SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am pleased to accept the position of President of the PCNZA.   Can I also take this opportunity to welcome long time member Lindsay Parker who has filled the Treasurer's job that I have vacated.

The Club has been well served by its Committee of enthusiastic, long term, and skilled committee members such as David Andersen, John Mathews and our outgoing President Derek Pocock.

Through their efforts we have the key tools to support our hobby such as :
- Current and high quality references in AOP and HAPP
- An excellent Bulletin
- We are financially sound
- We have a well managed and active Sales branch with both Circuit Books and Auctions

Furthermore the club has the option to take some opportunities that lie ahead including:
- Building a quality website with information and communication tools for members
- Growing member's interest and opportunities to display perfins in State and National level displays.

Perfin collecting is growing in acceptance and popularity and our membership continues to build both locally and overseas. I look forward to seeing the work of previous Committees and members consolidated and our current success built upon with more tools that allow members to get more value from our hobby.

David Coath

MEETING AT CANBERRA STAMPSHOW 2010

A meeting of Club members was held at 12 noon Saturday 13 March 2010 at Canberra StampShow 2010 at the Hellenic Club, Woden, A.C.T. In the absence of the President, the Secretary took the Chair to open the meeting. There were 9 members (including Allan Berry from New Zealand) and 1 visitor present. Apologies were received from 7 members.

The Secretary declared all office-bearer positions vacant with thanks to those who had served for the past 2 years, and called for nominations for President. Derek Pocock did not stand for re-election, and 1 other nominee withdrew. David Coath was welcomed as the new President, and assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting. Other office–bearers elected were John Mathews (Secretary), Lindsay Parker (Treasurer), Richard Smolnicki (Assistant Treasurer – NZ), David Andersen (Editor), John Mathews (Australian Circuit Manager) and Ray Bennett (NZ Circuit Manager). For convenience, handover of Treasurer duties from David to Lindsay will take place after the end of the financial year (30 June).

Special thanks go to Derek Pocock, retiring President, who had provided liaison with those in the Australian Philatelic Federation and who had especially encouraged members to exhibit perfin displays.

At Canberra StampShow 2010, member Mark Saxby received a Silver award and the PCNZA prize for his 4-frame "Australian Private Perfins" in the State Traditional Class. Congratulations to Mark, and to the other members who displayed non-perfin exhibits – Terry Prendergast, Allan P. Berry, John Shepherd, and Dave Elsmore. Congratulations also to David Andersen as Editor of our Bulletin which received a Silver award in the Literature Class.

The Secretary reported that 9 new members had joined in the last 12 months, and that the auctions and circuit books continue to be well patronised. Material for auctions and new circuit books are always welcome.

The Treasurer reported that the Club continues to be in a very healthy financial position. The annual financial statement will appear in the July 2010 Bulletin.

The Secretary reported that sales of David Andersen's "Australian Official Perfins" had now exceeded 150 copies and almost all of the outlay for printing had been recouped. The Club has now received, from sales, nearly $2,000 more than its initial outlay for part of the cost of the printing of "Handbook of Australian Private Perfins".

Members were reminded that there will be a National One-frame section in the exhibition at Mandurah, WA, from 19-21 November 2010, which will be an opportunity for those who would like to exhibit a perfin display, especially for the first time.

In general discussion, David Coath said that his daughter was part of a group who were looking at developing a web site for the Club as part of their tertiary studies. The committee will possibly be seeking member approval to put this on a commercial basis at some time in the future.

STAMP NEWS ARTICLE   Dave Elsmore

In some of my recent columns in Stamp News and The Asia Pacific Exhibitor I referred to David Coath as being the new President of the Perfin Club of New Zealand (PCNZA). As it happens I jumped the gun with this announcement as the nomination was not confirmed until the PCNZA's recent meeting in Canberra on 13 March 2010. I knew he had been nominated as I nominated him, and I truly thought he was the only nominee but I was not aware the announcement had to wait till after a meeting. The outgoing President Dr Derek Pocock has been a great ambassador for perfin collecting in Australia and I would like to personally thank Derek for his fine work. Anyway David is the new President now and I would now like to formally congratulate David. I can only apologise if my early release of this information caused any embarrassment to the Committee or confusion to my fellow members.

[By your Secretary – Just a reminder to all - office-bearers are elected, not "appointed".]

