

The **PERFINS** Bulletin

Volume 69, Number 1

Whole Number 650

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Second Mailometer Type V with Control Perfin Discovered

Curt McCoy (#3962)

In the September/October 2011 issue of *The Perfins Bulletin* on page 118, we announced the discovery of a Mailometer type V stamp found with control perfin **Des 90-21**, belonging to the Chalmers Motor Company of Detroit, as shown in the *Catalog of United States Perfins* (US Perfins Catalog). A copy is shown in Figure 1 (below).



Figure 1
Des. 90-21
with Type V perfs
Chalmers Motor Co.
Detroit, Michigan

Many of you are familiar with Schermacks with control perfins. But by 1910 the Schermack Company had changed its name to The Mailometer Company—same affixing machine, just a different name.

One of the factors that limited the company's expansion was a US Post Office Department Regulation regarding imperforate stamps. The stamps could only be sold in full sheets of 400, and they

must be posted from the office where they had been purchased. Essentially, every city where the company wished to do business had to have an office with its own perforating machine.

While still producing the hyphen hole slots from the Schermack days, the Mailometer Company embarked on a mission to convince the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to perforate stamps that would work in their affixing machines. If they could accomplish that, it would open up the entire country to their vending and affixing machines.

They experimented with a series of different hole designs trying to win Bureau approval. After several attempts it became apparent the Bureau was not

willing to show favoritism towards one of the developing vending & affixing machine companies.

When the Mailometer Company decided to fully expand to St. Louis, they sent one of the experimental perforators, a Mailometer type I, to the St. Louis office. That perforation consisted of six 1.95 mm holes, evenly spaced. One of their customers in St. Louis, Third National Bank, already had a Schermack Mailing machine with a control identification die, creating **Des 90-25** as shown in the US Perfins Catalog. A copy is shown in Figure 2 (at right). That was the only known control perfin on a stamp with Mailometer perforations until the 2010 discovery. By late 1910 the St. Louis branch started using a new perforating machine with type IV perforations which produced a series of five 2.2 mm diameter holes, evenly spaced. None of these are known with control perfins.

How and why the Mailometer type V came into existence is unknown. Mailometer type V was a continuous row of 1.8 mm holes. Surprisingly, not found in St. Louis, this stamp was only known to be used for a very brief period of time in Detroit. My theory is that the Schermack type III perforator in Detroit broke down and another machine, a Mailometer type V machine, was pressed into service.

According to Steven Belasco in his book, *Guide To United States Vending and Affixing Machine Perforation 1907-1927*, only four stamps with this perforation are known on cover. All are postmarked



Figure 2
Des. 90-25
with Type I perfs
Third National Bank
St. Louis, Missouri

Continued on Page 3

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Second Mailometer Type V with Control Perfin (continued)

from Detroit between 5/20/1911 and 6/02/1911. Evidence shows that after this brief period the companies reverted back to Schermack type III's.

Only four covers were known. But now a 5th cover with Type V Mailometer perforations has been found ... and this one has the **Des. 90-21** control perfin! Figure 3 (at right) shows a scan of this cover.

Scott Catalogue value on cover - \$5000.

Finding cover #5, and this one with a control perfin -

Priceless !

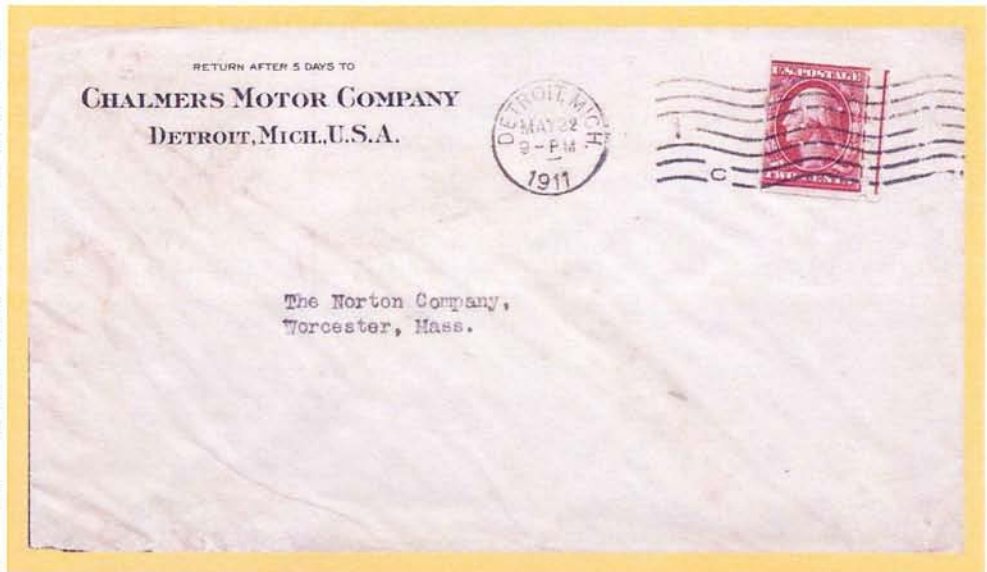


Figure 3
Des. 90-21
with Type V perms
on cover

Join us in January at Milford

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

The New England Perfins and Precancel Clubs will be holding a joint meeting and swap on Saturday January 24, 2015, between 9:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Milford Town Library. The library is located in downtown Milford, MA, off Rte. 16 on Spruce Street. It is easily reachable from I-495 Exit 19 Rte. 109 or Exit 20 Rte. 85.

The meeting room is on the lower level and can be reached through the main entrance by either stairs or elevator. There is also a loading door from the outside employee parking lot directly to the room.

For detailed directions if you do not have MapQuest or a GPS, please give me a call or send me an email. My contact information is:

(508) 478-7303

or

perfinman@comcast.net

Also, I would appreciate it if you would let me know if you intend on coming to this meeting and what you are looking for to add to your collection. There will be plenty of perfins and, as always, the more the merrier!

Mark Your Calendars Now!

2015 Annual Convention - August 4-8, 2015

Holiday Inn, 242 Adams Place

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(for reservations)



Mention
Precancel Stamp Society
for special rate of \$94.00
per night.

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition and P188

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition was a World's Fair held in San Francisco, from February 20 to December 4 in 1915 to celebrate the completion of the Panama Canal, but it was generally seen in San Francisco to be an opportunity to showcase the city's recovery from the devastating 1906 earthquake. The fair was constructed on a flat,

One exhibit hall, the Palace of Machinery, was reported to be the largest structure in the world at that time. A working model of the Panama Canal was exhibited on a 5 acre site.

Two commemorative postage series were issued in conjunction with the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. The first series (Scott 397 to 400a) were



Figure 1
Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company
Pattern P188 in a block of 10

marshy, landfilled site near the San Francisco Bay in view of the Golden Gate (the bridge with that name did not exist for another 22 years), in an area along the northern shore now known as the Marina District. This residential district was hit very hard by the Loma Prieta earthquake 74 years later, in 1989. You may recall seeing the damaged homes and fires in news reports. The Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company had its own perfin, **P188** (PPI/ ECo) as listed in the *Catalog of United States Perfins* (US Perfins Catalog). See Figure 1 (above).

In reading about the Exposition, I was amazed at the number of buildings and the extent and quality of the exhibits. Thirty-one nations, quite a few states and major companies hosted exhibit halls connected by 47 miles of walkways. Included among the exhibits was The Liberty Bell, transported from Philadelphia by rail. An article recently appeared in *The Perfins Bulletin* regarding perfins on the Liberty Bell and the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. (See *The Perfins Bulletin*, Volume 68, Pages 61 and 63.)

issued on January 1, 1913. They included a 1 cent green stamp with the profile of Vasco Núñez de Balboa, a 2 cent carmine stamp showing the Pedro Miguel Locks at the Panama Canal, a 5 cent blue stamp showing the Golden Gate (no bridge!), and a 10cent orange yellow stamp commemorating the discovery of the San Francisco Bay. In August 1913 the 10cent stamp was re-issued in orange hue (Scott 400a). These were all perforated 12. Then, in 1914, the set was

re-issued with perforation 10 (Scott 401 to 404). The orange yellow hue of the earlier 10cent stamp was not re-issued.

