The British West Indies Study Circle

On 27 January, 1994 the British West Indies Study Circle will have been in existence for forty years and it now has a world-wide membership of over 325 with communication between members through a quarterly *Bulletin* in which several pages are devoted to notes and queries enabling members to publish information and findings or to raise problems which require a solution with the help of other members.

One of the main objects of the Study Circle has been the publication of works resulting from research and the study of various aspects of the British West Indies, the chief ones of which are as follows:

1. *An Introduction to the Postal History of the British West Indies* by L E Britnor in 1959. This is a basic work which is just as sound today as when it was written.
2. *The Philatelic History of Trinidad to 1862* by J B Marriott, FRPSL, RDP in 1963. This work is out of print and greatly sought after.
3. *Montserrat* by L E Britnor in 1965. This book has stimulated the collecting of this country.
4. *The History of the Sailing Packets to the West Indies* by L E Britnor in 1973. A must for postal history collectors.
5. *Index to Bulletins Numbered 1 to 100 (both inclusive)* by E V Toeg in 1987. A must for all who wish to see what has already been written in the Bulletin on a particular subject.
6. *Barbados Post Office Markings to 1981* by G L W Clarke, R Radford and S Cave in 1982. The latest publication on the markings of this island.
7. *The Leeward Islands Adhesive Fees Stamps* by E V Toeg, FRPSL in 1991. The result of research in a little known and new area.

Other publications are in the course of production, one being on Dominica in memory of the late Philip Thomas Saunders who was the founder of the British West Indies Study Circle forty years ago.

Members give displays on behalf of the Study Circle to other societies and also displays are given by members at the Study Circle's meetings at the Spring and Autumn STAMPEX: meetings at STAMPEX are particularly well attended and always attract visitors. In addition the Study Circle has a well established auction usually held after its Annual General Meeting at which over 500 lots of interesting material are offered in a well balanced catalogue attracting postal as well as room bidders.

There is also a convention, which has been held at Leamington Spa every other year and this weekend occasion has proved in the past to be very popular; it includes a bourse and fine displays throughout the convention day of every facet of collecting the stamps of the British West Indies. Commencing with the convention on 8 and 9 October 1993, the Study Circle is celebrating its 40th anniversary with a rolling series of events during 1994, which should be very attractive. Why not get in touch with the Hon Secretary Michael Wilson at 'Timbers', Chequers Lane, Tharston, Norwich, NR15 2YA for details of the events, some of which may interest you?

Today, the stamps of the British West Indies are very much favoured by collectors and undoubtedly this Study Circle has helped to bring about this position. Each year, more and more collectors turn to the stamps of the British West Indies and gain full satisfaction in the pursuit of their collecting. This Study Circle wishes to encourage all facets of collecting the stamps of the British West Indies, and while much has already been done, it is, so far, only a small proportion of what remains to be done. To promote and assist the acquisition of knowledge some thirty years ago, the Study Circle commenced the formation of a library which today is quite extensive and put to considerable use by members in the United Kingdom.

The story of the British West Indies Study Circle would be incomplete without mentioning the late Philip Thomas Saunders whose foresight and energy brought it into existence aided by his very knowledgeable wife Rose (nee Titford). For many years Philip was the Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer of the Study Circle and the best tribute that the present members and those who join us in the future, can pay to its founder is to make certain that the Study Circle goes from strength to strength.

E V Toeg, President

SOME APPLICATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC PHOTOGRAPHY TO THE EXAMINATION OF STAMPS

By HERBERT FREUDENHEIM, F.R.P.S.

THE use of photography in the field of forensic science is practically as old as photography itself. In the early days the ease and speed of accurately recording objects quickly established photography in that science. In those days the investigators were mainly concerned with recording what was visible to the naked eye (such as, for example, faces of criminals, etc.) and indeed this is probably still the main function of photography.

In more recent times, however, other uses have been developed which are not concerned merely with recording what is visible but on the contrary, with revealing objects and phenomena which are invisible to the unaided human eye. Because these methods are not so widely known to philatelists as they should be, we shall concern ourselves with these applications in some detail.

SPECTRA

In order to separate white light into its elementary constituents, the sharp image of a very narrow slit, strongly illuminated from behind, is obtained by means of a lens, and between the slit and its image is placed a glass prism. As the beam of light passes through the prism it is "refracted," or turned in another direction. The angle of refraction depends upon the colour of the light and is greater for violet than for red light. The different coloured lights, the mixture of which constitutes white light, are thus separated, and form an infinite number of differently coloured images of the slit, which merge into one another and together constitute what is called *the spectrum* of the compound light thus analysed.

If, by means of a screen with a narrow slit placed in the plane in which the spectrum is clearly formed one of the coloured images is isolated, it will be found that this cannot be further split-up, the colours of the spectrum are therefore radiations of individual wavelength.

Different kinds of light, whether natural or artificial, are mixtures in varying proportions of such single radiations each acting separately. In order to know the properties of a given light, it is sufficient to know the proportions in which the different single radiations occur in it, and the properties of each of these radiations.

The various single radiations are identified by their wavelengths. These wavelengths in vacuum (or in air) vary from 4000 Angström Units (Å.U.) for the extreme violet, to a little over 7600 Å.U. for the extreme red. Notwithstanding the smallness of this unit,

which is equal to 1/10,000,000th part of a millimetre, wavelengths can be measured with extreme accuracy.

If the distribution of energy in the solar spectrum is studied by means other than visual examination, it is found that this spectrum is not confined to the comparatively limited portion which is perceived by the eye. On photographic plates and films, or on phosphorescent screens, action continues on a fairly extensive area in the so-called ultra-violet region and beyond that in the adjoining Grenz-ray, X-ray and Gamma-ray regions. If, on the other hand, the spectrum be explored with a very sensitive thermometer, a rise of temperature is found, which is slight in the violet part, more intense in the red, and still more intense beyond the extreme visible red, in a very extensive region called the infra-red.

What is usually called the colour of an object is its apparent colour when illuminated by natural white light. But the colour of an object essentially depends on the nature of the light by which it is illuminated: thus, in a room lit only by the yellow light of a sodium vapour lamp, all things appear yellow or black; with a mercury arc, the light of which is devoid of red, all red objects appear black or violet, according as their natural colour is a vermilion or a purple-red.

FLUORESCENCE

Invisible ultra-violet rays possess the property of making many substances fluoresce. Irradiated objects re-emit light, which in agreement with the quantum laws is always of a longer wavelength than that of the exciting radiation (Stokes Law), unless the emitting atom was already in an excited state (Anti-Stokes lines). The use of the analytical ultra-violet fluorescence lamp has therefore rightly gained widespread popularity in philately. For postage stamps are particularly suitable for examination under the ultra-violet fluorescence analysis lamp, as tests can be made on the paper, printing ink, colour, watermark, surcharge (especially if in colour) and postmark or other cancellation. Forgeries can frequently be detected rapidly when compared with a known genuine original. Repaired or amended specimens of any kind generally lend themselves to detection. Re-gummed stamps may fluoresce quite differently from those with the original adhesive. Slight differences of colour, unnoticeable by daylight or ordinary lamplight may be recognisable in the ultra-violet excited fluorescence (the well-known example of this are the two issues of the German red 10 pfennig "Deutschland" stamp printed in eosin and carmine, which fluoresce orange and green respectively). In many cases the ultra-violet fluorescence gives valuable service in recognising faint watermarks, particularly with specimens which are sensitive to water or petrol.

Obliterated cancellations are sometimes rendered visible through the fluorescence. It has been found that cancellation marks may be transferred from used to unused stamps by contact, the latter showing the mark reversed when examined under the ultra-violet fluorescence analysis lamp. They may also be transferred to unused stamps from paper which has been in contact with used stamps. It is specially noteworthy that in some conditions even various editions of the same stamp can be differentiated with the aid of the ultra-violet rays owing to different fluorescences of the various papers used. The specimens are, of course, entirely unaffected during the short test period necessary.

For a large number of reasons the photographic record of these fluorescence phenomena is, of course, a distinct improvement over the earlier visual tests. Firstly the fact that the photograph is a permanent record, not subject to the changes in character that have been known to occur in fluorescences after some lapse of time, and secondly that it can be sent to and examined anywhere without the need of transporting both ultra-violet lamp and the specimens under examination. Thirdly, by the use of certain photographic techniques it is possible to enhance colour—and brightness contrasts of the fluorescence, and so

veal and record photographically fluorescence phenomena that the human eye cannot see. One of the reasons for this is that certain fluorescences may fall below the limit of sensitivity of the eye, whilst the photographic plate is not handicapped in this way and can build up the image over relatively long periods of exposure time. Lastly, and perhaps most important of all, it has been held for some time that fluorescence effects may occur outside the visible spectrum and consequently cannot be seen by the unaided human eye, but, nevertheless, may be recorded photographically.

The fluorescence test is rapid, simple and sensitive. But most philatelic experts are too readily inclined to believe that the fluorescence test is the be-all and end-all of an examination. Many cases have shown conclusively that, though no examination is complete without it, the fluorescence test *alone* is no safeguard against overlooking irregularities in stamps.

It has been known for a number of years that the radiations on either side of the visible spectrum have very valuable properties, when used in the photographic examination of objects such as stamps. It is possible for two objects to show the same colour when viewed by visible light but to have quite different "colours" when irradiated by invisible rays. The difference in behaviour is due to the differential absorption by many substances in the invisible as compared with the absorption in the visible spectrum.

Ultra-violet Reflection Photography

It must be understood that when visually examining the ultra-violet excited fluorescence of an object one deals strictly only with visible radiation. The invisible ultra-violet is only used to cause, to generate or to excite the fluorescence.

There is, however, a special field of photography in the untra-violet which is distinctly different, both in methods and in results, to the ultra-violet excited fluorescence. This essentially photographic method consists of photographing not the visible fluorescence, but the invisible, reflected, ultra-violet radiations in a quite different manner to visible light. This method is very useful indeed in revealing a large number of irregularities that might otherwise not be detected. In addition this technique offers the advantage of very high definition, which is, of course, very desirable.

Photography in the Infra-red

This last mentioned technique is in certain ways similar to photography in that part of the spectrum that adjoins the deep red, namely the infra-red; in that we use exclusively invisible radiations for photographing. The results of infra-red and ultra-violet photography are often complementary to each other. When we add to this the possibility of recording simultaneously both in the ultra-violet and in the infra-red, it can be seen that photography so used is indeed a very useful tool to the examiner of questioned stamps and documents.

The infra-red radiation has furthermore the property of penetrating a large variety of substances and so enables the photographer to reveal what is obscured and hidden to the eye.

If in addition to all these qualities we realise that many features can be rendered visible by suitable magnification, and we now stop to think that we can link magnification with the use of the various invisible radiations in photography, it will become obvious that there are indeed innumerable possibilities at the disposal of the skilled technician.

To this must be further added the possibility of superimposing photographic images in register; colour photography that enables us to record the most subtle colour variations; X-ray and the softer Grenz-ray photography, as well as many other photographic techniques too numerous to list here, and it will become apparent that in applied scientific photography

we have a tool which in the hands of the skilled technologist can reveal irregularities that might well have escaped detection.

Summing Up

We have tried to indicate in this article that no examination of postage stamps is complete without photography. It is a widespread fallacy that the visual ultra-violet fluorescence test, useful as it undoubtedly may be, can be considered reliable when used as the only test in the examination of postage stamps. We have tried to show some of the possibilities of this advanced field of applied scientific photography and would urge that this should be entrusted only to the expert, so as to avoid disappointments and failures. Undoubtedly we are here only at the beginning of ever more- and more-developed techniques which will all contribute to the sum total of our knowledge.

THE

Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

AND INTERNATIONAL STAMP ADVERTISER.

With which are incorporated "Stamps" the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian,"

Edited by FRED. J. MELVILLE.

*** The "S.C.F." is the Official Journal of the Scottish Philatelic Society, the Liverpool and Liverpool Junior Philatelic Societies, the Junior Philatelic Society of Scotland, the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society, the North of England Philatelic Society, the Northampton Philatelic Society, the Croydon Philatelic Society, the Bath Philatelic Society, the Nottinghamshire Philatelic Society, and the principal Exchange Clubs.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

	PAGE
The Cocktail Shaker and the Sliding Lady	157
Colonel E. H. Green	158
New Stamps for Greece	158
A Phantasy on Batoum	158
Insurance of Stamps and Stamp Collectors	159
Notes on New Issues and Varieties	160
Between Ourselves	162
Jubilee Varieties	162
Round the Air Mail Market	163
New York Awards	163

No. 1078.—Vol. XLII. SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1936. PRICE 2D.

THE COCKTAIL SHAKER AND THE SLIDING LADY.

A COLONIAL GOVERNOR LOOKS BACK ON HIS STAMPS

SOME delightful and unconventional notes on the stamps of the Leeward Islands presidencies, appear in "From a Colonial Governor's Notebook," by Sir Reginald St. Johnson, K.C.M.G. (Hutchinson 12s. 6d.) Sir Reginald who has held administrative appointments in many parts of the Empire, recently retired from the office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Leeward Islands.

While there is a great deal of general interest in the Governor's Note Book, the chief references to postage stamp issues are to St. Kitts, Antigua, and Montserrat.

St. Kitts and the Columbus Telescope.

On page 118 Sir Reginald relates:

"The seals of the Presidency were interesting, as they showed, as on the postage stamps, in the arms of St. Kitts a representation of Columbus "discovering" St. Kitts through a telescope, which instrument was not invented till about a hundred years after his time! I once asked "Norroy King of Arms" at the College of Heralds, if he could suggest any explanation of the origin of this anachronism, but in spite of all researches he could offer none."

Nevis Waters not for Drinking.

Again on page 119 the Governor discusses a much disputed design of the Nevis stamps:

"The 'Presidency of St. Christopher—Nevis' is generally and colloquially called St. Kitts, after the fashion of the early settlers, and this habit has become so crystallized now that the nickname even appeared officially until recently on the postage stamps. The alternate values of the stamps had the arms of Nevis on them, to be fair to the other partner, as there is considerable jealousy between them. But poor Anguilla, the third partner, was given the cold shoulder and left out. The Nevis arms depicted two young ladies, apparently pouring out from a cocktail-shaker a Nevis rum-punch for a third one, who has presumably reached the 'sliding on to the floor' stage. Actually it is intended to represent the offer to an ailing person of a draught of Nevis curative waters, but as these waters are only taken in the form of hot baths, which one doesn't or shouldn't drink, the design is not quite accurate.

Stamps and Colonial Revenue.

"In 1923, a new 'tercentenary' stamp was issued to commemorate the landing of Sir Thomas Warner in 1623, and the stamp shows a picture of his ship coming to anchor in Old Road Bay. The twenty shilling value is now worth nearly twenty pounds. Stamps make a very useful form of revenue to small impoverished colonies, and though no one would like any unit of the British Empire to follow the example of some small American republics and make a living from them, it is possible to go to the other extreme and be too conservative. New issues of stamps have to receive the prior approval of the Colonial Office, and I suppose that the little island of Barbuda was fortunate that in 1921 I managed to get the necessary authority for an issue there, as it had been badly hit by a hurricane, and the sale of stamps in the one year made sufficient for the Government to repair most of the damage and help the people. One might also say, with the Prayer Book, "A happy issue out of all their afflictions!"

A Lady's Design for Antigua.

"The tercentenary of the colonization of Antigua occurred nine years after that of St. Kitts, and this time we had four different views for the varying values of the stamps. Three of them were originally my suggestions, and elaborated by the engravers in England, but the fourth one, which was undoubtedly the best, was the design of a local lady, a Mrs. Goodwin. This showed 'The Three Arches of the Centuries,' with Warner's ship in the distance. The other three showed respectively 'The Old Dockyard,' 'Government House' and 'Nelson's last visit in the Victory.' Little Montserrat also commemorated *her* tercentenary with a special stamp issue in the same year."

Stamps paid for the Warner Park.

Later on, (page 138) we read:

About this time I had been in negotiation with Mrs. Wade, a proprietor of large estates in St. Kitts and Montserrat, to purchase a piece of land at the north side of Basseterre for conversion into a recreation ground with the money, nearly five thousand pounds, derived from the sales of the 1923 tercentenary stamp issue, which had not up till that time been utilised for the purpose originally intended. After prolonged correspondence, as the lady lived in England, I was able to acquire sixteen acres of land for £1,600, which seemed high, but I suppose was reasonable in view of its proximity to the town. The balance of the money was used for levelling and planting the ground and for erecting a very good building which formed a combined pavilion, grandstand and concert room. The place was called 'Warner Park' after the founder of St. Kitts."

BRITISH WEST INDIES
(General)

GIBBONS' STAMP MONTHLY, July, 1948.

The British West Indies

A PHILATELIC HISTORY

By S. H. NORRIS, B.A.

IN September 1947 a conference was held at Montego Bay, Jamaica, to consider the possibility of effecting the closer association of the British West Indian colonies. Preliminary agreement was reached, and the question of establishing a British Caribbean Federation is being further examined.

The British West Indies consist of the Bahamas, Jamaica and its dependencies (the Turks and Caicos Islands and the Cayman Islands),



the Leeward Islands, Barbados, the Windward Islands, and Trinidad and Tobago, together with the mainland colonies of British Guiana and British Honduras. The Bermudas are not properly a part of the British West Indies, though they are sometimes regarded as such for convenience.

All of the islands in the British West Indies, except Barbados, were first discovered by Columbus, but English settlers did not begin to arrive until the seventeenth century. During that and the following century, the islands changed hands several times, and many of them were acquired by Britain at that time. During the American War of Independence they were attacked and in several cases captured by the French and Spanish, but British supremacy in the West Indies was restored by Admiral Rodney's brilliant victory over the French at the Battle of the Saints (off Dominica) in 1782. This is recalled by the 2s. value of the 1919 pictorial set of Jamaica, which depicts a memorial to Rodney.

The islands were again threatened by the French in 1805 when Villeneuve sailed to the West Indies, whither he was pursued by Nelson. He quickly returned to Europe, and Nelson, after refitting at Antigua, followed him, to meet a hero's death at Trafalgar. A monument erected to Nelson at Bridgetown, Barbados, is shown on the set of Barbadian stamps issued in 1905 to mark the centenary of Nelson's death. Another link with Nelson is the picture of the "Victory" which appears on three values of the tercentenary issue of Antigua.



The Bahamas, the most northerly of the British West Indies, consist of twenty-nine islands and numerous islets scattered over a large area. Among them is the island on which Columbus first set foot in the New World in 1492, this distinction being claimed for San Salvador or Watling's Island. The 450th anniversary of the landfall of Columbus was celebrated in 1942 by overprinting the current stamps of the colony. The first English settlers in the Bahamas arrived in 1629, and a set of stamps appeared in 1929 to mark the tercentenary of the colony. After a chequered history, the islands were finally ceded to Britain by Spain in 1783. During the recent war the Duke of Windsor (formerly King Edward VIII) acted for a time as Governor of the Bahamas.

Jamaica, the largest island in the British West Indies, was discovered in 1494—the 3d. value of the pictorial set of 1919 shows the landing of Columbus. Jamaica remained in Spanish hands until it was captured by the English in 1655. A few years later a constitution was granted, the first House of Assembly being elected in 1664 (see the 2d. value of the constitution commemoratives of 1944). This constitution remained in force until it was abrogated in 1865. Responsible government was restored to the island under a new constitution promulgated in 1944—an event marked by the issue of a special set of stamps.



Of the dependencies of Jamaica, the **Cayman Islands** were colonised from Jamaica soon after its capture by the English. The chief industry of the islands is turtle fishing—hence the prominence of turtles on the recent pictorial stamps. The Caymans are administered by Justices of the Peace, with local affairs in the hands of vestries. The centenary of the "Assembly of Justices and Vestry" was commemorated in 1932 by the issue of special stamps portraying Kings William IV and George V. The **Turks and Caicos Islands** form a part of the Bahamas geographically. In 1848, at the request of the inhabitants, they were constituted a separate colony under the supervision of Jamaica, by which they were formally annexed in 1873. The earliest stamps of the colony were inscribed "Turks Islands", but the inscription was altered in 1900 to include the Caicos Islands. The chief industry of the Caicos Islands is salt raking, which figures prominently on the colony's stamps. British Honduras was at first under the wing of Jamaica, but the connection was severed in 1884.

The **Leeward Islands** form a federal colony consisting of the four "presidencies" of Antigua (with Barbuda and Redonda), St. Kitts-Nevis (with Anguilla), Montserrat, and the Virgin Islands (Dominica was formerly included, but was transferred to the Windward group in 1939). The colony was established in this form by the Leeward Islands Act, 1871; the seat of the federal government is at Antigua. Each presidency, however, enjoys a large measure of autonomy; the functions of the presidencies include the issue of stamps. In 1890, however, a common issue for the Leeward group superseded the separate issues for the various presidencies; but after about ten years the latter produced their own stamps again, and since then, the two issues (the general issue for the group and the separate issues for the presidencies) have been used concurrently.



St. Kitts (or St. Christopher), which was discovered by Columbus in 1493, has the distinction of being the first island in the West Indies to be settled by the English (in 1623); the leader of the colonists was Sir Thomas Warner, whose arrival is depicted on the tercentenary stamps issued in 1923. St. Kitts was ceded to Britain by the French in 1713. The sister island of **Nevis** was colonised by the English from St. Kitts in 1628. At first St. Christopher and Nevis were separate colonies (though both joined the Leeward Islands federation in 1871), and separate stamps were issued for both islands. In 1882, however, they were united to form a single presidency in the Leeward group, and the separate stamps were in due course superseded by a combined issue for the two islands.

Antigua, the chief island of the Leewards, was first colonised by the English in 1632, when a settlement was established by Capt. Edward Warner, son of Sir Thomas



[continued overleaf]

was discovered by Columbus in 1498, n event commemorated 400 years ater by the issue of a special stamp. Trinidad remained in Spanish hands ntil it was captured by the English in 797; it was formally ceded to Britain in 1802. **Tobago** had a somewhat stormy history until finally ceded to Britain in 1814. At first both slands formed separate colonies, and accordingly there were separate issues of stamps. In 1888 Tobago ceased to be one of the Windward colonies and became a dependency of Trinidad. It still continued, however, to issue its own mps, but ten years later it was rmally amalgamated with Trinidad, nd since then it has formed a "ward" f the united colony of Trinidad and obago. The separate issues for rinidad and for Tobago were in due course superseded by stamps inscribed Trinidad and Tobago".



A little farther south is **British Guiana**, the only British colony on the mainland of South America. Discovered by Columbus in 1498, Guiana was visited a hundred years later by Sir Walter Raleigh in search of El Dorado—his expedition is recalled by the 96 c. stamp of the current set, which shows Raleigh and his son. Guiana was settled by the Dutch in the seventeenth century and was ceded to Britain in 1814. It was originally divided into the three colonies of Essequibo, Demerara and Berbice, and it did not become a single colony until 1831, an event commemorated in 1931 by the issue of special stamps.

British Honduras, in Central America, was settled from Jamaica, and the colonists successfully resisted all attempts of the Spaniards to drive them out. In 1862 the settlement was granted the status of a colony, under the supervision of Jamaica, and it was not until 1884 that it became independent of Jamaica; accordingly the earliest stamps (issued in 1866) were really those of a dependency of Jamaica. The capital of the colony, Belize, was severely damaged by a hurricane and tidal wave in 1931, and special stamps were issued to assist the Relief Fund. British Honduras has been claimed by the neighbouring state of Guatemala—in fact, a stamp issued by that country in 1939 shows the colony as part of Guatemala.

As stated above, the Bermudas do not properly belong to the Br Indies, but a note about them may be included here for completeness. The islands were discovered in 1515 by Juan Bermudez, after whom they are named. They were settled in 1609 by Sir George Somers, and in his honour they were long called the Somers Islands. A form of representative government was introduced in 1620 (the tercentenary being marked by the issue of two sets of special stamps in 1920), but this was abrogated in 1684.

The various groupings described in this article have clearly been actuated by a realisation that the islands are too small to stand alone. In fact, there has for long been fairly general agreement that the British West Indies should ultimately be united in some way. The islands are, however, scattered over a wide expanse of sea, and this fact, combined with the highly individualistic character of the various islands, presents a serious obstacle to political federation. The whole question has been examined by several Commissions. The West India Royal Commission appointed in 1939 believed federation to be the ultimate objective of the British West Indies and they recommended the early amalgamation of the Leeward and Windward Islands. Discussions to this limited end are proceeding concurrently with those designed to achieve the federation of the West Indies as a whole.

Profound changes in the political organisation of the British West Indies appear probable within the next few years, and they are more than likely to have marked philatelic repercussions.

Through the Magnifying Glass

LEEWARD ISLANDS

Conducted By C. P. RANG.

LEEWARD IS.

IT is not often that question and answer are sent to me in close succession, and in that helpful order, but it did happen in the case of

Plate damaged.



Plate repaired.

the variety which is illustrated here. Mr. G. P. Coates sent me the photograph showing the broken frame-line of the tablet and the damaged "E" of "FIVE", but I was unable to locate such a specimen in the sheets which I examined. Soon after, Mrs. Barnes sent me the other variety with the information that it was to be found on No. 17 of the left-hand pane, a fact which I was able to confirm.

On looking at these photographs closely I think there can be no doubt whatever that they are the same variety, the first showing damage to the plate and the second showing the same damage repaired. But in order to make quite sure we need a collector to come forward with the "damaged plate" variety in a block that will prove its position to be the same as the "repaired" variety.

Judging from the photograph the "damaged plate" is from one of the printings on thick chalky paper. The "repaired plate" is on the thin wartime paper which first appeared in December 1943.



Warner. The tercentenary of the colony was celebrated in 1932 by the issue of special stamps, one of the designs showing Sir Thomas Warner's ship. Separate stamps were issued in 1922 for **Barbuda,** one of the dependencies of Antigua, the general issue for the Leeward Islands being overprinted for the purpose; these stamps were, however, discontinued after a relatively short existence.

Montserrat was settled by colonists



from St. Kitts under Sir Thomas Warner in 1632—a tercentenary issue of stamps duly appearing in 1932. The **Virgin Islands** were colonised by English buccaneers during the reign of Charles II. To-day the Virgins are shared between Britain and the United States; the latter acquired their islands partly by cession from Spain and partly by purchase from Denmark.

Barbados is the only island in the British West Indies which has never belonged to a foreign power. In 1605 an English ship, the *Olive Blossom* put in to Barbados by chance and her crew claimed the island for King James I of England; the tercentenary of this "annexation" was marked by the issue of a special stamp in 1905. The establishment of an English colony in Barbados in 1627 was commemorated in 1927 by another special stamp, which shows portraits of Charles I and George V. Further tercentenary stamps were issued in 1939 in honour of the establishment of the General Assembly of Barbados, one of the oldest representative bodies in the British Empire; these stamps show, in addition to Charles I and George VI, a view of the Assembly chamber, together with the mace used in the Assembly. During a considerable part of the last century Barbados was one of the colonies in the Windward group, and was the seat of the Governor of the Windward Islands. In 1885, however, Barbados became a separate colony again.

The **Windward Islands** consist of a loose federation of separate colonies, which at present are Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Dominica. In the last century the group consisted of Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia and Tobago. This arrangement continued until 1885, when Barbados ceased to be a member of the



group; three years later Tobago became a dependency of Trinidad, while in 1939 Dominica was transferred from the Leeward group. The Windward colonies are united only in the person of the Governor, and there is no federal government—hence there is no common issue of stamps for the Windward Islands as there is for the Leeward Islands.



The seat of the Governor of the Windward Islands is **Grenada.** This island was discovered by Columbus in 1498, a special stamp being issued in 1898 to commemorate this event. **St. Lucia** was discovered in 1502, and the quatercentenary was likewise celebrated in 1902 with a special stamp. Both Grenada and St. Lucia were colonised by the French and they did not become British until 1783 and 1803, respectively. **St. Vincent** and **Dominica** were for a long time strongholds of the Caribs (West Indian natives). Captured by British and French in turn in the eighteenth century, they did not pass into the undisputed possession of Britain until the early 1800's. Dominica was a presidency of the Leeward group up to the end of 1939.

Trinidad, the largest island after Jamaica in the British West Indies,

3.1.20.1.

MISCELLANEOUS.

(T. CHARLTON HENRY'S COLLECTION)

STAMP COLLECTING, May 5, 1961

We'll never see its like again !

(The T. Charlton Henry B.W.I. Collection)

Last month, Harmer, Rooke & Co. Inc., of New York, disposed of the T. Charlton Henry collection of British West Indies issues for the very considerable sum of £89,370. The seven-session, three-day sale was an event in British—yes, British—philately, and it is the British dealer, W. E. Lea, of the Strand, who reports on the sale, which he attended. The dollar realisations have been converted for the convenience of British readers.

MAJOR T. CHARLTON HENRY died in 1936 and the collection of the West Indies group which he formed was, at that time, acknowledged to be the finest in the world. Although many other fine collections of this group have been formed in the last 20 years none can compare with the condition and beauty of the "Charlton Henry", containing as it did the pick of the Worthington, Ferrari, Duveen and Hind collections.

Condition being the keynote of this collection, it is no wonder that bidders were attracted from all over the world for the sale of this famous collection and three leading London dealers, Bill Lea, A. L. Michael (H. E. Wingfield & Co.), and Fred Buck (David Field Ltd.), competed with the leading U.S. and international professionals for the ownership of these magnificent pieces.

The sales, which were conducted throughout in a spirit of friendly rivalry, commenced at Harmer Rooke's New York sale-room on Tuesday, April 4th, at 2 p.m., with Antigua, and it was obvious, as soon as Mr. Gordon Harmer ascended the rostrum and tapped the gavel, that competition was going to be very keen. Lot 3 was a beautiful block of the 6d. blue-green, S.G.1, which catalogued £88 and was knocked down to a bid of £125. The same stamp, used (cat. £15), realised £26.15, and a block of four of the 1d. lilac-rose, S.G.5 (£16), realised £22; a cover with a strip of four and a single of the same stamp to Nova Scotia fetched £67.16 (Lea), whilst a copy of the 6d. yellow-green, S.G.10 (£70), realised £92.16 (Lea), and the rare 1d. vermilion horizontal pair imperf. between unlisted by Scott but listed and priced by Gibbons, went for £171 (Wingfield).

The **Bahamas** section was truly beautiful and all the major pieces realised well over catalogue. Amongst the highlights were the strip of four of S.G.1, £499 (Wingfield), a block of six, S.G.5, £571 (Lyman), a block of 14, S.G.5, £1,035 (Wingfield), against a catalogue of £560. The imperf. 1862 1d. lake, Scott 8b. (unlisted by Gibbons), went to Mercury Stamp Co. of New York at £71, and the 4d. rose, S.G.18 (£55) went to Ezra Cole at £82.

Barbados opened quietly, the first kill being made by Buck, who bought the beautiful pair of S.G.2 for £27.10 against a catalogue of £40, whilst Lea paid £214 for the bisect of S.G.4ab, used, together with a pair of S.G.2 on wrapper to Newfoundland and Ezra Cole of New York, obtained the incomparable ½d. yellow-green, imperf., S.G.16, for £103.10. The 1861 rough perfs. contained few highlights, but the very rare Plate 2 in a fine corner block of 15 went to Lea at £78.10, and Mercury secured the block of 20 ½d. grass-green at £45. The very rare "Cancelled" obliteration on the 6d. rose-red went to Buck for £42, and he also obtained the unique 1s. block of four, imperf. between, at £303. The error of colour, 1s. blue, S.G.38, realised £624, Mercury purchased the lovely block of six, S.G.52 (£90) for £82, and Cole killed all opposition with his full catalogue bid of £55 for S.G.49.



"Buck's Barbados"

The Provisional 1d. on 5s. commanded attention from the whole room—the unique block of four, S.G.86a (catalogued £900), falling to Buck for £1,321 and the imperforate between pair beat the whole room, going to a postal bid at £642.

The outstanding **Cayman Islands** item, the block of 12 of the ½d. on 5s., one stamp without surcharge, was eventually secured by Wingfield at £377, and S.G.24, fine used, was knocked down to L.E.D. at £67. Lea and Buck fought strenuously for the **Dominica** Provisionals, but the unique 1d. on 6d., S.G.18, used on cover, eventually fell to Buck at £1,071.

Record prices were obtained in the **Grenada** section; S.G.1 (£50) realising £56 (Lea), while S.G.16a (£65) went to Harry Schloss at £52. Lea secured both blocks of the 2½d., S.G.24 and S.G.25 at £128 and £110 respectively, another room buyer obtaining the mint block of the 4d., S.G.26 (£56), for £67.

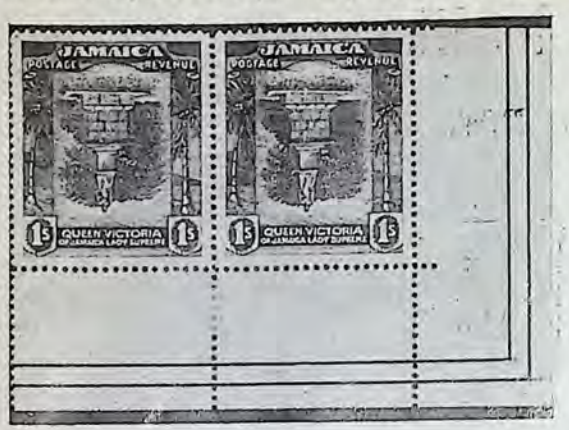
The outstanding **Jamaica** pieces went to postal bidders; the 6d. deep lilac block of six, S.G.5b (£150), realised £214, and the block of 24 of the 1s. brown with pineapple watermark (S.G.6) was knocked down at £302; the corner pair of the 1s. orange with inverted centre was "stolen" by Todd for £1,000. This was probably the cheapest item in the sale—I consider it a low price for such a unique piece.

The **Leeward Islands** group was small, but exceptionally interesting. The used set of 1897 Sexagenary fell to Lea at £54, against a catalogue of £58, and the same buyer obtained the mint set in blocks of four at £293, and the double overprints at £23 and £43, with the 5s., S.G.16, at £128 respectively.

New records were set for **Montserrat**, the block of 12 6d. green, S.G.2 and S.G.2b (£103) falling to Wingfield for £107, the same buyer obtaining the block of four 6d. blue-green, S.G.3 (£140) for £178. However, the great rarity, a mint block of S.G.11 (£220) beat the room and was taken by a book bidder at £302.

Nevis opened very strongly and Van Mozian obtained S.G.1 (£12) at £27.10; Cole obtained the beautiful 4d., S.G.2 (£28), but Watson Yuille came in strongly on the engraved sheets, picking up S.G.5 (£18) at £56, S.G.6 (£72) at £124, and S.G.7 (£57) at £78. Ezra Cole bought the magnificent pair of 6d. on cover at £78; this was a real gem. The complete sheets of the 1s., S.G.14, both beat the room and were taken on the book at £392 and £428 respectively, whilst the 1s. laid paper, S.G.14a, hit a new high at £516, the under-bidder being that sagacious dealer from New Orleans, Roger Weill. Watson Yuille, of Montreal, came back with a winning bid of £142 for the 4d. strip, imperf. between horizontally, which was one of the few bargains

(*Continued overleaf*)



"Jamaica inverts"—a bargain at £1,000 the pair.

in the sale. Had it been a block of four I would have expected it to realise a much higher price.

St. Christopher, although not in the high price bracket, was beautifully represented and the prices realised were a little over full catalogue. The 1d. on 6d. green, with inverted surcharge, S.G.25a (£60), fell to Lea at £67, whilst Buck and Weill had a strong battle over the great rarities, the 1d. on 2½d. ultramarine, Weill purchasing the mint copy with inverted surcharge (large type), S.G.35a, at £250 and Buck the used copy at £152. Weill came back to win the small surcharge, S.G.33 (£850), at £964.

The St. Kitts centenary set, in mint blocks of four was secured by Lea at £470. Keener competition was experienced on the classic St. Lucia, the block of 56 of the 1d. lake, S.G.1 (£336), realised no less than £516, whilst the block of 16 of the 4d. blue, S.G.2 (£448), hit a new high at £642, both lots beating the room, as did the block of 24 of the 6d. green, S.G.3 (£672), which finally fetched £1,142. Prices for St. Lucia were well over catalogue and reflected the scarcity of these beautiful stamps on the world market. Shenfield came in strongly on the covers which he secured against international competition. The postal bid prices on the large blocks invariably beat the room, but J.K. obtained the beautiful block of 25 of the 4d. yellow, S.G.18 (£125), for £222, whilst the 1s. orange corner block of 20, S.G.21 (£240), went to Lea at £392.

There was an electric atmosphere in the room when the St. Vincent lots opened. Perhaps never before had such a magnificent array of this country been offered at auction. The first shock was Van Mozian's bid of £63 for the block of 15 of the 1d., S.G.3 (£45). This is not rare, even in such a large block, but the colour was exceptional and, as usual, the colour obtained the additional premium. The 6d. green imperf. block and the imperf. between pair both fell to Lea at £81 and £92 respectively, and the same buyer obtained the brilliant block of four of the 4d. orange, S.G.12 (£88), after a struggle with Pierce, for £374. This was, perhaps, the rarest block in the sale. The 1s. slate block of four, S.G.9, beat the room at £500, but Wingfield came back with a successful bid of £445 on the block of four of the 1s. brown, S.G.14 (£180). Lyman was busy on the covers in this group and managed to beat all opposition, although he had to pay new "highs" to obtain them. Once more the book beat the room on the brilliant mint block of four of the 6d. dark green, S.G.16 (£120), with a new record of £214, as did the 6d. yellow-green block of six, S.G.26 (£240), which Wingfield bought for £392, but the book scored again on the mint block of 18 of the ½d. on half 6d., S.G.30a, which realised no less than £571, against a catalogue value of £360.

The rare 4d. on 1s. vermilion on cover, postmarked on the first day of issue, went to Buck at £500, and the unique 5d. on 6d. double surcharge, S.G.62a, was obtained for £222 by Lea.

A new record was set by the **Tobago** £1, wmk. C.C., S.G.6 (£250), which realised no less than £357, whilst the manuscript surcharge 1d. on half 6d. pair, S.G.7 (£40), fine used, went to Wingfield at £110, and the very rare block of four of the 6d. bistre-brown, S.G.19 (£120), realised a record £178. The double surcharges on the ½d. on 2½d., and ½d. on 6d., both went to Lea at approximately full catalogue price, and the pair of ½d. on 2½d., one stamp without surcharge, went to Harry Schloss for £142.

Trinidad opened at a terrific pace, the brilliant mint copy of the Lady McLeod, S.G.1, went to Lea at £821, and the pale blue shade, used on cover, to Wingfield at £678. Considering the world-wide interest in this stamp, one cannot understand why Scotts do not list it. Surely nothing more desirable and classic than this adhesive can possibly exist! The blued papers held firm prices, the used copies realising slightly over full catalogue and the covers around £35 each, but a record was beaten when the early primitives were offered, the lithographed 1d. blue on yellowish, S.G.13 (£150), realised over double catalogue at £321, and the same stamp on cover, with earliest known date, went to Buck at £300, but Lea got the truly magnificent corner copy of the earliest impression at £392. The early impressions on white paper and the cartridge paper all realised around full catalogue, whilst the second impressions of the pale blue and greenish-blue shades all realised prices higher than Scott's quotations. The very rare strip of three and single of the third issue, 1d. deep blue (S.G.16), tied to wrapper to Port of Spain, finally realised £750 (Lea), and the huge block of 72 of the 1s. indigo (S.G.29), perfectly mint and brilliant, went to Todd at £571.

The last session of this remarkable sale produced some astounding Trinidad results, the pair of the 1s. purple-slate, pin perf. 12½, S.G.37 (£160), used on cover to Edinburgh, failing to Lea at £214, whilst Mercury secured the glorious block of 20 of the 4d. brown-lilac (£180) for £231, and the beautiful block of 40 of the 6d. yellow-green, S.G.43a (£900), fell to Buck at £928. The very rare perf. 13 1s. bright violet block of four, S.G.67 (£740), brought no less than £1,071, whilst the single copy, in brilliant colour and well centred, went to Lea at £258, against a catalogue of £185. John Fox acquired the compound perf. 14×12½ 6d. yellow-green, S.G.97a (£375), for £375 and Van Mozian won the beautiful well-centred block of the ½d. lilac, watermarked CA, S.G.100, for £178. The 1d. on 6d. green, block manuscript surcharges, fell to Fox and Lea at £150 and £151 respectively.

Turks Islands produced more high prices, the imperf. between pair of 1d. dull red bringing £195, the mint copy of the 1s. violet, S.G.6, realising £331, whilst Ezra Cole paid £115 for the used copy. Fox came in strongly on the provisionals, the ½d. on 1s., S.G.24a (£250), realising £607, and the 2½d. on 6d. block, S.G.25 (£300), a new high price at £571. The same buyer obtained the 2½d. on 1s. slate, S.G.33, for £428, whilst postal bids secured the large blocks of the 2½d. on 1s. lilacs, S.G.36a and S.G.37a in the eighth setting at £357 and £285 respectively. The slate-blue 2½d. on 1s., setting IX, type II, S.G.40 (£225), went at £204, the same buyer securing the variety "no fraction bar" on the similar stamp at £231. Harry Schloss acquired the different type, S.G.41 (£300), for £410, and the block of 18 of the 4d. on 1s. violet, setting III, went to an order bid of £321.

The **Virgin Islands** issues include few great rarities, with the exception of the "Missing Virgin", but high premiums were obtained for the sheets and blocks. The part sheet of 20 of the 6d. rose, S.G.3 (£320), went for £240, whilst Joseph paid £186 for the complete sheet of 25 of the 1s., S.G.11 (£106), and Wingfield secured the imperf. block of the 2½d. red-brown at £168 and the inverted surcharge on the 4d. on 1s. at £285. The sheet of 25 of the 1s. black-brown, S.G.40 (£114), went at £142,

(*Continued on page 273*)

1.30.1.

MISCELLANEOUS.

(T. CHARLTON HENRY'S COLLECTIO

STAMP COLLECTING, May 5, 1961

Charlton Henry B.W.I. Sale (*continued from page 270*)
but an order bid took the block of nine of the ½d. yellow-green, S.G.43, showing three pairs imperf. between, at £374.

The final lot was the Charlton Henry Reference Collection of genuine and forged stamps, photographs and notes, which, after some spirited bidding, fell to Lea at £714.

The total realisation of the seven sessions was £89,370. The prices realised reflect the high quality of the stamps and blocks contained in this collection and it is very doubtful whether any collection in the future will be able to emulate Major T. Charlton Henry's feat in possessing such a remarkable assembly of perfect items of the British West Indies group.

Congratulations must be extended to Harmer, Rooke & Co. Inc., for acquiring this important property for sale by public auction and for the way in which they lotted the collection and handled the sale. Collectors and students throughout the world have had the opportunity of acquiring these outstanding items, a pleasant thought when so often highly specialised collections are presented to museums and libraries (the graveyards of philately), thus depriving collectors of material so necessary for study.

PAPERMAKERS' WATERMARKS

By R. W. T. LEES-JONES, F.R.P.S.L.

A paper read before the Royal Philatelic Society, London, on October 12, 1950

IN the main stamps are printed on paper which is either watermarked or unwatermarked. The latter are usually described as having "no watermark." This group of "no watermark" stamps divides itself into two further categories—those that definitely have no watermark and those that have a "trade mark" watermark. Mr. F. J. Melville, in his book, *Postage Stamps in the Making*, describes this latter group as follows: "Paper watermarked with papermakers' device, trade marks, etc., not specifically to give a definite portion of the design to each printed stamp."

With the study of this subject I was to learn that sheets of paper, according to their size, had an emblem to denote the size of sheet, each size having a different emblem watermarked in the sheet. This emblem was centred in the right half of the sheet and the left half had centred horizontally the papermakers' name or a trade mark. In the case of foreign paper, French in the main, the papermakers' watermark was more often placed in a corner, although they too were at times centred as in British paper. When printing stamps on this type of paper, the common practice of the printer was to eliminate as much of the watermark as possible, if not all.

It may be of interest to record that on one occasion I was offered the pick of ten sheets of paper as used for printing the stamps of Mexico. The watermark in that case occurred in the corner, but of the ten sheets only three showed any of the three letters which composed the watermark; and of these three, only one sheet showed two letters. I am told that when the Barbados find of unused sheets was made, only a small percentage had watermarks.

The subject is not by any means new to specialists, but from my searches for material I am led to the conclusion that some collectors dislike them, just as others shun surcharges, perforations, plating, etc. Perhaps the formation of a general collection of the varieties may be somewhat of a new departure—but the idea is an old one.

Possibly contrary to expectation, the subject has a background and a sponsor. On March 30, 1933, Mr. R. B. Yardley read before the Society a paper entitled "Newfoundland. Notes on the paper watermarked 'Stacey Wise' . . . and other matters." The words "other matters" referred to papermakers' watermarks found in the issues of Bahamas, Barbados, Ceylon, Trinidad, Natal, and West Australia, and the probability of finding them even in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, St. Vincent, and the Waterlow printings of 1860–75 of British Guiana. Towards the end of his paper, he added, "It seemed worth while to put on record the facts which incidentally I came across, so as to make a starting point for an investigation of an interesting subject."

So far, all Mr. Yardley's possibles have materialised with the exception of St. Vincent, but I presume Mr. Yardley had very sound reasons for including that country in his list. It is surprising that he forgot to include Samoa and Portuguese India, as he had formed important collections of these countries, and he had also written the sections in Mr. Basset Hull's work on New South Wales dealing with the Registration stamp of that colony.

Studying the subject one must not get confused with the finding of certain letters on stamps, the correct place for which should be in the gutter margins, but through the misplacing of the paper in the printing press these abnormalities have arisen.

Visibility

Papermakers' watermarks are very variable—some are easy to see—others vary to almost an impossible degree, possibly giving the reason for their unpopularity. Some examples have to be held at every conceivable angle to the eye and light to locate—let alone decipher. The difficult ones if given a bath in benzine often then give their context, but not always. Perseverance and time find the answer. After serving an apprenticeship on the subject, one can often draw conclusions straight away as to what the probable watermark is by virtue of the kind of paper, date of issue, country of use, engraver and printer, and the further addition of more specimens will often confirm the original view.

It might be of interest to record an experiment. I was given an introduction to a large firm who had every kind of electrical plant, and they thought that with their apparatus they would be able to devise some plant for the easy reading of watermarks. Five degree scientists in the research laboratory gave me three hours endeavouring to devise a plant,

but had to acknowledge defeat. The samples I took were the sheets of Yemen, Albania, and the opaque Trinidad imperfs. Needless to say they were most disappointed, as was I, too.

One can ask if the general study has been worth while. For my own part, I would say yes, for two reasons, or solutions. In British Guiana there appears a watermark showing a large capital "W" in Roman type capitals. So far I have not seen a pair or block showing this letter. It was an orphan without a context for years, until I got to work on Portuguese India. In Mr. Yardley's collection was a block and pair showing "W K" and "ing." There, I think, lay the answer. But compare the word "King" with the common watermark of British Guiana, ORIGINAL TURKEY MILL KENT. In this you have 2 Ks, 2 Is, 2 Ns and 1 G. Over and above that there are two sizes of this watermark. It was impossible of solution without blocks of British Guiana and so far I have not heard of a block showing "W. King."

The other possible help from the study comes in the Greek border issue of Mauritius. Examples have been found giving the size of the sheets of paper used in the printing. I feel calculation can be made, which, when taking the papermakers' watermark into consideration, will assist in the solution as to the size of the stone used for printing of that issue.

My two greatest helpers have been Mr. A. B. Leverton and Mr. W. Howard, and I take this opportunity of thanking them for their invaluable assistance. I wish to pay tribute also to Dr. Morton Evans, Mr. Joseph Knight, Mr. F. A. C. Pratt, Mr. J. R. W. Purves, and Colonel A. S. Bates, and to thank them for their help.

A FEW NOTES ON THE EXHIBITS PASSED ROUND

New South Wales.—Registration stamp of 1859.

The sections on this stamp in Mr. Basset Hull's work were written by Mr. Yardley, and he records two watermarks:—

1. "T.H. SAUNDERS," in Roman capitals.
2. "NEW SOUTH WALES" in double lined block capitals.

After his reconstruction he had three copies left over—showing "G. EB.18." I placed the "EB" in "Webster," a watermark I had noted when examining New South Wales correspondence, but later I found the context to reconstruct the watermark as follows:—

NEW SOUTH WALES
GOVERNMENT
DEBENTURE
1858

This accounted for Mr. Yardley's three copies, and all of my own.

Analysis of Copies in Collection.—About fifty with the New South Wales watermark, as against five showing Saunders watermark. Used copies come only in singles—a few pairs unused are known, but I have seen none with watermark. This all adds up to the fact that the wording has to be reconstructed from single copies, but, fortunately, on the odd copy one gets part of two letters. The above figures show that the Saunders watermark is ten times as scarce as the New South Wales watermark.

I might mention that the watermark "GOV" I have shows only part of the top of the letters and might be confused with the top of the letters "SOU"—but the down stroke of the third letter is diagonal and not vertical. After arriving at the conclusion, contact was made with several people in Australia (but not Mr. Purves) the outcome of which was that Australian collectors and bankers and Government Printers had never heard of a security

paper having been used for printing stamps, but gave me a list of ten issues of Government Stock between 1850–60. All have been redeemed except one, which was untraceable. I was invited to send my material to New South Wales, but thought I would wait till to-day for disclosing my findings.

British Guiana.—To save a lot of trouble I had hoped to read the late Mr. A. D. Ferguson's articles dealing with the 1860–75 issues in THE LONDON PHILATELIST. They did not materialise so I had to struggle myself.

So far eight different watermarks have come to light, but despite having over 250 copies showing watermarks, I was unable to finalise the subject. I took the liberty of writing to Dr. Morton Evans, a very busy man, but he most kindly sent me tracings of his copies—in all nearly eighty—which must have been a great labour. Thanks to him and his tracings I was able to find a new watermark, and make further progress with several others. These proved to be the most difficult of all the countries to work on.

S.G. Type 7.—Lithographed by Waterlow & Sons, 1860–75. Watermarks found:—

1. A COWAN & SONS
   EXTRA SUPERFINE
   A C & S (monogram).
   Found only on the 1860 issue, on thick paper.
   All letters are double-lined block capitals, with the exception of the monogram, which is in single-line script.

2 and 3. "T H SAUNDERS" in double-lined Roman capitals 16. 18. 20. 21. There are two sizes of this watermark—the small letters being of two sizes, 12 mm. and 14 mm. The capitals being large 2·1 co-joins 1·2 cm.

4 and 5.	ORIGINAL	20 & 15	20 & .16	? & .14
	TURKEY MILL	16 & 12	17 & .14	? & .14
	KENT	14 & 10½	14 & 12	17 & .12

6. "W. KING." in double-lined Roman capitals 23 & 21 m. small 19. Found on S.G. 61, 70.
7. "J WHATMAN" S.G. 74.
8. "TH SAUNDERS" in double-lined block capitals, 9 mm. high. This watermark occurs in all values S.G. 66–105, and also on S.G. 57.

New South Wales.—Sydney Views.

Watermarks occur on the laid paper varieties, of all values, showing a papermaker's watermark and also an emblem denoting foolscap size of paper.

Watermarked letter on the 1d. and 3d. are scarce, due to the sizes of the plate; the 2d. are not quite so difficult to find, still, they are by no means common. The 2d. plate was one of 24 subjects in 2 rows of 12, and the plates were put to the sheet in a vertical manner, giving a few letters of the watermark.

The watermark was that of "T H SAUNDERS" in double lined Roman capitals.

The 2d. value also occurs on a paper showing

STACEY WISE
RUSH MILLS

One further copy of the 2d. has come to light showing in roman letters a small "R" with, on its immediate right, the letter "T," viz. "RT." What the context of this can be the writer has no idea whatsoever. The emblem watermark found in conjunction with the Saunders watermark is that for foolscap—Britannia seated on a throne surrounded by ovals with a crown at the top.

Mauritius.—1859—Dardenne Issue (Greek Border) on laid paper. This paper shows the watermark of

STACEY WISE
RUSH MILLS

together with the emblem for "Large post," in addition another watermark appears in single line script showing the letters "W.T." presumably the monogram of a Wiggins Teape production.

Transvaal.—On the ½d. value of the 1878 issue, a stamp added to the series in 1880, there appears a watermark, similar to that found on the 4d. Falkland Isles, which appeared about the same time. It denotes a paper of

R TURNER
CHAFFORD MILLS

Incidentally, this same paper was used for Transvaal fiscals printed during the same period.

Ecuador.—The first issue printed on blue paper is recorded in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* showing the letters "LA"—consequently the paper is suggested as being one of

LACROIX
FRERES

but on examination of the illustration in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* there is a portion of a letter in front of the "L"—and this appears to be also part of a letter "L." In this case, the writer suggests that it is a similar paper to the one used for the 1874 issue of Venezuela, whose watermark reads

ROLLAND
FRERES.

Portuguese India.—New types not recorded on the subject in Mr. Yardley's study:—

1st Issue 1871. 10 Reis. (S.G. 6) Watermark "IA."
1872. S.G. 38. 20 Reis.—Copy showing "J" of "J WHATMAN."

These complete Mr. Yardley's original suggestions. As time went on, searching for new material was rewarded by new finds, some of which are enumerated below.

British Guiana.—1853–60. 4c. Imperf. Waterlow printing on wove paper, shows the letter "J," presumably of "J. WHATMAN" in a letter 20 mm. high and of roman capital type. Well over 750 copies examined.

Nova Scotia.—Watermark "T. H. SAUNDERS & CO." and date.

These are only found on the 1/– value. In the collection are a few copies confirming the watermark, the "& CO," however, is absent, but it is recorded in the Nova Scotia section of the exhibits gathered together for the King George V Silver Jubilee Exhibition in 1935. This full watermark also occurs in the early imperforates of Barbados.

New Brunswick.—This, like Nova Scotia, is printed on paper showing the watermark "T. H. SAUNDERS"—whether it has the watermark "CO" is not known. In this case they are found only on the 3d. value. F. Jarrett in his book on British North America records two copies. Originally they were in the Reford and Calder collections.

UNSOLVED: INFORMATION WANTED

Indian Native States.
Colombia.

Belgian Parcel Post.	Diagrams of Watermarks.
Madagascar.	Context.
Fiji Postage Dues.	,,
Uruguay Officials 1911.	,,
Macao, August 1911.	,,
Paraguay, 1st Issue.	,,
L—J DL & CO.	Which firm uses this watermark?

POSSIBLE

Mauritius	1859	P.B. & CO.
Peru (PSNC)	1857	ditto

The Magic of West Indian Stamps

Rarity and Beauty

West Indian stamps continue to attract worldwide. From the rarities of the Victorian era to the captivating thematic stamps of our days the Caribbean has been known to produce some of the most intriguing, rare, colourful and varied stamps in the world — and they're often a good investment. Stamps expert ***Giorgio Migliavacca****, author of fourteen books on stamps and their history, explains why.*



This masterpiece of engraving was originally created in 1880 by William Ridgway for a 5 shilling stamp issued by St. Vincent; the "Peace & Justice" design has been described by many experts as one of the best in the entire history of stamps.

The first stamps in the whole British Empire were produced in the Caribbean. The year was 1847. Britain had issued the world's first adhesive stamps just seven years earlier; other countries were slowly following suit, but many European states — including France, Austria, Spain and Denmark — still had no stamps of their own. In Trinidad, mail was being carried between Port of Spain and the second town of San Fernando by a three-masted paddle steamer called the "Lady McLeod", named after the wife of the then governor of Trinidad, Sir Henry McLeod.

At the time, the ship's owner was having a good deal of trouble collecting payment on the letters he carried across the Gulf of Paria. To deal with his recalcitrant customers, he issued a five-cent stamp which he used to collect his fees in advance. Nowadays, those stamps rank high is the aristocracy of the stamp world. In the catalogues, they are valued at between US$15,000 for a used specimen to $20,000 for a copy in mint condition; on the envelope, the stamps are worth twice as much.

The 1856 1 cent black on magenta British Guyana is not the most attractive stamp on earth but it certainly is the rarest stamp of them all. Nowadays Guyana is considered part of the Caribbean geopolitical area and therefore West Indian philately can add another distinction of the highest standard to its credit.

The stamp is not exactly in pristine condition but it has the great virtue of being unique and belonging to the early and popular series of the British Empire. It was discovered in 1873 by a 12-year old boy in the attic of his home among family correspondence. Shortly after he swapped it for some colourful stamps. The rarity eventually found its way to Europe where it was purchased for the fabled Von Ferrary Collection in 1878 for about £150. The stamp has changed hands a few times in the course of the ➤

Rarity and Beauty — continued

20th century at steadily increasing prices. Although the colour of the stamp has deteriorated through the years, its present estimated price is believed to exceed US$2 million.

As is always the case with great celebrities, the 1856 1c Guyana did not fail to generate some heated controversy. When it came up for auction in 1935, the famous millionaire collector Maurice Burrus refused to buy the stamp which remained unsold. He adduced that a cheaper 4c stamp of 1856 had been overpainted to turn the denomination into a 1c stamp. Interestingly enough the 4c has the same colour and characteristics. Because of Burrus' stance, a controversy among philately's Solons ensued. Neither one side nor the other had the ultimate proof in their argument and the stamp went on enjoying its status of "rarity of the rarities".

Less controversial but equally legendary are some early West Indian stamps that never fulfilled their original purpose of being affixed to a piece of mail. Two of the most remarkable stamps of the British West Indies were never put on sale at post offices. In 1890, twenty-three years after its issuance, the British Virgin Islands 1 shilling error (with the letterpress printed figure of the Virgin omitted) was discovered in London in the old Booksellers Row. The stunning error, of which only a handful exist, was soon nicknamed "The Missing Virgin"; its catalogue value is estimated between US$70,000-100,000 and a copy auctioned by Harmers of London in 1990 found a buyer for US$70,000. In describing the rare stamp, Harmers stated that five copies of the "Missing Virgin" are known to exist, one in the collection of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and all are with trimmed edges on one or two sides.

However, other sources, including Vernon Pickering's "Early History of the BVI" and British specialist William Frazer indicate that seven copies of the "Missing Virgin" are know to exist. Some experts insist that the discrepancy stems from re-counting the same item twice.

As to the real status of this rarity there are many conflicting opinions. The Stanley Gibbons catalogue listed it in 1897 as an "error" but omitted it in its 1900 edition. In 1911 it was described as a "printer's trial" and by 1923 it had re-gained its status as an "error". Sir John Wilson in his opus on the Royal Philatelic Collection placed the stamp in the "unissued" category. Fred J. Melville, one of the early scholars of BVI philately and a famous stamp writer on the early 1900s, describes the rarity as a proof; L.N. and M. Williams tend to agree with Melville, while Yardley — an ardent collector of the turn of the century and a prominent member of the Royal Philatelic Society of London — says this variety was not issued and refers to it as a printer's waste. Robson Lowe, the eminent author of the Encyclopaedia of Empire Postage Stamps, has revealed to this writer that he had "always thought that at least some of the Missing Virgins were proofs as [he] found a copy in a collection of proofs which had no issued stamps." Norman Williams in a written statement to this writer said he is inclined "to H R Holmes's idea that [the Missing Virgin] was a perforation trial". In a specialised listing compiled by yours truly for publication in "The Island Sun" in the summer of 1985 it was referred to as a printer's proof stating that seven copies are known to exist. On the latter point Norman Williams now says he has evidence on only three copies, but in 1967 in his "Rare Stamps" co-authored with his brother Maurice it was stated that "altogether only about a dozen of the errors are known to exist".



British Virgin Islands: July 1985, imperforate pair of the unissued $1.50 denominations depicting pop-star Michael Jackson. These controversial but sought after stamps incurred the veto of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office because they depicted a living person.

In any event, most experts agree that it is very improbable the "Missing Virgin" ever reached the British Virgin Islands.

There are also speculations that the freak occurred when two stamp sheets got stuck dur-

g the printing process, thus causing the underlying sheet not to receive the impression of the Virgin. In actuality the central figure of the Virgin was typographed in black as a second and last operation after the stamp sheet had been printed with the background consisting of sun's rays enclosed by a crimson border.

In the Olympus of West Indian rarities is also the 1863 Barbados 1 shilling blue belonging to the truly aristocratic series of the "Britannia" type. The stamp was meant to be printed in black but either gremlins lurked in the printers shop that day or the press-man had one glass too many of (shall we say) Bajan rum. Thus some 50,000 copies of the colour error were shipped to Barbados; indeed, the postmaster realised that there was something odd and the printers were duly notified of the irregularity and "black" shilling stamps were sent to the Island in due course.

The blue error was not put on sale and nothing is known about their fate. However, nine or ten of them escaped and are now the pride of happy collectors. The stamp catalogues some US$18,000 in the latest edition of Stanley Gibbons, Part I. It would seem that all existing copies originate from a batch originally removed by the then Colonial Secretary in Barbados. He apparently defaced the "samples" by penning a corner to corner cross but later on most collectors thought it more appropriate to wash out the cross.

Incidentally, Barbados was the second island in the British West Indies to introduce its own Inland Postal Service, Trinidad being the first. And to date Barbados remains one of the few countries in the world where there is still a daily mail delivery to every address in the country. Additionally, in 1907 the island issued a 2d Kingston Relief Fund stamp with half of the proceeds in aid of the victims of that year's earthquake in Jamaica. Thus, Barbados became the first British colony to issue a charity stamp.

A stamp shortage in Dominica, in 1886, prompted the postal authorities to surcharge the 6d green and 1 shilling magenta respectively with the inscription "Half Penny" and "One Penny". To the delight of philatelists and because it is only human to err, one sheet of the 6d was mistakenly surcharged "One Penny". Of the original sheet of sixty only a reported twelve specimens are known to exist, most of them used. Stanley Gibbons 1993 quotes an esti-➤

The Magic of West Indian Stamps



(Enlarged photograph) British Virgin Islands: 1867/70. One shilling Black and Rose-Carmine; error, with figure of Virgin missing. One of the world's great and most popular rarities. Five copies are believed to exist, one in the collection of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



The first stamp issued in a British colony was a local issue released in Trinidad on April 24, 1847 to pre-pay postage on letters sent between Port of Spain and San Fernando via the Steamship "Lady McLeod". The stamp was sold for 5 cents and was in use for over two years.

mated value ranging from US$23,000 for mint specimens to US$16,000 for used ones.

Comparable in rarity to the 1856 British Guyana lc. because of its uniqueness is the 1878 1 Shilling vermilion perforated 15 issued by St Vincent. The stamp is used and was discovered only in 1957 by J.L. Messenger who went on to assemble the greatest collection of St Vincent stamps ever formed. In 1985, when the rarity surfaced on the market for the first time it fetched well in excess of US$8,000 at the David Feldman auction in New York City.

But it is not only highly-priced rarities that attract collectors to Caribbean philately. Stamps from exotic-sounding parts of the world have always excited special interest. During the last thirty years or so, with collectors' interest growing, the islands have responded with a vast range of lively and colourful issues, many of them grouped around specific themes. There have been issues depicting sport, ships, pirates, historical figures and events, scientists, flora and fauna, maps, community service clubs, medicine and chess, sealife and coins, folklore and authors, art and royalty, and much more besides.



Barbados, 1855: 4d brownish-red, mint pair. Britannia as depicted on the reverse of a Roman sestertius of Hadrian (134-138 AD) inspired a captivating stamp design by Edward Henry Corbould which was used as the prototype for the early issues of Trinidad (1851), Barbados (1852) and Mauritius (1858). Here Britannia is seen sitting on bags of sugar, although by this time the sugar plantation economy had long declined.

St Vincent, for example, has betrayed a taste for pop stars. Michael Jackson and Elvis Presley have been among recent issues, and the Caribbean's reggae superstar Bob Marley received a handsome philatelic tribute when he died in 1981, in the shape of a set of seven stamps and a souvenir sheet issued by his native Jamaica.

Inevitably, major Caribbean preoccupations figure regularly in new issues. Carnivals, festivals and fetes tend to keep the Caribbean rocking with excitement from one end of the year to the other, and images of these celebrations have turned up regularly. The most famous Carnival in the region is staged in Trinidad and Tobago, which issued Carnival sets in 1968 and 1979. St Vincent — whose summer Carnival tempts many fete-hungry Trinidadians to make the short hop across the water — has issued several stamps to promote its own growing festival.

If there is one thing that unites all the Caribbean peoples, though, it is music, the cornerstone of Caribbean culture. Most of the islands have their distinctive sounds, rhythms and beats, the most famous being Trinidad and Tobago's calypso and its orchestral steelpans, and Jamaica's reggae. Steel orchestras were featured on a set of four stamps which Antigua issued in 1974, and on a set issued by the British Virgin Islands in 1984 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the abolition of slavery.

Intrinsic rarity of the early issues and undeniable eye-appeal of more recent stamps notwithstanding, Caribbean stamps also offer tremendous scope for the specialist who can find fertile terrain for new research. A number of scholarly books on stamps of the various islands have been regularly published during the last 100 years and the output of more advanced studies every so often indicates that there still is a lot of material which can offer endless pleasure to the serious student. Fruitful research has been carried out on stamps of every era and reign but more remains to be discovered.

Demand for Caribbean stamps has been growing, and this has been causing an appreciation in value. Part of the attraction is the charm of the designs; part is the conservative policy adopted by most postal authorities in the region. These factors have helped to give Caribbean issues a solid, international reputation. That means that collecting them is not only a way of keeping in touch with the Caribbean islands but also and possibly having a magnificent excuse to keep visiting them. It means that a serious investment could pay handsome dividends. ■

BCPS. Whole No. 41 — MISCELLANEOUS WATERMARKS.

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WATERMARKS

by REUBEN A. RAMKISSOON, M.D.

The serious collector of postage stamps sooner or later must come to grips with the problem of watermarks. In fact, there is no escape to this challenge for the collectors of many early United States issues, not to mention Great Britain and most of the countries of the British Commonwealth, past and present.

Watermarks are placed on paper by the manufacturers for their own trade reasons, as part of their contracts with their customers, or for security purposes. These marks can be visualized on sheets of stationery by carefully looking at the paper, or may be easily seen by holding the sheets up to the light.

Since paper is manufactured in continuous rolls, the watermarks may be aligned with or across the roll. When the paper is cut up into sheets, the alignment of the watermarks may vary, but, in any event, they are described in relation to their position as they emerge from the paper manufacturing machine. The top or face of the paper is intended to be used for printing, and the watermark is always readable from this side.

When a stamp is printed, it is normal to expect that the watermark would be oriented to the format of the stamp. That is to say, the position of the top of the watermark would be located in a similar position on the stamp. Obviously, to achieve this end, planning of the size of the sheet in relation to the number, size and arrangement of the stamps must be made. This would enable manufacturing and cutting of the rolls of paper into sheets in a manner that would assure the watermark appearing in the normal way on the finished stamp. Such planning is necessary to eliminate waste of paper and thereby conserve on the cost of production. In some cases where great quantities of stamps are required, they are printed from a continuous roll of paper rather than from sheets. An example of this is the current definitives of Great Britain.

It becomes apparent that a normal watermark is onw which is vertically aligned with the stamp, and one which can be read through the *face* of the stamp. Since watermarks are not readily readable from the face of the stamp, by common collectors' practice, and probably by catalog precedent, watermarks are read from the back of the stamp. In this way, a mirror image of the watermark is seen, and this mirror image is considered the normal watermark. It should be mentioned in passing, that some catalogs, unfortunately, make no comment on how the watermark reading is done, there being no distinction of readings from the face or back of the stamp. Some of their explanations are quite misleading, or at best confusing.

There are several possible watermark variations from the normal that can occur. These are classified as follows:

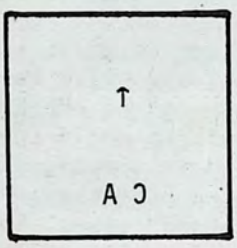
A. Normal Watermarks

1. Upright
2. Sideways

B. Variations from Normal

1. Inverted
2. Reversed
3. Inverted and Reversed

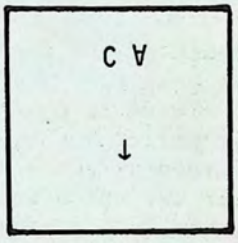
Illustrations of these watermarks are given in Figures 1 through 6, below. In each case, the watermark is shown as it appears from the back of the stamp and with the design of the stamp upright.