SPECIAL PERFINS FOR EXHIBITIONS

The special exhibition perfins "NZ / 1990" (New Zealand) and "E.I.P.A.30" (France) are probably known to most members. Recently on eBay, another such Perfin was offered of which members may not be aware. It is "RFPV:46" for the Reunione Filatelica - Primaverale Venezia (Venice Philatelic Expo) of 1946.
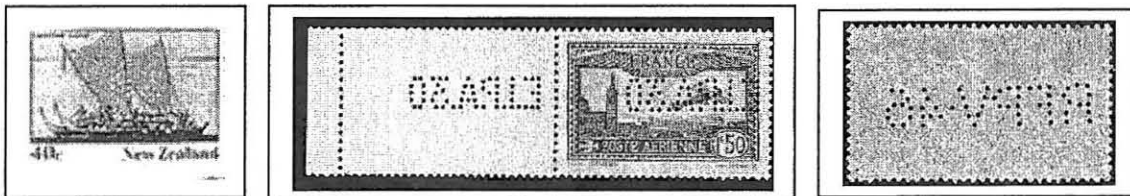
Do any members know of any other perfins produced specifically for philatelic exhibitions?

A CANADIAN KODAK LABEL WITH NUMERAL PUNCH   (John Mathews)

In November 2009, the item shown was offered on eBay. It is the address label off a film pouch sent to the Kodak processing laboratory in Toronto with the sender's name and address on the back for return of the processed film. The label has the usual numeral punch to identify the film which belonged to the sender. Unlike most examples of these, the numeral punch in this case has been applied to the label stamp side up.
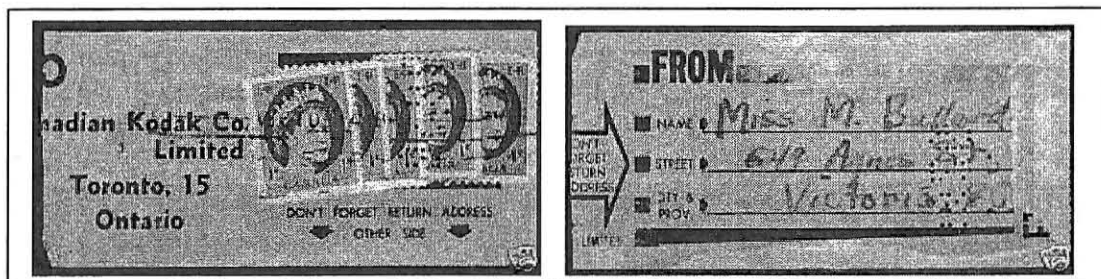
NEW IDENTITY FOR A GROUP OF PERFINS   (John Mathews)

John Amiet has drawn my attention to a lot sold in Prestige Philately's December 2009 auction which included a 1908 advertising postcard of Ward, Lock & Co with perfin "WL/&Co". It would be rather certain that this identity can now be attributed to all patterns "WL&C[o]", and maybe also to "WL" and "WLC".
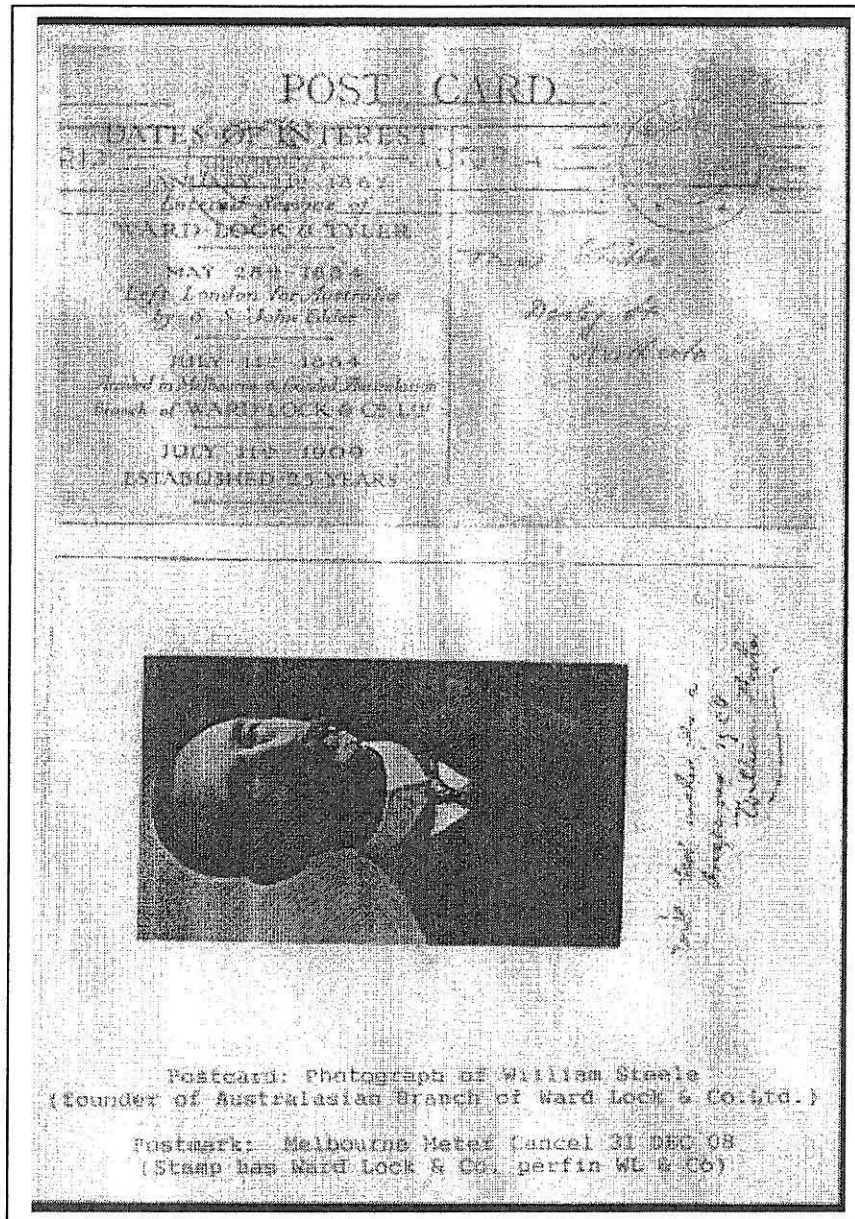
In 1854, Ebenezer Ward (1819-1902) and George Lock (1832-1891) started a publishing business called Ward & Lock in Fleet Street, London. In 1865, Charles T. Tyler joined the firm which became Ward, Lock & Tyler until 1873 when Tyler left and the name reverted to Ward & Lock.. In the early 1880s, a James Bowden was brought into the partnership. In 1884, an office was opened in Melbourne managed by William Steele who had arrived from London on 11 July 1884. In 1897, James Bowden retired, and the company name was changed from Ward, Lock & Bowden Ltd to Ward, Lock & Co. Ltd. It continued to trade under this name throughout the 20th century, and is now part of the Octopus Publishing