These stamps were available at many post offices throughout the United States. 450 companies have been documented to have applied perfins to these stamps commemorating the International Exposition. A tabular summary is presented below. 256 companies have been documented to have used their perfin design on the perf 12 issue. 102 companies (some were the same company) used perfins on the perf 10 issue. A detailed census is available from the

Number of Companies which Applied P188 Perfins

Perf 12			Perf 10		
Scott	Denom	Perfins	Scott	Denom	Perfins
397	1	93	401	1	27
398	2	257	402	2	71
399	5	69	403	5	66
400	10	72	404	10	28
400a	10	53			

Continued on Page 5

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition and P188 (continued)

Publications Chair. I would enjoy hearing from members who have perfin not listed in the census.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Company was a major participant at the Exposition and used stamps from Scott 397 through Scott 402 with their perfin **S215** (SP) as listed in the US Perfins Catalog. (I have not seen the 5 cent perf 10 Scott 403 nor the 10 cent perf 10 Scott 404 with the perfin S215. Do you have an example of these?) The 1 cent Scott 397 and 2 cent Scott 398 are also known to exist with San Francisco precancels and with the S215 perfin (these are called Prepers). Shown below as Figure 2 is the perf 12 series as used by Southern Pacific, with the S215 perfin. Southern Pacific hosted its own exhibit



Figure 2
Pattern S215 in Panama-Pacific set (Scott 397-400A)

hall, which included displays from more than 15 wonders of the West that could be seen from the Southern Pacific rail travel, including: the Yosemite valley, Crater Lake, Santa Catalina, Mt. Shasta, The Alamo, the Cliff Dwellers of New Mexico, Santa Barbara, Lake Tahoe and the Big Trees (the Giant Sequoias). Visitors to the exhibit hall could book travel reservations on Southern Pacific rail and steamship lines throughout the western United States. The C. P. Huntington, the first steam locomotive to run on the Central Pacific line and the largest locomotive to ever be exhibited at an exposition, was housed nearby at the Palace of Transportation.

As mentioned earlier, the Panama-Pacific International Exposition had its own perfin: **P188** (PPI/ECO). This perfin is commonly seen on various stamps, including six of the nine commemoratives for the Exposition. The 10 cent denomination varieties are rarely seen in

perfin collections. Why is this item much more difficult to find?

We now think we know the answer. The Exposition mailed gold commemorative coins to interested collectors. These were sent registered mail; many have been preserved on cover. Figure 3 (below) shows such a cover. This cover sold for several hundred dollars at the 2013 Westpex show. Perhaps the 10 cent stamps with perfin P188 remain mostly in collections with covers. Notice the corner card information indicating that this cover originated from the Department of Official Coins and Medals Building. The significance of this observation will become apparent in a moment.

During my research for this article, I saw several covers and strips with the cancellation "Model Post Office". An example is shown in Figure 4 on the following page. I wanted to learn more

about this, and was surprised to read about a philatelist's visit to the Model Post Office located at the Exposition. His story was printed in Meekel's Weekly Stamp News on Dec 4, 1915 (page 420) and is quoted in part here.



Figure 3
Pattern P188 in "gold coin cover"

"[The] Model Post Office is located in the Mines Building, and consists of a fully equipped post-office, with all modern devices used in the handling

Continued on Page 6

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition and P188 (continued)

of mail. This office handles the Exposition mail, and conducts the business of a regular post-office. One may drop a letter in the receiving window, then ascend



Figure 4
Pattern P188 with Model Post Office cancel

to the balcony and watch the letter as it moves along the conveyor and is post-marked and deposited in the mail-pouch for transportation. Then, by going to the Transportation Building, one may pass through a fully equipped mail car, and so learn of the 'inner-workings' of the postal system.

"Ordinary mail matter is cancelled with the San Francisco circular town and date stamps, and the rectangular bar stamp inscribed in four lines 'Model Post Office Panama-Pacific International Exposition'. Registered mail receives a different set of obliterations. The stamp is cancelled by an oval hand-stamp inscribed 'San Francisco—Cal—' in the outer

oval and 'Model Post Office' in the center.(Model Post Office Sta.) Cal. REGISTERED' and date in the center."

And now returning to the cover that sold at Westpex (Figure 3 on previous page), we can see that it was an Exposition-originated registered mail cover.

References:

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panama%E2%80%93Pacific_International_Exposition
2. <http://books.google.com/books?id=YMUnAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA420&lpg=PA420&dq=model+post+office+panama+pacific&source=bl&ots=kOv-QeO1tB&sig=xHCFIRsSTfzYYDtcMdVxHgCKuc&hl=en&sa=X&ei=xbenUcWxN83rigKy24HoBw&ved=0CHYQ6AEwDg#v=onepage&q=model%20post%20office%20panama%20pacific&f=false>
3. http://www.books-about-california.com/Pages/Southern_Pacific_PPIE/Southern_Pacific_PPIE_text.html
4. <http://www.nps.gov/prsf/historyculture/1915-panama-pacific-international-exposition.htm>
5. *Postal Marking of U.S. Expositions*, William Bomar, BJB Philatelics, 1996.

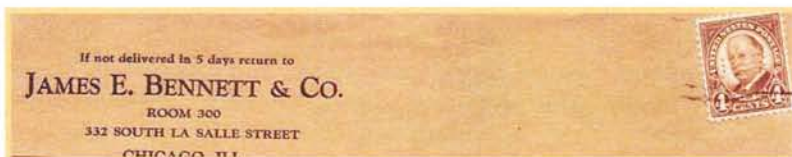
Who Used Pattern J35?

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

So who used pattern J35?

Since the first *Catalog of United States Perfins* (US Perfins Catalog), printed in 1966, to list user information, J35 (JEB/Co), E-rated, has been listed with J.E. Bernard & Company, Incorporated, from New York, NY, as the user. The only additional catalog information appears in the Second Edition of A&C pages put out by then Editor, Pat Callis, who added an additional user location, Chicago, IL, to the New York City listing.

Below is a scan showing a brown stamp on a



brown cover. This scan may not print well enough to be easily seen but I can assure you that with a strong light and magnifying glass, there is no doubt that the perfin is J35. However, this strip has a Chicago, IL,

corner card and shows a different user - James E. Bennett & Co. Interestingly, in the 1998 edition of the US Perfins Catalog, J34 is listed to J.E. Bernard and J36 to James E. Bennett. J36 looks to be a revenue-used perfin, incidentally or accidentally, found on a regular postage stamp. In the book *U.S. Revs - Perfins* printed in 2007, Art Mongan, editor, lists this pattern as JA0110. This is one of the illegally used patterns that have found their way into the US Perfins Catalog and, hopefully, will be removed as they are in the revenue catalog where they belong. But, I digress.

In trying to determine whether these two companies could have been one and the same, I did a search in the internet and discovered that James E. Bennett & Co. is a brokerage house; J.E. Bernard is an importer. I could not find the hint of a connection between these two companies.

With J35 being a common "E" rated perfin, some of you may have proof of the current listed user or the user shown in this article. You may have perfins with

Continued on Page 11

Found: Original Documents of the RV&Co. Cuban Perfin

Robert Littrell (#3992)

In our hobby of collecting perfin stamps and covers the most exciting thing that can happen to you is when you find a previously unknown pattern identification corner card on a cover that reveals an "A" rated perfin stamp. What pleasure you would derive from such an event! Now multiply that pleasure about three fold and you will come close to realizing the experience that I had when I saw a letter on beautiful illustrated letterhead which I am about to describe!

I got the call from Octavio Cabrera, a Cuban-American friend of mine in Florida. He had been contacted by a Cuban who had recently traveled to Europe. I knew of him myself. The request was that he wanted to know if Octavio "had any interest in Cuban perfins." He replied that he was not interested, but knew someone who probably would be.

