

SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

NO. 55 OCTOBER 2001

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VALE ROBERT SAMUEL

Robert Samuel our Club President passed away on October 25th after a fairly brief stay in hospital.

Robert was well known in philatelic circles due to his work with a number of organizations including the New Zealand Philatelic Federation, his research into a number of areas and high class exhibits at exhibitions. Others will record his accomplishments in these areas.

I have always viewed Robert as the 'father' of New Zealand perfin research. He wrote the definitive monograph on New Zealand perfins and later followed this up with a series of articles in the South Pacific Perfin Bulletin from 1991 to 1992 to update this information. These articles included a great deal of very detailed information solidly based on material Robert had uncovered over a lifetime displaying a wealth of experience and intense interest on perfins. Over the years new discoveries were shared with Club members through the Bulletin.

As the President of the New Zealand Federation Robert was instrumental in introducing the "THANK YOU" perfins used from 1989 by the Federation to provide an interesting souvenir for members of societies affiliated with the New Zealand Philatelic Federation. A most novel method to introduce most New Zealand philatelists to perfins.

Robert also served as our Club President from March 1998 and many members will have met him at Club meeting held in either New Zealand or Australia.

Roberts contribution both to the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia and to assisting collectors through his published research has been very substantial and he will be sorely missed.

David Andersen

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new member since the previous issue:

#88 Steve Zirinsky, New York, USA – welcome back!!

CLUB AUCTION

The catalogue for the next auction is enclosed with this Bulletin. Again there is a wide variety of material for every collector. Bidding for recent auctions has been strong, and it is suggested that reference be made to “Prices realised” which were sent out after those auctions. Also, many lots have been decided by the earlier of two or more tying bids, so .. **BID EARLY AND WITH CONFIDENCE!**

THANKS

A big “Thank You” to all those many members who have forwarded their subscription renewals so promptly. There are many other clubs who would be jealous of how lucky PCNZA is in this regard! ☺

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE BEARERS 2002

The Club’s biennial elections of office-bearers are due early in 2002. Enclosed with this Bulletin is a nomination form. Members are encouraged to nominate themselves or other members for the respective positions, checking with nominees first. None of the current office bearers will be upset at rival nominations for the positions! Members are requested to return completed forms to the Secretary by 10 January 2002 so that voting forms can be included with the January Bulletin – as so few members are able to get to our meetings, we will have a postal vote this time, on a trial basis.

CLUB MEETING, MARCH 2002

The Committee of Canberra StampShow 2002 have kindly offered a meeting room for use of PCNZA at their show in Canberra in March 2002. The time of the meeting will probably be in the afternoon of Saturday 16 March. Further advice will be included in the January Bulletin.

POSSIBLE EXPOSURE OF FAKE PERFIN ON AUSTRALIAN STAMP (John Mathews)

Bryan Magee recently donated a copy of "Perfins of British Malaya" by Peter Giffen to the Club library. On going through this catalogue, I noticed a pattern "B&K" (B.9) used by Boyd and Kaye, merchants, of Raffles Place, Singapore in the period 1918 – 1922. It is the identical pattern to one which had been reported on a KGV definitive with Sydney 1925 postmark, and which was included in the Supplement pages early this year. It would seem that this device had come into the hands of someone who "experimented" on an Australian stamp. The pattern was slightly skewed on the stamp, indicative of a single stamp being placed under the perforating head. This same characteristic was evident on the strike of "A&E/TCL" shown to me also on a KGV definitive (postmark Melbourne 1929), and which could not be matched with an Australian company, although known on GB stamps.

NEW CATALOGUE IN CLUB LIBRARY

David and Ray Coath have kindly donated a copy of a catalogue (illustrations only) of the perfins of Czechoslovakia. Unfortunately, there are no identities, dates of usage, etc, nor the name of the editor or the year of publication.

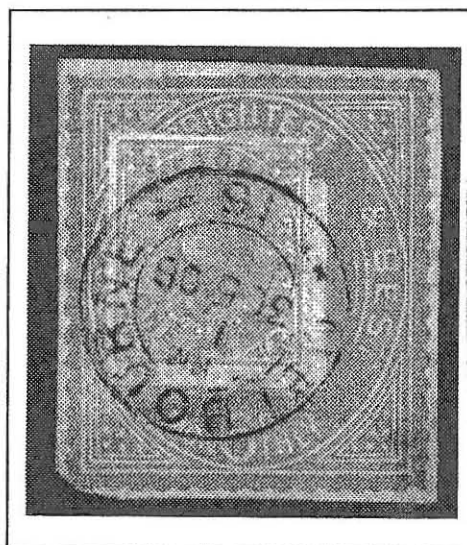
ON-LINE AUCTIONS

Steve Koning advises that there is a Canadian dealer with perfin material who operates an on-line auction at <http://vanceauctions.com> - then one can use a search key to look for particular topics, countries, themes, etc, such as "perfin*".

