

PERFIN SNIPPETS From Dave Hill.

Members are asked to help establish the identity of the following users listed in Slopers' first ledger. This has few actual illustrations of the perfin, just a manuscript entry showing the arrangement of the letters.

Where the perfin or its arrangement is unusual and the address of the user is known then confirmation that perfins are known with the relevant town postmark will give a provisional identity.

1 The Acton & Wembley Hospital (Committee?) is shown as the user of AW/HC. Only one perfin exists, A5860 and it is in the usual Sloper alphabet. If members can confirm that postmarks from this area appear on this perfin then we can claim a new identity.

2. ACS (diagonal) is shown for the Additional Curates Society. There is only one candidate, A1460, again in the usual Sloper alphabet. My Whittaker says this Society was in Harpenden in 1949 and in Gt. Smith Street, London SW1 in 1914. But where was it in 1939 when we think this ledger was written: and is the perfin known with these postmarks?

3. J.J. Allen of Bournemouth is known as the user of A0010.02 but Ledger 1 shows their original die as JJA and the only candidate is J4 310.01. Is it known with Bournemouth postmarks?

4. Two dies are shown for Alliance Trading Co., the original ATC/Ld A5375 and a provisional (although we do not list it as such) A/TC A5370. There is only one perfin known for each of these arrangements but where were Alliance Trading situated and are the perfins known with these postmarks?

5. AS/&Co A5050 is shown for Allen Solly & Co., manufacturers of fine knitwear in Brookfield, Arnold, Nottingham. Which of the A5050 perfins are known postmarked Nottingham?

6. AD A1610 is shown for Amalgamated Dairies but it is shown vertically. Are any of the A1610 known thus?

7. A1200.01 AC/L is known used by A.C. Cars Ltd. Could A1200.02 be an earlier die? Are copies known postmarked Thames Ditton where this long established car maker still has an office?

(The A C stood for Auto-Carrier, an early light van.)

8. 2 users of the perfin AB/Ld A074 0 are shown. One is Armand Bloch Ltd., provision importers of Tooley St., SE1 and the other is Allen Bros Ltd., sheet metal workers of Southampton. Are either A0740.01 or .02 known with these postmarks?

9. 2 perfins are shown for Associated Biscuit Manufacturers, ABM A0780 ' as the original die and AB/M A0790 as the new die: neither are known. The association was formed by the amalgamation of the then ailing Quaker firm of Huntley and Palmer, who introduced machinery to biscuit making, with Peek Frean and Jacobs. They used Huntley and Palmer's Reading address. Have members got either of these perfins with Reading postmarks?

Please try to find time to check your stock for any of these clues and send your findings direct to Dave, whose NEW address is on the front of the Bulletin. There will be more of these queries in the next few Bulletins.

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