Two days later he sent 29 scans of materials. My friend told me to skip the small stuff (400 perfins, 10 revenue perfin stamps on documents and 15 covers!) and look at scans 27 through 29. I could not believe my eyes! Ricardo Veloso d/b/a Libreria Cervantes had signed a letter to post office officials asking for permission for his company to use perfin pattern **RV&Co.** on stamps. Libreria Cervantes was Ricardo Veloso's Havana bookstore, founded in 1910. Veloso also edited and published books for Cervantes. In 1926, Veloso merged his company with Cultural S.A. and they expanded their business in Cuba as well as abroad. There are a large number of covers bearing this perfin pattern and corner card.

The letter had an attachment consisting of a blank sheet of paper which had three perforated postage stamps. It also had two rows of ten perforation patterns, demonstrating to the Post Office exactly what his perforating machine produced (See Figure 1). Readers of *The Perfins Bulletin* may recall

that I predicted, on the basis of frequency of broken pin patterns, that **RV&Co.** was perforated on a ten die machine (*The Perfins Bulletin*, No. 641, Jul.-Aug., 2013, p 73). So I was pleased to see the ten punches across the paper. The letter itself is translated in the inset on that photo. (See Figure 2 on Page 8.)

The final scan revealed the answer of the Post Office officials, written the very next day. (See Figure 3 on Page 9.) That letter is also translated in the inset to that photo. In the reply, the Post Office acceded to the request with the proviso that the 1920 Post Office regulation regarding perfins be followed. The translation of that regulation is as follows:

Decree No. 321 of January 1, 1920, authorizing the use of perfins on Cuban stamps:

"Article 65. The public can mark stamps with distinctive perforations without the loss of their postal validity, provided that the perforations conform to the following rules:

- 1. They will only form letters, signs or figures and they must never represent advertisements of any kind.*
- 2. The letters, signs or figures may not exceed one-third of the dimensions of the stamp.*
- 3. The diameter of the holes shall be equal to that of the perforations that separate stamps from each other and the distance between the perforated holes shall be equal to the distance between the stamp perforations.*
- 4. The paper removed from the stamp by the perforations may not represent more than one eighth of the total surface of the stamp.*

Stamps marked with distinctive perforations that do not conform to the above rules shall be void."

I have not been able to find the Cuban regulation, if one exists, that requires registration with the post office which would prompt such a

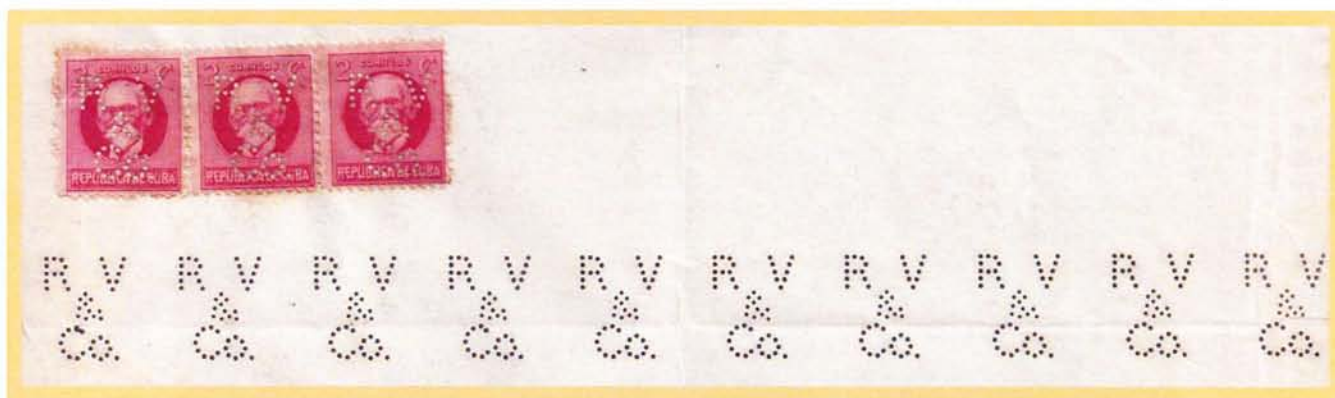


Figure 1: Attachment (portion) to letter to post office officials showing three perfined stamps and a row of perforations of a ten die machine (one of two rows is illustrated here).

Continued on Page 8

Found: Original Documents of RV&Co. Cuban Perfin (continued)

letter in the first place. We know that there is no such requirement in the United States. We also know that this decree of 1920 was written about six years after perfin use became prevalent in Cuba. Does this mean that somewhere, lurking in the Cuban government files, that one could conceivably find 20+ other such post-regulation requests? That is a tantalizing thought!

My payment was sent the same day. I could not even imagine him offering it to someone else! One surprise of this whole situation was realizing that these documents even exist. Another surprise was

the date of 1925. One finds a large number of **RV&Co.** perfin stamps from the 1917 definitive patriot series (including a few with pin breaks) which were used until four denominations were replaced in 1925. Yet here we have, in 1925, a perfect set (no pin breaks) of dies. The company must have had an existing supply of the 1917 issues.

I was thrilled to own this wonderful piece of Cuban philatelic perfin history, the likes of which you probably will not find in your United States collections.