HELP WANTED

The stamp on piece shown was recently offered on eBay Internet auction. Under the stamp is a stamp-like image which reads ".... Brightest & Best / 6d monthly". Can anyone supply the full text of this, and does anyone have a complete cover which would identify the user?

The stamp has a perfin which was not clear from the eBay scan, but looks like "W . / & Co".



THE WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY (re cover described in July 2001 Bulletin)

Colin Salt (UK) has found the advertisement shown in the magazine "Stamp Collecting", dated 18 December 1920. Bishopsgate is very close to Leadenhall Street in the "City" area of London. The advertisement does not indicate if the company perforated stamps at any time (the cover was posted 7 years earlier than the date of the magazine).

WANTED.

**WHOLESALE PARCELS, COLLECTIONS,
AND LOOSE STAMPS.**

Highest prices given, apply for our Price Lists.

Wholesale and Retail.

Exchange Correspondents desired all over the world.

We are buyers for prompt cash.

THE WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY,
180 BISHOPSGATE,
Opp. L'pool St. Station. **LONDON, E.C.2.**
Established 1893.

THE ANSWER TO WRITER'S CRAMP

(Bernard Dixon on the efficacy of woollen wear)

Plough diligently through such authoritative guides as Dr Brian Inglis's *Natural Medicine* (Collins) and there is one quasi-medical specialty you will not locate. Naturopathy, radioesthesia, homeopathy, chiropractic – they are all there, with a single conspicuous exception. It is a perplexing omission, and I hate to think of the subject being overlooked by other present-day authorities – particularly by the working party of the British Medical Association (BMA) which, under Professor James Payne, is now looking into "alternative medicine". Because among the myriad methodologies on offer for combating disease, this one is surely closest to the heart of Prince Charles, the former BMA President who nudged that orthodox body into studying the unorthodox.

I refer, of course, to the Sanitary Woollen System. Popularised by Gustav Jaeger, Professor of Zoology and Physiology at Stuttgart University, this was such a rage a century ago that it won a gold medal in London's big 1884 Health Exhibition. Professor Jaeger's Woollen Clothing and Bedding ("manufactured under this System of the finest and purest Wool, without any admixture of vegetable fibre

and free from noxious dyes”) was available to Britishers via two Depots, one in Cheapside and the other conveniently just off Harley Street. For those who wished to peruse the theoretical underpinnings of this early version of thermal underwear, there were also tracts such as *Health Culture and the Sanitary Woollen System*, published in 1886 – by the Sanitary Woollen Systems Co. Ltd.

It was in this book that Gustav Jaeger recorded “the extraordinary rapidity, assuredly unsurpassed in its way, with which the Sanitary Woollen System has borne down every obstruction in its path,” thereby requiring (as you may have noticed) that the System and everything about it were always given capital letters. Here, too, in a chapter headed “Girded Loins”, the Inventor vouchsafed one of his own earliest benefits. As a student, he had regularly worn “an ordinary gymnastic belt, and found that it suited me very well with the exception that if I took off the belt when I was perspiring I easily caught cold in the part which the belt had covered”. Then, between the ages of 27 and 46, he had to give up the gymnast accessory because he suffered from indigestion, which made the circumference of his abdomen vary continually. But once he began clothing himself in Pure Wool, the puffed-out condition after meals disappeared and he was able to don his beloved belt again.

From such small beginnings, Professor Jaeger proceeded to discover and demonstrate the merits of Woollen Undervests, Collars, Socks, Stockings, Gloves, and Corsets – first of all in preventing and later in curing a range of maladies, from pulmonary tuberculosis to rheumatic complaints. There was the Sanitary Boot (1882) to combat blistering, swelling and fatigue; the Sanitary Woollen Handkerchief (1881), which obliterated nasal catarrh; and even special Shirts, Hats, and Trousers (1879). The Sanitary Woollen Bed (1882), German Gymnastic Suit (1879) and Sanitary Coat (1878) completed the inventory for buyers anxious to remain in good nick.

But Gustav Jaeger did not make exaggerated claims for these Goods. Indeed, the oddest feature of the whole Business was the contrast between conditions repelled by Woollen Garments and others that were unaffected. As the Professor explained: “so-called abdominal infectious diseases (cholera, typhus, dysentery) are those against which the Sanitary Woollen System principally protects. Against infectious diseases of the skin, the System affords only a modified protection, and as regards its action in cases of chronic infectious disease, I have refrained from expressing an opinion.” This is all very peculiar because the physiological basis of the System was said to be its capacity to encourage the “cutaneous evaporation” responsible for dissipating “noxious exhalations” produced by the skin during sickness. And why should chronic TB be one of the conditions most susceptible to The System?

