

The Bulletin

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March/April 2017

- Schermacks – 2014 Census – part 1
- Louisville Perfins
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- Jersey Reply Coupon
- eBay items of Interest
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Club Information

Club Convention Coming Up

August 7-12, 2017 – be there or be square, as we used to say. It is NOT too early to get your room reserved for as long as you care to stay.

Lots of dealers of both precanceled or perfined stamps and covers; lots of old and new friends!; lots of stamp talk and learning; but mostly, lots of just plain old-fashioned fun!

Make your plans and reservations (see last page) now. As noted on last page reservations in the block of rooms being held for persons attending the Convention - at the Convention rate – must be made by July 23 (seems a long way off - but not really!)

Nominees Sought

It is time again to open nominations for positions on the Executive Board of the Club. This year both the position of President and that of Director-at-Large (Doug Turner's seat) are up for election. A Nominating Committee has been formed with Paul Mistretta (Chair), Duane Spidle and Doug Turner (note Doug who is currently a Director-at-Large completes his second consecutive term in that position at the end of December and will vacate the position at that time.)

Per the Club's bylaws, any member in good standing may self-nominate or (with their concurrence) be nominated to act in either of these positions.

To nominate someone or to self nominate contact any of the three members of the Committee; addresses (email and snail mail) for Paul and Doug are found on page 22 in this *Bulletin*, those for Duane are 1022 Lutheran Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80915-2571 or duane.spidle@gmail.com.

Nominations will close at midnight April 30, 2017. Only nominations postmarked or email date stamped on or prior to that time will be accepted.

Cover data needed

Do you have covers with postmarked perfins? Please check the online listings at www.perfins.org/perfins to see if you have any new information for the database. We now have 5,500 EKU and LKU dates listed, which leaves plenty of more to be determined. This information will be included in the upcoming edition of the US Perfins Catalog so if you have information not shown on the website - or a cover confirmed date either older than the EKU or more recent than the LKU shown on the website – PLEASE send it (email or snail mail) to either Steve Endicott or Robert Littrell. Addresses for both men are on p. 22 of this *Bulletin* under President or Cover Sales Manager).

Amendment to the Club's Constitution is Accepted

The amendment to our Club Constitution, which was published in the November-December 2016 issue of the *Bulletin*, was approved by 70% majority of those members who voted. The Executive Board appreciates your support. Thank you.

**The *Perfins Bulletin* is the official journal of
The Perfins Club - Founded 1943
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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 Non-U.S. Dues may be mailed to the Secretary listed above or by PayPal to perfin@charter.net. Since the Club is on a July 1 to June 30 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; or 1st Class for an additional postage charge. Applications are available at www.perfins.org or from the Secretary listed above.

**Submit *Bulletin* articles, news, or advertisements to:
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The 2014 Schermack Control Perforation Census - Part I

Curt McCoy (#3962)

The following article is the first of six articles previously published in the *United States Specialist* which document information derived from a census of Schermack control perfins conducted by Curt McCoy in 2013. Results of that census were published in summary form (primarily tables and statistics) in the March/April 2014 issue of *The Perfins Bulletin*

I wish to thank both the United States Stamp Society (USSS) and Curt McCoy for permission to reprint these articles. The USSS maintains an active and very informative website, <http://www.usstamps.org/>. Members who are interested in detailed studies of the issues of the United States should visit this site for information regarding membership in the USSS.

Background

Over the years, there have been several attempts at taking a census of Schermack coil stamps with perforated control marks. The internet age offers us a new opportunity to reach a far broader group of collectors than was ever possible before, which will hopefully give us a better picture of the use of these control markings.

Before a discussion of the Schermacks with perforated control mark census can begin, we

must examine a little history concerning how they actually came to be in existence. The first Schermack Mailing Machine (Figure 1) was built in 1907 by Joseph Schermack, in Detroit. Several hole design types were tried, until an employee named Grover Cleveand (no not *that* Grover Cleveland!) made the first die for the "hyphen-hole" slots in January, 1908. Two slots 4 .75 mm high by 1.25 mm wide spaced 3.25 mm apart were punched between each pair of [imperforate coil] stamps.

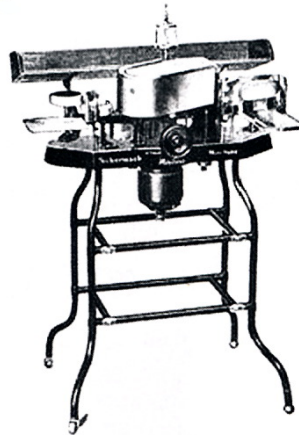


Figure 1. Schermack Mailing Machine (ca. 1909); cost, \$350 FOB Detroit, Michigan.

The slots, commonly called Schermack Type III perforations, remained in use for the next 20 years. Though called perforations, they were not

actually used to separate the stamps. Inside the Schermack Mailing Machine, the slots were used as locators by four metal "fingers" spaced 6.1 mm

apart that advanced the stamp to the proper location where it was *cut* from the coil, then moistened and affixed to a piece of mail.¹ The Schermack Mailing Machine eventually was

affixing stamps and sealing envelopes at a rate of up to 250 per minute, using these proprietary stamp coils, made and sold by The Schermack Mailing Machine Co. (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Schermack test coils with Type III perforations.

Early Schermack stamp coils were produced from government-issued imperforate sheets of 400 stamps. Initially, the sheets were perforated and then stripped into rows of 20 stamps. The rows were then pasted together to form longer ribbons of stamps. By mid 1908, rapid business expansion called for a more efficient method of perforating and coiling. With the new method, 150 full sheets of imperforates were pasted together, making a long, conveyer like, belt of stamps. Next, one row at a time, the belt of stamps went through the perforator. This same machine also stripped and rolled the stamps, gum side out, into coils of 3000 stamps. The process continued until all 20-sheet rows, 60,000 stamps, were made into coils. All this was provided for an additional charge of only 50¢ over stamp face value per coil!²

Postal regulations of the day required that the imperforate stamps be sold only in full sheets of 400, and that they be purchased from the Post Office where they would ultimately be mailed. This created a logistical problem for the Schermack Company. Stamps for Chicago customers had to be purchased in Chicago, and then shipped to Detroit to be perforated and coiled. Then the coils were sent back to their customers in Chicago. To accommodate the rapidly expanding Chicago market, a branch office was opened in Chicago during 1908; complete with a perforating machine it made the coils.³

In 1909, the Company was still looking for expanded markets. They also were trying to convince the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to change the perforations on issued stamps so that they would work in the Schermack Machines. The goal was to get the company out of the perforating

and coiling business, leaving them to concentrate on their core business, the manufacture of Schermack Mailing Machines.