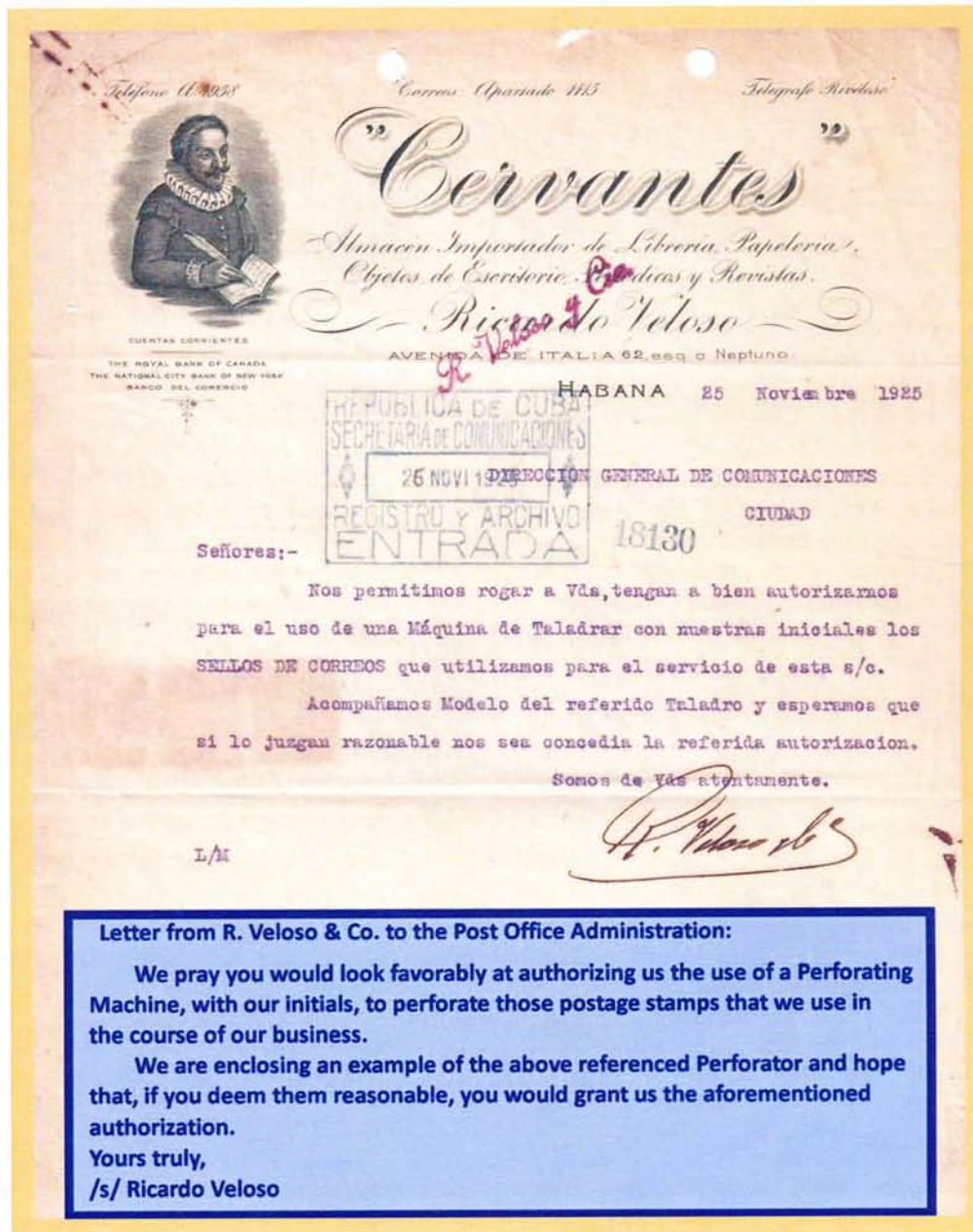


Figure 2: Letter to post office officials dated 25 November 1925

Continued on Page 9

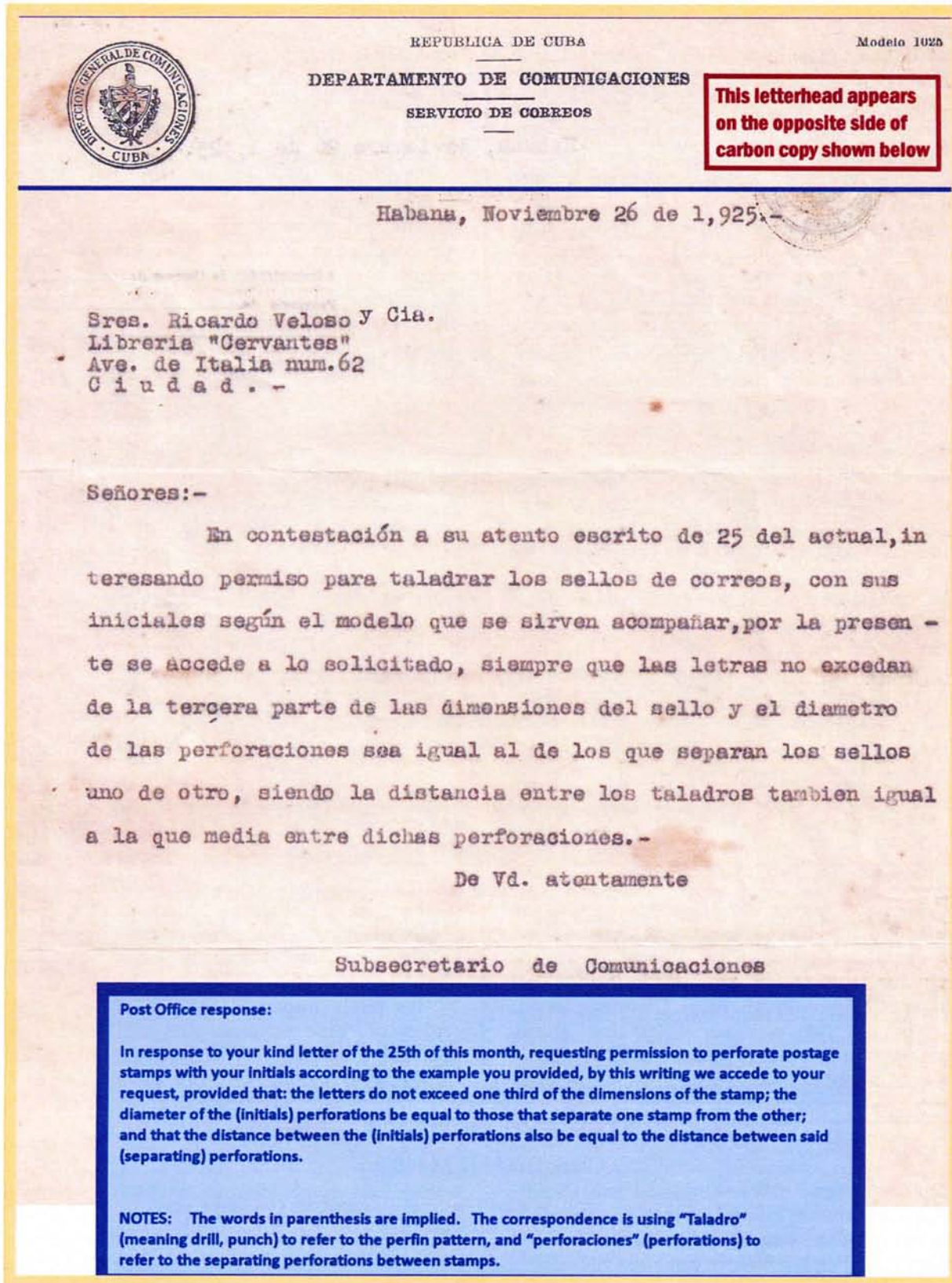


Figure 3: Letter from post office officials to Ricardo Veloso d/b/a Libreria Cervantes dated the next day

C310 / C311 Identification - A Case Study

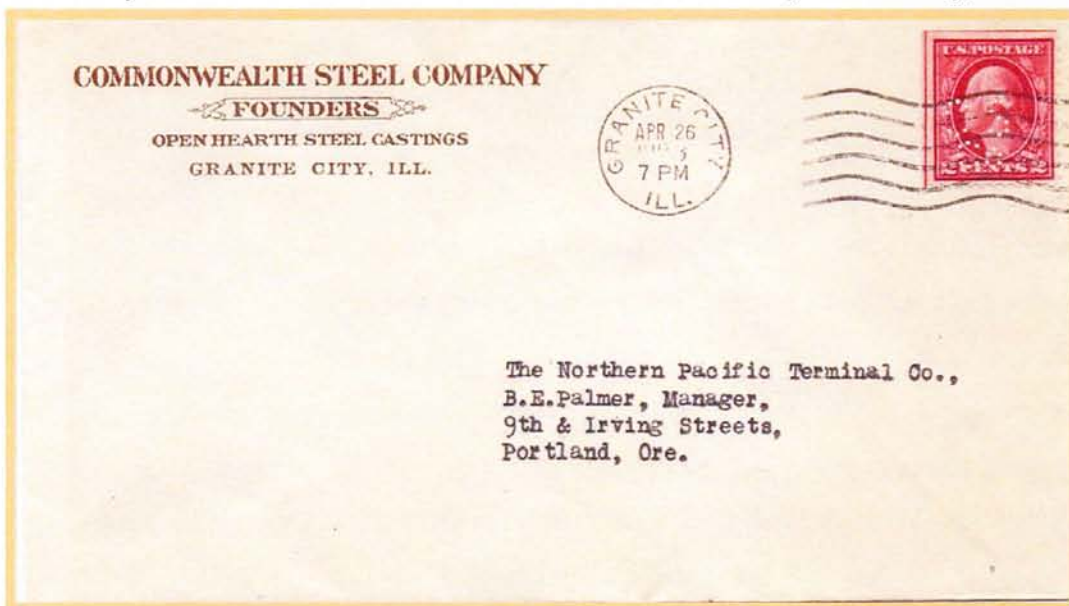
Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

Now for some thought provoking reading. ...and you thought perfins weren't all that interesting!

Initially, I mistakenly identified and provided the cover (shown below) to our former *Perfins Bulletin* editor, Ken Masters, as a **C310** (CS/Co), as depicted in the *Catalog of United States Perfins* (US Perfins Catalog), and it is so listed in the EKU/LKU listing as the only date for C310. However, thank you to Ken's overlay, it is really a **C311**! Therefore, erroneous information was given to US Catalog Chairman Steve Endicott and the C310 EKU/LKU listing should be deleted and should be entered as a C311 EKU/LKU for which presently no dates are listed. My bad!

for C310 in Granite City, IL, (which must be because Carnegie Steel is listed in the Supplemental information as Carnegia, which is a misspelling error) and it notes Commonwealth Steel Company as an additional user for C311.