As far as the Inventor was concerned, only one thing might have loused up the data : adulteration. Again and again, he returned to the iniquity of competitors who marketed undergarments made of Wool mixed with cotton. “In the Sanitary Woollen System,” he wrote, “Woollen fabrics adulterated with the addition of vegetable fibre bear to the genuine article an analogous relation to tat which wine tainted with fusel oil bears to pure wine, because the cotton threads fix and retain the noxious emanations corresponding to

the vapours of fusel oil. If, therefore, for the sake of a possible saving in price, people are induced to deal in doubtful quarters, I beg that any untoward experience may not be laid to the charge of the System."

And in 1882, Gustav Jaeger made his point with spectacular success when he applied this unique brand of fringe medicine to attack a condition "by which many have been deprived of the means of earning their living, and with which medical science has hitherto found it so difficult to deal". Writer's cramp, he revealed, was caused by emanations from the vegetable fibres in paper. And it could be cured in a flash – simply by placing a strip of Woollen Material under the writer's hand.

(The above article appeared in *New Scientist* magazine on 23 February 1984 (page 33) and has been reproduced here with the kind permission of *New Scientist*. *New Scientist's* web site is at www.NewScientist.com. Our attention was drawn to this article by Derek Pocock. Dr Jaeger's Sanitary Woollen System Co. Ltd used DJ/Co and DrJ/Co perfins on Australian and British stamps)


JAEGER'S
Sanitary Woollen Ladies' Outer-clothing.

In ordering by measure, a good fit can be guaranteed if the necessary measurements are furnished according to directions, or a still better plan is to send a well-fitting garment as a model.

The woollen stuff, which are microscopically tested for adulteration with vegetable fibre, can be supplied by the yard, and samples can be inspected.

Each garment (Jacket, Mantle, &c.), which is made in strict conformity with Dr. G. Jaeger's directions, bears the registered Trade Mark.

Jackets, Mantles, &c., of the stocking-note stuffs are made in various sizes and shades, and are ribbed in double-breasted form, according to Dr. Jaeger's Sanitary Woollen System.



Dr. G. Jaeger's Sanitary Woollen Dress, made of Pure Sheep's Wool.

DR. JAEGER'S
SANITARY WOOLLEN UNDERCLOTHING
FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN
IS KEPT IN STOCK BY
MISS SARAH FRANKS,
23, MORTIMER STREET, BERNERS STREET, W.,
At the prices quoted in this catalogue.

Miss FRANKS also undertakes orders for garments of special construction under Dr. Jaeger's system.

Safest Wear for Travellers in all Climates.
Garnival at Rome 1904
Outfits for the Tropics.



Pyjama Jackets.
Pyjama Trousers.
Ladies' Knickers.
Fleece "Albert" Slipper.
Fleece Collar.
Fleece Knitted Travelling Cap (Turned up).
Slip on Bannage.
Jaeger's Waterproof Ventilated Boot.



Jaeger

SPREADING THE WORD

Member Brian Fuller recently ran a philatelic "scavenger hunt" for the Brighton (Victoria) Philatelic Society. Brian forced the members to "think perfins" by including a perfin as one of the items they had to find. Rumour has it that Brian may have offered to buy any unwanted perfins from competitors at the end of the evening!

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The following memoranda were found in Australia Post's Sydney Archives. The first was addressed to the Deputy Postmaster Generals in the States from the Postmaster Generals Dept., Melbourne.

GENERAL MEMORANDUM no.94 to all States.

17th March 1909

Subject. STATE GOVERNMENT POSTAGE- QUESTION OF PAYMENT OF LUMP SUM ANNUALLY INSTEAD OF USE OF "O.S." STAMPS

I am to ask that you will be good enough to furnish me with an early report as to whether your office has the necessary data to enable a determination to be arrived at as to the payment which would have to be made by the State Government of your State if it were decided to amend the Post and Telegraph Act so as to accept a lump sum per annum from State Governments as postage on their mail matter instead of "O.S." stamps being affixed as at present.

2. I am to add that such data would need to take into account not only correspondence from the capital but all correspondence on State Government account throughout the State.

The reply from the Deputy Postmaster General in New South Wales is interesting:

With reference to General Memorandum no.94 of the 17th instant, on the subject specified above, I have to intimate that this office has not the data mentioned therein. The value of stamps purchased by the State Departments for the year 1908 was £41,168. The stamps would be distributed by the various Departments to their country offices, and would be used for payment of postage, and charges on telegrams.