Disagreement over philosophies between the company leaders and Joseph Schermack caused Schermack ultimately to leave the company in the spring of 1909. Soon afterwards, the company changed its name to The Mailometer Company; same business, same mailing machines, same perforated stamps - just a new name on the front door.

For the rest of 1909, The Mailometer Company experimented with different hole styles, still hoping to get the Bureau's commitment to perforate stamps suitable for use in their Mailing Machines. If they were successful, logistics would no longer be a problem and it would open up the entire country as a market for their machines. All of these efforts proved futile! Though interested, the Bureau couldn't show favoritism to one of the several companies developing different vending and affixing machines.⁴

Thwarted, but still trying to expand, Mailometer set its sights on the large New York market - and met with some initial resistance. A year earlier, in 1908, the Post Office had approved the "personalization" of stamps using perforated initials, commonly called perfins. New York companies had widely adopted perfins, not only for their personalized insignia, but also as a deterrent to employee stamp theft. The Mailometer Company contended that its machines were under lock and key, with each stamp counted, thus having no need for this extra

precaution, but the New York companies stood fast.

Development of Control Perfins

The problem with using a stamp with perfins in the (now) Mailometer Mailing Machine was that the four "locating fingers" could misinterpret the perfin holes and locate the stamp in the wrong place to be cut from the coil roll. That's when a Mailometer employee, Bennett Straight, invented

a device that would apply a control identification mark or perfin, one stamp at a time, after it had already been located and just prior to it being cut from the coil and affixed to an envelope; see Figure 3. In this process, small hole punches would pass through the stamp and into a punches plate in a manner similar to how a sewing machine works. The stamp was then immediately cut from the coil, moistened and affixed to an envelope. All this happened at the speed of 250 stamps per minute.

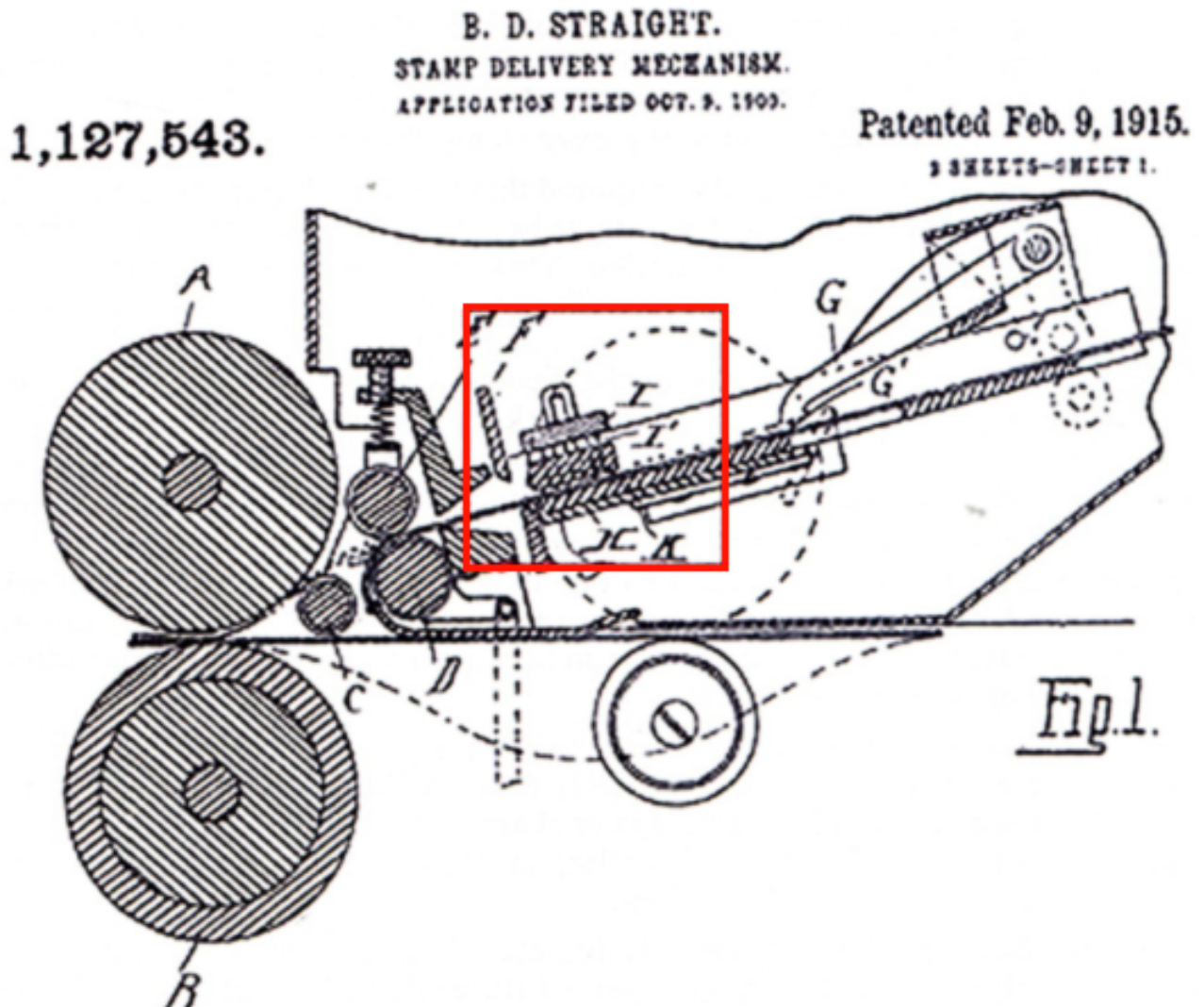


Figure 3. Patent drawing with perfin mechanism located at center (within red box).

A patent was applied for on behalf of The Mailometer Company on October 9, 1909. Patent 1, 12 7,543 was eventually granted on February 9, 1915, almost a full year after the last Mailometer

Mailing Machine applying control perforations was in operation.⁵

Original testing of the control identification mark

process is believed to have been done in New York with a 12-hole open square pattern die. The company ultimately settled on a 9-hole pattern that consisted of three rows of three holes each

(see Figure 4). In either design, by removing different combinations of pins, a unique pattern could be created for each customer.⁶

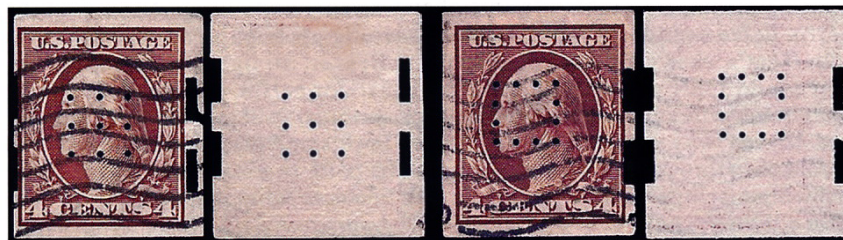


Figure 4. Schermack control perforation patterns - 9-hole at left, 12-hole at right.