Group. Works published by the parent company in England include Mrs Beeton's Cookery Books, Mrs Beeton's Household Management, Wonder Books for Children, and Lewis Carroll's "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland".

Under William Steele's management, the Australasian branch met with steady and increasing success. In particular, he did much to encourage Australian talent in popular works of the class issued by his firm, and negotiated the publication of books by Donald MacDonald and George Giffen. He also originated the Australian Gift Book Series which eventually comprised over 50 volumes, including "Seven Little Australians" by Ethel S. Turner (in 1894, when Ethel was only 22 years old). Directories for Melbourne in the 1890s and 1900s show the Australasian branch to be at 12 McKillop Street, Lt. Collins Street, Melbourne.

William Steele died in October 1918, having served the company since January 21, 1867 at the age of 14 years.

SCARCE NEW ZEALAND PERFIN "PROVING" COVER   (John Mathews)

With the relatively small number of New Zealand perfin patterns, proving covers for New Zealand perfins are scarce (or even rare). So it was not surprising that the item shown attracted much interest among bidders when offered on eBay in November 2009.

The 1d Universal stamp has perfin "AWF" sideways as usual. Although the stamp is not "tied" to the cover, it is clear that the stamped envelope was provided by the company for a reply from a customer, or for use by a company representative. The item sold for US$131-50.

NEW ISSUE FOR A NEW ZEALAND PERFIN

On eBay this month, an item offered 2 New Zealand "Arms type" stamps, 1/3 yellow and 10/- each with the perfin "RI/Co". It had not been previously reported on these stamps. Each had a rubber stamp cancel in the shape of the company's shield logo. They sold for US$26.

USE OF OS/NSW TYPE B ON KANGAROO ISSUES OF AUSTRALIA- THE FINAL WORD   (David Andersen , David Coath and Frank Hermsen)

In SPPB # 88 of January 2010, David Coath submitted an article on the various discoveries of OS/NSW type B patterns on Kangaroo issues in the 1930's. It had been suggested that the OS/NSW die also known on New South Wales pre printed postal stationery from 1912 to the 1960's had also been used on certain Kangaroo issues in the 1930's. About 10 examples are known.

David's article summarised what we knew about these patterns and listed the reports of these in previous SPPB's which dated back to the first reported example by Frank Hermsen in the Netherlands in October 2000. See also Australian Official Perfins (AOP) 2008 pages 92-97.