(2) No record is kept of the value of prepaid telegrams sent by State Departments, and the only way to arrive at an approximate amount of postage paid by such Departments would be to ascertain the value of State "O.S." telegrams despatched, and deduct the amount from the total value of stamps purchased, the balance representing the postage. To get out this information for the year 1908, it would be necessary to go through nearly four million messages, and the accountant states that it would take six clerks, working 4:30 to 9pm., Monday to Friday inclusive, approximately 12 months to complete the work

Not to be put off it appears that a scheme to count the telegrams was introduced and is referred to in the following reply to a memorandum "New South Wales Quarterly Returns of "O.S." business" sent to the Postmaster General on 1st October 1910.

With reference to your memorandum of the 22nd August last in regard to the above quoted paper, referred here for report on the 1st July last, I have to intimate that the paper in question was referred to the accountant for report, but it was returned to the Records with a request for papers bearing on the matter to be attached. It is said to have been the returned to the Accounts Branch, but, although a careful search has been made, it cannot be traced.

2. In reporting in regard to the returns, the Accountant states as follows: "The returns are used for the purpose of crediting the revenue of an office with the value of the O.S. stamps affixed to correspondence posted at, and telegrams sent from such offices; more particularly is the return of the value of O.S. stamps affixed to telegrams required. The ordinary quarterly return of telegraph business includes the value of O.S. stamps affixed to telegrams, and, in order to ascertain the revenues under each heading (Post and Telegraph) at any office, the value of the telegraph business is deducted from the value of postage stamps sold. If this were not done, the postal revenue would include the value of stamps affixed to telegrams, and would also be accounted for under "Telegraphs".

....."At some offices near which large State institutions are established (and which obtain their supplies of O.S. stamps from their Departments in Sydney, and not through the local office), the amount of O.S. business is considerable, and it appears only reasonable that the offices at which the letters are posted, and from which the telegrams are despatched should be credited with the revenue received from the sources mentioned.

2. I may add that suitable instructions have been issued in connection with the mislaying of the paper.

In the time honoured traditions of the Public Service it was soon time to return to the previous status quo:

MEMORANDUM to Deputy Post-Master- General, Sydney
Quarterly returns of O.S. stamps