Use of Affixing Machines with Control Perforation Capability

Mailometer Mailing Machines, with the new control identification mark in place, fit the bill and the New York companies signed up. By late 1909, a branch office complete with perforator was established in New York to serve the Eastern markets. The optional control identification mark proved so popular in New York that a number of machines were also sold in Detroit and Chicago as well.

By 1909, with perforators running in Detroit, Chicago and New York, The Mailometer Company was perforating between two and three million stamps a month. Their sales brochures claimed to have over 900 satisfied customers. By some estimates, around 10% of those machines were equipped with the control identification

mark die.⁷

In 1910, because of complaints and delays in shipping stamps between Chicago and St. Louis, Mailometer opened their fourth office in St. Louis. But instead of getting a Schermack Type III perforator, like the other three branches used, this office received a Mailometer Type I perforator. This perforator punched six 1.95 mm holes, spaced 1.2 mm apart, and had been previously tested for the Bureau in 1909. Control perfins are known on MOM Type I coils (Figure 5). Later that same year, before the supply of the 1908 Washington-Franklin series stamps was exhausted, this machine was either converted to, or replaced by, a Mailometer Type IV perforator. The Mailometer Type IV perforator made five holes 2.2 mm in diameter, spaced 1.1 mm apart.⁸ No control perfin has been reported on a Type IV stamp.



Figure 5. Pattern 79 on a Mailometer Type I Scott #344.

The final Mailometer perforation should be noted as well. Stamps that had been perforated using a Mailometer Type V, a continuous row of holes 1.8 mm in diameter spaced 1.35 mm apart, were used

for a two month period during 1911 at a few companies - strangely enough, not in St. Louis, but in Detroit (Figure 6). Why was this change made? No one knows. Perhaps the Schermack

Type III perforator in Detroit had broken down, forcing them to use one of their test perforators as a backup; but that is just speculation. Presumably, after the two month period, the Detroit companies

returned to using Schermack Type III perforations as before. Cover data to support this scenario is inconclusive.⁹



Figure 6. Pattern 56 on a Mailometer Type V Scott #384.

Perforated Control Marks

Mailometer, by removing different combinations of pins from either the 12-hole or 9-hole designs, now could create unique patterns for each company requiring this option. Only two exceptions to the 9-hole and 12-hole square basic designs are known, both loosely related to the 9-

hole design. There is an 8-hole diamond shape (Figure 7) that was made exclusively for the California Perfume Company, and there is a 5-hole U-shaped pattern (Figure 7) where⁹ the bottom single hole is located halfway between the normal second and third vertical rows. The user of this pattern is unknown.

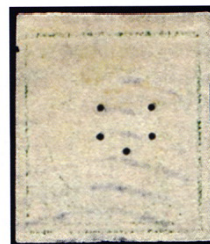
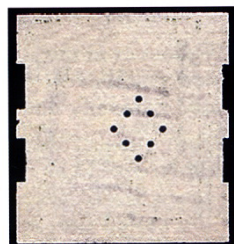


Figure 7. Unusual 8-hole diamond pattern (left) and 5-hole V-shaped pattern (right).

These perforated control marks are known by many names. Mailometer's patent request called them "control identification marks." George Howard initially referred to them as "perforated company control marks," then he shortened that to "PCs." The *Scott Catalogue* refers to them as a "perforated control marks." Some shorten that to just "control marks." Steven Belasco called them "control perforations." Some shorten that to "control perfs." Perfin collectors started referring to them as "Schermack perfins," then "punched control markings on Schermacks," then "Mailometer designs," then back to "Schermack perfins," and now they simply call them "Schermacks." I find myself often using several of these names to describe them.

Stamps with perforated control marks were in use only for a short period of time. As quickly as they burst on the scene in New York, by early 1911 most New York companies had discontinued using them. Some companies in Detroit and Chicago, however, continued using control marks through early 1914, when it appears the practice was abandoned completely.

Companies using the Mailometer Mailing Machines were high volume mailers. Millions of stamps with control perforations were sent through the mail. They were the "junk mail" of the day and most were quickly discarded, finding their way into the potbelly stove or the wood-fired kitchen range. Relatively few remain, and the

census shows that some patterns are much scarcer than others.

During the early 1900s, stamp collectors were keenly interested in the stamps the vending and affixing machine companies were producing. Most of that interest was focused on mint blocks and pairs - so much so that many were frequently made as special request items for collectors and never actually passed through the mail. Some stamp dealers, such as C. H. Mekeel of St. Louis, had price lists established for most known varieties, and they did a brisk business.

Little attention was paid to the stamps that actually had passed through the mail. The earliest information I can find of any interest in Schermacks with perforated control marks appears around 1940, long after most records and documentation had been destroyed. There was no master list of companies showing what control marks had been assigned to which users. Today, the users of some patterns have been assigned only because stamps have been found on cover. Many are still listed with user unknown. What we

do know about Schermacks with perforated control marks was learned through the diligence of those before us - people like George Howard, Lester Littlefield, Ken Lougee, Harry Rickard, Dick Mewhinney, Atholl Glass and Steven Belasco.

Control Mark Identification

In 1944, George P. Howard was an early pioneer in the study of vending and affixing machine stamps. He first suggested a methodology for describing the Schermack Type III stamps with perforated company control marks.

The 9-hole square pattern, from a front view of the stamp with the portrait head in the upright position, would be numbered left to right and top to bottom, #1 through #9 (see Figure 8). To describe the pattern in a given stamp, the missing holes would be called out, smallest number to the largest number. The 12-hole pattern used a similar methodology with each hole being assigned a letter, A through L (See Figure 8).¹⁰

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

A	B	C	D
E			F
G			H
I	J	K	L

Figure 8. Pattern codes for identification of control perfins, 9-hole at left, 12-hole at right.

The 9-hole pattern is designated as control pattern 0 because no holes are missing. If the bottom holes on the right and left sides were both missing, it would be designated a pattern 79, because the #7 and #9 pins [and the holes they would have punched] were missing (see Figure 5).