Searching the internet on the history of Commonwealth Steel Company shows their plant was located in Granite City, Illinois, and their offices were located in St. Louis. This would be consistent with both patterns having been used by Commonwealth Steel Company and either or both in St. Louis, Missouri, and/or Granite City, Illinois. (Note that a St. Louis precancel exists on C311.) Additionally, I searched for information



listing Carnegie Steel as ever having operated a plant or office in St. Louis or Granite City, Illinois, and I could not find any. Naturally, this makes me wonder about how did this Carnegie Steel identification information originally get into the catalog? It may be simply a confusion of similar patterns or users (note that C309 is Carnegie Steel in Toledo, Ohio, and

Looking at the corner identification, you will see the Commonwealth Steel Company in Granite City, Illinois, with a Granite City, Illinois, postmark indicating the user of C311. The US Perfins Catalog does show Commonwealth Steel Company in St. Louis, Missouri, as user for C310 but shows Carnegie Steel as the primary user for C311. Also, A&C #4 "Additions" lists Carnegie Steel as the user

C312 is Carnegie Steel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania!). Or maybe someone reading this has a Carnegie Steel Company cover with C310 or C311!

It's really important that if you have proof on either of these patterns, that you send it to US Catalog Chairman Steve Endicott whose contact information is shown on Page 2. Please help!

Corrections with My Apologies

Clark Buchi (LM#4028)

Gene Stutzenstein has informed me that his email address was listed incorrectly on the November/December 2014 *Perfins Bulletin* (on Page 104). His correct email address is:
Gene.Stutz@MMPToledo.com

Bob Schwerdt has informed me that the name of the organizer of the International Committee for the study of perfins of Bosnia and Herzegovina mentioned in the November/December 2014 *Perfins Bulletin* (Page 115) is **Arne Toklum**. The name had been misspelled.

The US Catalog Chair Can Use Your Help

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

Some questions regarding specific patterns arose during the final assembly and proofreading of A&C#4 last summer. Several issues had to be deferred for further research and therefore were deferred for inclusion in the next A&C edition. I began sharing these questions with the members in the previous issue of *The Perfins Bulletin*. (See Page 103 in the November/December 2014 issue.) Here are three more questions. I would very much appreciate hearing from members and seeing documentation that you have to help resolve these questions. There are opportunities here for many members with various backgrounds and various collection interests to participate.

The first question involves the primary user of perfin **F056**. Most likely, it is Fiske & Company as listed in the 1998 edition of *The Catalog of United States Perfins* (US Perfins Catalog). However, there was some confusion about this identification in the A&C sets. I would like to see covers documenting the user of this perfin.

The second question is a minor issue and should be an easy one to resolve. Pattern **B250** has been identified as belonging to Blanchard Young & Company in Providence, RI. It is likely that "Blanchard" is a last name, not first name, indicating that a comma or dash is appropriate. On the Internet, one can quickly observe different punctuation variations. I would like to see covers from

Providence during the perfin usage period (1902-26) to determine the correct punctuation.

The third question involves the proper users of the perfins **D143** and **Z004**; I think this one could be a lot of fun to research. The US Perfins Catalog currently lists Polish Daily Zgoda as the primary user of pattern D143 (from 1912-26). Note that the name was changed from Polish Daily Weekly Zgoda in an A&C set; the two adjectives in the name didn't make much sense and documentation exists supporting the revised, shortened user name. The user identification of pattern Z4 is a bit more complicated. The user is listed as Zwiack Narodony Polski and a supplemental note indicates that it is a newspaper. Is it? The supplemental section now also lists "The Polish National Alliance of the United States of North America". Did they print the newspaper? I would like to have a better understanding of these organizations and their business relationships. I would like to see covers documenting the use of these perfins.

Those are the three questions for this month! I look forward to hearing from you and seeing some solid, physical documentation from covers that can be used to update our catalog information. If you send electronic scans of covers (preferred), then please use .tiff or .jpg file structures at 300dpi. My contact information is listed on page 2. Thank you for your assistance!

World Stamp Show NY 2016

Jerry Hejduk (LM#3710)

Once every ten years the World Stamp Show is held in the United States. The last such show was at the Washington D.C. Convention Center in 2006. The show's next visit to the U.S. is scheduled from May 28 through June 4, 2016, at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York, NY.

It should be noteworthy to Perfins Club members that The Perfins Club has purchased Society Booth space that is adjacent to similar space purchased by

the Precancel Stamp Society for the seven day international show. I have volunteered to staff the Booth for the full seven days of the show and will be seeking additional volunteers for 2-3 hour intervals throughout the show. Mark your calendars to record this future happening and raise your hand when you know that you will be attending the show, particularly if you find that you have a few hours to volunteer to help staff the booth.

Who Used Pattern J35 (continued)

town cancels, other strips or even covers that show a user for the J35 pattern. Please send me any evidence that you have to prove or disprove this user identification and it will be gathered and forwarded to the US Catalog Chairman for his study. Please let us know so that any of these found may be shown in

the *Perfins Bulletin* and that there is no doubt as to whether a change in the user becomes necessary.

In conclusion, it is possible that an error in identification crept in when the 1966 catalog was first put together and has never been corrected. Bob can be contacted at 10 Clarridge Circle, Milford, MA, 01757-1371 or at perfinman@comcast.net.

Elliott Addressing Machine Company

Doug Cutler (LM#126)

The letters HPE of pattern **H160** as shown in the *Catalog of United States Perfins* probably stand for Harmon P. Elliott, the son of Sterling Elliott who founded the Elliott Addressing Machine Company.

Sterling Elliott was an inventor all his life. Both his resume and legacy are prolific, but are filled more with practicality than superstar innovations. Despite being lesser known than some of his innovative Cambridge peers, Sterling Elliott's ideas made a clear impact during his lifetime and ever since.

Born and raised in Michigan, Elliott grew up living a farmer's life. He wanted a change, however, and as a young man packed his belongings and walked to the nearest city, Grand Rapids. He worked on the railroads, gained a knowledge of mechanics, was granted his first patent at age 22, and in 1882 decided to move to Boston and open his own machine shop.

Elliott's shop was in Watertown, Massachusetts, and he was successful enough to also spend time on his greatest passion: bicycles. Next to his machine shop he maintained a bicycle factory, and from 1885 to 1896 Elliott focused on all things cycling. Some of his earliest patents were for a tricycle, a new type of brake for his velocipede, and different wheel tires and rims. He was even able to connect his cycling expertise to horse-racing and invent a new type of low-wheeled sulky that allowed trotting horses to race faster than ever before. Elliott rose to become the President of the League of American Wheelmen and Chairman of the Committee that controlled Bicycle Racing. In his spare time, he began publishing "The Bicycling World," which at its peak had a weekly readership of 112,000. It was this passion for cycling and his magazine publishing which allowed Sterling Elliott to develop the invention that he is perhaps most famous for: the Elliott Addressing Machine.

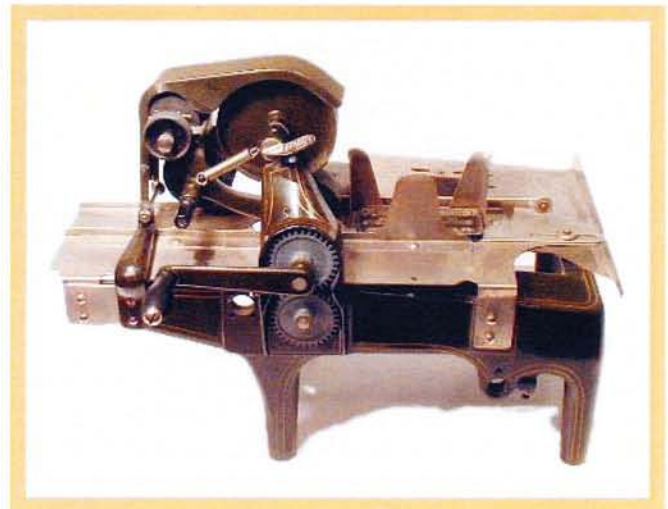
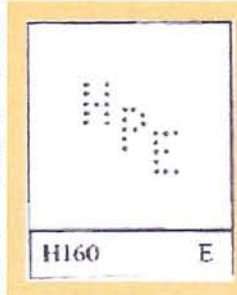
In 1886, Elliott sold his bicycle factory to the Stanley Brothers, themselves mechanical wizards who invented the first steam-powered automobile, but he maintained "The Bicycling World." With so many readers, Elliott recognized the need for a more efficient means of addressing labels for mailing. He went to New York City to buy the top of the line addressing machine on the market, and after shopping, realized that he could make a better one himself. He began experimenting in 1898 and ultimately devised a machine which cut addresses onto fiber cards using a standard typewriter or a

stenciling machine and then printed the labels by forcing ink through the stencil cards.