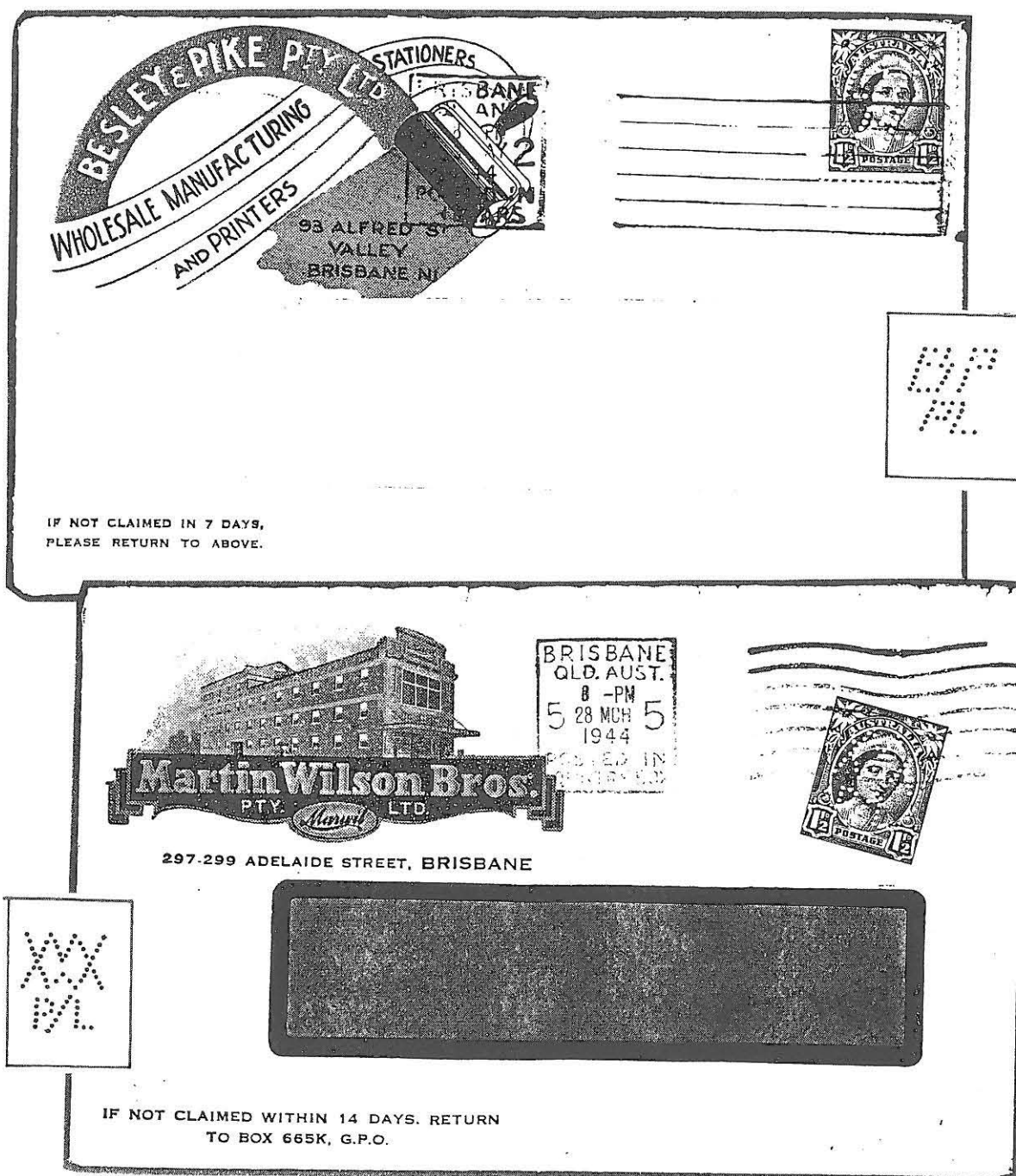
29th June 1911

Adverting to previous correspondence relative to the practice in your State in connection with recording at offices of the value of O.S. stamps and the furnishing by Postmasters of quarterly statements of such stamps used, I am to inform you that, as effect upon the statements of revenue received at offices would probably be very slight, and in view of the expense and work involved in recording, reporting, and dealing with these figures, it is not considered necessary that the present practice in this connection should be continued.

2. Please arrange accordingly.

CAVEAT EMPTOR (John Mathews)

In a recent Craig Chappell (Queensland) auction, the two advertising covers shown were offered as a single lot. Both covers have perfin patterns not previously recorded. The purchaser was suspicious about two new patterns together and sent them to me for an opinion as to whether they were genuine.



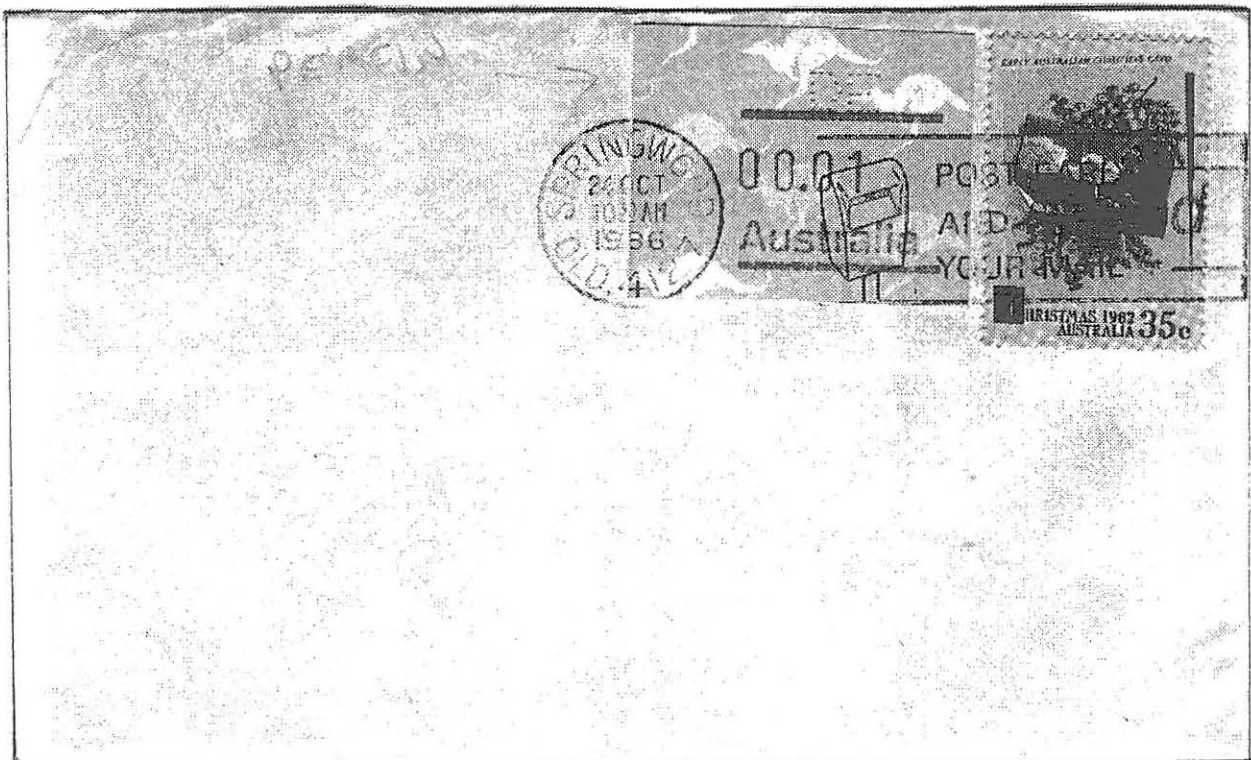
Under a magnifier, the holes appear clean cut and in straight lines, and the cancellation lines on the stamps align very well with those on the envelope. Two aspects raised doubts in my mind. First, both patterns had "uprights" of letters as sloping lines, a style not seen on other Australian patterns. The "BP/PL" is in the italic style, and the outer legs of the "M" of "MW/PL" slope so that the "M" mirrors the "W" with which it overlaps. Second, the pins in "BP/PL" are not in the shape of smooth curves, and the spacing between holes is not even, especially in the "B".