The 12-hole example shown in Figure 4 is known as the 12-hole open square pattern, as no holes are missing. If, for example, the top-left hole and the second hole down on the right side were missing, it would become pattern AF, because the A and F pins [and the holes they would have punched] would be missing.

Though a relatively simple method of

identification, misidentification is still, to some extent, a problem today.

Other Numbering Schemes

When The Perfins Club was organized in 1943, dedicated to the study of stamps with perforated insignia (perfins), among its members were active early collectors of Schermacks with control perforations. In a 1948 article in *Perfins*, Warren Travell first described patterns on Schermacks, not by the missing holes, but by the holes that were present.¹¹ Then, in 1950, he proposed a numbering scheme similar to Howard's, but instead, his read top to bottom [in each column], left [column] to right (Figure 8).¹²

Nearly 65 years later, I still occasionally see stamps identified using Travell 's scheme - very

confusing!

1	4	7
2	5	8
3	6	9

Figure 9. Travell 's code for identification of 9-hole control perfins.

Perfins collectors like to display their stamps showing the back, since it makes the perfin patterns stand out better. In effect, they show a [vertical] mirror image of the actual pattern. In an issue of *The Perfins Bulletin* from 1952, there actually appeared a translation table, detailing patterns using Howard 's numbering method, but from the back view. Depending on the placement of holes, some patterns could actually be described the same, while others changed drastically. What Howard was describing as 48 became 68, 69 became 47, 2356 became 1245, 34678 became 14689, and so on, using this translation. All of this could have been avoided if they had simply used a mirror image of Howard 's numbering format, with numbers running from right to left.¹³

Later, in 1952, Lester Littlefield of The Perfins Club was again using Howard's method of identifying Schermacks with punched control markings based on a front view.¹⁴ From that point on, The Perfins Club offered Schermacks for sale using Howard 's missing hole description in all of their Club auctions through July, 1979. For over 25 years to that time, almost everyone was speaking the same language when describing a Schermack stamp with control perforations.

But then later in 1979, no doubt with the best of intentions, The Perfins Club added Schermacks to their catalog.¹⁵ Each known perforation control pattern was assigned a unique design number, with little correlation to the previously used methodology. In the *Catalog Of United States Perfins*, the control perforation pattern that had been known as a "48" for over 35 years was described as a "Des 90-19," and a stamp that had been considered a "19" was now "Des 90-11." Another level of confusion was added to an already confusing area of identification.

From this time forward, stamps had to be cross-referenced, back and forth, between two identifications methods. Most perfins collectors were dutifully trying to use their new catalog design number, while other stamp collectors were still using Howard's original missing hole description. Over the 35 years that followed, the two methods created an even wider gap in our collective book of knowledge. The gap was created by the language barrier - they quit talking to each other.

The 2014 Schermack Control Perforation Census

Collectors have been studying Schermacks with control identification marks for more than 70 years. Early on, the lists of control patterns were in a constant state of change as new patterns were reported. Most data were exchanged by the written word. And the changing methods of describing a particular pattern played havoc with early reports.

Surveys were occasionally conducted, and the Perfins Club was known to have conducted surveys among their members in 1968, 1988 and 2000, using the current perfins descriptions of that time. General stamp collectors, still using Howard's missing pin method of description, shared data with each other as well.

The 2014 Schermack Control Perforation Census to be presented here endeavors to bridge that gap and to accumulate data from both perfins collectors and the general stamp collecting community. As technology has improved, so has our ability to report control patterns accurately. Actual images of stamps can be sent back and forth across thousands of miles in mere seconds.

Our ability to do that caught several items that otherwise would have been misreported.

The focus of this Census is not only to recognize scarcity by design patterns, but to go a little bit further and recognize scarcity by Scott numbers as well, hopefully giving us more insight regarding the time line of use by each specific company.

In the spreadsheet data to be presented, both identifications, the Howard numbers and the *Perfin Catalog* numbers, are shown. But in the balance of these articles, I will only use the Howard missing hole identification when describing control patterns.

Table 1. Summary of Census Reports.

Scott #	Denomination	Numbers of examples reported		
		Off-cover	On-cover	Total
#314	1¢	0	1	1
#320	2¢	3	0	3
#343	1¢	689	108	797
#344	2¢	1198	247	1445
#345	3¢	9	1	10
#346	4¢	35	1	36
#383	1¢	132	11	143
#384	2¢	433	48	481
#408	1¢	33	3	36
#409	2¢	152	11	163
Total		2684	431	3115

Every effort was made to collect and record data accurately. When submissions looked suspicious, they were questioned. Some were wrong and were corrected. Others, upon closer examination, proved to be correct and were recorded. Still other errors may be a little more subtle and may still be lurking in the final reports. A watermark may be misread, a common pattern might have been misreported or a Scott number might have been misreported. To our readers: Don't accept the data on blind faith. If something looks out of place, challenge it!

The final Census tallies 3,115 stamps reported with perforated control marks. A brief summary is shown in Table 1. Over the next few issues we will provide the complete Census data by Scott number, hole patterns, users, etc., and make some observations regarding the data.

References

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- 2009, pp. 17- 18.
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7. Ref. 5.
- 8 . Ref. 1, pp. 48-49.
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Louisville Perfins

Edited from materials submitted by Dan Baugher (3825)

Last year in the July/August Bulletin Daniel Fellows (#3364) presented “Portland Perfins” as a prequel to the Perfins Club’s Annual Convention to be held that year in Portland Oregon. At the time he suggested that someone might continue the idea and

prepare a similar note on Louisville, KY perfins prior to the Convention to be held there in 2017. Dan Baugher has risen to that challenge and below is presented the results of his research into the perfins used by companies with offices in Louisville, KY.