NORMAL (UPRIGHT)
Fig. 1



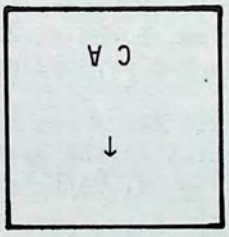
NORMAL (SIDEWAYS)
Fig. 2



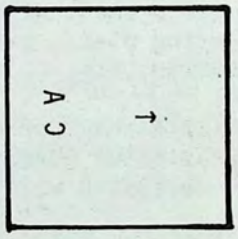
INVERTED
Fig. 3



REVERSED
Fig. 4



INVERTED & REVERSED
Fig. 5



INVERTED (SIDEWAYS)
Fig. 6

The head of the arrow represents the top of the Crown.

Not illustrated are the other two possibilities, REVERSED SIDEWAYS, which would appear as *Fig. 2* with the letters reading CA, and INVERTED & REVERSED SIDEWAYS, which would appear as *Fig. 6* with the letters reading CA.

Before discussing how an abnormal (variation) watermark can occur, it is necessary to discuss the normal, and to use the process of obtaining the normal watermark as a point of reference.

1. When a sheet of paper is fed into the press with the top of the sheet directed to the top of the printing plate, and with the printing surface of the paper toward the printing plate, the watermark will be NORMAL (UPRIGHT) with respect to the printed stamp. *Fig. 1.*

2. If a sheet of paper is fed into the press so that the sheet is rotated 90°, but still maintains the printing surface toward the printing plate, the watermark will appear SIDEWAYS with respect to the printed stamp. In order for this rotation to occur, the sheet must be symmetrical in size. This condition could also obtain if the sheets were purposely rotated before printing for purposes of economy, such as in a circumstance where there is utilization of paper originally designated for another stamp format.

It should also be remembered that since rotation of the sheets can occur in either a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction, but still with the printing surface against the printing plate, two positions of sideways watermarks are possible, the NORMAL (SIDEWAYS) and INVERTED (SIDEWAYS). If the printing surface is away from the printing plate, two additional variations, REVERSED (SIDEWAYS) and INVERTED & REVERSED (SIDEWAYS) would result.

Because of the four possibilities of watermark variation that can occur in the sideways position, a problem arises as to which watermark is normal and which is inverted. There is no easy answer to this question. It must be answered on the basis of what position constitutes the majority of the issue. This position would then be regarded as the normal, and other positions would be designated in accordance with their variation from this normal. This situation is illustrated by Antigua #200 E (Gibbons' Elizabethan 1968 Catalogue) in the "Associated Statehood" issue, 15-cent value, where the normal watermark shows the Crown to the left of the CA, while in the variation the Crown appears to the right (viewed from the back of the stamp in both cases.) Thus the "Crown to the left," *Fig. 2*, is designated NORMAL (SIDEWAYS) and the "Crown to the right" as *Fig. 6* becomes the INVERTED (SIDEWAYS.)

3. If a sheet of paper is fed into the press with the printing surface toward the printing plate, but with the bottom of the sheet at the top, the watermark will be INVERTED, *Fig. 3,* with respect to the printed stamp.

4. If a sheet of paper is fed into the press with the printing surface away from the printing plate, but with the top of the sheet directed to the top of the plate, the watermark will be REVERSED, *Fig. 4*, with respect to the printed stamp.

5. When a sheet of paper is fed into the press with the bottom of the sheet at the top, and with the printing surface away from the printing plate, (a combination of situations 3 and 4, above,) the resulting watermark will be both INVERTED & REVERSED as *Fig. 5.*

While on the subject of inverted and reversed watermarks, it should be pointed out that the standard (non-specialty) catalogues do not usually list stamps separately that show both inverted and reversed watermarks. The fact of their occurance is something that cannot be denied, and to the "purist" they must be regarded as distinct entities. But I am afraid that even the authorities employ these terms interchangeably, and such stamps may continue to be listed simply as inverted watermarks.

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MISCELLANEOUS

TWO REIGNS BOOKLETS OF THE B.W.I.

S.P.A. JOURNAL. [VOL. 21.]. JULY 1959.

Two Reigns Booklets of The British West Indies

By George W. Bowman
SPA # 19460

Up until quite recently, one of the most neglected fields of philately for many years had been the collecting and study of postal booklets. These booklets, as most stamp collectors know, are merely one or more panes of stamps bound between protective cardboard covers; such panes are separated by glassine interleaves, advertising leaves, or both. The main reasons for the long unpopularity of booklets were (1) the absence of adequate stocks, (2) the lack of written material, handbooks, catalogues, etc., covering the subject, and (3) the problem of finding a satisfactory method of mounting booklets in one's album or for exhibit purposes.

Lately, however, there has been a marked increase of interest in booklets. A few of the reasons for this upturn are the result of some solutions being found for the points listed in the above paragraph, particularly point (2). The Scott Catalogue lists booklet panes, and has done so since 1953; an excellent evaluation and study of British Empire booklets has been published by H. R. Work of New York; and the Booklet Pane Society, a national organization of booklet stamp collectors, has greatly promoted interest in this field through its publication **The Booklet.**

Points (1) and (3), however, continue to be obstacles in the path of the booklet collector. There is no escaping the fact that booklets, even some recent ones, are scarce, and when offered command premium prices. When an extensive collection of booklets appears on the auction block, determined booklet specialists will bid any amount to secure items that may never again be available from any source. And when a collector does acquire a scarce booklet, the choice of whether to keep it intact, or to separate it so that it may be conveniently exhibited to others is a difficult decision for him to make.

During the past three years I have become greatly interested in foreign booklets, particularly those of the British West Indies. Because some of the early booklets of these colonies are extremely rare, I decided to specialize in those booklets issued during the reigns of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II. The many varieties of booklets issued by these colonies provide a basis for interesting searches, and I have found that some of them, although barely twenty years old, are almost unobtainable.

The scope of this discussion will cover the "Two Reigns" booklets issued by Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, and Jamaica. British Guiana, although technically not a part of the British West Indies, has been included because of its close proximity to that area.

BARBADOS

Barbados has issued only one type of booklet during the period under consideration. This consists of panes of the ½d, 1d, and 1½d "seal of the Colony" stamps of 1938 (Scott 193b, 194b, and 195b). The booklet contains one pane of ten of the ½d, one pane of ten of the 1d, and one pane of six of the 1½d, and when available, was sold by the Post Office for two shillings. The ½d and 1½d stamps are perforated 13½ by 13, and represent the first issue of January 3, 1938. (Commonwealth Catalogue numbers 1 and 5). The 1d stamp is perforated 13.8 by 14.1 (Commonwealth 17). 1

[1] Correspondence from Mr. Herbert Bayley, P. O. Box 61, Bridgetown, Barbados, dated April 13, 1956.

The covers of this booklet are of a light blue color. They contain advertising as follows:

Outside front cover: Advocate Co., Ltd.
Inside front cover: Collins Drug Store
Outside back cover: Canadian Bank of Commerce
Inside back cover: Ford Motor Co.

The booklet contains four white interleaves and further advertising appears on both sides of three of them. The fourth interleaf reflects the postal and parcel post rates in effect at the time of issue.

At this point I shall mention the general procedure used for supplying stamps, including booklets, to the Barbados General Post Office. Upon receipt of a new supply of stamps from the Crown Agents, the Barbados Treasury stores them in a large vault, and distributes them as required to the General Post Office and other post offices on the island. Because of this, the Treasury records are more valuable than the GPO records in determining dates of issue, quantities released, etc.

In the case of the booklet under discussion, the Treasury received 5000 from the Crown Agents on December 17, 1937, and issued 200 to the GPO the same day. The first day of issue of the booklet, which was available at all post offices on the island, was simultaneous with the first day sale of the basic stamps — January 3, 1938. The last distribution of these booklets from the Treasury to the GPO occurred on October 10, 1941. The GPO received 200, with a small quantity believed to have been destroyed at the Treasury, leaving no stocks on hand.

I have, as a matter of interest, made a study of earlier pre-King George VI booklets of Barbados. Readers interested are referred to my article on the subject in **The Booklet**, Volume IV, No. 4, June 1957.

BERMUDA

Bermuda has issued only two basic types of booklets. These are (1) a regular mail booklet, containing five different panes of stamps, and (2) an air mail booklet containing two varieties of stamps and two panes of air mail labels. Because Bermuda booklets were made up from sheets of conventional stamps, both types of booklets are found stapled on either the left or right side. Both types were produced locally in Bermuda by the **Bermuda Royal Gazette** newspaper[2] and were first placed on sale in 1948 — the air mail type on April 5 and the regular mail type on May 10. Because they were unpopular with the general public for some reason, they were withdrawn from sale on November 7, 1953, and remainders were subsequently destroyed[3].

Air Mail Booklet

The air mail booklet contains three panes of six 6d stamps (Scott 112a), one pane of six 3d stamps (Scott 121Ab), and two panes of six blue "Air Mail" labels, obtained from the General Post Office, London. The covers are light blue. The inside of the back cover tabulates the air mail postage rates from Bermuda to the following points:

Great Britain: 1/3d per ½ ounce
Canada: 6d per ½ ounce
Newfoundland: 6d per ½ ounce
United States: 6d per ½ ounce

The back cover also incorporates a Chamber-of-Commerce tourist-getter: "Come to Bermuda, the Isles of Rest". The booklet sold for ten shillings, six pence at Post Offices.

Regular Mail Booklet

The regular mail booklet contains one pane of six 1d stamps (Scott 118), one pane of six 1½d stamps (Scott 119b), one pane of six 2d stamps (Scott 109Ab), one pane of six 2½d stamps (Scott 120Ac), and one pane of six 3d

stamps (Scott 121Ab. The covers are colored pink. The back cover tabulates the regular postage rates as follows:

1d: Local post cards
1½d: Local letters
2d: British and foreign post cards
2½d: British Empire letters
3d: Foreign letters

The "Come to Bermuda" invitation also appears on the back cover of this booklet. The booklet sold for five shillings.

BRITISH GUIANA

The varieties of booklets issued by British Guiana since 1937 are quite numerous. However, they can be divided basically into three main classes:

(1) Booklets containing one, two, and three cent stamps.
(2) Booklets containing one, two, and four cent stamps.
(3) Booklets containing one and two cent stamps only.

British Guiana booklets, like those of Bermuda, were made up from sheets of stamps, by using the edges of the sheets, or selvage, as binding area. Therefore booklets may be found bound on either the left or right side. It is not definitely known how many booklets of each type were issued, because all Post Office records were destroyed in the Georgetown fires of 1945 and 1947.[4]

In discussing these three main classes of booklets, it may clarify the descriptions if a tabular form is used. Table A points out the basic differences between varieties of the booklets incorporating one pane each of the one, two, and three cent stamps. In this and succeeding tables, "S" indicates the Scott Catalogue number, and "CW" indicates the Commonwealth Catalogue number; Perforation "A" indicates Perf. 12½, and Perforation "B" indicates Perf. 12¾ by 13¾.

TABLE A

Booklet Number	STAMPS Cat. number	Perf.	Stitching	Date of Issue	Advertising Interleaves
1	1c (S230a, CW 1) 2c (S231,a, CW 2) 3c (S212a, CW X1)	A A A	White thread	Feb. 1, 1938 later	1. K Shoes; Philip & Tacey, Ltd. 2. Hobson & Sons; Duckett Inks 3. Bovril; Diamine Inks 4. Waterlow & Sons; blank
2	(same)	(same)	(same)	(same)	Same, except blank replaced by Huntley & Palmer Biscuits
3	1c (S230a, CW 1) 2c (S231a, CW 2) 3c (S212a, CW 17)	A A B	(same)	1949 or later	1. K Shoes; Philip & Tacey, Ltd. 2. Hobson & Sons; Duckett Inks 3. Bovril; Diamine Inks 4. Waterlow & Sons Educational Supply Association

2 Correspondence from the Secretary, British West Indies Study Circle, London, dated July 28, 1956.
3 Correspondence from the Colonial Postmaster, Hamilton, Bermuda, dated May 29, 1956.
4 Correspondence from the Colonial Postmaster, British Guiana, dated February 20, 1956.

4	(same)	(same)	(same)	(same)	Same, except Philip & Tacey, Ltd., replaced by Boots Products, and Educational Supply Asociation replaced by W. H. Everett & Sons, Ltd.
5	1c (S230a, CW 1) 2c (S231a, CW 16) 3c (S212a, CW X1)	A B A		April 28, 1949 or later	1. K Shoes; Boots Products 2. Hobson & Sons; Duckett Inks 3. Bovril; Diamine Inks 4. Waterlow & Sons; W. H. Everett & Sons, Ltd.
6	1c (S230a, CW 1) 2c (231a, CW 16) 3c (S212a, CW 17)	A B B	(same)	1949 or later	1. K Shoes; Philip & Tacey, Ltd. 2. Hobson & Sons; Duckett Inks 3. Bovril; Diamine Inks 4. Waterlow & Sons; Educational Supply Association

In addition to these booklets, I have in my collection one similar to Booklet Number 1 above, in which the blank side of interleaf 4 has been replaced by an ad for Gunn-Moore cricket bats.

All of the above booklets have dark red outside covers. The front covers are printed as follows:

BRITISH GUIANA
POSTAGE
STAMPS

4 at 3c 4 at 2c 4 at 1c

PRICE 24 CENTS
POST OFTEN: POST EARLY

The inside covers are a bright yellow color. Postal rates are given on the inside front cover as follows:

Letters: British Guiana 3c per ounce; Great Britain and Empire 4c per ounce; Foreign 6c per ounce.

Postcards: British Guiana 2c; Great Britain and Empire 3c; Foreign 4c.

Newspapers: British Guiana 1c up to 4 ounces; Great Britain, Empire, and Foreign 1c per two ounces.

BRITISH GUIANA

This Book Contains
4 Stamps at 4 Cents.
8 Stamps at 2 Cents.
4 Stamps at 1 Cent.
Price 36 Cents.

In Table B below is described the booklet incorporating one pane each of the one and four cent stamps, and two panes of the two cent stamp. This variety is much scarcer than the booklets containing one, two, and three cent stamps. The red-orange outside front cover is printed as follows:

The yellow inside front cover gives the following postal rates:

Letters: British Guiana 2c per ounce; Great Britain and Empire 4c per ounce; Foreign 6c per ounce.

Postcards: British Guiana 1c; Great Britain, Empire, and Foreign 3c.

Newspapers: British Guiana 1c up to 4 ounces; Great Britain, Empire, and Foreign 1c per two ounces.

TABLE B

Booklet Number	STAMPS Cat. number	Perf.	Stitching	Date of Issue	Advertising Interleaves
1	1c (S230a, CW 1) 2c (S231a, CW 1) 4c (232a, CW 3)	A A A	Black thread	Feb. 1, 1938 or later	1. J. P. Santos; "White Label" Whiskey 2. Philip & Tacey, Ltd.; James Lilly-white, Frowd & Co. 3. Genasprin & Genoza; Imperial Typewriters 4. Clipper Cigarettes; Koreska, Ltd. 5. Bar-let Typewriter; Waterlow & Sons 6. Milkmaid Milk; K Shoes

The booklets containing two panes each of the one and two cent stamps are almost as rare as the preceding variety. Table C describes these booklets. The red-orange outside front cover is identical to that of the booklet described in Table B, except that it shows 8 stamps at 1 Cent, 8 stamps at 2 Cents, Price 24 Cents. The postal rates given are the same as those for the Table B booklet.

TABLE C

Booklet Number	STAMPS Cat. number	Perf.	Stitching	Date of Issue	Advertising Interleaves
1	1c (S230a, CW 1) 2c (S231a, CW 2)	A A	Black thread	1944	1. Gunn-Moore; Diamine Inks 2. Bovril; blank 3. K Shoes; blank 4. Waterlow & Sons; blank 5. Hobson & Sons; blank 6. Philip & Tacey, Ltd. Duckett Inks
2	(same)	(same)	White thread		(same)

Much of the data given for the booklets described in Tables A, B, and C was obtained from the Second Edition of "British Empire Postage Stamp Booklets", by H. R. Work.



Fig. 1

It is obvious that British Guiana booklets vary considerably in the perforations of the stamps used, and the particular products and organizations using them as advertising media. This variation can be carried even further. Figure 1, a photograph of the actual advertising interleaves, shows four different styles used by BOVRIL in these booklets. Figure 2 shows two ad styles used by K SHOES.

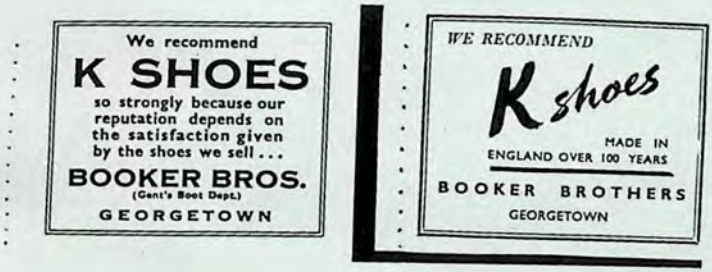

Fig. 2

Because of these minor style differences, the complete classification of British Guiana booklets, not only by stamp perforation and thread color but also by advertising agencies and the different styles used by them, has never been completely investigated. If a collector had access to a large supply of these booklets, the accurate classification of the material would be an extremely interesting philatelic trail to explore

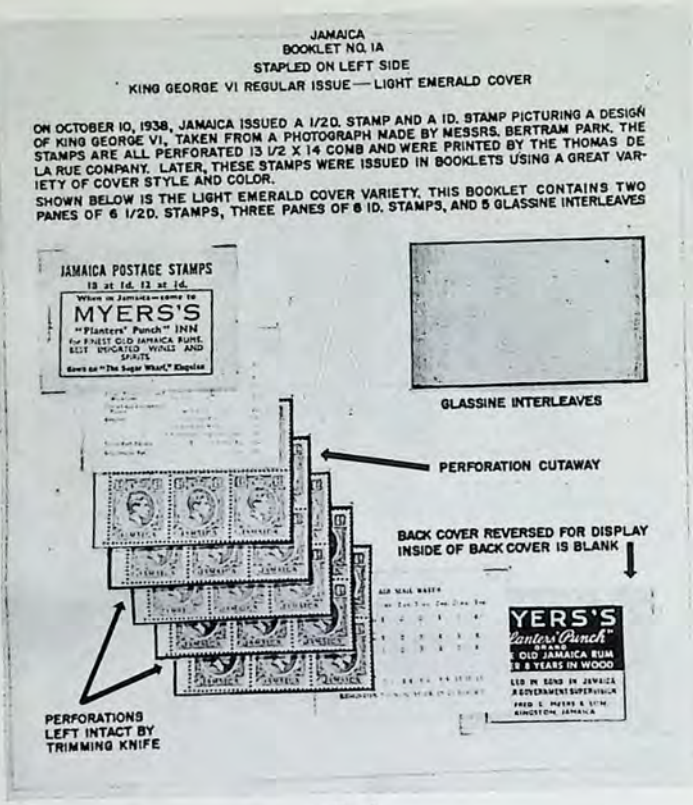

Fig. 3

JAMAICA

Jamaica has issued a large variety of King George VI booklets, and is noteworthy for the fact that it is the only British West Indies colony to have issued a Queen Elizabeth II booklet. In most cases, it is not definitely known when the booklets were first placed on sale, as the Jamaica Post Office Department makes no announcement of the issue of booklets.

All types of Jamaica booklets are bound on either the right or left side, with the panes being made up from ordinary sheets. It sometimes happens that the top, bottom, or edge of the panes appears to have been cut near the perforations, as if by a knife. This is caused by faulty positioning of the panes between the cardboard covers before the stapling and trimming processes are completed. When the booklets are assembled, the outside covers are cut one-half inch on the top, bottom, and open edge, with the result that, unless the panes have been accurately positioned, the perforations are likely to be cut away or not at all.[5]Figure 3, reproducing a page from my collection, shows examples of perforations being cut away and left intact on the same pane.

5 Correspondence from Mr. E. F. Aguilar, 93 Harbor Street, Kingston, Jamaica, dated June 6, 1956.

MISCELLANEOUS: TWO REIGN BOOKLETS OF THE B.W.I.

(CONCLUSION)

The 1½d denomination of the Constitution Commemoration issue of 1945 was issued in booklets containing four panes of six stamps each. The original Perf. 12 variety of this stamp (Scott number 129, Commonwealth number S4), was first issued on August 20, 1945. However, the booklet contains the later Perf. 12¾ by 13¼ variety (Scott number 129, Commonwealth number S11), and was not issued until July, 1946.[6] The front cover, colored light blue, is set in four lines as follows:

JAMAICA
POSTAGE
STAMPS
16 at 1½d.

The booklet contains no advertising, and the usual postal rates appear on the inside of the front and back covers. It sold for two shillings.

The King George VI ½d and 1d color changes of 1951 first appeared in booklet form in February, 1955.[7] The booklet incorporates a yellow-colored cover, and is identical in every way to the King George VI yellow cover booklet of 1938, with the exception of containing Scott 148a and 149a instead of 116a and 117a. One other minor difference is a general increase of both inland and air mail postal rates over those listed in the 1938 booklet.

The last booklet to be discussed in this article was issued in 1957. It contains four panes of six stamps — one pane each of the ½d, 1d, 2d, and 2½d values of the Queen Elizabeth definitive series. The booklet sold for three shillings. The inside front cover defines the inland postal rates; the inside back cover the air mail rates. The front cover, of a green color, appears as follows:

JAMAICA POSTAGE STAMPS
6 at 2½d 6 at 2d
6 at 1d 6 at ½d

I have not tabulated the specific postal rates given by any of the Jamaica booklets described because of their complicated details.

It is hoped that this article will give the reader, especially readers unfamiliar with booklets, a brief understanding of British West Indies booklets and their interesting varieties. I have found the study of this material extremely fascinating.

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6 **Commemorative Stamps of the British Commonwealth**, by H. D. S. Haverbeck, published by the Van Nostrand Co., page 117.
7 **The British West Indian Philatelist**, Volume 6, No. 4, June 1955, page 57.

STAMP COLLECTING, Mch. 18, 1966

A Check List of Churchill Stamps

Compiled by O. W. Newport

NOW that over 70 countries have produced Churchill stamps, readers may like to keep by them this check list giving details of values and dates of issue, etc. The forerunners and local issues have been included under separate headings, but not the bogus issues of Davaar, Sanda, New Atlantis and Free Albania, which performed no postal functions and can be regarded as rubbish.

Country	*Values*	*Designs*	*Date of issue*
Ajman	25, 50, 75 np., 1r., 2r., 3r., 5r., 7r.50; 5r., 7r.50 min. sht.	Churchill with different background pictures. (Issued perf. and impf.)	
Antigua	½c., 4c., 25c., 35c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Ascension	1d., 3d., 6d., 1s.6d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Australia	5d. (ord. and Helecon paper).	Karsh portrait	24. 5.65
Bahamas	½d., 2d., 10d., 1s.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Barbados	1c., 4c., 25c., 35c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Basutoland ..	1c., 2½c., 10c., 22½c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Bechuanaland ..	1c., 2½c., 12½c., 20c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Bermuda	3d., 6d., 10d., 1s.3d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Bhutan	33 ch., 1 nu, 1 nu, 2 nu, 3 nu.	Ovpt. on flowers and flags	27. 2.65
Brazil	200 Cr.	Churchill in his study	25. 6.65
Brit. Antarctic Terr.	½d., 1d., 1s., 2s.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
British Honduras ..	1c., 4c., 22c., 25c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
British Guiana ..	5c., 25c.	Churchill and St. George's Cathedral.	24. 1.66
British Solomon Is.	2d., 9d., 1s.3d., 2s.6d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Brunei	3c., 10c., 15c., 25c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Cameroons ..	12f., coupon, 18f.	Churchill giving V-sign Churchill and warship.	28. 5.65
Canada	5c.	Churchill portrait	12. 8.65



One of Britain's controversial designs



The basis of the Colonial "omnibus"

Cayman Islands ..	½d., 1d., 1s., 1s.9d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Congo (Brazzaville)	50f. (Min. sht. showing four statesmen.)	Portrait	25. 6.65
Cook Islands ..	4d., 10d., 1s., 2s., 3s., 5s.	Overprints on pictorials	24. 1.66
Dahomey	100f.	Portrait	15. 6.65
Dominica	1c., 5c., 15c., 24c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Dubai	1r., 1r.50, 3r., 4r.	Churchill Lying in State	24. 1.66
Falkland Islands ..	½d., 1d., 1s., 2s.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Fed. of South Arabia	5f., 10f., 65f., 125f.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Fiji	3d., 9d., 1s., 2s.6d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Fujeira	10, 15, 25, 50, 75 np., 1r.; (air) 2r., 3r. Min. shts. combining 2r. and 3r. (perf. and imperf.).	Scenes from Churchill's Life.	28. 2.66
Gaboon	100f.	Churchill and microphone	28. 9.65
The Gambia ..	1d., 6d., 1s.6d.	Churchill and Houses of Parliament.	24. 1.66
Gibraltar	½d., 1d., 4d., 9d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Gilbert & Ellice Is.	½d., 3d., 3s., 3s.7d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Great Britain ..	4d., 1s.3d. (ordinary and phos. paper).	Karsh Portrait	8. 7.65

CHURCHILL STAMPS

MP COLLECTING, Mch. 18, 1966

Country	Values	Designs	Date of Issue
Grenada	1c., 3c., 25c., 35c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Haiti	3c., 5c., 10c., 15c., 20c., 25c., 50c.; (air) 50c., 75c., 1g., 1g.50.	Scenes from Churchill's life.	1. 2.66
	3g. min. sheet (perf. and imperf.).	Churchill and Arms	
Honduras	1c., 2c., 16c., 2L.	Overprints	–. 2.66
Hong Kong ..	10c., 50c., $1.30, $2	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Jamaica	6d., 1s.	Portrait	18. 4.66
Liberia	15c., 20c., 25c.	Churchill and Views	18. 1.66
	50c. min. sheet (perf. and imperf.).	Churchill and Map	
Mali	100f.	Portrait	11.10.65
Malta	2d., 3d., 1s., 1s.6d.	Churchill and Map, or Grand Harbour, Valetta.	24. 1.66
Mauritania ..	200f.	Portrait	6.12.65
Mauritius	2c., 10c., 60c., 1r.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Montserrat ..	1c., 2c., 24c., 42c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24 1.66
New Hebrides (Brit.)	5c., 15c., 25c., 30c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
New Hebrides (Fr.)	5c., 15c., 25c., 30c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
New Zealand ..	7d.	Karsh Portrait	24. 5.65
Nicaragua	20c., 35c., 60c., 75c. 1C., 2C., 3C. Min. sheet, 20c., 35c., 60c., 75c. (imperf.).	Portraits	5. 2.66
Niger	100f.	Portrait	3. 9.65
Panama	21c.+10c. (perf. and imperf.).	Churchill and Kennedy	23. 8.65
Paraguay	30c., 12g.45 (perf. and imperf.).	Churchill and Houses of Parliament	4. 9.65
Ras al Khaima ..	2r., 3r., 4r.	Churchill and Roosevelt	1.10.65
	1r. min. shts. in three designs.	Churchill and Big Ben Churchill's Funeral.	
Rhodesia	1s.3d.	Churchill and Parliament	16. 8.65
	1s.3d. surcharged 5s. and ovptd. Independence.		17. 1.66
St. Christopher-Nevis	½c., 3c., 15c., 25c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
St. Helena	1d., 3d., 6d., 1s.6d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 16.6
St. Lucia	4c., 6c., 25c., 35c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
St. Vincent ..	1c., 4c., 20c., 40c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Seychelles	5c., 15c., 75c., 1r.50	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Sharjah	40 np., 60 np., 100 np. (perf. and imperf.).	Ovpts. on Kennedy	28. 4.65
	Min. sheet with three values, imperf.		
	2r., 3r., 4r., 5r.	Portrait and views on gold foil.	12. 3.66
	1r., 2r., 3r., 4r., min. shts. (perf. and imperf.).		
(Khor Fakkan) ..	As above	As above, but on silver foil	12. 3.66
Sierra Leone ..	2c., 3c., 7c., 10c., 15c., 20c., 30c., 50c., 75c., 1L., 2L.	Overprints	19. 5.65
	Prov'n'l 2L. on 30c.		28. 1.66
Swaziland	½c., 2½c., 15c., 25c.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Tchad	50f.	Portrait	23.11.65
Togo	5f., 10f., 20f., 45f., 85f.	Churchill and V-sign	
	Min. sht. 45f., 85f.	Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt.	7. 8.65
Tristan da Cunha ..	1d., 3d., 6d., 1s.6d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Turks & Caicos Is.	1d., 2d., 8d., 1s.6d.	Churchill and St. Paul's	24. 1.66
Umm al Qiwain ..	3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 50, 75 np., 1r., 3r., 5r.	Scenes from Churchill's Life.	15. 2.66
	Min. shts. combining 3r. and 5r. (perf. and imperf.).		
U.S.A.	5c.	Karsh Portrait	13. 5.65
Venezuela	1r. airmail	Portrait	29.12.65

signs	Date of issue
nd St. Paul's	24. 1.66
	9. 4.65
nd Views	5. 6.65
nd Flags	5. 6.65
ı Trinity House	1. 2.66
nd World Leaders	1. 2.66
	9. 5.65
	9. 5.65
of the original Herm issue. verprinted for the first Churchill's death and e-issued.	
s Lord Warden nque Ports.	9. 5.65
ınd Map of the Islands.	
ovptd. Jan.24th,	31. 1.66
and Lundy	29. 6.65
Stalin and t, ovptd. in n and blue.	19. 7.45
and Broken	1942
ınd Burning	1942
ract from l speech.	22/24. 9.54
nd extract from l speech.	1. 4.46
t Atlantic Con-	15. 6.46
at Casablanca ce.	15. 6.46
t Teheran Con-	15. 6.46
onference— d Inscription.	–.11.43
t Quebec Conf. t Quebec Conf.	12. 4.48
nd Roosevelt	1948

[See Amendments overleaf]

For COLONIAL STAMP SALES (Crown Agents releases).

See Miscellaneous-

STAMP COLLECTING, June 3, 1966 — CHURCHILL STAMPS

Churchill Check List Amendments and Additions

By O. W. NEWPORT

A number of amendments and additions are necessary to the Churchill Check List published in STAMP COLLECTING on March 18th. Several of the Persian Gulf States changed the dates of their issues without notice and a number of other issues have appeared since the Check List was compiled.

Ajman. The date of issue of this series was February 22nd. The 75 np. shows Blenheim Palace, not the Admiralty and Horse Guards Parade as stated in Foreign News Front.

Bahamas. The ½d. exists with inverted watermark.

Barbados. The 1c. exists with inverted watermark.

Bhutan. The 1 nu exists imperforate.

Cayman Islands. The ½d. and 1s. exist with inverted watermark.

Dominica. The 24c. exists with inverted watermark.

Dubai. This series was issued on April 6th. An imperf. miniature sheet was also issued, with the stamps in the same denominations. The set and sheet were reissued on May 10th overprinted AIR MAIL.

Falkland Islands. The 1d. exists with inverted watermark.

Fujeira. The series was issued on March 27th. This series also exists imperforate.

Gibraltar. The ½d. exists with inverted watermark.

Great Britain. The 4d. and 1s.3d. ordinary exist with inverted watermark.

Hong Kong. The 10c. and 50c. exist with inverted watermark.

Liberia. In addition to the ordinary set perforated and imperforate, the three stamps also exist as singles in imperforate sheets. The miniature sheet exists perforated and imperforate.

Mauritius. The 60c. exists ~~imperforate~~ with inverted wmk.

Panama. It should be pointed out that the Churchill stamp forms part of the Kennedy series and is not usually sold singly.

Paraguay. The imperforate stamps are in different colours from the perforated stamps. These stamps also form part of a joint Churchill-Kennedy series but are often sold separately.

Sharjah. This series was issued on March 12th.

Sharjah (Khor Fakkan). This series was issued on March 12th.

Togo. These stamps also exist imperforate.

Umm al Qiwain. This series was issued on March 10th. It exists perforated and imperforate, as do the miniature sheets.

Uruguay. Two stamps were issued on April 29th: (postage) 40c., Churchill and Union Flag; (air) 2p., Karsh portrait of Churchill and extract from speech.

Note.—The issues of the French Group (**Cameroons, Congo, Dahomey, Gaboon, Mali, Mauritania, Niger** and **Tchad**) exist imperforate and as de luxe proofs (*epreuves de luxe*). These were not issued to the public, but were presented to various French officials and have since found their way on to the market. They are scarce and are listed in the French catalogues.

Local Carriage Labels

Guernsey (Commodore Shipping Co. Ltd.): *Alderney*, 3d., 6d., 1s., 1s.6d., 3s.; *Sark*, 4d., 8d., 1s., 1s.3d., 3s. On May 7th, 1966, the above parcel stamps, showing aircraft, were issued with overprint "Sir Winston Churchill, 1874–1965".

Forerunners

It should be pointed out that the **Nicaragua** and **Salvador** issues form part of the Roosevelt memorial series and are usually sold in sets.

S.C. - June 10, 1966

Churchill Check List

In the Churchill Check List, amendments and additions which appeared on page 549 of STAMP COLLECTING for June 3rd, the **Mauritius** 60c. was listed imperforate. This should, of course, have read with inverted watermark.

The following should be added :

Qatar. The imperforate I.C.Y. miniature sheet, containing a strip of four 40 n.p. stamps, overprinted for the 20th anniversary of the United Nations, has been further overprinted in the upper left corner "In Victory, Magnanimity. In Peace, Goodwill. Winston Churchill". The overprint comes in red and in black. Large sheets containing the same four 40 n.p. stamps in four blocks of four with nine coupons *se-tenant*, five of which have been valued at 5p., also have one of the coupons bearing the same Churchill quotation. These exist perforated and imperforate.

—O.W.N.

MISCELLANEOUS

STAMP COLLECTING, NOV-20, 1959

COLONIAL STAMP SALES

The Crown Agents have released details of the numbers sold of the following stamps :—

WEST INDIES FEDERATION

		Local	*Crown Agents*	*Total*
Dominica	3 cents	52,983	85,301	138,284
	6 cents	59,710	75,321	135,031
	12 cents	71,938	74,841	146,779
Montserrat ..	3 cents	31,744	85,381	117,125
	6 cents	48,054	75,051	123,705
	12 cents	76,543	75,101	151,644
St. Lucia	3 cents	97,678	85,021	182,699
	6 cents	96,484	75,161	171,645
	12 cents	38,186	74,701	112,887
St. Vincent ..	3 cents	44,475	85,211	129,686
	6 cents	57,961	75,191	133,152
	12 cents	60,784	74,701	135,485
Antigua	3 cents	215,702	85,291	300,993
	6 cents	206,725	75,811	282,536
	12 cents	283,272	75,121	358,393

Sales figures for other territories in the Federation will be published as soon as received.

MISCELLANEOUS.

COMMONWEALTH STAMP NEWS.

STAMP LOVER, May-June, 1964.

Commonwealth Stamp News

Q. Elliman

I WAS discussing recently with a collector why he had turned over from modern foreign to K.G. VI–Q.E. II Colonials. He mentioned that his two friends, who were both collectors of the stamps he has now adopted, seemed to be having all the fun and instanced the **Tonga** "Gold" and **Sierra Leone** "Map" sets as the kind of stamps which, even if they were gimmicks, had provided profit as well as pleasure to those who had bought when they first appeared. I did not point out, not wishing to damp his enthusiasm, that you do not get your profit until you sell out, unless pleasure can be classed as a dividend.

For the same reason, I did not refer to the criticism which such issues evoke, particularly from those who do not collect them. As a matter of fact I had just previously complained about such stamps and a Q.E. II collector told me in reply that stunt issues were anything but new; we had embossed stamps a century ago and there were stamps printed on paper resembling gold-beater's skin long before any of us were born. Though I was able to counter that such items were not prepared for sale to collectors, all I drew in reply was "so what?"

I am gradually coming to the opinion that, as one writer put it recently in a magazine, we are a bit more censorious about Commonwealth issues than we are about foreign; it is also a fact that a good deal of the criticism against the Tonga "Gold", etc., does come from those who have never collected modern Colonials and are never likely to do so. For myself, I am prepared to leave collectors to go in for the stamps they like. But it must never be overlooked that if they choose too wide a field they are likely to get nowhere and, when this point is realized, then as often as not, one more collector is lost to the hobby.

Anyhow my field, for these notes, has mostly to do with the stamps of the present reign, gimmick issues and all, so a word or two about the philatelic doings of **Zanzibar.** It came as a shock when the 1961 issue was withdrawn without notice and that shock was not confined to collectors either, for most dealers were caught short also and there was no possibility of replenishing stamps anywhere; they were simply not available (unoverprinted) either at the Crown Agents or in the territory itself. So before I go any further let me say right away that collectors who have a full set (either mint or used) of the 1961 issue are on a very good thing indeed.

What about the overprints (both lots)? Here again, I think they are much under-rated at present. We are hardly likely to get the sales figures so it may take some time for the real scarcity to be felt; moreover, stocks are not very widely distributed (which makes all the difference at the start). Above all, go for these overprinted by hand locally, both the 1961 definitives and the *Uhuru* special issue—used, of course, as well as mint.

Regarding used Colonials, a friend was recently criticizing the catalogues for not pricing them much higher than mint, seeing that they are so often a lot scarcer. Actually what the critic was not taking into consideration was that actual numbers are not the whole story. The question of demand is the real touchstone and as there are very many more collectors who prefer mint to used (probably more than twice as many), used have to be very much scarcer before they are worth even as much as mint.

Leaving the novelty issues out of it, I suppose it's the new watermark, which has appeared recently—unheralded—on various new printings of Colonial stamps, that is causing most fun. A dealer tells me that he has never known such a demand for new stamps as he is experiencing for the latest watermark changes of **Barbados, Fiji,** and **St. Vincent** (not overlooking the odd values for **Jamaica** and **Pitcairn Islands).** He thinks that collectors must have formed the opinion, all of them, that these stamps will have a very short run.

Maybe, and they should certainly be picked up whilst freely offered at current rates. But what about the stamps which have been replaced without notice? Take the **St. Vincent** 20c. This formed part of a printing order placed last year. The other values were the 10c., 15c., 25c., and 50c. The reprint of these were officially released on January 14th but at the same time it was not announced that the watermark would be changed to the St. Edwards Crown. The result was that when they did come out, and the alteration was noticed, it was too late for dealers to stock up with the old. The 20c. was not mentioned at all and only noticed accidentally when a dealer ordered other values and spotted the change. The **Fiji** 1d., 10d., and 10s. also made their debut unannounced in the St. Edwards Crown watermark, so again there had been no stocking up of the obsolete.

contd. at foot of next page

under

Commonwealth Stamp News contd.

Well, it all adds to the excitement and collectors who have kept up to date should be feeling pretty happy about the prospects of some of the Q.E. II stamps which have recently, for one reason or another, been replaced.

In the years following the Second World War, with so much loose cash about and so little relatively to spend it upon, many of the stamps then current were overbought. It has taken till now for demands to catch up. In odd cases, they haven't caught up yet. But it's a very different picture which the Q.E. II group presents, and none have a better chance of more than earning their keep than the stamps which have gone off sale during the past few months.

Most Q.E. II collectors will have a set of the **Bahamas** "Meeting" issue in their collections and they will perhaps have been surprised to see how the price has shot up. As I write, the set which cost around 3s. a week or two ago is making 10s. wholesale. The demand which has caused the shortage comes from the U.S.A. and it's not collectors of British Colonial stamps who are behind it, but the thematic or topical collectors. Over there, stamps with any Kennedy connections are all the vogue and, of course, it was the late U.S. President, along with Mr. Macmillan, who held the meeting, hence the demand for the resulting stamps. It would seem likely that the stamps will rise further in price, for in the first place there would only be sufficient to cover the normal "Q.E. II" demand. The Tonga "Gold" issue was another example where outsiders (in this case the coin collectors) upset the balance. But do not expect the Bahamas issue to rise as high as the Coin set.

MISCELLANEOUS

COMMONWEALTH COMMENTARY

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, Jan. 6, 1967

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

THERE has been advance news of printings to come out in the near future. For instance, in the announcement that several values of the overprinted Guyana issue were being prepared, details as to the watermark were given: 1c., 4c., 6c., E block upright, and 36c., 72c., $1, $2 and $5, E block sideways. The point is, of course, that all these eight values differ from those of the previous mix-up. Thus they will be catalogued.

The now current catalogues appeared too early for full details to be given of the various watermark varieties which exist of these Guyana overprints. For interested readers, here is a check-list of those which have been noticed to date, including the ones mentioned above (to be released in the near future): T Script watermark—2c., 3c., 4c., 6c., 8c., 12c., $5. E watermark upright—1c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., 12c., 24c., 36c., 48c., 72c., $1, $2, $5; ditto, sideways-1c., 4c., 8c., 12c., 24c., 36c., 48c. 72c., $1, $2, $5. And that may not be the end. It will be a month or two before the new definitive issue is ready for release. And with Guyana using a lot of stamps that may mean further printings. All will at least have the E watermark, though there is no certainty whether it will be upright or sideways.

Tonga has again released another batch of "goldies." It is not known at this stage whether there will be any rarities as was the case when the last lot appeared in 1965. It will be remembered what fancy prices some of those were then bringing. Will these big figures continue? Were they justified? Well, the Tonga Post Office has just announced sales figures. They speak for themselves. Regular Postage: 1/3d./1/6d., 69,741; 1/9d./9d., 67,239; 2/6d./2/6d., 67,083; 5/-/1d., 3,025; 5/-/2d., 15,060; 5/-/2/-, 26,193. Air Mail: 2/3d./10d., 24,142; 2/9d./11d., 24,277; 4/6d./2/1d., 3,655; 4/6d./2/4d., 4,017; 4/6d./2/9d., 3,965. Some rarities amongst that lot, indeed! Better get the new lot at present prices, just in case there are one or two as scarce. There are no such signs at the moment, but you never know.

By the way, have you got these Lesotho overprints, 12½c. and 1R. T Script watermark, yet? They were only on sale in the territory, and it is understood that in all, there are only a little over twenty thousand copies of each. Present prices seem to be around double face. That looks reasonable enough. Don't overlook that these are first rank varieties. Not just some little flaw.

More attention seems to be given now to Commonwealth omnibus issues—though there will have to be some big changes before they become even moderately popular with either dealers or collectors. The sameness of the designs, for all countries, invites boredom. But, no doubt about it, some of the sets will prove really scarce. For instance, it has been announced that only 99,750 of the 1c. and 59,494 of the 25c. of the St. Lucia I.C.Y. issue were sold. Those who just take odd sets belonging to the countries they collect, will be wise to complete such sets now, even if they have to pay a bit more than they think they should. In fact, they will probably be lucky to find the odd sets at all!

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

THERE are four releases of new printings of current stamps—released by the Crown Agents—to deal with this time. The first appeared December 23rd, for Gibraltar, the 4d. value. As it had already been announced that when this stamp again appeared there would be a watermark change, it was no surprise to find that the Block E watermark was now sideways for the first time. The whole set is being replaced April 3rd by an issue in which all the designs feature ships.

On the same day as the Gibraltar release, a new printing of the South Arabia 100f. appeared, but this matches up completely with the printing it replaces.

On December 30th four reprints for Dominica came out: 2c., 5c., 6c. and 8c. Here was a bit of a surprise, for no watermark changes were mentioned when the new printing was first announced. Yet both the 6c. and 8c. have the Block E watermark sideways, also for the first time (as in the case of the Gibraltar 4d.). Two more items for the catalogues. But the point to note here is that it is the two stamps now obsolete which you should make a point of going after, while you can!

As for the 2c. and 5c. values of this release, whilst they do show shade differences—enough to distinguish the new from the replaced—they can hardly be considered colour variations of an importance.

Finally on the 30th, new printings of the Fiji Islands 1/- and 10/- values. The centre of the 10/- is of a rather deeper green. In the 1/- value there is no change at all. So why another printing so soon after the recent release (November 1st) of this value? There seems to be a bit of a confusion somewhere. When the reprint appeared in November, the watermark proved to be Block E for the first time. But used and mint copies had already shown up, and it was obvious that there had been a local release previously. I heard of one dealer who paid several times face for some used copies. He is feeling very sore about it! This, however, isn't as bad a case as that of the Grenada 6c. of the now replaced 1953 issue. Apparently supplies of the 6c. with the Block E watermark went out to the colony, with no corresponding London release. The set was replaced by the current pictorials. It was only odd stamps—which people found when it was too late to get more—which proved the existence of the variety. Such items sell at around £15 each. No doubt those who got copies of the Fiji 1/- thought they might be on something similar. Alas for their hopes.

A last word. Did you get the Botswana overprints which have just been replaced? I think that when the total sales figures are known it will be found that a lot didn't!

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE.
Jan. 20, 1967

MISCELLANEOUS.
COMMONWEALTH COMMENTARY

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE - OCT. 13, 1967

Commonwealth Commentary

by ANGOL

I HAVE just been checking up som prices of the rarer Q.E. II stamps, an noted with interest the following, min these are selling and not catalogue price Grenada watermark E 6c., £10 (as it listed at £15, that seems a bargain Trinidad Perf. 14½ (C) 60c., £8; Weste Samoa Kava Bowl watermark 3d., £4. Wh is there special about this trio? Simply they only went on sale in the respecti countries, and as they were not not until it was too late, they are now selli at pounds instead of what otherwise wou have been pence.

Which shows how important new prin ings can be. There is one this time fro Barbados. On September 19th, a reprint the 1c., 3c., 4c., 8c., 12c., 25c., 50c. a $2.50 values was released. Of these the 3 and 8c. were watermark sideways for t first time. Also, the inscription has bee corrected on the 3c. When this stamp fir appeared at the beginning of 1965, t name of the sea-horse was given incorrect as Hippocanpus. On the latest printi this has been changed to the corre Hippocampus. With these two values, t whole set from 1c. to $2.50 is now on sa with the watermark sideways.

There was also another interesti change. The 25c. was reprinted and releas in September of last year. It was noted th the portrait, etc. was of a much deeper bl than before. So much so, that it was giv catalogue listing under CW.83a. Now this latest printing the blue has returned the lighter and brighter blue of the origin printing, so the "a" stamp is obsolete aft a run of just a year. These three new ite will, of course, be available at the usu current rates, which goes to prove n point about the possible importance reprints.

On the same date as the Barbad release (September 19th) releases of prints of Cayman Is. ½d., Fiji 1/9d. and 4 and Hong Kong Postage Due 10c. appear Unlike Barbados there was nothing n about the other three reprints. The Fiji pair were of a rather lighter shade and t Hong Kong 10c. P.D. of a brighter viol But in no case were the changes wo particular attention.

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, OCT. 27, 1967

Commonwealth Commentary

By ANGOL

SINCE the news broke that two more West Indian members of the Commonwealth have changed the handlers of their postal issues, I have discussed the matter with a number of collectors and dealers, and I have yet to hear one say that he liked the alteration; more than that, in every case they deplored it. Why? Most of those concerned in Commonwealth stamps, at least those of the present reign, have to contend with the issues of well over sixty countries, and if only one new set a year is issued by each of these, then more than one new set a week has to be handled. Take **Trinidad and Tobago**, which is one of the two territories referred to. This country has been getting along with two issues a year and the stamps have sold well.

Now we are told that as a kick-off for the new regime, Trinidad is to have a new definitive issue, as well as the special issues announced in the PHILATELIC MAGAZINE on October 13th. In my opinion, this is too many.

A word about a unique issue, one which, far from having been produced for sale to collectors, cannot even be bought mint if you try to do so over the post office counter. For the stamps overprinted by **Anguilla** were strictly needed for postal purposes and to prevent people from going along and scooping the very small stock of overprints, apparently you had to hand your mail over the counter, for it to have the stamps affixed by the postal clerk and cancelled in the act. Nor, to get used stamps, could you pass everything over to be stamped. Seemingly, they made sure that genuine mail was being handled. A unique issue all right, and what of its status? It depends on how you look at things. Anguilla is a rebel, so is, in the eyes of the British Government, at least, Rhodesia. But that has not prevented collectors going after the "rebel" stamps of the latter. There is one difference between the overprints of Rhodesia and Anguilla. Plenty of the former are available at a price. Don't waste your time asking your dealer to supply Anguillan stamps, mint, or even used. He will not have any normally but, if he does land a few copies, sell your war loan, you will need to, to buy them!

At the present moment, those who know their way about in the "Q.E. II" field are busy, first of all noting what perforation varieties there are in the **"Arms"** type stamps of **New Zealand and Dependencies** and then going after them, wherever they can be found. They have a job on getting them all. For instance, there are the "rough" perfs. of **Niue**; of these about 800 sets went to the territory and the New Zealand P.O. disposed of the balance, said to be under 2,000 sets. Most dealers, unaware of the scarcity, disposed of any they got, at the beginning, at around current rates. So far so good. I have been looking for offers in the press and have only noticed one and that dealer wanted £12/10 for the set. If it is thought to be too dear, just try to buy elsewhere at any price. It won't be easy, for apparently the stocks that dealers got, being disposed of at once, are already in collections, only to come out now and again in odd sets.

But that may not be the end of the surprises, for when the comb and line perforated stamps of **Tokelau**, etc. get sorted out, there may be more scarce items revealed.

If you are one of those interested in these "Arms" type stamps, don't overlook the two printings of the four stamps put out by Tokelau in October of last year. They had a very short run, and not many dealers seem to have bothered to import them.

MISCELLANEOUS
(COMMONWEALTH COMMENTARY)

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, Dec. 22, 1967.

Commonwealth Commentary

By ANGOL

IT is not often these days that we get any new printings to consider. Certainly not as many as I would like, for still retaining some taste for philately, I get a lot more fun checking up a new printing and comparing the paper, colour and watermark with previous printings; whereas all there is to do with a new set is to fork out the cost and file it away until there is time to mount it. If it ever does get mounted. No, give me a new printing every time.

Well, there are three reprints to check up on this time and all are interesting. The release date of all three was November 28th and the first consisted of the 1c., 2c., 5c., 10c. and 15c. values for **British Honduras.** The 1c. can be dismissed as no change, but the 2c., 10c. and 15c. stamps were watermark sideways for the first time. Catalogue items these on the watermark change. As for the 5c., it would not surprise me if this did not find its way into the catalogues on the basis of a really good shade variety. It replaces the February 16th printing, which had the watermark sideways for the first time. But that was not the only change, for the colour was much paler than previous releases. Now this latest goes back in colour to the deeper buff-yellow of the original printing.

For **Hong Kong** there was a reprint of the 5c. and 10c. stamps. The watermark was sideways as before, but the colours are much brighter than previously. Again, I would say these shades well merit catalogue consideration. The third November release was for **Singapore** and the values concerned were the 15c., 20c., $1, $2 and $5. The cents pair showed no change at all, but while the shade differences of the dollars might not be marked enough to merit listing, in all three the colours are dark enough to enable all but the colour blind to distinguish from all previous releases, particularly the $1.

Coming to December 1st, one of the releases of the six which appeared that day was the complete **Mauritius** definitive set overprinted SELF GOVERNMENT 1967. Two values had previously appeared with the watermark sideways, the 5c. and 35c. and it was presumed that the old existing stocks were the stamps which had been overprinted. But when the overprints were examined it was seen that the 10c. was now watermark sideways. One can only wonder if this was an entirely new printing, or if it had been in stock already. Time alone will tell, for we can be sure if the latter was the case, some lucky dealer inadvertently obtained supplies, as happened recently over the **Trinidad** 60c. Regarding this latter variety, one dealer had had quite a few copies in his stock without knowing that such an item even existed. It takes a couple of tenners at least, to get one now.

To get back to reprints, there was one for the **Barbados** 3c. with the corrected inscription, released on December 4th, but unlike the November 28th releases, there was no change whatever from the release of a printing of September 19th. Actually this latter printing also had the amended inscription HIPPOCAMPUS, so this latest is not the first appearance of the changed stamp. For the record, the real date of issue is September 19th not December 4th. Of course, it is possible that even the September date is not the first. Supplies may have gone to the territory, inadvertently, as happened here in London. It will be worth checking up dates for this 3c. stamp.

Jan. 19, 1968.

Commonwealth Commentary

By ANGOL

THERE are no new printings to deal with this time, but one or two of the entirely new sets certainly call for comment. Taking **Tonga** first, there was an announcement that to mark the arrival of the American Peace Corps (one excuse is as good as another) a full set of the current issue was to be overprinted accordingly. Nothing else was mentioned, but now that the stamps are to hand they are found to be entirely different from the 1953 issue. The designs show no change, because obviously the old plates have been used; the paper is as before, that with the tortoise watermark. There the similarity ends, for not only have all the colours been altered, but the stamps are imperforate. On top of all this the printing figures, which have already been published, show that some values are going to prove quite scarce. I mentioned the lack of offers in the magazines to a dealer with a large new issue service, and he said that most dealers would only send enough cash out to cover their new issue commitments.

Another issue out of the ordinary is that released by **Sierra Leone** early in December. There were the shapes (cola nuts, eagles, etc.) as well as oddments from previous issues, and while no printing figures have been released, as far as I am aware, the fact that some values were sold out immediately is proof enough that some of those left overs from previous issues were small indeed. Certainly another set worth watching, particularly as it is rumoured that some of the shapes will not be reprinted.

And the third set I wish to mention is the most intriguing of the lot. The set of local overprints for **Guyana** has already been referred to, but we are not at the end of the story yet. All values from 1c. to $5 have been overprinted by the Government Printers in Georgetown; in some cases stamps with the T and E watermarks exist. Apparently there are more to come, for several values of the basic stamps are being, or have been, printed and by now are probably on the way to the territory, also to be overprinted. Originally, old stocks had been collected together, which had been withdrawn when the original overprints had been received, and as the latter were running short, an overprinting job had been done locally. These would no doubt have covered postal needs, but when dealers heard of their existence, they were sold out in no time. Hence the necessity to have more basic stamps printed. The new issue will have to appear pretty soon, or this second lot of overprints will go the way of the first. That is, of course, if there are differences, as would seem likely in view of the fact that most of the first lot are on T watermark paper, and E watermark paper will be used for the second batch.

Altogether, we have here three very interesting sets. It is stamps such as these which are making "Q.E. II" issues so popular.

Commonwealth Commentary

P.M. Nov. 1970

BY ANGOL

THIS is now the season when the new crop of Christmas issues are released and at this rate they won't be long before they have used up all the old suitable paintings as designs. There are some countries of course, which are not using the easy way out, but are going in for original designs. In this respect **Canada** seems to be showing the most enterprise for she roped in thousands of children to produce topical pictures, and the result is a dozen of these have been chosen. A good idea one would think, but we collectors are in the main a conservative lot, and it is not unusual for one or another to remark, when looking at one of these adapted pictures, that here we have a very nice design, when it is nothing more than a copy of a painting. It was the same with the three stamps issued by G.B. to mark Philympia. Here the Post Office had the audacity to tell us that the designs were the work of David Gentleman. Most of us could produce a few similar designs, if we were to be given a like credit, for merely copying another stamp and adding a word or two of text.

Another country which is showing enterprise and going in for really original designs is **Guernsey** and what a pity that others are not following suit, for collectors will tire in time at these old pictures, which when reduced to the size of a stamp all look alike. As things are at present, Christmas stamps are certainly booming.

Easter issues are in the position that Christmas stamps occupied once. Quite a few were sold around Easter time. Now they are dead, but just wait a few years. Better make sure now and get the few which have been issued, whilst they are available still at more or less current rates.

Miniature sheets (I refuse to use that stupid term souvenir sheets) are not particularly popular, for the average collector finds that buying the sets is as much as can be managed, but there are times when the sheets differ to such an extent compared with the normal stamps, that to omit them is to miss first class varieties. For instance, the Crown Agents have advised that the miniature sheets issued for the **Bermuda** 350th Anniversary of Parliament, will be printed on the glazed all purpose paper (which gets separate catalogue listing by both Commonwealth and Gibbons) because there was not enough over of the old type when the large sheets had been printed. This is a rather interesting admission, for it was recently stated that whilst the all purpose paper would be used for all stamps later, the change could not take place for some time as there was a substantial stock of the old to be used up first. It now looks as though we will see an all round change of paper sooner than was indicated.

Dominica recently issued a set of four stamps depicting flowers and animals and a miniature sheet for makeweight. But those interested in shades should certainly take a look at this M.S. for there are two such outstanding sheet varieties, the 6c. and 38c., that they can hardly avoid being catalogued.

Why this philatelic canonising of those old cut-throats who used to range the Caribbean? The **Virgin Islands** is the latest to issue a set which can do little credit to them. Although sea subjects seem to be very popular with collectors, I haven't noticed any rush for the "Pirate" stamps.

Sierra Leone is still at it, with another of their so-called free form issues. The new definitive issue released October 3rd, has all those fantastic shapes as before.

Maltese stamps are at least maintaining their popularity and the designs of Chev. E. V. Cremona have done their bit towards this vogue. Now, however, the designer has been changed for the "25th Anniversary of the U.N." but there will be few who will think the change is for the better. As for the colours, they remind one of the roundabouts on the show grounds. If Mr. Cremona is out of a job, we could well do with him to design some of our issues for next year!

The next batch of the **New Zealand** definitives will be issued on November 4th. This time the designs will be devoted to fishes and, of course, the sea horse. It is a pity that these definitive sets cannot come out complete, for the net result of piecemeal releases is that dealers never get square.

A word about **Dubai.** This country issued a set to mark the Dickens Centenary and although it is outside the Commonwealth, sets will be required to complete the Dickens theme. Where are they to be bought?

Another set to be issued in November which will raise a few eyebrows, is the one for **Fiji** to mark the centenary of its first postage stamps. The design used initially is being illustrated on the 4c. value. Now compare this design with the 15c. stamp now to be issued. This latest actually depicts six stamps which have been issued during the century. Most of us would settle for a pair of the originals.

ALL from PHILATELIC MAGS 2002

MISCELLANEOUS (Commonwealth commentary)

Commonwealth Commentary by ANGOL

S.M. 15/3/66

There is quite a good batch of new printings to deal with this time, quite like it used to be, with all being released on February 20th. The Bermuda 1/- was reprinted but perfs. colours etc. were all as before.

Not so with **Fiji**, with the **10d., 1/- and 2/6d.** values being reprinted. The 10d. and 1/- show no change, but in the case of the 2/6d., with the frame of a much deeper purple than any of the three previous printings, it can be taken that this latest is well worthy of catalogue consideration. Incidentally, it will not have a very long run, for Fiji is down for a new definitive issue in a month or so. The "Q.E." stamps of Fiji Is. are a rather complicated lot, but well worth study, and now is the time to look round for the missing items, for the forthcoming issue will be a complete break from the many variations which have appeared.

Hong Kong is the next release, with the **15c., 25c., 40c., 50c., $1.30, $5 and $10** values concerned. There are several good shades here, with the 15c., 25c., 40c. and $5 all showing differences. I don't suppose that all the four will be catalogued, but all can be easily separated from previous releases. The 15c., 25c. and 40c. are a lot darker in colour than before. The 15c. perhaps the most distinct of the three, while the $5 has a different coloured background, which is rather difficult to describe. The two previous printings have a background which has been listed as orange, but there is a pinkish tone about it, which is quite absent in the latest. This new stamp, has a genuine orange background and it would not surprise me if it were listed.

For **Sabah** there was a reprint of the **15c.** but there was nothing which could be noted here. However, coming next, **St. Vincent**, with a release of another printing of the **2c. and 4c.** values. The 2c. showed nothing new but on the 4c. a change in the position of the E (block) watermark from upright, as before, to sideways, means that this country now gets a start in a new list of watermark variations. It is rather surprising how much sought after these varieties are, considering the number of entirely new stamps which are appearing all the time. But they are popular, for there are quite a few philatelists around yet. And that disposes of the new printings on this occasion. Pity we could not have a similar lot all the time, as used to be the case, for then the popularity of such would grow to such an extent (as well as sales for the countries concerned) that countries not in the hunt, would be quite out of it, as some of them now are. I notice that already the stamps of one ex colony which recently changed coats are already being offered at under face.

Whilst it had been thought that the 17 stamps with local overprints of Guyana, would complete the issue (the stamps will have been replaced by the time these lines appear in print) there is news of a further six values, but as all these, if they appear, will be on E watermark paper, they are not likely to be classed with the stamps which have already appeared.

S.M. 7/6/66

Commonwealth Commentary

By ANGOL

There are actually five lots of reprints to deal with this time, and the first one, for Antigua comprises **1c, 2c, 3c, 10c, 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c, $1, $2.50 and $5.** There are no watermark variations, but one or two values can be classified as shade varieties, though the colours on the whole are so wishy-washy to start with that it is not very easy to spot the changes. Still, all, I think, will agree that the 10c shows quite a change in the green, now more or less yellow green, while the 3c differs a bit also, but I will content myself with the 10c as an addition to my reference collection.

For Barbados there is a new printing of the **1c and 6c postage dues.** No one will fail to see how much deeper carmine red this latest reprint is than the one it replaces which had the E watermark for the first time. Actually its an old design and some of the earlier printings on the Script watermark, were almost as dark as the new one, but when the E watermark paper was introduced for the first time for this stamp, the colour was much lighter than before, which contrasts strongly with this latest printing. A shade for the catalogues undoubtedly.

Coming to **Brunei**, which is the next on the list, at long last with the release of the $1 with the E watermark, the set up to this value is completed. With a change due this year, it will only have a life of a few months at most. Brunei is not in the top twenty in popularity, but the country has never tried to exploit collectors, and recent special issues have been selling very well, so perhaps it is being realised that Brunei is a safe country to collect. Besides the $1, there was a reprint of the 4c. Here we have quite a good shade, the now lighter green contrasting strongly with the reprint it replaces. A likely catalogue item.

For Montserrat a new printing of the **1c.** showed no change. From St. Lucia there are reprints of the **2c., 4c., 5c. and 15c.** With the 15c. watermark sideways for the first time, it is a catalogue item. Actually, used copies of the 15c. have been coming over for some time, with dates as early as last December, for supplies went out as long ago as last August. As for the other three values, there will be no difficulty in distinguishing them from the printing they replace, for they lack the sharp impression of the originals. Actually used copies coming over rather differ from either, and one specialist is of the opinion that there may have been other printings. Anyhow the 15c. is a new item, but I do not think the other three values will be considered as listable shades.

This ends details of the latest batch of reprints to be released, but there must be many collectors who are not just interested in face different stamps, who will be delighted with the news that in future numbers of the Crown Agents Bulletin, advance announcements will be made when orders for new printings of existing definitives are placed. This gives collectors (and dealers) a chance to see that they are up-to-date before the reprints which may result in new shades etc. are released. Lately there have been one or two new items, and those who did not possess the replaced printings, know that it is not always easy to get them. Even when they are located, they are liable to cost more than when they were current.

may 8, 1970 P. Magazine

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

More new printings are trickling out and with the official date of April 22nd (we have already had some of that same date) there has been a release for **Gibraltar** of the **1d., 2d.** and **2/-.** all plate A. In each case the background is rather deeper, with the 2d. particularly so. The blue is considerably deeper, and it would not be surprising if this latest printing was catalogued on that ground. As for the gum, this is PVA for the first time, thus there will be no difficulty in detecting mint stamps of the latest printing.

Coming now to the releases of April 23rd, we certainly have a mixed batch to deal with. For **Ceylon** both plates A and B had been used for a printing of the **5c.** Again it will be easy to distinguish copies from this printing (mint) for the gum is PVA for the first time, but the stamps themselves show no other change.

For **Montserrat** the **1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 10c., 15c./12c.** and **20c.** values were repeated, and the 2c. and 5c. will be catalogued because the watermark is now sideways for the first time, and these two values should be picked up at once, for the new definitive issue is due for release July 2nd. As for the other values, the 20c. had appeared previously with PVA gum, but it is the first time thus for the rest. Incidentally the paper is the new type of wood free (all esparto) which shows up so white. For **Singapore** the **30c.** and **75c.** have come out again, in both A and B plates, but apart from slight shade differences, all is as before, including the gum, which is the old arabic. The gum which will actually do its job of sticking.

Finally, there are two printings to deal with for **Jersey**, both released April 15th and both can be dealt with together (values concerned are the 1/- and 1/9d.). In all there were printings of the **1d., 2d., 4d., 5d., 1/- and 1/9d.** and first of all the paper used was the very white wood free type. This differs considerably from that used initially for these values and specialists, at least will be interested. In fact if it is correct that the catalogues are taking note of these paper changes (as has been reported) then all six stamps may be listed. Apart from the paper we get a good shade with the 1/-. Here all the colours appear deeper than before and this shows up most on the castle, and in the water to a lesser degree. In all an interesting release, and one which may interest more than the specialists, even if there are no separate listings. As a matter of fact the present definitive issues of both Guernsey and Jersey are going to take a lot of sorting out, for what with the change of paper, etc., the catalogue editors have quite a task on hand. The best thing to do is to take up these new printings as they appear, if dealers can be found offering them.

As has been announced the current **6d.** definitive of **Tristan da Cunha** has been overprinted NATIONAL SAVINGS, and it is presumed that the stamp is for that purpose, but it has also been announced that the stamp will still be valid for postage, so this stamp can be treated as a normal postage stamp and will no doubt be listed thus.

The news that **Mauritius** is handing over the distribution of its stamps to a German firm (if the information is confirmed?) will come as a shock to the many collectors of that hitherto popular country, for such changes generally mean a rush of new issues, to cash in on what seems to be thought, is a bottomless pocket, but Mauritius is going to learn as several have already learned, that many pockets are going to be closed entirely to its fanciful issues. I already know two dealers who will handle no more Mauritius new issues. Maybe their lead will be followed. It should be.

All from PHILATELIC MAGAZINE
20 Dec. 1968

MISCELLANEOUS
(Commonwealth Commentary)

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

It is to the credit of the Crown Agents that whilst they are having to distribute a record number of new issues, new printings of existing definitives are not being overlooked. Their reward comes from any new shades, etc., which may be the result, and this means further orders for sets which would otherwise remain dormant. As will be seen from the following, new shades have shown up.

All the following had the official date of release of November 26th. The first of these was for Barbados **1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., 12c., 15c., 25c., 35c., $1 and $2.50,** ten values in all The watermark is still sideways, so there is no change there, but there were one or two slight changes in colour, with which we need not concern ourselves, and two good shades, which certainly call for notice, as it is possible that they may be listed. These are the 4c., which is of a deeper shade of olive, and the 35c., which is of a reddish chestnut and deep myrtle green. Don't overlook this pair, if at all interested in shades.

For Bermuda there were reprints of the **4d., 8d. and 9d.** Both the 4d. and 9d. can be picked out from previous printings, as they vary somewhat in colour. But it is the 8d. which calls for attention, for here again we have a candidate for the catalogue, with the church of the design, a much deeper shade of ultramarine; in fact, by comparison the printing replaced looks merely blue. As I have said, a shade likely to be listed; and its life will not be long either, for next year the whole definitive set will be changed to show the decimal currency.

The **3c.** was reprinted for St. Vincent, and while the background is now of a rather more vivid shade of vermilion, the difference hardly makes for a shade worth attention. It is the same with the **Tristan da Cunha ½d.**, which has also been reprinted. Any difference is too trivial to merit consideration. This brings us to the Virgin Is. **10c.** The latest printing makes quite a good shade, for the background is more of a pinkish mauve than was the original. I imagine the catalogues may include this.

Finally, for **Zambia** the **15n., 1K. and 2K.** have appeared in reprints. For the 15n. the panel, etc., is of a rather deeper magenta, with the copper of the 2K. more reddish, but I don't think either shade calls for consideration in the catalogues.

And that finishes the reprints of the 26th, with four stamps (Barbados 4c., 35c., Bermuda 8d. and Virgin Is. 10c.) likely candidates for catalogue recognition, which will certainly result in attention to the sets concerned. With definitive issues coming more into their own, these occasional good shades will be very welcome.

Reverting to the **Lesotho 2½c.**, of which there is already a reprint, the original (with wmk.) only came out as late as October 21st, and if it is decided to list the reprint (the differences make that a possibility) then the October release looks like being quite a good stamp.

The Philatelic Magazine

July 4, 1969

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

There are no new printings to deal with this time, though there is a batch down for release shortly which contains some interesting stamps, some of which will certainly be catalogued, making it better to take note now of the certs, so that the stamps which will be replaced can be obtained before they rise much in price.

For instance, a new printing of the **Bermuda 2d.** will have the watermark sideways for the first time, thus joining the other values (8d. etc.) which have already been changed. Incidentally, this country is down for a new definitive set early next year, in line with the pending change to decimal currency.