In the Martin Wilson Bros cover, there is a piece of white card bearing the message, in neat copper-plate hand writing, "Restored by V. S. Daddow / 31:12:1986". Queensland collectors have told me that a chap by that name was well-known around Brisbane stamp clubs up to about 1994. I spoke to Mr Daddow on the phone, and he described how he used to clean tone spots off covers, iron out wrinkles, re-gum flaps, etc, but made no comment when I said the perfin looked suspicious.

One Queensland member has shown me the cover below, on which the 1c Frama has his own initials perforated. The cover was given to him (unsolicited) by a Mr Viv Daddow some time ago. This member has told me that he was shown a similar Frama with the initials "KV" perforated into it. He said he has also seen Mr Daddow's "workshop" in which there was a large quantity of philatelic material, including many perfins of various sorts.

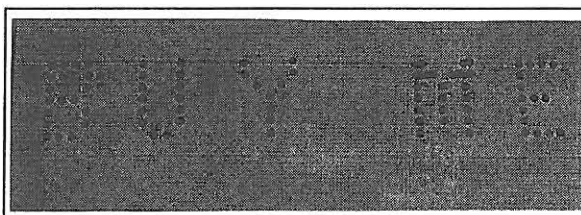
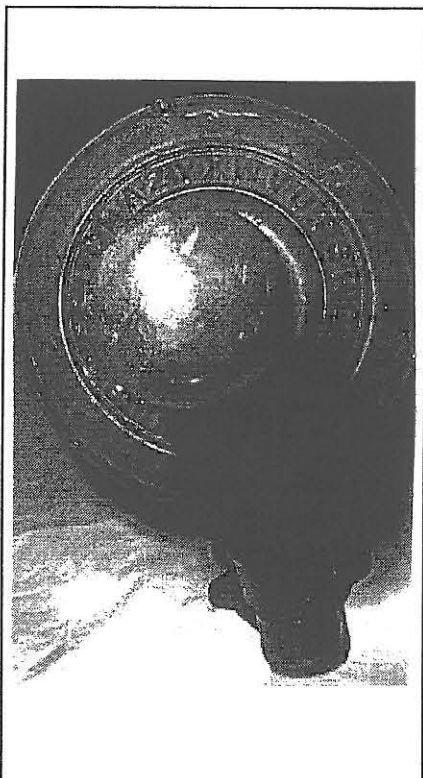
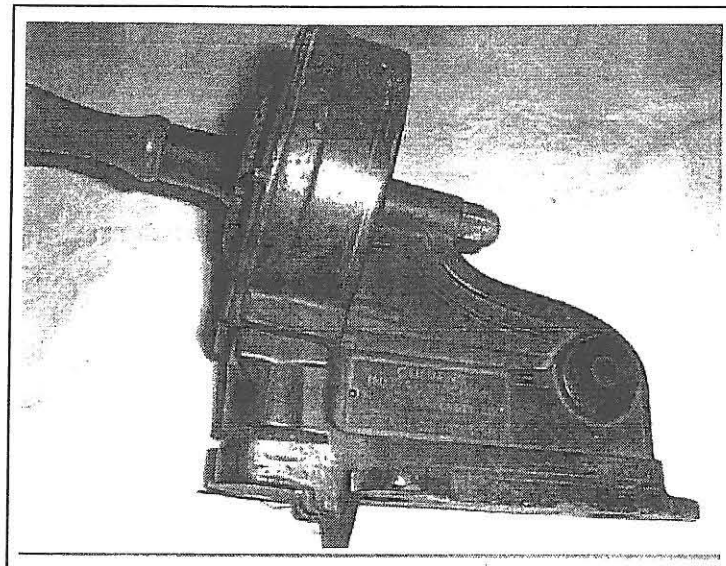
These facts recall to mind the story of the previously unrecorded "VG" perfins which came onto the market in quantity 10 – 15 years ago through Brisbane auction outlets.