Perfin #	Pattern	Year	Company Name	Rate
A197	ACH/HOR	1902-14	Stratton & Terstegge Company	C
A241	AS	1917-26	National Bank of Kentucky	D
B132	BH/HC	1917-54	Belknap Hardware & Manufacturing Company	C
B287	B&S	1902-14	J.B.S Brown & Sons	C+
C023	C(A/O)	1914	Adler Organ	B
C023A	C(A/O)	1908-12		B+
C218	CNB	1912-38	Citizens Union National Bank	D
I043.7B-15	IHC	1908-38	International Harvester Company	D+
J110	JMH	1908-12	J.M Hanson Magazine Agency	B
J110.1	JMH	1908-12	J.M Hanson Magazine Agency	A
L187	L&N/RR	1902-26	Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company	E
L187.5	L&N/RR	1902-14	Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company	E
L188	L&N/RR	1933-68	Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company	E
L188A	L&N/RR	1926-33	Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company	D
L188B	L&N/RR	1926-32	Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company	C+
M015	Lozenge(M)	1902-17	C.C Mengel & Brothers Company	C+
N113Aa-8	NYL	1902-42	New York Life Insurance	D
R130	RS/Co	1908-12	Ross Seed Company	A
S109	SE/MVA	1912-26	Louisville Freight Tariff Bureau F.L. Speinden Agt	C+
S274.5	[ST]	1917-18	Stratton & Terstegge Company	B
S195-31	SO	1917	Standard Oil Company	B
S195-52	SO	1902-38	Standard Oil Company	D+
V002	V-A/Co	1908	Vogt & Applegate Company	B
W098	WH	1908-09	Wiber V. Haynes	B
W225	W&T	1902-14	Wright & Taylor	B

Table 1. Perfins used by companies with offices in Louisville, KY.

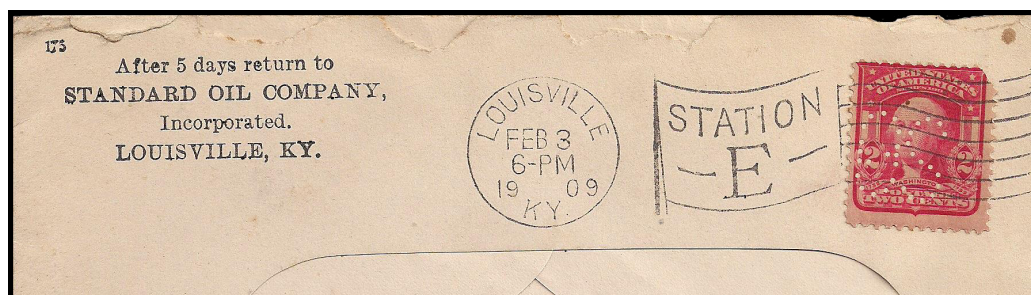


Fig. 1. Cover strip from a cover mailed from the Standard Oil Company’s branch office in Louisville KY franked with a 2¢ carmine Sc#320Ad with perfin S195-31.



Fig. 2. Example of a perfin cover with Louisville, KY cancel

Perfin #	Pattern	Year	Company Name	Primary Location		Supplemental Location	
				City	State	City	State
C360	C(W)	1902-23	P.F. Collier & Son	New York	NY	Louisville	KY
O78	OTIS	1902-18	Otis Elevator Company	San Francisco	CA	Louisville	KY
S155	SIW	1912-49	The Stewart Iron Works Co.	Cincinnati	OH	Covington	KY
U084	US/MT	1917-22	United States Motor Truck Co.	Cincinnati	OH	Covington	KY
W113	WJD	1908-17	W.J. Dixon and Company	New York	NY	Marion	KY
W199-17	WE	1922-40	Western Electric	Chicago	IL	Covington	KY
W199-12	WU	1917-38	Western Union Telegraph Co., Inc	Atlanta	GA	Louisville	KY

Table 2. Additional companies with a supplemental catalog listing reflecting use in Louisville, KY.

Anyone knowing of companies other than these with ties to Louisville, Ky, is asked to help by sending the updating information to either Dan (our Treasurer) or me (your Editor) – email or snail mail addresses found on page 22 of this issue of the *Bulletin*.

References:

- Ottenheimer, A. 1999. Catalog of United States Perfins by Location: A Companion Reference to Catalog of United States Perfins. USA: The Perfins Club; 35.
- Randall, J. M. 1998. Catalog of United States Perfins. The Perfins Club.

Impressive (Scary?) eBay Results

Submitted: Rudy Roy (#1124) – Text: Paul Mistretta (LM#111)

Four items spotted by Rudy Roy give an indication of just how strong the market currently is for the unusual (rare?) perfin items offered for sale (auction

or “Buy now”) on eBay. The prices realized for these lots speak for themselves.

The first item is a 1912 2¢ carmine Canadian Customs Duty stamp (van Dam 920090; cat.

#FCD2) with the perfin of the Boston Music Company (cat. #B11 [Johnson & Thomasson (2012)]). The base stamps catalogs for all of \$.25 used (it is on piece) and the perfin as seen in the illustration is incompletely punched (although this may be an artifact of the resolution of the scan). It is a B rated perfin when found in a Canadian stamp. The item (“Buy it now”) timed out without selling at the \$275. Price tag.



Two items were seen which involved airmail stamps of Columbia issued by the Sociedad Colombo – Alemana de Transportes Aereos (SCADTA; (German) Deutsch-Kolumbianische Luftverkehrsgesellschaft; (English) Colombian-German Air Transport Partnership). For those unfamiliar with SCADTA, it was the world’s second airlines and the first airline in the Americas. (Anon. 2016). SCADTA was organized in December 1919. Beginning in 1921 the airmail stamps of Columbia were issued by SCADTA, an arrangement which ended with World War II. The base stamps for the two items shown are Scott listed; the 30¢ “green” is Sc#C29, an airmail stamp while the 20¢ gray overprinted with the red R is Sc#CF1, an air post registration stamp.

To encourage foreign airmail to Colombia, SCADTA also was allowed to sell its stamps from Colombian embassies and consulates in foreign countries. The stamps were overprinted with one- or two-letter abbreviations identifying the country in which they had been sold. Airmail franked with SCADTA stamps being sent to Columbia was submitted to the Columbian Embassy in the country of origin for transport to Columbia via SCADTA plane.

The single Sc#C29 overprinted “EU” originated in the United States. Described on eBay auction as: “Columbia SCADTA Used | Scott CLEU54 | EU (United States) PERFIN”, the perfin appears to be

ISE which is an unlisted pattern in Schwerdt (1992). This single perforated stamp sold for \$76.55.



The cover with stamps overprinted “F” were posted from the Columbian Embassy in France. As noted above it bears a registration stamp and the requisite etiquette reflecting the fact that the registration fee had been paid. Described as: “France-Colombia – SCADTA Consular registered cover – Mulhouse to Bogota – 1928”, the four SCADTA airmail stamps are perforated. Unfortunately the perfin pattern cannot be determined from the scan available on the web. Despite that fact, the cover sold for \$361.78.



The translation of the overprints (F and EU) was derived from Wood (1982).

And, the final item is from Italy, Sc#100g (listed after Sc#174G). This is a 25 lire stamp with an attached (stamp sized) advertising label. The advertising is for Tagliacozzo Specialty House of Linen Kits? In Rome. The 2015 Scott’s value for this item used is \$1,000, so the sale price of this single perfin,



approximately \$181, might be seen as a bargain.