Elliott first began to market his machine in 1900, and his innovation paid off. Elliott's addressing machine (See photo, below.) was superior to the competition, advertisements argued, in 17 ways, most notably in a more efficient overall performance and Elliott's stencils were more durable than any other on the market. In 1909 Sterling hired his only son, Harmon, to become his partner in the Elliott Addressing Machine Company, and two years later they moved their factory to 143 Albany Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Together, father and son improved upon the addressing machine for more than a decade, continued to invent new products with a variety of uses, and held nearly 200 patents. Even the United States government turned to Cambridge when in need of addressing solutions on a massive scale.

Harmon went on to run the Elliott Addressing Machine Company after his father's death in 1922 and continued to improve and speed up the addressing business. When he retired in 1959,



Harmon sold the company to Bessemer Securities of New York. He negotiated the sale to maintain the factory in Cambridge and retain current employees, while Bessemer went on to invest millions of dollars in modernizations to the factory. The factory, however, was never again to be as productive as it was for the Elliotts, and Bessemer Securities sold the Elliott Addressing Machine Company to Dymo Industries which included a relocation to Randolph, Massachusetts, and a name change to Elliott

Continued on Page 13

Elliott Addressing Machine Company (continued)

Business Machines. By 1973 the name Elliott was entirely erased and replaced with Dymo Business Systems. The business was to change hands several more times in its final decade, but ultimately the factory was closed in 1987.

Sterling, and later Harmon, Elliott was a prolific inventor who revolutionized a number of lesser-known industries. He held patents for tricycles, brakes, bicycle holders, sewing machines, tires, ball bearings, steam boilers, stencil cutting machines, and glue—just to name a few. While his machines have since become obsolete, during their time they were the height of invention and innovation. Elliott's

creations even led to the earliest forms of some of today's modern conveniences. For example, the first charge accounts used Elliott's addressing system to mark the cards which registered a customer's account. Ahead of his time and a brilliant problem-solver, Sterling Elliott is one of the innovative giants of Cambridge's industrious past.

Sources:

The American Digest of Business Machines, 1924
Elliott, Harmon.

"The Story of a Father and Son or Unscrewing the Inscrutable", *The Elliott Addressing Machine Co.* Massachusetts, 1941

We Need a Special Volunteer

Jerry Hejduk (LM#3710) & Joe Coulbourne (#2574)

On January 1, the Perfins Club opened a search for a Club Representative to the American Philatelic Society (APS). The position requires that the Perfins Club member be an active member of the APS with an interest in attending both the three day AmeriStamp Expo and the four day Summer StampShow annually. The Club Representative, or his/her designee, will

staff a Society Booth at the meetings and present an introductory seminar on collecting perfins. Perfins Club members who have a background in similar activities and a sincere interest in the position are invited to contact Joe Coulbourne, Perfins Club President. His contact information can be found on Page 2.

Florida in the Winter!

Clark Buchi (LM#4028)

Considering the weather we have been experiencing in Tennessee lately, I'm already looking forward to a Florida vacation in mid-winter. And I already have one marked on my calendar.

Pictured at right is the information on the Florida Precancel Bourse and Perfins Xchange which will be held in Tampa in February, 2015.

Make your reservations now for a pleasurable Florida vacation complete with perfins and precancels ... and lots of great fellowship.

There will be programs and activities for the ladies, as well, most of whom definitely do NOT collect perfins.

A special discounted room rate is available while attending this event. See the details at right and reserve your room as soon as possible.

See you there!!!

You Are Invited To

The Florida Precancel Club
Precancel Bourse and Perfins Xchange
February 11-14, 2015



Holiday Inn Express & Suites
4750 North Dale Mabry Highway
Tampa FL 33614-6509

For hotel reservations call (813) 877-6061
Request "Florida Precancel" rate of \$89.99

For additional meeting information
Call Jerry Hejduk at (352) 326-2117 or write/email
P. O. Box 490450, Leesburg FL 34749-0450
jprepers@comcast.net

Private Auctions Update

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

After 12 years and 54 auctions, I thought that I might get a break this year because it looked like by January or February, perfin material from the estates and other long time collectors who have given up collecting for various reasons had dried up. But this was not to be!

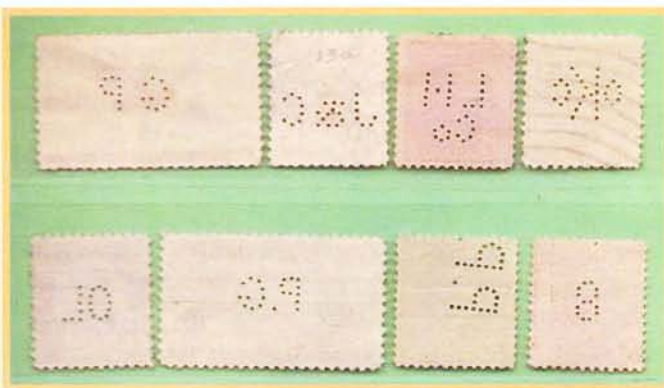
"Out of the woodwork" and just arrived is a 60 lb. box of perfin material. Although containing world-wide perfin material, its strength lies in the United States. This was a "hidden" collection that absolutely no one was aware was out there! Best guess is around 6000 different patterns including many interesting ones that will have the catalog chairman scrambling with numerous changes and updates for a future edition of the A&C pages. See the scans (below) with some of the newly come to light perfins! Take a look at these and try to find them in your *Catalog United States Perfins*. Some are ones in the catalog that had not been reported in any census until now. Some are new patterns. All will be offered in the upcoming auctions! Good luck!

I have always filled want lists from these estate collections for members on a first come, first served basis on all US material rated from "B" through "F", while saving the "A" and "B+" rated for individual auction. For anyone trying to fill any kind of want

list, now is the time! Previously, I have filled want lists at 10¢ for "E" & "F" rated; 25¢ for "D" rated; 50¢ for "D+" rated; \$2.00 for "C" rated; \$4.00 for "C+" rated and \$16.00 for "B" rated. However, because there is so very much material, if you buy three of any rating, the fourth of the same rating will be absolutely free! If you do not qualify for this deal, you will still receive 10% off the listed rates on your entire purchase. All perfins are complete copies. This is a one-time offer that ends February 28th, 2015, so please submit your list prior to that date to qualify. E-mail (perfinman@comcast.net), mail to 10 Clarridge Circle Milford, MA 01757-1371 or call (508-478-7303) Bob Szymanski with your want lists.

If you collect foreign perfins or are looking for the better rated US perfins, please let me know, and I will include you on the bidders lists for the auctions. Don't miss out on a great opportunity to fill those missing perfin holes in your collection!

Author's note: You may read this last sentence in different a manner than was intended. No, I do not have "freps" for sale. These are the round pieces of a stamp left behind when a stamp is perfined so that you won't be able to refill the holes in your perfins!



Scans as noted above.
Obverse and reverse.

Member Want Ads

Want ads are published for members on a space-available basis at the following rates: one insertion - 10 cents per word; three consecutive insertions of the same ad - 20 cents per word. **Members are entitled to one free ad per year.** Neither the Perfins Club nor the Editor accepts responsibility for the validity of the ads. Payment for the ads should be sent to the Editor or by PayPal to perfin@charter.net with prior notification to the Treasurer and Editor.

Wanted: 1950 California Statehood Issue (Scott #997) with perfins (on or off cover).
Contact: Hideo Yokota, 10 Anita Court, Belmont, CA 94002-2012. **Email:** hryokota@hotmail.com

Wanted: Perfins and/or perfin covers with a Cleveland, Ohio, connection. Contact: Joe Giampietro. See contact information under Auction Manager on Page 2.