CAVEAT EMPTOR !!!



A CUMMINS PERFORATOR OF UNUSUAL STYLE (John Mathews)

In August, on the eBay Internet auction, a "Cummins Initial Machine" (perforator) was offered and sold for US\$129. Its design allowed for the perforating of one letter at a time. The letter was selected by rotating a barrel with a handle, and the whole handle and barrel assembly was then depressed to achieve the perforated letter. The style of the letters are similar to those of other more common devices often used in banks, etc., where the letters were also selected by rotating a barrel to which the handle was attached.



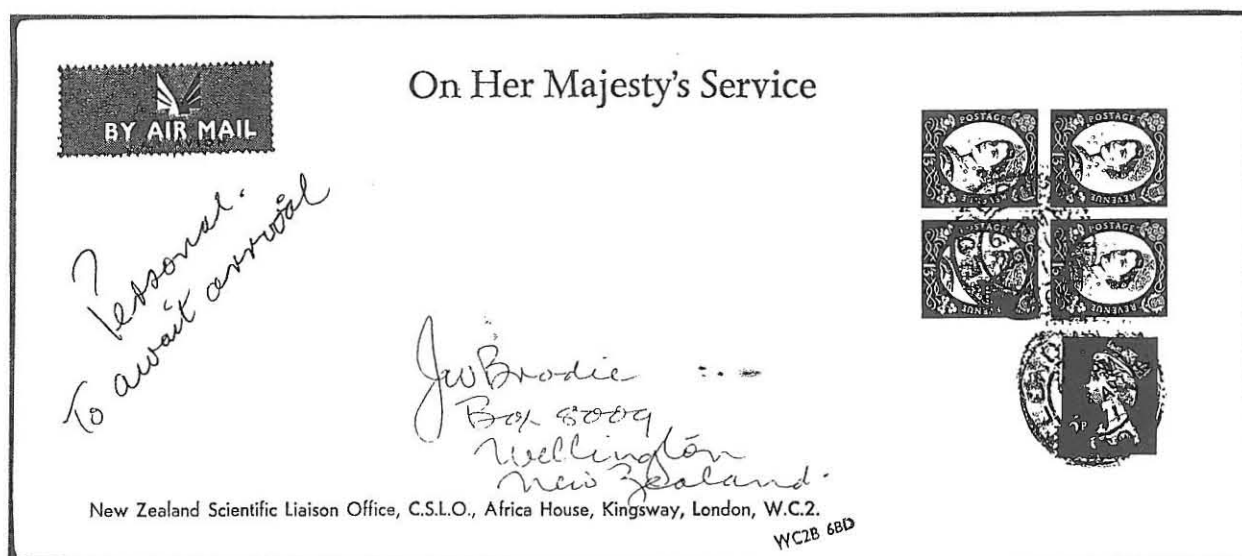
The brass plate on the side reads "CUMMINS' INITIAL MACHINE / MANUFACTURED BY / CUMMINS PERFORATOR CO. / FOR / J. B. MAST CO NEW YORK".

The sample product shown obviously had the desired effect. The malformed appearance of the "B" and "M" were attributed by the vendor to his own lack of practice at using it.

LATE USE OF "NZ" PERFIN (John Mathews)

The cover shown has a block of four 1/3d Wildings perf "NZ" (GB catalogue # N3760.01) and a 2p Machin (not perfinned), all cancelled 25 AU 71. Although the cover is probably "philatelic" in that the addressee and the sender are the same person, it is interesting that it has been used two years later than the previous reported usage of any "NZ" perfin (see SPPB January 2001, p. 10). It adds the "New Zealand Scientific Liaison Office" as a user of this perfin.

Its use falls in the period between the introduction of decimal stamps in Britain (15 February 1971) and the time of invalidation of pre-decimal stamps on 1 March 1972. The fact that the 2p stamp does not have the perfin probably indicates that the perforator was no longer in use in February 1971, and that the 1/3d stamps were probably "left-over" stock.



AUCTION WATCH

Items of perfin interest from auctions/direct sales since the last Bulletin include the following. Thanks to Tony Nobilo, Tom Latto, Bryan Magee and John Amiet for passing on their keen spotting of perfin lots in these auctions. Prices in A\$ unless indicated.