References:

Anon. 2016. *SCADTA*. Wikipedia accessed Jan 6, 2017 at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SCADTA>.
Johnson, J.; Thomasson, G., eds. 2012. *Canadian Perfins with Perforated Initials*. 5th ed. British North American Philatelic Society; 5.B.3.
Schwerdt, R. J. 1992. *The World Perfins Catalog: American Section*. USA: The Perfins Club; 73-74 [Columbia].

Snee, C., ed. 205. *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*. Vos.2 (C-F) & 3 (G-I). Sidney, OH: Scott Publishing Co.; v.2 p. 504 & 523; v.3 p. 1363.
vanDam, E. S. J. 2009. *The Canadian Revenue Stamp Catalogue*. 2009 edition. Toronto, Canada: The Unitrade Press; 19.
Wood, K. A. 1982. *This is Philately*. Vol.3. Albany, OR: Van Dahl Publications; 674.

Auction #152

Closes April 29, 2017

Guidelines: A minimum bid of \$2.00 applies to every individual lot except as follows: U.S. “B”, “B+”, and “A” rated patterns, for which minimum bids will be \$6.00, \$18.00 and \$30.00 respectively. Lots will be sold to the highest bidder at the following advances over the next highest bidder: \$2-\$5 - a \$0.25 advance; \$5.01-\$20 - a \$0.50 advance; \$20.01-\$100 - a \$1.00 advance; \$101 or higher - a \$5.00 advance. No ‘Unlimited’ bids accepted. In case of tie bids, the earlier postmark or e-mail will prevail. All single perfins are complete and in good condition, unless otherwise noted.

Straight edges are not considered to be defects, just sheet positions. In larger lots, you should expect some faults. All lots are returnable if mis-described; this does not apply to larger lots or mixes, with the exception of gross miscounts. Lots to be prepaid before shipping.

Bid by Lot #.

Please put your address on your bid sheet as this makes it easier for me to notify you after the close of the auction.

Send all bids to: Joe Giampietro, 6478 State Rd., G-10, Parma, OH 44134-4166

Email: mo13jo@aol.com

Abbreviations used:

(cc) creased corner	(k) known	(pp) pulled perf(s)
(cr) creased	(mnh) = mint never hinged	(sc) scrape on vignette
(dam)damaged	(nr) = not rated	(se) straight edge
(?h) number of missing holes	(oe) on edge	

Scott #s are used and die #s from most recent catalogues when available.

Lot	Description	Rate	Note									
1	A92/E11	C+		9	B116-43/707	B+	6h	oe	17	C356.12/807	C+	
2	A112	B	oe	10	B153A/1044	C+			18	E28/642	C	
3	A116.5	C+	1h	11	B261	C			19	E122	C	
4	A131/684	C+	pair	12	C31.3	C	1h	oe	20	F31A/732	B	pp
5	A181/720	C		13	C254	B			21	F84/332	B	cc
6	A216	B		14	C265	C+			22	F118	C	
7	B30	C		15	C324/374	C+	5h		23	F126/701	C	
8	B90.5/2531	B		16	C336	C	se		24	F144	C	

25 F176/720	C			73 M239	C			121 R109	C		
26 G64/332	B	cc		74 M242/1065	B			Lot Description Rate Note			
27 G110A/334	B	cr		Lot Description Rate Note				122 R118.5	B		
Lot Description Rate Note				75 M246/807	C			123 R140	C		
28 H46/406	B			76 M250/807	C+	se		124 R151	C	se	
29 H90	C+	cc		77 M256/807	C			125 R167	B	19kn	
30 H173/901	C			78 M292	B			126 S85/634	C		
31 H228	C			79 M301A	B			127 S101	C	2h	
32 I3/637	C			80 N18/720	C+			128 140	C	se	
33 I98/643	B			81 N104/707	B+	1h oe		129 S253	B		
34 I107	C			82 N136	C	se		130 S267	C	2se	
35 J42	C			83 N146	C			131 T97A/557	B+	1h + 3h-dam	
36 J81	C			84 N202	C			132 W41/506	C+		
37 J125/720	C			85 N204	C	se		133 W103A/425	B	2se cc	
38 K3	C			86 N205/900	C			134 W132/470	B	se	
39 K26/595	C			87 N205.3	C			135 W132/508	B		
40 K51	B			88 O15	B			136 Des 23/405	B	5h	
41 K54/406	B			89 O52	C			137 Des 23/375	B	5h	
42 K62/701	C+			90 O79	C			Prepers			
43 L13	C+	sc		91 O89	C			138 P55.75/557	C	4h oe	
44 L35/425	B			92 O101	C+			Philadelphia			
45 L54//891	C+			93 P11	C			139 P80.2P/1593	B	mnh	
46 L55/332	B	pp		94 P12/901	C	mc		Long Beach			
47 L97/557	C+			95 P24	C			140 P80.3P/1055	C	mnh	
48 L97/588	C+			96 P26/720	C			Long Beach			
49 L97/685	C+			97 P28R/1042A	C			Canal Zone			
50 L60.4	C			98 P80	C			141 P225.5/124	nr		
51 L60.9/421?422	C			99 P80.3P/1595	C			142 P225.5/127	nr		
52 L68/701	C			100 P80.4P/1280	C	mnh		United States			
53 M6/810	C+			101 P80.5P/1614	C	mnh		143 C0.5/1581	C	mnh	
54 M6/811	C+			102 P81	C			12 copies avail – 1/bidder			
55 M11	B			103 P95	C			World Wide			
56 M29	B+			104 P99	C			144 Austria		20	
57 M38/634	B			105 P109	C+			145 Australia		35	
58 M72	C			106 P121.5/825	C			146 Belgium		25	
59 M89	C+			107 P129	C			147 Canada		45	
60 M101	C			108 P134	C			148 France		40	
61 M143/397	B	2h oe		109 P165	C			149 Germany		35	
62 M163/1036	C			110 P182	C			Great Britain			
63 M183/512	C+			111 P185A	C			150 Queen Victoria		7	
64 M187A/634	B			112 P192/720	C			151 Edward VII & VIII		20	
65 M191	C+			113 P256.5	B+			152 George V		40	
66 M193/700	C			114 R7	C	oe		153 George VI		100	
67 M195/610	C			115 R13	C			154 Elizabeth		35	
68 M197.7/698	C			116 R32	B	1h oe		155 Machins		35	
69 M217/375	B			117 R42	B	se		156 Netherlands		14	
70 M231/C26	C+			118 R91	C+			157 World wide		59	
71 M234	C+			119 R96/367	B						
72 M236/634	B			120 R99	C+						

Results of Auction 151A will be published in the next *Bulletin*.

