3900 Harold W. Bailey	#2968 Joseph Giampietro	#3621 Loren W. Neuharth	#3579 Duane E. Spidle
#3165 E. Lee Bastien	#3685 Paul W. Godlewski	#3889 Phil W. Nodder	#3770 George F. Stephenson
LM#55 Edwin N. Blackburn	#2605 John A. Grant	LM#130 Hubert L. Norris Jr.	#3888 Michael D. Sterrett
LM#14 John L. Brandt	#3704 Charles L. Karnolt	LM#86 Kurt Ottenheimer	#3035 Blair M. Stitt
#2697 Roger S. Brody	LM#108 Johnathon Kennedy	#3551 Roy A. Parker	#3157 Sharon L. Strait
#3511 John R. Buckles	#2730 James E. Kenney	#3050 John (Larry) Patterson	#802 Stephen E. Teets
#3842 Alvin L. Burrige	#2423 Ernest T. Lobacz	#2152 Wesley J. Perkinson	LM#74 William M. Weiler
#3896 Raymond L. Chaon	#3281 Edwin A. Locke	#1338 Ted Pinas	LM#67 Jerry Weirich
LM#89 Charles W. Coons Jr.	#3628 Darryl B. Macdonald	#2655 Kathleen M. Reed	#3920 Owen L. White
#3747 Gustav G. Dueben III	LM#1787 Vincent C.	#2379 Ronald B. Ruby	LM#125 Joop A. Wibier
#2228 Alexander M. Farlie	McDermott	#3865 Eric B. Ryner	

## Member Want Ads

**WANTED:** 1923 2-cent Harding perfins and prepers (Scott #610, 611 & 612) AND 1931 2-cent Red Cross perfins and prepers (Scott #702). No quantity is too large and duplication is not a problem. **Contact:** Larry Cohen, PO Box 356, Plymouth, NH 03264, USA; email: [reb.cohen@roadrunner.com](mailto:reb.cohen@roadrunner.com).

**FILL YOUR WANT LISTS:** Send me your want lists for U. S. Perfins. B+ to F rated perfins filled by pattern and/or by issue or thematic topic. Also, will trade A rated patterns. Discounts available for quantity purchases. **Contact:** Steve Endicott, P. O. Box 2434, San Anselmo, CA 94979-2434, USA; email: [perfins@gmail.com](mailto:perfins@gmail.com).

Advertisements are published 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 - 10 cents per word; three consecutive insertions of the same ad - 20 cents per word; six insertions of the same ad - 40 cents per word. 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.

**WANTED:** Perfins on 19th Century Mexico postage up to Scott #291 and #O1 to #O48B. Singles and on cover. Also interested in buying copies, including photocopies, of articles on this subject and buying photocopies of pages of Mexico section of any perfins catalog. **Contact:** Bob Bergstrom, 1711 Driving Park Road, Wheaton, IL 60187-3226, USA; email: [bobanne@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bobanne@sbcglobal.net).

## Private Perfin Auction #27 - Reminder

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

As a reminder, in November and December, I will be running auctions of the material from the Ken Aws estate. This collection is a "world-wide" collection (read something for everyone!) with emphasis in the German collecting area. Ken was a long time member of the Perfins Club who passed away in 2008.

If you are already on my e-mail or snail mail list to receive private auction notices, you need do nothing until the auction list arrives. If you have not received my auction lists in the past and would like one, please

contact: Bob Szymanski, 10 Clarridge Circle, Milford, MA 01757-1371; email: [perfinman@comcast.net](mailto:perfinman@comcast.net).

I am continuing to fill want lists of US perfins from the collection as follows on a first come basis. These will be perfect copies - E&F @ \$0.10; D @ \$0.25; D+ @ \$0.50; C @ \$2.00; C+ @ \$4.00; and B rated @ \$15.00. A & B+ rated perfins will be auctioned individually.

*The Perfins Bulletin*  
**P.O. Box 125**  
**Spokane Valley, WA 99016-0125**  
**Periodicals**

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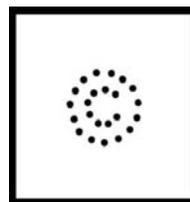


## A new Mexico Perfin

Bruce Brunell (#2831)

A new pattern has surfaced from Mexico that resembles the symbol for Copyright (©). It has been found on three envelopes all mailed on April 13, 2010, from Corregidora, Queretaro, Mexico. According to the corner card, the user is: IMAGEN, Joaquin Clausel #5, Frac. Pueblo Nuevo, Corregidora, Qro. C.P. 76900. IMAGEN is a printing and graphics company. A quick Internet search reveals that Corregidora is an upper middle class town of about 110,000 population on the

southwestern coast of Mexico. This number for this new pattern is **A1.5**.



A1.5 - ©

### Prices Realized Perfins Club Auction #120 - August 31, 2010

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Price</u>										
1	10.00	13	30.00	25	10.00	37	80.00	49	20.00	61	30.00
2	10.00	14	35.00	26	NB	38	9.00	50	60.00	62	10.00
3	18.00	15	75.00	27	14.00	39	20.00	51	60.00	63	95.00
4	10.00	16	10.00	28	10.00	40	8.00	52	20.00	64	38.00
5	20.00	17	8.00	29	10.00	41	20.00	53	5.00	65	30.00
6	45.00	18	10.00	30	8.00	42	40.00	54	20.00	66	15.00
7	75.00	19	55.00	31	WD	43	75.00	55	25.00	67	15.00
8	8.00	20	20.00	32	27.00	44	10.00	56	45.00	68	20.00
9	75.00	21	17.00	33	27.00	45	8.00	57	80.00	69	12.00
10	45.00	22	10.00	34	19.00	46	NB	58	10.00	70	15.00
11	37.00	23	14.00	35	15.00	47	32.00	59	5.00	71	45.00
12	22.00	24	8.00	36	8.00	48	20.00	60	6.00	72	70.00

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