		Est.
a.	NZ "VO/CO" on 1½d Victory (eBay, Jul 01)	sold for US\$ 3.25
b.	20 NSW stamps perf "OS/NSW" to 2/6 Emu (eBay, Jul 01)	sold for US\$ 6.50
c.	LLG perfin on 6d purple 1931 Kingsford-Smith used Perth (eBay, Jul 01)	sold for US\$ 3.50
d.	SA "Long Toms" 2/6, 5/- both perf "FHS". FU. (eBay, Jul 01)	sold for GB£ 12.50
e.	GB 1971 envelope from NZ Scientific Liaison Office, London, to NZ with 5 stamps perf "NZ" (eBay, Aug 01)	US\$ 10.00
f.	1967 cover of S. Hoffnung & Co with 4c stamp perf SH.a. Has "Shave with GEM" advertisement in top left corner. (eBay, Aug 01)	sold for US\$ 12.50
g.	13 "PWD" perfins on WA stamps (recent Robin Linke auction)	sold for \$ 280
h.	NZ "DB&CO" on 1d SSF (Stirling & Co Sale, Aug 01)	NZ\$ 25
i.	NZ "MGM" on 3/- 1935 Pictorial (Stirling & Co sale, Sep 01)	NZ\$ 15
j.	NZ "AC&S" on 1d SSF (Stirling & Co sale, Sep 01)	NZ\$ 8

k.	NZ "M&CLD" on 2d yellow KGV, fiscal use (David Holmes sale, Sep01)	NZ\$ 40
l.	GB 1880 4d grey-brown (pl. 17) perf "D&S" used with obliterator "DSF" (Ashford Stamps auction, Sep 01)	NZ\$ 25
m.	GB 1881 1/- orange-brown (pl. 13) perf "D&S" used with obliterator "DSF" (Ashford Stamps auction, Sep 01)	NZ\$ 50
n.	GB 1934 Thos Cook & Son printed env ("Official Agents of The Passion Play Committee Oberammergau 1934") with 4d KGV perf "TC&S", London to Vienna via Berlin (Ashford Stamps auction, Sep 01)	NZ\$ 200
o.	NZ "VOCO" on 1d Field Marshal tied to Vacuum Oil Co env used 1933 (Ashford Stamps auction, Sep 01)	NZ\$ 350
p.	Hong Kong 1891 QV surcharges on 2 pcs, all stamps perf "H&S/BC". One with 50/40c & \$1/96c, other with 20/30c, \$1/96c & 50/40c (Status Auction, Aug 01)	sold for \$ 150
q.	2 private perfin covers of Harringtons Ltd (eBay, Sep 01)	sold for US\$ 23
r.	Perfin A.2 on Tas 2½d Tablet on cover to Malaya 1900 (Premier Philatelic Auctions, Sep 01)	sold for \$320
s.	Part 1d Arms wrapper perf "GR" with extra 2d QV perf "GR" to NZ (Premier Philatelic Auctions, Sep 01)	sold for \$420
t.	240+ Aust. private perfins on 1d red KGV (eBay, Sep 01)	sold for US\$ 47
u.	½d KGV with LINE PERF perfin OS/NSW (newly discovered) (eBay, Sep 01)	passed in at US\$182
v.	West Aust 1/- green Swan Duty Stamp perf RICOLD.1 (eBay, Sep 01)	sold for US\$ 5.50
w.	University of NSW cover with \$1 Navigator perf U/NSW (eBay, Sep 01)	sold for US\$ 20
x.	NZ "BGEK" on 2d KEVII (Mowbray auction, Oct 01)	NZ\$ 30
y.	NZ "NZF" on ½d SSF (Stirling & Co sale, Sep 01)	NZ\$ 3 – 5
z.	NZ "SSE" mirror on pr 1d SSF (Stirling & Co sale, Sep 01)	NZ\$ 30
aa.	NZ cover of E. W. Mills & Co with perfin "E.W.M./W." (eBay, Oct 01)	US\$ 20
ab.	"NZ" on GB 5/- 1939 KGV defn. (Stirling & Co Sale, Oct 01)	NZ\$ 12.50
ac.	NZ perfin "USSCO" on 1d Dominion. (NZ Stamp Auctions, Oct 01)	NZ\$ 25
ad.	Selection of perfins, inc. 57 x NZ, 490 x GB, 50 x Aust, 46 Canada/USA. (NZ Stamp Auctions, Oct 01)	NZ\$175
ae.	WA perfin on 9d C of A Roo MLH (ebay, Oct 01)	not sold at US\$10.50
af.	Australia 1957 (?) handmade booklet with panes of T perfins (ebay, Oct 01)	US\$43
ag.	New South Wales G/NSW perfins on stamp duties on piece including £5 green (ebay, Oct 01)	sold for US\$18.50
ah.	KGVI 3d red Booklet pane perf G/NSW Mint (ebay, Oct 01)	sold for \$9.50

GB KODAK COVER

The cover shown of the Kodak company in UK was recently offered on eBay and has the perfin "KLD" with the letters in the pattern which was obviously used as the basis for the Victorian Service Punctures of a similar style produced for the company's office in Melbourne.