The January 2010 article went onto declare that all of these reported examples were forgeries , based on the following facts:
- All known examples carried postmarks from outside NSW or as in one or 2 cases were unreadable.
- The characteristics of the pattern were not consistent with known missing pin variations that have been plotted chronologically on the postal stationery by John Sinfield .
- A forged die is known and is reported on mainly mint Postal Stationery

Following the January article going to print David Andersen received an email from Frank Hermsen along with some excellent scans providing extra information about his example of the pattern, including showing that the postmark thought to be unreadable was actually a Sydney parcel cancellation. Frank made a strong case for his example (reported in 2000) to be a true pattern and that later reported examples were created to mimic his true example.

After much debate in which David, David and Frank revisited all the research and background on these patterns it was agreed that the only way to truly assess Frank's claim was to get all examples together in one place. If Frank's die was different to the other dies then it could be argued that his may be a true die and that the other examples were forged .

Frank kindly agreed to send his example over to Australia and after examination David Coath forwarded the available copies to David Andersen so that all could be compared. Unfortunately David Andersen's conclusion was that all copies were clearly punctured with the same die and therefore all were forged. This should close the book on this pattern and members can dismiss these items when they see them listed in auctions and sales as great rarities.

GERMAN "KODAK" PERFIN

The Eastman Kodak Company used perfins in many of their offices around the world. Most of the patterns are "K", "KL", "KLD", or "KLTD" in various arramgements. The one shown is on a German stamp and is possibly unique among Kodak perfin patterns.
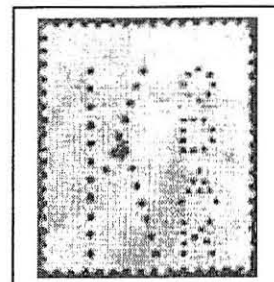
TATTERSALL'S (George Adams)

George Adams was born in England on March 14, 1839, in the small village of Sandon, Hertfordshire. His father, William, was a farm labourer but was attracted to come to Australia on hearing the news of gold discovery in New South Wales. William, Martha and their four sons arrived at Circular Quay, Sydney, on the 'Constitution' on May 28, 1855.

George was married in Sydney on June 19, 1858, to Fanny Franklin, a lace-maker. There were no children of this marriage, nor of his second marriage in 1886, a fact which was to assume some significance after his death.

Among many jobs during his early days in Australia, George became a driver for Cobb & CO., and achieved quite a reputation as a driver. He joined the big gold rush at Kanoona in Queensland in the 1860s and went to the goldfields. While there is no evidence that he struck it rich, he came back to New South Wales with funds to finance other ventures in the 1860s. For a while he worked on sheep stations in western New South Wales.

Eventually, he purchased the Steam Packet Inn at Kiama on the south coast of New South Wales. As the landlord he conducted race sweeps for his patrons on the major capital city races as well as the local races.

The group known as the Tattersall's Club used to meet in the Long Room of the Mayor's Inn (also known as "O'Brien's") in Pitt Street, Sydney, from 1858 and the publican changed the name of the hotel to "Tattersall's Hotel". George Adams was a regular visitor to Sydney for the races, and used to stay at Tattersall's Hotel. He used to tell his friends back in Kiama that he wished he could own the Tattersall's Hotel. One day in 1878, three of his friends heard that O'Brien's was for sale and bought it as a surprise for their friend, George Adams. He moved to Sydney and took over Tattersall's Hotel.

Club sweeps on important races such as the Sydney Cup and the Melbourne Cup had been organised since the foundation of the Tattersall's Club for their members. The ordinary patrons of the hotel asked to be able to buy tickets and George agreed. The first 'public sweep' took place on the running of the Sydney Cup in 1881.

Tattersall's sweeps were put in the hands of a trusted employee, D. H. Harvey. They proved to be an outstanding success and by 1884, George was able to pay the three purchasers of the property the amount of £40,000, after which George built the famous 'Marble Bar'.

Government supervision of Sweeps was non-existent, and although George had a reputation for strict honesty and integrity, the same could not be said for all the other sweeps which had been started. Finally, the NSW Government announced on May 26, 1891, that sweeps (including Tattersall's) would no longer be permitted in New South Wales. So George took his sweeps to Queensland, leaving his nephew William Joseph Adams to run Tattersall's Hotel. David Harvey went to Queensland with George to manage the sweeps. They were an immediate success in Queensland, but it was only a matter of time before the Queensland Legislative Assembly introduced anti-gambling laws.

Then, right out of the blue, the Government of Tasmania got in touch with George to ask whether he would be prepared to run a lottery on their behalf. In return, George asked only

that he be licensed to operate Tattersall's sweeps legally in Tasmania. Enabling legislation was passed narrowly and gazetted on May 19, 1897. At last Tattersall's had a permanent address, and this was to remain their home for fifty-eight years. This was established in premises in Elizabeth Street, Hobart, which later became Fitzgerald's. Larger premises were later built at 77 Collins Street. In 1954, Tattersall's moved to Victoria.