Deletion of Perfin Number 15.5

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

The effort to distinguish patterns **Number 15** and **Number 15.5** (2-15) as shown in the *Catalog of United States Perfins* (US Perfins Catalog) has long befuddled collectors. Personally, I have used the horizontal measurement of the patterns and of the letters within the patterns to try to determine which one I am looking at. Bob Schwerdt recently shared with me the distinguishing characteristic he has used:



Figure 1
Number 15 and
Number 15.5
in a single stamp

the straight serif line in pattern Number 15 versus the arched serif in pattern Number 15.5. The effort to distinguish the patterns can be worthwhile, since Number 15 is rated E and Number 15.5 is rated A. Well, pattern Number 15.5 is going to be deleted in A&C#5. As shown at left, Bob

Schwerdt has recently found both patterns in a commemorative stamp, Scott 853 celebrating the New York World's Fair. (Note the straight serif on the left pattern and the arched serif on the right pattern.)

As if this were not enough proof, just today I found the block of six (in Scott 698, the 20 cent Golden Gate issue). Notice that the two vertical stamps on the left are pattern Number 15;

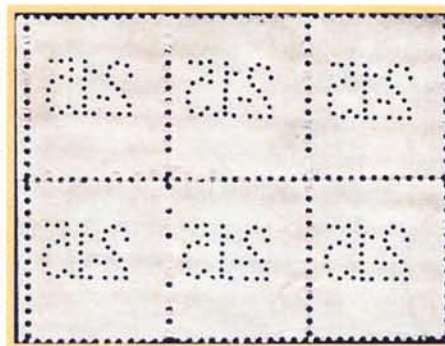


Figure 2
Number 15,
Number 15.5 and a minor variety in a
block of six

the two vertical stamps in the middle of the block are Number 15.5, and the two stamps on the right are another minor variety wherein the serif curves slightly up towards the number 5. There are other tiny differences as well. These are, then, very well documented die varieties from a multi-head device.

In conclusion: In A&C#5, pattern Number 15.5 will be deleted and the "y" code will be added to a supplemental note for Number 15, indicating variations exist.

Pattern S202 - J.H.C. Petersen's Sons' Store

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

Here are two strips that continue the story of the use of pattern number **S202** (S[OPN]S) as listed in the *Catalog of United States Perfins*. Shamelessly, quoting excerpts from Wikipedia, I have discovered that the real identification is spelled as listed in this heading (J.H.C. Petersen's Sons' Store) necessitating



a change in the spelling of the primary user as was listed in A&C #1. This is a very minor change but it always nice to send the US Catalog Chairman anything that helps identify or correct information that is currently listed.

More interesting is the story of this user, founded in 1872 as both a wholesale and retail dry goods

store. Being quite successful in business, J.H.C. Petersen decided to build what is now known as the Redstone Building in Davenport, Iowa in 1892. Their business was consolidated with the Harned and Von Maur Company in 1916 but continued operations under their name until 1928. These two strips (making the "Petersen-Harned-Von Maur" name a possibility for a later and alternative user) shown with this article are postmarked in 1934 and 1935 and prove that the name was changed. Interestingly, the company is still in operation but is now known under the Von Maur name with 30 stores in 14 primarily Midwestern states.

The beautiful J.H.C. Petersen building in Davenport is on the National Register of Historic Places and still stands reminding all of its former glory days. Check out the building pictures on the Wikipedia site! This building is still occupied having several retail stores and offices, however, it is most noted for the "River Music Experience" - a non-profit organization focused on jazz and blues music inspired by the Mississippi river.

Prices Realized—Auction #140

(October, 2014)

Joe Giampietro (#2968)

Lot Amount	Lot Amount	Lot Amount	Lot Amount	Lot Amount
1 \$ 24.50	27 WD	53 NB	79 NB	105 \$ 2.25
2 NB	28 \$ 3.00	54 \$ 3.25	80 \$ 3.00	106 \$ 1.25
3 \$ 16.00	29 \$ 3.25	55 \$ 3.25	81 \$ 3.00	107 \$ 1.25
4 \$ 3.00	30 \$ 8.00	56 \$ 3.00	82 NB	108 \$ 1.00
5 NB	31 \$ 15.50	57 \$ 3.25	83 NB	109 \$ 1.00
6 \$ 16.00	32 NB	58 \$ 3.25	84 NB	110 \$ 1.00
7 \$ 16.00	33 \$ 3.00	59 NB	85 NB	111 \$ 2.00
8 NB	34 NB	60 \$ 4.00	86 NB	112 \$ 2.00
9 NB	35 \$ 16.00	61 NB	87 NB	113 \$ 2.50
10 \$ 16.00	36 NB	62 \$ 3.25	88 \$ 2.25	114 \$ 2.00
11 \$ 16.00	37 \$ 3.00	63 \$ 3.25	89 \$ 2.25	115 \$ 2.25
12 \$ 3.25	38 \$ 3.00	64 NB	90 \$ 2.25	116 \$ 2.25
13 \$ 8.00	39 NB	65 \$ 3.25	91 NB	117 \$ 2.25
14 \$ 16.00	40 NB	66 NB	92 NB	118 \$ 2.00
15 \$ 3.00	41 \$ 3.25	67 NB	93 \$ 2.00	119 \$ 41.00
16 NB	42 \$ 3.00	68 \$ 3.00	94 \$ 2.00	120 \$ 5.50
17 \$ 3.00	43 NB	69 \$ 8.00	95 \$ 3.00	121 \$ 10.50
18 \$ 8.00	44 \$ 3.00	70 \$ 16.00	96 \$ 7.00	122 \$ 10.50
19 \$ 8.00	45 \$ 3.00	71 \$ 3.00	97 \$ 3.00	123 \$ 10.50
20 NB	46 \$ 16.00	72 \$ 3.00	98 \$ 3.00	124 \$ 21.00
21 \$ 4.00	47 WD	73 NB	99 \$ 2.25	125 NB
22 \$ 3.00	48 \$ 30.00	74 NB	100 \$ 2.50	126 NB
23 \$ 3.00	49 \$ 3.25	75 NB	101 NB	127 \$ 8.50
24 \$ 3.00	50 \$ 3.25	76 NB	102 \$ 1.00	128 \$ 26.00
25 \$ 3.00	51 \$ 3.00	77 \$ 8.00	103 \$ 1.25	129 \$ 105.00
26 \$ 15.00	52 NB	78 \$ 3.00	104 NB	

Review of a New French Perfins Catalog

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

New French Perfins Catalog -

Publisher: Ancoper

Title: *Timbres Perforés France* (4th edition)

Periodically, enough new information comes to light from various collectors to encourage a catalog editor to undertake the time consuming task of producing a new edition. As a result, a new French perfins catalog *Timbres Perforés France* - the 4th edition of the ANCOPER - has been produced and is available from our Publication Chairman, Dave

Lightle, as of September, 2014. Please call or e-mail Dave (His contact information is on Page 2) as to the availability and cost for this catalog. It is important to note that the catalog is in both French and English and is easy to use.

I reviewed the 3rd edition in 2006 and wondered how any improvements or enhancements might be incorporated into the 4th edition. The 3rd edition is a most colorful and aesthetically pleasing catalog, but the 4th edition is even more colorful - a veritable "coffee table book".

Continued on Page 19

Perfins Club Auction #142 Closes February 28, 2015

Guidelines: A minimum bid of \$2.00 applies to every individual lot except as follows: U.S. "B", "B+", and "A" rated patterns, minimum bids for which will be \$6.00, \$18.00, and \$30.00, respectively, and single U.S. "C" rated perfins, minimum bids for which will be \$1.00. Lots will be sold to the highest bidder at the following advances over the next highest bidder \$2-\$5 – a \$0.25 advance; \$5-\$20 – a \$0.50 advance; a \$20-\$100 – a \$1.00 advance; \$101 or higher a \$5.00 advance. No

unlimited bids accepted. The earlier postmark or email date, will prevail in tie bids All single perfins are complete and in good condition, unless otherwise noted. Straight edges are not considered to be defects. All lots except large lots or mixtures with the exception of gross miscounts.

Bid by lot #. Please put your mailing address and email address {if have} on your bid sheet.

