

Colis Postal & Chemins de Fer Stamps of Belgium

By Bob Schewrdt (#505L)

I like all perfins, but some I like better than others. Perhaps the reason that I became a collector of world perfins is that there is so much quantity and variety to consider.

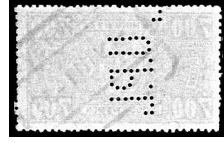
For the countries with the greatest number of perfins, housing becomes somewhat of a problem - especially for the issue collector, even more so if one wishes to display his collection and not just store it alphabetically in glassines.

So far, for the 'larger' countries, I am content to collect by perfin type; one of each. Oh, I might add a SON, an unlisted cancel, a high-catalog item or an overprinted issue. Remember, I told you I like certain perfins better than others.

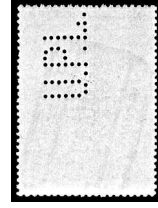
I consider Belgium to be one of the 'larger' countries (last census high count was 1057). Most of their perfins are found in small nondescript definitives, which I usually house face down. Several pages of these begin to pall after a time, except for the challenge of filling empty spaces. Filling those spaces is difficult especially when one

already has a goodly number of the countries types. Of course there are other aspects of Belgian perfin collecting; revenues, prepers, semi-postals, commemoratives and railway (parcel post) perfins - all much fewer in number than the postal perfins. Because of their limited numbers and pictorial variety, these specialty areas often make ideal issue collections. Issue perfins are displayed face up, and thus are more attractive than the face down definitives.

In order to have more fun with my Belgium perfins, I decided to make a specialty collection of the railway types; incidentally hoping to find some with postal cancels. (No doubt someday a railroad enthusiast will create a catalog of these perfin types and issues.) It may be that I have started a project that will become much larger than I anticipated. At first, I isolated about 50 railway types; now the collection nears 100 (still a far number from the 1000+ postal perfin types.) I am really in trouble if every company that produced postal perfins also produced railway perfins!



U27
Charleroi Cancel



U28
Haren Cancel



V18
Possible
New type



V18
Correct illustration

The chart below indicates my list of Belgian railway perfins showing catalog numbers, patterns and quantities of different issues. The numbers reflect, in some measure, the scarcity of some types based on my forty-years of experience. Hopefully, numbers of types and issues will change after members check their collections. I am uncertain which railway perfin types are missing from this list, so any further information will be helpful.

H/V	S/S	Pat	#*	H/V	S/S	Pat	#*	H/V	S/S	Pat	#*	H/V	S/S	Pat	#
A46	A34	A.D.C.	7	E13	E12	EC	2	J2	J1	JA	1	P49	P37	P.V.	
A128	A104	A.V.	14	E21	E16	ED	5	J6	J4	J.B./W	1	S71	S62	S.L.	
B5	B7	B	10	E55	E42	E.L.	4	J49	J37	J.V.	28	T4	O15	Circle (T)	
B17	B18	BB	5	E75	E57	ET	12	J51	J38	J.V	6	T6	T5	TAE	
B22	B21	B.B.	2	E78	E61	ETR	3	J58	J42	JW	13	T7	T6	TANT	
B24	B23	B.B.	8	E82	E62	E.V	7	J59	J43	JW	26	U27	U20	U.P.L.	1*
B101	B85	B.P.&F.	16	F11	F11	FB	22	J63	J45	J.W/B	12	U28	----	U.P.L.	31*
C9	C11	CA	2	F15	F16	F.B.	2	J64	J46	JW/+C	10	U29	U21	U.P.L	0*
C29	C25	CB/S	3	F17	F19	F.B.	7	K8	K7	KLD	1	V16	V13	V.C.	1
C44	C36	C.C.V.	1	F23	F24	F.C	28	M9	M8	MB	15	V18	V15	V.C.	22*
C111	C90	CO/TY	3	F24	F25	F.C	9	M31	M22	MF.	5	V26	V20	V.D.B. /# ⁴	
C117	C93	C.P.	1	F48	F46	F.H.K.	12	M32	M21	[MF]	2	V29	V21	V.D.B./# ⁵	
C123	C99	C.P.F.	4	F58	F51	FL	1	M39	H29	MH	5	V31	V22	V.D.B./# ⁶	
C127	C103	CPP	22	F85	F73	FT	8	M44	M30	MI/B	2	V33	V24	V.D.B.	
C138	C110	CR	21	G16	---	G.C/B	1	M45	M31	MICHEL	1	V38	V28	VEF	
C151	C119	C.T.F.	6	G23	G21	GDB	1	M57	M42	MN	1	V49	V36	V.G.	
C161	C127	C.Z.	1	G34	G30	G.G/F	1	M65	----	M.S.V.	6	V54	----	V.G.	
D7	D6	DB	6	H26	----	HGB	1	N12	N9	NIAS	3	V65	V47	V.H.	
D11	8	D.B.	1	H33	H27	HL+C	2	N13	N10	NLC	10	V88	V65	V.W./C.	
D25	D22	DF	4	I2	I1	IC	4	N19	N13	NR/CO	4	V92	V67	V&D	
D33	D26	DFC	2	I5	C60	IHC	1	P18	----	PC/B	1	W4	W3	WAUQUEZ	1
D34	D27	DFC	15	I6	C61	IHC	1	P19	P15	PC/B	8	W7	W6	W(ANCHOR)CO	
D42	D32	D.G.	1	I11	I6	INDIA	1	P25	P19	P.G.	3	Z2	Z2	Z.C.	
D52	D42	DL	2	I12	I7	IPB	5	S17	S15	SBP	1				

Key:

* - Columns are as follows: H/V = Catalog number from Hammink/Vander Hoorn catalog of 1997; S/S = Catalog number from Smetsers/Smit catalog of 1985; Pat = Description of the pattern content; and, # = the number of different issues on which the author has found this pattern.

*² - Correct illustrations in Hammink's Catalog: U27 should be labeled U29; U29 should be U28; and, U28 should be U27. I have several copies of U.P.

with Michelen cancels that have a missing hole in the foot of the L (see illustration previous page). This postmark is not listed in Hammink.

*³ - Hammink's illustration of V18 is incorrect; see illustration for correct pattern (see previous page).

*⁴ - Character on second line is " "

*⁵ - Character on second line is " "

*⁶ - Character on second line is " "