Perhaps in the knowledge that he was childless and his health was failing, he wrote his now famous Will. This ensured the continuance of his enterprises, under the vigilant eyes of a group of his trusted friends, advisors and associates, his nephew W. J. Adams, his close friend and confidant D. H. Harvey, his Hobart solicitor W. A. Finlay, and his Sydney solicitor G. J. Barry. In 1903, not long after George wrote his Will, he was struck down by a stroke from which he never recovered. He remained incapacitated for twelve months and in September 1904, he died.

George Adams, 1901
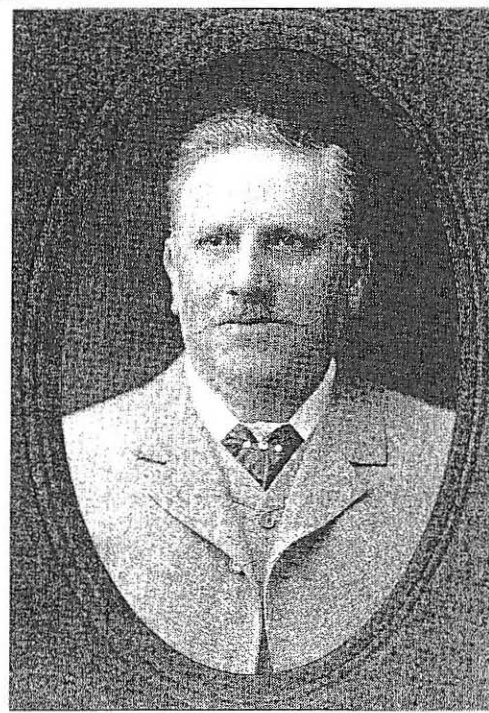
David Harvey

The Trustees of the Estate of the late George Adams built up a big sweeps business in Australia and New Zealand, but not long after Federation in 1901, the new Postmaster-General announced a ban on delivery of letters to Tattersall's in Hobart even though Tattersall's were operating legally. Tattersall's overcame this restriction by employing a number of "agents" to receive their mail [see details in "Beating the odds : the story of Tattersall's private mail network 1902-1930", by PCNZA member David McNamee.]. Tattersall's thrived and Postmaster-General Joseph Lyons (a Tasmanian, who later became Prime Minister) cancelled the bans on November 13, 1930. After 30 years, the delivery of mail to Tattersall's became legal.

In 1972, Tattersall's introduced a Lotto game - "Tattslotto" - in Victoria. Other States asked to join in and the Australian Lotto Bloc was formed.

Few people are aware that the handsome Sydney - Hobart yacht race trophy was donated by Tattersall's.
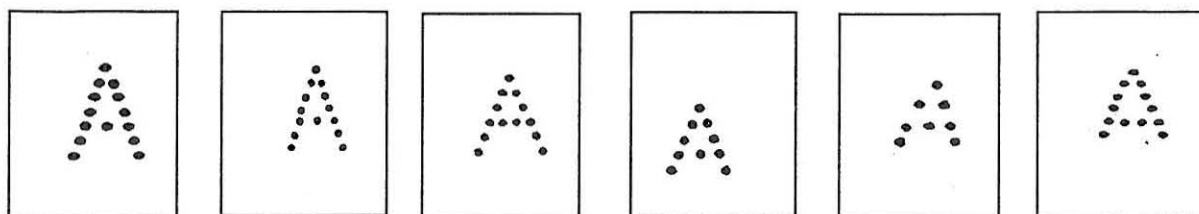
| A.1 | A.3 | A.2 | A.6 | A.7 | A.8 |
| Jan 00 - Jul 00 | Jul 99 - Jun 00 | Feb 00 - Jun 09 | Aug 01 - May 03 | Oct 06 - Jul 07 | Apr 07 - Jun 09 |
| | | | Inter to Nov 05 | | |

[Material for this article has been taken from the booklet "Tattersall's Centenary 1881-1981". No author or publisher is named in this booklet, but presumably it was written for Tattersall's.]

G/NSW TYPE B   AN UPDATE

Following the article on in the last Bulletin on the G/NSW Type B dies and a forgery of this issue Ken Yorke reported a previously unrecorded item with this pattern. The pattern was found on a 2/- Maroon Type A CofA watermark Kangaroo in Position 2 postmarked Sydney, 28th SEP 44. This is the first of the Kangaroo issues with this pattern in Position 2 which is the more usual arrangement for the smaller KGVI issues.

This was a very lucky find in an ebay auction and was not highlighted in the description. Ken pointed out that there appears to be the impression of two pins presumably from the W of the adjacent puncture on the bottom margin of the stamp partially removing the perfs.