Clubmember Want Ads

Wanted: Perfins of Bosnia & Herzegovina – used copies with complete patterns preferred.

Perfin Scott numbers desired
 C.D. 30, 34, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 46, 48, 50, 52, 53,57, 75, 91, 111
 E.Z. 26, 27, 37, 49, 67, 71, 74, 76, 81
 L.H. 36, 51, 74, 77
 M.K.R. 33, 47, 48, 51, 74, 76,81
 PAKB 44,47, 48, 50, 51, 52, 67, 71, 74, 75 76, 90, 108
 P.L.B 26, 32, 38, 39, 51, 52, 53, 55, 62, 69, 78, 106, B15
 SRP 31, 41, 58, 67, 76
 S.T. 33, 36, 67
 C..M. 31, 37, 39, 40, 41, 49, 52, 53, 54, 67, 74, 76, 77, 114, 115

For those using Michel numbers convert by subtracting 1 from the Scott number.

Please include your asking price with material for sale. Overseas collectors, please quote your asking prices in Euros (€) as appropriate.

Bob Schwerdt, 9 Memory Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603-5231.

Wanted: 2c BLACK HARDING PREPERS (PRECANCELLED PERFINS). I am looking for the following prepers. I will pay very aggressive prices of any of these little “Black Beauties” Multiples and on cover examples are really desirable and will have commensurate prices.

STATE	TOWN	PERF	PATTERN	T&T	LETTERS	USER
California	San Francisco	11	G072.26	L-3 E	GE	General Electric Co.
California	San Francisco	11	S080	L-3 E	S/CO	Shreve & Co.
Connecticut	New Britain	11	DES:003	205	ANCHOR*	North & Judd
Illinois	Moline	11	V014	203	VELIE	Velie Motor Co.
Massachusetts	Gardner	11	C239	549	COC	Central Oil & Gas Stove Co.
Michigan	Detroit	11	S-25	204	SAI	Standard Accident Insurance Co.
Michigan	Grand Rapids	11	S-195-33	205	SO	Standard Oil Co.
Michigan	Kalamazoo	11	U014	204	U/CO	Upjohn Co.
Minnesota	Minneapolis	11	M096	205	MD/CO	<i>unknown</i>
North Dakota	Grand Forks	11	I043.7B-16	462	((I)H)C	International Harvester Co.
North Dakota	Minot	11	S195-21	L-1 HS	SO	Standard Oil Co.
Oregon	Bend	11	O094	PROV*	OW/RN	Oregon Washington RR & Navigation Co.
Pennsylvania	Altoona	11	T081	404**	TRAV	Traveler's Ins. Co.
Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	11	G036	L-10	GB	Gimbel Brothers
Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	11	Q005	205	QLC	Quaker Lace Co.

Larry Cohen (LM 3724) P.O. Box 356, Plymouth, NH, 03264-0356. PLEASE E-MAIL ME:
 reb.cohen@roadrunner.com.

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

Secretary's Report

John Hart (#3411)

New Members:

#4134 Dr. Charles Gherman
400 40th Ave.
San Francisco, CA. 94121-1510

#4135 Paul Kurtz
5356 Grover St.
Boise, ID. 83705-1142
Interests: Beginner-US/World

Welcome back:

#3670 Kenneth Chotiner
#3972 Marshall White

Resigned:

#2382 Roland Coolbaugh "sold collection"

Membership:

421

Dues for the next fiscal year (7/2017-6/2081) are due June 30, 2017

Fees	US	Canada	Foreign
Annual Dues	US\$15	US\$18	US\$25
First Class Mail	US\$5	US\$7	US\$10
Non-member Subscription	US\$20	US\$23	US\$35

Life Memberships are available as shown below. Contact John Hart if interested.

Age	US	Canada	Foreign
54 or less	US\$375	US\$450	US\$625
55 through 69 years	US\$300	US\$360	US\$500
70 years or older	US\$225	US\$270	US\$375

Jersey Reply Coupons

Stephen Tauber (#2949)

Previously reported, but based on an eBay listing, was the existence of international reply coupons issued by the Bailiwick of Jersey.¹ The key feature of interest was that the country was identified only by the pattern punched into the coupon. Now I can report additional information based on two such coupons which have entered my collection. The coupon reported on in 2012 had the denomination of 60 p. handstamped in red.

These two coupons are likewise denominated by red handstamps, one for 30 p., the other for 55 p. (Figs. 1 & 2 below)



Fig. 1. 30-pence Jersey International Reply Coupon

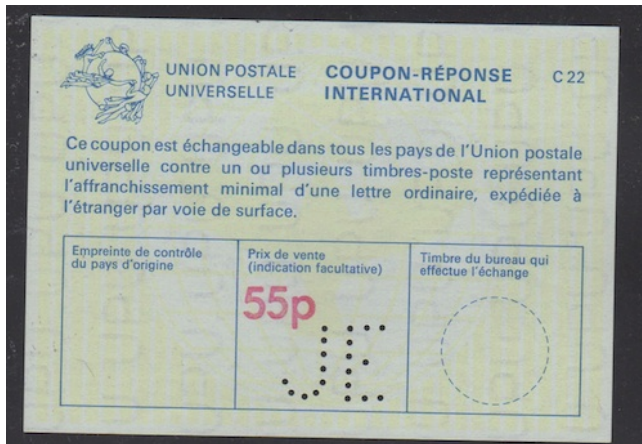


Fig. 2. 55-pence Jersey International Reply Coupon

At the first level these two coupons differ only in the left-most square by the absence of a circle in the 55-pence coupon and two lines of print (“Empreinte de contrôle du pays d’origine”) vs. three (with the addition of “(date facultative)”) in the 30-pence coupon. There are, however, also distinctions in the paper and in the perfin pattern. Close inspection of the scans shows (more visible in the coupons themselves) distinct orientations of the repeated “UPU” watermark. In the 30 p. coupon the watermark is horizontal, and in the 55 p. coupon it is vertical reading up.

The letters of the perfin pattern lean slightly to the right, more readily detectible in the “E”, where the angles between the upright row of holes makes an angle of slightly more than 90° with the upper horizontal row of holes and an angle of a bit under 90° with the bottom row of holes. The perfins are positioned somewhat differently in the two coupons. Not only do they appear in different positions within the middle square (“Prix de vente”), but the angle is discernably different when viewed from the reverse. (Figs. 3 & 4) This is most readily seen by looking at the bottom row of holes in the “E”.