Next, with certain catalogue changes, is a new printing of the following values for **Montserrat, 1c., 3c., 4c., 10c., 15c., 20c., 25c. and 50c.** All these with the exception of the 20c., which already has the watermark sideways, will now also have the watermark sideways for the first time. Incidentally, the 15c., 25c. and 50c. are the surcharged stamps which were first released with the surcharges as recently as May of last year. Actually there were six values surcharged, but as these are an expensive lot (the top three have a face value of $8.50) there are not likely to be big stocks anywhere. A set to watch with the watermark upright.

Without question Commonwealth definitives are gradually taking first place in popularity compared with the special issues. This is confirmed by the sales figures of the latter which are being released from time to time. It would be very interesting to know the figures from some countries, such as **Grenada**, which are not published, when you consider that only 20,000 sets of the **Barbuda** "Olympics" were disposed of, and this a relatively popular country. At least its copybook has not yet been blotted by endless stunt issues.

I notice that **British Honduras** is following the lead of **New Hebrides** by bringing out a "wood" set. Even the stamps are being printed to resemble a cut of that useful commodity, but can anyone explain why timber is being thus honoured? I wonder what effect on sales these printing stunts have? I may be wrong, but it is my opinion that in the long run they do more harm than good. Recently I examined a fifteen-album Q.E. II collection. Ignoring varieties, it was almost complete, except for some stunt sets for **Sierra Leone** and **Tonga**. Stated the collector, "these cannot be mounted anyhow, but I am leaving them out for they make a collection look like a kid's scrap album". If a keen collector who wants to go in for everything in his range, thinks like that, what about those who are not so keen. Quite obviously they will also be ignoring them. All right of course for those who do take them, but that is not the point. Those behind their issue are spending the extra (they certainly cost a lot more to print) expecting to get bigger sales. It is my opinion that, now the novelty of such stunts has worn off, precisely the opposite is taking place.

July 18, 1969

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

In my last notes I referred to the new varieties among the new printings which were released on June 24th. I had not seen them then, but the pre-release information which the Crown Agents supplied was sufficient to see that there would be some new catalogue items. I had better run through the entire release now to make it all available in one set of notes. Incidentally, in the past these new printings have been referred to on occasions as reprints, which is not the term which would have been used in philatelic circles. Now, however, it is being felt (in view of the Trade Descriptions Act) that it will be better and safer to describe them as what they are, new printings, and I hope I don't forget the right description!

Starting off with **Antigua** the new printing consisted of the eight values from ½c. to 10c., and these were with an entirely new perforation (13½c.). So that's eight for the book, and it also means that the stamps now replaced which were perf 11½×11½ (C) are obsolete after a run of 2½ years, which is just about half of the usual span of a definitive issue. Mark that, eight stamps are now obsolete.

The **Bermuda 2d.** is the next, and this had been mentioned before as a change in watermark, now sideways for the first time. This stamp is due to be replaced next year with a new set in decimal currency. Another stamp to watch.

For **Malaysia** there were new printings from both A & B cylinders of the $1 & $2, but what slight shade differences there were amounted to nothing worth noting.

Montserrat follows with new printings of the **1c., 3c., 4c., 10c. and 20c.**, all with watermark sideways, and with the exception of the 20c., for the first time. The surcharged 15c., 25c., and 50c., were also wmk sideways for the first time. Incidentally, the gum was the original Arabic, even the 20c., which when it first appeared wmk sideways had PVA gum. Also, this is a rather good shade with the background deeper than was the case with the now replaced printing. The surcharges themselves differ slightly, with the horizontal lines now slightly thinner, and the figures themselves a little smaller, but in this case the change in the position of the watermark (sideways) is the easiest method of telling one from the other.

Finally the **Tanzania 50c. "Official"** both cylinders A & B was the same as before except for the gum, now PVA for the first time. And that ends a review of a very interesting lot of new printings, one which shows just how interesting definitives can be and may account for their fast growing popularity.

It is not often that I want to refer to special issues, but I have been shown a letter from an American dealer, who in placing a large order for the Mauritius "Gandhi" stamps remarked that stamps of this topic look like being best sellers. But just wait until he sees the miniature sheet, exceedingly well designed and printed, it may turn out to be a real winner.

Miniature sheets have, up to the present, not made as wide an appearance to British Collectors, as they have to collectors on the continent, but you never know (this Mauritius "Gandhi" may do the trick) when this could change and consideration of miniature sheets now might pay dividends.

The next lot of new printings (no date of release known at the time of writing) includes certain values for **Hong Kong, Lesotho, Malta, St. Lucia and Singapore.** Like the above they may contain one or two items of catalogue status.

MISCELLANEOUS
(COMMONWEALTH COMMENTARY)

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE
september 12, 1969

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

Quite a number of comments have appeared in stamp papers recently stating how popular some of the definitive issues are becoming. While the stamps of some of the West Indian countries are in the doghouse, due to over-doing special issues, there are others such as Cayman Is., Jamaica and Turks & Caicos for instance, which are at least as popular as ever they were. This being the case, no wonder there has been a rush for sets of the former country which have only had a life of about three months. This is an incredibly short period, but we have not seen the last of this issue, as all know, for on September 8th all values appeared surcharged in decimal currency. However, collectors who bought their unoverprinted set recently had better take a look at the ½d. value and see whether it is no watermark or block E, for a printing of all values on watermarked paper was made for the overprints, and due to a shorta[illegible] of stock to complete orders for the unoverpr[illegible] of the ½d. value with the waterma[illegible] cluded in the sets. If, however, yo[illegible] contain the low value with waterm[illegible] be too dismayed, for these stamp[illegible] to be very much scarcer than [illegible] printed, and as packet makers buy[illegible] tities of low values, if a demand [illegible] overprinted develops, then copi[illegible] doubt, be made available.

Two other countries, Jamaica a[illegible] Caicos released their current sets w[illegible] overprints along with Cayman Is.[illegible] ber 8th and whilst nothing has bee[illegible] any possible varieties of the latter set, the Crown Agents have already mentioned that in the case of Jamaica, all remnants of the various printings have been gathered together and over-printed. As for the 2d. value, another printing (all four plates A to D were used) was made and these can be told from the gum which is now PVA. There is no other difference of note.

I have been checking up to see if later printings differed from one another, but have noticed nothing particularly outstanding, though there are slight variations, particularly with the 10s. value. Now although I have seen copies of all printings which were released, these are perhaps not complete, for over a considerable period, new printings were ignored. Anyhow, this Jamaica issue should be very carefully watched, for something of the kind happened with Swaziland and one of these latter stamps, although not catalogued, is selling at £17 10s.

Incidentally, on this question of catalogue, there was a time when very few collectors, would take up any variety, such as a shade, which was not listed. They often had cause to regret later their lack of confidence in their own judgment, for if it is a good variety, sooner or later it may be recognised, and who is to say that one's own opinion is not as good as that of the catalogue editor. So if you like any of the shades which may appear amongst

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE
december 19, 1969

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

There are one or two new printings to deal with this time, but before going into details, the surcharged set for Turks and Caicos released in September calls for comment. As is generally known, both Crown Agents and territory stocks of unoverprinted stamps received the surcharge and these not only had the arabic gum, but all values irrespective of the position of the design (horizontal and vertical) had the watermark upright. As there were not sufficient for postal and philatelic needs, another printing of the stamps themselves had to be made and surcharged. The gum used by Harrisons is now known as PVA (dull) and the new stamps had this gum, but besides that all values with the vertical designs (1c., 2c., 3c., 5c., 7c., 15c. and $2) had the watermark sideways for the first time. Whilst even these do not seem too plentiful at the moment, no doubt subsequent printings will be the same, apart perhaps from a shade difference, but the original stamps with the upright watermark, are quite a different proposition, for one dealer informs me that there is a distinct shortage of the $2, etc. and that some of the orders received by dealers had a mixture of PVA and Arabic, so don't blame your dealer if he cannot supply all, for it may be that he never received his full supply.

Coming to the new printings which were released on November 28th for Brunei, there were the 1c., 6c. and 15c. These proved to be on the paper with the high gloss. It had been announced that only the 1c. would be, but all three were on the new paper, which means catalogue recognition. Incidentally, the paper was the same as that used for the recent Antigua printing, and describing these the catalogues called the paper coated. If by that description they mean chalky, it can be pointed out that unlike chalky paper, this glossy shows no silver reaction at all.

For Mauritius there was a printing of the 2c. with both the A and B cylinders but apart from the background being a mere trifle darker, there was no change.

For Singapore both A and B cylinders had been used for new printings of the 5c. and 10c., and the 50c. (A) had also been used. But, as in the case of Mauritius, what slight shade differences there were were not enough to merit consideration for the catalogues.

As I write dealers are most concerned about the sales of Christmas issues. Concerned? Yes, because their orders in some cases are being cut severely and that means that even regular customers are going short. For instance, there was a cut of 47 per cent. for the very attractive Gilbert and Ellice issue. However, in this case, the Post Office Administration acted and a further printing was ordered, with the strict injunction that it must be exactly as the original issue. Next, there was a big cut in the Cyprus issue, and as the Post Office could not increase the Crown Agent's initial order, there was a real flurry. I heard of one dealer paying two and a half times face for the miniature sheet, merely to fill regular orders at 20 per cent. over.

There seems to be a shortage of Botswana Xmas miniature sheets and although as these notes are being written the big sheets have been distributed by the Crown Agents, as yet no miniature sheets have gone out. Normally many collectors do not take these miniature sheets, but they are needed in this case, for their perfs differ from those of the big sheets. Christmas stamps are certainly selling, when there are even cuts in the miniature sheets.

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, JULY 1972

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

IN my last notes I gave details of the April release of a new printing for **Hong Kong.** I mentioned at the time that seven values were candidates for listing and, as can be seen in the *Commonwealth Catalogue Supplement* in the June PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, they have been duly catalogued. That's that, but it is to be hoped that those interested in having the current definitive issue of the colony in question complete, have made sure of copies of the five values up to 40c. now replaced. They had only a very short life and when this set finally settles down, and the catalogues reflect how scarce these particular stamps are, present valuations are going to look awfully out of line. But more than one collector is wondering how large some of these Hong Kong printings are, considering how often new ones are released. One thing is fairly certain, they are certainly not made for sale to collectors. As a matter of fact, the number of used stamps about, proves that Hong Kong, like **Malta,** has a real postal service, not just a philatelic department.

British Honduras is another country which has had a new printing which has resulted in new items for the catalogues. When in 1968 a new definitive issue was released, the stamps were without watermark, which seems to be the trend in a number of cases. But when there were reprints of the ½c. and $5, contrary to that trend, it was found that the stamps were printed on Wmk. E paper, and now three more values have appeared, the **2c., 3c. and 10c.** and they also are watermarked. Actually British Honduras stamps are not among the best sellers of the Caribbean countries, but the fish designs of this issue are a popular theme. It is quite a time since I have seen the original $5 no watermark advertised and to get into line with its real scarcity, the catalogues will have to increase their prices very considerably next time.

Thanks to the publicity that the Crown Agents give all new printings, we are not likely to miss a chance to see if there are any changes in their territories, such as can happen when no details are given about such releases. Of course the **Bahamas** set which was rescued on the last day, but which sells at a price beyond the pocket of the average collector, has set things stirring and a number of values on glazed paper have been noted for **Trinidad** and no doubt these will be on sale for about as many pence as pounds are needed to buy the Bahamas' stamps.

By the way, where do things stand over **Antigua** issues. After an exceedingly popular run, the "Kings & Queens" issue by **Barbuda** was cut, before all the stamps which were supposed to have been printed, were released. Barbuda was to share the heading with Antigua and a "Uniforms" issue was to be released featuring both islands. Again these stamps were said to have been printed ready for issue, but now we are told that only Antigua's name will appear on the stamps. And who is to handle these stamps? We are told from the United States that over there they have the exclusive right. On the other hand the Crown Agents announce that they will be filling orders. Isn't it about time things were sorted out? Up to now Antigua stamps have been quite popular both here in Britain and in the United States but how much longer will this popularity be maintained at this rate.

By the way, thematic collecting is rapidly becoming more popular here in Britain, as can be seen by the way stamps are snapped up with popular themes. A dealer with a large new issue service assures me that the theme is rapidly becoming as important as the country which issues the stamps. But apparently tastes differ, for whilst designs devoted to military uniforms are amongst

MISCELLANEOUS
(COMMONWEALTH COMMENTARY)

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE
January 2, 1970

Commonwealth Commentary

BY ANGOL

There has been no release of any new printings since my last notes were written, but there are a number being released which will become available for examination shortly. In the meantime, I would like to refer back to the overprints which were released for Jamaica on September 8th. Prior to their appearance the Crown Agents mentioned that as all stock had been surcharged, interesting shades, etc. might result. As a matter of fact, this is what has happened to some extent, for remnants of various printings were surcharged, and stamps received from Jamaica in one or two instances differ in shade from other printings released by the Crown Agents. There is one very good shade, the 10c. value being the one concerned. The stamp which I have examined, which came from Jamaica, though of a deeper and duller brown shows up the clouds much more clearly than copies which were released by the Crown Agents. There are other differences amongst other values, but I rather think that only the shade of the 10c. is likely to be catalogued.

Incidentally, it looks as though Jamaican stamps are becoming the most popular of all those issued by Commonwealth countries in the West Indies. There was a time of course, when West Indian stamps in general were by far the most popular of all, not only with British collectors, but in the U.S. also (I am referring, of course, only to British Commonwealth stamps) but as far as collectors here in the U.K. are concerned, that popularity has mostly moved to the South Pacific area. The plain truth is that some of the ex colonies in the Caribbean have, since they took over their own affairs, become far too anxious to jump the stamp issuing gun and try to release in a year as many stamps as collectors (considering the number of countries involved) can afford to buy in two or three. It can't be done and if we are ever shown the sales figures it will probably be seen that it now takes two sets to make the money they used to take from one. Well, they have had warning enough.

Incidentally, I examined recently a number of stamps on pieces, which had come from the office of a large firm, and noticed with surprise that some were from Dominica, and belonged to the new definitive issue, which whilst it has evidently been on sale in the territory for some time, had not been released over here as I write (mid December).

As is generally known, South Africa is now using stamps with phosphor markings, and already several values have appeared thus (1c., 3c., 5c.,7c.). However, a dealer who had sold some to a collector had had them returned, as the buyer could not see the phosphor lines. As a matter of fact the phosphor lines run round the stamps in the form of a narrow frame. As with Jamaica South African issues appear to becoming more popular. These phosphor markings should help the good work along.

Commonwealth Commentary

PM
May 22, 1970.

BY ANGOL

There are four releases of new printings to deal with this time. I will deal with the British Honduras one first. The official date of release was May 12th, and the $5 the stamp concerned. There was a slight shade difference but not enough to merit consideration. However, there was an important change, for while up to now the stamp has been printed on unwatermarked paper, this has now changed to watermark Block E. This is the second value to appear with watermark, the other being the ½c. which only exists with wmk., and while, doubtless, in due course, the other values will be changed as new printings are required, to date there is no news of any such printings being in hand. This doesn't, of course, mean that none has been ordered, so better complete the no wmk. set now, while still at current rates, as British Honduras is one of the West Indian Commonwealth countries which has retained most of its erstwhile popularity, which is much more than can be claimed for a number of others in that part of the world.

We now come to the Channel Islands' printings. First Jersey with the release of the 3d., 9d. and 1/6d. values on May 5th. Incidentally, it should be mentioned that the white woodfree paper has been used for both Guernsey and Jersey and this whiter than white [illegible] colours more clearly than the relatively toned esparto paper previously used. There is a difference in colour to be noted in the 3d., this not just due to a change in paper. The all round colours of the sea view are now a good deal deeper, even though the yellow is not so diffused – a quite nice shade variety. Actually there were two printings of the 9d. and 1/6d. values, according to the official notice, but as far as the 9d. is concerned they are very similar, and if the difference in the paper is not taken into consideration, the latest matches up well with the printing just replaced. But this is not so with the 1/6d., for here there is quite a change, particularly in the case of the sea, which has changed from pale blue to a blue leaning to ultramarine, making another shade worth consideration. Secondly the Guernsey printing, released May 18th, the values being 2d., 3d., 6d., 9d., 1/- and 2/6d. Of these the 6d. now has a much deeper green than before and I think of more than specialist interest. The violet of the 2/6d. is now a good deal brighter, but while I have heard it described as marked enough for listing, I wouldn't go quite as far as that, though you never know which way the catalogue editors will see things. A final note regarding this Guernsey release, both A and B cylinders have been used.

There was a release of a new printing of the Tristan da Cunha ½d., dated May 19th. Both 1 and 1A plates were being used. More for the packet makers, but nothing new for the specialist collector.

All in all the Channel Islands' releases show how important it is, not only for specialists, but also for collectors in general, to get details of the various new printings when they become available. The white wood free paper now in use (apart from any shade varieties) alone will interest specialists.

P.M. 28 Feb. 1969

Commonwealth Commentary

By ANGOL

Although at the time of writing these notes, they have not been released there are some very interesting reprints being prepared, according to the *Crown Agents Stamp Bulletin* for February, and maybe next time they will be available for comment. In the meantime, there are one or two stamps which should be mentioned.

For instance, St. Kitts. There were apparently, two printings of the ½c. and the one released in February has already been mentioned. This had the watermark sideways for the first time, so it will be down for listing in both the CW. and Gibbons catalogues. It also had PVA gum, for what was also thought to be the first time, however, there had been a printing of the same value, which though announced later was actually mentioned as being a January release. The watermark was upright, as it had been for previous printings, but the gum was PVA, so that was the first. To sum up, there is the January release as before except for PVA gum, and the February also PVA gum, with watermark sideways. That I hope, clears things up.

Now we come to Dominica. In July of last year, after this country had gone over to another agent, the then current set was released with the inscription ASSOCIATED STATEHOOD overprinted on all values. The stamps placed on sale in G.B. had the PVA gum up to the 48c. value, with the exception of the 3c. which was gum arabic, so to make up the quantities which it was expected would be sold, there must have been a reprint of these PVA stamps.

However, an order placed in the colony produced a number of values with the old gum arabic. While the question of gum, apart from its possible use as a pointer to a particular printing, will not be of particular interest to the average collector, it is useful in this case as far as the 5c., 6c. and 8c. values are concerned, for this island's trio are being considered as shades distinct enough to list. There cannot have been very many, so they may turn out to be fairly scarce items.

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beginning (including, of course, G.B. which alone will be found to be worth the cost of the whole catalogue) will be found to completely fill that need, if it is only for the very realistic valuations. At any rate, I can thoroughly recommend this new "Five Reigns". The pity is we have had to wait so long.

Still on catalogues, a word about the third volume of the G.B. Specialised which has also appeared. What a magnificent piece of work it is. I cannot say I like that minimum price of 1/– for any stamp, no matter how common, but taking the three volumes of G.B. as a whole it will not be boasting to claim that no other country in the world has any work of reference of its own stamps to beat it. We have had to wait a long time, but the result is worth that wait.

Coming to the new printings, while there are several, none can be considered of great importance. On August 17th there was another printing of the 2c. for Lesotho. The stamp differs little from the printing it replaces. Next on the 26th for Ceylon 10c. with plates 2A and 2B, was reprinted. Here, there was a slight change in colour, the green being rather deeper and colder than before. On the same date there was a release of the Hong Kong P.D. 50c. Here there was a good deal of difference in the colour which is now a rather deeper blue than that of the 1969 printing. You might consider a shade variety here.

Finally, for Fiji Is. (September 3rd) the A, B and C plates have been used for a printing of all three, 2c., 50c. and $1. The paper is now the whiter wood-free and this, of course, sharpens up the colours, which on the whole have been fairly well matched. However, the blue of the 2c. is brighter and the orchids on the 50c. a good deal deeper magenta, on all three plates. All this making a shade probably worth attention. The olive-green is rather deeper too. Specialists at least should consider a copy of this latest 50c. It does not matter, however, which plate they take as they are very similar.

MISCELLANEOUS
(SOLDIERS' & SEAMENS' LETTERS.)

PHILATELY, Nov./Dec. 1965

Gleanings from the GPO Record Office

man, Sergeant, Corporal Trumpeter, Drummer, Fifer, or Private Soldier as the case may be.

N.B. All the foregoing Descriptions must be legibly written, the Initials of the names of any Ship or Regiment being insufficient .

4.*The Postmaster General requires Postmasters to examine every Letter purporting to be a Seaman's or Soldier's, and if it be not* **in all respects conformable to the above Regulations,** *to charge it with full Postage, recollecting that though the Law has given the indulgence to Seamen and Soldiers* **throughout H.M.s' Dominions,** *yet in such parts of those Dominions with which there is no communication by Packet Boats, this Privilege cannot be enjoyed.*

The following are Forms to be used for each Letter from a Seaman orSoldier, whether in the United Kingdom or in any of H.M's. Dominions abroad, without which **it cannot pass for One Penny, nor then unless the Penny be paid at the Time of putting the said Letter into the Post Office,** *in conformity to the preceeding articles:*

SEAMEN.

From A. Bold, Seaman H.M.S. Victory (here the direction of the Letter to be inserted) Chas' Dauntless Captain (or other Commanding Officer) H.M.S. Victory.

To A. Bold, Seaman H.M.S. Victory (here the Direction to be finished)

SOLDIER.

From A. Bold, Sergeant (etc.) 60 *Regiment Foot (here the Direction of the Letter to be inserted) Chas' Dauntless, Col. (or other C.O)* 60 *Regiment Foot.*

To A. Bold, Private, 60 *Regiment Foot (or Sergeant, etc.) (here the Direction to be finished.)*

5. *Letters sent to or by* **Commissioned or Warrant Offices, Midshipmen, or Masters' Mates in the Navy, or by Captains' Clerks, Schoolmasters, Caulkers, Rope-makers, Armourers, Mates and Cooks, Masters at Arms, and Master Sail Makers,** *are precluded the Benefit of the Act, as are Letters sent to or by* **Commissioned or Warrant Officers in the Army;** *and care must be taken that no Person in the Navy or Army, not entitled shall obtain the Benefit of the Act by having their Letters addressed to themselves under the general Description of Soldier or Sailor.*

This led me to examine some of the covers in my own collection, and I came across one dated 2nd March 1801 (see photograph and details of contents on page 161). Obviously the 1d. rate had been in existence for several years before 1813, but very few P.O. Notices prior to that year have survived. Working backwards through the P.M.G's. Minute Books, however eventually revealed a reference to an Act passed in 1795:

GEORGE III, Cap. LIII. (5*th May* 1795)

An Act.....for allowing Non-commissioned Officers, Seamen and Private Men,in the Navy and Army, whilst on Service, to send and receive Letters at a low Rate of Postage.....

vii. And whereas it is expedient that the Non-commissioned Officers, Seamen, and Privates, employed in His Majesty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, and Marines, should, whilst on Service, be permitted to send and receive single Letters by the Post, on their own private Concerns, at a low Rate of Post; be it therefore further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, from and after the passing of this Act, no single Letter sent by the Post from any Non-commissioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, employed in His Majesty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, or Marines, shall, whilst such Non-commissioned Officer, Seaman, or Private respectively, shall be employed in His Majesty's Service, and not otherwise, be charged or chargeable, by virtue of any Act of Parliament. now in force, with an higher Rate of Postage than the Sum of One Penny for each such Letter to be paid at the time of putting the same into the Post Office of the Town or Place from whence such Letter is intended to be sent by the Post; Provided nevertheless, that no Letter or Letters sent by the Post from any Non-commissioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, employed in His Majesty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, or Marines, shall be exempted from the Payment of the Rate of Postage chargeable upon Letters according to the Laws now in force, unless there shall be written upon every such Letter, in the Hand Writing of, and signed by the Commanding Officer for the Time being of the Ship or Vessel, or of the Corps, Regiment, or Detachment, to which such Non-commisioned Officer, Seamen, or Private, employed in His Majesty's Service, shall respectively belong, the Name of such Commanding Officer, and of the Ship, Vessel, Corps, Regiment, or Detachment, commanded by him.

viii. And it be further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the passing of this Act, no single Letter sent by the Post, directed to any Non-commissioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, employed in His Majesty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, or Marines, upon his own private Concerns only, whilst such respective Non-commisioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, shall be employed in His Majesty's Service

and not otherwise, shall be charged or chargeable by virtue of any Act of Parliament now in force, with an higher Rate of Postage than the Sum of One Penny for each such Letter; which Sum of One Penny shall be paid at the Time of the Delivery thereof; Provided nevertheless, that no such Letter shall be exempted from the Rate of Postage chargeable upon Letters according to the Laws now in force, unless every such Letter shall be directed to such Non-commissioned Officers, Seaman, or Private, employed in His Majesty's Service, specifying the Ship, Vessel, Regiment, Troop, Corps, Company, or Detachment, to which he may belong; and provided also, that it shall not be lawful for the Deputy Postmaster of the Town or Place to which such Letter shall be sent to be delivered, to deliver such Letter to any Person except to the Non-Commissioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, to whom such Letter shall be directed, or to any Person appointed to receive the same by the Commanding Officer of the Ship, Vessel, Regiment, Troop, Corps, Company, or Detachment, to which the Non- commissioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, to whom such Letter shall be directed, shall belong.

This was probably one of the attempts to improve the general conditions of serving personnel after the Mutiny of the Nore. It was certainly a big concession when compared with the normal letter rates, as emphasized by the rates quoted in a P.O. Notice of 25th April 1814:

Letters to America and the West Indies. Single 2s. 2d.; *Double* 4s. 4d.; *Treble* 6s. 6d.; *An ounce* 8s. 8d. *Ship Letter Rate, Half of above rates.*

Letters for Soldiers and Sailors, per Packet, to pass for 1d. *if single, excepting to Madeira and the Brazils; but when conveyed as a Ship Letter they are liable to the full Rate.*

As will be noted from the Instructions given in the 1813 Notice quoted above directions regarding the addressing of such letters were very precise; but these were not always followed (e.g. letter of 2nd March 1801, already mentioned). In the earlier days such minor points were probably overlooked; but, particularly after the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815, these regulations were enforced. The onus of ensuring correct addressing was placed upon the Postmasters, and in 1821 a special reminder of this fact was sent to all Postmasters:

Complaints have been made of the hardship of demanding full postage from the Relatives and Friends of Seamen and Soldiers on such Letters as are not superscribed exactly as the Act of Parliament directs, although the Writers have paid pence required by the Act.

The printed Instructions No. 13 are so plain and explicit that they ought not to be mistaken by any Postmaster. What is required of the Writers is there clearly explained, and it is the duty of every Postmaster, when a Letter is tendered to him with a penny, either from, or to, a Seaman or Soldier, to ascertain that the Superscription is correct in all respects, and to point out the inaccuracy, if there be any, *before he receives the Letter or Penny.*

The Postmaster-General expects that all Postmasters will strictly attend to these Instructions, and order, that if hereafter any Postmaster shall receive a penny with Letters of this description incorrectly addressed, and consequently liable to postage, his Account will be charged with the Amount.

By Command of the Postmaster General.
General Post Office F. Freeling.
10th October 1821. Secretary.

It will also be noted that the cheap rate did not apply to letters sent by private ship (see para 4 of P.O. Notice No. 13, previous page). This reacted harshly in some cases where there was no regular Packet Service, so a modification was introduced given in the following Notice:

General Post Office.
16th. February 1828.

With reference to your Instructions, No. 13, which confine the privilege granted to Soldiers and Seamen serving in H.M's. Dominions beyond Seas, to the Places to and from which there are regular Mails, and to the East Indies; I am to acquaint you that in future the Letters addressed to Soldiers and Seamen at Places Abroad to which there is *not any regular communication by Packet Boats,* **may be transmitted upon the previous payment of Three pence for each Letter; and the Letters** *from* **Soldiers and Seaman at such Places may be delivered in this Country for the Sum of Threepence each, or if they are brought to any Post Office Free of Expense to the Revenue, they are to be charged One Penny only, in the same manner as those received from the East Indies. The Regulations and Restrictions pointed out in the Instructions must be punctually observed with respect to all Letters so sent and received.**

By Command of the Postmaster General

F. Freeling
Secretary.

MISCELLANEOUS
(SOLDIERS' & SEAMENS LETTERS.)

PHILATELY, Nov./Dec. 1965

1/

Gleanings from the GPO Record Office

by L. E. Britnor

4/

Browsing among the thousands of documents and other items at the G.P.O. Record Office, London, can be most rewarding, often exasperating, but rarely without a great deal of interest. There is so much material available for research that one is frequently side-tracked on to quite a different subject from the intended one.

The following details of special facilities for Serving Personnel at the beginning of last century were gleaned whilst searching through the files of Post Office Notices for something quite different.

No. 13 **September 1813.**

On the Exemption granted to Seamen in the Navy, and Soldiers in the Army, in respect of the Postage of their Letters.

1. Seamen and Soldiers within any part of His Majesty's Dominions, to and from which there are regular Mails, can send and receive *Single* Letters, *on their own private concerns only*, while such Seamen or Soldiers shall be employed on H.M.'s. Service, *and not otherwise*, for ONE PENNY.

2. *On Letters from a Seaman or from a Sergeant Corporal Trumpeter Drummer Fifer and Private Soldier*	*The Penny must be paid at the time it is put into the Post Office. The Name of the Writer and the name of the Ship, or Regiment, Corps, or Detachment, must be written by himself; And the Officer actually having the Comand, must sign his Name, and the name of the Ship, or Regiment, Corps, or Detachment, he commands.*
3. *On Letters to Seamen or Soldiers as above*	*The Penny must be paid at the time the Letter is put into the Post Office. Its Direction must specify the Class of the Person and the name of the Ship or Regiment, Corps, or Detachment, to which he belongs, that is to say, on it must describe him, you*



The letter above is really two letters in one. The first was written by a young boy, obviously with some parental assistance, to his elder brothers, stationed at Jamaica in H.M.S. "La Topaze". In large copy-book style with letters nearly an inch high, it reads

"My dear Brothers

I am happy to write and hope you will accept this as a mark of my affection for you. I have been to London and was much delighted with seeing the King and the Princesses. I saw the Turkish Ambassador and Divine Service at Westminster Abbey which I thort was very grand. I saw some dancing bears and went on board a ship on the River. I am reading Dr. Percival's Instructions, have got into the 3 *part. I drank tea at Mrs. Ilempes on Teusday and sat in Gloves all the evening; they invited me on the Sunday and were very kind. Believe me your truly and sincerely affectionate Brother*

Feb. 28, 1801. 9¼ *o'clock.*" *E. F. Farrington.*

The second letter was written by their Mother, partly on the blank space left by young Edward, and partly superimposed on his writing. This procedure was adopted to conform to the regulation limiting the letter to a single sheet if it were to go for 1d.

Mother almost apologises for writing on "*Edward's paper, for your Father considers you will find the postage very high, and that your Sister's pacquet will be very high; therefore, as your Father says he will be writing, I wish to save you in some degree.*"

Her letter is chiefly concerned with family news —Father's health, the younger children's progress, and news of friends and relatives — a letter written by one who feels keenly the enforced separation. She trusts "*that you will receive our letters within Two Months. I feel we shall so far derive a mutual comfort and in some degree alleviate the painful sore of our long, very long separation. We talk of you at all Seasons, and felt the Heavy Gales you had to encounter which (according to the newspapers) sent Twelve of your West India Ships Home to repair the damage they sustained. We trust Dear Topaze in safety convoyed the remainder into Port, and at this time are consoling ourselves that you are enjoying the comfort of a Temperate Climate.*"

There are just two brief references to naval matters:– "*What do you think of Lord St. Vincent our new first Lord of the Admiralty? Report says he holds his levies from five to seven in the morning.*"

DANISH WEST INDIES

GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY, Oct. 1965

G.B. Used in D.W.I.

Further Research reveals New Discoveries

J. Alfred Birch



Fig. 16



Fig. 17

The following information came to light after the article published in March, April and May, 1965, issues of "G.S.M." had been written and it is therefore presented here as a Supplement to the earlier series.

When the British Post Office in London sent various handstamps to the Post Office at St. Thomas, they usually sent two of each type. It has always been assumed that both these handstamps were identical, and while they are very similar, they quite naturally have their differences, and some of the most pronounced are given below:

Two handstamps of "C51" St. Thomas

Type I (horizontal): Dispatched from London on June 16th, 1865, to St. Thomas.

(a) (1) 28 mm. in width (*Fig.* 16).
(2) Taller curve in the figure "5", *circa*: 5 mm.

(b) (1) 27 mm. in width (*Fig.* 17).
(2) Shorter curve in the figure "5", *circa*: 4½ mm., also many other differences.

Sent at the same time were two handstamps "INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID" with a diamond, the first word being above and the second below it. Again differences occur.

(a) If an imaginary line is drawn through the vertical points of the diamond if passes through the left side of the letter "C". Another passing from the vertical line of "D" in "PREPAID" cuts the head of the letter "C" in half (*Fig.* 18).



Fig. 18



Fig. 19

(b) The line through the diamond point cuts the letter "C" in half. The "D" line touches the left base of the letter "E" and the head of the third letter "I" in "INSUFFICIENTLY" (*Fig.* 19).

Type II (Vertical): Two handstamps of "C 51" St. Thomas were dispatched from London on September 9th, 1869, to St. Thomas.

(a) (1) 10 mm. between inner horizontal bars (*Fig.* 20).

(b) (1) 10½ mm. between the inner horizontal bars.
(2) Thicker and taller loop on figure "5" (*Fig.* 21).

Type III (Duplex): Two handstamps with "St. Thomas Paid" datestamp and "C 51" vertical in combination, dispatched from London on February 14th, 1872, to St. Thomas.

(a) (1) If an imaginary line is drawn through the left stroke of the letter "A" in "PAID" it passes through the letter "A" in "St. Thomas" (*Fig.* 22).
(2) The distance between the "St. Thomas Paid" and the "C 51" marks is 1 mm.
(3) The distance between the inner horizontal bars is 11 mm.

(b) (1) The line through the left stroke of the letter "A" touches the tail of the second "s" in St. Thomas (*Fig.* 23).
(2) The distance between the "St. Thomas Paid" and the "C 51" marks is ½ mm.
(3) The distance between the inner horizontal bars is 10½ mm.

Fig. 20



Fig. 21



Fig. 22



Fig. 23



[continued overleaf]

DANISH WEST INDIES

" D26 " Spanish Mail Packet, St. Thomas

Type II (vertical): Two handstamps dispatched from London on March 14th, 1868, to St. Thomas.

The overall height of the marks:
(a) 32 mm. (*Fig.* 24).
(b) 30 mm. (*Fig.* 25).

The distance between the inner horizontal bars:
(a) 11 mm. (*Fig.* 24).
(b) 10 mm. (*Fig.* 25).

The vertical overall measurement of the four top horizontal bars:
(a) 10 mm. (*Fig.* 24).
(b) 9 mm. (*Fig.* 25).

The following were dispatched from London on the same day as the above (D 26):

One handstamp Registered St. Thomas. Oval 30 × 23 mm. (*Fig.* 26).

Two handstamps " Spanish-Mail-Packet ". Diameter 23 mm.

If an imaginary line is drawn through the downstroke of the letter " T " in " PACKET ":
(a) It passes through the left foot of the letter " H " in " SPANISH " (*Fig.* 27).
(b) It passes through the dot between the letters " H " in " SPANISH " and " M " in " MAIL " (*Fig.* 28).

The space for the last two figures of the year date between the first letter " S " of " SPANISH " and the last letter " T " in " PACKET ":
(a) 12½ mm. (*Fig.* 27).
(b) 11 mm. (*Fig.* 28).

The position of all the letters is different in each handstamp, so a great many other differences can be found.

Two handstamps " St. Thomas Paid ", 20 mm. diameter

If an imaginary line is drawn through and continuing the letter " I " in " PAID ":
(a) It passes through the left side of the letter " O " in " ST. THOMAS " (*Fig.* 29).
(b) It passes through the right-hand downstroke of the letter " H " in " ST. THOMAS " (*Fig.* 30).

Other differences can be found.

None of this type of previous " St. Thomas Paid " marks are similar to either of these two, and so they appear to have been made especially for use in conjunction with the two " SPANISH-MAIL-PACKET " and the two " D 26 " marks on the two Spanish ships which carried the two agents of the British Post Office.

It will be interesting, as more correspondence comes to light, to be able to identify which triplet was used on the individual covers of the two Spanish Mail Packets; the three marks being found together on covers, namely " D 26 " cancelling the stamps, and backstamped with the " St. Thomas Paid " and the " SPANISH-MAIL-PACKET " marks.

The illustrations, *Figs.* 16 to 37 inclusive, are copies of the actual marks made by the handstamps before being sent out to the British Post Office Agent, St. Thomas, D.W.I., and are reproduced by the courtesy of the Postmaster-General.

During the period when the " C 51 " and " D 26 " marks were in use quite a number of other marks were required for several purposes.

In addition to those already mentioned, the following exist:



Fig. 24



Fig. 25



Fig. 26



Fig. 27



Fig. 28



Fig. 29



Fig. 30



Fig. 31



Fig. 32



Fig. 33

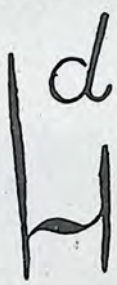


Fig. 34

Fig. 35



Fig. 36

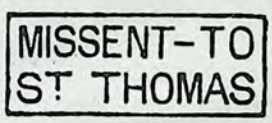
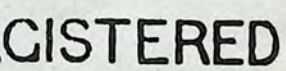


Fig. 37



(Concluded under.)

G. B. Used in D.W.I.

Date sent from London	*To*	*Type*	*Fig.*
"		" St. Thomas "	31, 32 and 33
15.11.1866	St. Thomas (3 copies)	Circular handstamp varies from 20 to 21 mm. diameter	
20.2.1871	Agency St. Thomas	4d. (handstamp)	34
17.7.1872	St. Thomas	" Insufficiently Prepaid " in rectangular frame, *circa* 49 mm. × 14 mm.	35
17.7.1872	St. Thomas	" Missent—to St. Thomas " in rectangular frame, *circa* 37.5 mm. × 14.5 mm.	36
15.7.1874	St. Thomas only one recorded but six supplied	" REGISTERED ", *circa* 57 mm. × 6 mm.	37

They were all used at St. Thomas.

They were all used at St. Thomas.

The result of this search through " Post Office Records " should lead to a more extensive search as it revealed many marks (handstamps) which have never been reported previously and also that similar differences occurred in the handstamps of some of the other British Post Offices Abroad.

This discovery widens the field of research and makes these marks more exciting and interesting as a number, but not all the writer has seen, follow a very similar pattern.

Still, a great deal more investigation and work will have to be done before one can be too dogmatic.

MISCELLANEOUS

(WEST INDIAN POSTMASTERS.)

STAMP COLLECTING, Aug. 16, 1963

PERQUISITES OF WEST INDIAN POSTMASTERS, 1800-1850

By L. E BRITNOR

VIEWED in retrospect, some of the practices of the postmasters of bygone days appear very strange; but they should be looked at with the background of the conditions of those times. It was an age in which salaries and wages were extremely low, and people made their living not so much by the money they earned as by the perquisites of the offices they held.

In Jamaica, a Committee appointed by the House of Assembly to enquire into the management of the Post Office reported in December, 1814 :—

> "....that the amount of commission to Postmasters being only 10 per cent did not invite proper persons to serve the public; that the postboys, being slaves, were no evidence in cases of robbery; that a charge of 10 per cent not warranted by law, was generally made on all Packet Letters delivered in Kingston, and of 7½d. for letters sent to merchant ships and men-of-war, which sums were regarded as the postal clerks' gratuities..... The Postmistresses had to supply all the office stationery out of their £8 to £12 annual emoluments."

The practice of charging a fee for the delivery of letters seems to have been quite common; the following extracts are from the *Packet Report Book* for 1807–12.

(a) In a letter from Francis Freeling, Secretary to the Post Office, to the Post Masters-General, dated September 24th, 1808 :—

> My Lords,
>
> I have the Honor to lay before your Lordships Letters .... all relating to a practice of your Lordships' Deputy at Tortola of charging 1 Bit* upon the delivery of Public Despatches and other Letters which have been regularly franked by the authorized Officers of the Department from which such Letters have been sent, and also a similar charge on the Letters for Soldiers. I have to state in explanation of the conduct of the Deputy that he has acted perfectly in conformity of the usual practices of charging a Bit upon all Letters and I am convinced without any improper motive.
>
> It has already been explained to your Lordships that the whole of the Deputies are in the habit of receiving a small Fee on the delivery of Letters which has been cheerfully assented to by the Inhabitants, to many of whom the Deputies are in the habit of giving Credit for the Postage and which it has been stated the Coin of the Islands in many cases render necessary for a prompt distribution of the letters.
>
> The whole of the circumstances indeed relating to the Collection of the Post Office Revenue in these islands are so peculiar that the general impression is that such Fees cannot be dispensed with. As however there can be no pretence whatever for subjecting the Correspondence of the Government, franked Letters, and Letters for Soldiers to any such demand, I have written to the Deputy at Tortola to discontinue the same immediately, and in case similar misconduct should obtain at the other Islands I shall address a circular Letter to prevent its continuance.....

(b) In another letter from Freeling, dated April 19th, 1809, concerning the appointment of a Deputy Postmaster for Martinique (which had recently been captured from the French), he suggests that instead of allowing the Deputy 20 per cent commission he should be paid a salary of £100 per annum "*Together with the usual gratuity of a Bit to be charged upon each Letter or Packet delivered in the Island*".

Besides making a charge for the delivery of letters there were several other ways in which the Deputies augmented their meagre salaries. For example, the charges which were due to be made on non-prepaid letters had to be rendered in sterling, which was not always convenient locally, so that when the charge was paid in local currency the postmaster reckoned to make a little on the rate of exchange.

Many of the postmasters were in the habit of allowing a certain amount of credit to the more important merchants, and for such services received a slight commission.

Another source of income was in connection with "Late Fees". The precise times of departure of the Sailing Packets was always rather uncertain, so that as soon as it was known, the postmaster used to put up a notice giving the time at which the mailbag would be closed, usually about an hour before the Packet left. Any letters handed in during this hour would be accepted on the payment of a "Late Fee", which became a perquisite of the postmaster.

During the period under review, attempts were made to improve the general status of the Deputies, and their salaries were in many cases increased, partly with the object of dispensing with some of the undesirable practices. On the other hand it must be remembered that the Deputy still had to put up quite a substantial bond and to have the backing of suitable sponsors before he could be appointed, as well as providing an office and all necessary equipment. Before about 1790, according to a report contained in the Walsingham Papers (Vol. 12), matters had been on a different basis. The Postmasters of Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Dominica, Antigua and St. Kitts had received salaries of £50 per annum and house rent, stationery, assistance, etc. The report continues "They now have £80 per annum, *all contingencies included*, great saving arises thereby. Barbados has £100 because he has more trouble with the Island Packet".

Even as late as 1849, Mr. Manford, of Spanish Town, Jamaica, reported : "*I had no place given me for keeping the Post Office, no furniture, no boxes for receiving of Public Letters, or for making up the mails, and I had to find a place to keep the Spanish Town Post Office. I was obliged to purchase for £9 the fixtures and other requisites in my Predecessor's Office*".

The Deputies were required to render a statement of accounts half-yearly (later, quarterly) to the P.M.G. showing the business transacted. With the smaller islands these returns were very simple in character, and the following is a typical example.

RICHARD SYMONS, ESQ., of Montserrat.

	Dr. £ s. d.	£ s. d.	Per Contra	Cr. £ s. d.
To The Inland Office for Letters :			*By* Dead and missent Letters	1 0
Sept. 1788 ..	2 16 2		,, An allowance of 20% on £28.14.6 net amount of letters as *per contra* ..	5 14 11
Oct. ,, ..	5 19 0		,, Balance due 5 Apr. 1789	22 19 7
Nov. ,, ..	3 0 0		£ s. d.	
Dec. to 5 Jan. 1789 ..	2 9 8		22 19 7	
		14 4 10	,, June Bill 20 4 8	
,, Ditto.				2 14 11
Jan. 1789 ..	4 19 11			
Feb. ,, ..	3 19 7			
Mar. to 5 April	4 14 0			
		13 13 6		
,, 206 Ship Letters by Merchant Ships at 1d. each		17 2		
		£28 15 6		£28 15 6

Examined p. Thos. Church.
Deputy Accompt. Genl.

(*Continued on page 747*)

* 1 Bit was approximately 4d.

(Continued overleaf)

Perquisites of West Indian Postmasters (*cont.* ~~*from page 745*~~)

Suddenly, however, in 1847, an extra Return was demanded which undoubtedly caused considerable consternation. This Return asked for a statement of *all* fees, etc., received in the year ending January 5th, 1847, by what authority such fees were demanded, and when they originated.

These 1847 Returns, contained in Packet File 144G, are most enlightening on the state of current affairs and of the reactions of the Deputies, particularly as they were invited to make any observations they wished. Whilst it is impracticable to give here all these in full, some parts of them seem well worth quoting :—

DEMERARA. Deputy P.M., E. T. E. Dalton.

Profit on Exchange, $20 on each £100	£65
„ „ Inland Letters, at 2d. per letter ..	£60
Fees on Late Letters, at 1 Bit on each letter ..	£50
Salary	£220
Total Emoluments, etc.	£395

All the above are the perquisites of the Deputy P.M.

The Late Letter Fee was instituted on the first establishment of Steam Communication on the authority of the P.M.G.

I am in the habit of keeping monthly accounts with a few of the principal mercantile firms, by which I gain about $100 per annum; but the practice is attended with so much inconvenience that it is my intention to discontinue it. The necessity I have laboured under of availing myself of every opportunity and means of adding to my inadequate income, alone prompted me to adopt it.

BERBICE. Deputy P.M., Wm. Price.

Late Fees, 4d. or one Bit for each letter posted after office is closed for making up the Mail .. ..10s.2d.

This is an old custom but not demanded by me until receipt of the new forms of Accounts Current transmitted 31 July 1846, showing the Fees on late letters to be carried to the Revenue, instead of being as heretofore a perquisite of the Postmaster.

I receive no Emoluments now but my Salary, £150 per annum.

Expenses : Salary of Clerk who performs no other duties, £52 1s. 8d.

The P.M.G., under date 1 Oct. 1845, directed sterling money to be received in Payment of Postage. These instructions were acted upon from 29 Oct. 1845. From that period any profits arising to the Deputy from the previously fixed rates of Postage, in Currency, virtually ceased. But the following Tariff, transmitted by the Surveyor General, under date 19 June 1846, put an end to all profits arising from Exchange or fractional parts, by assimilating the sterling money to the currency of the Colony at 4s.2d. per Dollar as follows :—

For every Shilling—3 Bits–24 cents
„ „ 6d. —1½ „ –12 „
„ „ 4d. —1 „ –8 „
Every fractional part not exceeding 2d.—½ Bit–4 cents.

ANTIGUA. Deputy P.M., James Scotland.

Fees for receiving and forwarding late letters at 4d. Sterling on each letter .. .. about	£14
Salary	£80
Total Income ..	£94

It is not known by what authority the fee was first demanded, but it has been confirmed directly and indirectly by many instructions, etc., from the G.P.O. It is a perquisite of the Postmaster.

No account has been kept of this fee (such an enquiry as is invoked in this form never having been anticipated); nor does it seem very possible to keep such account, the 4d's. being demanded only after the hour announced for closing a mail, and in the hurry of doing so.

NEVIS. Deputy P.M., A. H. Linnington.

No fees. Salary is only £60 per annum, out of which the Postmaster has to furnish clerk and office, wax, twine, etc.

ST. KITTS. Deputy P.M., James Samuel Berridge.

Late Fee Letters at 4d. each .. .. .. say	£10
Salary	£120
Total received ..	£130
Expenses :	
Assistant	£50
Office Rent	£20
Wax, Candles, etc.	£5
Total ..	£75

No account of the Late Fees has been regularly kept, but occasionally a note of the amount has been made, and from this, the average does not exceed 10s. a week. It has been collected since February 1845 by me, when I was appointed, and by my predecessor. Authority : Custom and a tradition that the charge was directed to be made by an order from the London office. It is a perquisite of the Postmaster.

The Office is very inadequately paid, the remuneration being no greater now than when the system of sailing packets prevailed. Besides multiplying the correspondence and increasing the frequency of the mails, the introduction of steam vessels has rendered night work necessary. The whole of the amount of £55 the Postmaster receives to his own use is scarcely sufficient remuneration for the management of the accounts, returns, remittances, and correspondence of an Office of a nature sufficiently responsible to require two sureties in a Bond of one thousand pounds.

MONTSERRAT. Deputy P.M., John Dobridge.

Fees—Mails put in after Mails are closed—4d. Stg. per letter £4. 10s.

Authority : Custom has initiated this imposition.

These fees are the perquisite of the Postmaster.

The regularity of the Steamers has curtailed the Perquisites of late letters; there are now no other Emoluments taken by the P.M. but his Salary—£20 per annum.

Expenses :	Office Rent	£10	0	0
	Clerk for attending P.O.	£2	10	0
	Stationery, etc.	£7	10	0
	Total ..	£20	0	0

I have already represented to the Inspector General that I make nothing by the Office, and I charged in my Quarter's Account the incurred Expenses, which were disallowed by the Secretary. I had employed a Clerk and paid him a quarter's salary, but losing by the office I was compelled to give it up.

DOMINICA. Deputy P.M., Mrs. Mary Dawking.

Fees : Taking in letters after closing time, One Bit, 4d. on each letter £5

Authority : Not known, but previous to appointment of last Postmaster in 1823. Retained by Postmistress. Salary : £100 per annum. Expenses : Stationery, £3.

TORTOLA. Deputy P.M. Charles Francis Stout.

Fees, etc. : Collecting Postage on Unpaid Letters from London at 12½% on Sterling amount	£3	0	9
Paid Letters sent abroad, same rate		8	10¼
Unpaid Letters from other Countries (about 1,590 letters) at 2¾d. per letter	£18	4	4½
Paid Letters sent to other Countries (120), same rate	£1	7	6
149 Ship Letters received, same rate*	£2	2	5¼
12 Late Letters to 5 July 1846 at 4½d. per letter		4	6

Authority for above six items : General Instructions of P.M.G. of 30 November 1838.

All the above are perquisites enjoyed by the P.M.

99 Paid Letters received to 10 Oct. 1946 at 4½d. each £1 17 1½.

Authority: Upwards of 50 years' custom; this is a perquisite of the P.M.

Late Letters from 5 July 1846 at 4½d. per Letter 15s.

This amount is transferred to revenue. Salary : £50 per annum.

*(N.B.—Mr. Stout's arithmetic seems to have strayed slightly; but so, too, did that of the auditor who passed it!)

~~(Continued on page 752)~~

MISCELLANEOUS.
(West Indian Postmasters)
(Conclusion)

STAMP COLLECTING, Aug. 16, 1963.
[Continuation of L.R. Brichno's article].

Perquisites of West Indian Postmasters (*cont.*

ST. LUCIA. Deputy P.M., Francis Dreuil.
Late Fee: 10d. per letter, since 5 Aug. 1846 when Mr. Dreuil resumed office.
When Francis Dreuil assumed the office on 16 Dec. 1839 the fee of 10d. per Letter was in usage; also from 1823 to 1839 he was employed by Mr. R. Gordon who always received the same fee of 10d.
The Sum of £100 Sterling was allowed to the Postmaster of St. Lucia in lieu of the fee of 4d. Sterling on each Letter delivered from his office. This emolument is paid out of the Funds of the Colonial Treasury and was received by this Postmaster from 1 January 1844. Fixed Salary: £70 per annum.
Total Emoluments of Postmaster for year ending 5 Jan. 1847: £170 5s. 10d.

ST. VINCENT. Deputy P.M., John A. Robertson.
Late Fee: 4d. per letter; received on letters posted one hour, and sometimes two hours after hour warned for closing mails £6 6
Amount carried to Credit of Revenue.
Authority: Verbal instructions from Mr. F. Mathurine, Clerk to Inspector G.P.O., West Indies Station, on 26 Sept. 1846.
Salary: £200 per annum.
Neither myself or Clerk enjoy any kind of perquisites. I merely have the salary of £200 per annum out of which I have to pay the Principal Assistant £50. I have no allowance for Office Rent, Sealing Wax, paper, twine, etc., all of which I have to pay for.

CARRIACOU. Deputy P.M., George A. Mitchell.
No fees, etc. No Salary of any sort allowed. The Rent of an Office for Post Office purposes in the Town of Hillsborough is £10 per annum, which it is hoped the P.O. Authorities will not object to.

GRENADA. Deputy P.M., Evan Kennedy.
No fees, etc. Salary: £200 per annum.

BAHAMAS. Deputy P.M., Stephen Dillet.

Home Salary: 5 Mar. to 5 Jan. at £50 per an.	£41	16 0
Colonial „ „ „ „ £100 „ „	£80	11 1
Total Income	£142	7 1

The expense of a Clerk and a Letter Carrier is defrayed by the P.M.

TRINIDAD. Deputy Postmistress, Eileen Roach Galway.
Fee: 5d. Sterling on each letter delivered except Military, etc., £300+. This is a perquisite of the Postmistress.
Authority: By authority of Governor Sir Thomas Picton (1800) approved of by successive Governors and sanctioned by H.M. Postmaster General. The fee was discontinued on and from 10 Nov. 1846 by the direction of P.M.G. and an allowance of £100 per annum substituted. Since the abolition of the Fee the advantage derived from this source has considerably lessened. The fee of 5d. on each letter was originally allowed the late Richard Galway Esq., Deputy P.M., in addition to and in consideration of the small salary of £150, to enable him to provide proper assistance and to pay Office Rent and Other Expenses.
Profit on collection of Postage Averaging £85, a perquisite of the Postmistress. Salary: £150. Total Income £535.
The Deputy Postmistress does not desire any other advantages than those above stated. There is no separate expence attending the collection of this Fee (the Postage) alone as the same is demanded and paid at the time of collecting the Postage originally charged on the letters; but the Deputy Postmistress has hitherto been at an Annual Expense of £160 (including Office Rent) in discharging the increased duties of her Office.

TOBAGO. Deputy P.M., Charles Isaac La Plastrier.
Late fee, at 4d. per Letter £1 18 8
Carried to Credit of G.P.O. in Quarterly Returns. It has been charged for the last twenty years—certain—and I believe for many more.

Authority: Contained in the instructions issued by the P.M.G. in 1834. The Fee on "Lates" is the only one charged The P.M. does not receive any perquisite, emolument, or advantage whatsoever beyond the amount of the Salary, £140 per annum.

BELIZE. Deputy P.M., Wm. McKay.
No fees, etc. Salary: £150 per annum.

* * * *

The position of Barbados and Jamaica was somewhat different, and in each case the whole of the monies collected was carried to the credit of the Revenue. The Deputy Postmaster of Barbados, Joseph Gillbanks, received a salary of £500 per annum, whilst John Wilson, of Jamaica, received a salary of £1,500.
After studying some of these accounts, particularly those of the smaller islands, one is left wondering why any persons were ever induced to accept the office of Deputy Postmaster. If they did make a living out of it, they must have done so despite the niggardly treatment they received from the Lords of the Treasury.

[Source u/k] MISCELLANEOUS OMNIBUS ISSUE



British West Indies University Issue



By Clive Drummond

WHEN does an omnibus issue qualify for that title, rather than be relegated to the term "minibus"? This is not a question that I would care to be dogmatic about, but the University College issue of the British West Indies released on February 16th, 1951 can surely be said to fall in the former category, with 14 countries sharing the common designs.

The University College of the West Indies was incorporated by Royal Charter on January 5th, 1949. H.R.H. Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, and a granddaughter of Queen Victoria was installed as first Chancellor on February 16th, 1950 and was accompanied by her husband who was at that time Chancellor of London University.

Teaching began in 1948, in converted barracks about 7 miles from Kingston, Jamaica, and the very first undergraduates were 33 medical students. The faculties were extended, and in 1960, the federal nature of the college was emphasised by the establishment of the Faculty of Agriculture in Trinidad, to be followed in 1961 by the Faculty of Engineering.

In 1962 the college became a full university in its own right with the power to grant its own degrees, and Princess Alice became the first Chancellor. Today there are permanent buildings in Barbados, Trinidad and Jamaica. Expenses are met by the countries which shared in the original issue with the exception of Guyana, who as British Guiana was one of the founding 13. They left the federation on the establishment of the institution which is now known as the University of Guyana. The remaining 12 countries have been joined by the Bahamas and Cayman Islands, who did not join in the original issue. There is an apparent discrepancy of one, in the figures of participating countries and this is because the Leeward Islands also issued a pair of stamps.

The issue of 14 pairs resulted in an attractively designed and coloured series, which would seem to have been immediately popular. The lower denomination bore the coat of arms of the college, and the higher the formal portrait of Princess Alice in her Chancellor's robes. From the beginning the set was cursed by the attention of speculators. A prominent dealer complained at the time that the Crown Agents must have underestimated the demand, for on the day of release one stamp was sold out in London, and on succeeding days one after another of the remaining stamps ran out. Demands for a reprinting of course came to nought, and almost immediately the catalogue prices for some countries were well above par. And so they have remained with little perceptible change over the years, as presumably some of the speculated stocks trickled onto the markets. But recently a hardening has been noticeable, as these sources dry up.

The Faculty of Agriculture grew out of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, pictured on the 2c. stamp of Trinidad's King George VI set, amongst others. Collectors of the abundant handstamps on Trinidad commercial mail, may have come across the University Post Office handstamp. There are no such regular postmarks on the sites in Jamaica and Barbados.

Funds for such an educational institution are always a problem, and the famous Princess Alice Appeal was launched in 1955. Slogan postmarks were used to advertise the fund raising campaign in Jamaica, British Guiana and St. Vincent, all in early 1955, and in the first case as well as the simple message "Princess Alice Appeal", they also used at Kingston the variant "Give to the Princess Alice Appeal Fund". This alternative was in use from May 1955 into 1956. Slogans with the same effect were also used in Barbados, and Trinidad.

In 1969, it came of age, and another quarter million pound appeal was launched. A good time then, to collect the stamps and earlier postal markings, before the next series is upon us.

A POSTAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE WEST INDIES

By W. H. B. Dean

NOTE. *Although only completed a few weeks ago, this account deals with a visit made in* 1972 *and may, in some small particulars, be out of date*—EDITOR.

A B.O.A.C. 747 landed us safely at Coolidge International Airport, Antigua (S.G.188), which lies just a few miles from St. John's, the capital. The taxi ride to the modern air-conditioned Post Office (S.G.189) on the water front cost $5, the dollars being referred to as " Bee-Wee " dollars or " E.C." dollars. They were the common currency of all the islands visited, issued by the East Caribbean Currency Authority. The post office at St. John's had two important differences from all the other post offices in the area. It was air-conditioned and had coil vending machines for 5c., 10c., and 25c. stamps outside. Antigua (pronounced *Anteega*) is



The modern Post Office at St. John's, Antigua

relatively flat with a few hills and very indented coastline with some fine beaches (S.G.218). It has semi-arid type Mediterranean vegetation and suffers water shortages from time to time. The State of Antigua includes the island of Barbuda which has a sub-post office serving a very small community and also the uninhabited island of Redonda (S.G.249–51). There are nine sub-post offices on the island including that on Barbuda.

Travel from island to island is best done by air and LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport) (S.G. Montserrat 280–85) took us over to Montserrat in a mere 12 minutes (forgetting our baggage, I regret to say—but that is another story). The tiny Bradbourne airfield—one could hardly call it an air-port with but three flights a day and a fire tender used to keep the runway clear of grazing cattle, sheep and goats—is the opposite side of the island to the capital, Plymouth. This taxi ride costs 8 " Bee-Wee " but affords a splendid view of this



A Hawker-Siddeley of LIAT on the Montserrat Bradbourne Airfield

rather rugged and slightly more vegetated island. The Post Office occupies an old colonial-style verandahed building on the waterfront next to the fine War Memorial (S.G.259). Business is conducted through the windows which are appropriately labelled " Stamps ", " Postal Orders " and so on. It was a surprise, on this small island of 14,000 people, to find that a third window stated " Philatelic Bureau ". The lady officer was both most courteous and knew her stamps, separating glazed paper and later printings, etc. Apart from the current definitives she also had on sale recent First Day



Nevis seen on the Alexander Hamilton bi-centenary stamp

Covers and miniature sheets of the Tourism and LIAT sets. Montserrat has nine sub-offices scattered over the island and strikes of these can be obtained via the bureau if correctly stamped and addressed envelopes are sent with an appropriate request.

After some five hours' wait, a tiny Britten Norman Islander (S.G.283) flew us north from Montserrat to Nevis, passing over the large rock, Redonda (S.G. Antigua 249). The airstrip on Nevis was unbelievably small and primitive being little bigger than a football pitch and all immigration, customs and other airport services were carried out in a very small wooden hut, 8 ft. × 20 ft. Nevis (pronounced with a double " ee " as in " need ") is almost a complete conical volcano rising out of the warm blue Caribbean (S.G. St. Kitts 119). It is part of the political unit of St. Christopher (St. Kitts)–Nevis–Anguilla, although the latter for all practical matters has seceded from the unit (but it is politic not to speak of this on St. Kitts!). There are only two post offices on Nevis. at Charlestown and Gingerland.



The Treasury Building at Basseterre, St. Kitts

A 10-minute flight took us to Basseterre, capital of St. Kitts The tourist brochures state that every inch of St. Kitts is covered in sugar cane: perhaps mist was covering the slopes of the volcanic mountains, which cover a very large area of the island, when the brochure was written! The new post office building is situated on the waterfront of the very beautiful Basseterre Bay. It has a Philatelic Officer but all stamps must be purchased from the counter clerks. The current range of definitives does not include a 40c. value which is the airmail rate to Europe, but this value is usually provided in the plentiful commemorative sets, but when not available as a commemorative a combination of low values must be used. There are only seven post offices on St. Kitts and, again, a collection of cancellations can be arranged through the Philatelic Officer. The surface rate to the U.K. is 6c. and registration 16c.: so, for the equivalent of 3p, I sent registered covers from each office back to the U.K. and as the volume of surface mail is so little the covers arrived by air—not bad value, registered airmail for 3p each!

Flying to the southern extremity of our journey we arrived in St. Vincent (S.G.279), the island which a few months earlier had become extremely concerned by the appearance of a new steaming volcanic island several hundred feet high in the

(*Continued on page* 271)

MISCELLANEOUS WORLD CUP ISSUES

STAMP COLLECTING Aug. 12. 1966.

TAURUS *writes on "fouls" to be found on the*

COLONIAL WORLD CUP "OMNIBUS" ISSUE



THE World Cup stamps issued by 20 of the Commonwealth territories have provided a rich field for collectors of varieties. At the time of writing, stocks of 18 of the territories have been checked with the findings given below. (The issues for Pitcairn and Tristan da Cunha will be dealt with later.)

Shades. Prominent shade varieties have been reported for the DOMINICA 24c., very dark; BAHAMAS 8c., light blue centre; CAYMAN ISLANDS 1½d., ST. HELENA 3d. and SEYCHELLES 15c., all much lighter shades than normal.

Special Flaws. A run of sheets of the FIJI 2s. show sections of the lines of latitude missing on single stamps in the lower left of the sheets. Some GIBRALTAR 6d. show doubling of green parts of the design and one sheet has been seen with map off-sets on the back of several units.

Varieties and Plate Flaws. This issue is complicated but from a considered study of *initial* supplies it appears that:—(*a*) certain characteristics are common to sheets with right margin colour markers, or left corner sheet markings; (*b*) different flaws appear on low and high values from similar markings and plates; and (*c*) occasionally, as with Gibraltar and Federation of South Arabia, the higher value has the characteristics of some low values from other territories !

A curious scoring effect runs down the back of all low-value sheets on the middle vertical row from top to bottom. Plates A1 A1 A1 A1 are in common use but some territories use A11 for some or all colours, one or two have used both !

Thus, the common plate flaws are usually from one of four sheets for both values together, but this ratio can be extended in the cases mentioned, where both plates A1 or A11 have been used (*e.g.*, St. Helena 3d. and St. Lucia 4c.) different supplies have obviously had only part of the range of plates and various sources could well have some flaws which are missing from findings which are recorded as follows (with acknowledgement made of help given by Messrs C. Musson, G. Drummond and P. Bullivant):—

Flaws Common to Several Territories

PLATE A1 A1 A1 A1. Sheet markings in Right Margin.

Row 5, No. 3. Lines of Longitude and Latitude not clear cut, with background colour overlapping and thinning the lines. Seen on *low* values as follows (plus GIBRALTAR 6d. in place of 2½d. value):—ANTIGUA 6c., ASCENSION 3d., BRITISH SOLOMON IS. 8c., GIBRALTAR 6d., S. ARABIA 10f., ST. CHRISTOPHER 6c. (not BERMUDA 10d. however).

Row 7, No. 1. (Extending to Row 10, No. 1). Coloured flaw (not very clear on some values) in Medallion, right of head, on both Row 7, No. 1 and Row 9, No. 1 and coloured spot on Queen's head (Row 10, No. 1):—ANTIGUA 6c., ASCENSION 3d., BERMUDA 10d., BRUNEI 4c.,* DOMINICA 5c., GIBRALTAR 2½d., ST. CHRISTOPHER 6c.

* Sultan's Head

Row 9, No. 4. Reversed "c" inside Medallion, right of Queen's neck. High values only:—ANTIGUA 35c., ASCENSION 6d., BAHAMAS 15c., BERMUDA 2s.6d., B.S.I. 35c., CAYMANS 1s.9d., FIJI 2s., GIBRALTAR 6d., GILBERTS 35c., GRENADA 50c., ST. HELENA 6d., ST. LUCIA 25c., SEYCHELLES 1r.

PLATE A11 A11 A11 A1, etc. Sheet markings in Right Margin.

Row 1, No. 2. Coloured mark (varies for territories) between shorts of player and raised boot:—BAHAMAS 8c. (Trace), CAYMANS 1½d., DOMINICA 24c., GILBERTS 3c. (Trace), SEYCHELLES 15c., ST HELENA 3d.

PLATE A1 A1 A1 A1. Sheet markings in Left Margin.

Row 1, No. 1. Coloured flaw outside Medallion, to right:—ANTIGUA 6c. and 35c., ASCENSION 6d., B.S.I. 8c., GILBERTS 35c., ST. CHRISTOPHER 6c. and 25c., ST. HELENA 6d., CAYMANS 1s.9d., FIJI 2d.

Row 5, No. 5. Large brown flaw on forehead of Queen:—ANTIGUA 6c. and 35c., ASCENSION 3d. and 6d., BAHAMAS 15c., BERMUDA 10d. and 2s.6d., B.S.I. 8c. and 35c., DOMINICA 5c., FIJI 2d. and 2s., GIBRALTAR 2½d., GRENADA 5c., GILBERTS 35c., ST. CHRISTOPHER 6c. and 25c., ST. HELENA 3d. and 6d., ST. LUCIA 4c. and 25c, CAYMANS 1s.9d.

Row 6, No. 1 (5/1). Clear white spot in boot (A), with Flag handle flaw (B), for some territories only, plus the Row 5, No. 1 variety above it which is of interest. (Either (*a*) Large brown flaw on left side of Cup *with* further flaw on dress of figure lower down, (*b*) Dress flaw only, (*c*) Neither flaw, but 6/1 (*A*) or (*B*) remaining):—ANTIGUA 35c. (*Aa*), ASCENSION 6d. (*Ba*), BAHAMAS 15c. (*Ab*), BERMUDA 2s.6d. (*Bc*), B.S.I. 35c. (*Ba*), CAYMANS 1s.9d. (*Aa*), GILBERTS 35c. (*Ac*), ST. LUCIA 25c. (*Ba*), ST. HELENA 6d. (*Ba*), ST. CHRISTOPHER 25c. (*Ac*).

PLATE A11 A11 A11 A1, etc. Sheet markings in Left Margin.

Row 1, No. 2. Coloured flaw in white above shorts:—BAHAMAS 8c., CAYMANS 1½d., GILBERTS 3c., SEYCHELLES 15c. and 1r., BRUNEI 4c. and 75c., S. ARABIA 50f., DOMINICA 24c., ST. HELENA 3d., ST. LUCIA 4c.