Note: Material for our Club Auctions is getting low! Please see if you have some items to include.

Send all bids to: Joe Giampietro, 6478 State Road, G-10, Parma, OH 44134-4166 – USA
Email: mo13jo@aol.com

Abbreviations used:

ADD – All Different Designs
DDF – Design Different Face
MDF - Mostly Different Face

PREPER – Precancelled Perfin
SE – Straight edge(s)
(?h) - Number of missing pins

Scott #s are used. The pattern numbers and ratings for U.S. perfins are from the 1998 *Catalog of United States Perfins*, including A&C#1, #2, #3 and #4.

Lot	Country	Description	Rate	Lot	Country	Description	Rate	Lot	Country	Description	Rate
1	US	A112 (1h)	B	18	US	J10/332	C+	33	US	P186/634	B
2	US	A221-1c	B+	19	US	J57/375	C+			1h on margin	
		2h on edge		20	US	J96.2/901	C+	34	US	R12 (se)	B
3	US	A253	B			block of 4		35	US	R32 (1h)	B
4	US	B100A/333	B+	21	US	J152/556	C+	36	US	R118.5	B
5	US	C31.5AP/1581	C	22	US	K54.5	B			on margin	
		MNH		23	US	L13.5/425	B+	37	US	S2.1A/807	B
6	US	C188.5 (11h)	B			pulled perfs.		38	US	S2.19/634	C+
7	US	C356.12/901	C+	24	US	L21A/583	C+	39	US	S298	C+
8	US	E55.5P/940	C	25	US	L97/555	C+	40	US	S306	C+
9	US	E123/C11	C	26	US	L97/567	C+	41	US	T9	C+
10	US	F19	C+	27	US	M89/375	C+	42	US	T20	C+
11	US	G53	C+	28	US	M127/499	B+	43	US	T46/720	C+
12	US	G172/573	F			pulled perfs.				rough perfs	
13	US	H116/300	C+	29	US	M183.5	B	44	US	T79	B
14	US	I43.7A-24A	C+			pulled perfs.				se on edge	
		on/562		30	US	M271/332	C+	45	US	T99	C+
15	US	I43.7B2/642	D+			2h-se		46	US	U82-7/698	C+
16	US	I84/707	C+	31	US	M282/499(1h)	C+	47	US	U82-11/638	C+
17	US	I91.11/398	D	32	US	M301A/406	B			LLCorner off	
		Pan. Pac. Expo									

Continued on Page 18

Perfins Club Auction #142 (cont.)

Lot	Country	Description	Rate	Lot	Country	Description	Rate	Lot	Country	Description	Rate
48	US	Des46/1811	D	65	US	Q1/720	C	Rail Roads			
	MNH Pr.	Des.Tete-Beche	D	66	US	R44/405	C				
	C	Rates		67	US	U24	C	81	US	S216- 9 dif.	F
49	US	A42 (on edge)	C	68	US	U98/807	C	82	US	U59- 11 Dif.	F
50	US	A194/566	C	69	US	W170/806	C	83	US	20 Dif.	D-F
51	US	C114/805	C	Personal Punches				84	US	Preps-4 Dif.	
52	US	C429/514	C					70	US	C31.5AP/1811	C
53	US	E137/700	C	71	US	H11.5P/1814 NH	C	85	US	Comm. Mix	23
54	US	G28/888	C	72	US	J55.7P/1225	E	86	US	Spec. Del. Mix	29
		not punched thru				coil MNH		87	US	Air & 1 PP Mix	11
55	US	G190	C	73	US	L72.5P/1811 NH	C	88	US	Damage 1oz	
56	US	H150	C	74	US	S109.51P/1811	C	89	US	Deleted 4	
57	US	H164/400A	C			MNH		Foreign			
	Pan	Pacific Expo		75	US	Des56P/E21	C	90	GB	Machins-100	
58	US	J34/807	C	76	US	Des53P/1811 NH	C	91	Aussie	Territory-50	
59	US	K34 (face scrape)	C	77	US	B33,E55.5P,070.5	C-E	92	Australia	Comm.-150	
60	US	L162	C			Des53P Block of 4		93	1992	American Sec.	
61	US	L190/815	C	78	US	A215.5P,A233.5P	D			Perfin Cat. 100 + stamps	
62	US	N59 (1h)	C			And A233.78P		94	Perf. China	1991 - CSS	
63	US	N108/567 (1h)	C	79	US	6 personals	D-E	95	Germany	625 + misc.	
64	US	N113C9/640	C							Heavy Stock Book 13 lbs.	



Lot #96
G184 on cover

Lot #97
G184 on cover

Lot #98
F95 on cover

All three postmarked
Minneapolis, Minn.
Sent to the same addressee:
George A. Totten, Jr.
County Treasurer

Good Luck with Your Bids!!

Secretary's Report

Ken Rehfeld (#3394)

Re-instated:

#3979 Will Bobbin
#3899 Joseph Cerreto
#3670 Kenneth Chotiner
#3824 Robert Garrity
#3889 Phil Nodder
#3940 James Sands
#4041 Gene Steward
#3254 Robert Stoldal
#3346 Richard Vetter

New Member:

#4074 Jeffrey Minch
8 Shakespeare Rd
Nashua, NH 03062-2431
jeffrey.minch@gmail.com
Intermediate, Denmark
Web

#4075 Donald Lee
101 Laymon Rd.
Swan Lake, NY 12783-5701
donlee1955@hotmail.com
Beginner, U.S.
Web

Welcome Back:

#863 Louis Caprario
91 Fairview Ave
West Orange, NJ 07052-2611
lcaprario@aol.com
Advanced

Address Change:

LM#9 Chris Carr
36 Holton Mount
Holton-Le-Clay
Grimsby
England DN36 5EQ

#3579 Duane Spidle
1022 Lutheran Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80915-2571
duane.spidle@gmail.com

Resigned:

#1013 Fernand Arndt

Closed Album:

#4021 Michael Millar

Membership

438

Review of a New French Perfin Catalog (continued)

Instead of enumerating several large lists of perfined precancels, perfins found with advertising selva, postal stationary and parcel post perfins as was done in the 3rd edition, several graphs now provided this information making for a method of easier reference and understanding of the scope of their use.

Perfins that have fiscal use only are removed from the main catalog section and appear at the end in a Fiscal/Notary & Fiscal/Notary on Piece section. This effectively makes for two catalogs in one and allows

those postal purist collectors not to be bothered with revenue use and vice versa while giving all the information to the general French perfin collectors.

New patterns have been added making a French collection of 3100 patterns the new goal! That is an increase of 100 patterns! Or, put another way, this is an additional 3% in the pattern total in the past 8 years! It is true that every catalog is indeed a work in progress. This one has progressed nicely!

All in all, a great job and well worth adding to your library!

Happy New Year—2015!!!

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

Periodicals



LM 111
 Paul A. Mistretta
 4148 Commodore Dr
 Atlanta, GA 30341-1533

Dues

> MAKE THE CHECK OUT TO "**THE PERFINS CLUB**" << Do not make the check payable to the Ken Rehfeld. Then send it to me, Ken Rehfeld, P.O. Box 125, Spokane Valley, WA 99016-0125 USA.

You may also pay your dues via PayPal to: perfin@charter.net. In the information line, please make sure you indicate this is for dues and give your

member number so we can correctly mark you paid.

We will also be asking Life Members for confirmation. Please return this to Ken Rehfeld or send him email at kenrehfeld@comcast.net. Life Members who wish to receive the Bulletin by first class mail should send payment before the end of July—US is \$5, Canada \$7, Foreign \$10. Thanks!

Item	U.S.	Canada	Other Non-U.S.
Annual Dues	US\$15	US\$18	US\$25
For First Class Mail, including Life Members, add	US\$5	US\$7	US\$10

Life Memberships are available as shown below. No dues to pay again! Contact Ken Rehfeld if interested.

Age	U.S.	Canada	Other Non-U.S.
54 years or less	US\$375	US\$450	US\$625
55 through 69 years	US\$300	US\$360	US\$500
70 years +	US\$225	US\$270	US\$375

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