In the 30-pence coupon the bottom row of holes in the “E” are aligned with the lower part of the last full line of print. In the 55-pence coupon this row of holes rises slightly from right to left (left to right

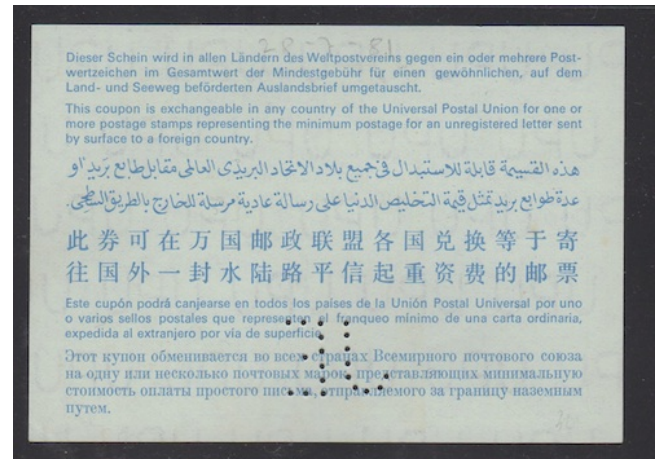


Fig. 3. Reverse of 30-pence coupon

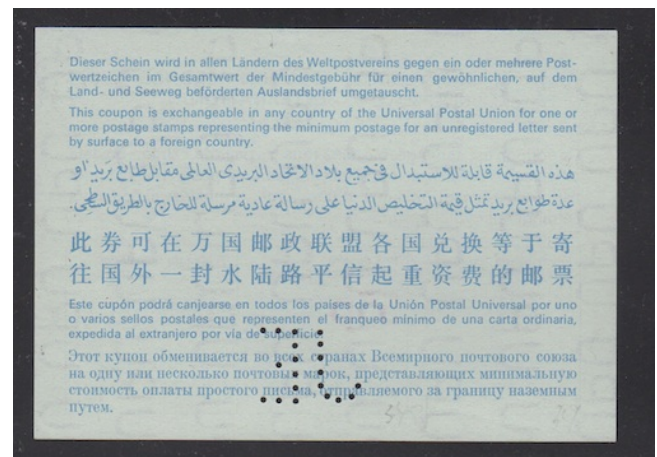


Fig. 4. Reverse of 55-pence coupon viewed from the obverse) relative to the text. My speculation concerning this slight difference is that the coupons were positioned in the punch without a physical edge to line them up against.

One final observation: The coupons were never issued. This derives from the conspicuous absence of a postmark in the leftmost square (“Empreinte de contrôle ...”). Again speculating, the coupons seem to have been demonetized and allowed to get into the philatelic market.

¹ “Perfined International Reply Coupon,” *The Perfins Bulletin*, 66, 1 (Jan./Feb. 2012), 15.

A Minor Error: 600/6000 Does Not = 1/6

I made a rather silly math statement in last month’s *Bulletin*. On page 12 of that *Bulletin* I observed that

the letter S contains almost 1/6 of all US patterns – actually the statement should read 1/10.

Treasurer's Report – 2016

Dan Baugher (#3825)

Here is the financial status of The Perfins Club.

The total financial assets for the Club are \$111,261 down 3% from December 2015. The Club publications, auctions, and circuits (covers) all reported increases for the year. *Bulletin* expenses were higher this year because seven issues were paid for in 2016 (normally 6) and the club was able to purchase postage for 2017 at a significant discount. Also, our annual dues have remained constant for 20 years!

While having these financial assets looks like we are healthy, it is important to note four reserve categories in that total: life memberships, the escrow for member's personal credit accounts, our self-insurance transit fund, and donations reserved for special projects. After subtracting for these special escrows, the

Club has a remaining operational balance of \$37,737 which would cover about 2 to 3 year's expenses.

We all need to encourage membership growth. Enthusiastically talk up the fun of collecting perfins to your fellow philatelists.

2016 Balance Sheets

Income

Dues	\$5,274
Approvals	7312
Auctions	1,839
Catalog Sales	2,714
Cover Sales	2,831
Interest (BofA & CDs)	356
Transit Insurance	13
Donations	<u>240</u>

Total Income 13,999

Expenses

Bulletin – printing & mailing	(\$8,938)
Approvals	(1,302)
Auction	(1,499)
Catalog Sales	(2,022)
Cover Sales	(2,552)
Sunshine	(19)
Officers	(967)
Convention – promotion & web site	(150)
Paypal	(88)
Insurance – premium & claims	<u>(639)</u>

Total Expenses (\$18,175)

Assets

Checking Account	30,300
CDs	72,520
Catalog Account	631
Approval Account	4,959
Paypal Account	<u>3,852</u>

Total Assets \$111,261

Liabilities and Reserves

Liabilities \$0

Reserves

Life Memberships	\$34,400.00
Donations – general	31,070.00
Floyd Walker Memorial	2,421.84
Member's Escrow	762.27
Transit Insurance	4,869.17
Operating Fund	37,737.93

Total Liabilities and Reserves \$111,261.21

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Precancel Stamp Society
P.O. Box 10295
Rochester, NY 14610
nssnromotion@rochester.rr.co**

The Perfins Bulletin
6500 Upper Applegate Road
Jacksonville, OR 97530-9314

Periodicals

Upcoming Events of interest Mark Your Calendars Now

March 3-5, 2017 – **Ameristamp 2017** – Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, Nevada. *Help needed staffing the Perfins Club Affiliate Booth. Contact Ken Masters (see p. 2 – Vice President).*

April 19 – 21, 2017 – **the Golden Gate Precancel Society, the Southern California Precancel Society and the Perfins Club** (joint meeting) – La Quinta Inn, 2615 Buena Vista Dr., Paso Robles, California. For reservations – 805-239-3004 – mentioning the meeting will help defer costs.

June 30, 2017 – Dues for FY 2017-1018 are due. See p. 37.

August 7 – 12, 2017 – **PSS Convention** (Perfins Club annual meeting); Ramada Plaza, 90700 Bluegrass Parkway, Louisville, KY 40299. PSS Convention room rate is \$82.00 + tax per night. Tele: (502)-491-4830 (make reservations by July 23, 2017).

THE PERFINS CLUB
74th Annual Convention



August 7 - 12, 2017
Ramada Plaza

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