Rows 1 and 2, No. 5. Coloured mark left of football (1/5):—(*A*) with boot flaw as well (*B*), and coloured flaw attached to top of shorts (2/5) :—BAHAMAS 8c. (*B*), CAYMANS 1½d. (*B*), GILBERTS 3c. (*B*), SEYCHELLES 15c. (*B*), SEYCHELLES 1r. (*A*), BRUNEI 75c. (*A*) and NEW HEBRIDES 40c. (2/5 only). (*Note:* BRUNEI 4c. is Plate A1 A11 A1 A1 affecting centre only and NEW HEBRIDES 40c. is Plate A11 A1 A1 A1 affecting shorts only on 2/5, whilst S. ARABIA 50f. shows background flaw, for centre plate only remains A11—(A1 A11 A1 A1).

Flaws Confined to Individual Territories

(*L or R indicates sheet markings position and P indicates Plate flaws mainly detailed earlier.*)

ANTIGUA

6c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 1, No. 1 (R) White stop in banner in front of W.
P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw, right of Medallion *and* Major flaw in panel—vertical line between G and L of ENGLAND.
Row 3, No. 5 (R) Flaw in panel affecting WORLD CUP.
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Rows 7/1, 9/1, 10/1 (R) Clearest example of these Plate flaws.
Row 9, No. 4 (L) Bubble flaw to right of Cup.

35c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw, right of Medallion.
Row 3, No. 5 (R) Flaw over N in ENGLAND.
P Row 5, No. 1 (L) (6/1) Plate flaw *A* (" no flag handle " flaw) with
P Row 6, No. 1 (5/1) *a*.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 8, No. 1 (R) Small flaw in WORLD CUP panel and streamers below " 1966 ".
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

ASCENSION

3d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 3, No. 3 (R) Flaw in top of Cup.
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude.
P Rows 7/1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). Clear, as for Antigua 6c.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.

6d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
Row 3, No. 1 (L) Coloured mark right of " 6d. ".
Row 4, No. 1 (L) Disturbance at intersection of white lines at left.
P Row 5, No. 1 (L) (6/1) Plate flaw *B*, flag handle flaw with (5/1) *a*.
Row 6, No. 1
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

BAHAMAS

8c.—A11 A11 A11 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 2 (R) Coloured mark between shorts and foot.
Row 3, No. 2 (L) White flaw in bottom left segment.
Row 3, No. 3 (L) White flaw distorting F of FOOTBALL.
Row 3, No. 5 (R) Flaw on " 6 " of " 1966 ".
Row 5, No. 1 (L) Flaw on Ball.
P Row 1, No. 5 (L) Flaw on boot added to Plate flaws *B*, also flaw
P Row 2, No. 5 in background under 1966 on (2/5).

(*Continued on page* 895)

CONT OVER

"WORLD CUP"
OMNIBUS ISSUE

Colonial World Cup " Omnibus " (*continued from page 893*)

BAHAMAS (*continued*)

15c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw *A* with (5/1) showing right side
P Row 6, No. 1 } of Cup flaw only (*b*).
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 7, No. 3 (R) Stop between " 1 " and " 5 " of " 15 ".
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

BERMUDA

10d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 2, No. 2 (R) BERMUDA faintly printed
Row 3, No. 1 (L) Breaks in left side of Cup.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). Clear, as for Antigua 6c.
Row 7, No. 2 (L) Heel flaw.

2s.6d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 5, No. 1 } (R) (6/1) Plate flaw *B* flag handle flaw but *no* flaw on
P Row 6, No. 1 } Row 5, No. 1 (*c*).
Row 5, No. 4 (R) Plug flaw (as Fiji 2s.) and extra shading.
Rows 6/4 or 7/4 (R). Extra shading to background beneath Medallion.
Row 7, No. 3 Large " Bubble " flaws.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS

8c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
Row 2, No. 3 (L) Hole in left side of Cup.
Row 3, No. 4 } (L) Coloured mark outside panel after ENGLAND.
Row 4, No. 4 } Large coloured spot below M of CHAMPIONSHIP.
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 6, No. 1 (L) Dash beside " 8 ".

35c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw *B*, flag handle flaw with (5/1) (*a*).
P Row 6, No. 1 }
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

BRUNEI

4c.—A1 A11 A1 A1
P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
Row 1, No. 5 } Small flaw over C of CUP.
Row 2, No. 5 } (R) Flaw over " 6 " of 1966 (some sheets).
Row 4, No. 5 } Small flaw on hat.
Row 5, No. 5 } White spot before " 1966 ".
Row 2, No. 5 (L) Coloured flaw left of Sultan's face.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1, (R). As for Antigua 6c. but beside or on head of the Sultan (10/1).
Row 9, No. 3 (R) Clear white flaw on hat
Row 9, No. 3 (L) Flaw in panel under CHAMPIONSHIP.

75c.—A11 A11 A1 A1
P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) As shown under Plate flaws (*A*).
P Row 2, No. 5 }

CAYMAN ISLANDS

1½d. value—A11 A11 A11 A1
P Row 1, No. 2 (R) Plate flaw between shorts and foot.
P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) As for Plate flaws (*B*) with blemish in background
P Row 2, No. 5 } (2/5).
Row 4, No. 2 (L) Flaw beside Medallion in background.
P Row 5, No. 1 (L) Flaw on Ball (as Bahamas 8c.).
Row 5, No. 3 (L) Large flaw in " 1966 " panel.
Row 6, No. 5 (L) Flaw on D of ENGLAND

1s.9d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1
P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured, flaw, right of Medallion.
Row 1, No. 1 (R) *Major* flaw, apostrophe after D of ISLANDS.
P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw (*A*), flag handle with (5/1) (*a*).
P Row 6, No. 1 }
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

DOMINICA

5c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 4, No. 4 (R) Large flaw on A of DOMINICA.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). As for Antigua 6c., but (7/1) is faint.

24c.—A11 A11 A11 A1
P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 2 (R) Plate flaw between shorts and foot.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) As for Plate flaws (*A*) with flaw beneath 1966
P Row 2, No. 5 } on (2/5).
Row 2, No. 2 (R) Weak DOMINICA (similar to Bermuda 10d.).
Row 5, No. 2 (L) Flaw *within* N of DOMINICA (slight flaw on M).
Row 5, No. 2 (R) Break *in* N of DOMINICA.

FIJI

2d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1
P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
Row 3, No. 5 (L) Two coloured spots right of " 1966 " panel.
Row 4, No. 3 Bubble flaw above forward boot.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.

2s. value—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 5, No. 4 (R) Bubble flaw to left and thick colouring to right beneath Medallion (see Bermuda 2s.6d.).
Row 6, No. 4, 7/4 (R). Either pair showing thick colouring of background below Medallion.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion, but less clear than for other territories.
Row 10, No. 3 (R) G of ENGLAND broken through (*major*).

GIBRALTAR

2½d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 4, No. 4 (R) W (stop) ORLD in WORLD.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). Plate flaws, but (7/1) very faint.
Row 9, No. 1 (L) Dark flaw on Queen's cheek.
Row 9, No. 3 (L) Break in D of ENGLAND (*good*).

6d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 1, No. 5 (R) " Extra " green colour over " 1 " of " 1966 " (four only seen).
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude (seen broken).
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion.

GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS

3c.—A11 A11 A11 A1
P Row 1, No. 2(L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) Plate flaw (1/5) boot flaw, shorts flaw (2/5) and
P Row 2, No. 5 } blemish in background (2/5).
Row 4, No. 2 (L) Bubble to left and break in Medallion.
Row 5, No. 2 (R) White flaw on Queen's chin.

35c.—A1 A1 A1 A1. (*All* units show dot below H of CHAMPIONSHIP.)
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 9, No. 2 (R) Flaw in background below Medallion.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion.
P Row 6, No. 1 (L) Plate flaw (*A*) but no Cup flaw on (5/1) (*c*), or flag flaw (6/1).

GRENADA

5c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 2, No. 2 (L) Break in second A of GRENADA.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.

50c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 5, No. 4 (R) Clear break in OR of WORLD (*major*).
Row 8, No. 1 (R) Break in panel after ENGLAND.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion.

NEW HEBRIDES (English)

20c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 6, No. 2 (L) Flaw over R of RF (see also 40c.).
Row 9, No. 1 or 10/1 (L) Weak colouring of blue in pair with normal (see also 40c.).
Row 9, No. 2 (L) Weakness on B of HEBRIDES.

40c.—A11 A1 A1 A1
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) As for Plate flaws (*A*) with shorts flaw on (2/5).
P Row 2, No. 5 }
Row 6, No. 2 (L) Flaw over R of RF (see also 20c.).

40c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 8, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (L). Weak colouring of brown in pair with normal (see also 20c.).

ST. CHRISTOPHER NEVIS ANGUILLA

6c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). Plate flaw but (7/1) faint.
Row 8, No. 3 (L) Clear hole in Footballer's sock.

25c.—A1 A1 A1 A1
P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 6, No. 1 (with 5/1) (L). Football Boot flaw (*A*) but no trace of flaws on (5/1) above and no flaw on flag (*c*).
Row 1, No. 4 (L) Spot at top of shorts.
Row 4, No. 3 (L) Flaw in second A of ANGUILLA.

ST. HELENA

A 3d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1
Row 2, No. 2 (L) Large blemish in panel before " 1 " of " 1966 " (see **A11** Sheets).
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 7, No. 1 (L) Vertical row of coloured dots in white above shorts.

B 3d. value—A11 A11 A11 A1
P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 2 (R) Coloured flaw between shorts and boot.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) (*A*) Plate flaw (1/5), shorts flaw (2/5) (but no
P Row 2, No. 5 } background flaw on (2/5)).
Row 2, No. 2 (L) Large blemish in panel before " 1 " of " 1966 " (as for **A1** Sheets).

6d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1
P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
Row 3, No. 2 (R) (*A*) Large break in N of ST. HELENA (a small coloured mark in Medallion).
Row 3, No. 2 (L) (*B*) Large break in N of ST. HELENA (no mark in Medallion).
Row 5, No. 4, 6/4 or 7/4 (R). Any pair showing thick colouring of background below Medallion. (See Bermuda 2/6).

(*Continued*

MISCELLANEOUS

Commonwealth & Foreign Stamps worth a search.

STAMP LOVER, Jan.-Feb. 1967.

COMMONWEALTH and FOREIGN STAMPS WORTH A SEARCH

COMMONWEALTH — F. ALAN PESTER

The Queen Elizabeth II $2.40 of Barbados with block watermark was issued on the 29th June, 1965: only 16 days before the release of the present definitive set. Now catalogued at 40/- mint, 50/- used, this stamp is not offered frequently: if bought now it could prove a good investment either mint or used.

It is not my general policy to comment on really expensive stamps but the King George V £5 Gibraltar is currently offered for sale at about £185, whereas the Cyprus and Sierra Leone £5 values are currently offered at over £300 each. Bearing in mind that Gibraltar is a European country I wonder why there is such a big difference in price.

The Great Britain 1½d. line-engraved is catalogued used at 10/- for either plate and the ½d. line-engraved used at 4/- for the cheapest plates, up to £12 for Plate 9. Nicely used copies of the 1½d. are very much scarcer than the common plates of the latter. Either the ½d. is over-catalogued or the 1½d. is under-catalogued; I favour the latter and I am sure that nicely used copies of either plate of the 1½d. will steadily increase in value.

The 1893 20c. and 50c. of Canada are both catalogued at £5 mint and 25s. used. The stamps of this Dominion are very popular here but even more so in Canada and the United States. Even 40 years ago these two stamps in fine used condition were plentiful and in brilliant mint condition were scarce. I suggest that these are "sleepers" and are very much under-catalogued.

The malformed "CE" in "PENCE" on the 4d. Queen Victoria issues of Dominica provides a very nice variety for specialists. This flaw on both the CC and CA issues has achieved catalogue rank at about 30 times the price of normals. The variety is most marked, easily recognised and very much worth while. The same variety also occurs on three different 4d. values and on two different provisionals issued for Tobago and the same remarks apply in each case.

It is now well known that practically all the stamps of Ireland have increased very considerably in price in recent months. While "Europa" issues generally are not now so popular as some four years ago, Irish issues are an exception. The 1961 release is already catalogued at a reasonable price but I suggest that the issues for 1962, 1963, 1964 and 1965 have a long way to go solely because the stamps of Ireland are so popular. If and when we join the Common Market interest in "Europa" issues generally might return and with a double interest the Irish "Europa" issues could prove really worth while.

A "top value" King George V stamp which on catalogue seems to have lagged behind other contemporaries of the reign is the 1928 purple on blue 10/- of Turks and Caicos Islands. Catalogued at 75/- mint and 85/- used this stamp could show a considerable rise over the next few years.

American influence in the Virgin Islands and American interest in its stamps leads me to suggest the 5/- values of 1899, 1904, 1913 and 1922 are not without possibilities. These are all "top values" and all appear at present to be reasonably priced. American interest is most marked in the more recent issues and this must lead to increased prices for the 1956 definitives and the 1962 provisionals in U.S. dollar currency.

The King George V 10 dollars of Hong Kong is another "top value" which seems to have lagged behind. Used copies of this stamp are relatively common but mint copies are as scarce as many other King George V high values. Catalogued at £4 this is a stamp with a future.

Catalogued at 2/6 the King George VI 2c. issued in 1941 had a very short life before Hong Kong fell to the Japanese. Used copies with clear 1941 dates are really scarce and well worth a search.

I understand that there is no present intention to issue a new definitive set for this Colony. The high values of the present definitive set are the only stamps to show the Annigoni portrait of the Queen in colour. Because of their size and the surfacing of the paper a high proportion of commercially used copies of the two top values—10 and 20 dollars—are spoiled. Any nicely used copies of these values can be safely tucked away for the day when inevitably a new series will be issued.

FOREIGN — JOHN ELSEY

There are signs of a considerable revival of interest in the stamps of Scandinavian countries. Probably the most neglected of these in recent years is Iceland. Here is a country, which has been issuing stamps since 1873, whose issuing policy is so conservative that, up to the end of 1965, only some 465 stamps have appeared for normal postal purposes. Many of the post-war issues are very attractive and have a strong thematic appeal.

A recent examination of a number of dealers' counter books reveals that certain of these later issues have already disappeared from these interesting volumes. I am told that American visitors have been responsible for some of the evident shortages. Three sets showing Icelandic wild flowers have been issued; the first two, S.G. 395/6, S.G. 415a/417a, can sometimes be found, but the delightful 1964 issue, S.G.448/51, is very hard to come by. This set will surely cost much more than 2/2 (S.G. 1967) in future. Thematic collectors have also depleted the stocks of S.G. 455/6, a charity set of 1965, depicting the Ptarmigan in both summer and winter plumage: this pair should be bought at once if it can be found.

The following Iceland items are already commanding prices above those quoted in Gibbons Pt. II (1967) both here and in the United States, and these prices will continue to rise: S.G. 308 (m)—a scarce stamp priced by Gibbons at 80/- but $15 (£5 5s.) in Scott 1967, S.G. 286 (12/6 m) (Scott $3.25); S.C.411 (17/6 m) (Scott $4).

The issue of 1.12.58 showing the Icelandic flag is being retailed here at 50 per cent above S.G.—and is still cheap!

Turning to Jugoslavia, collectors should lose no time in obtaining the very attractive set and miniature sheet issued in 1966 to commemorate the centenary of the first Serbian postage stamp. The design of this set is certainly superior to that of all stamp centenary issues produced to date. It has been the subject of an interesting article in a contemporary magazine and shows every sign of appreciating in value in the very near future.

MISCELLANEOUS

COMMONWEALTH & FOREIGN STAMPS WORTH A SEARCH.

STAMP LOVER, Nov.-Dec. 1967

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN STAMPS WORTH A SEARCH

COMMONWEALTH—F. ALAN PESTER
FOREIGN—JOHN ELSEY

THE stamps of the Australian states prior to the formation of the Commonwealth in 1913 are not so popular as the stamps of many other groups, but many are scarce. The 20/- value of NEW SOUTH WALES showing Capt. Arthur Phillip and Lord Carrington (both former Governors of the Colony) was first issued in 1888. Stanley Gibbons catalogue no less than ten varieties of this stamp, the cheapest priced at 30/- used and 70/- mint. I wonder how many dealers can supply and how many general collectors possess even the cheapest variety. Not a spectacular investment but all are scarce.

The 1897-1918 Royal portrait set of NEWFOUNDLAND is an attractive series and the 4c. violet (S.G. 89) has always been a scarce stamp used. The 5c. blue in used condition was at one time a fairly common stamp, but is seen less often these days. I suggest that both S.G. 89 and 90 used will repay a search, particularly the former.

The centenary set of SARAWAK issued on the 18th May, 1946, was the subject of speculation. The top value (S.G. 149) was never plentiful, whereas short sets of three values must still be available in wholesale quantities. The $1 value will always be wanted to complete sets, and when found at a third to half catalogue price it should be purchased.

The 1960 £1 TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS has been mentioned before in these notes and with a life of under seven years it is a stamp worth buying: to this recommendation I would add the King George VI 10/- of 1950 and the same value of the Queen Elizabeth set of 1957. The former is a very useful stamp (S.G. 233) and must be a worthwhile purchase.

The provisional set of the 1st October, 1966, of ABU DHABI with values expressed in "fils" and "dinar" is obsolescent. New definitives of 40, 50, 60 and 100 fils were issued on the 6th August. As a result of the Israeli/Arab war the volume of commercial mail must have been considerably reduced during recent months, and anyone interested in the stamps of the Persian Gulf Trucial States should make certain to complete the 1966 set (S.G. 15-25).

Most of the commemorative stamps of AUSTRALIA issued prior to the last war are priced in Gibbons at rather more mint than used, and for the better stamps used the discount is usually about 25 per cent to 30 per cent. The one exception is the 1/- value of the 1936 Centenary of South Australia (S.G. 163) where mint is catalogued at over four times the price of the used. Is this a case where the used price has lagged too much? If you have a gap in your collection, I think that you should fill it as soon as possible.

Another used stamp from the Commonwealth which is not overplentiful is the 5/- Aboriginal Stockman of 1961-1964 (S.G. 327 and 327a). When existing stocks have been dispersed the price must rise. Bought now it could well be a good investment.

Apart from the rare items of the 1961 decimal surcharges issued for the African Colonies prices remain fairly constant, but there does appear to be some interest in the different types of the BECHUANALAND 3½c. on 4d. Mixed pairs showing the normal and wide surcharge of Type II command a ready sale: they are very good property.

Most of the King George V 1922-1928 set of VIRGIN ISLANDS are quite scarce used, but amongst the low values the 1d. bright violet and the 1½d. carmine-red (S.G. 88 and 90) are very difficult to find. Catalogued at 12/6d. and 13/6d. respectively these are well worth a search and when found can safely be bought for future appreciation.

The price trend of many GREAT BRITAIN phosphor commemoratives continues upward, and the latest move concerns the 1965 Salvation Army Centenary set. On numbers issued the 1/6d. phosphor is on a par with the high values of the Geographical and Botanical sets. The set is now a "want" by many dealers and before very long it should break through the 20/- barrier.

Collectors of "Ships on Stamps" are well catered for in recent releases by the Crown Agents. One value of each of the BERMUDA and BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS Telephone Link sets show a cable-laying vessel; the lowest value of the GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS 75th Anniversary set shows H.M.S. Royalist (circa 1892) and the 3d. value of the ST. HELENA set for the Tercentenary of Arrival of the Victims of the Great Fire of London shows the East Indiaman "Charles". Warships and aircraft, as one might expect, are very much in the limelight on issues of the BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS, NEW HEBRIDES and PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the War in the Pacific, whilst bird lovers will delight in the MAURITIUS 1967 Self Government set.

The three sets in connection with the 25th Anniversary of the Pacific War will have a strong appeal to collectors in both the United States and Australia, and the ST. HELENA set for the Tercentenary of Arrival of Victims of the Great Fire of London will appeal to the vast number of Colonial collectors. All four sets should be bought whilst still available at new issue rates.

Finally, a set of two values was issued in the BAHAMAS on the 1st September to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of World Scouting. Stamps with this theme are useful and this pair should be no exception. From an advertisement in the Philatelic Press this, and subsequent issues of the BAHAMAS, are to be distributed by a Philatelic Agency in New York, although the Crown Agents have also handled the scout set. It is to be hoped that this does not foreshadow a change in the conservative policy always followed by the Crown Agents with regard to new issues for countries for which they act.

MISCELLANEOUS.
-Stamp Coils.

GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY, Mar. 1963.

Commonwealth Stamp Coils

By DAVID ADDEY

IN the latest " TWO REIGNS " catalogue mention is made of the special Kenya coils with the 10 c. 200-line screen variety. The Australian and Rhodesia/Nyasaland coils are also listed as they have special perforations. However, quite a number of other territories use stamps in coils and the following notes and table are based on the examples I have been able to obtain either as complete rolls or odd singles and strips.

As readers of the Crown Agents' Stamp Bulletin will no doubt be aware the use of coils is spreading. The latest additions are Tanganyika, Zanzibar, British Honduras, five Malay States, and Uganda.

In the table I have endeavoured to give a complete listing of the coils of each country except in the following cases:

1. Canada—only current issue listed as all are in the catalogue.
2. Ireland—only " E " watermark issues listed.
3. New Zealand—current issue only.
4. South Africa—another complicated country and I am including only the last ones to be issued. No coils are being issued until all penny coins have been withdrawn from circulation and replaced by the new decimal coinage.

EXPLANATION OF THE TABLE

Col. 1. Country.
2. S.G. Number.
3. Value.
4. Make-up. This is either from sheets (S), or a special printing giving a continuous coil (C).
5. Reeling. " IN " or " OUT " denotes the way the face of the stamp is wound on the core.
6. Delivery. This indicates the side delivered first. (L) Left, (R) Right, (T) Top, (B) Bottom.
7. Number of stamps on the reel.
8. Leader details. They are sometimes printed. Others are plain with a printed sticker or rubber-stamp markings. The numbers shown are the requisition references.
9. Margin used for joining in case of sheets or number of stamps around circumference of printing cylinder.
10. Special notes, if any.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
Australia	179a	½d.	S	..	..	..	..	..	See footnote 1.
	181a	1d.	S	..	..	..	..	T	
	184	2d.	S	..	..	..	..	T	Not yet listed in S.G. Catalogue.
	185a	2d.	S	..	..	..	..	T	
	203a	1d.	S	..	..	..	..	T	
	204b	2d.	S	..	..	..	..	T	
	222	1d.	..	..	..	..	..	..	Believed to exist.
	222b	1d.	S	In	..	960	..	L & R	Special and ordinary perforated sheets used on this issue mixed.
	228a	½d.	S	In	B	960	Leader " A "	T	
	230aa	2d.	S	..	..	..	..	T	
	235aa	3d.	S	..	..	..	..	T	
	235c	3d.	S	In	..	..	..	T	
	237a	2d.	S	In	T	960	Leader " A "	T	
	262aa	3d.	S	In	B	960	..	T	
	309	2d.	..	..	..	..	..	..	Not yet issued in coil form.
	311a	3d.	S	In	R	960	..	L	
	314b	5d.	S	In	B	960	..	T	Types A & B as in normal sheets.
Bahamas	201	½d.	S	In	R	480	Sticker 3690/4	R	
	202	1d.	S	In	R	480	Sticker 4862/1	R	
	205	3d.	S	In	R	480	Sticker 3690/4	R	
	208	6d.	S	In	R	480	Sticker 4862/1	R	
	211	1/–	S	..	..	480	..	..	Not yet seen.
British Guiana	288	1¢	..	..	..	..	..	..	Only one copy of both 2¢ stamps seen but 1¢ presumed issued.
	289	2¢	S	..	..	..	..	..	
	308	1¢	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	309	2¢	S	..	..	..	..	..	
	331	1¢	S	In	L	500	Sticker 5171/3	B	These are both from Waterlow printings. The 2 c. reel studied was made up from various sheet positions.
	332	2¢	S	In	L	500	Sticker 5171/3	B	
British Honduras	202	1¢	S	In	R	500	Sticker 7060/3	L	
	206	5¢	S	In	R	500	Sticker 7060/3	L	
	207	10¢	S	In	R	500	Sticker 7060/3	L	

(1) Australia—" Coils have been wound with the gummed side outermost for two or three years but the exact date of this innovation is not recorded. Previously, all coils were wound with the design on the outside.

"Prior to January, 1961, coils were also rolled so that the joined edge on stamps comes out from the aperture first. However, they are now rolled in the opposite direction so that the single thickness of paper protrudes first. Prior to December 1956 some coils, particularly of ½d. stamps, contained 720."

(Director-General, Melbourne. 11 July, 1962.)

Various values exist with *Tête-bêche* joins.

Some rolls have been made from normal plates with joins every 10 stamps, others from special plates giving joins every 20 stamps.

(2) Bahamas—No stamps have been demonetized.

[continued overleaf]

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
Canada	469	2¢	C	Out	L	500	Leader perfed 8 & rubber stamped 2 ct.	25	
	470	4¢	C	Out	L	500	.. .. ..	..	Not yet seen.
	471	5¢	C	Out	L	500	.. .. ..	..	Not yet seen.
Ghana	170a	½d.	S		..	480	.. .. ..	T	
	171	1d.	S		..	480	.. .. ..	T	Opt. as sheet issue.
	—	1d.	S	..	..	480	.. .. ..	T	Opt. Bright Red.
	213	½d.	S	In	B	480	Sticker 2937/3	T	Pink printing smooth.
	—	½d	S	In	B	480	Sticker 4889/1	T	Pink printing rough.
	213a	½d.	S	In	B	480	Sticker 5331/4	T	
	214	1d.	S	In	R	480	Sticker 2937/3	L	
Gibraltar	122ab	1d.	S	..	L or R	..	.. .. ..	..	Only single copies of these seen, other perfs. and ½d. may exist.
	124ab	2d.	S	..	L or R	..	.. .. ..	R	
	124c	2d.	S	..	L or R	..	.. .. ..	..	
	145	½d.	S	In	L	500	Leader	R	Odd 2 stamps at front of roll to make up 500.
	146	1d.	..	..	..	..	.. .. ..	..	Exists on Crown Agents list but not seen.
	148	2d.	S	Out	L	480	Sticker 2340/2	R	Special shade.
	160	½d.	S	Out	B	480	Sticker 2880/1	T	As top margin of sheet has values of each column, 12 different joins are possible.
	162	2d.	S	Out	R	480	Sticker 2880/1	L	First release.
	162	2d.	S	In		480	..	..	Later printings.
Gold Coast	120	½d.						..	? issued.
	121	1d.					.. ..	..	? issued.
	135	½d.	S		L or R	..	..	..	Complete rolls of 120/154 not seen.
	136	1d	S	..	T or B	..	.. ..	.	
	153a	½d.	S	..	T or B	..	.. ..		
	154	1d.	S	..	T or B	..	.. ..	T	
Hong Kong	175	10¢	S	In	B	1000	Sticker	T	Dull lilac, translucent paper
						2000	.. .. ..		
	—	10¢	S	In	B	1000	Sticker 9187/1	T	Reddish shade and thicker paper.
	—	10¢	S	In	B	1000	Sticker 4744/1	T	Reddish violet.
	197	10¢	C	..	..	1000	.. .. ..	..	Due for issue mid-1963.
						2000	.. .. ..	..	
Ireland	112	1d.	S	In	T	960	Ldr. Code "F"	T	See footnote 3. All leaders date stamped.
	114	2d.	S	In	T	960	Ldr. Code "W"	T	
	114	2d.	S	Out	L	480	Ldr. Code "T"	L	
	116	3d.	S	Out	T	960	Ldr. Code "Y"	T	
	116	3d	S	Out	L	480	Ldr. Code "Z"	L	
	117	4d.							With the increase in letter rate this value may be issued later.
	133	½d.	S	Out	L	960	Ldr. Code "G"	L	
	133	½d.	S	Out	T	480	Ldr. Code "P"	T	
Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika	160	5¢	S	..	..	..	.. .. ..	R	Complete roll not seen.
	161	10¢	S	In	R	500	Sticker 2129/2	L	Also exists with "R" margin joins.
	164	50¢	S	..	..	500	.. .. ..	..	Roll not seen.
	173	10¢	C	Out	B	1000	Leader 1492/2	11	200-line screen.
	179	50¢	C	Out	B	1000	Leader 1492/2	11	Slightly smaller than sheet printing.
Malaya-Johore	160	10¢	S	In	B	1000	Sticker	T	
Negri Sembilan	62a	10¢	S	In	B	1000	Sticker 6900/1	T	
Penang	55	10¢	S	In	B	1000	Sticker	T	
Perak	152a	10¢	S	In	B	1000	Sticker	T	
Selangor	136	10¢	S	In	B	1000	Sticker 6902/1	T	
Mauritius	296	5¢	S	In	B	500	Sticker 7300/2	T	
	300	25¢	S	..	..	500	.. .. ..	..	Roll not yet seen.
					Dickie Rolls (for use in stamp vending machines).				
New Zealand	782	1d.	S	In	R	480	Leader	L	
	783	2d.	S	..	..	480	.. .. ..	..	
	784	3d.	S	In	R	480	Leader	L	

(3) Ireland—The latest 1d. "F" and 2d. "W" are reeled Out according to a schedule received from the G.P.O. Dublin (5/11/62). Obsolete rolls had the following code letters:—

Code	Value	Size	Method of delivery.
B	½d.	960	Reeled lengthwise.
D	½d.	1000	Lower end first.
D	1d.	960	Reeled lengthwise.
E	1d.	480	Top end first.
G	½d.	480	Top end first.
L	1½d.	500	Top end first.
L	2d.	960	Reeled lengthwise.
N	3d.	960	Reeled lengthwise.
O	1d.	480	Left side first.
P	½d.	480	Left side first.
Q	2d.	1000	Lower end first.
R	2d.	480	Top end first.

(To be continued)

Commonwealth Stamp Coils

By DAVID ADDEY

(Continued from March number)

EXPLANATION OF THE TABLE

Col. 1. Country.
2. S.G. Number.
3. Value.
4. Make-up. This is either from sheets (S), or a special printing giving a continuous coil (C).
5. Reeling. "IN" or "OUT" denotes the way the face of the stamp is wound on the core.
6. Delivery. This indicates the side delivered first. (L) Left, (R) Right, (T) Top, (B) Bottom.
7. Number of stamps on the reel.
8. Leader details. They are sometimes printed. Others are plain with a printed sticker or rubber-stamp markings. The numbers shown are the requisition references.
9. Margin used for joining in case of sheets or number of stamps around circumference of printing cylinder.
10. Special notes, if any.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.		9.	10.
Lightning Rolls (for direct sale to the public at 4d. over face).										
New Zealand	783	2d.	S	Out	R	480	Leader		L	2d. rolls now obsolete.
(continued)	783a	2½d.	S	Out	..	480	Leader		L	
	784	3d.	S	Out	..	480	Leader		L	
	783	2d.	S	In	T	480	Leader		T & B	Counter Rolls (for use by Post Office tellers).
	783a	2½d.	S	..	..	480	.. ..	..	..	
	784	3d.	S	In	T	480	Leader		T & B	Blanks at sheet joins numbered 23 to 1 in red to show number of complete strips of 20 left.
	785	4d.	S	In	T	480	Leader		T & B	
	786	6d.	S.	In	T	480	Leader		T & B	
	787	8d.	S	In	T	480	Leader		T & B	
	789	1/–	S	In	R	320	Leader		R & L	Blanks numbered 19 to 1 to show number of complete strips of 16 left.
	790	1/3	S	In	T	320	Leader		T & B	
	791	1/6	S	In	T	320	Leader		T & B	
	792	1/9	S	In	R	320	Leader		R & L	Initial printings of some values had black numbers.
Nigeria	69	½d.	S	In	L	480	Leader		L	Made up from special 10 stamp wide plates.
	70	1d.	S	In	L	480	Leader		L	
	70	1d.	C	In	L	480	Leader		7	Belgian rotary printing.
	72a?	2d.	C	In	L	480	Leader		7	Type A but a distinct shade.
	90	1d.	C	In	B	480	Sticker	128/1	21	
	92	2d.	C	In	B	480	Sticker	128/1	21	
Nyasaland	173a	½d.	S	..	..	480	.. ..	..	L	Complete rolls not seen.
	176a	2d.	S	..	..	480	.. ..	..	L	
	180a	6d.	S	..	..	480	.. ..	..	..	
Pakistan	25	6 p.	S	..	T or B	..	.. ..	..	..	Rolls not seen. No New Paisa rolls issued yet.
	47	1 a.	S	..	T or B	..	.. ..	..	T	
Rhodesia/ Nyasaland	1a	½d.	C	In	B	480	Leader		11	
	2a	1d.	C	In	B	480	Leader		11	Shades exist
	18a	½d.	C	In	B	480	Leader		11	
	19a	1d.	C	In	B	480	Leader		11	Black.
	19b	1d.	C	In	B	480	Leader		11	Grey-black.
St. Lucia	113a	½d.	S	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	Only odd stamps seen.
	114a	1d.	S	..	..	..	.. ..	..	T	
	128	½d.	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	I do not know if these exist in coil form.
	129	1d.	..	..	..	..	.. ..	..	..	
	146	1¢	S	..	T or B	..	.. ..	..	T	
	147	2¢	S	..	T or B	..	.. ..	..	T	147 and 147a exist in the same roll. Coils not now issued.
	147a	2¢	S	..	T or B	..	.. ..	..	T	
Sierra Leone	210	½d.	S	In	R	480	Sticker	935/2	L	These are still current.
	211	1d.	S	In	R	480	Sticker	935/2	L	
	214	3d.	S	In	B	480	Sticker	1687/3	T	
Singapore	44	10¢	S	In	B	500	Sticker	..	T	200-line screen.
	—	10¢	S	In	B	500	Sticker	8866/1	T	250-line screen.
	67	10¢	S	In	B	500	Sticker	9918/1	T	
South Africa	105	½d.	C	In	T	506	Leader		22	The last ½d. coil.
	106	1d.	C	In	T	1012	Leader		22	Shades exist.
	152	1d.	C	In	T	253	Leader		22	Springbok wmk.
	171	1d.				506				Arms wmk. reported but not seen.

(4) New Zealand.—Some rolls were perforated by an experimental comb producing an abnormally wide or narrow tooth at the centre of each side of some stamps.

(5) Rhodesia/Nyasaland.—It is understood that De La Rue printings have been released but apart from shades the latest coils seen are the same as the above Waterlow printings.

(6) Sierra Leone.—The 1956 issue is still available at Freetown as well as the Independence Issue.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commonwealth Stamp Coils (Concluded)

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.			9.	10.
South West Africa	154	1d.	C	In	L	1012	Leader			22	Wmk. is sideways but reverse sheet printings.
Tanganyika	109	10c	C	In	B	1000	Sticker	2547/1		21	Good jump on cylinder.
	113	50c	S	In	B	500	Sticker	2697/1		T	
Trinidad and Tobago	230a	1c	S	..	L or R	..	..	..	..	L	Experimental issue.
	231a	2c	S	..	L or R	..	..	..	..	L	
Uganda	100	10c	C	..	..	1000	..	..	..	..	
	104	50c	S	In	B	500	Sticker	2766/1		T	
Zanzibar	374	10c	S	In	B	500	Sticker	9888/1		T	
ADDENDA (*to March list*)											
Ghana	214	1d.	S	In	L	480	Sticker	4898/62	R		Sky greenish blue.
Gibraltar	162	2d.	..	..	R	..	Sticker	4136/1	L		Delete " later ptgs. " Insert: " 2nd Release. Appears to have been prepared for reeling OUT at first release.

Add to col. 8: **Malaya - Johore:** 6901/1; **Penang:** 64/3; **Perak:** 6903/1.

(7) Trinidad and Tobago—I spotted these in an auction catalogue and an official reply from Port of Spain states: " This experiment did not last long as it was not a success due principally to the fact that the humidity of this climate caused the stamps to stick together."

I hope that the above list will be of use to coil collectors and that some readers will be able to fill in some of the gaps among the older issues. In conclusion I would like to acknowledge the help I have received from the various Official sources and Mr. E. M. Berry of Lytham St. Anne's.

Miscellaneous.

WEST-END PHILATELIST, Jan.-Feb. 1963.

SOME WEST INDIAN CELEBRITIES ON STAMPS

By T. R. WARD

THE greatest celebrity to appear on the stamps of various West Indian Islands is Columbus. Indeed, Columbus the explorer has been featured on more stamps of countries of the world than any other.

A century after Columbus, there came on the world scene the great race of Elizabethan adventurers whose exploits of war and discovery and settlement on the American continent from the Orinoco to the St. Lawrence led to the dominance of the English-speaking tradition and culture in that area of the New World.

Drake, Raleigh, Gilbert, Smith of Virginia and the Pilgrim Fathers among others, most readily spring to mind for their association with this period of discovery and expansion, but there were others who have also figured on West Indian stamps.

Sir George Somers, for example, cast ashore on Bermuda in 1609 and who endured a precarious castaway existence with his men, living on turtles and wild pigs. The establishment of settlements and colonies in the New World was very much in the minds of Englishmen at this time, and Somers' nephew easily persuaded the Virginia Company to colonise the island, making it the third English colony after Virginia and Newfoundland.

In 1612, three years after Somers' adventure, fifty settlers under Richard Moore, a ship's carpenter, landed on the island. The story of their trials and ordeals in a strange land, where climate, flora and fauna were all so different, follows the pattern of many other similar enterprises. The settlers were beset by the difficulties of inadequate supplies and financial backing, and discontent among them soon grew to mutiny. But in time the settlement became self-supporting, and a subsidiary company was formed in 1615, a London Company for Somers Island, as it was then known.

In 1684 it became a Royal colony, and it has had an elected assembly since 1820. The name Somers Island was discarded in favour of the Spanish name Bermuda, referred to by Shakespeare (who was not unacquainted with the travellers' tales of the time) as the Bermoothes, Caliban's Island, in his play "The Tempest".

Sir George Somers himself, and his ship "Sea Venture", appear on the 2½d. and 9d. of the 1953 issue of stamps. Somers' fortuitous landing on Bermuda in 1609 is recalled by one of the most beautiful sets of stamps to appear in recent years. I refer to the 350th "Anniversary of Settlement" issue of July, 1959, with its colourful and beautifully printed display of the arms of King James I, and Queen Elizabeth II.

Another name that deserves a place beside those of his more famous contemporaries is that of Capt. (later Sir) Thomas Warner, associated with the settlement of various islands in the Leeward Group, especially St. Kitts, or St. Christopher, the island named by Columbus after his patron saint. Warner first landed on St. Christopher with a small party in 1623, engaged his men in the building of a fort, and started growing a crop of tobacco. He returned to England to gain support for a more ambitious colony, and landed again in 1625 with a commission as governor of the island and its neighbours.

By curious chance a French party landed on St. Christopher on the very same day. Strife was avoided, the French were persuaded of the Englishmen's prior claim, and they were left masters of an undisputed field.

The settlement prospered, and despite the activities of the French, Dutch and Danes, all greedy colonists in the West Indies at this time, settlers branched off to Nevis in 1628, Antigua and Montserrat in 1632, and the Virgin Islands and Anguilla in 1650.

The 300th anniversary of these settlements saw the issue of various commemorative stamps. A ship bearing the settlers is shown on the stamps of the 1923 set of St. Kitts-Nevis, and Sir Thomas Warner's ship is again seen on the splendid 5/- of the Antigua set of 1932, shown beneath an archway marking the centuries. Warner's tomb and a view of Warner Park are shown on two stamps of the 1952 set issued by St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla. The 300th anniversary of settlement in Anguilla itself was marked in 1950 by overprinting two of the stamps of the 1938 set.

Nevis, as the birthplace of Alexander Hamilton, has strong links with the United States of America. Hamilton studied in New York, and when war broke out between the North American colonists and the British, served with distinction alongside Washington. His greatest services to the newly formed United States were performed as secretary of the treasury, and he is remembered as one of the founders of the nation. The 200th anniversary of his birth was commemorated in 1956 by the issue of a most handsome pictorial stamp, on which the standing figure of Hamilton on the left balances the Queen's head on the right, while the main design of the stamp is a typical Nevis landscape showing Hamilton's birthplace.

Two notable 300th anniversaries are those commemorating the first settlement of Barbados in 1627, and of its General Assembly in 1639. The first was marked by the issue of that deservedly famous and distinguished stamp showing the heads of King Charles I and King George V, and the other by the 1939 set with its view of the General Assembly in session and the heads of Charles I and George VI.

The impetus to much of the colonising that took place in the New World in the 17th century was due largely to the vision of one man, who was perhaps the greatest of the Elizabethans, Sir Walter Raleigh. He was associated with the first colonising of Virginia, and memories of his ill-fated Guiana voyages of 1595 are recalled in the splendid 1934 stamp of British Guiana which bears the portraits of Raleigh and his young son, an Elizabethan in miniature, down to the smallest detail of his dress.

One famous exploit of Raleigh's was the overrunning of Port of Spain, Trinidad, in 1595, and his discovery of the asphalt lake from which he obtained tar to caulk his ships. This is shown by the 6c. of the 1935 set of stamps issued by Trinidad and Tobago.

Drake, circumnavigator of the globe, hero of the defeat of the Spanish Armada, and most famous of the Elizabethans, has not fared so well on stamps. But his name is remembered by the "Sir Francis Drake Channel", which is shown on one of the 1952 set of stamps issued by the Virgin Islands.

STAMP COLLECTING, Jan. 27, 1967

The "States" of the West Indies

The reason for the recent reference to " independence " stamps for Antigua inscribed " State of Antigua " are made clear in the following *Times* report.

The West Indies territories of Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, and St. Kitts, Nevis, and Anguilla are to become states in association with Britain within the next six weeks, the Commonwealth Office announces. New constitutional arrangements to bring this about are subject to parliamentary authority, and the approval of statutory instruments.

The day on which each territory becomes an associated state will be known as " Statehood Day ". For Antigua, and for St. Kitts, Nevis, and Anguilla, this will be February 27th; for Dominica and St. Lucia it will be March 1st, and for Grenada March 3rd. With the introduction of the new constitutions the islands will be known as the West Indies Associated States.

Under the new constitutional arrangements, the powers and responsibilities of Britain will be limited to matters of defence and external affairs. The territories will be given self-government, including the right to end the association and to assume their independence without further reference to the British Parliament.

STAMP COLLECTING Oct. 24 & 31, 1968

MISCELLANEOUS

The British Caribbean

Political Status through Postage Stamps

By David Potter



The only Q.E.II key-plate issue.

WITH the introduction of a bald description of the political status of a territory in the Stanley Gibbons range of catalogues, coupled with the complex nature of types of government established to meet the varying requirements of different peoples, it would seem to be an opportune moment to look at this subject more closely.

Not in depth, for philatelists, if they wish to be historians, can carry out their own researches. But rather to investigate the important political events that the administrators in their wisdom have considered to be worthy of philatelic commemoration.

Stamp collecting is a hobby, a leisure pursuit, and not a dry academic subject. The story has been simplified to prevent monotony, repetition and mental indigestion. For those who require more, there is an excellent series, " Fact Sheets on the Commonwealth ", published by the Central Office of Information. Not only do they go into considerably more detail, but in addition they contain a short but invaluable further reading list.

British West Indies Federation

A small measure of co-operation was attempted back in 1871, when a number of islands formed the federal colony of the Leeward Islands, and a similar group with more local control occurred in the Windward Islands. With the movement throughout the British Empire towards independence for its constituent parts, some solution had to be found for the small islands in the Caribbean. These islands were not on the best of terms with each other, there was little inter-island trade, and local knowledge and patriotism were uppermost in their minds. Apathy, or even ignorance, for a piece of land maybe only 30 miles away across the sea, was commonplace. In 1947 a conference was held at Montego Bay, Jamaica, which accepted in principle the idea of federation, and follow-up meetings eventually led to the inauguration of the Federation in 1958. This was a chain of islands stretching 1,000 miles from Jamaica to Trinidad, and these two federal states were by far the largest in the group. Other countries joining in were Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.



The common design of the only issue released by the short-lived Federation.

From the outset, the group proved difficult to manage, with problems of distance, finance and island politics, and the ever-delicate balance between the larger and smaller islands. Less than four years later Jamaica held a referendum, which just about voted for independence, and Trinidad quickly followed. With most of the peoples and finance gone, the collapse of the Federation was inevitable, and the smaller states were thrown back on their own solutions. All that remains of the brave try, conceived before its time, is a set of three stamps in a common design, for each of the 10 constituent territories.

Associated Statehood

With the break-up, there was the problem of what was to happen to the smaller territories. No longer were they prepared to accept Crown Colony control and, in fact, world opinion was mounting an offensive against any remnant of old imperial authority. Independence, desirable as it sounds, goes hand in hand with complete financial responsibility, and money was an asset in short supply.

An associated state is a compromise, or halfway stage on the road to independence. The decision to journey on rests with the state itself. Broadly speaking, the legislative and executive arms of government are the result of the peoples' wishes through universal suffrage, but the Governor, appointed by the Queen, is head of the territory. External affairs remain the responsibility of the United Kingdom, and internal matters are controlled entirely by the state.

If an associated state decides to go on to independence, then it can so move in both houses of the state's parliament. The Governor is bound then to put the feeling of the people to test, by ordering a national referendum. If they support their leaders by a two-thirds majority, then independence follows automatically. There is only one proviso. Independence is a final and irrevocable step, and cannot be undone. From then on, they enjoy the fruits and suffer the disappointments of their own destiny.

Leeward Islands

The Federated Crown Colony of the Leeward Islands consisted of six presidencies: Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts with Anguilla, Nevis and the British Virgin Islands. In 1882 St. Kitts-Nevis and Anguilla were combined to form a single presidency and Dominica was transferred to the Windward Islands on January 1st, 1940.

The political effects are reflected only indirectly through philately. All the constituent parts of this federation discontinued their own separate issues on October 31st, 1890, with St. Christopher and Nevis never to reappear. Instead, throughout the long history, there was one long succession of key types. Neutral, and cheap to produce, they provided the only relic of this once popular design in the Queen Elizabeth era. In fact, using the term " key type " in its broadest sense, the commemoratives can be included so that all the issues followed this pattern.

In 1899, the British Virgin Islands recommenced issuing its own stamps, and the remaining states did so in 1903. However, Leeward Islands issues continued concurrently, with both theoretically available. Not until July 1st, 1956, when the federation was abolished, and the constituent parts became separate colonies, was this arrangement terminated. Then, the stamps were withdrawn from sale, and the Leeward Islands became a " dead " country.

Antigua

Following the discovery by Columbus in 1493, an abortive Spanish settlement was made in 1520. Not until 1625 did

(*Continued on page 555*)

British Caribbean (*continued from page* 553)

the British take any interest in the area, and then with Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis it was placed under the Royal protection. There was an attempt at settlement by the French in 1629, but finally Antigua was colonised in 1632, from nearby St. Kitts, and 300 years later the event was commemorated by a set to the 5s. Colonisation was effected under the authority of Sir Thomas Warner, whose ship is to be seen on the top value.

Colonisation in theory was all very well, but the French came back in 1666 and it was not until 1667 that the future became clear with the signing of the Treaty of Breda. An attractive pair of stamps marked the tercentenary of this important pact. The territory of Antigua consists of three small islands, Antigua, Barbuda and Redonda. Half a square mile is the area of the last-named and so, not surprisingly, it does not figure in any philatelic chronicle. Barbuda has one provisional set to its credit, and appears on a number of the current definitives. A settlement dates back to 1667 and was commemorated by another fine set in 1967 but, in fact, the colonisation from Antigua was carried out in 1661.

A partly-elected legislature in 1937, and universal suffrage with a majority of elected members in 1951, went unnoticed to the stamp collector. Then, in 1956, it became a separate colony on the dissolution of the Leeward Islands, and following a conference in London was granted a new constitution to take effect from January 1st, 1960. The mainly



Associated Statehood for Antigua.

elected Legislature was matched by an indirectly elected Executive, with ministerial responsibility. Two overprints were all that could be managed for this significant step. In time, after local federation proposals had been examined and rejected, Antigua became an Associated State on February 27th, 1967, with a special set of four, all proudly displaying the new flag.

Montserrat

Montserrat was colonised by settlers from St. Kitts in 1632. They were, in fact, Irishmen who were sent to prevent quarrels between Protestants and Irish Catholics. A set of 10 stamps duly recorded the tercentenary in 1932. As in most of the islands, sovereignty was disputed, and control switched backwards and forwards with the French until 1783, when the British established undisputed rights.

There has been a complete absence of stamps to mark the gradual growth of democracy in the island. Apart from the federation issue, only the change in status from presidency to crown colony has been noted when four values of the 1953 definitive series were re-issued with the legend " Badge of the Colony ".

St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla

Following Columbus's discovery in 1493, now recalled by the famous telescope stamps, there is a lull of 130 years before Sir Thomas Warner established on St. Christopher the first British colony in the islands of the West Indies. A long, expensive set, shunned by collectors—and now sought out by investors—was issued in 1923, to mark the tercentenary. A French settlement was founded in 1624, and both shared the island against the local Caribs. Nevis was settled in 1629, without any subsequent memorial, and finally Anguilla in 1650, with the tercentenary recorded by a six-value overprinted issue.

St. Christopher with Anguilla, and Nevis were two presidencies of the Leeward Islands until 1882, when they were combined to form one larger unit. When, in 1903, the constituent territories were allowed to issue their own stamps they appeared with the legend " St. Kitts-Nevis ".





For Anguilla: first, an overprint, then a full " credit " followed by " U.D.I.".

It was a belated recognition of the third island in the group after the tercentenary of Anguilla issue which led to the change in inscription " Saint Christopher, Nevis, Anguilla " in 1952. After the collapse of the federation, the islands looked towards a new solution and eventually, on February 27th, 1967, became an associated state and three values to mark the event appeared on July 1st, 1967.

Anguilla, which seems to have been overlooked on more than one occasion, was not happy with the new arrangements. Under the threat of force, the St. Kitts police withdrew and then, on July 11th, 1967, the electors voted for independence from St. Kitts. Although unofficial, the new status quo has been maintained, and although there are strenuous behind-the-scenes activities it would seem likely that Anguilla will continue to remain independent. On September 4th, 1967, with the overprinting of the current St. Kitts definitives, followed later by specially-prepared stamps, it has announced to the world through the propaganda of postage stamps, that it is a separate country.

British Virgin Islands

Another of the places discovered by Columbus in 1493, the islands were named after St. Ursula and her 11,000 virgins, and she forms the motif of the group's badge that has appeared on many of the stamps from S.G.1 onwards. As part of the Leewards, it formed a presidency but became a colony in 1956. This change in status is reflected in the 1952 24c., and the 1964 $2.80. The Legislative Assembly was surrendered in 1867, as in other territories, with the substitution of a Legislative Council. In turn, this was abolished in 1902, but was restored in 1950 with a measure of electoral responsibility, and four stamps were released to mark the advance. An extension to universal suffrage with a majority on the council in 1954, and the appointment of an Administrator in 1960 when it became a separate crown colony, were allowed to go unnoticed.

On December 10th, 1962, with the increasing dependency

(*Continued on page* 557)



U.S. currency surcharge on the old West Indian dollar currency issue.



The British Virgin Islands—haunt of American game-fishing enthusiasts.

British Caribbean (*continued from page 555*)

for trade with the nearby American Virgin Islands, the group switched currency away from the West Indian dollar to the U.S. dollar. There is still some uncertainty as to how to describe the area on postage stamps. Only the 1951 International Telecommunications Union and the recent Game Fishing issues have included the word "British", but more and more in official documents, the islands are clearly designated in full. A new constitution was commemorated on April 18th, 1967, when a ministerial system was introduced, although substantial reserve powers are retained by the Administrator.

Windward Islands

Barbados, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent with, later on, Dominica formed the Windward Islands crown colony. This colony differed from the Leeward Islands by never issuing its own stamps, and the individual federal states retained their own local forms of legislature. The group could be considered to be one of administrative convenience rather than a state working in harmony.

Barbados

The island of Barbados was annexed in 1605 with the tercentenary commemorated in 1906, one year late, but the aboriginal inhabitants, the Arawak Indians, had all left before the first British landing by Captain John Powell in 1625. The island has one of the oldest constitutions in the Commonwealth, with a Governor, Council and Assembly established in 1627, as the tercentenary stamp of 1927



Tercentenary of the Barbados House of Assembly.

recalls. The House of Assembly was finally constituted with 22 members in 1639 and this event, too, was recorded by a set of five Tercentenary stamps in 1939.

Further steps forward were for the most part unmarked. With the franchise confined to men of property, some attempt was made to control the power of the legislature, virtually the plantation owners, and so the Governor appointed an Executive Council in 1876. The Governor of Barbados governed all the Windward Islands until 1885, when Barbados received its own governor.

In more recent times the franchise was extended, becoming universal in 1951. Ministerial government was introduced in 1954, and by the end of 1957 Barbados was, in effect, self-governing for internal matters. It joined in the federation, but once this had broken up, and attempts to found a smaller Eastern Caribbean federation had come to nought, it became independent on November 30th, 1966. Two days later a set of four stamps announced to the world its new status, and a further set to mark one year of independence has so far been released.

Dominica

Dominica has undergone as many political changes as most former British colonies in the Caribbean, but in the main they have been ignored philatelically. In 1871 it was a state of the Leeward Islands, but transferred to the Windward Islands in 1940. A four-value overprint issue in 1951 marked the introduction of universal suffrage, with an elected majority in the legislature. With the decease of the Windward Islands colony in 1960, an Administrator replaced the Governor, and a ministerial form of government was established. On March 1st, 1967, Dominica became an associated state, but a belated series of overprints was not issued until the following year.

Grenada

Columbus, in his voyaging of 1498, named the area Conception Island, and a single 2½d. commemorated the 400th anniversary in 1898. The change of name to Grenada is lost in the mists of time, but it is generally accepted that the first Spanish settlers found the hills reminiscent of their native Granada. Following the usual pattern, French and British in turn took possession until at last, in 1796, the British had undisputed control. Part of the Windward Islands from 1833, there was a fully representative form of government until 1876, when the European element petitioned for government by the British Crown, and it formally became a Crown Colony on December 3rd, 1877. Elected members first took their place on the Legislative Council back in 1925, and then in 1951 universal adult suffrage and a majority-elected legislature followed the New Constitution which brought forth the four overprints.

Grenada participated in the federation, assumed ministerial government in 1960 when the Windward Islands ceased to exist, and then finally achieved associated statehood on March 3rd, 1967. First commemorated with a four-value silver overprint set, it later overprinted the complete range of definitives in black to mark the transition towards independence.



Modest celebration of the 1951 Constitution.

St. Lucia

It was not until the fourth voyage of Columbus in 1502 that he discovered the cloud-swathed Pitons, as shown on the single 2d. of 1902. Typical of the route followed by the Windward Islands, it gained an elected majority on the Legislative Council in 1951, with the usual four values overprint, then went into the federation and in 1960 assumed Ministerial Government. Then on March 3rd, 1967, it assumed the new status of an associated state, with a philatelically-speculative overprint issue, and also a specially designed 15c. that was the state's first airmail stamp.

St. Vincent

This is an island which has steadfastly ignored political changes when preparing postage stamps. It has followed the same patterns as the other Windward Islands, with the present looking forward to the grant of associated statehood in the near future, but it has only joined in the minibus issues of 1951 and 1958.

The other British Caribbean territories will be dealt with in a second article due for early publication.

MISCELLANEOUS

The British Caribbean

Political Status through Postage Stamps

By David Potter

(*Continued from page* 557, *October* 24*th*)

Trinidad and Tobago

Christopher Columbus sighted the island of Trinidad on May 30th, 1498, in the course of this third voyage. Four hundred years later a single 2d. stamp was a reminder of this day. Tobago, too, is alleged to have been sighted, but it is certain that he did not land there.

Following the shuttlecock pattern of the area, it was a pawn in the chess play of the Great European Powers, but eventually settled down as a British possession and, in due course, became a crown colony. Nearby Tobago was a separate crown colony, but once the rest of the area had been tidied up into groups of islands, pressure was brought to bear to make the island join in union with Trinidad. At first, the relationship was that of a confederation, but in 1897 a Royal Commission recommended complete amalgamation. Separate stamps disappeared in 1896, although not until 1913 did the joint title " Trinidad and Tobago " appear on the colony's stamps.

The area joined in the British West Indies federation, but with the withdrawal of Jamaica, Trinidad quickly followed suit. It became independent on August 31st, 1962, an event duly celebrated with a set of five stamps, and in 1967 reminded everyone that five years of independence had elapsed by issuing four overprints.

Jamaica

Columbus came upon Jamaica in 1494, and the island was soon occupied as a base but hardly settled. In 1655, the Spaniards capitulated to the British, and the tercentenary of the event was marked by the issue of four stamps in 1955. A constitution based on the British pattern was granted as early as 1662, but with the emancipation of the slaves, and the subsequent unrepresentative nature of the legislature, it became a Crown colony in 1866, with some form of representation in 1884. It was in 1944 that the New Constitution provided for universal adult suffrage, and a wholly-elected House of Representatives. Seven values, with four perforation varieties, appeared and, thanks to speculation in a stamp-hungry era, they are still available cheaply today.

In 1959, Jamaica lost its dependencies, Cayman Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands, for they decided not to join in the Federation. Not that Jamaica stayed in all that long, for in 1961 came the fatal referendum, when the islanders decided by 256,261 to 217,319 against continued membership. With the loss of the largest partner, and with Trinidad hard on its heels, the Federation was dissolved on May 31st, 1962, and Jamaica became independent on August 6th of the same year.

Four special stamps were issued to celebrate independence, and the remaining values of the definitive series received an overprint. During their life, they provided much philatelic interest with the different location of the overprint on the 8d. and then, in the closing days of their life, appearing on the Block CA watermarked paper.

Cayman Islands

Britain took over control of the Cayman Islands in 1670, receiving it from Spain, who had never bothered to establish a permanent settlement. The largest influx came from Jamaica in the 18th century, and very quickly the administration was established in local hands. Quaintly named " vestrymen ", they participated in government from 1832, although the Governor of Jamaica had to give his assent. The status, therefore, was that of a dependency, but nevertheless this early form of government was celebrated by the post office on its centenary in 1932, by a set ranging from ½d. to 10s.

From 1898 a Commissioner was appointed as administrator, and this continued until 1959, when the Caymans decided not to seek entry into the West Indies Federation. Since Jamaica had joined, the Caymans ceased to be a dependency but, nevertheless, the Governor of Jamaica became at the same time Governor of the islands. This change of status, and the new constitution, was marked by a couple of stamps. A far more significant step was, however, ignored philatelically when in 1962 Jamaica became independent. A new constitution was again needed and this provided amongst other things that the head of Government would be the locally-based Administrator.

Turks and Caicos Islands

Discovered by Juan Ponce de Leon in 1512, the first English occupation was by Bermudans in 1678. In 1766, Andrew Symmer went to reside there as " agent ", and by his presence on the spot reserved the right to the islands to the Crown. This is the bicentenary celebrated by a set entitled " Ties with Britain ", issued in 1966. In 1799, the Bahamas government took over jurisdiction of the islands, but the inhabitants petitioned for a separate charter. This they got, and the 100th anniversary was marked by seven values in 1948 and, in addition, indirectly by the dates on the 1900 issue when for the first time the stamps took on

(*Continued on page* 635)



Trinidad Independence.



Cayman Centenary.



Jamaica Independence.



Andrew Symmer claims the Turks & Caicos for Britain in 1766.

The British Caribbean (*continued from page* 633)

the full inscription " Turks and Caicos Islands ". Much as they valued their independence, it proved to be too expensive, and the inhabitants petitioned for abrogation and so became a dependency of Jamaica. In July 1959 the two stamps for the New Constitution provided a memento of the establishment of an Executive Council, who advised the administrator. He, in turn, acted for the Governor of Jamaica who was also the Governor of Turks and Caicos.

In 1961 the islands were negotiating entry into the B.W.I. Federation, but when Jamaica left it was clear that some other solution would have to be found. It was the clear wish of the people that they preferred to remain as a Crown Colony and so, on August 6th, 1962, yet another constitution was signed under which the Administrator assumed all gubernatorial powers. In November 1965 the wheel again turned almost full circle, when the Governor of the Bahamas became Governor of the islands in plurality and, at the moment, there are some attempts to form a union with the Bahamas.

Bahamas

Harold Gisburn, in his hand-book on Bahamas, wryly states: " . . . Following the accepted and economical principle of the Stuarts in rewarding loyal service with other people's property, the grant was made by Charles I in 1629, to Sir Robert Heath, Attorney General of England, of the islands of Veajus and Bahamas." There is no record of Sir Robert ever taking up the grant, or even setting foot on the islands, but this year is generally taken to mark the beginning of British-Bahamas history.





Left: The belated Bahamas Tercentenary. Above: The Eleutheran Tercentenary.

One century later, a colony was fully established and a representative assembly devised in 1728 met in 1729. The 1629 and 1729 dates were inscribed on the special stamps issued in 1929, or rather scheduled for then, although they were not, in fact, released until January 2nd, 1930.

Although 1629 is the recognised beginning, it was not until 1647 that the Company of Eleutheran Adventurers was formed with the intention of settling the whole group, and in particular the large island of Eleuthera. The permanent settlement was intended to be marked in 1947, but like the series of 18 years earlier, it was issued 12 months late. A long monochrome series to the £1 featured typical island scenes.

In May 1963 a new constitution was signed, arranging ministerial government, and came into effect on January 1st 1964. The definitive series was overprinted and remained on sale for six months. Indirect changes later on reflect the nearness of the group to the U.S.A. Decimal currency was introduced with the Bahamas dollar worth just a little less than the U.S. dollar.

Guyana

In South America, the coastline between the Amazon and Orinoco Rivers was traced by the Spaniards in 1499 and 1500, and then in the following centuries all the European maritime nations had their adventurers exploring this area. It was the Dutch who made the first effective settlements at Essequibo, Demerara and Berbice. These settlements shuttled backwards and forwards between them and the British, with some French intervention, until they were finally ceded to Britain in 1814, with the three former Dutch colonies becoming one single British colony in 1831. A set of five celebrated the centenary in 1931.

Successive constitutional reforms went unnoticed on stamps, but this was more than rectified as a result of independence on May 26th, 1966. Apart from the four specially-prepared Independence stamps, the then definitives were overprinted with the country's new name, GUYANA. It is here that the complexities begin, for the date of independence stands astride changes in watermark, and a further change in policy which resulted in sideways watermarks for some values. This later addition was a direct result of rationalisation of paper stocks before printing. Certain denominations, as a result, exist on three different types of paper: Script CA, Block CA and Block CA sideways. This was not the end of the story, for although a new permanent set was planned the overprinted supplies were running out, and there was the problem of bridging the gap.



The local Independence overprint of Guyana showing the rare " double ".

Rather than revert to the old stamps, which were held in Guyana, for that would have meant issuing stamps with the colonial name "British Guiana", they decided to overprint the stamps locally. Naturally, these were quite distinctive, and errors apart, some of these, too, appeared on more than one sort of watermarked paper.

Four more stamps appeared for their first anniversary of independence in 1967.

British Honduras

In 1638 a shipwrecked group of British seamen established the first recorded European settlement. It grew in size, for logwood cutting was an attraction, but it was plagued by attacks from similar Spanish settlements nearby. In 1763, under the Treaty of Paris, Spain conceded the rights of British settlers, but attacks continued and at last the dispute was brought to a head by the naval engagement of 1798 off St. George's Cay. This was the beginning of peace, and each year the anniversary of the British victory is a public

(*Continued on page* 637)



The British Honduras sesquicentennial stamps for the Battle of St. George's Cay.

The British Caribbean (*continued from page* 635)

holiday accompanied by patriotic celebrations. The 150th anniversary was marked, a little late, in 1949.

In 1959 the state of the Constitution was revised, following a conference in London and 18 elected members formed a majority on the Legislative Council. The majority party was also automatically in control of the Executive. An overprinted set of four was released.

On January 1st, 1964, the country attained full internal self-government, with a fully-elected House of Representatives chosen by universal adult suffrage. Although negotiations had been under way for the previous six months, two overprints were not released until February 3rd, and three further values had to wait until April 20th.

Bermuda

The Bermuda Islands, originally known as Somers' Isles, are not part of the British Caribbean proper although philatelically considered as such, but are included here to complete the picture. The nearest Caribbean territory is, in fact, the Turks and Caicos Islands, 750 miles to the south-east. Although the Spaniards are credited with the discovery of the Bermudas, it was the unhappy wrecking the *Sea Venture*, commanded by Sir George Somers, in 1609 which led to the first settlement on these hitherto uninhabited islands. In 1612, the Virginia Company's charter was extended to include the islands, and a party of permanent settlers arrived from England, but they sold the islands to the City of London. A new charter including authority to form a General Assembly was granted.

Although the charter was revoked in 1684, the inhabitants continued to enjoy considerable autonomy in handling local affairs. It was in 1920 that the representative tercentenary was commemorated, and included in the programme was a special set of stamps. The Governor, with the approval of the Executive Council, forwarded his design to London, and production commenced forthwith.



Left: The Bermudan "Governors" Issue. Right: The "Assembly" stamp design.

Meanwhile, unaware of the Governor's action, the Legislature independently decided that it wanted a special set of stamps. They asked him to submit a special stamp, but when he produced his essay as a *fait accompli*, they decided that the proposal did not reflect the symbolic state of the Legislature. So, they in turn went ahead with their own

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design, but they had left it a little late, so a compromise was reached. Two separate sets would be issued. The Governor's design was released in two stages on November 11th, 1920, and January 19th, 1921, and, in due time, the Assembly version came out on May 21st, 1921.

The chance wreckage of the *Sea Venture* was commemorated by a short set of six in 1959, and is one of the most striking designs in recent years with its full colour representation of the two Royal Coats of Arms.

Following the pattern of the islands considered so far, Bermuda was granted a new constitution, which was celebrated by a set of four stamps on July 1st, 1968. The islands are now virtually self-governing, with full participation by the islanders in their own affairs. THE END

LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS Jan. 25, 1971

Philatelic, Political View Of British Caribbean Area

By Reuben A. Ramkissoon, M.D.

Activities and study of the postal history and intrigue of the islands of the British Caribbean prompts us to take a philatelic view of their political history as well.

LEEWARD ISLANDS, 1871

The first measure of inter-island cooperation was attempted in 1871 when the Federated Crown Colony of the Leeward Islands was formed. It originally consisted of six dependencies: Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts with Anguilla, Nevis and the British Virgin Islands. Nine years later, in 1882, St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla were combined to form a single presidency, and Dominica was transformed to the Windward Islands Group on Jan. 1, 1940.

From the point of view of philatelic activity, there is little to say, since all of the member presidencies of the Federation discontinued their own separate issues on Oct. 31, 1890. During the long period that followed, only a single key type issue was used, covering the reigns of Queen Victoria all the way to the present monarch, Queen Elizabeth II.

In 1899 the British Virgin Islands was the first presidency to begin the reissuance of its own postal paper and, in 1903, all the remaining states followed her example. However, postage stamps of St. Christopher and Nevis never were issued. Interestingly enough, even after separate issues were began and maintained for the individual states, postage stamps of the Leeward Islands were continued concurrently. It was not until July 1, 1956 that such issues were terminated, as each constituent member became a separate colony.

WINDWARD ISLANDS

Barbados, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and later during 1940 Dominica comprised the Windward Islands Crown Colony. It differed from the Leeward Islands Crown Colony in that it never issued postage stamps of its own. The group really never did achieve the harmonious development or purpose one would expect from a political unit.

BRITISH WEST INDIES FEDERATION, 1958 - 1962

Despite these moves to form federated colony governments involving both the Leeward and Windward Islands, it was not until 1947 that at a conference held in Montego Bay, Jamaica, the idea of a West Indian Federation was accepted. The Inauguration of the Federation took place in 1958 after a series of some stormy conferences and meetings.

However, a noble attempt such as it was, the organization seemed doomed to failure, with the complexities of the problems it faced. These included not only ignorance and inter-island jealousies, but such other problems as finance, island politics, distance, and perhaps most of all, the delicate balance between the larger and smaller islands.

The economic significance of these differences seemed to magnify with the passage of time. In 1962, less than four years after the formation of the Federation, Jamaica held a referendum which indicated its people's choice of Independence. Trinidad quickly followed by also becoming independent on Aug. 31, 1962. Thus, with the two largest islands gone, and with these the major segment of the population and finance, the ill-fated Federation collapsed.

The remaining lesser islands were now left to seek new solutions to their problems of political survival. A common design of three stamps from each of the 10 constituent territories is all that is left to remind us of this ill-fated political venture.