The die used on this item is identical with other known genuine G/NSW Type B copies and is quite distinctive. This item can be considered genuine. Presumably the operator was used to puncturing the smaller format KGVI stamps sideways and also did so with at least one sheet of Kangaroo issues.
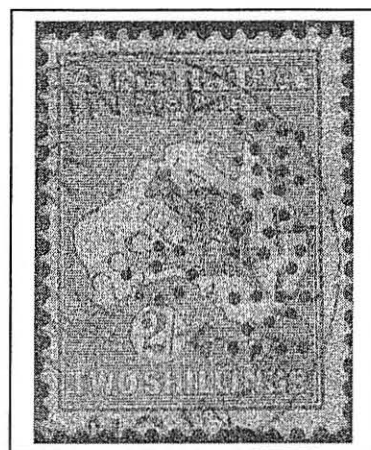
TATTERSALS UNDERPRINTS

Frank Hermsen also reports a couple of additional issues with these underprints:

KGV 2d orange single watermark (Crown/A) – underprint in purple (barely visible)

KGV 2d red CofA watermark - underprint in red.

RAILWAY TICKETS WITH PUNCTURED DATES   (John Mathews)

Joseph Sloper produced perforators specifically for postage stamps, but also for a variety of other purposes as well, and many of different ones are shown in the Sloper Workshop Impression books. Several articles about individual examples have appeared in past issues of this Bulletin. Shown in this article are three railway tickets with various styles of such perforations, and although there is no proof that any of them were done by a Sloper perforator, at least the first one is in a known Sloper style.

The first has the pattern "7   V/37   8", and the rectangular cachet on the cover is of the "Southern Railway Traffic Manager, Continental Enquiry Office, Victoria Station, S.W.1". The 'V' of the perforation no doubt is for "Victoria" and the issue date was 7 August 1937 (see illustration at right).

The ticket is still complete, as issued, and shows that it was for a journey from Kufstein to Lindau Stadt via Landeck.

The second illustration (below) shows hand stamps on the back of the first stage ticket indicating that the traveller went through Innsbruck on 10 August 1937 and through Ötztal (between Innsbruck and Landeck) on 12 August. The perforations are clearly visible through both pages.
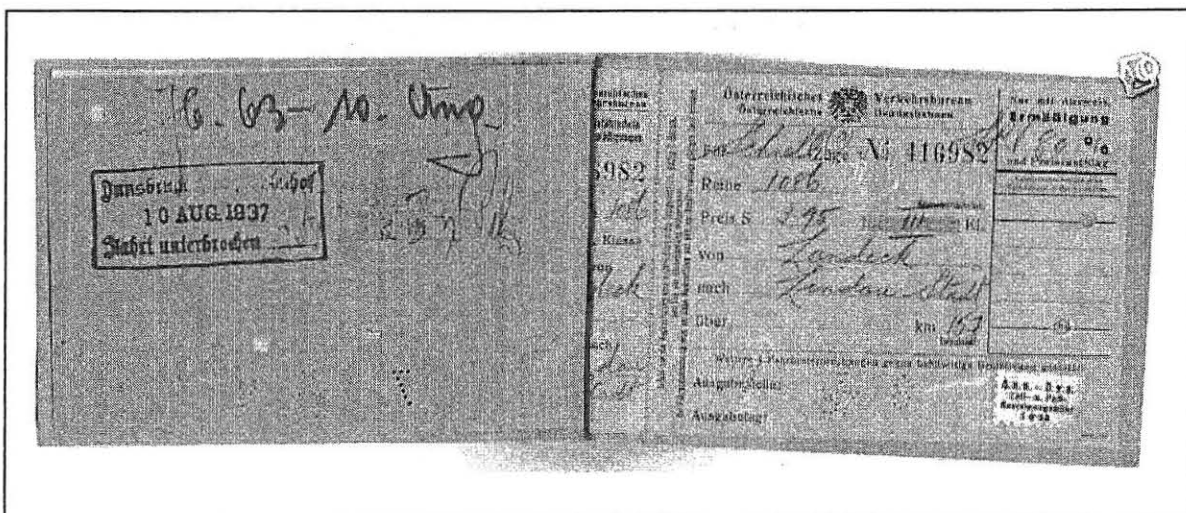
The following illustration shows the ticket for the first stage of the journey and the back page of the instructions/conditions of travel. The perforations through two instruction pages exactly align indicating that they were punched by the same strike. The perforations in the tickets and cover do not align with these.