ASSOCIATED STATEHOOD, 1967

With collapse of the Federation and the independence of Jamaica and Trinidad established, the fate of the smaller islands called for much consideration. With the emerging new nations over much of Africa and Asia who heretofore were controlled and dominated by colonizing powers, colonial status was clearly not the answer to the political future of the

(Continued on Page 36)

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Philatelic, Political View...

(Continued from Page 30)

islands. However, independence, as desirable as it may be, means responsibility to manage one's internal and external affairs; at least, one would expect complete control of internal affairs and strict financial responsibility.

So the idea of 'Associated States' was born, as a compromise between colonial status on the one extreme and complete independence on the other. The political status does not preclude the latter but, hopefully, sets the state on the road to full independence, at a pace it chooses as it becomes competent and able to cope with and accept the responsibility needed.

Under this status, the state controls both the legislative and executive bodies of the legislature by universal suffrage. The governor continues to be appointed by the sovereign who is head of the state. Thus, all external affairs are handled by Her Majesty's government and all internal or domestic affairs are controlled entirely by the state itself.

How is independence achieved under this compromise status? If a territory wishes to become independent, it must so move in both houses of its parliament. The governor being bound to the wishes of the people must order a national referendum. If the vote carries a two-thirds majority for independence, then independence follows automatically. But once achieved, a state may not undo the course of its history by seeking to revert to a former dependent status politically.

'Associated Statehood' have been achieved by Antigua, and St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, Feb. 27, 1967; Dominica, March 1, 1967; and Grenada, and St. Lucia, March 3, 1967.

The philatelic announcements of these major political changes have been shown special commemorative issues (Antigua, set of four, Scott nos. 186-189; St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, set of three, Scott Nos. 182-184); as well as overprintings of the existing definitives (Grenada, first a silver overprint of four values, Scott nos. 237-240 and, later, the entire set in black overprints, Scott nos. 246-260; and St. Lucia with a speculative overprint in two separate colors that created a great deal of philatelic stir, Scott nos. 215-225, and a special airmail stamp, Scott no. C1).

St. Vincent, it is hoped, will become an 'Associated State' in the near future.

INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES

When Jamaica and Trinidad became independent in 1962, philatelic recognition of the event was made by Jamaican commemorative (Scott nos. 181-184) and overprinting of existing definitives (Scott nos. 185-195; 208-216), and by Trinidad by the issuance of a set of five commemoratives (Scott nos. 105-109).

The collapse of the West Indies Federation which this began was followed by talk of an Eastern Caribbean Federation, but this did not materialize. Other islands began to seek independence with this background.

Barbados was one of the first to achieve this status on Nov. 30, 1966 and announced this fact to the world by the issue of a set of four stamps (Scott nos. 290-293). A year later, its first anniversary of independence was also marked by a set of four stamps (Scott nos. 298-301).

GUYANA

The only other fully independent nation is Guyana, achieving this status on May 26, 1966. There were four stamps prepared for Independence (Scott nos. 20-23), as well as overprinting the definitive issues of British Guiana (Scott. nos. 1-19).

The story at this point becomes extremely complex, since there occurred at this time changes in watermark due in part to rationalization of paper stocks before printing. This resulted in varieties of stamps on three different types

(Continued on Page 42)

Philatelic, Political View . . .

(Continued from Page 36)

of watermarks — Script CA, Block CA upright, and Block CA sideways.

But the tale is not complete, for as stocks of these overprints began to run low, it apparently became necessary to bridge the gap, and rather than get London overprints, or revert to the British Guiana definitives of colonial days, local overprints were made. The type face is quite distinctive for these issues and, besides the varieties one might expect for local printing, watermark varieties have also occurred, although not as numerous as those of the London overprints.

THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA, 1970

On Feb. 23, 1970 Guyana became a cooperative republic within the British Commonwealth of nations. It is the first cooperative republic in the world but, in many ways, her status within the Commonwealth is virtually the same as India. The Queen ceased to be the head of Guyana and gave way to the president who was elected by the National Assembly in secret ballot for a term of six years.

The presidency is not a political office and serves in the same manner as the former Governor-General who was appointed by the queen. His duties will be those of commander-in-chief of the armed forces and head of the state. The constitution provides that he must be Guyanese by birth and be at least 40 years of age.

Guyana has a new national hero. He is Coffy, who led a slave revolt in Berbice on Feb. 23, 1763 against Dutch. The Dutch were feared as the most cruel slave masters of the Caribbean during these times. It is from this date that the modern Republic of Guyana will take its birth, as emphasize by Prime Minister Forbes Burnham.

He is well aware that the country cannot stand still, threatened as it is by a claim from neighboring Venezuela in 1965, in an issue of stamps and an appropriate souvenier sheet (Scott nos. 886-888a).

The attainment of republic status was appropriately marked by the issue of a commemorative set of four stamps. As of July, 1970 the current definitives have not been overprinted although this should be anticipated in the light of the 1966 overprints.

A republic on the South American continent will mean a fuller degree of acceptance as a nation, both constitutionally and diplomatically. But more important than these, it must mean a sense of national unity in a country of six races.

And what seems certain, and now perhaps inevitable, the change to a republican constitution — on the Indian pattern — will be followed by the other West Indian neighboring countries, such as Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica.

INDEPENDENT ANGUILLA

Following the achievement of 'Associated Statehood' by St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla in 1967, Anguilla was not happy with the new political arrangement and the government it gave them. So under the threat of force, the local magistrate and the St. Kitts police withdrew from the island. On July 11, 1967 the electors voted for independence from St. Kitts.

Existing stocks of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla definitives were overprinted for local use and released Sept. 4, 1967. The central government did not

(Continued on Page 45)

Philatelic, Political View . . .

(Continued from Page 42)

recognize this independence of Anguilla, as shown by the continued issuance of postal paper and cancellations bearing the name 'State of St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla.'

On March 19, 1969 an occupation force of British paratroops, Marines and Scotland Yard officials stormed ashore Anguilla thus ending her independence. Anguilla's postal system has continued normally with its standard postal markings. The British forces, in their occupation of the island, established Field Post Office 1046 and use ordinary postage stamps of Great Britain.

SELF-GOVERNING AREAS

The British Virgin Islands achieved self-government in 1967, and this was marked by a new Constitution issue on April 18, 1967 (Scott nos. 179-182). The islands have a ministerial government. A similar situation obtained for the Bahamas was philatelically expressed in definitive overprints of Jan. 1, 1964 (Scott nos. 185-200). Other changes have occurred, the most important being the adoption of decimal currency, with the Bahamian dollar about on par with the United States dollar.

British Honduras obtained full internal self-government on Jan. 1, 1964, which was shown by five definitive value overprints (Scott nos. 182-186) appearing in two installments during the first half of 1964. It expects to achieve full independence soon.

Bermuda has become a self-governing area which is shown by a set of four stamps (Scott nos. 218-221) issued on July 1, 1968. It has a liberal constitution which allows for complete participation of its people in the affairs of government.

OTHER ISLAND GROUPS

When Jamaica became independent in 1962, the Cayman Islands ceased to be a dependency of Jamaica. A new constitution granted at that time provided that the head of the government would be a locally based administrator.

The Turks and Caicos Islands, at the same time, chose to remain as a crown Colony on Aug. 2, 1962. However, in November 1965 an attempt to unite with the Bahamas occurred. The governor of the Bahama's is now also the governor of the Turks and Caicos.

On Nov. 10, 1968 Barbuda, now a part of the Associated State of Antigua, issued its first definitive stamps. This is a sad development and may be related to the rumors we have heard of Barbuda seceding from the central government. Having already issued several sets of stamps before the achievement of separate political status, it is likely that philatelically, at least, the separation will not be too traumatic.

CARIFTA, 1968

The most promising political development in the history of the British Caribbean, especially since the collapse of the Federation, has been the birth of the Caribbean Free Trade Association — CARIFTA.

It came into being on May 1, 1968 among Commonwealth Caribbean countries and originally comprised four member nations: Antigua, Barbados, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago Two months later, on July 1, 1968 the Association was joined by Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. Jamaica and Montserrat were subsequently admitted into membership.

These countries have common historical ties, with similar problems. They work and play together, witness the omnibus 'Cricket' commemoratives issued by Jamaica, St. Lucia, Guyana, Barbados and Grenada.

It was natural and probably inevitable that these countries should evolve some sort of economic regional cooperation, to overcome the problems that were repeating themselves which led, in part, to the downfall of the Federation. The agreement contains provision for the admission of new members.

While the establishment of a free trade area is a desirable achievement in the setting of neighboring under-developed countries, it is a difficult goal to achieve. However, it is clear that CARIFTA has sucessfully negotiated the early, pitfalls on the path to progress, and the member countries can look forward to a prosperous future.

This significant development has been commemorated by several of the member nations by issuing special stamps on CARIFTA's first anniversary: Antigua, Barbados, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Montserrat.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, June 8, 1951

Stamp Dealing in the West Indies

LANDING in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, in 1939 without a single stamp, Mr. Reynold Goetz of the West India Stamp Company now proudly proclaims that he is one of the few full time dealers in the British West Indies. But Mr. Goetz has one big grouse. He says that British wholesalers when writing for supplies, expect him to fill orders for the whole of the West Indies and that all too often they do not realise the amount of work entailed for a modest profit of 7½ per cent.



Some of the Staff of the West India Stamp Company

"Practically every English collector seems to think of the West Indies as one big country like France or Holland," says Mr. Goetz. "Whereas the islands are hundreds of miles apart and obtaining stamps from them is far from easy. There are no reliable contacts in some of the islands and in any case the mail between the islands is very irregular."

Mr. Goetz says that some English dealers expect him to work on the margin of 5 per cent. and then cites his handling of the Trinidad University College set. It took him two days to stick 20,000 sets of the stamps on to envelopes. These were taken to the Post Office and cancelled. The stamps were then floated off and took a day to dry. After that the stamps were bundled up and despatched.

In addition, Mr. Goetz sent off 1,000 first day covers (2,000 stamps) and after supplying paper, envelopes, paying his staff and greasing sundry palms, the profit on each pair of stamps was less than ½d.

On the occasion of the U.P.U. issue, Mr. Goetz was left carrying the baby when the Post Office spoiled $30 worth of the stamps. Some 8,000 of them were cancelled 1959 in error and the Post Office people, refusing to return them to him, placed a red ink mark through the lot of them. The stamps were replaced but the Post Office took four days to stick them on and cancel them by which time Mr. Goetz's customers were up in arms at the delay.

Mr. Goetz who has won five International medals with his collection of Hamburg cancellations, started selling stamps in Hamburg in 1929. He was the first dealer in Germany to handle meter marks. He did not see eye to eye with the Nazis and in 1939 left Hamburg in a hurry leaving all his stock-in-trade and his collections behind him. The whole lot eventually went up in smoke when the Allies bombed Hamburg.

Landing at Trinidad with nothing but his philatelic knowledge Mr. Goetz discovered that the native people collected stamps in a small way but some always cut off the perforations! He set about putting them on the right track by forming the Trinidad Philatelic Society in 1942. The membership now runs to over 200, over 90 of whom are in Trinidad and Mr. Goetz is Vice-President. If you are interested, the address of the society is Box 596 Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

Five Assistants

Mr. Goetz now has five native assistants all of whom have now an extensive knowledge of stamps although they have no inclination to collect. Mr. Goetz, who is now on a visit to England has left his business in charge of his capable assistants.

"Employing coloured people helps trade," says Mr. Goetz. "The considerable number of tourists finds it adds local colour to be served with stamps by local people. And the tourists are often amazed by the amount of philatelic knowledge my assistants have."

Incidentally, the inhabitants of Tobago really were annoyed when the name of their island was not coupled with that of Trinidad on the University stamps. There was even talk of boycotting the stamps in Tobago. When the stamps first arrived, the Postmaster showed them to Mr. Goetz and asked him what he thought of the colours. "I'm not interested in the colours," said Mr. Goetz. "Where is Tobago? The Crown Agents or the designer, or somebody, seems to have created a new country."

(Not strictly B.W.I.)!

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE -

Feb. 3 1967 Bhutan in the B[illegible] numismatic market [illegible]

Bhutan in the Bahamas!

By "JANUS"

THE Kingdom of Bhutan is situated to the North of India. It has been described in the *National Geographical Magazine* as "the world's last Shangri-La." This is partly true to the extent that the territory was virtually banned to outsiders until 1960, and to this day maintains foreign relations only and exclusively with India. Bhutan is the second-largest kingdom of the trio dubbed "Himalaysia" (the other two being Nepal and Sikkim), and by reason of its geographical situation it assumed no importance until the Chinese take-over of Tibet (Bhutan's northern neighbour) posed a strategic threat to India's northern border.

With an estimated present population of 850,000, Bhutan's history has been chequered. The population is deeply divided on a tribal basis. The Himalayan mountains separate one tribe from another so that first loyalty is to the local headman, with the state coming a very poor second.

The history of Bhutan is known largely from old manuscripts in Tibetan monasteries, which reveal that the tribe originally settling the country were the Bhutia Tephoo, originally from the Indian state of Cooch Behar. In the middle of the 17th century a travelling Lhama, Sheptoon La-Pha, became king of Bhutan with the title of Dharma-Raja or spiritual ruler. His successors appointed temporal rulers, Deb-Rajas, a system which existed until the death of the last Dharma Raja about 1933. Since there was no satisfactory successor to recognise the re-incarnation, the office became extinct, and the country was ruled by the strongest of the temporal chiefs, a number of whom actually fought their way into office. The country was split into feudal fiefs, but the headman of Tongsa, the most powerful local ruler, became hereditary king in 1907. The present king Jigme Dorji Wangchuk (translated as "Fearless Mighty One") is third in this line, and is now instigating much necessary reform and modernisation. It may not be without interest to note that he freed 5,000 slaves—and that, since 1953!—and has set up schools which teach in Hindi. Bhutanese must go to India for higher education.

The northern frontier with Tibet has been effectively closed since 1960, when the Bhutan trade representative was recalled from Lhasa. The most salient reason (politics quite apart) was that the Chinese occupation authorities withdrew the Chinese silver dollar currency which was the principal exchange medium for the Bhutanese rice so much esteemed in Tibet. The paper yuan was considered worthless in Bhutan, and the trade of the country—orientated for centuries towards the north—had perforce to continue exclusively with its southern neighbour. A road to India (resisted since time immemorial) was now put in hand, and it may not be without significance that in the same year the first United States representatives and journalists were allowed to visit Bhutan.

Bhutan's emergence into the Western world, then, dates back a mere six years. There is in hand an economic development plan which envisages power plant, a paper and woodpulp industry and communications improvements. In 1961 it was still six days mule trek across precipitate mountain ridges to reach Paro from the nearest Indian outposts. A road built by Indian engineers (passable for jeeps) had shortened this to one day in 1962. 800 miles of road are now being constructed. There are also helicopter landing strips, although no commercial aircraft of conventional type can land at present.

With this general background we can judge the nature of Bhutan's history and economic development. It is significant that within two years of the events referred to above, Bhutan's communications advisers had concluded an agreement concerning postage stamps. It is still more significant that all Bhutan stamps are supplied to the trade via a merchandising organisation in the Bahamas, long known as a tax-haven for British and U.S.A. companies. It has not been denied that the principal negotiator is a wealthy American property specialist and engineer—admittedly closely acquainted with Bhutanese personalities — but the whole question of stamp issues must be seen fairly and squarely against the categorical statement in "The Himalayan Kingdoms" by Pradyumna P. Karan and William M. Jenkins, Jnr. (D. van Nostrand Co. Inc., Princeton, N.J., 1963) that "Bhutan's population is entirely rural. The kingdom has no towns, no banks, no shops worthy of the name . . . electric light, drainage, and similar modern innovations are unknown. Illiteracy in Bhutan is universal; most of the population can neither read nor write."



Bhutan's famous Simtokha Monastery makes an ideal subject for a beautifully orthodox design. The above stamp is one of two values issued last year. (Printed in India).

With the opening of schools and the spread of Indian influence, however, a small literate class is taking shape, and the ancient monastery forts (dzongs) are now being augmented by settlements to form the first Bhutanese towns.

The country uses Indian currency, with the exception of two token coins, but the barter system remains widespread. The necessary banking operations are carried out by the Reserve Bank of India, which allocates any foreign exchange reserves required. The ruler has a personal import licence of 500,000 rupees, the government's national licence is unlimited. However, only 300,000 rupees all-told have been taken up. There are few things on which Bhutan can spend foreign exchange until roads have been built and power supplies organised.

So much for the background. Now let us have a look at the stamp issues

(*Continued on page 103*)





Unorthodoxy carried to its limits. These designs feature what is claimed to be the Yeti, or Abominable Snow Man. The two stamps form part of a set of eight values issued last October, all equally frightening!

Bhutan in the Bahamas

(*Continued from page 88*)

which have been placed on the world market through the Bahamas company. They started in 1962, and were initially printed in London by Harrisons, arrangements being made through a prominent philatelic wholesale house. Preceding them was a set of four values with the thunderbolt emblem of Bhutan, denominated in Indian rupees, and used largely for fiscal purposes.

The first issue marked the commencement of the postal service, and showed relevant views of the country. It was followed by stamps for the then current International Refugee Year—Bhutan had indeed had its share of refugees from Tibet. Through India, the country is a member of the Colombo plan, so that the succeeding stamps have also a deal of justification. " Freedom from Hunger " was a further cause which warranted a stamp issue.

The hand of the philatelic adviser is, however, much more clearly shown in the series marking the Innsbruck Olympic Winter Games, 1964. It is quite safe to assert that no Bhutanese took part in them, nor in the Tokyo Olympics of the same year. Yet stamps were not lacking! The intervening Dancers issue is a folklore issue with strong topical overtones, and of course perfectly unexceptionable. With the flags stamps (without any manner of inscription) Bhutan recalled the death of Kennedy. Their suitability for such purposes was emphasised by a subsequent overprint honouring Sir Winston Churchill on his demise. As for the New York World Fair series, these are evidently and obviously aimed at the topical market of that year.

In mid-1966 Bhutan announced a coins issue, three values of which were withdrawn before issue. A number of the denominations recalled gold coins marking the jubilee of the king's late father. Since these coins were marketed through well-known London coin merchants, and since it is evident that there are no gold coins in free circulation anywhere in the world, it can be seen that Bhutan also decided to enter the commemorative coin market by drawing on the rich profits inherent in the difference between bullion value (plus minting costs) and the selling price, based largely on what the market can bear.

The only country in the world which could theoretically afford to have gold coins in circulation is Switzerland. Since the Swiss prudently refrain from paying their bills with precious metal, it goes without saying that a backward and impoverished state like Bhutan issues gold coins for only one reason—the profits to be derived from the numismatic market. It is this precise motivation which enabled American interests to acquire the Bhutanese stamp issue rights and to release " postal " paper totalling many thousands if not millions of rupees face value.

Collectors can work out for themselves quite easily how much postal usage Bhutan's stamps see, or what kind of stamps are needed for the modest needs of the country. Indeed it is significant that two stamps showing the Simtokha Dzong monastery, printed in India, were released locally in June and reported to (and supplied by) the Agency some four or five months later. In short, Bhutan is ideally suited for an agency operation. It is small, remote, picturesque; not likely to ask too many awkward questions, nor wishing to interfere in details of releases and marketing, provided satisfactory remittances are forthcoming at regular intervals.

To prove my point: try obtaining a few commercially used.

MISCELLANEOUS

STAMP COLLECTING. Feb 22, 1973

THE WORLD SCENE

By OTTO HORNUNG

THE " Black Blot " list issued every month by the Watchdog Committee of the American Philatelic Society always makes interesting reading, but the latest list which came to my knowledge is probably of greater interest to a wider circle of collectors than the usual array of dollar-hungry and not too reputable countries. This list contains an unusually high number of popular Commonwealth countries. Here are the details:

Ajman: A " package " containing eight values and a souvenir sheet featuring Popes, issued for Christmas 1972. *Ajman* (*Manama*): A " package " for Christmas including a souvenir sheet.

Bahamas: Christmas souvenir sheet repeating the four values of the normal set.

Dominica: Souvenir sheet repeating two values of the Christmas set of four. Olympic issue of four stamps plus souvenir sheet repeating the two high values.

Fujeira: Perf. and imperf. set of sculptures, price over £5. Also a " gold " stamp for Apollo flight and a five-stamp set of perf. and imperf. pictures of birds, plus miniature sheets.

Ghana: Two-stamp souvenir sheet added to the set of five Boy Scout stamps.

Grenada: Souvenir sheet of high values for Munich Olympics.

Maldive Islands: Set of six stamps and souvenir sheet repeating two high values for Olympics.

Ras al-Khaima: Two Olympic " packages ", one showing athletes and the other Olympic medals. The cost, including souvenir sheets, is over £8. Also black-listed is a silver stamp and perf. and imperf. souvenir sheet for Boy Scouts costing about £6.

Sharjah: Olympic " package " containing 10 varieties, perf. and imperf., plus souvenir sheets. Also a similar package for the Winter Games at Sapporo.

Togo: Souvenir sheet tied to set of five Olympic Games stamps.

Trinidad & Tobago: Christmas souvenir sheet repeating the set of three.

The Crown Agents deserve a pat on the back. Not one of the above countries is handled by them. It is a shame that countries, some of which are so popular, are resorting to this kind of practice. Let us only hope that collectors will not be tempted to spend money on the above items. That is the only way to stop such unnecessary issues.

Where is Mevu?

A new bogus " country " has made its appearance and collectors are being invited to buy its " stamp " issues. The new country calls itself the Republic of Mevu and is said to lie in the Antarctic. Last year a New Zealand-based organisation circulated a philatelic bulletin said to be issued by the Ministry of Trade, Communications and Foreign Relations, P.O.B. 23, Mevu Town, Mevu, Antarctica.

The bulletin lists a number of Mevu issues including a set commemorating " the approval by President Lemmuth Babi and the Legislature of a new Constitution ", a set of two stamps and a miniature sheet for the Munich Olympic Games, surcharged definitives " to meet currency revaluation ", and so on.

The bulletin also gave details of stamps issued by Waikoa Island, a protectorate of Mevu. These included a definitive set and a Lenin Centenary issue.

These bogus issues are being marketed from addresses in New Zealand, Australia and Norway. The printing is fairly crude and resembles to a certain extent the bogus issues for Queen Maud Land. According to a report in *Linn's Stamp News*, the police in Australia and New Zealand are investigating this case for possible violation of fraud laws.

Incidentally, do not try to write to the Mevu address. The *Australian Stamp Monthly* did so but they are still waiting for a reply. . . .

Diena Medal

The Federation of Italian Philatelists has introduced a new high honour for stamp collectors. In memory of the well known philatelist and the first President of the Federation, Mario Diena, the Diena Medal will be awarded from 1973 onwards every three years to a philatelist who has won the highest number of points in international and national stamp exhibitions approved by the Federation.

The Federation has prepared a detailed point system for diffierent types of medals won in exhibitions. The following exhibitions will count towards the first Diena Medal which will be awarded later this year: PRAGA '68, SOFIA '69, PHILYMPIA '70, BUDAPEST '71, BELGICA '72, VERSO MEXICO '68, VERSO MONACO '72 and the national exhibitions TRIESTE '68, TORINO '69, ROMA '70 and UDINE '72.

A Fine Instead of Prison

Until recently stamps were treated in France in a similar manner as, for instance, bank notes. The re-use of postage stamps, that had been used previously on mail, could be punished by prison sentences right up to life imprisonment. Modern thinking considered these penalties too severe and the French National Assembly has replaced prison sentences for the above crime by a simple fine from 60 to 400 francs (about £5–£33) depending on the gravity of the offence.

Hand-stamp Flood

The hand-stamp flood is engulfing German philately. The number of special cancellations used for every possible (and the least justifiable) occasion in West Germany has reached fantastic proportions. From the beginning of 1972 to mid-June of last year, a total of 702 special hand-stamps were authorized by the Federal Post Office and were put to use.

So far, nobody has given a final figure for last year. If you start multiplying this number by years you will reach staggering figures. Where is all this going to end? Who can keep pace, or wants to, with this meaningless " postal history? "

Silver Anniversary for Pierre Seguy

The Saar Radio Network in West Germany can boast of a unique philatelic achievement. In December 1947 Pierre Seguy, who was at the time in charge of the radio station, broadcast his first " Philatelic News ". He has since kept up this service every Tuesday for 25 years.

In December 1972 the Saar radio station celebrated an important jubilee—Pierre Seguy broadcast the 1,250th edition of his " Philatelic News ". Apart from his professional duties, Pierre Seguy is, of course, familiar in philatelic circles for his untiring endeavours on the F.I.P. Press Commission.

STAMP COLLECTING May 3, 1973

MISCELLANEOUS: CROWN AGENTS

THE CROWN AGENTS AND PHILATELY

THE Crown Agents for Oversea Governments and Administrations, to give the organisation its full title, has existed under one name or another since 1833. Whilst probably most widely known to the general public through its association with the production and distribution of postage stamps, this function is only a small part of its overall work.

Set up originally to replace the system whereby individual British Dependencies had their own London Agent, the Crown Agents has grown from an organisation representing 13 countries to one working for 80 Governments, and over 200 public authorities and international bodies. Most of these Governments are now independent Sovereign States and in providing services such as the buying, shipping and insuring of stores and the investment of funds, the Crown Agents act only in the interest of its principal or client.

The Crown Agents' Office is not a Department of the United Kingdom Government, and its business activities range far and wide beyond the United Kingdom; its staff are not United Kingdom Civil Servants, although in practice their salaries and conditions of service are based on those of the British public service. The office is, however, as its title implies, a public service. It is entirely dependent on its earnings and its charges are fixed at a level to cover administrative costs and to maintain an adequate working balance and a reserve for contingencies.

The Crown Agents' association with postage stamps began in 1848 when a contract was placed with Perkins Bacon to print the "Britannia" series for Mauritius. As the Mauritius authorities chose to use a locally-produced stamp for a further six years this was not a very auspicious beginning particularly as some values of the "Britannia" series were never released at all and ended up being overprinted as souvenirs at the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1890.

By the 1860's however the Crown Agents were negotiating contracts for the design and printing of postage stamps for many British colonies, and the 1880's saw the introduction of the first of the long line of "CA" watermarks.

The marketing side of the Crown Agents' involvement with postage stamps dates only from 1906 when, due to the upsurge of interest in "British Colonials", it was decided to distribute stamps direct to dealers and thus eliminate the lengthy process which previously obliged them to obtain supplies direct from the Postal Authority concerned. In 1944 the Crown Agents' Stamp Bureau was formed to provide a quicker and more efficient service to dealers. Wartime restriction meant this service could only be made available to dealers in the United Kingdom, but by 1950 it was extended to cover the Americas, and in 1960 became a worldwide service. At the present time there are, on the Crown Agents' "books", some 500 dealers from all over the world who purchase from the Bureau stamps of 58 countries, from Antigua to Zambia, represented by the Crown Agents. This number will increase to 59 on July 4th, 1973, when the Crown Agents commence selling Isle of Man stamps.

The Crown Agents do not decide what issues are produced by any country and are only instrumental in carrying out the policies of the individual Postal Administrations. They do, however, conduct a great deal of research which enables them to suggest suitable subjects for stamp issues for the consideration of their principals.

When a subject is being decided upon, many Postal Authorities are content to leave matters in the hands of the Crown Agents who begin the life of a postal issue by commissioning a freelance artist who will be required to submit designs for approval, both by the Crown Agents and the Postal Authority. Royal approval is obtained whenever the design includes an approved Royal portrait, or the Royal Cipher. Tenders are subsequently called for from a wide range of approved security printers, all of whom have been carefully vetted to ensure adequate security in their works for the protection of government property which is, after all, just as valuable as currency.

The selected printer will be supplied with watermarked paper, either Crown Agents' or specially ordered for those administrations which have their own watermark. Every scrap of watermark paper issued to security printers must be accounted for either with stamps or waste paper, and Crown Agents' control staff are present during printing to ensure the paper is thus accounted for.

Apart from printing and distribution to the trade, the Crown Agents' third function is publicity on a worldwide scale for the stamps issued by their Principals. The Crown Agents up until December 1971 published their own stamp magazine *The Stamp Bulletin* containing information on current and future issues and also supplying information to stamp magazines and columnists. On the demise of the *Bulletin* the opportunity was taken of a close association, which had been growing over the years, with Stanley Gibbons Ltd. to publish a "Crown Agents' Gazette" in Gibbons' *Stamp Monthly*. It is intended that the Gazette shall be a regular feature of the *Stamp Monthly*.

Finally, hardly a major exhibition takes place in the world without Crown Agents' taking part. During 1973 the Bureau will be participating in Exhibitions as far apart as London, Brighton, Munich and Jerusalem.

MISCELLANEOUS. W.I. POSTMASTERS.

B.C.P.J. Jan. 1967

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Ralph Group, while in England this year, obtained from the Commission Books of the P. O. Department The Names and Dates of Entry of many of the early postmasters of the various West Indies Colonies. This list should be helpful to many of our members who are interested in the Postal History of the W. I.

ANTIGUA:

Falkingham, Henry 10/9/1760
Macdonough, Peter 3/ 5/1780
Macdonough,William 22/10/1783.
McConnell, John (Dec) 30/5/1787
McConnell, Henry 9/7/1814
(Son of John)
Athill, John 4/5/1826

BAHAMAS:

Barons,Benjamin 5/1/1765
Delancey,Peter 25/8/1766
Roupel, George 6/11/1771
Delevaux,Peter (Dec) 1805
Delavaux,Mrs Ann (Res) 29/9/1826
(Widow of Peter)
Malcolm, John 28/2/1832

BARBADOES:

Falkingham,Henry 10/9/1760
Errington, George 5/7/1782
Keeling, Joseph 5/4/1787
Errington,Mrs. George (ca) 1795 (Dec.)
Willoughby,Cholmeley 26/6/1795
Moore, E. H. (Rem) ca 1808
Mackey,Dr. Arthur (Dec) 11/8/1808
Pairman,James 25/3/1812

BARBADOES PACKET:

Robinson, Capt. James 1/7/1795

BERBICE:

Scott, William 25/6/1816

BERMUDA:

Taylor, James 31/7/1818

DEMERARA:

Ogle, James 7/4/1800

Williams, Theophilus 15/2/1804
Harper, Benjamin 15/11/1820
Fraser, William 29/9/1826
Dalton,Edward Henry 1/2/1830

DOMINICA:

Shaw, Abraham: 4/5/1762
Middleton, Alexander 2/1/1765
Rustat, William 17/5/1770
Gordon, John 2/4/1773
Grove,Henry (Dec) 19/3/1783
Wells, Richard 7/5/1788
Gordon, John 5/7/1794
Court, Charles 20/10/1800
Constable, John Chas. 12/1805.
Constable,Daniel 29/9/1817
(Brother of Charles)
Dawbiney,Thomas 10/4/1824

GRENADA:

Shaw, Abraham 4/5/1762
Middleton,Alexander 2/1/1765
Rustat, William 17/5/1770
Brewmen,John (Res) 12/3/1783
Strachan,Simpson 10/10/1795
Chalmers, George 4/9/1810
Slinger, Robert 1816
Kennedy, Evan 29/9/1826

JAMAICA:

Dismore, Edward 13/2/1760
Dashwood, Francis (Dec) 5/11/1781
Wilson, Glocester (Res) 24/9/1795
Smith, John 23/7/1799
Barbauld, Benjamin (Dec) 30/9/1805
Marsh,John Melbourne 13/3/1809
Anstey,William Jekyl (Res) 4/2/1824
Lennox,Lord Sussex 20/3/1834

JAMAICA PACKET: (Pensacola-Charlestown)

MacDonagh,Capt. Terrence 27/7/1770
Steels,Capt. Samuel 30/10/1780

MONTSERRAT:

Falkingham,Henry 10/9/1760
Symons, Richard 7/4/1781
Furlonge, William, Jr. (Del) 6/2/1802
Burke, George 5/7/1802
Shiell, Queely 30/7/1808
Semper, Michael Joseph 2/4/1821

NEVIS:

Falkingham, Henry 10/9/1760
McGill,Robert 10/10/1789
Stanley, Mr. (Res) ca 1828
Stanley, Joseph 27/5/1828
(Son of Mr...)

SAINT CROIX

Brandon, John 20/3/1813

SAINT KITTS:

Falkingham. Henry 10/9/1760
Strode, Wadham 5/5/1779
Nicholson,William 5/10/1794
Armstrong,William 4/5/1797
Smith, John 10/10/1809
Berridge, James 17/5/1822

SAINT LUCIA:

Shaw, Abraham 4/5/1762
Barron, Joseph 2/5/1781
Addison,Mrs. Catherine (Rem) 5/1/1810
Goodsir,Thomas 4/5/1816
Gordon, Robert 3/6/1818

SAINT THOMAS:

Robinson, Clarke 19/3/1813

SAINT VINCENTS:

Shaw, Abraham.	4/5/1762
Middleton, Alexander. .	2/1/1765
Rustat, William	17/5/1770
Macdowall,Daniel	3/6/1778
Forster, Nassaw Wm.	1/2/1830

TORTOLA:

Peach, Henry	18/1/1786
Macnamara, Michael	31/7/1789
Lawson, Wilson (Rem)	1/11/1800
French, Mark Dyer	9/11/1804

TRINIDAD

Galway, Mr... (Dec)	ca 1816
Galway, Mrs. Elizabeth R (Widow of Galway,Mr...)	4/5/1816
Middleton, Alexander	2/1/1765
Rustat,William	17/5/1770
Kirkup, George	29/9/1772
Francklyn, Peter	27/9/1775
Francklyn,Chas. Alfrdd	1/11/1793
Francklyn, Henry	16/9/1803
Buchanon, John	25/6/1816
Francklyn,Chas. Alfred	1/11/1826
McKellar, Duncan	9/1/1829

(Dec) Deceased
(Rem) Removed
(Res) Resigned
(Del) Declined office.

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VARIETIES, KGVI & Q.E.

VARIETIES FROM YOU

BY PHILIP HALWARD

STAMP MAGAZINE May 1970



Flaw on Orb

SM. May 1970



White spot near river



Flaw on O of POSTAGE



Inverted watermark



Missing 't'

The **St Lucia** CARIFTA commemoratives are still easy to find, which gives one an opportunity to track down this little flaw on the 35c. A copy in the possession of Mr K. Leah of Burton-on-Trent, Staffs, has an almost completely missing bottom horizontal of the E of FREE. Our keen reader reports that it occurs on the top right-hand corner of the sheet . . . he has really made life easier for us! Now he appeals for information, so turn up your specimens of the **Jamaica** 6d ILO and examine the tablet enclosing JAMAICA: if you have an example with a rectangular dip in the frame line beneath the base of the left-hand side of the final A of JAMAICA, it will confirm the find of Mr Leah. Send me your news if you can help in any way.

Mr W. Mottram of Romiley, Cheshire, recently purchased a vertical pair of the **Christmas Island** 1958 12c with broken L. The variety appears on the upper stamp. He requested the dealer to supply the sheet position of the interesting flaw and received the following reply ' . . . I am not too sure of the position as I purchased a number of pairs each containing the variety but, as there is no top or bottom margin to any of the pairs, it would appear that the two top and two bottom rows can be ruled out. It seems also quite reasonable to assume that the third row down and the third row up can also be counted out, or there would almost certainly have been some strips of three in my purchase. Remembering that the sheet consists of 10 rows (each of 10 stamps) this leaves rows 4 to 7 in which the variety appears. I have noticed that on each pair which has the variety on the upper stamp, the perforation between the two stamps shows certain signs of having been folded and this appears to indicate a folding at the middle of the sheet, i.e. between rows 5 and 6. This would seem strongly to indicate stamp 1 row 5.'

Now you know! I reckon that many philatelists can beat Sherlock Holmes to the magnifying glass any time, but . . . is our dealer friend's conclusion correct?

An exciting error from Mr M. W. Muscott of Godalming, Surrey. The decimal surcharge on **Grenada** with 't' omitted.

From Mr R. G. Nihell of Bromley, Surrey, three good flaws.

G.B. SG8 showing diagonal cut top right of 'o' in 'postage' (not in SG Specialised Vol. 1—Q. Vic.).

G.B. 1937 Coronation 15 centimes showing flaws on orb where the 'pearl' flaw occurs, (not in Vol. 2).

Gibraltar 6d, SG166, showing white spot on opposite side of river from that shown by Gibbons as V8.

Here is another interesting variety from Mr M. W. Muscott: the **Fiji** 1969 25c University Commemorative with error inverted watermark. It has been seen by the SG Catalogue Editor and will be numbered as 416Ei. Apart from the 1962 5/- definitive it would appear to be the only recorded QEII inverted watermark error for this popular country and is therefore likely to be of special interest.

I am aware of the existence of just one complete sheet and one part sheet, so it will certainly be worthwhile looking to see if any others can be traced.

CROWN COLONIES' 1935 JUBILEE ISSUE

K. PALMER & L. LUCAS

PART II

IN a previous article *(25th September 1980)* the authors described the principal marks of the Waterlow Vignette Plates and included a check list of these plates, as used by Waterlows in printing certain values, in the hope that readers would help to fill the gaps. This article deals in similar manner with the vignette plates of the other two printers, who assisted with this issue.

Principal Marks of the Bradbury Wilkinson Vignette Plates

Like Waterlows, Bradbury Wilkinson did not include plate numbers in their sheets. However, in 1936, Douglas Armstrong identified six different vignette plates and his classification is still in use today. The authors have kept to this system, though they believe that two further plates can be distinguished, which they have numbered 7 and 8. The principal marks on the plates are:—

Stamp Number	Description of Marks	Plate Number
14 (Row 3/2)	Short vertical line between turrets at left (c and d)	1
31 (Row 6/1)	Two dots in the sky at top left over the name of the colony (sometimes obscured by the frame)	
49 (Row 9/1)	The 'Extra Flagstaff'—a vertical line rising from a gap in the buildings between the Round Tower (e) and the Turret right (f), up to the height of the real flagstaff	
56 (Row 10/2)	Long vertical hairline extending from the Turret right of Round Tower (f)	
Second Vertical Row	Two vertical hairlines extending virtually the length of this row to the left of the Round Tower (e)	
7 (Row 2/1)	The 'Short Extra Flagstaff'—a short vertical line just to the left of the actual flagstaff	2
48 (Row 8/6)	Long vertical hairline between Round Tower (e) and Turret left (d)	
11 (Row 2/5)	The 'Lightning Conductor'—a short vertical line extending from the right gable of St. George's Chapel to left of pinnacle (i)	3
50 (Row 9/2)	Two long vertical hairlines, one each side of Conical Turret (j)	
21 (Row 4/3)	Short horizontal line in the sky at top left	4
56 (Row 10/2)	Short vertical line extending from turret left of Round Tower (d)	
60 (Row 10/6)	Long vertical hairline extending from left gable of Chapel just to the right of pinnacle (h)	
37 (Row 7/1)	The 'Turret Flagstaff'—a vertical line extending from the left gable of the Conical Turret (j)	5
2 (Row 1/2)	Re-entry to the flag and flagstaff on Round Tower (e)	
26 (Row 5/2)	The 'Double Flagstaff'—a long vertical hairline immediately to left of actual flagstaff	6
49 (Row 9/1)	Short vertical line bisecting a shading line in the sky, resulting in a tiny cross between right hand pinnacle of Chapel (i) and Conical Turret (j)	7
50 (Row 9/2)	Short vertical line mid-way between turrets at left (c and d).	8

Check List of Bradbury Wilkinson Vignette Plates

Most plates exhibit further marks mainly of a minor nature. The authors would be particularly interested to hear of further values depicting the marks assigned to Plates 7 and 8.

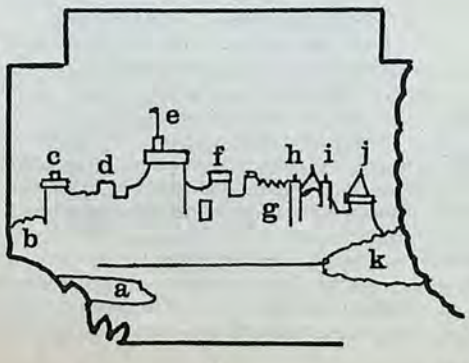
On some sheets from later Plate 1 printings the Extra Flagstaff was erased. Instead of making a correction to the plate, a sharp instrument was used to scratch the mark off the sheets before they were released. As a result, remnants of the mark are still to be seen in the sky and it remains untouched between the buildings. The 'Erased Flagstaff' is known only on the 6d and 1/- values of Gambia and ½d, 6d and 1/- values of Malta.

Plate 1 printings of the 5c value of Hong Kong are also of special interest. Some sheets of this stamp have all the relevant marks of Plate 1, but others are missing the Extra Flagstaff and the mark on Stamp 31. Thus the question arises as to whether some sheets were printed before the two marks emerged on Plate 1, or whether they were printed from a properly corrected Plate 1. Since only one printing of the Hong Kong 5c is recorded, the former explanation seems the more likely. Nevertheless, if it were true, other such examples from Plate 1 would be expected and the late Eric Bloch, who specialised in these matters, was of the opinion that the Hong Kong 5c was the only one. Any information supporting one suggestion or the other would be welcome.

Principal Marks of the De La Rue Vignette Plates

De La Rue were the only printers to incorporate plate numbers in their sheets. They appear below the bottom row of stamps—the frame plate numbers under the second stamp and the vignette plate number under the fifth stamp of the row. Thus it would be possible to be quite specific in producing a check list, except for the fact that these numbers were quite often trimmed off in the cutting of the sheets. In such cases identification of the marks found in the plates can be of assistance. Four vignette plates were used numbered 2A, 2B, 4, and 4 with a line (the line appearing under the sixth stamp). By examining the position of these numbers and noting that figure 2 is of a different style to figure 4, it can be shown that 2A and 2B were paired for printing and, likewise 4 and 4 with a line. The principal marks were as follows:—

Stamp Number	Description of Marks	Plate Number
56 (Row 10/2)	Short horizontal projection from battlement of Turret extreme left (b)	2A
45 (Row 8/3)	Dot between Turret right of Round Tower (f) and end of St. George's Chapel (g)	2B
46 (Row 8/4)	Dot to left of the Flag on the Round Tower (e)	4
18 (Row 3/6)	Dash beside Turret extreme left (b)	4 with a line
30 (Row 5/6)	Dot over end of St. George's Chapel (g).	



As a means of locating the various marks, which will be described in this article, a diagram indicating the outline of the vignette is shown; the principal features have been lettered and will be designated as follows:—

a. Spit of land
b. Trees at left
c. Turret extreme left
d. Turret left of Round Tower
e. Round Tower and Flagstaff
f. Turret right of Round Tower
g. St. George's Chapel
h. Left hand pinnacle of Chapel
i. Right hand pinnacle of Chapel
j. Conical Turret
k. Trees at right.

STAMP COLLECTING, Jan. 3, 1964

Q. E. FLAWS & VARIETIES

Forum of Elizabethan Varieties

Conducted by "QUEENSMAN"

The Colonial Red Cross Issue

I am grateful to Mr. C. Musson, of Porthcawl, Glamorgan, for much of the material listed below. Considering the quantities of stamps involved, the varieties to be found are, in general, rather disappointing. Furthermore, of those included below, some may only be constant over a relatively short range, and sheets may probably be found showing little or no sign of the mentioned flaws. The high total face-value of sets *in sheets* has made checking flaws for constancy over wide ranges difficult. As a result the varieties listed below may not be constant over the entire printing, but they definitely exist on more than one sheet.

Sheets of 12×5

Common Plate 1A.

3/5	Th.B12	A red spur in the 6 of 1863 (II).
4/5	Th.C12	A red line joins the top and the loop of the 6 of 1963 (II).
10/5	Th.C5/6.	A curved red line on the top of the left arm of the cross (II).

Common Plate 1.

1/2	Th.A8.	A horizontal red line under the C of CENTENARY (II).

The above flaws vary from colony to colony. On some, these flaws are very noticeable, whereas on others they are practically non-existent.

Ascension.

3d. *Plates* 1/1		Nothing of interest.
1s.6d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
5/4	Th.H12	A small circular flaw at the foot of the second N of ASCENSION (II).
10/1	Th.H6/7.	A short white line between the E and N of ASCENSION (II).

Bahamas.

1d. *Plates* 1/1.		
Row 11.	Th.B4.	On each stamp of this row there is a black triangular flaw at the front of the Queen's tiara (I).
10d. *Plates* 1/1.		
6/2.	Th.C4.	A group of blue dots to the right of the Queen's left eye (II).

Bermuda.

3d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		Nothing of interest.
1s.3d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
6/5	Th.A9.	The left stroke of the first N of CENTENARY is malformed (II).

British Solomon Islands.

2d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
1/3.	Th. B3.	A white flaw in the centre of the Queen's hair (II)
3/2	Th.G2.	Irregular black marks in the R of BRITISH (II).
11/3.	Th.A10.	A flaw in the first N of CENTENARY (II).

Cayman Islands.

1d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
3/3.	Th.H8.	A small bulge in the tail of the first S of ISLANDS (this also occurs on 3/4 and 3/5) (II).
3/4.	Th.E11.	A red scratch over the I of the value (II).
3/5	Th.C13/14.	A red scratch to the right of the 3 of 1963 (II).
1s.9d. *Plates* 1/1.		
1/1	Th.D1.	A V-shaped flaw by the first NA of INTERNATIONAL (II).
2/2.	Th.E4.	A diagonal blue scratch by the Queen's chin (II).

Falkland Islands.

1d. *Plates* 1/1.		
1/2.	Th.H13.	A spur to the last S of ISLANDS (II).
Row 8.	Th.B3.	On each stamp a black flaw covers part of the third jewel from the right of the tiara (II).
1s. *Plates* 1/1.		
6/3.	Th.G3.	A white spot after the first L of FALKLAND (II).
7/5.	Th.A1.	A white spot in the A of INTERNATIONAL (II).

Gambia.

2d. *Plates* 1A/1A. **1s.3d.** *Plates* 1/1. } Nothing of interest.

Gibraltar.

1d. *Plates* 1A/1A. **9d.** *Plates* 1/1. } Nothing of interest.

Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

2d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
10/3.	Th.G7.	Apostrophe after the second L of ELLICE (II).
10d. *Plates* 1/1.		Nothing of interest.

Jamaica.

2d. *Plates* 1/1.		
7/1.	Th.A/B12.	A black flaw over the 6 of 1863 (II).
8/3.	Th.A12.	A black flaw after the A of CENTENARY (II).
1s.6d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
12/1.	Th.D1.	The second N of INTERNATIONAL is damaged (I)

Malta.

2d. *Plates* 1/1. **1s.6d.** *Plates* 1A/1A. } Nothing of interest.

St. Helena.

3d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
3/5.	Th.A12/13.	A diagonal scratch through the AR of CENTENARY (II).
5/3.	Th.D3.	A retouch on the Queen's cheek (I).
9/4.	Th.C4.	A red flaw on the Queen's forehead (II).
10/1.	Th.H11.	A disturbance between the N and A of HELENA (II).
1s.6d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
1/1.	Th.A9.	A blue line joins the first E and N of CENTENARY (II).
4/3.	Th.C4.	A blue line, like an inverted S, on the Queen's forehead (II).
9/4.	Th.C4.	As for the 3d. value (II).

Tonga.

2d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		Nothing of interest.
11d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
4/4.	Th.H3.	A large red spot to the left of TONGA (II).

Turks and Caicos.

2d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
3/5.	Th.D13/14.	A red scratch to the right of the 3 of 1963 (II).
8d. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
4/2.	Th.G1.	A disturbance between the T and U of TURKS (II).
5/4.	Th.H5/6.	A white flaw on the C of CAICOS (I).
10/4.	Th.A1.	A blue flaw to the left of the R of RED (II).

Sheets 10×5

Common Plates 1/1 *and* 1A/1A. Nothing of interest.

Antigua.

3 cents. *Plates* 1/1.		
2/2.	Th.C1.	A scratch by the second I of INTERNATIONAL (II).
4/1.	Th.A10.	An " accent " over the T of CENTENARY (II).
4/5.	Th.F1.	A diagonal line at the base of the first T of INTERNATIONAL (II).
12 cents. *Plates* 1/1.		
4/2.	Th.G8.	A disturbance at the bottom of the cross (II).
4/3.	Th.F13.	A blue spot in the S of CENTS (II).
5/2.	Th.A9.	A disturbance in the top of the first E of CENTENARY (II).
8/4.	Th.B1.	A large spur on the last N of INTERNATIONAL (I).

Basutoland.

2½ cents. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
2/5.	Th.H13.	A flaw at the right of the name tablet (II).
12½ cents. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
2/5.	Th.A5.	A small nick out of the R of CROSS (II).

Bechuanaland.

2½ cents. *Plates* 1/1.		Nothing of interest.
12½ cents. *Plates* 1/1.		
4/4.	Th.E13.	A spur to the 1 of ½ (II).
6/1.	Th.B11.	A blue spot over the 1 of 1863 (II).
8/2.	Th.A5.	A faint blue circle under the C of CROSS (II).

British Guiana.

5 cents. *Plates* 1/1.		
2/1.	Th.E9.	A diagonal black line in the right arm of the cross (II).
6/2.	Th.E12.	The 5 of the value is weak (I).
10/5.	Th.C1.	A red spot between the I and O of INTERNATIONAL (II).
20 cents. *Plates* 1/1.		
7/1.	Th.A1.	The serif of the second A of INTERNATIONAL is faulty (II).

British Honduras.

4 cents. *Plates* 1/1. Nothing of interest.

22 cents. *Plates* 1A/1A.		
1/3.	Th.A8.	A blue flaw over the C of CENTENARY (II).

Dominica.

5 cents. *Plates* 1A/1A **15 cents.** *Plates* 1/1 } Nothing of interest.

(*Continued ~~on page 662~~ under*)

STAMP COLLECTING, Jan. 3, 1964

Q. E. FLAWS & VARIETIES

Elizabethan Varieties (*continued ~~from page 661~~*)

Grenada.
3 cents. *Plates* 1/1. Nothing of interest.
25 cents. *Plates* 1/1.
7/1. Th.E1. A break in the R of INTERNATIONAL (II).
7/3. Th.E1. A blue flaw between the T and E of INTERNATIONAL (II).
7/4. Th.E1. A flaw similar to 7/3 (II).

Hong Kong.
10 cents. *Plates* 1/1. Nothing of interest.
$1.30. *Plates* 1/1.
3/4. Th. H1. A blue circle in the bottom left Chinese character (II).

Mauritius.
10 cents. *Plates* 1/1.
Row 5. The letters of the word MAURITIUS on all stamps of this row are blurred (II).
60 cents. *Plates* 1A/1A.
2/5. Th.A8. A blue flaw in the C of CENTENARY (II).
7/1. Th.A12/13. A blue flaw below the R of CENTENARY (II).

Montserrat.
4 cents. *Plates* 1A/1A.
1/4. Th.H13. A diagonal white line at the right of the name tablet (II).
12 cents. *Plate* 1A/1A.
2/1. Th.G2. A blue spot in the M of MONTSERRAT (II).

New Hebrides Condominium
15 gold centimes. *Plates* 1A/1A
45 gold centimes. *Plates* 1A/1A. } Nothing of interest.

St. Christopher, Nevis, Anguilla.
3 cents. *Plates* 1/1
12 cents. *Plates* 1/1 } Nothing of interest.

St. Lucia.
4 cents. *Plates* 1/1.
4/2. Th.H5. A disturbance in the T of ST. (II).
25 cents. *Plates* 1/1. Nothing of interest.

St. Vincent.
4 cents. *Plates* 1/1
8 cents. *Plates* 1A/1A. } Nothing of interest.

Seychelles.
10 cents. *Plates* 1/1. Nothing of interest.
75 cents. *Plates* 1A/1A.
4/4. Th.H12. An irregular blue line in the S of SEYCHELLES (II).
10/1. Th.H8. A small hyphen between the E and L of SEYCHELLES (II).

Swaziland.
2½ cents. *Plates* 1A/1A. Nothing of interest.
15 cents. *Plates* 1A/1A.
8/2. Th.E2. A small flaw to the right of the R of INTERNATIONAL (II).

Virgin Islands.
2 cents. *Plates* 1A/1A
25 cents. *Plates* 1A/1A } Nothing of interest.

Q.E. FLAWS & VARIETIES

Q.E.II. FLAWS & VARIETIES

Antigua Stamp Coll'g June 25, 1965

The **Provisional 15 cents on 12 cents** has so far yielded the following surcharge flaws :—

Row 1, No. 1. Notch in top right bar.
Row 8, No. 5. Top left bar slightly curved and closer to next bar.

BAHAMAS.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II FLAWS AND VARIETIES

P.Mag. 27-7-62.

By

ELIZABETHAN

BAHAMAS. Centenary of Nassau. (Imprint in right hand margin.)

8d.

Row 1	No. 3	Line of colour across porch.
Row 2	No. 1	Dot over "M" of Bahamas
Row 4	No. 2	Dot below right hand clock face.
Row 4	No. 4	White flaw to left of right hand porch.
Row 4	No. 5	Coloured flaw below Queen's chin.
Row 5	No. 2	Break in frame lines below "H" of Bahamas.
Row 5	No. 4	Dot left of top of tower.

10d.

Row 1	No. 4	Two diagonal lines of colour to left of Queen's portrait.
Row 2	No. 3	White flaw retouching (?) between library balcony and palm tree.
Row 5	No. 4	As for Row 2 No. 3 but to right of palm tree at right of library.

Bahamas Stamp Collecting, Mar. 16, 1962.

There is little for me to say about the **Centenary of Nassau** issue, for though quite a few flaws turned up there is only one of real note. This is on the 8d. value, row 5, no. 2, at Th. J14, where there is a break in both frame lines below H of BAHAMAS. No plate number. Joh. Enschedé imprint down right-hand margin.

8d.

1/3.	Th.H4 to Th.F6.	Line of colour across porch (III).
2/1.	Th.I4.	Strong dot over M of BAHAMAS (III).
4/2.	Th.E5.	Strong dot below right-hand clock face (III).
4/4.	Th.I5.	White flaw to left of right-hand porch (III).
4/5.	Th.F14.	Colour flaw below Queen's chin (III).
5/2.	Th.J11.	Break in frame lines below H of BAHAMAS (I).
5/4.	Th.D4.	Dot to left of top of tower (III).

10d.

1/4.	Th.C12–13.	Two diagonal lines of colour to left of Queen's portrait (III).
2/3.	Th.E5.	White flaw, possibly the result of a retouch, between balcony of library and palm tree (III).
5/4.	Th.F3.	Similar to row 2, no. 3, but to right of palm tree at right of library (III).

P.Mag. Apr. 2, 1965

BAHAMAS

8d

1.

Overprint. Row 4 No. 1 and Row 9 No. 1. A spur from the top of the "d" in 8d. Positional pair.

1964 Olympic Games.

V1. 8d. on 1/– blue and brown 15/– 12/6

Q.E. FLAWS & VARIETIES.

STAMP COLLECTING, Jan-7, 1966

Q.E.II Commonwealth Flaws and Varieties

By TAURUS



AS hinted earlier, the **International Co-operation Year** omnibus issues of the Commonwealth provide a fine opportunity for the variety hunter to get to work. In all, 31 territories took part and, of them, 28 issued designs in common for the two values. The remaining three (Brunei, New Hebrides Condominium and South Arabian Federation (Aden)) were similar but without the portrait of the Queen.

The entire issue of 62 stamps was printed by Harrisons in sheets of 50 (10 down × 5 across) for decimal currencies or sheets of 60 (12 down × 5 across) for sterling currencies.

A number of interesting plate flaws follow a pattern such as those on Row 6, No. 4 (decimal currency) and similarly on Row 8, No. 4, for sterling currency. Against this, a number of "constant" flaws only appear on part of the printing, as four plates appear to have been used. Thus, the Mauritius V for Y flaw (Row 7, No. 1) stated in STAMP COLLECTING recently as having been found on 225 sheets only, is in fact constant for the plate type used, although this particular flaw has been recorded so far on only nine values of the 62 issued and is always found on stamps from the decimal sheets of 50.

A lot of study has gone into the findings shown below, and upwards of 25 per cent of the whole printing was scrutinised by a number of philatelists. The help given by O. J. Urch, of Messrs. Urch, Harris, by P. Bullivant, of Shelley Stamps, H. Buck, of Bath, C. Musson, C. Drummond and others is gladly acknowledged. A distinction should be made between the "hickey" (bubble) flaws of this type of printing which look good over a run and then disappear, and those flaws which remain constant for a part of the printing or are, in fact, plate flaws. This distinction is important, for although many group or one-country specialists would collect the former, the major catalogues are not able to list them, being outside their normal range. (Both the S.G. "Elizabethan" and the Commonwealth Q.E.II Catalogue have flirted with this difficulty in at least one different instance each!) Those flaws which are large enough for inclusion, but which fall into the non-constant category, are marked with an asterisk in the listing which follows. Certain constant plate flaws (such as that on Row 3, No. 4, or Row 5, No. 4) which are small have been excluded. Special items not listed in a general classification include (*a*) **Hong Kong** 10 cents INVERTED watermark, (*b*) **Bahamas** ½d.—three sheets recorded with the first vertical row having background colour (green) smudging over the normal white lettering to a considerable extent (partially on vertical Row 2), normal for rest of units, (*c*) **Antigua** 15c.—a blurred effect and emerald shade of green (one sheet), (*d*) **British Solomon Is.** 2s.6d.—ghosting of letters in final vertical rows (one sheet to left and one sheet to right). These are representative of the generally poor printing.

Numerous shades due to depth of colour do exist, but are likely to occur in such a large diverse printing, although late supplies of the **Gilberts** ½d. are very pale and could be a reprint.

GENERAL LISTING BY COUNTRY

(See also *group* flaws shown separately)

Antigua

4c. Row 2, No. 1. Broken chain at right with chain above filled in at foot.
Row 4, No. 1*. [illegible] white spot left of left-hand scroll.

15c. Row 3, No. 5. White-faced Queen—no shading, and weak features.
Row 5, No. 3. Damage to second N of CENTS.

Ascension

6d. Row 4, No. 2*. Flaw behind final N.

Bahamas

½d. Row 4, No. 3*. White bubble under first A in BAHAMAS, also flaw beneath medallion.

1s. Row 4, No. 2. Two vertical green lines on arm at left.

Bermuda

2s.6d. Row 5, No. 4. Battered cross on crown at top of diadem. (This stamp also shows an example of the small coloured Plate flaw on scroll to right which occurs throughout this issue.)
Rows 9, 10 and 11, No. 5; also Row 11, No. 3. Malformed cross on crown at top.

Basutoland

12½c. Row 2, No. 5*. Perfect circular "hickey" between words INTERNATIONAL and CO-OPERATION.
Row 8, No. 5. Outline of hand broken (not from sheets with next following flaw). See also Br. Honduras 22c.
Rows 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, No. 5. Broken letters in INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION YEAR, also with mere trace of hyphen on some units.
Row 9, No. 5. Broken third N in INTERNATIONAL (not sheets as above).
Row 10, No. 5. White flaw below N in BASUTOLAND (not sheets as above).

Bechuanaland

12½c. Row 10, No. 2*. Second letter A in BECHUANALAND has bulge (from some sheets containing scroll plate flaw only).

British Guiana

5c. Row 4, No. 1*. Large bubble on scroll at left at top.
Row 6, No. 2. Accent over "9" in "1965".

25c. Row 4, No. 3. Spur to top leaf of scroll at right.
Row 10, No. 5. Cross of crown mis-shapen.

British Honduras

22c. Row 10, No. 3. Break in outline of left hand. (See BASUTOLAND 12½c.)

British Solomon Islands

1d. Row 4, No. 2*. Bubble over right scroll.

British Virgin Islands

1c. Row 3, No. 5. Coloured flaw on clasped left hand.

25c. Row 4, No. 4. Break in fingers of clasped hand.
Row ?, No. 5*. Large blemish beside "5" in "1965".

Brunei

4c. Row 1, No. 2. Shortened leg to first N of INTERNATIONAL (See 15c. also).
Row 3, No. 1. Plate scratch right of bottom scroll.
Row 3, No. 5. Coloured mark on hand (Plate A1A11 only).
Row 5, No. 2. Flaw on foot of T in CENTS (Plate A1A11 only).

15c. Row 1, No. 2. Shortened leg to first N of INTERNATIONAL (see 4c. also).
Row 7, No. 4. Flaw to A in CO-OPERATION.
Row 8, No. 4. Foot of E broken, leaving F clearly shown.

Dominica

15c. Row 4, No. 4*. Bubble under N of DOMINICA.
Row 5, No. 4*. Bubble under medallion.
Row 8, No. 4. Green flaw joining outline of thumb.

Falkland Islands

1d. Row 2, No. 1*. Flaw behind second S in ISLANDS.
Row 2, No. 5. Small coloured flaw on left wrist of clasped hands.

1s. Row 1, No. 5*. Large white blemish to right of "1965".
Row 11, No. 3. Spot between T and I of CO-OPERATION.

Fiji

2d. Row 3, No. 5. Clear coloured diagonal flaw in Crown.

Gilbert and Ellice Islands

3s.7d. Row 9, No. 5*. Very large "Hickey" or circular bubble exactly between "3", upright and "7" of value, nearly size of "7".

Grenada

25c. Row 3, No. 2. Hyphen between CO and OPERATION has two strokes.

(*Continued ~~on page 689~~ under*)

1/2

STAMP COLLECTING, Jan. 7, 1966

Q.E. FLAWS & VARIETIES

Q.E.II Commonwealth Flaws (*continued ~~from page 687~~*)

Hong Kong

10c. (two plates recorded, A1 and A11.) Row 7, No. 1*. " Hickey " over N of HONG.

1s.30c. Row 10, No. 4. Scratch beneath medallion.
Row 10, No. 5. Dash to right of scroll.
Row 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, No. 5. (Different sheets from those with flaws above.) Major flaw—no hyphen between co and OPERATION, plus several badly printed or malformed letters. (Trace of hyphen on Row 6, No. 5.)

New Hebrides

5c. Row 8, No. 1. Major flaw—large C in CONDOMINIUM closed to form letter O.

Pitcairn Islands

1d. Row 1, No. 3. Large break in P (limited part of printing).
Row 3, No. 5. No shading on neck of Queen, also weak features.

1s.6d. Row 9, No. 1*. White flaw left of " 1965 ".

Row 12, No. 1*. Hickey flaw at top, left of scroll (different sheet).

St. Helena

1d. Row 11, No. 3. (Limited part of printing.) Large coloured accent in bold type over H in HELENA.
Row 12, No. 2. (Only from sheets with 01/3 flaw.) Large A of HELENA only partially printed.

St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla

2c. Row 3, No. 5*. " Hickey " above " year " in background.

25c. Row –, No. 1. Accent over T in CENTS.
Row –, No. 2. " Hickey " over final A.
Row 8, No. 5. Flaw on first A of ANGUILLA.

St. Lucia

1c. Row 1, No. 2*. White flaw at foot.
Row 1, No. 5*. " Hickey " in top right panel.
Row 3, No. 2*. White flaw under S.
Row 3, No. 3. Clear flaw on the outline of right arm.
Row 3, No. 5*. White flaw, top right of scroll.

Seychelles

40c. Row 10, No. 4*. Flaw under first E of SEYCHELLES.

Swaziland

15c. Row 10, No. 3. Prominent flaws beneath word SWAZILAND.

Tristan da Cunha

1d. Row 5, No. 4. Small coloured flaw at extreme left on left arm. (Plate flaw on scroll at right is present.)

Turks and Caicos Islands

1d. Row 11, No. 1. Large " Hickey " above left hand and clear break in right hand near to thumb (this may be constant and not connected with " Hickey ").

GROUP FLAWS

Note.—There are FOUR different types of sheet marking (a study having been made by E. J. Thomas, of California), this research at least proving that the flaws are constant throughout for the sheet types used. These are noted against the group concerned.

Type I.—Left side of a square with half top and half bottom.

Type II.—As Type I with extended top and bottom.

Type III.—As Type I with break in left side.

Type IV.—As Type I with small four-sided square within.

(a) *Row 5, No. 4.* Bite out of scroll at right and line to medallion's edge behind head of the Queen. (Sheet Type No. 4, as for the scarce Row 7, No. 1 group below.) Recorded on ANTIGUA 15c., B. VIRGIN ISLANDS 25c., BR. GUIANA 5c., GRENADA 25c., MAURITIUS 60c., ST. CHRISTOPHER 25c., ST. LUCIA 25c., SWAZILAND 15c.

(b) *Row 7, No. 1.* Major flaw Y for Y in YEAR. (Sheet Type No. 4 again, but GRENADA 25c. listed above does *not* show the broken-off letter.) Recorded on ANTIGUA 15c., B. VIRGIN ISLANDS 25c., BR. GUIANA 5c., MAURITIUS 60c., ST. CHRISTOPHER 25c., ST. LUCIA 25c., SWAZILAND 15c., plus BASUTOLAND ½c. and BECHUANALAND 12½c.

(c) *Row 10, No 2.* Major break in scroll at bottom right. (Sheet type different from (a) and (b) above, but occurs on some sheets showing (g) below.) Recorded on ANTIGUA 15c., BECHUANALAND 12½c. (see Country listing for different flaw in addition from some sheets only), BR. GUIANA 5c., MONTSERRAT 2c. and 12c., MAURITIUS 60c., B. VIRGIN ISLANDS 25c., ST. LUCIA 25c., GRENADA 25c., ST. CHRISTOPHER 25c., SWAZILAND 15c.

(d) *Row 10, No. 3.* (Decimal currencies only.) Extra leaf to right scroll and mark left of chain. (Sheet Type No. 2.) Recorded on BASUTOLAND 12½c., BR. GUIANA 25c., BR. HONDURAS 22c., B. VIRGIN ISLANDS 1c. (U.S.), DOMINICA 1c. and 15c., GRENADA 1c., HONG KONG 10c. and $1.30c., MONTSERRAT 2c., MAURITIUS 10c., ST. LUCIA 1p. and 25c., ST. CHRISTOPHER 2c. and 25c., SWAZILAND ½c.

(e) *Row 10, No. 4* (decimal currencies; *Row 12, No. 4* (sterling currency.) Coloured flaw left side of Queen's face and spur right of scroll (either or both) (Sheet Type 1). Recorded on ANTIGUA 4c. (both), BAHAMAS 1s. (face only), GIBRALTAR ½d. (face only), HONG KONG (Plate A1) 10c. (face only), MAURITIUS 10c. plus BR. HONDURAS 1c. and SEYCHELLES 5c. (spur only).

(f) *Row 11, No. 3* (sterling currencies). A coloured flaw on clasped hands, sometimes quite large, others small and only seen on low values so far. (Sheet Type No. 3.) Recorded on ASCENSION 1d., BAHAMAS ½d., BERMUDA 4d., FALKLAND ISLANDS 1d., FIJI 2d., GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS ½d., PITCAIRN ISLANDS 1d., ST. HELENA 1d., TRISTAN 1d.—nine out of 56.

(g) *Row 6, No. 4* (decimal currencies); *Row 8, No. 4* (sterling currency). Constant plate flaw on left scroll, both values and apparently only from the 28 common-design territories (excludes BRUNEI, S. ARABIA (Aden) and NEW HEBRIDES). Of the 56 values no less than 45 have been seen, covering all 28 territories (using sheets Type No. 3) as follows:—ANTIGUA 4c. and 15c., ASCENSION 1d. and 6d., BAHAMAS ½d. only, BERMUDA 4d. and 2s.6d., BASUTOLAND ½c. and 12½c., BECHUANALAND 1c. and 12½c., BR. GUIANA 5c. and 25c., BR. HONDURAS 1c. and 22c., BR. SOLOMON ISLANDS 2s.6d. only, B. VIRGIN ISLANDS 1c. only, CAYMAN ISLANDS 1d. and 1s., DOMINICA 1c. only, FALKLAND ISLANDS 1d. only, FIJI 2s.6d. only, GIBRALTAR ½d. only, GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS ½d. only, GRENADA 25c. only, HONG KONG 10c. and $1.30c., MAURITIUS 60c. only; MONTSERRAT 2c. and 12c., PITCAIRN ISLANDS 1d. and 1s.6d., ST. HELENA 1d. and 6d., ST. CHRISTOPHER 2c. and 25c., ST. LUCIA 1c. and 25c., SEYCHELLES 40c. only, SWAZILAND ½c. and 15c., TRISTAN 1d. and 6d., TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS 1d. and 8d.

Note.—A number of additions to this listing may well be known to readers and any additional findings will be welcome and may be included in a subsequent article, but the writer regrets that he cannot enter into any correspondence on this subject.

STAMP COLLECTING, Jan. 8, 1966

Q.E.II COMMONWEALTH FLAWS and VARIETIES

By TAURUS

A look at the **Jamaica Parliamentary Conference** issue produces a number of scratches and retouches (*Plates 1A 1A* seen), of which Row 1, No. 1, on the 6d. value is interesting. The shading on the wall varies across the sheet and there is a scratch across the low wall in front of the building on this unit. A red line crosses through " 10th Commonwealth " on Row 6, No. 4, of this value, and there is also a blob on the " H " of " Headquarters " with a line to margin, on Row 6, No. 1. Only minor items are recorded for the 3d. and 1s.6d. values, although the square on the 3d. value is blank or lacks shading on some units.

An excellent batch of clear flaws are reported on the **Bermuda Olympic Games** issue (3d. value from two plates). The better items are as follows: from *Plate A2 B2 C2*: Row, 1, No. 5, large protrusion from neck; Row 2, No. 2, left nostril not printed (major variety); Row 6, No. 6, retouch on sail; Row 7, No. 4, blemish above second strut on sail; Row 8, No. 3, " Squiggle " flaw on sail (*clear*); Row 8, No. 4, flag hanging from sail at top; Row 10, No. 4, diagonal bar to left from K of KB on sail; Row 10, No. 5, break in R of BERMUDA. From *Plate A1 B1 C1*, two items of similar merit are recorded: Row 1, No. 2, KR for KB on sail, and Row 4, No. 3, Ke for KB on sail. From a close observation of the build-up of variety findings on this issue it would seem possible to decide the position of all units in this issue from the many printing flaws!

Q.E. FLAWS & VARIETIES.

STAMP COLLECTING, April 29, 1966.

Q.E.II Flaws and Varieties

By TAURUS



SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL OMNIBUS ISSUE

What would seem at first glance to be a straightforward issue from a variety point of view is, in fact, complicated by the two different sheet sizes (10×5 for decimal currencies and 12×5 for sterling currencies) and the differing plates used for different values (invariably not alike for four values of any territory—although, no doubt, these exist in many cases). A check list follows of those which I have seen applied to the Plate flaws.

Decimal sheets are Plate 1A1A1A1A or 1B1B1B1B, but Sterling sheets are plate 1A1A1A1A, 1A2A1A1A, 1B1B1B1B or 1B2B1B1B, with multipositive flaws on 2A and 2B sheets. Help with the Plate flaws has come from Messrs. Drummond, Musson, Urch (of Urch, Harris and Co. Ltd.), and Bullivant of Shelley Stamps.

PLATE FLAWS—General

(a) Decimal currencies. (Flaws on Queen's head *not* applicable to *Brunei*, *Federation of S. Arabia* or *New Hebrides*)

1. *Plates* 1A1A1A1A

Row 1. No. 4. Flaws in background beneath "LL" of CHURCHILL.
Row 5. No. 4. Circular flaw in colour of background immediately beneath St. Pauls.
Row 9. No. 2. White flaw on head of Sir Winston at left.

2. *Plates* 1B1B1B1B

Row 4. No. 2. Clear white forehead of Sir Winston. Some values with more colour crystallise to a dark point on forehead.
Row 4. No. 5. A diagonal line in colour goes through Queen's forehead to top of ear and across neck.
Row 9. No. 5. Plate scratch across Sir Winston's neck.
Row 10. No. 3. A blemish below second " CH " of CHURCHILL, and a clear coloured mark diagonally across ear of Queen.

(b) Sterling Currencies

1. *Plates* 1A1A1A1A *or* 1A2A1A1A

Row 1. No. 1. From Plate 1A, a blemish shows in background above diadem of Queen, but from Plate 2A it is to right of Sir Winston on the same stamp.
Row 2. No. 2. A multipositive flaw, a scratch horizontally across Queen's face.
Row 4. No. 5. A clear white flaw in background to right of St. Pauls.
Row 9. No. 3. A black vertical plate flaw extending downwards in white on Sir Winston's forehead at left.
Row 11. No. 1. A curving plate scratch upwards from left searchlight beam.

2. *Plates* 1B1B1B1B or 1B2 B1B1B

Row 2. No. 5. (*a*) A multipositive flaw, discoloured area (Pl. 1B), on Queen's forehead which, from Plate 2B, having been retouched, becomes larger and easily seen; (*b*) From nearly all territories (Plate 1B or 2B), a clear white flaw to right of left searchlight.
Row 4. No. 2. (Plates 1B or 2B). The white part of the right searchlight beam is coloured-in by a subtle series of coloured dots.
Row 7. No. 2. (Plate 2B only). A clear flaw left of Queen's ear.

Plate Flaws from Individual Countries

Note: There are many more than recorded here.

ANTIGUA ½c. Plate 1B1B1B1B, Row 2, No. 3. Blue flaw in right-hand searchlight.

BR. HONDURAS 1c. Plate 1B1B1B1B, Row 1, No. 5. Break in " 6 " of date " 1965 ".

BAHAMAS ½d. Plate 1B1B1B1B, Row 10, No. 3 and Row 11, No. 3. Blue vertical lines down face of Queen with broken hyphen or dot only between 1874–1965 on Row 12, No. 3.

GILBERT AND ELLICE 3d. Green flaw between Row 9, No. 1, and Row 9, No. 2; 3s. Plate 1B2B1B1B, Row 8, No. 5. Foreshortened " 5 " in " 1965 ".

HONG KONG 10c. Plate 1A1A1A1A, Row 10, No. 4. The vertical line splitting the " c " in " 10c." is foreshortened and does not extend below the " c " (not on *all* sheets thus); 1s.30c. Plate 1B1B1B1B, Row 7, No. 5. Malformed and broken U in CHURCHILL.

BERMUDA 10d. Some units from final vertical row show Sir Winston with white forehead.

Misplacements

Very few major flaws such as missing colours have appeared, but some major misplacements including the Antigua ½c. where the gold has been so far misplaced as to leave one vertical row without value and others with ANTIGUA and ½c. transposed. A double printing of the gold is recorded, another sheet has been seen where gold has " splashed " over several units and several where misplacement has caused doubling of searchlight beams and various colours overlapping Sir Winston's head.

Inverted watermarks

Limited numbers of some have been found including Barbados 1c., Gibraltar ½d., Falklands ½d., Caymans ½d., Hong Kong 10c. and 50c.

Summary

The foregoing is generalisation and has entailed a lot of research but, no doubt, flaws of equal merit may have been omitted. However, the writer cannot enter into correspondence over anything not included, although details of further items where submitted will be recorded if the flaw is constant or fills a gap in the check lists given.

* * * *

Check List of Plate Flaws recorded above. (A blank indicates that the flaw has not yet been seen but, of course, it may exist.

a : Decimal Currencies

	Pl.A 1/4	*Pl.A* 5/4	*Pl.A* 9/2	*Pl.B* 4/2	*Pl.B* 4/5	*Pl.B* 10/3	*Pl.B* 9/5 10/5
Antigua							
½c.	×	×	×		×	×	×
4c.				×	×	×	×
25c.				×	×	×	×
35c.	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
Barbados							
1c.	×	×	×				
4c.	×	×	×				
25c.				×	×	×	×
35c.					×	×	×
Basutoland							
1c.				×	×	×	×
2½c.				×	×	×	×
10c.				×	×	×	×
22½c.				×	×	×	×
Bechuanaland							
1c.				×	×	×	×
2½c.	×	×	×				
12½c.	×	×	×				
20c.	×	×	×				
British Honduras							
1c.				×	×	×	×
4c.	×	×	×				
22c.				×	×	×	×
25c.				×	×	×	×
Brunei							
3c.		×	×				
10c.				×			
15c.		×	×				
75c.		×	×				
Dominica							
1c.	×	×	×				
5c.	×	×	×				
15c.				×	×	×	×
24c.	×	×	×				
1d. ..		×	×				
2d. ..	×	×	×				
8d. ..		×	×	×			
1s.6d. ..				×	×	×	

(Continued on page 357) 4

3/4

Q.E.
FLAWS &
VARIETIES.

STAMP COLLECTING, April 29, 1966.

	Plate 1/4	Plate 5/4	Plate 9/2	Plate 4/2	Plate 4/5	Plate 10/3	Plate 9/5 10/5
Grenada							
1c.	×	×	×		×	×	×
3c.				×	×	×	×
25c.				×	×	×	×
35c.				×	×	×	×
Hong Kong							
10c.	×	×	×				
50c.	×	×	×				
$1.30c.				×	×	×	×
$2	×	×	×				
Mauritius							
2c.				×	×	×	×
10c.	×	×	×				
60c.	×	×	×				
1r.	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
Montserrat							
1c.	×	×	×				
2c.				×	×	×	×
24c.	×	×	×				
42c.	×	×	×				
New Hebrides							
5 gc.		×	×				
15 gc.		×	×				
25 gc.				×			
30 gc.		×	×				
St. Kitts							
½c.	×	×	×				
3c.				×	×	×	×
15c.	×	×	×				
25c.	×	×	×				
St. Lucia							
4c.				×	×	×	×
6c.	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
25c.				×	×	×	×
35c.	×	×	×		×	×	×
Seychelles							
5c.				×	×	×	×
15c.	×	×	×				
75c.	×	×	×				
1r.50c.	×	×	×				
S. Arabia Fed. (Aden)							
5f.		×	×				
10f.				×		×	
65f.				×			
125f.				×			
Swaziland							
½c.	×	×	×				
2½c.				×	×	×	×
15c.	×	×	×				
25c.	×	×	×				
Virgin Islands							
1c. (U.S.) ..				×	×	×	×
2c. (U.S.) ..				×	×	×	×
10c. (U.S.) ..					×		×
25c. (U.S.) ..	×	×	×				
St. Vincent							
1c.	×	×	×				
4c.	×	×	×	×			×
20c.	×	×	×				
40c.				×	×	×	×

b : Sterling Currencies

	Plate 1A/2A 2/2	Plate A 4/5	Plate A 9/3	Plate A 11/1	Plate 1B 2/5	Plate 2B 2/5	Plate B 4/2	Plate 2B 7/2
Ascension								
1d. ..	×	×	×	×		×		×
3d. ..	×	×	×	×				
6d. ..		×	×	×				
1/6 ..		×	×			×		×
Bahamas								
½d. ..	×	×	×	×	×		×	
2d. ..	×	×	×	×				
10d. ..						×	×	×
1/- ..		×	×	×				
Bermuda								
3d. ..		×	×	×				
6d. ..		×	×	×				
10d. ..						×	×	×
1s.3d. ..		×	×	×				
Br. Antarctic Territory								
½d. ..						×	×	×
1d. ..		×	×	×		×		×
1s. ..						×	×	×
2s. ..		×	×	×				
Brit. Sol. Is.								
2d. ..						×	×	×
9d. ..		×	×	×		×	×	×
1s.3d. ..		×	×	×				
2s.6d. ..		×	×	×		×		×
Caymans								
½d. ..	×	×	×	×				
1d. ..	×	×	×	×				
1s. ..		×	×	×				
1s.9d. ..		×	×	×				
Turks & C. Is.								
1d. ..						×	×	×
2d. ..	×	×	×	×				
8d. ..		×	×	×				
1s.6d. ..						×	×	×

3/4

Q.E.
FLAWS & VARIETIES

STAMP COLLECTING, Aug. 12, 1966.

TAURUS *writes on "fouls" to be found on the*

COLONIAL WORLD CUP "OMNIBUS" ISSUE



THE World Cup stamps issued by 20 of the Commonwealth territories have provided a rich field for collectors of varieties. At the time of writing, stocks of 18 of the territories have been checked with the findings given below. (The issues for Pitcairn and Tristan da Cunha will be dealt with later.)

Shades. Prominent shade varieties have been reported for the DOMINICA 24c., very dark; BAHAMAS 8c., light blue centre; CAYMAN ISLANDS 1½d., ST. HELENA 3d. and SEYCHELLES 15c., all much lighter shades than normal.

Special Flaws. A run of sheets of the FIJI 2s. show sections of the lines of latitude missing on single stamps in the lower left of the sheets. Some GIBRALTAR 6d. show doubling of green parts of the design and one sheet has been seen with map off-sets on the back of several units.

Varieties and Plate Flaws. This issue is complicated but from a considered study of *initial* supplies it appears that:—(*a*) certain characteristics are common to sheets with right margin colour markers, or left corner sheet markings; (*b*) different flaws appear on low and high values from similar markings and plates; and (*c*) occasionally, as with Gibraltar and Federation of South Arabia, the higher value has the characteristics of some low values from other territories !

A curious scoring effect runs down the back of all low-value sheets on the middle vertical row from top to bottom. Plates A1 A1 A1 A1 are in common use but some territories use A11 for some or all colours, one or two have used both !

Thus, the common plate flaws are usually from one of four sheets for both values together, but this ratio can be extended in the cases mentioned, where both plates A1 or A11 have been used (*e.g.*, St. Helena 3d. and St. Lucia 4c.) different supplies have obviously had only part of the range of plates and various sources could well have some flaws which are missing from findings which are recorded as follows (with acknowledgement made of help given by Messrs C. Musson, G. Drummond and P. Bullivant):—

Flaws Common to Several Territories

PLATE A1 A1 A1 A1. Sheet markings in Right Margin.

Row 5, No. 3. Lines of Longitude and Latitude not clear cut, with background colour overlapping and thinning the lines. Seen on *low* values as follows (plus GIBRALTAR 6d. in place of 2½d. value):—ANTIGUA 6c., ASCENSION 3d., BRITISH SOLOMON IS. 8c., GIBRALTAR 6d., S. ARABIA 10f., ST. CHRISTOPHER 6c. (not BERMUDA 10d. however).

Row 7, No. 1. (Extending to Row 10, No. 1). Coloured flaw (not very clear on some values) in Medallion, right of head, on both Row 7, No. 1 and Row 9, No. 1 and coloured spot on Queen's head (Row 10, No. 1):—ANTIGUA 6c., ASCENSION 3d., BERMUDA 10d., BRUNEI 4c.,* DOMINICA 5c., GIBRALTAR 2½d., ST. CHRISTOPHER 6c.

* Sultan's Head

Row 9, No. 4. Reversed "c" inside Medallion, right of Queen's neck. High values only:—ANTIGUA 35c., ASCENSION 6d., BAHAMAS 15c., BERMUDA 2s.6d., B.S.I. 35c., CAYMANS 1s.9d., FIJI 2s., GIBRALTAR 6d., GILBERTS 35c., GRENADA 50c., ST. HELENA 6d., ST. LUCIA 25c., SEYCHELLES 1r.

PLATE A11 A11 A11 A1, etc. Sheet markings in Right Margin.

Row 1, No. 2. Coloured mark (varies for territories) between shorts of player and raised boot:—BAHAMAS 8c. (Trace), CAYMANS 1½d., DOMINICA 24c., GILBERTS 3c. (Trace), SEYCHELLES 15c., ST HELENA 3d.

PLATE A1 A1 A1 A1. Sheet markings in Left Margin.

Row 1, No. 1. Coloured flaw outside Medallion, to right:—ANTIGUA 6c. and 35c., ASCENSION 6d., B.S.I. 8c., GILBERTS 35c., ST. CHRISTOPHER 6c. and 25c., ST. HELENA 6d., CAYMANS 1s.9d., FIJI 2d.

Row 5, No. 5. Large brown flaw on forehead of Queen:—ANTIGUA 6c. and 35c., ASCENSION 3d. and 6d., BAHAMAS 15c., BERMUDA 10d. and 2s.6d., B.S.I. 8c. and 35c., DOMINICA 5c., FIJI 2d. and 2s., GIBRALTAR 2½d., GRENADA 5c., GILBERTS 35c., ST. CHRISTOPHER 6c. and 25c., ST. HELENA 3d. and 6d., ST. LUCIA 4c. and 25c, CAYMANS 1s.9d.

Row 6, No. 1 (5/1). Clear white spot in boot (A), with Flag handle flaw (B), for some territories only, plus the Row 5, No. 1 variety above it which is of interest. (Either (*a*) Large brown flaw on left side of Cup *with* further flaw on dress of figure lower down, (*b*) Dress flaw only, (*c*) Neither flaw, but 6/1 (*A*) or (*B*) remaining):—ANTIGUA 35c. (*Aa*), ASCENSION 6d. (*Ba*), BAHAMAS 15c. (*Ab*), BERMUDA 2s.6d. (*Bc*), B.S.I. 35c. (*Ba*), CAYMANS 1s.9d. (*Aa*), GILBERTS 35c. (*Ac*), ST. LUCIA 25c. (*Ba*), ST. HELENA 6d. (*Ba*), ST. CHRISTOPHER 25c. (*Ac*).

PLATE A11 A11 A11 A1, etc. Sheet markings in Left Margin.

Row 1, No. 2. Coloured flaw in white above shorts:—BAHAMAS 8c., CAYMANS 1½d., GILBERTS 3c., SEYCHELLES 15c. and 1r., BRUNEI 4c. and 75c., S. ARABIA 50f., DOMINICA 24c., ST. HELENA 3d., ST. LUCIA 4c.

Rows 1 and 2, No. 5. Coloured mark left of football (1/5):—(*A*) with boot flaw as well (*B*), and coloured flaw attached to top of shorts (2/5):—BAHAMAS 8c. (*B*), CAYMANS 1½d. (*B*), GILBERTS 3c. (*B*), SEYCHELLES 15c. (*B*), SEYCHELLES 1r. (*A*), BRUNEI 75c. (*A*) and NEW HEBRIDES 40c. (2/5 only). (*Note:* BRUNEI 4c. is Plate A1 A11 A1 A1 affecting centre only and NEW HEBRIDES 40c. is Plate A11 A1 A1 A1 affecting shorts only on 2/5, whilst S. ARABIA 50f. shows background flaw, for centre plate only remains A11—(A1 A11 A1 A1).

Flaws Confined to Individual Territories

(L or R indicates sheet markings position and P indicates Plate flaws mainly detailed earlier.)

ANTIGUA

6c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 1, No. 1 (R) White stop in banner in front of W.
P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw, right of Medallion *and* Major flaw in panel—vertical line between G and L of ENGLAND.
Row 3, No. 5 (R) Flaw in panel affecting WORLD CUP.
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Rows 7/1, 9/1, 10/1 (R) Clearest example of these Plate flaws.
Row 9, No. 4 (L) Bubble flaw to right of Cup.

35c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw, right of Medallion.
Row 3, No. 5 (R) Flaw over N in ENGLAND.
P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw *A* (" no flag handle " flaw) with
P Row 6, No. 1 } (5/1) *a*.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 8, No. 1 (R) Small flaw in WORLD CUP panel and streamers below " 1966 ".
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

ASCENSION

3d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 3, No. 3 (R) Flaw in top of Cup.
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude.
P Rows 7/1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). Clear, as for Antigua 6c.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.

6d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
Row 3, No. 1 (L) Coloured mark right of " 6d. ".
Row 4, No. 1 (L) Disturbance at intersection of white lines at left.
P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw *B*, flag handle flaw with (5/1) *a*.
Row 6, No. 1 }
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

BAHAMAS

8c.—A11 A11 A11 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 2 (R) Coloured mark between shorts and foot.
Row 3, No. 2 (L) White flaw in bottom left segment.
Row 3, No. 3 (L) White flaw distorting F of FOOTBALL.
Row 3, No. 5 (R) Flaw on " 6 " of " 1966 ".
Row 5, No. 1 (L) Flaw on Ball.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) Flaw on boot added to Plate flaws *B*, also flaw
P Row 2, No. 5 } in background under 1966 on (2/5).

(Continued on page 895)

2

Q.E. FLAWS & VARIETIES. [cont.]

Colonial World Cup "Omnibus" (*continued from page 893*)

BAHAMAS (*continued*)

15c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw *A* with (5/1) showing right side
P Row 6, No. 1 } of Cup flaw only (*b*).
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 7, No. 3 (R) Stop between "1" and "5" of "15".
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

BERMUDA

10d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 2, No. 2 (R) BERMUDA faintly printed
Row 3, No. 1 (L) Breaks in left side of Cup.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). Clear, as for Antigua 6c.
Row 7, No. 2 (L) Heel flaw.

2s.6d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 5, No. 1 } (R) (6/1) Plate flaw *B* flag handle flaw but *no* flaw on
P Row 6, No. 1 } Row 5, No. 1 (*c*).
Row 5, No. 4 (R) Plug flaw (as Fiji 2s.) and extra shading.
Rows 6/4 or 7/4 (R). Extra shading to background beneath Medallion.
Row 7, No. 3 Large "Bubble" flaws.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS

8c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
Row 2, No. 3 (L) Hole in left side of Cup.
Row 3, No. 4 } (L) Coloured mark outside panel after ENGLAND.
Row 4, No. 4 } Large coloured spot below M of CHAMPIONSHIP.
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 6, No. 1 (L) Dash beside "8".

35c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw *B*, flag handle flaw with (5/1) (*a*).
P Row 6, No. 1 }
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

BRUNEI

4c.—A1 A11 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
Row 1, No. 5 } Small flaw over C of CUP.
Row 2, No. 5 } (R) Flaw over "6" of 1966 (some sheets).
Row 4, No. 5 } Small flaw on hat.
Row 5, No. 5 } White spot before "1966".
Row 2, No. 5 (L) Coloured flaw left of Sultan's face.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1, (R). As for Antigua 6c. but beside or on head of the Sultan (10/1).
Row 9, No. 3 (R) Clear white flaw on hat
Row 9, No. 3 (L) Flaw in panel under CHAMPIONSHIP.

75c.—A11 A11 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) As shown under Plate flaws (*A*).
P Row 2, No. 5 }

CAYMAN ISLANDS

1½d. value—A11 A11 A11 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (R) Plate flaw between shorts and foot.
P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) As for Plate flaws (*B*) with blemish in background
P Row 2, No. 5 } (2/5).
Row 4, No. 2 (L) Flaw beside Medallion in background.
P Row 5, No. 1 (L) Flaw on Ball (as Bahamas 8c.).
Row 5, No. 3 (L) Large flaw in "1966" panel.
Row 6, No. 5 (L) Flaw on D of ENGLAND

1s.9d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured, flaw, right of Medallion.
Row 1, No. 1 (R) *Major* flaw, apostrophe after D of ISLANDS.
P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw (*A*), flag handle with (5/1) (*a*).
P Row 6, No. 1 }
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

DOMINICA

5c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 4, No. 4 (R) Large flaw on A of DOMINICA.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). As for Antigua 6c., but (7/1) is faint.

24c.—A11 A11 A11 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 2 (R) Plate flaw between shorts and foot.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) As for Plate flaws (*A*) with flaw beneath 1966
P Row 2, No. 5 } on (2/5).
Row 2, No. 2 (R) Weak DOMINICA (similar to Bermuda 10d.).
Row 5, No. 2 (L) Flaw *within* N of DOMINICA (slight flaw on M).
Row 5, No. 2 (R) Break *in* N of DOMINICA.

FIJI

2d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
Row 3, No. 5 (L) Two coloured spots right of "1966" panel.
Row 4, No. 3 Bubble flaw above forward boot.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.

2s. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 5, No. 4 (R) Bubble flaw to left and thick colouring to right beneath Medallion (see Bermuda 2s.6d.).
Row 6, No. 4, 7/4 (R). Either pair showing thick colouring of background below Medallion.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion, but less clear than for other territories.
Row 10, No. 3 (R) G of ENGLAND broken through (*major*).

GIBRALTAR

2½d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 4, No. 4 (R) W (stop) ORLD in WORLD.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). Plate flaws, but (7/1) very faint.
Row 9, No. 1 (L) Dark flaw on Queen's cheek.
Row 9, No. 3 (L) Break in D of ENGLAND (*good*).

6d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 1, No. 5 (R) "Extra" green colour over "1" of "1966" (four only seen).
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude (seen broken).
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion.

GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS

3c.—A11 A11 A11 A1

P Row 1, No. 2(L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) Plate flaw (1/5) boot flaw, shorts flaw (2/5) and
P Row 2, No. 5 } blemish in background (2/5).
Row 4, No. 2 (L) Bubble to left and break in Medallion.
Row 5, No. 2 (R) White flaw on Queen's chin.

35c.—A1 A1 A1 A1. (*All* units show dot below H of CHAMPIONSHIP.)

P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 9, No. 2 (R) Flaw in background below Medallion.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion.
P Row 6, No. 1 (L) Plate flaw (*A*) but no Cup flaw on (5/1) (*c*), or flag flaw (6/1).

GRENADA

5c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 2, No. 2 (L) Break in second A of GRENADA.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.

50c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 5, No. 4 (R) Clear break in OR of WORLD (*major*).
Row 8, No. 1 (R) Break in panel after ENGLAND.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion.

NEW HEBRIDES (English)

20c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 6, No. 2 (L) Flaw over R of RF (see also 40c.).
Row 9, No. 1 or 10/1 (L) Weak colouring of blue in pair with normal (see also 40c.).
Row 9, No. 2 (L) Weakness on B of HEBRIDES.

40c.—A11 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) As for Plate flaws (*A*) with shorts flaw on (2/5).
P Row 2, No. 5 }
Row 6, No. 2 (L) Flaw over R of RF (see also 20c.).

40c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 8, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (L). Weak colouring of brown in pair with normal (see also 20c.).

ST. CHRISTOPHER NEVIS ANGUILLA

6c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
P Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 7, No. 1, 9/1, 10/1 (R). Plate flaw but (7/1) faint.
Row 8, No. 3 (L) Clear hole in Footballer's sock.

25c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 6, No. 1 (with 5/1) (L). Football Boot flaw (*A*) but no trace of flaws on (5/1) above and no flaw on flag (*c*).
Row 1, No. 4 (L) Spot at top of shorts.
Row 4, No. 3 (L) Flaw in second A of ANGUILLA.

ST. HELENA

A 3d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 2, No. 2 (L) Large blemish in panel before "1" of "1966" (see **A11** Sheets).
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
Row 7, No. 1 (L) Vertical row of coloured dots in white above shorts.

B 3d. value—A11 A11 A11 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 2 (R) Coloured flaw between shorts and boot.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) (*A*) Plate flaw (1/5), shorts flaw (2/5) (but no
P Row 2, No. 5 } background flaw on (2/5)).
Row 2, No. 2 (L) Large blemish in panel before "1" of "1966" (as for **A1** Sheets).

6d. value—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 1 (L) Coloured flaw right of Medallion.
Row 3, No. 2 (R) (*A*) Large break in N of ST. HELENA (a small coloured mark in Medallion).
Row 3, No. 2 (L) (*B*) Large break in N of ST. HELENA (no mark in Medallion).
Row 5, No. 4, 6/4 or 7/4 (R). Any pair showing thick colouring of background below Medallion. (See Bermuda 2/6).

(*Continued on page 899*)

Q.E. FLAWS
& VARIETIES. [cont.]

Colonial World Cup " Omnibus " (*continued from page ~~893~~*)

ST. HELENA: 6d. value (*continued*)

P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw (*B*) flag flaw and Cup flaws
P Row 6, No. 1 } on (5/1) (*a*).
Row 8, No. 1 (R) *Major* flaw, centre of " 6" in " 6d. " is enlarged.
Row 8, No. 4 (R) White spot at top of M of CHAMPIONSHIP.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion.
Row 10, No. 5 (R) B of FOOTBALL distorted at foot.

ST. LUCIA

A 4c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.

B 4c.—A11 A11 A11 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) Plate flaw, plus boot flaw (1/5) and shorts flaw
P Row 2, No. 5 } with background blemish (2/5).
Row 4, No. 3 (L) Break in C of LUCIA.
P Row 5, No. 1 (L) Flaw on football.

25c.—A1 A1 A1 A1

P Row 5, No. 1 } (L) (6/1) Plate flaw (*B*) with (5/1) Plate flaw (*a*).
P Row 6, No. 1 }
P Row 5, No. 5 (L) Head flaw.
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Coloured flaw within Medallion.
Row 5, No. 4, 6/4, 7/4 (R). *Any pair* showing thick colouring of background below Medallion. (See Bermuda 2/6).

SEYCHELLES

15c.—A11 A11 A11 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (R) Coloured flaw between shorts and boot.
P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) (*B*) Flaw on boot added (1/5) and shorts flaw
P Row 2, No. 5 } on (2/5).

1r.—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 5, No. 4, 6/4, 7/4 (R). *Any pair* showing thick colouring of background below Medallion. (See Bermuda 2/6).
P Row 9, No. 4 (R) Clear, in Medallion.

1r.—A11 A11 A11 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 (L) Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 1, No. 5 } (L) (*A*) Plate flaw (1/5), shorts flaw (2/5) with
P Row 2, No. 5 } background flaw beneath " 1966 " (2/5).

SOUTH ARABIAN FEDERATION

10f.—A1 A1 A1 A1

Row 5, No. 3 (R) Ruffled lines of Latitude.
Row 9, No. 5 (L) Red horizontal lines beneath both " feet " of emblem " (*major*).

50f.—A1 A11 A1 A1

P Row 1, No. 2 Coloured flaw in white above shorts.
P Row 2, No. 5 The centre colour Plate flaw below " 1966 " remains, others from (1/5) and (2/5), being Plate I, do not appear.
Row 5, No. 2 Colouring of background is missing below forward foot.

Any further flaws found on later supplies of these stamps will be recorded when TAURUS *deals with the issues of* PITCAIRN IS. *and* TRISTAN DA CUNHA. It is requested that readers wait for this further article before raising queries.

2/3

ANTIGUA
BAHAMAS
BERMUDA
GUYANA

Supplement No. 2 to the

SHELLEY "JL" VARIETY CATALOGUE OF Q.E.II ISSUES

(11th Edition) 1968

Catalogue edited by P. N. Bullivant and published by SHELLEY STAMPS, 12, DEVONSHIRE SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.2. Obtainable from the publishers or from Harris Publications Ltd., at 12/6d., plus 1/- inland postage.

Pricing: Left-hand column is the price for MINT stamps in pair with normal. USED singles of the variety are shown in right-hand column.

GREAT BRITAIN
1968 British Anniversaries.



203.

Cyls. 1A 1B 1C 1D no dot. Row 3 No. 2. Extensive retouch at top of large "C" in TUC. Positional block of 6.

V2031 4d. multicoloured 10 0 5 0

ANTIGUA
1965 International Co-operation Year.

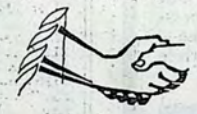


10

Plates A1-A1 Row 2 No. 1. Chain broken at right with thick link above. Positional pair.

V101 4c. purple and green 20 0 15 0

BAHAMAS
1965 International Co-operation Year.



4

Plates A1-A1 Row 4 No. 2. Green line vertically on Arm at left. Positional block of 8.

V41 1/- brown and green 25 0 20 0

BERMUDA
1965 International Co-operation Year.



14

Plates A1-A1 Row 11 No. 3. Top of crown joined at left. Positional pair.

V141 2/6d. brown and green 35 0 25 0

BRITISH GUIANA (now GUYANA)
1965 International Co-operation Year.



1

Plates A1-A1 Row 10 No. 5. Top of Crown battered at left. Positional pair.

V11 25c. brown and green 30 0 20 0

BRUNEI
1965 International Co-operation Year.



1

Plates A1-A1 Row 3 No. 5. Horizontal coloured flaw on left hand. Positional strip of 3.

V11 4c. purple and green 20 0 15 0

Price Changes since Supplement No. 1 appeared in July 1968:

GREAT BRITAIN. Mint in pair with normal: V1081 to £12; V1352 £7; V1372 60/-; V1402 80/-; V1403 £6; V1412 30/-; V1432 20/-; V1492 60/-; V1562 £5; V1572 80/-; V1662 40/-; V1751 30/-; V1791 30/-; V1991 30/-, also JERSEY V31 to 25/-.

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE 9 NOV. 1968

Q.E. FLAWS & VARIETIES

Q.E. FLAWS & VARIETIES

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE 24 May 1968

QE II
PANORAMA by AVON



VARIETIES DUE FOR LISTING
IN THE COMMONWEALTH Q.E.II CATALOGUE

I HAVE recently been afforded the opportunity of examining the rough draft of the next edition of The Commonwealth Q.E. II Catalogue (due for publication later in the year) and have permission to make mention of some of the new varieties which it has been decided to include. Some of these may have been mentioned in "Keeping your Catalogue up-to-date" but not all of them. Here are just a few to be going on with and I hope to add a few more in the next and subsequent issues of this Review. In view of market movements prices have not yet been determined.

Great Britain. Scientific Discoveries

4d. value. Row 10 No. 2. Several of the degree calibrations are missing between 100° and 110°.

1/6d. value. Row 1 No. 2. A large grey flaw on the rim at left of the left-hand jet engine. Also considerable retouching affecting the shading between the engines.

1/6d. value. Row 20 No. 6. The shading between the jet engines extends onto the bottom of the right-hand engine.

Great Britain. Christmas 1967

4d. value. Row 2 No. 3. A large dark flaw occurs in the bottom right corner of the stamps (Cyls. 2A, 1B, etc. and 3A, 2B, etc.).

Great Britain. Bridges

9d. value. Row 18 No. 3. The word "HARRISON" appears almost as though it were in a different type. The neighbouring stamp (Row 18 No. 4) shows a similar feature affecting the word "RESTALL".

Bermuda. Cable Link with Tortola

1/6d. value. Row 12 No. 2. A white flaw in the hair above the nape of the Queen's neck appears as a jewel.

Botswana. Chobe Game Reserve

35c. value. Row 8 No. 6. A large white flaw just to the right of the left-hand fishing rod appears as an "extra ray".

British Indian Ocean Territory. Definitive Overprints

All values. Missing stops after various letters.

British Solomon Is. 1966 Definitives (Sideways Watermark)

5c. value. Row 11 No. 2. A white flaw giving appearance of a ring on the black strip at the back of the fish.

Cyprus. 1967 First Development Programme

50m. value. Row 3 No. 6. A black spot just below and to left of the three windows in front of the building appears as a fourth window.

Cyprus. 1967 Europa

30m. value. Row 2 No. 1 (Constant on a short run of sheets). A dark flaw at 1 o'clock just outside the smaller cog wheel gives the appearance of a loose broken off cog.

Gambia. 1967 Tourist Year

All values. Row 4 No. 1 (Plate 1A). A large flaw in the sky immediately above the Adonis Hotel appears as an extra cloud.

Gibraltar. 1967 Tourist Year

9d. value. Row 8 No. 3. A large circular area of retouching occurs immediately above the final R of GIBRALTAR.

FROM "THE POSTAGE & STAMP" dd 5 oct 1907

October, 1907. No. 103.

WM. BRADBURY,

CLIFF GRANGE, CONSTABLE ROAD, IPSWICH, ENGLAND.
Established 1883.

All Stamps offered for Sale are guaranteed Genuine and Originals.

The Prices are quoted subject to alteration with or without notice.

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order. All Postages EXTRA. 2½ per cent. discount allowed on Orders of £1 and upwards.

WHOLESALE PRICE LIST OF SETS OF STAMPS.

For current issues of Colonials, &c., see separate list herewith.

Sixteen Pages Complete WHOLESALE PRICE LIST sent on receipt of Postage and Trade Card.

† Unused. * Used.

	No. in set.	Per set. s.	d.	HIGH VALUES, &c.
† Afghanistan, 1882, 2 abasi and 1 rupee, purple	2	9	0	
† ,, 1892, 1 and 2 abasi and 1 rupee, slate on rose	3	15	0	
† ,, 1893-99, 1 a., black on color	5	12	6	
† Albania on Italy, 10, 35, and 40 paras	3	0	7	
* Argentine, 1873-1903, including 60 and 90c. 1873, 1 peso, &c. ...	30	1	9	
* Azores, 1894, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 75, 80, 100, 150, 300, 500, 1,000 reis	13	7	6	
† Bahamas, 1884-98, 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	5	2	10	5s. at 5/9 each.
† Barbados, 1892, ½d., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., 8d., & 10d., C.A. single	9	4	6	2/6 black and orange at 4/6 each
† ,, 1897, Jubilee, ½d., ½d., 1d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 10d., 2s. 6d.	9	18	0	1903, 2/6 lilac & green at 3/9 ea.
† ,, 1906, Nelson, ½d., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 6d., and 1s., C.C. ...	7	3	6	
† ,, 1907, Nelson, ½d. 2d., 2½d., C.A., mult.	3	0	8	
† Bechuanaland (on English), 1892, ½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. ...	6	3	3	2/- at 2/4 each, 2/6 at 2/11 each
† Belgium (Antwerp), 5, 10, and 25c.	3	0	5	
† Bermuda, 1873-1901, ½d., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.. ...	9	3	3	
† ,, 1902, Arms, ½d. 1d., 3d., C.A., single	3	0	9	
* Bolivia, 1894, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100c.	7	0	9	
* Bosnia, ½, 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 novcica	9	0	6	
* ,, 1900, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 20, and 25 fil	8	0	5	
* Brazil, 1850 to 1902, 10 reis to 1,000 reis	40	2	6	
† ,, unpaid, 1889, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 300 reis, scarlet	6	2	6	
* ,, provls., 1898, on newspaper, 200, 500, 700, 2,000; 20, 200, ...				
,, 1899, on postage, 50, 100, 500, 700, 1,000, and 2,000 reis ...	12	7	0	
† British Central Africa, 1891, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1s. ...	6	3	3	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s., 4s., and 5s.	5	19	2	10/- at 11/6 each.
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1895, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d. and 1s., no w'mark ...	5	20	0	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1896, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., w'mked C.A. ...	5	15	0	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1896, 2s. 6d., 3s., and 5s., w'mked C.C. ...	3	45	0	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1897, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., w'mked C.A. ...	5	3	0	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 2s. 6d., 3s., 4s., and 10s., w'mked C.C. ...	4	50	0	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1901, 1d., 4d. and 6d.	3	2	6	
* British East Africa Company, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 4½, 5, 7½, and 8 annas ...	10	9	0	
† or ,, ,, ,, on B.E.A.Co., 3, 4, 8 anna and 1 rupee	4	25	0	1½a. at 5/- each, 3 R. at 25/- each
† ,, ,, ,, ,, on India, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a., 1, 2, 3, & 5 R.	14	90	0	1 R., grey, at 12/- each.
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1896, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 4½, 5, 7½, and 8 annas ...	10	4	3	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 rupees (small)	5	24	6	
* ,, ,, ,, ,, 1, 2, 3, and 5 rupees	4	14	6	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1897, on Zanzibar, ½, 2, 4½, 5 a., and 2½ on 1 a. ...	5	32	0	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1900, 1, 2, and 3 rupees (large)	3	15	0	1 rupee, dull blue, 6/- each
† ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10 rupees (large) ...	6	63	0	
† British Guiana 1898, Jubilee, 1, 2, 5, 10 and 15c.	5	4	0	1890 48c. at 3/9 each, 1890 72c. at 5/- each, 96c. at 7/6 each.
† ,, ,, 1890-1903, C.A. single, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12 and 24c. ...	8	3	9	60c. at 15/- each.
† British Honduras, 1891-98, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 24, 25, and 50c. ...	10	8	6	1 $ at 4/8 each, 2 $ at 9/3 each, 5 $ at 23/6 each
† ,, ,, ,, 1899, 5, 10, and 25c. surcharged Revenue ...	3	2	6	
† ,, ,, ,, 1902, C.A., single, 1, 2, 5 and 20c.	4	1	8	
† British Morocco, 1898, 5, 10, 20, 25, 40, 50c., 1 and 2 pesetas, local sur.	8	5	0	
† ,, ,, ,, 1899, 5, 10, 20, 25, 40, 50c., 1 and 2 pesetas, London ,,	8	3	6	
† ,, ,, ,, 1903-5, C.A. single, 5, 10, 20, and 25c.	4	1	6	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 50c., 1 pta, and 2 pesetas ...	3	37	6	
† ,, ,, ,, 1905, 20c., mult., 5, 10, 25, 50c. 1 & 2 ptas, chalky	7	6	6	
† ,, ,, ,, 1907, on Great Britain, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50c., 1 ptas	7	2	0	3 ptas at 2/6 each, 6 ptas at 5s. each, 12 ptas at 10/- each.
† ,, ,, ,, ,, on Great Britain, ½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 1/- & 2/6	7	5	3	
† British New Guinea, 1901, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-	7	6	6	2/6 at 10/6 each
† British Somaliland, on India Queen, name at top, first print, ½, 1, 2, ...				
,, ,, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 12 a.	9	5	3	
† ,, ,, ,, 1, 2, 3 and 5 rupees, name at top, first print ...	4	24	0	
† ,, ,, ,, 2½, 6 and 12 a., name at foot, second print ...	3	3	0	
† ,, ,, ,, 1, 2, 3 and 5 rupees, name at foot, second print ...	4	23	0	
† ,, ,, ,, on India King, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8 a.	6	3	0	
† ,, ,, ,, **on H.M.S.**, on India Queen, ½, 1, 2, 8 a., and 1 R.	5	20	0	
† ,, ,, ,, **Service**, on India King, ½, 1, 2, and 8 a., on Queen, 1 R.	5	20	0	
† ,, ,, ,, **O.H.M.S.**, C.A., single				½ a. at 5/- each, 1 a. at 4/- each
† ,, ,, ,, **O.H.M.S.**, C.A., multiple				2a. at 25/- each
† British South Africa Co., 1891-4, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d. & 1/-	8	12	0	2/- at 4/6, 2/6 at 5/-, 3/- at 5/6, 4/- at 7/6, and 5/- at 12/6 each.
* ,, ,, ,, ,, 1891-4, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1s.	28	6	0	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1896, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1s.	8	4	0	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s., 4s., 5s. and 10s.	9	30	9	1897, £1 at 25/- each.
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1898, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 8d. ...	7	2	9	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, (on Cape), ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. ...	7	22	0	Set of 7 used, 20/-
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1905, Victoria Falls, 1d., 2½d., 5d., and 1s. ...	4	2	0	2/6 at 2/11 each, 5/- at 5/10 each
† **Brunei** on LABUAN, red, surcharge, 1c., 2 on 3c., 4 on 12c., 5 on 16c., 8c., 10c. on 16c.	6	6	0	50 on 16c. at 9/6 each; 1 $ on 16c. at 13/6 each, 5 on 16c., light brown, 4/6 each.

SETS OF STAMPS—continued.

For current issues of Colonials, &c., see separate list herewith.

† Unused. * Used.

	No. in set.	Per set. r.	d.	HIGH VALUES, &c.
† Bussahir, 1898, 1st type, ½, ½, 1, 2, 4, 8, 12a., and 1 rupee	8	12	6	
† Cameroons, 1897, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25 and 50 pf.	6	3	0	
† Canada, 1868, 15c. violet, 15c. red lilac, and 15c. grey blue	3	8	6	
† ,, 1897, Jubilee, ½, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 20, 50c., and 1 dol. ...	12	18	0	
† ,, 1898, 4 leaves, ½, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 10c.	8	2	3	
† ,, ,, 2 leaves, ½, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 20c.	10	3	9	
* ,, 1860 to 1899, ½c. to 50c., including Provisional and Jubilees ...	36	3	9	
* ,, Registered, 2c. 2c., 5c. 5c. and 8c.	5	8	0	
* Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	4	24	0	
† Caroline Isles, 1898, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25 and 50 pf.	6	5	6	
† Cashmere (including Service), ½a. to 4a.	8	2	6	
† Cavalla (on French), 5, 10, 15c., 1, 2, and 4 piastres	6	2	0	
† Cayman Isles, 1902, King, C.A., single, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 6d., and 1/- ...	5	14	9	
* Ceylon, 1895-6 (on Service), 2, 3, 5, 15, 25, and 30c.	6	1	8	Rs. 1·50 on Rs. 2·50 at 4/- each, Rs. 2·25 on Rs. 2·50 at 10/- each
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1 R 25c.	1	12	0	
† ,, 1899-1900, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 15, 25, 30 and 75c.	10	3	0	1 R. 12c. at 5/- each, 1 R. 50c at 3/0 each, 2 R. 25c. at 5/0 each, 2 R 50c. at 7/- each.
† ,, 1903-4, King, C.A. single, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 15, 25, 30, and 75c. ...	10	8	6	1 R. 50 c. at 20/- each, 2 R. 25c at 22/6 each.
† Chamba, 1886-1900, ½, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a. and 1 rupee ...	10	6	6	
† ,, ,, ,, Service, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a. and 1 rupee ...	9	12	0	
† Chefoo, 1893, ½, 1, 2, 5, and 10c.	5	0	6	
* China, 1895, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, and 24 cand.	9	7	3	
* ,, 1897 provl. on 1886 1 and 2c., on 1894 small figures 2, 4 & 8c.,				
* ,, ,, larger figures ½, 1, 2, 10c. on 12c., on Revenue 1 2 and 4c.	12	3	0	
† ,, 1898, ½, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 20, 30, and 50c.	9	3	3	
† ,, (on French), 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 75c., and 1 franc ...	10	4	4	
† ,, Expy. Force on India, 1900, ½, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 8, 12a. and 1 R.	10	5	6	
† Chinkiang, 1894, ½, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 10c.	7	1	0	
† Cochin, 1898, 3 pies, ½, 1 and 2 puttans	4	0	5	
† Congo Free State, 1894, 5c. blue and 10c. brown	2	1	3	
† Cook Isles, 1892 (1st issue), 1d., 1½d., 2½d., and 10d. (used at 7/- set)	4	8	6	
† ,, ,, 1893 (2nd issue) 1d., 1½d., 2½d., 5d., and 10d. ...	5	3	6	
† ,, ,, 1902, ½d., 1d., 2½d., no w'mk.	3	0	7	
† Crete, 1898, British Occupation, 10 and 20p., 1899, 10 and 20p. ...	4	1	0	
* ,, 1899, Russian Occupation, 1 met., blue; 2 met., blue; 1 met., rose 2 met., green	4	3	6	
† or * ,, 1900, black surcharge, 25 and 50 lepta, 1 drachma ...	3	3	0	*2 drachma at 3/6 each.
† or * ,, ,, red surcharge, 25 and 50 lepta and 1 drachma ...	3	3	9	
† ,, 1901, unpaid, 1, 5, 10, 20, 40 and 50 lepta, 1 and 2 drachma	8	4	4	1 drachma black surch. 1/- each.
† Cuba, 1892, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 mils, violet	6	0	4	
† ,, 1894, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 mils, rose	6	0	3	
* ,, 1896, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 mils, green	6	0	5	
† ,, 1898, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 mils, brown	5	2	0	
† ,, 1898, on United States, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 5, and 10c.	6	1	4	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, unpaid, 1, 2, 5 and 10c.	4	2	6	
† ,, Sep., 1899, 1, 2, 3, 5, 10c., and 10c., special delivery ...	6	1	8	
† Cyprus, 1882, ½, ½, 1, 2, 4, 6, and 12 piastres (used at 7/6 set) ...	7	8	6	
† ,, 1896, ½, 1, 2, 4, 6, 9 and 12 piastres	8	7	6	18 pts. at 3/-; 45 pts. at 10/- each.
† ,, 1903, C.A. single, ½, ½, 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, and 45 pires ...	10	16	0	
† Deccan, ½, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, and 12 annas	8	1	2	
† Dedeagh (on French), 5, 10, 15c., 1, 2, and 4 piastres	6	1	0	
† East Africa and Uganda, 1903, King, C.A. single, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, & 8a.	8	18	6	C.C. 7 R. at 5/6 each, 3 R. at 7/6 each, 5 R. at 12/6 each.
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1904, C.A., mult., ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, and 8a. ...	8	6	0	
† ,, ,, ,, ,, 1906, C.A., chalky, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, and 8a. ...	8	1	3	
† Falkland Isles, 1891-6, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 9d. and 1/- ...	8	3	9	2/6 at 5/- each, 5/- at 9/6 each.
† Fernando Poo, 1894, 10c. brown, 12½, 20 and 25c.	4	5	6	
* ,, ,, ,, 1899, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5c.	5	2	6	
† ,, ,, ,, 1903, ½, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5c.	7	0	10	
† Fiji, 1891-1900, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 5d., 6d., and 1s.	8	3	2	1/- at 6/6 each.
† French Colonies, unpaid, 1894, 5, 10, 15, 30, 50, and 60c., and 1 franc ...	7	4	0	
* ,, Congo, 5 on 25, 15 on 25, and 10 on 1 franc, unpaid	3	4	3	
* French Levant, 1, 2, 3, and 4 piastres	4	1	0	
† Gambia, 1887, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	8	4	6	
† ,, 1898, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	8	6	6	
† ,, ,, 1902, King, C.A., single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., & 1/-	8	8	3	2/- at 5/- each.
† ,, ,, 1905, King, C.A., single, 1/6, 2/6, 3/-	3	10	0	
† German Morocco, 1899, 3, 5, 10, 25, 30, and 60c.	6	1	9	
† ,, New Guinea, 1898, 3pf., 5pf., 10pf., 20pf., 25pf., and 50pf. ...	6	3	0	
† Gibraltar, 1889-95, 5, 10, 20, 25, 40, 50c., 1 and 2 pesetas	8	8	0	5 pesetas at 5/- each.
† ,, 1898, Oct., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. (Used at 3/6 set)	7	4	0	
† ,, 1903, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 6d., and 1/- ...	6	3	0	2/- at 6/- each.
† Gold Coast, 1884-94, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., and 2s. ...	9	8	0	1894 5/- lilac and blue, 7/- each.
* ,, ,, ,, ,, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 5s., 10s., and 20s.	12	13	6	
† ,, ,, ,, 1898, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., 1/-, and 2/-	7	5	6	5s. at 10/- each, 10s. at 16/- each
* ,, ,, ,, 1898, ½d., 1d., 3d., 6d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, and 10/-	8	5	0	
† ,, ,, ,, 1901, 1d. on 2½d., 1d. on 6d.	2	1	0	
† ,, ,, ,, 1902, C.A., single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1/- ...	7	1	0	2/- at 2/4 each
* Great Britain, 1888-97, Gov. Parcels, 1d., 1½d., 3d., 4½d., 6d., 9d., and 1s. ...	7	4	6	
* ,, ,, ,, 1882-92, I.R. Official, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 6d. and 1s. ...	5	2	6	
* Greece, 1879 to 1898, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 lepta, and 1 drachma ...	20	2	9	
* Grenada, unpaid, 1d., 2d., and 3d., black	3	1	0	
† ,, 1895-9, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., 8d., and 1s.	8	4	6	
† ,, 1902, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-	7	8	0	2/- at 5/6 each, 5/- at 12/- each, 10/- at 18/- each
† ,, 1906, King, multiple, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1/- ...	7	7	6	

SETS OF STAMPS—continued.

For current issues of Colonials, &c., see separate list herewith.

† Unused. * Used.

	No. in set.	Per set. £	s.	d.	at High Values, &c.
† Guam on U.S., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15c.	9	20	0		50c. at 6/6 each, 1$ at 12/6 each.
* Guatemala, 1894, 1 on 2c., 2 on 100c., 6 on 150c., 10 on 200c. ...	4	3	0		
† Gwalior, 1885-9, ½, ⅓, 1, 1½, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a., and 1 R. ...	11	7	5		
† ,, 1902, Queen, ½, 1, 2, 2½a., *blue*	4	0	8		
† Hawaii, 1893, 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, and 25c.	6	5	6		
† Hayti, Nov., 1898, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 15, 20, 50c., and 1 gourde ...	12	7	3		
† ,, ,, ,, unpaid, 2, 5, 10 and 50c.	4	2	0		
† Holkar, 1889, ½, ⅓, 1 and 2 annas	4	0	8		
† Hongkong, 1900-2, 2, 4, 5, 10, and 12c.	5	1	9		
† ,, 1904, C.A. single, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 20, 30, and 50c. ...	10	5	9		2$ at 7/6 each, 3$ at 12/- each.
† Jaipur, 1904, 1st issue, ½, 1, and 2a.	3	1	0		
† ,, ,, 2nd issue, ½, 1, and 2a.	3	0	5		
* Japan, 1894, Silver Wedding, 2 and 5 sen.	2	0	3		
† Johore, 1892, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6c., and 1 dollar	7	7	6		
† ,, 1894, 3 on 4c., 3 on 5c., 3 on 6c.	3	1	0		1895, 2$ at 6/- each, 3$ at 9/- each, 4$ at 12/- each.
† ,, 1903, 3 on 4c., 10 on 4c. green, 10 on 4c. yellow, 50c. on 3$, 1$ on 2$, 1904, 10 on 4c. green	6	8	6		1904, 50c. on 5$ at 7/6 each.
† Labuan, 1892, no w'mk engraved, 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, and 40c. ...	7	6	9		
† ,, 1894, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, and 24c.	9	5	0		
† ,, 1895, 4, 10, 20, 30, and 40c., on 1 dollar	5	3	4		
† ,, 1897-02, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, and 24c.	12	3	0		
† Lagos, 1882-4, 1d. lilac, 6d. sage, 1/- orange	3	13	0		
† ,, 1887-94, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 7½d., 10d., and 1s.	11	6	0		2/6 at 4/- each, 5/- at 8/6 each, 10/- at 14/- each
† ,, 1903, C.A. single, 1s. at 15/- each	5				5/- at 22/6 each.
† ,, 1904, C.A., mult., ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1/-	6	7	6		2/6 at 3/6 each, 5/- at 7/- each, 10/- at 13/6 each
† ,, 1905, C.A., chalky, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1/- ...	7	8	6		2/6 at 3/6 each, 5/- at 9/6 each, 10/- at 14/6 each
† Leeward Islands, 1890, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 7d. and 1s. ...	7	3	0		5s. at 7/6 each.
† ,, ,, ,, 1902, provl., 1d. on 4d., 1d. on 6d., 1d. on 7d. ...	3	1	9		
† ,, ,, ,, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d. and 1/- ...	7	3	3		
* Mafeking, on Bechd. Prot., 1d. on ½d., 3d. on 1d., on Cape, 1d. on ½d., 1d. on ½d., 3d. on 1d.	5	35	0		
† Malay Federated States, 1900, surcharged, 1, 2, 3, 10, 25c. on N. Sembilan, 5c., 1 dol., 2 dol. and 5 dol on Perak ...	9	40	0		
† Malaya, 1901, C.A., single, 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 20 and 50 c.	8	4	6		
† Malta, 1885, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 1s., 5s.	7	8	0		
† ,, 1903, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., and 1s. ...	7	3	6		4½d. C.A. single at 1/3 each.
† Mauritius, 1895-99, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 15, 18c. arms.	7	1	6		1880, 2 R. 50c. at 4/- each
† ,, 1902, provl. surchd. Postage and Revenue, 4, 6, 15, 25 & 50c. ...	5	1	9		2R. 50c. at 4/- each.
* Mexico, 1866 to 1899, various issues	50	5	0		
* ,, 1856 to 1899, 1 real to 1 peso	75	10	0		
† Monaco, 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 25, 40, 50, 75c., and 1 franc	10	3	3		
† ,, 1906, Chiffie Taxe, 1, 5, 10, 15, 30, and 50 c.	6	1	2		
† Montserrat, 1903, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1s. ...	7	3	9		
† Mozambique Co., 1894, 2½, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 75, 80, 100, 150, 200, 300 reis	13	6	0		
† Nabha, 1887-1900, ½, ⅓, 1, 1½, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a. and 1 R.	11	8	6		
† Nabha Service, 1887-90, ½, 1, 4, 8 annas	4	3	6		
* Natal, 1883, Queen, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/- and 5/- ...	9	4	6		
† ,, 1902, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 5d., 6d. & 1/- ...	9	4	0		2/- at 3/6 each, 2/6 at 5/- each.
† ,, 1904, King, multiple, OFFICIAL, ½d., 1d., 2d. and 3d.	4	15	0		
† Negri Sembilan, 1899, 4c. on 1c., 4c. on 5c., blue, 4c. on 3c., 4c. on 8c. ...	4	2	0		
* Nepaul, 1, 2 and 4 annas	3	0	9		
† New Brunswick, 1, 2, 5, 10, and 17c.	5	2	3		
† New Caledonia, 1893, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 75c., & 1 franc	13	3	8		
† Newfoundland, 1897, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, 35, and 60c. ...	14	10	8		
† New Zealand, 1898, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d. and 1/-	12	12	9		2/- at 5/- each.
† ,, ,, 1900-3, Colonial Print, no wm'k., ½d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d. and 1/-	10	6	4		2/- at 5/- each, 5/- at 7/- each.
† ,, ,, 1906, Christchurch, ½d., 1d., 3d. and 6d.	4	1	2		
† Niger Coast, 1893, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d. and 1/-	6	15	0		
† ,, ,, 1894, no w'mk., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d. and 1s.	6	5	0		
† ,, ,, 1897-1898, w'mked C.A., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., 1s. ...	7	6	0		2s. 6d. at 5/- each, 10s. at 15/- each
† North Borneo, 1894, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18 and 24c.	9	7	6		
† ,, ,, 1895, 4, 10, 20, 30, and 40c. on 1 dollar	5	3	4		
† ,, ,, 1897, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18 and 24c.	9	3	6		
† Northern Nigeria, 1900, Queen, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., and 1/-	7	20	0		2/6 at 20/- each, 10/- at 50/- each
† ,, ,, 1902, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., and 1s. ...	7	6	9		2/6 at 7/6 each, 10/- at 12/6 each
† ,, ,, 1906, C.A., mult., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., and 1/- ...	7	3	6		
† Oil Rivers, on Great Britain, 1892, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d. and 1/- ...	6	8	9		
† Orange River V.R.I., 1900, 2nd print, thick V., ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. & 1/- Raised dots, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-	6	8	9		5s. at 8/- each.
† ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	6	2	7		½d. blue at 1/- each, 5s. at 5/10 each.
† Orange River on Cape, ½d., 1d. and 2½d.	3	0	5		
† Papua on Brit. New Guinea, first type, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 6d., 1/-, & 2/6	7	15	0		Second type, ½d. & 4d., 2/6 the pr.
† Patiala, 1892-9, ½, ⅓, ¾, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12 a., and 1 R.	11	6	3		
† ,, Service, 1892, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12 a., and 1 rupee, grey ...	9	5	6		Used, at 1/6 set of 9.
† ,, ,, ,, King, ½, 1, 2, 3 and 4 a.	5	1	10		8 a. at 1/6 each, 1 R. at 2/6 each.
† Perak, 1895, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 25, and 50c.	9	7	0		
† ,, 1900, 1 on 2c., on 4c., on 5c., 3 on 8c., on 50c, on 1 dol., on 2 dol.	7	4	6		
* Persia, 1899, surcharged, 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, shahi, and 1 kran	6	1	0		
* ,, 1900, 1, 2, 5, 8, 10 and 12 shai, 1 and 2 krans	8	1	1		
* ,, 1898, 1, 2, 5, and 10 krans	4	1	0		
* ,, 1876-1902, 1 ch. to 5 krans, including provls.	30	4	0		
* ,, 1902, type set provls., 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 12 ch., 1 and 2 kr. ...	8	2	9		
† Philippines, 1898, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 mils	5	1	3		
† ,, 1899, on United States 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15, and 50c. ...	7	4	7		
† Port Lagos (on French), 5, 10, 15c., 1, 2 and 4 piastres	6	8	9		

SETS OF STAMPS—continued.

For current Issues of Colonials, &c., see separate list herewith.

† Unused • Used.

	No. in set.	Per set s. d.	HIGH VALUES, &c.
• Porto Rico, 1882 to 1898, ½ mil. to 20c. de peso	30	2 3	
† ,, ,, 1891-3, ½, 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8 mil.	6	0 6	
† ,, ,, 1894 or 1896, ½, 1, 2, and 4 mil.	4	0 3	
† ,, ,, 1898, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 mils.	5	2 0	
† ,, ,, 1899, on United States 1, 2, 5, 8 and 10c.	5	1 5	
† Portugal, 1893, provl., 5, 5, 10, 10, 20, 20 on 25, 25 50 on 80, 75 on 80, and 80 reis	10	3 9	
• Queensland, 1882-96, ½d., 1d., 1d., 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 2½d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1s.	14	1 1	
• ,, 1899, 4 figures, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1/-	9	0 11	
† Roumania, 1872 to 1894, 1 bani to 2 lei	40	2 0	
† St. Helena, 1884, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1s.	8	5 6	5s. at 7/6 each.
† ,, 1896, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., and 10d.	7	4 0	
† St. Kitts Nevis, 1903, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d. and 1/- ...	7	3 8	
† St. Lucia, 1891-8, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	8	3 9	5/- at 6/- each, 10/- at 12/ each.
† ,, 1903, C.A., single, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., and 1s.	5	4 9	
† St. Vincent, 1886-97, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1s.	7	5 9	5s. at 8/6 each.
† ,, 1899, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1s.	8	6 3	5s. at 10/- each.
† ,, 1903, C.A., single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1s. ...	7	11 6	2/- at 2/4 each, 5/- at 5/10 each.
† ,, 1905, C.A., chalky, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 6d., and 1s.	5	3 0	Mult., ½d., 1d., & 1/-, 3 for 3/-
† Salvador, 1895, 1 on 12c., 1 on 24c., 1 on 30c., 2 on 20c., 3 on 30c. ...	5	1 0	
† San Marino, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 45 and 65c.	9	2 4	
• ,, ,, 1894, 25, 50c. and 1 lire	3	1 3	
† or • ,, ,, Unpaid, 5, 10, 30, 50 and 60c., and 1 lire	6	2 4	
† Sarawak, 1871, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 12c.	6	2 0	
†or• ,, 1889-97, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 16, 25, 32, 50c. and 1 dollar ...	12	18 6	
† ,, 1895, 2, 4, 6 and 8c.	4	1 8	
† ,, 1899, 2 on 3c., 2 on 12c., 4 on 6c., 4 on 8c.	4	4 6	
† Seychelles, 1890-5, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15 and 16c.	9	4 0	45c. at 4/6 each, 48c. at 3/6 each.
† ,, 1896-1900, 2, 6, 15, 18c.	4	11 2	36c at 4/6 each, 1 rupee, at 3/6 each.
† ,, ,, 75c., 1 R 50c., and 2 R 25c.	3	16 6	
† ,, 1901, 3 on 10c., 3 on 16c., 3 on 36c., and 6 on 8c.	4	1 9	
† ,, 1902, 2 on 4c., 30 on 75c., 30 on 1 R., 45 on 1 R., 45 on 2 R 50c. ...	5	7 6	
† ,, ,, 1903, King, C.A., single, 2, 3, 6, 12, 15, 18, 30, 45 and 75c. ...	9	4 6	1 R 50c at 3/6 ea., 2R 50c. at 7/- ea.
† Shanghai, 1893, ½, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 10, 15 and 20c.	9	1 0	
† ,, 1893, Postage due, ½, 1, 2, 5, 10, 15 and 20c.	7	0 6	
† Sierra Leone, 1884, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d. 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1/- ...	9	7 6	
† ,, ,, 1897, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., and 1/- ...	10	4 10	2/- at 3/9 each, 5/- at 10/- each.
† ,, ,, 1904, C.A., single, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., and 6d.	9	12 0	1/- at 7/- each, 5/- at 17/6 each, 20/- at 30/- each.
† Sirmoor, 1885, 3 pies, brown, 3 pies, orange, 6 pies, 1 and 2 anna ...	5	0 6	
† ,, 1895, 3 and 6 pies, 1 and 2 annas	4	0 5	
† ,, 1899, 3, 4, 8 a. and 1 rupee (Elephant). (Rajah set same price) ...	4	3 6	
† Somaliland Protectorate, 1903, C.A. single, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 12a. ...	9	4 9	
† Soudan (on Egypt), 1897, Unpaid, 2 and 4 mils, 1 and 2 piastres	4	1 0	
† ,, 1903, O.S.G.S., 1, 3, and 5 mil., 1, 2, and 5 ptre.	6	2 6	
• South Australia, 1868-1900, ½ to 2/-, including surcharges and official ...	20	2 3	
† South Nigeria, 1901, ½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d. and 1s.	6	1 6	2s. 6d. at 6/- each, 5s. at 15/- each, 10s. at 25/- each.
† ,, ,, 1903 (C.A. single), ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1/- ...	7	12 0	2/6 at 10/- each, 5/- at 17/6 each.
† ,, ,, 1905-7, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/-	8	3 6	2/6 at 2/11 each, 5/- at 5/10 each.
• Spain, 1851 to 1900, 6c. to 10 pesetas	50	6 0	
† Spanish Morocco, 1903, 1c., 5, 10, and 25c.	4	0 4½	
† Straits, 1892-99, 1c. on 2c., on 4c., on 6c., on 8c., on 12c., 3c. on 32c., puce and rose, 4c. on 5c. (3 var.), 4c. on 8c.	12	3 9	
† ,, 1902, C.A., single, 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 25, 30, and 50c.	9	7 3	1$ at 6/- ea., 2$ at 8/- ea., 5$ at 22/6 ea.
† ,, on LABUAN, 1907, 4 on 12c., 4 on 16c., 4 on 18c., 8c., 10c., 25c., 50c., and 1$	8	7 6	
† Swazieland, ½d., 1d., 2d., 6d. and 1/-	6	9 0	
† Tasmania, 1900, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d. and 6d., w'mkd. TAS- ...	8	3 0	1871, 5/- mauve at 14/- each.
† Tobago, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d. and 1s.	6	2 10	
† Tonga, Official, G.F.B., ½d. on 1d., 2½d. on 2d., 5d. on 4d., 7½d. on 8d., and 10d on 1/- ...	5	16 0	
† Transvaal, V.R.I., 1900, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1/- ...	8	2 9	2s. 6d. at 3/6 each; 5s. at 16/- each, 10s. at 14/- each.
† ,, E.R.I., ½d. green, ½d. on 2d., 1d., 3d. and 4d.	5	1 2	2s. 6d. at 4/- each.
† ,, 1903-4, C.A., single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- ...	8	4 6	2/- yellow and black at 3/6 each.
• Travancore, ½, 1, 2 and 4 chuckram	4	0 4	
† Trinidad, 1883, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d. and 1s.	6	7 6	1894, 5s. at 8/- each, 1896 5d. at 2/6 each, 5s. at 6/6 each.
† Turks' Isles, 1887-94, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 5d., 6d., and 1s.	7	6 0	1 R pale blue at 2/6 each, 1 R ultramarine at 7/6 each, 5 R at 11/- each.
† Uganda, 1898, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8 annas	5	2 6	
† ,, on British East Africa, ½ and 2½a.	2	0 6	
† United States, 1898 (Omaha), 1, 2, 4, 5, 8 and 10c.	6	1 6	
• Uruguay, 1884-1900, including provisionals and high values	34	2 9	
† Venezuela, 1893, surcharged, 5, 5, 10, 10, 25, 25, 50 and 50c.	8	0 8	
† Victoria, February, 1901, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., and 1/- ...	9	8 9	2/- at 6/9 each.
† Virgin Isles, 1899, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 7d., and 1/-	7	4 6	5/- at 8/- each.
• West Australia, 1885-93, C.A., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. & 1/- ...	9		
† Wurtemburg, Official, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50 pf., and 1 mark ...	15	6 0	
† ,, Service, 2, 3, 5, 10, and 25 pf.	5	1 0	
† Zanzibar (on India), ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a., and 1, 2, 3, and 5 R ...	14	55 0	1 R., grey, at 15/- each.
† ,, (Sultan), 1896-98, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 4½, 5, 7½ and 8 annas ...	10	5 6	
† ,, ,, ,, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 rupees	5	21 6	
† ,, ,, ,, 1899, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 4½, 5, 7½ and 8a.	10	3 8	
† ,, (on French), 1894, ½, 1, 2½, 5 and 10 annas	5	5 0	
† Zululand (on English), 1888, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 1s. ...	10	39 0	on Natal ½d. at 2/- each, 6d. at 5/- each.
†or• ,, 1894, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., 6d. and 1s.	6	4 8	2s. 6d. at 5/- each, 4s. at 8/- each.

"QUOTING YOU"

Letters to the Editor

"WING MARGINS" et al

The letter by Mr G.D. Buckley *(17th January)* reiterates a myth regarding the De La Rue Company and their perforating machines.

Before 1880 De La Rue not only possessed such machines but were able to make their own.[1] They were used on postage stamps. Indeed when the Secretary to the Board of Inland Revenue wrote on 3.8.79[2] asking "...are you now prepared to take over the whole of the work in connection with the perforation of the foreign and colonial stamps mentioned in my letter to you of 24.10.77?" the firm could reply the next day[3] "...we have long since taken over the work".