The second ticket is for a journey from London to Hergenrath via Dover-Ostend. Hergenrath is on the Belgian side of the border with Germany, near Aachen. The perforation through this ticket reads "M E R / 22 . 4 . 39 / LONDON". Is "M E R" for the name of a station or railway?
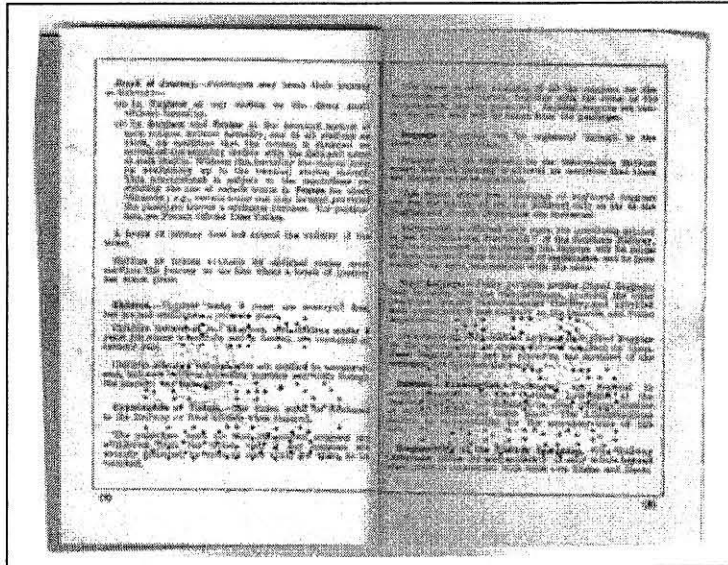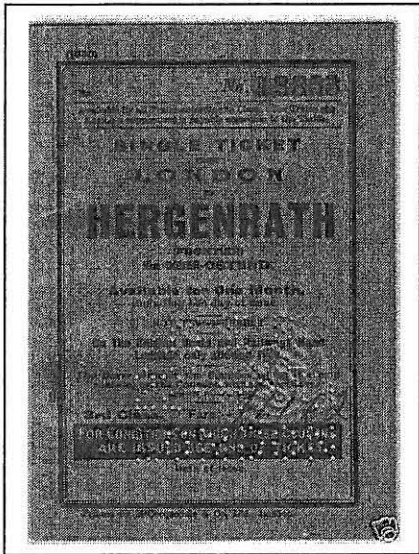
This, and the next one, appear to be from perforators on which the operator could select the date numerals.

The third ticket is for a journey from London to Boulogne via Folkstone, and the perforation reads "COOK / 25 . 39 . +9 / LON A".
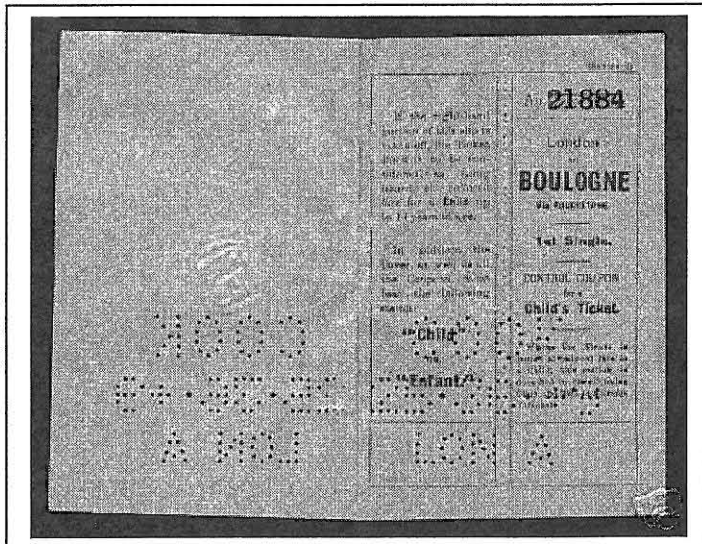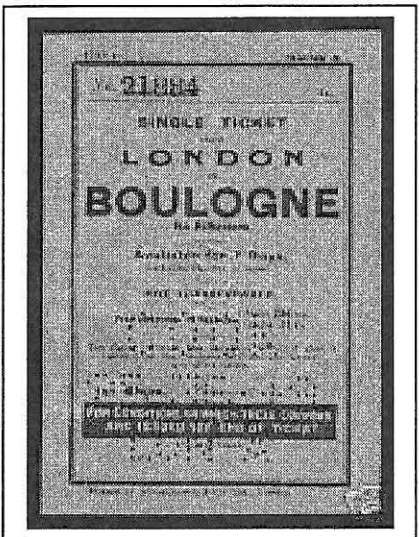
PERFINS OF MAURITIUS

An excellent web page listing the Perfin and Meter Stamps of Mauritius can be found at
http://www.mauritiuspostalhistory.com/perfin_meter/perfin_meter.htm

Brief company information is provided for the users of Mauritius perfins.