The confusion arises because De La Rue were negotiated into buying the comb machines at Somerset House as a condition of the 1880 consolidation of their contracts. The Correspondence books suggest that the firm thought it was buying a load of old rubbish![4] However they needed the old machines until reconstitution of the many printing plates to fit the 240-set paper occurred, after which they could use their own machines.

The 1879 British contract dictated the use of Crown watermark paper that was 240-set. Prior to that the pane size of 20, 56, 60, 96, 120, etc. was decided not by De La Rue but by the Colonial Officers, the Crown Agents, or the Board of Inland Revenue, etc. The main criterion was the watermarked paper to be used and there was no "standard De La Rue sheet layout" before 1880. The paper, not the stamps, dictated the perforator to be used.

De La Rue had to continue using the old perforator that produced wing margins into the mid-80's,[5] for some colonies only placed sporadic orders, and their printing plates were not altered to 240-set at one magical blow in 1880.

Chester PETER YOUNG

1. Inland Revenue Correspondence Books Vol 4, p. 11 (3)
2. Inland Revenue Correspondence Books Vol 3, p.126.
3. Inland Revenue Correspondence Books Vol 3, p.127
4. Inland Revenue Correspondence Books Vol 4, p.30 through to 51.
5. Inland Revenue Correspondence Books Vol 5, p.97.

In your issue of 17th January Mr. G.D. Buckley gives a very lucid explanation of the "Wing Margin" in the De La Rue printings of many of the 19th century British and Colonial stamps, and the reason for its disappearance when De La Rue obtained their own comb perforating machine, thus no longer needing the perforating to be done by Somerset House.

When De La Rue took over the printing of the engraved 1d. and 6d. stamps of Natal from the original Perkins, Bacon plates, which I believe had no gutters, we got in 1863 a perforation of 13 for the 1d. on unwatermarked paper and in 1864-8 a perforation of 12½ for the 1d. and 6d. on paper watermarked Crown and C.C. Who, I wonder, perforated these?

The first stamp of Natal that had wing margins was the De La Rue surface printed 1/- green in 1867, and this was perforated 14 by comb machine. Obviously Somerset House had obliged.

Mr. Buckley has added to my knowledge of these early issues.

Guildford NORMAN P. BIDDLE



(Continued on page 1029)

A POSTAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE WEST INDIES

By W. H. B. Dean

NOTE. *Although only completed a few weeks ago, this account deals with a visit made in* 1972 *and may, in some small particulars, be out of date*—EDITOR.

A B.O.A.C. 747 landed us safely at Coolidge International Airport, Antigua (S.G.188), which lies just a few miles from St. John's, the capital. The taxi ride to the modern air-conditioned Post Office (S.G.189) on the water front cost $5, the dollars being referred to as " Bee-Wee " dollars or " E.C." dollars. They were the common currency of all the islands visited, issued by the East Caribbean Currency Authority. The post office at St. John's had two important differences from all the other post offices in the area. It was air-conditioned and had coil vending machines for 5c., 10c., and 25c. stamps outside. Antigua (pronounced *Anteega*) is



The modern Post Office at St. John's, Antigua

relatively flat with a few hills and very indented coastline with some fine beaches (S.G.218). It has semi-arid type Mediterranean vegetation and suffers water shortages from time to time. The State of Antigua includes the island of Barbuda which has a sub-post office serving a very small community and also the uninhabited island of Redonda (S.G.249–51). There are nine sub-post offices on the island including that on Barbuda.

Travel from island to island is best done by air and LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport) (S.G. Montserrat 280–85) took us over to Montserrat in a mere 12 minutes (forgetting our baggage, I regret to say—but that is another story). The tiny Bradbourne airfield—one could hardly call it an air-port with but three flights a day and a fire tender used to keep the runway clear of grazing cattle, sheep and goats—is the opposite side of the island to the capital, Plymouth. This taxi ride costs 8 " Bee-Wee " but affords a splendid view of this



A Hawker-Siddeley of LIAT on the Montserrat Bradbourne Airfield

rather rugged and slightly more vegetated island. The Post Office occupies an old colonial-style verandahed building on the waterfront next to the fine War Memorial (S.G.259). Business is conducted through the windows which are appropriately labelled " Stamps ", " Postal Orders " and so on. It was a surprise, on this small island of 14,000 people, to find that a third window stated " Philatelic Bureau ". The lady officer was both most courteous and knew her stamps, separating glazed paper and later printings, etc. Apart from the current definitives she also had on sale recent First Day



Nevis seen on the Alexander Hamilton bi-centenary stamp

Covers and miniature sheets of the Tourism and LIAT sets. Montserrat has nine sub-offices scattered over the island and strikes of these can be obtained via the bureau if correctly stamped and addressed envelopes are sent with an appropriate request.

After some five hours' wait, a tiny Britten Norman Islander (S.G.283) flew us north from Montserrat to Nevis, passing over the large rock, Redonda (S.G. Antigua 249). The airstrip on Nevis was unbelievably small and primitive being little bigger than a football pitch and all immigration, customs and other airport services were carried out in a very small wooden hut, 8 ft. × 20 ft. Nevis (pronounced with a double " ee " as in " need ") is almost a complete conical volcano rising out of the warm blue Caribbean (S.G. St. Kitts 119). It is part of the political unit of St. Christopher (St. Kitts)–Nevis–Anguilla, although the latter for all practical matters has seceded from the unit (but it is politic not to speak of this on St. Kitts!). There are only two post offices on Nevis, at Charlestown and Gingerland.



The Treasury Building at Basseterre, St. Kitts

A 10-minute flight took us to Basseterre, capital of St. Kitts The tourist brochures state that every inch of St. Kitts is covered in sugar cane: perhaps mist was covering the slopes of the volcanic mountains, which cover a very large area of the island, when the brochure was written! The new post office building is situated on the waterfront of the very beautiful Basseterre Bay. It has a Philatelic Officer but all stamps must be purchased from the counter clerks. The current range of definitives does not include a 40c. value which is the airmail rate to Europe, but this value is usually provided in the plentiful commemorative sets, but when not available as a commemorative a combination of low values must be used. There are only seven post offices on St. Kitts and, again, a collection of cancellations can be arranged through the Philatelic Officer. The surface rate to the U.K. is 6c. and registration 16c.: so, for the equivalent of 3p, I sent registered covers from each office back to the U.K. and as the volume of surface mail is so little the covers arrived by air—not bad value, registered airmail for 3p each!

Flying to the southern extremity of our journey we arrived in St. Vincent (S.G.279), the island which a few months earlier had become extremely concerned by the appearance of a new steaming volcanic island several hundred feet high in the

(*Continued on page* 271)



The new Head Post Office at Kingstown, St. Vincent

Postal Pilgrimage to the West Indies (*contd. from page* 269)

lake of the old dormant volcano (S.G.235), in the north of the island. Most of the population and some 39 post offices are located in the south of the island. The new head post office (S.G.318) in Kingstown was rather crowded but the staff were very courteous over my enquiries about Mustique Island—which, then, had just been reported as issuing St. Vincent stamps overprinted with " Mustique Island " in the margin.

Mustique is one of the Grenadines, (S.G.332) a chain of beautiful islands lying between St. Vincent and Grenada, most of which belong to St. Vincent. Official government post offices exist on most of the larger islands including a sub-office on Mustique. An old sailing schooner plies up and down the islands collecting and distributing mail two or three times a week but, regrettably, during our short stay it had put into dock on Bequia for careening (S.G.330) and we were unable to investigate the situation on Mustique Island for ourselves. Back at the G.P.O. the Chief Accountant assured us that an official post office existed on Mustique, but it only sold ordinary St. Vincent stamps. After I persisted that there were marginal overprints, the lady accountant admitted that the owner of the island had recently purchased large quantities of St. Vincent stamps and she believed they were taken to England. It seemed, although I could not definitely confirm this, that these overprinted stamps were not supplied by the St. Vincent post office in that condition and, probably, were not sold over the actual Mustique Island post office counter, but through the hotels on the island. As the actual stamps were not defaced by the overprinted margins, the stamps themselves were accepted for use on mail by the Mustique sub-office.

Our visit to Barbados was regrettably so brief (12 hours including sleeping time) that we had no opportunity to investigate the postal service. Flying on to St. Lucia (pronounced " Looser ") we landed at Vigie airport, the only airport on any of the islands within walking distance of the capital, in this case Castries. We were lucky to have had two separate visits to St. Lucia but I also had the very dubious experience of sitting on the wall in the centre of the Boulevard (S.G.278) and feeling that the ground was still going up and down—but then I confess to being the world's worst sailor! The new post office is just across the road and after a few



Pigeon Island, seen from the St. Lucia mainland.

minutes to recover we went in and received the usual courteous service. There are some 32 post offices on the island and a collection of all the offices sets the collector quite a task. During our visit it was nice to see many of the famous features shown on the stamps including Pigeon Island (S.G.283) which is no longer an island and is now connected to the mainland by a causeway providing a large tourist beach. The Pitons at the other end of the island were impressive (S.G.63, 137, 284) but more amazing was the volcano just the other side of them. This is the world's only " drive-in " volcano as the main road runs within a few yards of the steaming, smoking cauldrons (S.G.280).

Our main base in the West Indies was Dominica where we had the fortune to stay with a friend who was headmaster of the grammar school (S.G.285). The airport (S.G.288) lies diagonally across the island from the capital, Roseau (S.G.27), and the drive is exciting, to say the least. In fact, on the day we left, the Layou River (S.G.100) had washed the new road (S.G.167) away and we had to dodge landslides and pot holes on the old imperial road. Dominica is really a most beautiful island, full of tropical charm and splendour and little altered from its original state. Travel is not easy:



Layou River,



Grammar School



Boiling Lake



Banana Industry

to reach the boiling lake (S.G.130, 150) is a major jungle trek over mountain ranges—a nine-hour trek on foot, but it was worth it. The lake really is boiling and quite large. The main industry is banana growing (S.G.125, 279) but coconuts (S.G.178) and limes (S.G.104a) and other fruit are important. It is said that Rose's Lime Juice and the name of the capital Roseau have some connection! Almost all the villages and settlements are around the coast, little of the centre of the island being cultivated.

There are some 60 settlements with post offices and I was fortunate enough to secure a postmark for each office. Most strikes were obtained by personal visits and a few offices produced interesting situations. The head office on the sea front in Roseau is situated upstairs in the old colonial-style building (S.G.362). Also in Roseau are the sub-offices of Loubriere, King's Hill and Fond Cole. These were so near the main office that many people did not know of the existence of their local post office and it proved difficult to find them! At Loubriere the hand-stamp was two years out of date and at Fond Cole the postmistress insisted that she only sold stamps and would not accept mail. However, we saw a small wooden box high on a shelf and on investigation found a new hand-stamp and necessary slugs. Obviously it had not been used except for original testing. Back it came into use and after cancelling a few covers it was returned to its box, possibly, never to be used again.

Many of the sub-offices and postal agencies were no more than the kitchen or living room of someone's home. Each

(*Continued on page* 273)

Postal Pilgrimage to the West Indies (*contd. from page* 271)

postmistress (they are mostly middle-aged ladies) goes to the main office once a month or so to purchase (for cash) her expected demand for stamps for the coming weeks. Mails were delivered and collected from most offices two or three times a week.

The following is a short summary of our visits to some of the more interesting agencies.

Morne Jaune. A difficult journey seemed unrewarded when the post office was located, but no postmaster. Some way back down the road we met a man carrying a stem of bananas on his head and we were delighted to discover he was the postmaster. He, too, was delighted to get a lift back to his house with his heavy load of bananas.

Tan Tan. The year date-plug had not arrived by July and the date-stamp was very muddy and probably very little used as most people posted letters in the larger office at Portsmouth.

Tete Morne. This office was situated high on a hill in the southern part of the island and the postmistress was missing, but her husband, who only spoke *patois* thrust the box at us and we set up the necessary equipment.

Marigot. The post office was situated above the police station and the postmaster also served as a customs clerk for the airport, about five miles away.

La Roche. The postmaster had gone to cultivate his banana grove but his wife obliged by opening the post office box and allowing us to use the strike.

Melville Hall—the airport. Efficient business transacted over the restaurant counter. Up to 30 items of mail handled per day but all mail was sent to Roseau first and then back to the airport a day or so later!

Castle Bruce. A large, grand old house about one mile from the village along a tortuous track, known locally as a "jeepable" road. It must be very inconvenient to villagers as it serves one of the largest units of habitation on the Atlantic coast.

Calibushie. Probably the best kept village in Dominica. The post office was easily located but the postmistress lived several miles away in another village. Thus, the office was only open occasionally.

Delicies. A scattered settlement at a remote spot on the Atlantic coast. The postmistress was unusually concerned at a request for the cancellation of a cover, suspecting that we (with cameras and sunglasses, of course) were inspectors and happily obliged.

Petite Savanne. Up a very difficult track which caused the loss of our car's silencer but the postmistress was, as usual, very pleasant and co-operative, even if not a little surprised at our mission.

Salisbury. The die was poorly made and all the date-plugs failed to register on most strikes attempted.

Bellvue Chopin. One of the few inland villages with a post office. Situated on the top of a mountain. The date-plug had rusted and could not be inserted in the die and the date is normally indicated in manuscript by biro.

Silybia. Capital of the Carib Reserve. The post office was near the beach requiring a 20-minute walk from the newly-cut road. The asterisk in the die had been lost.

Wesley. Probably the oldest canceller in use in the island, with a single ring and large, spaced letters.

Dublane. This village has only very recently been accessible by road. The ink pad was parched and the postmaster tried to water it down to get sufficient ink for striking the covers.

Pais Bouche. This is an error of spelling for Paix Bouche.

Mero. It took three visits to locate the postmistress and then we were assured that the hand-stamp was under repair in Roseau, but after persistent questioning it was found under the bed. It was in pieces as the lady then claimed that she had not received the current year date. Again, further search revealed the missing year plug and July 27th was the first date of that particular New Year at Mero. The postmistress was then so concerned at all the fuss that she insisted we waited whilst she brought water, soap and a clean linen towel to wash our hands.

(*Continued at foot of adjoining column*)

Good Hope. This is situated in quite a remote spot on the Atlantic coast and it was felt this might be an interesting and rare postmark but the young postmistress informed us that collectors have several times requested copies of her postmark—we wonder why!

Needless to say, the Head Post Office in Dominica does not accept requests to obtain specimen cancellations of all the post offices on the Island—and I don't blame the Head Postmaster in view of our own trials and tribulations.

BOOKSHELF

Unless otherwise indicated, all books and catalogues reviewed in STAMP COLLECTING are obtainable from Harris Publications Ltd., 42 Maiden Lane, London WC2E 7LW Prices quoted are post paid.

Sylvester Peat has now reached *Part Three* of his part-work **Music on Stamps** (70p). This covers composers, conductors and musicians whose names begin with "G" to "L" and runs to 56 pages with a wealth of illustrations including very many out of the way items to whet the appetite of the keen musical thematic collector. This really is a worthwhile series, although likely to prove costly in the end; by buying it piecemeal as each part appears you will save yourself considerable outlay.

In the quarter-century which has passed since Dr. Harry Osborne published his *Repaired Impressions*, there have been numerous further attempts to categorise our knowledge of early G.B. issues, including Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins' excellent works. However, it has taken us all this time before A. C. Alcock Ltd. could bring us—in 86 pages with 14 superb separate photoplates and securely bound in serviceable blue cloth—J. W. M. Stone's **Repairs of the 1841 One Penny Plates 1–10, (£7·85).** To attempt to indicate the scope of the study incorporated into this work would be foolish; to the newcomer and the expert alike this is an absolute "must" which will not only save many hundreds of hours of unnecessary work but will open the eyes of every collector to a wealth of interest in this already popular issue. By no means cheap, the book is unlikely ever to become cheaper, and if Osborne's earlier work is anything to go by it will, immediately all copies are sold, begin a dizzy climb at auction until its present price seems but a dream. As a result, I can only counsel my readers to *buy now* if they have the slightest interest in this esoteric field.

The Bible through Stamps (£4), is an American hardcover book published by Ktav Publishing House and written by Ord Matek. Its superbly printed 230 pages carry us on a philatelic journey from Genesis to Chronicles, presenting at each important point a heading, biblical quotation, stamp illustration and background notes. Naturally, the U.S. 1969 Apollo 8 stamp begins the story ("In the beginning, God . . . "), and the author leans heavily on Israel's many biblical issues for his material. This attractive book cannot certainly be regarded as in any way exhaustive—it is representational, and forms the basis on which each collector may build his own comprehensive biblical collection. It is a pity that the title does not make it clearer that this book is written from a Jewish viewpoint and, therefore, contains no reference to the New Testament. K.R.L.

The latest series from Bermuda reminds Barbara Last of an important centenary.

Cable and Wireless

Bermuda is marking the centenary by Cable & Wireless of the first undersea telegraph cable between Halifax and Bermuda with a set of stamps that reminds us of the comparative youth of telecommunications. Between 1840/50 the invention of the electrical telegraph was a wonder, and a network of communications by it spread rapidly all over Britain, most of Europe and parts of North America.

Then thoughts turned to extending the marvel by means of submarine cables across stretches of water. Until 1872 all cableships were various merchantmen converted for the purpose. The small paddle steamer *Goliath* (Rwanda, SG816) has the distinction of being the first cableship with any equipment fitted specifically for the task. The cable was wound round a large drum, like an outsize cotton-reel, erected amidship, the only primitive control on the cable as it paid out over the stern being a crude friction brake on the brake drum. She laid the first submarine cable of any length from Dover to Cap Gris Nez, France, by stopping every sixteenth of a mile for blocks of lead to be attached to make the very light cable sink. The English Channel was spanned on the evening of August 28, 1850, but the whole operation came to nothing, for during the night a French fisherman fouled the cable, and, believing it to be the tail of a sea monster, chopped off a piece. A new Channel cable was laid on September 25, 1851 from the pontoon hulk *Blazer* under tow. This success was followed by cables being laid across short, shallow stretches of water like the Mediterranean and North Sea, and in 1858/9 *William Cory* (Ireland, SG457) laid ones from East Anglia to Holland and Germany.

The equipment on board cable ships and repair ships was almost identical as repair ships had to undertake everything from the initial hydrographical survey to routine maintenance, including short lays, shore end work, and grappling on the sea-bed for parted cables. But the necessary stowage for miles of cable in tanks, that take the place of normal cargo holds, means larger cable-layers. Deep sea cable cores (Jamaica, SG321) were insulated by waterproof gutta percha (now polythene) round a copper conductor, protected from marine borers



The new series from Bermuda to mark the centenary of Cable & Wireless.

with brass tape, and finished by armouring wires and a protective compound. The armouring must be heavy in shallow water to withstand damage from anchors, trawlers and tidal movements. Hydrological surveys are essential to avoid unknown hazards like mountain ranges and deep chasms. Until after the First World War depth-sounding was performed by physically lowering a weight on a line and measuring the length paid out, or by the use of the Kelvin tube which by compressing trapped air indicated the pressure and thus the depth. Until the invention of now standard electronic equipment, navigators too had only the age-old astronomical



Rwanda — cs 'Goliath'.



Ireland — cs 'William Cory'.





instruments of sextant, compass and log. Cable ships must be highly manoeuvrable, and their navigation immaculate.

There was no precedent for a 2,050-mile submerged cable operating at great depth, and many dismissed the idea of a transatlantic cable as impossible. However, there were immense commercial advantages for such a link. In 1857/8 the British and American governments made a joint effort by lending the warships HMS *Agamemnon* (Guiné Bissau, SG482), the first Royal Navy vessel to be converted to screw propulsion, and the 5,200gt USNS *Niagara*, the world's largest steam frigate. With their attendant support vessels, 'The Wire Squadron', as they were called, survived the worst North Atlantic storm ever recorded which nearly swamped *Agamemnon* and her heavy cargo of cable. After repeated failures Ireland and Newfoundland were finally linked by the first transatlantic cable on August 5, 1858, and messages were exchanged. There were scenes of wild rejoicings, and the supervising engineer of the project, Charles Bright, aged 26, was knighted. But on September 1, the cable failed.

Meanwhile, F.N. Gisborne, an English engineer who emigrated to Canada, had laid the first American undersea cable from New Brunswick to Prince Edward Island. He now put forward the idea of using ss *Great Eastern* to lay a new transatlantic cable (Canada, SG1244). This huge 18,951gt white elephant (Virgin Islands, SG621) was bought and converted, her very size making her an ideal steady platform. After the cable snapped in 1865 near the end of the operation, the *Great Eastern* and *William Cory* made another attempt. An Irish stamp (SG457) is based on a photograph of *William Cory* laying the cable in Foilhommerum Bay, Valencia Island in 1866. *Great Eastern* landed her end at Hearts Content, Newfoundland, and also recovered the cable end lost 600 miles off Newfoundland the previous year. Once again Europe and America were in contact, this time by two operational cables. By 1874 Brunel's outsize ship had laid five North Atlantic cables, and continued as a successful cable layer in European and Eastern waters. William Thomson, later Lord Kelvin of Largs (Guiné Bissau, SG779), inventor and mathematician, was Britain's leading physicist. He was knighted for his practical and theoretical help towards



Canada — Gisborne and 'Great Eastern'.



Virgin Islands — 'Great Eastern'.

the laying of the 1866 transatlantic cable.

Britain was in the forefront of the undersea cable field. Another pioneer involved with the Atlantic epic was John Pender, a wealthy textile manufacturer who dreamed of a cable linking Britain to India. As first Chairman of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Co in 1864, the forerunner of Cable & Wireless, he became active in promoting groups of companies which amalgamated to form the first long-distance chain of direct telegraph cables of the British

Empire, and by the end of the century undersea lines radiated out east, south and west from the United Kingdom. Sir Charles Bright, the consultant engineer for many overseas governments, was one of the principals behind the West India & Panama Telegraph Co, now Cable & Wireless (West Indies) Ltd, which from 1870 linked the chain of West Indian islands through to Panama. Sir Charles bought *Dacia* (Jamaica, SG320) and converted her into a cable-layer of 1,856gt by cutting her in half, adding 40ft to her length and strengthening her with an iron belt. Arriving in July 1870 she laid 4,000 miles linking the islands via Havana to the USA, and connecting them to the new Atlantic telegraph. Bright's cable gear and core (Jamaica, SG321) aboard the *Dacia* marks the centenary of the telegraph service. *Dacia* laid cables from Cornwall to Spain, from Spain to the Canaries, and down the west coast of Africa. Finally, while diverting the German South American cable to France, she was torpedoed by a U-boat off Funchal in December 1915.

Until 1890 communication between the West Indies and Europe was via the USA land line system and cables of the International Ocean Telegraph Co, later absorbed by Western Union. Two new companies were founded to improve matters, and the 3,242gt *Westmeath* (Bermuda, 55c) laid the 870 nautical miles of the first Halifax-Bermuda cable for what is now the Cable & Wireless Co, the office opening for business on July 14, 1890 (20c). The Old Wireless Transmission Station in Lily Park Street, Georgetown (70c), opened in May 1928 when technology was more advanced. *Westmeath*, 230ft by 42.4ft, with a single screw and compound engines, was also chartered in 1887/9 to lay French cables to the Antilles. The West Indies have produced many cable-ships which I cannot describe here for lack of space, but a particularly handsome set in 1986 marked the 20th anniversary of Cable & Wireless in the Virgin Islands (SG615/22).

Ascension Island (SG249/53) marked the 80th anniversary in 1979 of the Atlantic cable network with the laying of the Cape Town



Guiné Bissau — Lord Kelvin and a cableship.



Jamaica — cs 'Dacia'.



Ascension — landing cable at Comfortless Cove.

cable via Ascension and St Helena. The line was brought ashore in Comfortless Cove, and the two ships involved were *Anglia* and *Seine*. The *Seine* was built in 1859 at Blackwall for the Royal Mail Line, originally as a 3,553gt iron-hulled three-masted paddle steamer. She was converted to screw-propulsion, and was bought in 1876 by Pender's Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Co. She laid many cables in the Atlantic and other seas, and served the company well until broken up in 1905. The 6,514gt *Anglia* was a larger, newer vessel, built for the same firm at Barrow in 1898. Sold in 1906, she was sold and resold. Then rebuilt as the freighter *Itonus* with accommodation for 91 passengers, she passed to the British India line in 1913, and three years later as a hospital ship was torpedoed in the Mediterranean by the Austrian-Hungarian U38.

Another paddle steamer *Scotia*





Ascension — cs 'Anglia'.

(Cocos (Keeling) Islands, SG129) was designed for Cunard's Liverpool to New York service in 1862, and sold to the Telegraph Construction & Maintenance Co in 1879, who converted her into a 4,660gt screw-driven cable ship. She renewed the 1866 Atlantic cable, laid second lines from the Lizard, Cornwall, to Bilbao, and from Madeira to Pernambuco, and in 1887 linked Porthcurno, Cornwall, to Spain and Gibraltar. She was sold in 1902, and served in the Pacific where she was wrecked two years later. A Cable & Wireless vessel very much associated with Gibraltar was the 1,850gt cs *Mirror* (Gibraltar, SG205a) of 1923. She was built by John Brown for the Eastern Telegraph Co, and spent most of her career repairing and maintaining cables to Gibraltar from the United Kingdom, Malta and south-west into the Atlantic. For 30 years she looked on the Rock as her home port, where many wives and families had permanent quarters. During the Second World War she continued with her normal duties in Biscay and the Mediterranean plus Admiralty duties in Gibraltar harbour.

Cables were continuously being cut by the enemy to disrupt communications between the Allies. The vital channels had to be restored, and cable ships became such high-priority targets that their movements were shrouded in secrecy. They also helped to lay PLUTO (Pipe Line Under the Ocean), the line that pumped fuel across the Channel to power the invasion of Europe. A cable ship carries two separate crews, one for the normal running of a seagoing vessel, and the other a technical staff of electrical engineers and cable-jointing specialists.

Although Bell's telephone was invented in 1876, it was not until 1891 that the first telephone cable conveying the human voice was laid across the English Channel. But longer maritime routes had to wait for the submersible repeaters, which are underwater amplifiers installed at regular intervals into the cables to boost

Ascension — cs 'Seine'.

Ascension — map of Atlantic cable network.



signals so that [illegible] longer, or more [illegible] operate. Therefore sp[illegible] travel under the Atlant[illegible] 8,065gt Post Office *Mona* (Sharjah, SG166) laid TA[illegible] (Transatlantic Telephone 1) 1955/6 with 36 circuits. Its success was phenomenal. TAT 7, 1983, can carry 4,200 simultaneous calls. *Monarch*, sold to Cable & Wireless in 1970, was renamed *Sentinel* (Virgin Islands, SG615). She was stationed at Bermuda, and was withdrawn in 1977.

In 1959 TAT 1 took part in a 'cable-vision' experiment of the Queen officially opening the St Lawrence Seaway, showing almost-live television pictures which took 1 hour 40 minutes to cross the ocean. Live transatlantic television only became possible in 1962 with the advent of the small communications satellite Telstar and the GPO Satellite Earth Station at Goonhilly Downs, Cornwall. Global TV arrived three years later with Early Bird (INTELSAT 1), a geostationary satellite 'fixed' over the At[illegible]ic to orbit the earth at a speed equivalent to the earth's rotation.

Ascension Island has been particularly important in the development of transatlantic communications by cable and satellite. The



Gibraltar — cs 'Mirror'.

Ascension stamp (SG475) shows the GPO cs *Alert*, which by comparing photographs I believe to be the fourth of the nam[illegible] twin-screw diesel-electric ve[illegible] of 6,413gt. Built in 1961 by Fairfield Shipbuilding, for precise control the ship is fitted with a bow propeller operated from the bridge, or bow, or stern. She is primarily designed for the repair/maintenance of Atlantic telephone cables. Cable & Wireless co-operated with the Americans, and *Alert* laid the main 750 nautical miles cable from New Jersey to Bermuda, part of TAT 3. In 1961, with cs *John W. Mackay*, she laid SCOTICE 694 nautical miles from Gairlock, Scotland, to Iceland, a co-operative system owned by the GPO, the Danish PTT, and the Great Northern Telegraph Co. cs *John W. Mackay* (owned by Commercial Cable (Marine) Co Ltd) is not yet on a stamp. She was built in 1922 by Swan Hunter, Wigham & Richardson, a 4,064gt vessel with beautiful lines and still richly fitted internally with her original oak, mahogany and teak. After the loss by fire of *Ocean Layer* in 1959 she

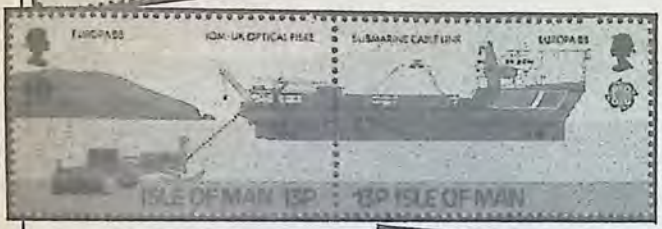


Ascension — cs 'Albert IV'.

Isle of Man — cs 'Flexiservice III'.



Cachet of cs 'John W. Mackay'.



was chartered to help with TAT 2 (France-Canada). Then instead of the threatened scrapping, because of her outstanding design, she was modernised and sophisticated equipment was specially installed to lay the modern coaxial telephone system over the stern for the Spanish government's first telephone cable, 750 nautical miles to the Canaries, in the Spring of 1965, and in the following year for the 760 nautical miles Cape Kennedy to Bahamas line.

I first met Captain Dennis Harper in Cornwall in 1972 when his *John W. Mackay* celebrated her 50th anniversary as the oldest cableship in the world. Some of her 20 officers and 60 West Country crew had been with her for some twenty years. Stationed at Halifax during the war, the ship cut and appropriated 300 miles of Italian cable, later used between the Eastern Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf. Now her new gear enabled her to sound to 4,000 fathoms and take thermometer readings on the sea-bed, and she was equipped to receive fixes from navigational satellites to pin-point her position. With this equipment she acted as the key pilot vessel guiding the main cableships in the huge task of laying the 1965/6 6,000 mile cable from Cape Town to Lisbon, via Ascension and the Canary Islands. She covered 33,000 nautical miles and was at sea often for 56 days at a time. For this task she had a special cachet to strike on mail. Unfortunately I was too late for one of the special covers, but Captain Harper found a cacheted envelope which he obligingly sent me, remarking that 'it's a bit old hat now with such rapid progress in electronics the last few years'. I had the occasional letter from the cableship in the Mediterranean and from the Pacific where she laid a line from Cairns, Australia, to Papua in 1975: 'Awful long way to go just for a few weeks' work but our class of ship is in short supply together with experienced personnel.' *John W. Mackay* was decommissioned in 1978, and could be seen at Green-



Virgin Islands — cs 'Mercury'.

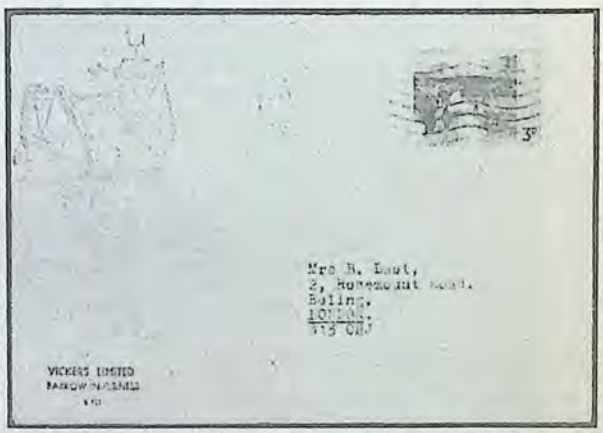
some seven years later to the West India Docks, where I saw her, to be converted into a working museum of technological history.

CANTAT 2, inaugurated in 1974, was the main communications artery between Britain and North America, carrying more speech data, telex or facsimile calls than all the other transatlantic cables put together. It was a joint enterprise spanning 3,230 miles from Cornwall to Nova Scotia, the UK shore end being laid by the Post Office's cs *Ariel* (Qatar, SG356). cs *Mercury*, of Cable & Wireless, then laid 3,033 nautical miles of cables in five trips, using satellite navigation, and the Canadian end was completed by the ice-breaker cable-layer CCGS *John Cabot*. The British Post Office issued an official cover with the *Mercury* cachet, a vessel depicted on more stamps than any other cableship. In August 1973 the midget submersible PISCES III sank while burying part of CANTAT 2 on the UK continental shelf. The world watched anxiously for three days before the two-man crew trapped on the sea-bed was rescued.

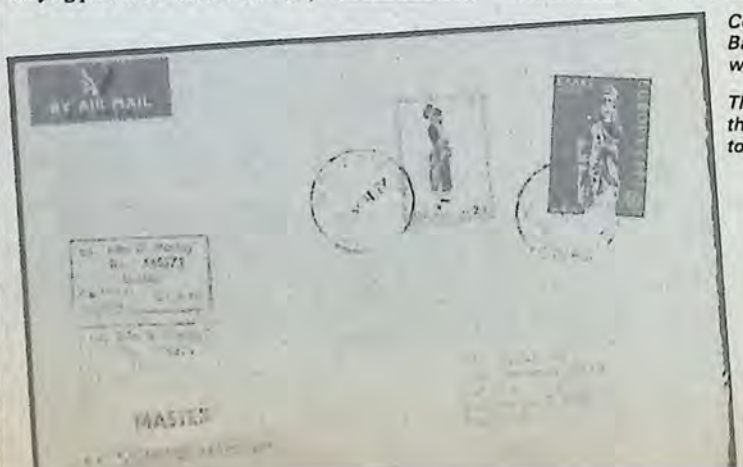
Undersea cable-laying has been revolutionised by the invention of the Submersible Plough which lays and buries a cable in one continuous operation by means of a control umbilical. The *Alert* had a £2m refit, and using this equipment in 1986 laid 'the world's first optical fibre underseas telephone cable in which messages including computer data went as pulses of laser light along tiny strands of ultra-pure glass'. This cable link between Britain and Belgium handles 12,000 simultaneous calls. In February 1986 during sea trials in the English Channel with *Alert*, the control umbilical parted in bad weather leaving the Plough stranded on the seabed 45 fathoms down. It had to be temporarily abandoned, but, when weather conditions improved, it was brought up by flotation bags. The Isle of Man stamp (SG381/2) illustrated this fantastic technique in use from cs *Flexiservice III*, a 1,591gt vessel built in 1982. She laid the optical fibre cable from Port Grenough, Isle of Man, to Silecroft, Cumbria, in September 1987. She has dynamic positioning — side thrusters fore and aft — and a helicopter pad for a Bell 212 or Super Puma helicopter.

A yet further technical advance is the Submersible Trencher, looking rather like a futuristic tank on an umbilical. Launched from a stern gantry, this robot is designed to bury and inspect undersea cables at depths down to 300m, where it can move on caterpillar treads in zero visibility, locating the cable with magnetic sensors and video cameras. It uses high-pressure water jets to cut a trench a metre deep in which to bury the cable.

The latest cableship on stamps is *Sir Eric Sharp* (Bermuda, $2), a Cable & Wireless vessel completed in March 1989 by Swan Hunter, Tyne and Wear. She is 6,141gt with all the latest electronic aids of satellite navigation and dynamic positioning. She also owns a ROV (Remote Operation Vehicle) for seabed cable work. At this moment *Sir Eric Sharp* is in Bermuda, a happy occurrance at this time of Bermuda's Cable & Wireless centenary.



Cover from Vickers in Barrow-in-Furness with 'Pisces' cachet.



The final part of the laying of the Italy to Israel cable.

Walt Disney

I expect that many of you, like me, watch television on Sunday mornings and in particular those wonderful nature films in which boys and girls, and a great variety of animals both wild and tame, become involved in all manner of adventures set against breath-taking scenery. These nature movies from the Disney Studios at Burbank in California are a far cry from the very first film I was ever taken to see.

You will get some clue as to my age when I tell you that it was *Snow White*, during its first turn round the cinema circuits of Britain. Mind you, I don't remember this myself but my mother used to tell me that I spent most of the time running up and down the aisles and annoying other patrons. Of course, I have seen this film many times since then, both in the cinema for which it was created, and as excerpts on the small screen in the corner of the living room. But even half a century (and more) after it was first released, this full-length cartoon film continues to have a sense of magic, and to hear the beautiful music of its songs, such as 'Whistle While You Work' and 'Some Day My Prince Will Come', evokes an immediate feeling of nostalgia.

The creator of the cartoons, the nature films and ultimately the amusement parks was born Walter Elias Disney in Chicago on December 5, 1901. His father traced his ancestry right back to a Burgundian knight named De Disney who fought for William the Conqueror. Elias Disney was born in the American Mid-West in 1859 when it was still frontier territory. He had a colourful but unsuccessful career raising cattle in Kansas and growing oranges in Florida, but the frosts killed his crops and he drifted back to the Mid-West.

He worked as a carpenter on the erection of stands for the Columbian Exposition of 1893 and for a few years ran his own business in Chicago where his fourth son Walter was born. When Walt was five, however, his father decided to return to the land and bought a small farm in Missouri. Life was hard for Walt and his elder brother Roy, but it formed his character and shaped his artistic sensibilities.

He began drawing and sketching almost as soon as he was old enough to hold a crayon. When he was about six or seven years old he got hold of a brush and, dipping it into the barrel of tar used to patch



Walt Disney. . .



. . . was a newspaperboy.

the white walls of the farmhouse with large and fanciful drawings of animals. This earned him a sound spanking, but his Aunt Maggie recognised his artistic talents and gave him a pad of drawing paper and a box of coloured pencils. He determined to become a professional cartoonist and while still a small boy he enrolled in a correspondence school cartooning course.

In 1910 the Disney family sold their farm and drifted to Kansas City. When Walt was fourteen he persuaded his father to let him join the Saturday morning art class at the Kansas City Art Institute. By this time he was eking out the family's precarious budget as a newspaper boy. The USA issued a 3c stamp in 1952 'in recognition of the important service rendered their communities and their nation by America's newspaperboys'. The stamp showed a boy with a sack full of papers, inscribed 'Busy Boys — Better Boys' and on the right was the flaming torch of Free Enterprise. Sad to say, in this case, the enterprise belonged to father Elias, and Walt and Roy were forced to perform their hard work for nothing, though other boys hired by Elias got three dollars a week.

Walt then had the bright idea of selling extra papers on a street corner after he had done the early morning paper-round. He persuaded his father to order 50 additional papers, but he ran into trouble when Elias insisted on holding the boy's money 'for safe keeping' and Walt never saw it again. Eventually he was forced to order extra papers himself without his father's knowledge in order to keep his paltry earnings. He also got a lunch-time job in a candy store and managed to keep it a secret from his miserly father.

The bright spots in an otherwise harsh boyhood were those Saturday art classes (in which he proved an excellent pupil) and amateur nights at the local cinema where he won prizes for his impersonations of Charlie Chaplin. He probably hankered after a career on the stage, an ambition which was satisfied later in life when he hosted his own highly successful TV shows; and he always did the voice of his most famous character, Mickey Mouse, on film soundtracks. In 1917 a special matinee for newspaper boys was held in Kansas City. This was Marguerite Clark's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* which made a lasting impression on Walt.

His education was rounded off at McKinley High School in Chicago where he drew cartoons for the school paper. By now Elias had a jam factory where Walt had to



work long and hard after school. At the same time he studied drawing under Carl Werntzl and Leroy Gossett. In 1918 he got his first full-time job, sorting and delivering mail for the Post Office but then enlisted, under-age, in the Ambulance Corps. The First World War ended before he could get over-



The lamplighter.

seas, but in 1919 he was posted to Neufchateau, France as an ambulance driver. It was here that his artistic talents were first recognised — painting phony camouflage colours at 10 francs a time on a stock of German helmets which a friend then sold to new recruits as war souvenirs!

On demob and still not quite 18 years of age, Walt returned to Kansas City and was hired as an apprentice by a commercial art studio. He and a colleague, Ub Iwerks, were laid off at the end of the Christmas season of 1919 and decided to set up on their own. Soon afterwards, Walt got a job with the Kansas City Film [illegible] employed in turning out crude one-minute black and white advertisements for screening in local cinemas. In this way Walt learned the rudiments of animation. Iwerks joined him later and together they worked out many improvements and innovations. Soon Walt was borrowing a camera and producing his own short films, called Laugh-O-Grams.

Again he branched out on his own, bought a camera, and produced Laugh-O-Grams for himself. He produced a series of seven



Left: cartoon characters from San Marino, and Christmas from Lesotho.

"QUOTING YOU"

TOBAGO STAMP CENTENARY

In the early part of this year I explained to the Postmaster of Trinidad & Tobago and readers of STAMP COLLECTING (*31st May 1979*) my doubts on the accuracy of the date ascribed, 1st August 1979.

I am indebted to Mr. R.A. Butler, Honorary Librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society, London on the loan of the society's copy of the *Catalogue of the West Indies.* This Handbook was compiled and published by the Philatelic Society in 1891.

The preliminary notes given by E.D. Bacon provide the appropriate Government Notices and from these it will be seen the first stamps issued in the Island were for fiscal purposes and they came into use on the 1st July 1879.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.
STAMPS

"Notice is hereby given that the 'Stamp Ordinance' will come into operation on the 1st day of July next.

"The attention of the Public is called to the provisions of this Law.

"Under it a number of documents will be invalid unless they are properly stamped.

"By His Excellency's command,
"(Signed) H.L. BYNG,
"Col. Secretary.

The Tobago Gazette
June 6th, 1879.

The postal issue took place on the 1st August 1879, in accordance with the following notice found in the Gazette of July 18th.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

"POST OFFICE,
"SCARBOROUGH, 2nd July, 1879.

"Notice is hereby given that from and after the 1st of August next, all letters, newspapers, and other articles transmissible by Post must be prepaid by having Postage Stamps of the proper value affixed thereto.

"Postage Stamps of the various values are now on sale at the Treasury, and a supply will in future be kept at this office.

"(Signed) ROBT. W. MCEACHNIE
"Acting Postmaster."

Boston, Lincs. JOHN DE VRIES

HONG KONG WING MARGINS

I fear that the explanation of the existence of "wing margins" on Victorian stamps of Hong Kong, which was given in your current issue by Mr. Gower, is not altogether accurate.

The standard De La Rue sheet layout, which was used for a large proportion of 19th Century British and Colonial stamps, comprised 240 stamps divided into four panes, each 6 x 10, by a vertical gutter 11mm. wide and a horizontal gutter 26mm. wide.

De La Rue had no perforating machines of their own until about 1880, and prior to this all their stamps were perforated on the Somerset House comb machines. The relevant Somerset House comb had only 13 vertical rows of pins, and the seventh row was set to perforate down the *centre* of the vertical gutter, leaving the sixth row of stamps with a wing margin on the right and the seventh row with a wing margin on the left. About 1880 De La Rue bought their own comb machine, which had 14 vertical rows of pins set to perforate down *both sides* of the vertical gutter. Hence, stamps printed after 1880 cannot have wing margins.

So far as I am aware De La Rue *never* produced stamps with wing margins at the sheet edges, and *never* stamps with perforations on only one side of the vertical gutter.

Letchworth G.D. BUCKLEY F.R.P.S.L.

Letters to the Editor

OFFICIAL LETTER POST

Following the publication of the letter on "Official Paid" labels by H.L. Miller (*1st November*) and the subsequent article on Experimental Meter Markings of Government Departments (*15th November*) the authors of those articles, and many others I am sure, may be interested in the following information I received from H.M. Land Registry.

"For economic reasons it has been the policy of H.M. Land Registry to hold no more than about six months stock of envelopes. This applies equally to normal and pre-paid envelopes.

"In the early part of 1979, the time taken for deliveries of envelopes, ordered through HMSO, was extended quite dramatically and, in consequence of our stock policy, we were faced with the strong likelihood of exhausting the stocks of pre-paid stationery, before new supplies could be obtained. In order to combat this situation supplies of pre-paid stickers were purchased from HMSO for use on whatever envelopes were available when normal supplies ran out. We reached this emergency situation several weeks ago, and have started to use the stickers. This method is likely to continue for some months yet. Immediately new supplies of normal stocks are received all remaining stocks of pre-paid stickers will be withdrawn and placed in store.

"As previously stated, the supply of these stickers was arranged through HMSO and whether or not they have arranged similar supplies for other departments is not known to us.

"As can be seen the use of this sticker has been for expediency reasons only and would not normally be used, as pre-paid stationery is more cost effective to the department."

Peterborough V.B. MCDERMOTT

G.B. DECIMAL MACHIN - VALUE HEIGHTS

Congratulations to Mr Donald McNiven (29th November) for his observations with regards to the variation of the 8p item the 80p booklet. (S/C 20-11-75).

I would say that it is more noticable than ½mm, also a more distinguishable variety than those illustrated in the SC d/d 3rd January 79.

Liverpool KENNETH SHONE

TANGANYIKA/UGANDA USED ON COVER

Making up packets for a charity sale from many years' accumulation of stamps on paper, outside my particular fields of interest, I came upon one item which seems to be of possible interest to others and certainly invites explanation. This was the combination, on

(Continued on page 243)

stamp collecting WEEKLY

VOL. 125 No. 6 (3227)
OCTOBER 2nd, 1975



The last of the high value colonial Key and duty plate stamps—a feature of the Leeward Islands issues (see page 245)

	Page
Forgeries of the West Indies *A. J. Branston*	239
B.W.I.—A League Table *Simon Goldblatt*	241
Bahamas: The Sea Floor Post Office *Raymond H. Austin*	243
Why not collect the Leeward Islands? *E. V. Toeg*	245
The B.W.I. Study Circle	249
Underpaid Mail in St. Lucia and The West Indies *Geoffrey G. Ritchie*	251

Main News, 233; WATCHMAN, 235; Foreign News Front, 237; Coming Events, 237.

15p

OUR 1ST ISSUE

OCTOBER–NOVEMBER AUCTIONS IN LONDON

OCTOBER a two-day sale

21/22 NORWAY—the outstanding collection formed by the late Earl Jaconsen of Chicago with 150 lots of the 1855 4 sk. (includes a block of four and a strip of six on cover) superb Oscars and some lovely covers, specialised Posthorns etc. This sale comprises over 1,000 lots worth more than £70,000.

Catalogue with colour plates £1

NOVEMBER

18 GREAT BRITAIN—this sale commences with 6 lots of Victorian brass and silver P.O. scales and weights. There is a large section of later line-engraved including the largest known block of the 1855 2d. blue, watermark large crown, perf. 16. Included are the usual sections of 1d blacks, postal stationery and booklets and a large section of cancellations. Of interest will be the Mulready caricatures which includes a recently discovered clerical envelope.

Catalogue 70p

19 BRITISH EMPIRE—the sale features a valuable and beautifully written-up collection of HONG KONG, broken into some 80 lots. It is particularly strong in the Treaty Ports and in airmails. There are 20 lots of Western Australia and interesting sections of CANADA, GOLD COAST, and SOUTH AUSTRALIA. The many lots of "Specimen" stamps include pairs of the FALKLAND IS. Centenary of the British Occupation issue.

Catalogue 70p

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NEW ZEALAND

			Mint	Used
1855	S.G.4	1d. red, superb used, four margins ...	—	£125
	S.G.5	2d., f.u. four margins	—	£30
1882–97	S.G.208	5d. olive black, but perf. 11½×11½, rare	—	£5
1898	S.G.246	½d.	22p	6p
	S.G.247	½d.	19p	8p
	S.G.248	½d.	40p	35p
	S.G.249	1d.	9p	9p
	S.G.250	1d.	40p	22p
	S.G.251	2d.	55p	6p
	S.G.252	2d.	55p	6p
	S.G.253	2½d.	45p	75p
	S.G.254	2½d.	45p	75p
	S.G.255	2½d.	60p	26p
	S.G.256	2½d.	—	35p
	S.G.257	3d.	55p	22p
	S.G.258	4d.	75p	75p
	S.G.259	4d.	£1·15	£1·50
	S.G.260	4d.	75p	£1·15
	S.G.261	5d.	£5·25	—
	S.G.262	5d.	£1·50	75p
	S.G.263	6d.	£1·50	95p
	S.G.264	6d.	—	£3
	S.G.265	8d.	£1·40	95p
	S.G.266	8d.	£1·40	95p
	S.G.267	9d.	£1·40	95p
	S.G.268	1/–	—	75p
	S.G.269	1/–	£2·25	75p
	S.G.270	2/–	£3·75	£3·50
	S.G.271	5/–	£9	£9
	S.G.272	2½d.	40p	30p
	S.G.273	2½d.	35p	22p
	S.G.274	3d.	45p	15p
	S.G.275	3d.	45p	15p
	S.G.276	5d.	—	35p
	S.G.277	5d.	60p	35p
	S.G.278	6d.	—	£2·25
	S.G.279	6d.	—	£1·90
	S.G.280	8d.	—	70p
	S.G.281	8d.	95p	70p
	S.G.282	9d.	£1·50	95p
	S.G.283	9d.	£1·40	70p
	S.G.284	1/–	£1·90	70p
1898	S.G.285	1/–	£1·15	22p
	S.G.286	1/–	—	70p
	S.G.287	1/–	—	70p
	S.G.288	2/–	—	£2·25
	S.G.289	2/–	£3	£2·25
		Ditto, with re-entry	—	£2·75
	S.G.290	5/–	£9	£9
	S.G.291	5/–	—	£10
1902	S.G.372	1/–	£1·90	30p
	S.G.373	2/–	—	£2·25
	S.G.375	5/–	—	£7·50
	S.G.377	2/–	£7	—
	S.G.383	2½d. block of eight	—	£1·50
1906	S.G.424–7	½d.–6d. (4)	£35	—
	S.G.242	½d.	£2·25	£2·65
	S.G.425	1d.	£2·25	£1·90
	S.G.426	3d.	—	£12
1909	S.G.452	2d.	70p	26p
	S.G.453	2d.	£1·20	30p
	S.G.454	3d.	70p	8p
	S.G.455	4d.	—	75p
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PENNY BLACKS ON COVER

Plate 1a, A-A, superb used with large even margins, on wrapper to Norwich £50

C-H, grey-black, "Worn Plate", superb fine used with close to very large margins on piece with neat Chatham c.d.s. Attractive £22

D-C, superb used with large even margins on envelope from Oswestry to Newport £60

D-E, superb used with good to large margins, on folded entire from Exeter to Devonport. Red M.C. and Exeter c.d.s. alongside stamp £40

D-H, superb fine used with large margins, on cover from Arbroath to Edinburgh. Arbroath JN 4 1840 backstamp. Early use. Attractive £65

E-B, very fine used with good margins just touching at right on cover to Piccadilly. Ripon 21 May 1840 c.d.s. Cover poor £30

E.G., very fine used with large margins on cover from Exeter to Arbroath £60

G-F, very fine used with good to large margins, on slightly stained envelope to Brighton. Red M.C. £15

H-F, very fine used with good to large margins on cover to Dewsbury with MY.15 1846 c.d.s. backstamp. Early Use .. £70

J-H, superb used with large margins on clean neat cover from Durham to Newcastle. Durham JU 8 1840 c.d.s. Red M.C. Exceptional £70

J-L, grey-black, superb used with large margins just touching at one corner on cover to Norfolk £25

N-I, superb used with close to very large margins on entire from Liverpool to Ireland. Liverpool MY 19 1840 backstamp £65

Q-C, grey-black, superb used with margins very large to just touching on cover from Liverpool with MY 30 1840 c.d.s. £20

R-F, superb fine used with very large margins, but cutting part of frame at the top, on entire from Edinburgh to Inverary, backstamped MAY 22 1840. Vermillion M.C and backstamp £38

R-K, grey-black, superb used with good to very large margins on cover front, red M.C. Black T. P. King William St. handstamp £25

S-E, intense black, superb used with very large margins on entire to Norwich. Crimson red M.C. £36

Plate 1b, O-A, very fine used with close to large margins on entire from Upwell to London. Red M.C. £24

Plate 2, C-E/C-J, two superb singles with large margins, on cover from Southampton to London. Southampton AU17 1840 c.d.s. in black alongside stamps. Faint filing crease on C-J. Red M.C. cancels. Attractive £70

D-D, very fine used with good to large margins on entire from Linlithgow to Queensferry £20

F-B, very fine used with close to very large margins, on entire to Ledbury with orange Bristol M.C. and AU 14 1840 Bristol c.d.s. also in orange. Scarce £34

G-H, (Spec. AS15f) "No Ray Flaw", fine used with good to very large margins on cover from Paisley to Edinburgh. Orange red Paisley backstamp and M.C. £16

H-I/H-J, (Spec. AS15f), "No Ray Flaw". Fine used pair with very large margins on cover front to Oxford. With Newport Isle-of-Wight DE 7 1804 error of date c.d.s. £85

I-J, very fine used with good to large margins on cover to Wakefield, with Wakefield MY 18 1840 c.d.s. in red, and red M.C. £75

J-B, (Spec. AIvh.). Bristol vermilion M.C. very fine used with good to large margins on entire to Worcestershire. Superb Bristol NO 3 1840 c.d.s. £50

J-L, (Spec. AS15m), "black M.C.", fine used part margl. with close to very large margins on entire from Bristol to Somerset. Scarce £26

K-K, (Spec. AS15e) "Burr Rubs". Very fine used with large margins, showing adjoining stamp, on clean envelope from Leamington to London £40

L-A, very fine used with small to very large margins on cover from Chelmsford to Edinburgh £18

N-C, very fine used with good to very large margins on entire to York £30

P-I, (Spec. AS15d), "Re-ent Letter Square", superb used with close to large margins, on cover to Stourbridge, with good Bristol JU 8 1840 c.d.s. on reverse £36

R-I, R-C, two fine used singles with large margins on cover from Fort William to Edinburgh £40

T-E, (2nd state), superb fine used with good to large margins on cover from Norwich to Rougham. Red M.C. £36

Plate 3, C-I, superb used with very large margins, showing three adjoining stamps on entire from Manchester to Preston, JU 27 1840 c.d.s. backstamp. Crimson red M.C. £70

J-F, grey-black, superb used with good to large margins on entire to Bristol. Bristol and Bath c.d.s. backstamps, red M.C. boxed "No. 8" Receivers handstamp alongside stamp £32

L-G, very fine used with close to large margins, on entire from Gosport to Salisbury. Gosport c.d.s. backstamp with date error £18

Strictly C.W.O. from all new clients please.

N-F, superb fine used with large margins on entire to Grays Inn Square, Red M.C. Attractive £40

O-F, very fine used with large margins, on entire from Liverpool to Chester. Red M.C. £50

P-C, (Spec. AS20a), Small "p" superb fine used with very large margins showing adjoining stamp, on long and interesting entire from Liverpool to Westminster from the Bishop of Nova Scotia. Red M.C. £48

R-D, grey-black, superb used with large margins on miniature entire to Clapham Common with deep red M.C. £24

Plate 4, A-K, (Spec. Alub), Manchester M.C. very fine used on entire from Manchester to Liverpool. Manchester MR 30 1841 backstamp. Scarce. Cat £60 .. .. £55

F-H, very fine used with good to very large margins on cover to London with Brown Ware JA 20 1841 backstamp and red M.C. £30

F-I, very fine used with very large margins, touching at the base, on part entire to Worcester, from Wednesbury, with Wednesbury c.d.s. backstamp and M.C., both in the distinctive "Rusty-red" of this particular village. Scarce. B.P.A. Cert £45

J-F, (Spec. Alve), "Ruby M.C.", superb used with good to large margins on entire from Aberdeen to Belfast. Aberdeen AUG 9, 1840 c.d.s. (Sunday date) £65

J-I, very fine used with good to very large margins on entire to Morpeth. Berwick JY 10 1840 backstamp. Red M.C. £20

N-H, superb used with close to very large margins on wrapper from Kirkcudbright with orange red M.C. £23

Plate 5, A-I, superb used with large to very large margins, showing adjoining stamp on cover from Coldstream to London, orange-red M.C. £36

D-I, intense black, very fine used with large margins on entire from Stirling to Hawick. Orange-red M.C. £20

E-G, fine used with good to large margins on wrapper. Swords JA 9 1842 backstamp £18

J-I, superb used with close to very large margins on cover from Dublin to London £25

O-C, fine used with good to very large margins on cover to J. Buckingham, M.P.. Letter appears to have followed him around the country by numerous backstamps etc. .. £36

Q-J, very fine used with large margins, on entire from Stirling to Edinburgh, red M.C. £28

R-G, very fine used with large margins, showing adjoining stamp on entire to London £30

S-A, intense black. Superb used with very large margins, showing adjoining stamp on cover from Dundee £30

S-I, superb used with large margins, on entire from Islay to Inverary. Red M.C. £30

T-A, very fine used with good to very large margins, on envelope to Bloomsbury. Error of date "8140" on backstamp £50

Plate 6, A-G, superb used with large margins on entire from Edinburgh £24

A-J, superb used with close to very large margins on entire from Cambridge to London £20

B-A/B-B, superb fine used pair with good to large margins, on entire to Bangor, Oswestry JY 30 1840, c.d.s. backstamp. Vermilion M.C. £85

B-C, superb used close to very large margins on entire £24

C-A/C-D, very fine used strip of four with good to large margins on entire from Hereford to Wales. Red M.C. and Hereford Black c.d.s. on the front. Scarce £265

H-F, very fine used with good to large margins on cover to London. Red M.C. £24

H-L, very fine used with very lzrge margins on part wrapper from Blackburn to Preston. Red M.C. £38

Q-K, (Spec. AS41a), "Re-Entry", fine used with large margins on cover to Burnley. Red M.C. Burnley c.d.s. .. .. £

R-J, superb used with very large margins on entire to Wapping cancelled with experimental black M.C. and T.P. Cornhill handstamp. No. 3 1840 backstamp £40

Plate 7, D-C, superb used with large even margins, on cover front to Harksworth. Red M.C. £30

E-I, grey-black, very fine used with large margins on entire to Holborn, backstamped No. 10 1840 and cancelled with experimental black M.C. £38

F-B, grey-black, very fine used with large margins on, entire from Exeter to Wellington. Red M.C. and Exeter c.d.s. alongside stamp £50

H-F, very fine used with good margins on cover to Bradford from Manchester. Blood-red M.C. £30

H-K, superb fine used with close to large margins from Aberdeen on cover to Peterhead with good example of Aberdeen Ruby M.C. £36

H-K, 1840, grey-black (Spec. AS45), superb used with good margins showing three adjoining stamps on entire to Darlington stamped T.P. Stoke Newington and with M.C. both in deep red £24

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EDITED BY KENNETH F. CHAPMAN
Editorial Assistant: DOUGLAS N. MUIR
Published by STAMP COLLECTING LTD.
Maiden Lane, London WC2E 7LL
Tel. 01–240 2286 (three lines) and 01–836 2684
Advertisement Manager: BRIAN MOORHOUSE

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NATIONAL EXHIBITION IN BANGLADESH

An extensive National Philatelic Exhibition will be held in Dacca, Bangladesh, from November 9th to 15th this year, under the auspices of a leading hobby organisation of the country, SPUTNIK INTERNATIONAL, in co-operation with the Bangladesh Ministry of Posts. The Exhibition will be known as "Sputnik International Philatelic Exhibition–1975" (SIPEX '75).

The week-long programme, first of its kind in Bangladesh, will be open to all the philatelists of the country. The organisers would also welcome foreign participation and visitors. Those interested should contact The Chairman, SIPEX '75, G.P.O. Box 205, Dacca, Bangladesh, for detailed information.

NORMAN COLLETT LEAVES GIBBONS

By mutual agreement, Norman W. Collett has ended his service contract with Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Mr. Collett originally joined Stanley Gibbons in August 1962, as a member of the staff of H. E. Wingfield & Co., when that firm became a part of the Gibbons organisation.

In making the announcement, the Stanley Gibbons Group wish Mr. Collett well for the future.

PAPUAN P.S. WEEK AT BOURNEMOUTH

Members of the Papuan P.S. are spending a week by the sea at Bournemouth, from October 11th to 19th. There will be visits to West Moors and Dorchester and Weymouth societies. Other activities include auctions, a film show and the Papuan P.S. AGM. All those interested are welcome and may obtain further information from M. J. Garwood, 129 Pickhurst Rise, West Wickham, Kent BR4 0AG (Tel.: 01-777 6541).

Michelangelo Self-Adhesives from Gibraltar

Gibraltar is issuing a three-value set and a self-adhesive booklet, due on December 17th, for the 500th anniversary of the Birth of Michelangelo. The stamps, in sheets of 50 (2 panes of 25), were designed by Jennifer Toombs and printed, in lithography, by Walsall Security on Block CA watermark, perf. 14½: **6p** The Bruges Madonna; **9p** The Taddei Madonna; **15p** Pieta (in St. Peter's Rome).

The self-adhesive booklets will contain two of each of the stamps, and also a souvenir sheet, with one stamp of each value and a drawing of The Virgin beneath the Cross. The souvenir sheet will only be available in the booklet.

AFRIKAANS MONUMENT ISSUE FOR S. AFRICA

Commemorative 4c. and 5c. stamps will be issued by South Africa in Paarl on October 10th, to coincide with the inauguration of the monument to Afrikaans. The 4c. will feature the new monument and the 5c. reproduces, in miniature, the front page of No. 1 of *Die Afrikaanse Patriot*, published on January 15th, 1876.



The front page of the first "Die Afrikaanse Patriot" on a new South African stamp and one of the paintings by Otto Schröder on the forthcoming S.W.A. issue

GUYANA "FORESTERS" CENTENNIAL

To mark the centennial of the Ancient Order of Foresters, four stamps and a souvenir sheet are due on November 14th from Guyana. Designs by R. Savory were adapted by PAD Studio and printed, in lithography, by The House of Questa in sheets of 50 (2 panes of 25) on Lotus Blossom Bud watermark, perf. 14: **10c.** A building and the badge of the Ancient Order of Foresters; **35c.** Rock painting of a bowman hunting animals; **50c.** The crossed axes and horn of the order; **$1.** Bow and arrow.

THE GAMBIA'S I.W.Y. ISSUE

Coming on December 15th is a four-value set from The Gambia for International Women's Year, 1975. The designs were adapted by Jennifer Toombs from drawings by A. Bruce Oliver, and printing, in lithography, was by The House of Questa in sheets of 50 (2 panes of 25) on unwatermarked paper, perf. 15. The stamps show women at work: **4b** Teaching; **10b** Planting rice; **50b** Nursing; **DI·50** Directing traffic.

SEYCHELLES SELF GOVERNMENT OVERPRINTS

The Seychelles were due to release on October 1st four Self Government commemoratives by overprinting the current 20c., 65c., Rs 1 and Rs 3·50 definitives. The overprinting was done by Enschedé.

New G.B. Machin Definitives

Both the new definitives, **6½p** one band and **8½p** two bands, issued on September 24th, have the ink cylinder 4/4. and marginal perforations SM (not I). The 6½p is phos. cylinder 20 and the 8½p phos. cylinder 21. Both stamps have dextrin gum.—*Queensman.*

SELLING ! !

INVESTMENT LOT BY PRIVATE INVESTOR
C.I., I.O.M., G.B. COMMONWEALTH
CANAL ZONE—ISRAEL

G.B.

2×Blk. 4 (8 sets) 1963 Bradbury High Vals. wmk; 1 1972 Wedgwood Bkl; with ½p side band phos; 10 Machin 9p defin. Dext. gum; with one wide phos. band, due to misplacement; 2 1965 3d. lilac defin. " Dry Print " with two norm; 11 1965 Churchill 4d., wmk. inv.; 12 1974 Churchill p. packs; ditto, 10 Souvenir Special Packs; ditto, 6 8p, pva gum error; 20 U.P.U. 5½p " Silver Head " instead of gold; 20 Fire Engine 3½p Misperf.; yellow bottom line at top instead of bottom; 15 sets 73 Xmas; brown on floor of 3p omitted; good pink, brown shifts; and faded black; 10 Turner gutter pairs; ditto, 80 sets; ditto, 50 p.p.; ditto, 50 f.d.c.; very unusual item; 9 Turner maximum cards with Turner 5½p postmarked " Monmouth 18 March 75 "; 6.15 p.m. one month after first day of issue; 10 Charity gutter pairs; ditto, 80 in sheets; 20 G. Britons f.d.c.; 30 Heritage Year f.d.c.; ditto, blk. of 4 7p with broken letters; ditto, 10 f.d.c. Chester with 7p; 10 f.d.c. Cirencester with 7p; 10 f.d.c. Windsor with 10p Carried by; Coach; 10 f.d.c.; Dundee 150 Anniv. with 7p G.B. p. packs; 12 G. Britons; 10 U.P.U.; 10 Inigo Jones; 10 Chestnuts; 10'74 Xmas; 5 ECC; 5 B. Explorers; 3 Cricket; 1 Parl; 1 Fire Engine; 1 Concorde; 2'72 Xmas; 4 '71 Wales defin.; 5 '74 Wales defin.; 4 1974 Collectors Pack; 10 Dec. '74 45p Bklt; 20 800 Anniv. Glasgow Air Letters F.O.C.; 10 Second Scottish Air Letters.

Sailing Issue: 25 sets; 10 gutter pairs; 14×12p; f.d.c. 10 p.p. all with excl. var.; 25 12p gold of head very flakey, partially off; on one completely off, and burned gold.; 2510p black lines of water 40 to 80% missing; orange shift into sails; 25 8p dark colours; shift on head very top of head and masts out of frame; black very defective. 25 7p good black and red shift. Spots and speckles all over, light sky. Strip 10 gutter pairs 7p with PO75 on sail touching the above PO75. Strip 10 gutter pairs 10p lines of water shift covering part of the " P " and boat at horizon. Strip 10 gutter pairs 8p smeared black all over; very light sky and head shift. Strip 10 gutter pairs 12p+14 12p gold very dark; water shift creating broken frame 20 8p blue dry print with lots of spots, speckles, black 50 to 70% missing. 15 f.d.c. on the sail (7p) top PO75 misplaced; on 8p head touching 8. 10 p.p. lines across " O " in 70p and dripping brown.

I.o.M.

30 sets 73a p. dues with cyl.; 30 sets 75 p. dues with cyl.; ditto, 5 f.d.c.; 5 p.p. 73 defin. orig. print. 16 val.; 5 gutter pairs 74 T.T. Races 8p orig. print cyl. 1; ditto, 1 cyl. blk. 4; ditto, 1 Plate blk. 4; ditto, 42×8p orig. print cyl. 1; 10 3p T.T. Races orig. print. cyl. 1; ditto, 5 gutter pairs 2nd. print. deep purple motorcycle; ditto, 40×3p with same var. deep purple and light motorcycle; 10 inaug. white gum; 11 sets Railway; 20 sets lifeboat; 90 B.P.E. m/s 3½p lifeboat; 5 gutter pairs 8p Historical white gum; ditto, 2 cyl. blk of 4; ditto, 32×8p white gum; 2 Historical gutter pairs; 21 sets Historical; 10 p.p. Churchill; 9 m/s Churchill; 10 p.p. Manx Pioneers; 5 f.d.c., I.o.M. Expo. Anaheim cal. very attractive; 10 1975 10p sachet bkl. orig.; 20 6p uprated 2½p and 20 7p uprated 2p Air Letters; ½p, 1p, 1½p, 3p, 3½p 73 orig. print. (sheets of 50).

GUERNSEY

2 uncut sheets Militia *se-tenant* orig. print; ditto, 8 sheets 2nd print; 10p orig. print (71) 1 cyl. 18 Block 4, on one stamp line between L–I in Bailiwick; ditto, 6 10p orig. print; 20p sheet of 30; 5 gutter pairs 74 defin. ½p to 10p; ditto, 40 sets ½p to 10p; 40 74 10p defin. ditto, 5 gutter pairs; ditto, 55 gutter pairs ½p cyl. A1; 440×½p cyl. A1 B1; 5 gutter pairs 1p, 1½p, 2p, 40×1p, 1½p, 2p.; ½d, 1½d. orig. print sheets 30; 1d revised lat sh. 30; 10 sets Aviation; 5 Royal Wedd.; ditto, 5 gutter pairs; 20 Lifeboats with cyl.; 45 U.P.U. with cyl.; Renoir Paints. sheets 25; 25 Victor Hugo; ditto, 14 f.d.c.; ditto, 20 m/s; ditto, 20 m/s f.d.c.; 5 10p Militia 6 35p bkl.; 10×3 s/cards-Jersey, Guernsey and I.o.M.; 75 Inter. stamp exb. Espana.