AUCTION WATCH

Items of perfin interest from auctions/direct sales since the October 2009 Bulletin include the following items. Thanks to Tony Nobilo, Richard Smolnicki, Mark Saxby, and John Amiet for passing on their spotting of perfin lots in auctions. Stamps are "used" unless otherwise indicated. Prices in A$ unless indicated.

			Est.
a. £1 Roo 2nd wmk perf "OS/NSW".	(eBay, Nov 09)	sold for	US $ 650
b. NZ 1d SSF perf 10 x 10/12.5, perf "C&G".	(Classic Stamps Sale, Dec 09)		NZ $ 220
c. NZ "S&S" Perfin on ½d Mt Cook.	(Classic Stamps Sale, Dec 09)		NZ $ 30
d. NZ "GNB/Ld" on 1d Universal.	(Classic Stamps Sale, Dec 09)		NZ $ 120
e. NZ Two "DB/&/Co" perfins on pr 1d SSF.	(Classic Stamps Sale, Dec 09)		NZ $ 70
f. NZ "DB/&Co" on 1d SSF.	(Classic Stamps Sale, Dec 09)		NZ $ 35
g. £5 WA Long Swan with "T" punch.	(eBay, Oct 09)	sold for	US $5.50
h. 4 copies of £1 Arms perf VOCO.6.	(eBay, Oct 09)	sold for	$ 47
i. Cnr block of 2 rows of 9 Vic ½d green "bantams" perf "OS" (shows how it was done in 2 strikes per row).	(eBay, Oct 09)	sold for	US $ 39
j. WA Railway parcel stamp (9d emerald, imperf at right) with perf WS&CO.1 (2 heads).	(Premier Postal Auction, Oct 09)	sold for	$ 60
k. Union Pacific Cummins model 53 10-head perforator in working cond (no missing pins)	(eBay, Oct 09)	sold for	US $382
l. 1927 cover of Paul & Gray Ld, Sydney, with 1½d red KGV perf P&G.1, taxed 5c on delivery in USA (see article this issue).	(eBay, Nov 09)	sold for	US $ 43
m. 2d grey Roo perf "NZL".	(Auckland City Stamps sale, Nov 09)	sold for	NZ $ 8
n. 2d Scarlet KGV perf "NZL".	(Auckland City Stamps sale, Nov 09)	sold for	NZ $ 8
o. NZ 1/- orange KEVII perf "W&T/W".	(Auckland City Stamps sale, Nov 09)	sold for	NZ $ 20
p. GB 1893 cover of Bank of New Zealand, London, with 1d QV perf "BNZ".	(Auckland City Stamps sale, Nov 09)	sold for	NZ $ 93
q. USA c1930s-1970s Pre-cancels colln (about 3000 stamps), plus perfins of NZ, USA, GB, Canada, etc. (over 2000 stamps & 50 covers. (Mowbray (NZ) sale, Nov 09)		sold for	NZ $ 950
r. 1946 bundle of 47 Registered OHMS Land Titles Office returned envelopes (some, with ads for War Savings Certificates), all with perf "W/A" on 5½d Emu.	(Ace Stamp Auctions, Nov 09)	sold for	$ 170
s. Return addressed envelope to Australian Widows Fund, Wellington, NZ with 1d Universal with Perfin "AWF" (not tied).	(eBay, Nov 09)	sold for	US $ 131
t. Advertising cover of Tooheys Ltd, Sydney, with 2d red KGV perf TYSLD.1.	(eBay, Dec 09)	sold for	US $ 48
u. 5d Roo perf GT&CO.1.	(eBay, Dec 09)	sold for	$ 53
v. Queensland 5/- Chalon perf BI&QACOLD.1	(eBay, Nov 09)	sold for	US $ 17
w. NZ High Commission, London, cover 1927 to Germany with 2½d KGV perf "NZ"	(Len Jury auction, Jan 10)		NZ $200
x. "N.Z.L" Perfin on GB 1883 QVic 10/-	(eBay, Jan 10)	sold for	US $ 30
y. GB 1883/4 QV 1/- green SG196 perf "NZL".	(Auckland City Stamps sale, Jan 10))		NZ $ 75
z. GB 1887 £1 green SG212 perf DB".	(Auckland City Stamps sale, Jan 10)		NZ $250
aa. GB 1939 2/6 KGVI SG476a perf "NZ".	(Auckland City Stamps sale, Jan 10)		NZ $ 10
ab. 1/- black ANZAC perf TBS.2.	(eBay, Feb 09)	sold for	$21.50
ac. NSW 9d on 10d overprint QV perf "OS/NSW" type 'A', mint.	(eBay Mar 10)	sold for	$11.50