JERSEY

½d. orig. print. sh. 50; 5 p.p. p. dues 71/74 11 val.; 7 cyl. 1A blk. 4 ½p; ditto, 5 blk. 4 with black spot near red sail (bottom stamp); 6 cyl. 1A blk. 4 2½p +6 copies with shift head and Jersey; 12 cyl. 1A blk. 4 5½p white gum and paper blurred view; 10 74 f.d.c. 3 val. 4½p, 5½p, 8p. with B.P.E. cachet; shifts, blurred, broken letters; 10 74 Merc. f.d.c. 2 val. 2½p, ½p dext. gum 2½p Prussian blue; 10 74 Merc. f.d.c. 3 val. 5½p, 4½p, 8p shifts, blurred, broken frames and letters; 10 Railway; 20 U.P.U. +10 p.p.; 10 Marine Life; 10 Royal Wedd.; 30 Queen Mother Visit; ditto, 10 f.d.c; 10 Tourism f.d.c; ditto, 20 m/s; ditto, 20 m/s f.d.c.; 10 Maritime Paints, p.p.; 25 Anniv.; ditto, 10 p.p.; ditto, 5h.50 1A 1A glazed paper and deep purple; ditto, 3 cyl. 1B blk 4. 8p deep purple with 12 light shades; 40 f.d.c. of Anniv. of Liberation; 20 with 5p w. gum; 10 with U.P.U.; 10 with 5½p Jersey Painters; 5 1971 35p bkl. inverted with good var. 2p with lines next to head; smeared blue sky making parts of words " Mont Orgueil by Night " disappear; 10p and 20p Helmets 5×2 blk. shifts on colour and head, blurred view; 30 f.d.c. 1 April 6½p uprated 2½p and 5p uprated, 3½p Air Letters; 90 ½p from bkl. with very good var. good shifts of shield overlapping frame, shift of head, colours of island; sails, colour change on some masts of sails boats missing; 60 3p from bkl. with shift variations. Head, word, colours and deep and light shades; 20 75 sachet bkl. 20p. 5p broken crown, frames on 4p in Jersey cachet+10 norm; 5 1971 10p bkl.; 4 sheets of 50 ½p cyl. 1A variation on colours. Castle and Land: Some deep orange, some yellow; 2 sheets of 50 1p P.V.A.D. gum. Plus Canal Zone and Israel, etc.

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1895. ¼a.–5r. 15 vals. m. (3r. is creased), cat. £30 ... ... £18
1895. S.G.3–8, 13, 14, 16, 18–21, cat. £26, v.f.u. £18
1895. *Overprint Varieties*—Small " z ", 21 stamps ¼a. to 1r. (both) m. cat. £29 ... ... £20
1895. Ditto, used ex. 8a. and 1r. green and red, cat. £31, v.f.u. ... £20
1895. Inverted " q " for " b " and small second " z "—27 stamps m/u ¼a.–12a. The 12a. has ZANZIBAR REG in red (rare) ... £20
1895. Tall second " z " m/u—1a., 1a.6p. (2), 2a.6p., 4a., 6a., 8a., 12a., 1r. green and carmine. Set of nine £13
1896. B.E.A. overprinted ¼a.–7½a. (6) m. £21; u. £18
1896. (20th Sept.) ¼a.–5r. compl. 19 vals. m. £17; u. £15
1898. (May) ¼a.–8a. compl. (13) m. £4; u. £3
1899–1901. Compl. 17 m. £20; u. £19
1895. 5r. ultram. and violet, superb used on Reg. cover to Leipzig ... [redacted]
1904. Surcharges compl. (5) m. £10; u. ... ... [redacted]
1904. (8th June) ¼a.–5r. compl. (15) m. £32; u. £35
1908–9. 1c.–5r., compl. (14) m. £25; u. £25
1913. 1c.–10r. compl. (15) m. £25
1913. Used 5r. £4; 10r. £10; 20r. £25
1914–22. 1c.–10r. compl. m. (16) £20
1921–9. 1c.–20r. compl. m. (21) £40
1921–9. 1c.–10r. compl. u. ex. 4r. (19) £12

GREAT BRITAIN

1858–69. Q.V. 1d. red plate numbers in pkts. of 100. Mixed condition but well worth our price of (pkt.) ... ... £3·50

1969 Machin 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and £1 m. compl. sheets (40) ... £550

AIRMAILS—All mint in complete sets

ALBANIA. 1925. 7 vals., S.G.186–92 ... ... £2
1927 ovptd. (7), 204–10 ... ... £2·50
1928 Viore–Brindisi (7), 222–8 ... ... £9
1930 7 vals., 295–301 ... ... £6
1931 Tirana–Rome (7) £6
1940 7 vals., 366–72 ... ... £2·50
ALEXANDRETTA. 1938, Syria ovptd. " SANDJAK D'ALEXANDRETTE " ½pi.–25pi. comp. (8), Yvert 1–8 ... ... £5
BULGARIA. 15.1.40. 12 vals. ... ... £3·50
CAPE VERDE. 1938 9 vals, 307–15 ... ... £2
NED. ANTILLES. 1944 8 vals., 224–31 ... ... £3·50
CYRENAICA (LIBYA). 1934, 6 vals. 120–5... ... ... £3·50
EGYPT. 1933 Congress (5), S.G. 214–8 ... ... £5
ERITREA. 1934 6 vals., 222–7 ... ... £2
GUATEMALA. 1938 Phil. Exhibition (6), 369–74 ... ... £4
PORTUGUESE GUINEA. 1938 9 vals., 288–96 ... ... £5
HAITI. 1939 Coubertin (2), 337–8 ... ... £20
ITALIAN COLONIES. 1932, 5 vals., 11–15 ... ... £2·50
ITALY. 1932 5 vals., 343–47 ... ... £3·50
1934 7 vals., 435–41 ... ... £4
LEBANON. 1930–31, 10 vals., 181–90 ... ... £2
LIECHTENSTEIN. 1939 7 vals., 176–82 ... ... £2
MACAO. 1936 6 vals., 359–64 ... ... [redacted]
MEXICO. 1929 6 vals., 463–68... ... ... [redacted]
1940 3 vals., 668–70 ... ... [redacted]
1942 (July) 3 vals., 691–13 ... ... £1·50
MOZAMBIQUE. 1938 9 vals., 369–77 ... ... £4
PANAMA. 2.2.38, 5 vals., 334–38 ... ... £5
PARAGUAY. 1932 Graf Zepp. (5), 435–39 ... ... £4
1933 Graf Zepp. (5), 451–15 ... ... £8
PHILIPPINES. 1932 Von Gronau (7) £4
PORTUGUESE INDIA. 1938 (8), 534–41 ... ... £3
SUDAN. 1935 surcharges (6), 68–73 ... ... £4

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"WATCHMAN" on Market Movements

Barbuda. The Apollo/Soyuz overprints were carried out on a new printing of the $5 definitive, perf. 14½ for the first time. Each row of five stamps contains two *se-tenant* pairs of overprints with the last stamp unoverprinted. Wholesalers seem to have been separating this end row from the overprints to offer the new $5 separately. While the overprints and the basic new printing are all worth having, a complete strip of five stamps will always have a far higher value than the stamps within it. Don't ask me where to find strips—just do your best!

Penrhyn Is. Like the Churchill issue, the Apollo/Soyuz seems to have been prepared in quantities which are grossly inadequate for the demand. I cannot see this issue coming down in price, so I advise you to buy it now, at new-issue prices.

Sweden. The recent Steam Locomotives stamp booklet should be a winner, but do make sure you keep the stamps inside the cover. At the same time, why not make sure you have the earlier Railways issues—a 40ö. stamp in 1936 as part of the P.O. Tercentenary, which you should have in both perforations; three values for the Railway centenary in 1956, and a nice pair from the Trade and Industry issue of 1970.

Samoa. The 1921 definitive "Flag and Hut" stamps seems to be becoming more elusive in either unmounted mint or fine used condition. Gibbons raised the mint price from £5 to £6, the used quotation from £7·50 to £9·50, and this is far from being the end of the story. Make sure you have both perforations of the low values. Whenever you see stocks of the Silver Jubilee overprints, do keep a careful watch for S.G.177a, the perforation variety which turns a 12p mint stamp into a £16 one, a 20p used copy into one listed at £22.

Papua New Guinea. I well recall how the earlier issues of this Australian external territory skyrocketed in price during the mid-sixties, and then gradually slithered down again. Now prices are hardening again, and Gibbons raised their quotations for S.G.1–15, the 1952–8 definitives, from £17 to £27 in one year. This is still too low, and I consider £30 to be a fair price for a well-centred and unmounted set—anything else is not worth buying anyway. At the same time, note the price rise for the 1958–60 definitives (S.G.18–24) from £10 to £18; these are still available well below Gibbons' price but their acquisition should not be left too long.

Fiji. In line with the current editorial policy of giving shades only "a" numbers, the listing for early Fiji has been amended so that the former S.G.205–222a become S.G.125–137a. Prices have been moved up slightly, so that with the two watermark-sideways varieties the full set of 30 stamps now catalogues at £136·50 instead of last year's £114·62. You should still be able to buy all these slightly below Gibbons' prices, and if you are missing this set then I suggest you fill your gaps before a real price rise affects the market—as it surely will in time.

New Zealand. In 1961 the 3d. definitive was surcharged "2½d." with three bars obliterating the old value figure. There are two slightly differing settings of the "2½d."; S.G.808 is priced at 5p mint or used, as is S.G.808a—but the *se-tenant* pair is given a separate listing as S.G.808b and Gibbons raised this in price this year from £3 to £5 mint (not priced used). My firm recommendation is that you make sure you have this pair, mint *and* used, since stocks are extremely small and prices in the Antipodes are rising.

Ascension. Like most of the Apollo/Soyuz issues, the limited issue from Ascension is going to be in permanent demand. Prices have already risen and will not stop at today's level. This is one of those issues which persuades "one-off" buyers to turn to a regular new-issue service to cut their costs.

Gambia. Among the most beautiful stamps of the old Empire are the famous Gambia "Cameos" and it should come as no surprise to discover that prices in the 1976 catalogue are in most cases significantly higher than in the 1975 catalogue. However, most of the changes have been for used stamps, and for that reason I suggest you consider very carefully whether you can afford to buy any superb *mint blocks* which you may be offered. As a guide, I feel you would do well to pay full catalogue for blocks of four of any stamps from S.G.1 to S.G.20, provided condition is fine—but, please, don't ask for unmounted copies!

Cyprus (Turkish Posts). I really must mention once again the seven stamps issued in 1973, listed unpriced by Gibbons and previously tipped by me in May when prices rose to over £7. The set now sells for around £15 mint, and I still say "buy now" both mint and used. If you can obtain any commercial covers count yourself doubly blessed and hold on to them tightly!

Australia. Gibbons list the 1966 Decimal definitives (S.G.382–403) at £14 unmounted mint; the publication of dealers' advertisements asking £35 for this set indicates that Gibbons are well out of touch, and should also act as a reminder to you to buy speedily before further home-based rises are forced upon the market here. The 1964–5 Sterling definitives are listed (S.G.363–9) at £4 but retail for £5·50, and these will assuredly go higher. Either of these are important enough to merit selection as a "best buy" but I am saving this for the 1959–64 Recess definitives (S.G.316–27) where Gibbons' £9 valuation is still undercut by dealers' offers at around £8 the set. Now is the time to buy this set before it rises again so, despite the other Australian tips, it is this issue which is my BUY OF THE WEEK.

THE BUY OF THE WEEK

AUSTRALIA
1959–64 Definitives
S.G.316–27 Unmounted mint

* * *

Following my article in the September 11th issue of STAMP COLLECTING, I would like to say that the postage stamp replicas produced by Hallmark Replicas Ltd. have been made by both the Royal Mint and Johnson Matthey Metals Ltd., and that they are of the highest quality. I would like, therefore, to withdraw unreservedly my description of these items as being "tawdry".

I would also like to say that the value of the various postage stamp replicas produced by Hallmark Replicas Ltd. depends upon supply and demand and not just upon the intrinsic value of the metal, as implied in my article.



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GREAT BRITAIN

1840 1d. MULREADY ENVELOPE. Stereo A180, Forme 4. A very fine unused example £18

1843 Large part cover (front and back complete) addressed to Ashburton, Franked by an 1841 1d. red-brown, S.G.8, and tied by a fine black Maltese Cross. Also on the front is a superb village-type **MORETON HAMPSTEAD/PENNY POST** in black. On the reverse is an Ashburton c.d.s. in black and a CHUDLEIGH c.d.s. in red .. .. £8·50

1846 Small mourning envelope addressed to Teignmouth franked by a very fine 1841 1d. red-brown, S.G.8, and tied by a numeral "315" cancellation in black. On the reverse is a fine to very fine **BRISTOL/20 JU 1846/PY POST** in black .. .. £8·50

1856 E.L. to Bordeaux franked by a very fine 4d. carmine, S.G.63, (Medium Garter watermark). Tied by a very fine strike of the **MANCHESTER** sideways duplex in black. A scarce stamp on cover. Spec. J48 (2)b. £45

1840 2d. Deep full blue, Plate 1, lettered S–I. A superb used four-margin example cancelled by a very fine strike of the Maltese Cross in black and a very small part of another £78

1841 1d. red-brown, S.G.8, Plate 41, and showing the **N–A RE-ENTRY.** A fine four-margin example cancelled by a fine strike of the **No. 2 IN MALTESE CROSS.** £10

1841 1d. red-brown, S.G.8. A fine four-margin example lettered D–J, the right-hand margin being large. Cancelled by parts of the **No. 12 IN MALTESE CROSS.** Very clear .. £12

1841 1d. red-brown, S.G.8. A fine four-margined example cancelled by a very fine strike of the distinctive **DUBLIN** Maltese Cross in black .. .. £4·75

1857 1d. rose-reds, S.G.40. Two examples hinged to small card, one being sound, the other clipped at top left. Positioned to show a virtually complete strike of the "**PEARSON HILL**" **EXPERIMENTAL CANCELLATION.** Code "A" Very attractive. £22

1857 1d deep rose red, S.G.41. A very fine used example lettered L–G and cancelled by a very fine strike of the "**683**" **SALISBURY TRIAL CANCELLATION** with **PINS** in black £38

1869 3d. rose, S.G.103, Plate 5. A very fine mounted mint example overprinted "**SPECIMEN**" type 8. Spec. J31s £20

1867 1/– green, S.G.115/7, Plate 4. A superb mint top right-hand corner PAIR showing part marginal inscription. **IMPERFORATE** and overprinted "**SPECIMEN**", type 6. Spec. J104s £140

1876 4d. VERMILION, S.G.152, Plate 15. A very fine used andwell-centred example tied together with a 1d. rose-red, S.G.43, Plate 173, to small piece by a very fine **CENSING-STATION/HASTINGS** duplex in black £17

1880 2d. rose, S.G.168. An unmounted mint example over-printed "**SPECIMEN**", type 9. Spec. K5t £8

1887 1½d. purple and green **IMPRIMATUR,** S.G.198. A really superb four-margin example £97

1891 £1 GREEN, S.G.212. A very fine used example lettered S–C. £71

1900 1/– green and carmine, S.G.214. A superb very lightly mounted mint example with **WATERMARK INVERTED** Spec. K40a £70

1902 10/- ULTRAMARINE, S.G.265. Spec. M53(1). A very fine mounted mint copy £80

1902 £1 DULL BLUE GREEN, S.G.266. A very fine used example cancelled by a Guernsey circular date stamp .. £75

1902/11 Set of 14 values lightly mounted mint, all shades identified £50

1912 1½d. Dull purple and green, S.G.288. Spec. M10(5). A very fine mint bottom right-hand corner pair showing 1912 date cuts and coloured dot in margin. Perf. VI. Head Plate 8. Duty Plate 4c. £15

1912 6d. Dull purple, S.G.297. Spec. M33(4). A superb mint bottom right-hand corner block of six from the upper pane showing interpane pillars in bottom margin and 1912 "Scoops" with dots under stamp 12. Perf. VIa. Plate 2d. £48

1912 1/– green and carmine, S.G.314. Spec. M47(5). An extremely fine mint bottom right-hand corner block of four from the lower pane showing 1912 date cuts. Perf. VI. Head Plate 1c. Duty Plate 3c, ... £38

1912 2/– Booklet, Spec. B11, No. 8. A very fine booklet with full perforations on all but the last pane. Scarce £80

1912/22 Royal Cypher ½d. to 1/–, S.G.351–395. A very fine mounted mint set of 14 values (1×9d. Agate), all with CONTROLS £28

1913 ½d. green, S.G.351. A very fine unmounted mint right-hand marginal example **WITHOUT WATERMARK.** Spec. N14b. .. .. £12·50

1913 8d. black on yellow, S.G.390. Unmounted mint with **WATERMARK REVERSED.** Spec. N28c £27

1915 5/- BRIGHT CARMINE, S.G.409. Spec. N67(1). A very fine mounted mint example overprinted "**CANCELLED**", type 24. Spec. N67s £75

1915 5/- CARMINE, S.G.409. Spec. N67(2). A superb, lightly mounted mint example £66

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FOREIGN NEWS FRONT

France. The Bussang People's Theatre philatelic document will be withdrawn on October 6th and that for the Loire country on November 3rd.

Greece. Two sets (each 600,000) are due on September 29th, to remain on sale for one calendar year unless previously exhausted. Three values commemorate the jubilee of Thessaloniki University, the largest in Greece, with 34,000 students, 337 chairs, and 2,500 teaching staff: 1 dr.50, portrait of Alexandros Papanastasiou (1876–1936), founder of the university; 4 dr., the neoclassical building which housed the main bulk of the university's activities for its first 25 years and now houses the Faculty of Philosophy; 11 dr., plan of the University City. The International Women's Year set comprises 1 dr.50, goddess of the Neolithic period; 8 dr.50, Antigone and Creon; 11 dr., faces of two young women " looking to the future ". The illustrated f.d.c. shows three pioneers of women's emancipation: Kallirroe Parrain (1861–1940), author and organiser of the first Greek feminist movement; Avra Theodoropoulou (1880–1963), musician; and Elmina Pantelaki (1881–1968), linguist and educator. The Stamp Day and second Benefactors issues are due on November 15th.—*P. J. Drossos* (*Athens*).

Israel. In a symbolic design by E. Greenman, in multi-coloured photogravure by the Government Printer, a I£4 (Plate 461) on October 14th is dedicated to the return of Hadassah to Mount Scopus. On the same day, a set in multi-coloured photolithography by Lewin-Epstein to designs by W. Ferguson will show protected wild birds, drawings of the birds being repeated on the tabs (Plates 451, 452, 453): I£1.10, *glareola pratincola;* I£1.70, *hoploptirus spinosus;* I£2, *himantopus himantopus.*—*Michael Bale* (*Ilfracombe*).

Liberia. A Soyuz–Apollo set with souvenir sheet was issued on September 18th: 5c., Apollo en route for the rendezvous; 10c., Soyuz en route for the rendezvous; 15c., American and Russian hands clasped above orbiting capsules; 20c., Red Flag and Stars and Stripes above a world map; 25c., Russian cosmonauts; 50c., American astronauts; 75c. souvenir sheet, Apollo and Soyuz linked in orbit.

Netherlands. In photogravure by Enschedé on unwatermarked phosphorescent paper, two stamps (12½ million sets) are due on October 7th. Designed by Antionette Lucassen-van Oeffel, who designed the 1974 Child Welfare set, a 35c. commemorates the 150th anniversary of the invention of Braille by the 16-year-old blind boy, Louis Braille. It shows part of a left hand with the forefinger searching for Braille dots which form the text 150 *jaar brailleshrift* (150 years of Braille) which also appears in Roman script. A 50c. to promote savings, designed by A. Fallon and H. Versteeg (making their débuts as stamp designers), is the first Dutch stamp to show coins. If features the value sides of two 1975 25c. coins, the design having been obtained by rubbing with a soft black pencil over coins covered with imitation parchment.

Netherlands Antilles. The provisional programme for 1976 includes the usual Social and Child Welfare sets, a Julio Antonio Abraham commemorative issue, thematic sets on tourism and agriculture, and an American Independence set which will recall that the U.S. flag was saluted by guns for the very first time in history in St. Eustatius on November 16th, 1776

Philippines. A set (4,925,000 perf.; 75,000 imperf.) On September 19th commemorated the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the Civil Service, the denominations being 15s. and 50s. Stamps of 40s. and 1p. (same quantities) on September 30th will mark the 25th anniversary of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, whose member countries now number 61.

Surinam. Three releases are due in November: Child Welfare, set and *setenant* strip; independence commemorative set of three in ornamental sheets of 20 stamps each; five new high value definitives, from 1 fl. to 10 fl., replacing the Juliana Regina values. When Surinam joins the U.N., two values showing the national flag and arms will be issued (probably in the latter half of December).

COMING EVENTS

WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, OCT. 11th

MONDAY, October 6th: **Acton,** Visit from **Hayes & Harlington; Brighton & Hove,** " Switzerland without Tears ", Stuart Mackenzie; **Bristol Woodland,** Auction and a small display by J. R. Symes (visitors welcome); **Civil Service,** " Australian War Prisoners All ", Neil M. Russell; **Dartford,** " Nauru and Other Islands ", Kenneth R. Lake; **Denby Dale,** Visit from **Huddersfield; Durham City,** Luxembourg, Ken Gaff; **Evesham,** Cinderella Evening; **Hertford,** Visit from **Ilford; Horsham,** Selections by R. E. Cwrigg and L. de F. C. Lucas; **Japan Stamp Group,** Imperial Korea, Basil Drennan; **Medway Towns,** Visit from **Gravesend, Maidstone & Sittingbourne,** Combined Auction (at **Rochester**); **Merseyside,** Latin America, J. Fosbery and team; **Prestbury,** Selected items from E. Europe & Asia, E. S. Poulter; **Ruislip,** New Zealand, P. Evans; **Scarborough,** West Indies, Dr. R. G. S. Meadley; **Sevenoaks,** President's Night; **South Hams,** Display, C. Caudell.

TUESDAY, October 7th: **Andover,** Visit from **Boscombe Down; Basildon,** Tristan da Cunha, J. Bullock; **Burnham-Highbridge,** Letter " K "; **Cambridge,** President's Evening; **Cardiff and S. Wales,** Mini-Auction; **Chesterfield,** Egypt, R. D. W. Carter and Visit of **Nottinghamshire; Clapham and Balham,** President's Night; **Eastbourne,** Israel, T. B. Fischer; **Farnham,** President's Evening, British West Indies, H. V. Farmer; **Glasgow,** Spanish Postal History, Mrs. A. M. McPake and Modern Stamps of U.S.A., Mrs. J. E. D. Touche; **Gloucestershire,** Devon Postal History, P. D. A. Lee; **Hounslow,** Bourse; **Kingston-upon-Thames,** Auction; **Leicester,** Australian States, A. R. Butler (at Grand Hotel); **Lewisham,** Members' Night; **North Herts,** Members' Evening (at Stevenage); **Norwood,** Auction; **Purley,** Swap Session; **Redhill,** Sideline Collections (up to 8 sheets); **Scottish,** Auction at 7 p.m.; **Solihull,** " Wales and Trains ", W. N. Watterson; **Southall,** Silver Salver Competition; **Southampton,** G.B., R. Allum; **Streetly,** Visit from **Solihull,**; **West Chiltington,** Visit from **Haywards Heath.**

WEDNESDAY, October 8th: **Assoc. Austrian Phil.,** Levant, Postal History, Russia, D. Vandervelde; **Barnsley,** Visit from **Morley; Bearsden,** Sea Mail, spons. by R. J. Pollard; **Birmingham,** Sydney Raine Competition; **Brentwood,** New Zealand, A. E. Harrad and others; **Br. Soc. Australian Phil.,** Auction; **Bromley and Beckenham,** Visit from **Edenbridge; Cheltenham,** Visit to P.O., Gloucester; **Dublin Stamp Society,** Irish Varieties, M. O'Reardon (at Ormond Hotel); **Fareham,** Ladies' Night; **Greenford,** Informal; **Hastings and E. Sussex,** Byways of Canadian Philately, R. S. B. Greenhill; **Isle of Thanet,** Auction (at Ramsgate); **Lytham St. Annes,** B.W.I., Mrs. J. Taylor and Australia, P. H. S. Guffogg; **Orpington,** " Arranging and Writing-up ", G. R. Pearson; **Paisley,** " The Making of a Handbook ", Rev. W. T. F. Castle and " London Postmarks ", J. K. Manners; **Sidcup,** Antarctica, G. Trigwell; **Southport,** New Zealand, F. Chadwick; **Spennymoor,** Visit from **Bishop Auckland; Windsor and Slough,** Maidenhead Postal History, J. Brooks, and Auction; **Wolverhampton,** G.B. Postal History and Line-engraved issues, R. C. Alcock.

THURSDAY, October 9th: **Aberdeen,** President's Night; **Ayrshire,** " 300 Years of G.B. " J. S. Merrylees, **Blyth,** 20th Cent. G.B., R. Phillifent; **Caledonian,** " Red Star in Spain ", D. Malcolm; **Darlington,** Canada, Roy Ferguson; **Falkirk,** P.O. Film Unit; **Greenock,** Displays by Messrs. William Johnson, R. Muir and A. Redwanz; **Hampstead,** Six sheets of recent acquisitions, Members; **Handforth,** Australia, Lawrence Crossland; **Heathfield,** Chile, Prof. J. C. West; **Huddersfield,** Dealers' Night, B. Gibbs and J. Lyte; **Lincoln,** Postal History of the Boer War, T. G. Collier; **Manchester Central,** British TPOs, C. Kidd; **Northants,** Members, Letter " E ", nine sheets (at Wellingborough); **Penge,** Display by a member and Bourse; **Royal,** " 1 cent U.S. Blue, 1851–61 ". R. Ishikawa (at 5 p.m.); **Stockport and E. Cheshire,** Art on Stamps, J. Ross; **Swansea,** Quiz, Sale and Exchange; **Torquay,** Postal History of Malta, Lt.-Cdr. K. V. Burns; **Urmston,** Gambia, L. V. S. Glover; **Witham,** Sweden, Mr. Salmon; **Wrexham,** Information Bureau and Auction Preview.

FRIDAY, October 10th: **Axe Vale,** 2,000 Scramble; **Edmonton,** Informal; **Gravesend,** The B.W.I. Study Circle; **Herne Bay,** New Members' Night; **Ipswich,** 30th Anniversary Event, A. G. Rigo de Righi; **Southgate,** Members' Evening and Auction; **Tynemouth,** Germany, W. G. Syanston.

SATURDAY, October 11th: **Blackpool and Fylde,** Visit from **Halifax; Br. Soc. Australian Phil.,** Autumn Meeting at Watford; **Forces Postal History,** AGM; **Henfield,** Annual Exhibition, Village Hall; **Hinckley,** Exhibition and Fair; **Leytonstone, Wanstead,** Entertained by Mr. Day and Mr. Pinnock; **Kent Federation,** Autumn Rally, Eltham; **Middlesex Phil. Federation,** Annual Dinner, Regent Centre Hotel, London W1; **Papuan,** Week at Bournemouth (until 19th); **South Hams,** Stamp Exhibition, Flavel Hall, Dartmouth. The G. A. Perring Shield, G.B.; **Thames Valley Federation,** First Annual Convention and Auction. Freeman's Hall, Harwell Village, 1 p.m.

AUCTION DIARY

WEEK ENDING, SATURDAY, OCT. 11th

11.—**Cavendish,** Leeds, 2 p.m.

ENGLAND, CHANNEL ISLANDS, MAN, REGIONALS

UNMOUNTED MINT

ENGLAND

Definitives

	buy	sell
1912 R. Cyph. (14)	£27·50	£35
1913 Mult. Cyph. (2)	£50	—
1924 Blk. Cyph. (12)	£31	£39
Ditto, s/ways (4)	£21	—
1934 photo. (11) ...	£13·50	£18
Ditto, s/ways (4)	£21	—
Ditto, inv. (3) ...	£1·75	—
1936 K.E.VIII (4) ...	11p	20p
Ditto, inv. (3) ...	£1·60	£2·40
1937 Dark Cols. (15)	£6	£8
Ditto, s/ways (5)	£12	£16·50
Ditto, inv. (5) ...	£19	£24·50
1939 H. vals. (4) ...	£52·50	£66
1941 LightCols. (6)	30p	40p
Ditto, s/ways (3)	£2·10	£2·85
Ditto, inv. (3) ...	£1·60	£2·15
1950 New cols. (6)	52p	65p
Ditto, s/ways (4)	20p	35p
Ditto, inv. (5) ...	£1·50	£2
1951 H. vals. (4) ...	£15	£19·50
1952 Tudor (17) ...	£16·50	£21
Ditto, s/ways (3)	50p	70p
Ditto, inv. (5) ...	£5·25	£7
1955 Edward (18)	£37·50	£50
Ditto, s/ways (5)	£1·75	£2·35
Ditto, inv. (7) ...	£1·75	£2·35
1955 Waterlow (4)	£45	£58
1957 1st Graph. (6)	£2·75	£3·50
1958 1st D.L.R. (4)	£160	—
1958 2nd Graph. (8)	£18·50	£26·50
Ditto, inv. (5) ...	£11	£15
1958 Crowns (17)	£1	£1·40
Ditto, cpl. (21) ...	£1·20	£1·70
Ditto, s/ways (8)	£1·50	£2
Ditto, inv. (9) ...	£7	£9·50
1959 2nd D.L.R. (4)	£28·50	£38
1959 P. graph. (8)	£19·50	£27
Ditto, S.G.605a...	£50	—
1960 P. Crowns (17)	60p	90p
Ditto, cpl. (23) ...	£11	£15·50
Ditto, s/ways (8)	£2·25	£3·50
Ditto, inv. (10) ...	£18·50	£26
1963 Bradbury (4)	£4·25	£6·50
1967 ditto,no wmk.(4)	£3·50	£5·50
1969 Machin h.v. (4)	£8	£14
Ditto, ½d.–1/9 (16)	90p	£1·50
1970 Dec. h.v. (4)	—	£2·50
Ditto, large 10p	20p	—

Commemoratives

Buy ord.	Buy phos.		Sell ord.	Sell phos
£5·25	—	1924 Wembley	£7·25	—
£20	—	1925 Wembley	£27·50	—
£4·50	—	1929 P.U.C.I/vals.	£6·50	—
£175	—	1929 P.U.C. £1	—	—
£2	—	1935 Silver Jubilee	£3	—
2p	—	1937 Coronation	5p	—
£1·30	—	1940 Centenary	£1·80	—
3p	—	1946 Victory...	6p	—
£9	—	1948 Silver Wedding	£12·50	—
28p	—	1948 Olympics	38p	—
6p	—	1948 C.I. Lib.	11p	—
38p	—	1949 U.P.U.	54p	—
10p	—	1951 Festival...	14p	—
£2·25	—	1953 Coronation	£3	—
£2·20	—	1957 Scouts	£2·90	—
55p	—	1957 Parliament	70p	—
90p	—	1958 Games	£1·25	—
£2·25	—	1960 G.L.O.	£2·95	—
£2·25	—	1960 Europa	£3	—
75p	—	1961 P.O.S.B.	95p	—
20p	—	1961 C.E.P.T.	28p	—
90p	—	1961 Parliament	£1·35	—
70p	£7·75	1962 N.P.Y.	90p	£11·50
75p	£7	1963 F.F.H.	95p	£9·75
35p	£1	1963 Paris	50p	£1·50
30p	75p	1963 Nature	40p	£1·25
£1·10	£8·50	1963 Lifeboat	£1·50	£12
£2·15	£14·25	1963 Red Cross	£2·90	£19·50
70p	£6	1963 Cable	95p	£9·75
£1·60	£4·25	1964 Shakespeare	£2·50	£6·25
£1·25	£8	1964 Geogr.	£1·80	£11·50
£1·25	£8	1964 Botan.	£1·80	£11·50
24p	95p	1964 F.R.B.	33p	£1·50
20p	90p	1965 Churchill	28p	£1·40
40p	22p	1965 700th Parliament	65p	33p
45p	£1	1965 Salvation Army	65p	£1·50
30p	35p	1965 Lister	42p	55p
55p	£1	1965 Arts	85p	£1·50
£1·90	£2·50	1965 B.O.B.	£2·60	£3·50
26p	10p	1965 P.O.T.	40p	16p
32p	£2·45	1965 I.T.U.	60p	£3·25
22p	40p	1966 Burns	30p	55p
24p	4p	1966 Abbey	32p	9p
28p	28p	1966 Landscape	40p	40p
18p	15p	1966 World Cup	25p	21p
18p	15p	1966 Birds	25p	21p
1p	—	1966 Winners	5p	—
21p	21p	1966 Technology	30p	27p
30p	30p	1966 Hastings	45p	45p
7p	17p	1966 Christmas	11p	25p
10p	8p	1967 E.F.T.A.	16p	15p
25p	20p	1967 Flora	38p	34p
—	10p	1967 Paintings	—	15p
—	6p	1967 Chichester	—	9p
—	1[illegible]	1967 Discoveries	—	27p
—	7p	1967Christmas	—	11p
—	16p	1968 Bridges...	—	23p

GUERNSEY

	buy	sell
S.G.1–3 (3) ...	£1·75	£2·75
S.G.4, 5 (2) ...	£5	£7·50
S.G.6–12 (9) ...	—	£1
1969 ½d.–£1 (16) ...	£24	£32
L.s.d. Post Dues (7)	£19	£26
1d.,1/6 corr. lat. (2)	£1·25	£1·75
1d.–2/6 thin (9) ...	£4·75	£7·50
10/–, £1 perf. 13 (2)	£36	£50
71 Dec. ½p–50p (15)	£2·25	£4·50
Dec. Post Dues (7)	—	35p
1974 Unif. ½p–£1 (16)	—	£3·25
1969 Brock (4) ...	£2·75	£4
1970 Lib. (4) ...	£2·75	£4
1970 Agricult. (4)	£5·75	£7·75
1970 Xmas (4) ...	£2·75	£4
1971 De La Rue (4)	£2·75	£4
1971 Xmas (4) ...	£2·50	£4
1972 Mailboats (4)	£1·75	£2·50
1972 Bull (1) ...	60p	£1
1972 Flowers (4) ...	£1·15	£1·75
1972 S. Wedd. (4)...	40p	75p
1973 Mailboats (4)	£1·10	—
1973 Aircraft (5) ...	60p	£1·10
1973 Xmas (4) ...	33p	50p
1973 R. Wedd. (1)	35p	70p
1974 Lifeboat (4) ...	25p	45p
1974 U.P.U. (4) ...	25p	50p
1974 Painting (4) ...	—	45p
1975 Ferns (4) ...	—	35p
1975 Hugo (4) ...	—	35p
1975 Hugo m/s ...	—	35p

JERSEY

	buy	sell
S.G.1, 2 (2) ...	£1	£1·75
1d. chalky	£4	£7
1941 Views (6) ...	£2·50	£4
9–14 (8)	—	£1
1969 ½d.–£ (15) ...	£28	£37·50
L.s.d. Post Dues (6)	£35	£45·50
1d.–1/9 thin (10)	£4·75	£7·25
1971 Dec. ½p–50p (15)	—	£2·25
Dec. Post Dues (8)	—	60p
Ditto, 6, 7, 25p (3)	—	48p
Ditto, 8, 11, 50p (3)	—	83p
1969 Inaug. (4) ...	£2·75	£4·25
1970 Lib. (4) ...	£2·75	£4·25
1970 B. Flowers (4)	£7·50	£9·50
1971 Wildlife (4) ...	£8·75	£11·25
1971 Legion (4) ...	£2·75	£4·25
1971 Paintings (4)	£4	£6·50
1972 Flowers (4) ...	£1·75	£2·75
1972 Wildlife (4) ...	£1·50	£2·25
1972 Militia (4) ...	£1·50	£2·50
1972 S. Wedd. (4)...	40p	70p
1973 Soc. Jers, (4)...	70p	£1
1973 Aviation (4) ...	65p	£1
1973 Railway (4) ...	45p	90p
1973 R. Wedd. (2)	35p	60p
1973 Marine Life (4)	32p	50p
1974 Flowers (4) ...	22p	35p
1974 U.P.U. (4) ...	30p	55p
1974 Anniv. (4) ...	—	45p
1974 Paintings (4)	—	55p
1975 Farming (4) ...	—	35p
1975 R. Visit (1) ...	—	30p
1975 Tourism (4) ...	—	45p
1975 Tourism m/s	—	45p
1975 Birds (4) ...	—	55p

ISLE OF MAN

	buy	sell
S.G.1–3 (5) ...	—	£1·25
S.G.2a 3d. chalky ...	£5	£6·75
S.G.4–7 (4) ...	—	£1·25
S.G.8–11 (dec.) (4)	—	60p
1973 ½d.–£1 ...	—	£3·50
1975 4½, 5½, 7, 8p	—	35p
1973 Post Dues (8)	£8	£12·50
1973a Post Dues (8)	£1·75	£3
1975 Post Dues (8)	—	£2·20
1973 Inaug. (brown)	60p	95p
Ditto, (white) ...	80p	£1
1973 Railway (4) ...	80p	£1
1973 Grand Prix (2)	25p	40p
1973 R. Wedd. (1)	75p	£1·25
1974 Lifeboat (4) ...	45p	80p
1974 T.T. (4) ...	30p	50p
1974 Hist. (4) ...	—	40p
1974 Churchill (4)	—	50p
1974 Churchill m/s	—	50p
1975 Cleveland (4)	—	40p
1975 T.T. (4) ...	—	45p
1975 Goldie (4) ...	—	45p

REGIONALS

	buy	sell
N. Ireland		
S.G.1–6 (8) ...	—	75p
4d. P.V.A.	—	£4·50
S.G.7–11 (5) ...	£1·40	£2
Dec. 2½, 3, 5, 7½p (4)	27p	50p
3 (1b), 3½, 4½, 5½, 8p (5)	—	40p
Scotland		
S.G.1–6 (10) ...	—	75p
1p 3d. (2 bands) ...	—	£1·40
S.G.7–13 (7) ...	£3	£4·20
Dec. 2½, 3, 5, 7½p (4)	30p	50p
3 (16), 3½, 4½, 5½, 8p (5)	—	50p
Wales		
S.G.1–6 (8) ...	—	—
S.G.7–12 (6) ...	£1·30	£1·75
Dec. 2½, 3, 5, 7½p (4,	30p	50p
3 (16, 3½, 4½, 5½, 8p (5)	—	50p

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The Forgeries of the West Indies



By

A. J. Branston

THE forgeries of the West Indies, like those of many other similar areas, can be considered as falling into three simple groups: (*a*) those very poorly made, often being lithographed instead of engraved and by such people as Spiro and Fournier; (*b*) the more carefully executed works of the later forgers like Jeffryes and Sperati and (*c*) the very dangerous forged overprints and surcharges, also "Specimens", some of which are of apparently recent manufacture. Additionally, there are a few special forgeries such as the German Propaganda issues which are of outstanding interest.

Where the method of production was totally incorrect there is no difficulty in deciding that an item is forged, but the more dangerous forgeries in groups (*b*) and (*c*) certainly do require much more care and attention and are best handled by one of the Expert Committees.

The "easy" ones

Nearly all of the early engraved issues of the West Indies have been forged by lithography and can be found as singles (or more rarely in complete panes) and carrying a cancellation of sorts. This latter is never seen on the genuine stamps; the type of paper and, sometimes, the perforations are wrong; and, the watermark is absent. The cancellations were added when the stamps were printed and the sheets were not gummed. More care is needed, however, with the issues of the genuine stamps which changed from recess to litho and sometimes back to recess without alteration to the design.

In this category are, Trinidad (recess 1851), litho 1852; Nevis, changing similarly; British Guiana (typeset 1850), then varying between litho and litho and typeset until the typo issue of 1876; and Virgin Islands, which changed from litho to type and back to type in 1887.



Two St. Lucia forgeries by Panelli

The St. Lucia of 1860–84 must have been very popular with the forgers and understandably so since its simple design, covering all of the current range and relying only on the colour to indicate the value, could be so easily and cheaply lithographed. Indeed, some 13 distinct sets of such forgeries are known, together with only one engraved example. In 1881, the disadvantages of this simple method of showing the value by colour alone was realised and surcharges from ½d. to 1s. were applied. The St. Lucia forgeries attributed to Panelli can be found both with and without the surcharge (as illustrated) and, in some cases, carrying a cancellation of a large figure "1" in an oval of bars.

The lithographed issue of British Guiana in 1860 was forged several times and the most interesting of these reproduces the word "PETIMUS" as "RETIMUS". There are also forgeries of the "OFFICIAL" overprint on both the 1860 and 1876 issues and which can easily be mistaken for the genuine stamp. (*Illustrated in the heading*)

Between 1897 and 1917 the Fournier factory in Geneva not only put a vast quantity of its *objets d'art* into circulation and bought up defective stamps, but also ran a hospital for the repair of damaged items. Agents, appointed in many countries throughout the world, could purchase sheets of these counterfeits from the Fournier lists which described them as 1st Choice (or better made) or as 2nd Choice (not so well produced). The factory was excellently equipped with machinery and photo-lithography extensively used. At the break-up of the Fournier business the Union Philatélique de Geneve bought all his plant and stock at auction and produced some 420 specially-mounted collections to make evident to the world at large the extent and nature of his works.

François Fournier reproduced several sets of West Indian stamps including Bahamas, British Guiana, Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Christopher and the Virgin Islands. He also prepared bogus overprints for many of the stamps of other islands. In the British Guiana group he reproduced the 1c. black and magenta which had been lithographed by Waterlows in 1852 on surface-coloured paper and, therefore, has an indistinct and worn appearance. Genuine examples of this stamps are not only very scarce but also most expensive. Fournier also reproduced the 1862 type-set provisional series of 1c., 2c. and 4c. Happily, in the genuine stamp, the border varies according to the position of the stamp on the printing plate. It is not known whether Fournier was aware of this, but this "reproductions" all have exactly the same border. He also added the same bogus "AO3" cancellation to all of his values. The Fournier albums also contain proofs of the frame for the "Ship" issue of 1882 which was type-set by Baldwin of Georgetown. No examples of this in a completed state have been seen so far; perhaps events overtook Fournier or did he use this for the repair of margins of genuine stamps?

The craftsmen forgers

Jean de Sperati, who has been described as the master craftsman forged 16 stamps from nine of the West Indian islands. He was a prolific forger and it has been stated that, between 1920 and 1953, Sperati produced no less than 95,607 items, making 538 different reproductions from 391 stamps. These reproductions take the form of (1) "die proofs" in black, (2) "die proofs" in the issued colours —and listed as Bahamas, Bermuda and Montserrat, (3) unused stamps, and (4) used stamps, and (5) used on cover. The story of his arrest and trial in France makes most interesting reading. Our B.P.A. secured his stock, materials and plates and then gave world-wide publicity to the dangers of his work. He reproduced the following: Barbados 5s. (1882), Bermuda 1s. (1884), British Honduras 6d. and 1s.6d. CA (1882–88), Dominica 1s.6d. CA (1887–88), Montserrat 4d. blue CA (1884–85), Nevis 6d. and 1s.6d. litho (1876) also the 6d. green (1883), St. Christopher 6d. olive (1882–90), St. Lucia 6d. and 1s.6d. (1882). His two forgeries of the Bahamas, the Q.V. £1 (1884–98) and K.E.VII £1 (1902) are much sought-after items. On these

(*Continued on page 241*)

GREAT BRITAIN

1840-41 1d. BLACK PLATES

1840 1d. black Plate 1b. C-I. Spec. AS.5. Superb large to very large margined example cancelled by a perfect central strike of the Maltese Cross in red £45

1840 1d. black Plate 1b. E-J. Enlarged Letters. Spec. AS.5c. Superb used very large margined example clearly showing this fine re-entry and enlarged letters. Beautifully cancelled by the Maltese Cross in red ... £60

1841 1d. red-black Plate 1b. O-I. Re-touched Check Letters. Spec. AS.6e. Superb lightly used four-margined example, near central strike of the Maltese Cross in black. ... ... £38·50

1840 1d. black Plate 2. D-E. Spec. AS.15. Superb used four large margined example beautifully cancelled by clear and clean strike of the Maltese Cross in a shade of orange-red £35

1840 1d. black Plate 2. I-L. Shifted Transfer. Spec. AS1.5b. Brilliant very large square margined example beautifully cancelled by light clear strike of the Maltese Cross in red. Exhibition example ... ... £57·50

1841 1d. red-black Plate 2. S-B. Shifted Transfer. Spec. AS.18b. Superb clear to very large margined example lightly cancelled by the Maltese Cross in black ... ... £37·50

1841 1d. red-black Plate 2. J-E. Spec. AS.18. A superb four-margined example lightly cancelled by the Maltese Cross in black ... ... £37·50

1840 1d Intense black Plate 4. A-I Spec. AS.22. Brilliant four-margined example beautifully cancelled by the Maltese Cross in a shade of orange-red ... ... £37·50

1840 1d. Intense black Plate 5, K-E. Double Letter. Spec. AS.24b. Superb good to large margined example neatly cancelled by a fine and clear strike of the Maltese Cross in red ... ... £37·50

1840 1d. Intense black Plate 5. S-H. Spec. AS.24. Superb large square margined example beautifully cancelled by the Maltese Cross in red £37

1840 1d. black Plate 6. F-G. State 2. Spec. AS.42. Superb used four-margined example cancelled by the Maltese Cross in red. Rare on 2nd state. ... ... £57·50

1840 1d. Greyish black Plate 7. D-F. Spec. AS.45. A superb large margined example lightly cancelled by the Maltese Cross in orange-brown ... ... £38·50

1840 1d. Intense black Plate 8. L-F. Spec. AS.46. Brilliant large to very large margined example cancelled by a brilliant clear strike of the Maltese Cross in red ... ... £48·50

1840 1d. grey-black Plate 9. C-C. 2nd State Without "O" Flaw. Spec. AS.58. Brilliant large margined mint example without gum showing burr rubs left and right margins, thinned check letters etc. Rare plate unused £285

1841 1d. red-black Plate 11. O-A. Re-entry. Spec. AS.74a. Very fine good to huge margined example clearly showing the re-entry in corner stars, and letter squares. Fine central strike of the Maltese Cross in black. ... ... £28·50

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B.W.I. Forgeries (*continued from page 239*)

Sperati added no less than seven types of cancellation, including a " NASSAU BAHAMAS 16 JUN 04 ". The fact that he produced these two stamps by removing the design from low value stamps having the correct paper, perforations and watermarks and then printing his own version of the high values on them, shows clearly the very high level of his capability. The recent sale of his proofs of Bermuda and Montserrat in London gave ample evidence of the considerable interest that collectors have in his works.



A Jeffryes' " proof " of the Grenada Chalon Head

No survey of the West Indian forgeries would be complete without some mention of the Jeffryes forgery of Grenada, and possibly the one about which he said, " I could be hung for my West Indians ". This bogus stamp is outstanding not so much for its great accuracy, but because of the lengths to which George Kirk Jeffryes went to produce it. He also knew the sort of item which would attract an unwary collector.

For the first step he forged, by engraving, the orange-yellow Chalon Head fiscal of 1875 from a single-impression plate, but artfully added bogus " sides " to represent parts of adjacent stamps. Proof impressions were made (one of these is shown here) and some touching up done. He then forged on it the green Crown and value for the completion of the fiscal but with an eye to a good market, irregularly extended the range of values (properly stopping at £1) by creating both £2 and £5 values. To this he added a postmark but cleverly re-arranged the date to show a new type of cancellation. Thus, his finished product was a forged stamp, bogus fiscal markings, high values never seen before and a new (and false) type of postmark. What a find for the unwary collector! No wonder his pals Benjamin and Sarpy thrived enough to buy a house at The Oval in London.

Amongst the more dangerous of the forged surcharges and overprints is the Dominica " One Penny " on 6d. (green) of the 1886 issue. It is not known who produced this forgery but, at a recent sale, a copy of the genuine stamp with a thin bar through the value tablet realised £1,500, and the rarer thick bar went for no less then £3,650 So the forgery is evidently an item to be very careful about!

It is also of interest that the Bahamas " WAR TAX " overprints have been forged, not only inverted but doubled, struck twice and with a split, inverted overprint. Very recent investigations have shown that the perforated " SPECIMEN " markings, now becoming so popular, have also been forged.

Although this is only a short survey of the West Indian forgeries, there is no doubt that interest in them on the part of both the specialist and the average collector has been increasing of late. As well as their works, the lives of the forgers are also having renewed attention and the auction prices at the recent Sperati proof sale made some relatively high figures. Of course, a good collection of forgeries requires a parallel knowledge of the genuine stamps and perhaps it is this which makes this particular field of philately so popular today.

B.W.I.—A League Table

By Simon Goldblatt

RESEARCH carried out, especially in the past two decades, enables one to calculate an average annual consumption of stamps for each of the B.W.I. colonies in the 19th century; and the " league table " below sets out the results in diminishing order of scarcity.

The order finally adopted does not altogether correspond to the arithmetical average, since allowance has to be made for the differing years and periods for which figures are available, and for the steep rise in consumption in most colonies as the century progressed. Figures are slightly distorted, too, by the existence (or not) of bisects, surcharges, postal fiscals, large-scale fiscal usages, and so on.

Used with discrimination, the table will give a good guide to the relative scarcity of these stamps today. Of course, where there was heavy use of stamps, there was also enormous wastage; and, at the other end of the scale, some stamps are more plentiful than they otherwise would have been because of substantial contemporary demand by dealers for stamps of these small colonies, or because of the purchase by dealers of a good quantity of remainders after certain issues had been superseded. So the gap is not always as wide as the figures at first suggest.

Country	*Year to which figures taken*	*No. of years over which figures taken*	*Approximate no. of stamps used annually*
1. VIRGIN ISLANDS	1890	25	12,000
2. MONTSERRAT	1890	14	16,000
3. NEVIS	1890	29	15,000
4. TURKS IS.	1899	33	25,000
5. TOBAGO	1896	17	48 000
6. ST. LUCIA	1891	31	38,000
7. DOMINICA	1890	16	46,000
8. BRITISH HONDURAS	1887	22	34,000
9. ST. CHRISTOPHER	1890	20	69,000
10. BAHAMAS	1901	42	88,000
11. ST. VINCENT	1898	38	90,000
12. ANTIGUA	1890	29	83,000
13. GRENADA	1894	34	110,000
14. BERMUDA	1901	36	400,000
15. TRINIDAD	1896	45	385,000
16. BARBADOS	1892	40	445,000
17. BRITISH GUIANA	1900	50	950,000
18. JAMAICA	1901	41	2,350,000

LESOTHO ALOES AND SUCCULENTS

Due in November is a set from Lesotho depicting aloes and succulent plants with natural backgrounds. The seven stamps were designed by Dick Findley of Pretoria and were printed in lithography by Walsall Security in sheets of 50 (two panes of 25) on Basuto Hat watermark, perf. 15: **3c.** *Aloe Striatula;* **4c.** *Aloe Aristata;* **5c.** *Kniphofia Caulescens;* **10c.** *Euphorbia Pulvinata;* **15c.** *Aloe Saponaria;* **20c.** *Caralluma Lutea;* **25c.** *Aloe Polyphylla.*

(*continued from previous column*)

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WEST INDIES

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ANTIGUA. 1863 6d. with fair A18 ENGLISH HARBOUR pmk. ... £5

1872 6d., S.G.15, good used with REVERSED WMK. ... ... £7·50

1879 4d., S.G.20, f.u. £3·50; 1882 4d. c.d.s. £5; 1884 5d., S.G.29, fresh mint, slight rust mark (reverse only) ... ... £5·50

1921–29 Script set to 1/–, all shades f.u. £10

1932 Tercent. 5/- mint, lightest hinge £23

1938 set to £1 mint £9; f.u. £10

BAHAMAS. 1863 4d., S.G.28, f.u. £8·50; 6d. S.G.29 u. £4·50; S.G.30 f.u. £6

1903 Staircase 3/–, S.G.71, f.u. £8; 1906–11 6d., S.G.75, mint ... £5

1920 Peace set mint £6·75; 1930 Tercent. set mint £13; f.u. and scarce ... ... £18·50

1938–52 set of 20 mint £9; type set mint (one each ½d. to £1) ... £6·75

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BARBADOS. 1875–78 4d., S.G.77, fresh mint £15; 6d., S.G.80, mint, fresh, one corner perf. foxed £15; BOOTHEEL PMKS. No. 5 on 1d. £1·50; No. 10 on 1d. £1·50; No. 7 on 1d. £2·50; No. 10 on 1/– £3; No. 5 on 6d. ... ... £2·50

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Bahamas: The Sea Floor Post Office



By Raymond H. Austin

FOR many years between the two World Wars, John Ernest Williamson, explorer and originator of undersea photography, studied marine life, a pursuit for which he was internationally famous. For this study he used a flexible and retractable steel tube some three to four feet in diameter which terminated in a spherical chamber with a large glass window. The tube was fixed in his boat, the *Jules Verne III*, and could be raised or lowered at will to the required depth. A ladder within the tube gave access to the chamber or " photosphere " where one could remain indefinitely in normal atmospheric pressure.



The Sea Garden

Nowhere in the world is the water so generally clear as the seas around the hundreds of Bahama Islands and probably the finest display of marine life anywhere to be seen is the world famous " Sea Gardens " situated close to Nassau between Hog Island and Athol Island. It is said that the " gardens " here surpass all others in their gorgeous profusion of marine growths and brilliantly-coloured fish. The Bahamas 4d. stamp of the King George VI issue of 1938 (S.G.158, Scott 106) illustrates these gardens and was reproduced from a photograph taken by Mr. Williamson in his photosphere.

The Bahamas Government took a keen interest in the Williamson studies and undersea explorations and in 1939 arrangements were made to admit visitors to the photosphere " with facilities for recording their experiences on the spot and posting them in the photosphere ". The Government official announcement read as follows:—

THE MAILS

General Post Office
Nassau, Bahamas,
26 July, 1939

The public is hereby notified that on 16 August next there will be established a Post Office in Mr. J. E. Williamson's " Photosphere ". The name of this office will be " Sea Floor ".

J. Herbert Peet,
Postmaster of Bahamas

This, the first undersea post office, was opened on August 16th, 1939, by H.R.H. the Duke of Windsor, the then Governor of the Bahama Islands, who broadcast from the sea floor. In his opening words he said, " *I am speaking from the photosphere some five fathoms deep under the water in the Sea Gardens off Nassau in the Bahama Islands. To-day's ceremony not only marks the official opening of the Sea Floor Post Office, which is located in the photosphere, but is also the inauguration of the new expedition to conquer the mysteries of submarine life . . . . It is now my privilege and pleasure officially to declare the Sea Floor Post Office open for service to the public and by means of its facilities to send greetings to the President of the United States . . . .*"

The post office had about 60 sq. feet of floor space and by the end of opening day, under conditions far from ideal, no less than 10,000 pieces of mail had been dealt with, including many registered letters. The proceedings were supervised by J. H. Peet, the Postmaster of Bahamas, who was present to witness the closing of the office at midnight for first day cancellations. The work of cancelling the mail was carried out by the Chief Postal Clerk, John Pericles Maillis, with Postal Clerk Vincent Caneino.

The advance announcement that this office was to be established created a world-wide demand for first day covers and the Postmaster's office at Nassau was faced with the task of returning money and replying to requests from all over the world for these covers. It would greatly have simplified the work of the Postmaster if the regulations had permitted him to render this service to the public. Mr. Williamson was himself also besieged with requests from as far away as China and in some instances was asked to send the covers C.O.D.

History does not record the manner in which he dealt with his correspondents but no doubt the needs of some were satisfied. Part of the U.S.A. requirements were met by the arrival of a Pan American Airways seaplane which was sent especially on the morning of the first day to Nassau Harbour to collect the Sea Floor mail for delivery to Miami.

All mail was cancelled with an oval temporary rubber date stamp reading at the top, " SEA FLOOR " in block capitals, while across the centre was the date in one line and, below that, " Bahamas " in lower-case lettering. Cancellations are found in black, blue or violet and usually the strikes are exceedingly clear. Two cancellers were used, both of the same size and type but they are easily distinguishable by the setting of the letters forming the words, " SEA FLOOR " and the positioning of the lettering in relation to the two lines forming the oval frame.

On each cover was also struck in black, or purple, by a rubber handstamp in lower-case lettering the wording:—

Posted in Williamson Photosphere
at Bottom of Sea, Near Nassau,
in the Bahamas.

Two such handstamps were used, one having an overall length of 55 mm. and the other 51 mm. In the third line the former has a capital " I " for " In " and the latter uses a small " i ". Here again, considerable care appears to have taken to ensure the impression was clear and unsmudged.

A number of different first day covers were produced but that most commonly found has an illustration showing Mr. and Mrs. Williamson seated in the photosphere looking through the glass window. Above the picture are the words " First Day Cover " and below is a printed caption in lower-case lettering reading " Looking into a Nassau, Bahamas marine garden from the Williamson/Photosphere where the first undersea Post Office/in history was established today ".

In May 1940, for the centenary of the first postage stamp the office was in use again with a special illustrated cover showing the *Jules Verne III* with the photosphere and the printed legend " FROM THE SEA FLOOR, NASSAU, BAHAMAS/ ONLY UNDERSEA POST OFFICE IN THE WORLD/MAY 6th 1940/100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PENNY BLACK/WORLD'S FIRST POSTAGE STAMP/POSTED IN WILLIAMSON PHOTOSPHERE " Some covers bearing the date May 6th, 1940, were signed personally by Mr. Williamson.

(*Continued on page 245*)

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Why not collect the Leeward Islands?

By E. V. Toeg

IN the last three years there has been an explosion in the price of classic stamps and also, in many cases, in the price of more recent issues. From the point of view of those who are interested in collecting as a hobby this sharp increase in the cost of collecting has raised a great difficulty. More and more collectors are finding that items they want are going beyond their reach and what should be a pleasant pastime and relaxation becomes a pleasure tinged with frustation. The danger then is that the hobby eventually is sadly, and reluctantly, abandoned and if this happens often enough the foundations of a well-established, recreational occupation will be undermined.

I hope that the picture I have painted in such stark terms will not come to pass and therefore, in choosing a country to collect it is now even more important than ever to select one which will suit your pocket as well as being interesting. For the average individual such a country could well be the Leeward Islands whose stamps were first issued on October 31st, 1890 and whose last issue was withdrawn and invalidated on July 1st. 1956.

The islands of Antigua (with Barbuda), Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis (with Anguilla), St. Christopher and the Virgin Islands commenced issuing their individual stamps at different times, Nevis being the first to do so in 1861. This group of islands was divided into five presidencies and, as a result of an Act passed in 1871, became a single Federal Colony with a Governor. However, as mentioned above, the Federal Colony of the Leeward Islands did not issue its own stamps until October 31st, 1890 and then continued to do so until Independence on July 1st, 1956.

The issuing of stamps by the Federal Colony in the first instance was quite logical but gradually, one by one—starting with the Virgin Islands in 1899—each island returned to issuing its own individual stamps. When this happened it was possible to go to a post office, in, say, Antigua in the year 1927, and ask to purchase definitive Leeward Islands stamps and/or Antigua stamps as they were permitted to be used concurrently.

Before taking you for a philatelic tour I would like to mention that from 1890 until 1956 the stamps of the Leeward Islands were mainly printed by De La Rue & Co. The commemorative sets were all recess-printed and were divided more or less evenly between De La Rue and Waterlow. The definitive stamps, however, were all printed by De La Rue and five reigns of Leeward Islands stamps were based on De La Rue's economic key plate design at first used for numerous colonies, the number of which was gradually whittled down until only the Leeward Islands continued with the key plate design in to the present reign.

Die Proofs

I would now like to deal in general terms with the proof material which I have come across over a lengthy period of collecting.

Connected with the 1890 set is the master die proof of the frame and head of Queen Victoria on glazed card with blank name and value tablets. The die, of course, also relates to a number of other colonies having the same design. Then there are original die proofs of the name and value tablets, in all values of this set, which complete the design.

There are also some charming imperforate plate proof colour trials on paper watermarked Crown CA of the King Edward VII 2d. value which are rarely seen. Leeward Islands Edward VII proof material is infrequently met with and I think it can be said that, as a general rule, colonial proof material of this reign is more difficult to find than that of the other reigns.

A very few examples of the master die proof of the frame and head of King George V in the key plate design on glazed card are known with blank name and value tablets. As in the case of the master die of the key plate design employed for the 1890 set, this die also relates to a number of other colonies and, accordingly, there is usually keen competition to acquire a proof pulled from such a die. Again there are a number of original die proofs of the name and value tablets on glazed card which complete the design.

In 1928 the 10s. and £1 stamps came out in a large format. Here, I have seen a progress die proof in 1928 of the frame with uncleared borders, name and value tablet and also original die proofs of the frame of the 10s. and £1 values. A separate die of the King's head and scrolls surrounding was also employed but I have never seen a die proof dated in 1928 which could be directly attributed to the Leeward Islands. The only one I have seen is dated " 19 AP 12 " and it must have been pulled originally for the high values of the large format stamps of Nyasaland Protectorate which are of similar design and I assume, therefore, that this die was brought out again for duty in 1928.

I do not know of any later proof material relating to the definitive adhesive stamps of this country.

By now you will have realised that De La Rue used two dies to make up the designs of the adhesive stamps of the Leeward Islands.

" Specimen " Stamps

I now come to the " SPECIMEN " stamps, examples of which are to be found on stamps comprising the 1890, 1902, 1907–11, 1912–22, 1921–32 sets, also the 1935 Silver Jubilee and the 1937 Coronation sets, the 1938–51 set and the 1946 Victory set.

The varieties include different papers, some colour changes and the broken " M " in the " SPECIMEN " overprint which I have been told is from horizontal row 7, stamp 2 (stamp no. 38 in the pane of 60 stamps). The word " SPECIMEN " will be found usually as an overprint in black and sometimes the word is punched out in holes through the stamp in an arc or a diagonal line.

(*Continued on page 247*)

Bahamas Sea Floor P.O.—(*contd. from page 243*)

Information is not available as to exact periods when this unique post office was open for business. However, after May 1940, it was certainly in use in October of the same year and for further spells between March and December 1941. Again in February, 1942 the office was operating using the same cancellers but with a rubber handstamp with an impression of the photosphere above which, in a single line, are the words, " Bahamas-Williamson Undersea Expedition " The last recorded date of the Sea Floor handstamp is June 26th, 1942.

The 5s. stamp of the January 1965 definitives (S.G.259, Scott 216), illustrated in the heading, commemorates John Williamson in his undersea photosphere and illustrates the undersea post office.

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Generally speaking, "SPECIMEN" stamps are from the first printing and the type of paper and shade may then be allocated, especially in regard to the stamps of King George VI.

Only in the last few years has the collecting of "SPECIMEN" stamps become popular and their value is rising fast especially as they are now listed and priced in the recognised catalogues. I think this is a move in the right direction as "SPECIMEN" examples are very limited in number and their desirability in a collection is only now being really appreciated.

Varieties in the Issued Stamps

Coming next to the issued stamps, the 1890 set requires little comment except for the varieties. The 1d. can be found very occasionally with the name and value tablets badly misplaced, a very few examples of the 2½d. have been found with inverted watermark and the 5s. value exists with the "L" of "LEEWARD" entirely missing.

The 1897 Diamond Jubilee set with the "SEXAGENARY" overprint is very popular; only two or three mint blocks of four of the 1s. and 5s. values are known to exist. The set can also be found used. Double overprints exist in all values with only two or three examples known on the 5s. value. The rarest double overprint is on the 1s. stamp; I have only seen one example with a certificate of genuineness. There is a spectacular variety on the 1d., a marginal mint pair exists with one stamp having a triple overprint which must be unique. However, this set is made more interesting by the fact that over the last 75 years or so many attempts have been made to forge the sexagenary overprint. Most of the forgeries are crude but some are good and cleverly made and can fool all but those who know the genuine overprint from the rest. There is now comprehensive information and enlarged illustrations to be found in the Bulletins of the British West Indies Study Circle which help towards the detection of a number of the forged overprints and, no doubt, as time goes by new, forgeries will be discovered and, I hope, publicised.

Of the three Edwardian sets, the 1905–08 is probably the hardest to find. The varieties are the dropped "R" in "LEEWARD" on the 1s. value in the 1902 set and the wide "A" in "LEEWARD" on the 2½d. value in all three sets. Both these varieties occur only once in a pane of 60 stamps.

The King George V stamps have nothing spectacular about them but there are some interesting plate flaws and a study can be made of these. The only flaws I will mention are the defective shoulder of the right scroll and the Crown flaw on the 10s. and £1 values which are much sought after.

Owing to wartime difficulties and shortages, the stamps of King George VI can form a very considerable study of their own. Different printings of the same value in many cases were numerous and not all reached the colony; papers used were of varying thicknesses and were chalky or ordinary; gums of different shades are known; colour shades were very numerous in many values, and so on. Frequently, it is difficult to allocate stamps to the correct printings and help in this direction can be obtained from "*The Printings of King George VI Colonial Stamps*" (in table form) by W. J. M. Potter in collaboration with Lt. Col. R. C. M. Shelton.

Much has also been written after 1945 in the philatelic press as to the distinguishing characteristics of various printings. In the stamps of this reign the collector will find much pleasure, not least in the very interesting plate flaws which also have been written about extensively in the philatelic press since the last war. The better-known plate flaws or varieties are the "DI" flaw in different printings of the 1d. value; the defective value tablet in the 5s., and the attempt to repair the same; the 1951 £1, perf., 13 with albino print, with watermark sideways and with watermark inverted.



The R.M.S.P. vessels "Eden", "Esk" and "Solent" the "waterbuses" of the U.K.–Caribbean route (*Photo. from, "A Link of Empire", a souvenir of the 70th anniversary of the R.M.S. Packet Co.*)

The 1954 Queen Elizabeth definitive set also has its quota of constant plate flaws which can be found in the semi-specialised Elizabethan catalogues of Stanley Gibbons and Urch Harris.

Postal History

When I began collecting used material of this country the hobby took on a new dimension. Very quickly the desire to acquire and to delve into postal history took a grip and I have often wondered since why everybody does not plunge into this facet of collecting. In the Leeward Islands there is ample scope for the acquisition of postal historical material. Correspondence took place chiefly with Britain, the United States and between the various islands themselves which formed the group and with the other Caribbean islands.

The main carriers for many years were the steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company which acted as waterbuses carrying passengers, cargo and mail regularly between Britain and the islands of the Caribbean during most of the last century and the first half of this one as well. Now, of course, aeroplanes have taken over from ships much of the passenger traffic and also the carrying of mail.

As an example of the scope available in collecting the postal history of Antigua, I found that at one time I had in my collection over 50 main types and sub-types of postmark between the years 1890–1956. Antigua is the island where postmarks are more numerous than in any other island of the group, followed by St. Kitts and Dominica in that order.

The postmark rarities to look for would be the manuscript cancellations in red ink on cover of R.M.S.P. *Eden*,

(*Continued on page 249*)



A cover showing the "Eden" manuscript cancellation

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- ☐ GIBRALTAR
- ☐ HONG KONG
- ☐ HUNGARY
- ☐ INDIA
- ☐ IRELAND
- ☐ ISLANDS
- ☐ ITALY
- ☐ MALAYSIA
- ☐ MALTA
- ☐ MANAMA
- ☐ MIDDLE EAST
- ☐ MONGOLIA
- ☐ NEW ZEALAND
- ☐ PACIFIC ISLANDS
- ☐ POLAND
- ☐ PORTUGAL & COLONIES
- ☐ RAS AL KHAIMA
- ☐ RHODESIAS
- ☐ ROUMANIA
- ☐ RUSSIA
- ☐ SAINTS
- ☐ SCANDINAVIA
- ☐ SHARJAH
- ☐ SOUTH AFRICA
- ☐ SOUTH AMERICA
- ☐ SWEDEN
- ☐ TURKEY
- ☐ UMM AL QIWAN
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- ☐ UNIFORMS
- ☐ VARIOUS THEMATIC

Other interests _____

_____

_____

AVON STAMPS, (SC) BROADWAY, WORCS WR12 7NB

AVON STAMPS, BROADWAY, WORCS.

Leeward Is.—(*continued from page 247*)

Esk and *Solent* being the three steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. Also examples of King George VI Leeward Islands stamps used in Dominica are rare. The reason for this is that on January 1st 1940 Dominica left the Leeward Islands and joined the Windward Islands group and so King George VI Leeward Islands stamps were only available for use in Dominica for about 14 months.

I believe it was Robson Lowe who many years ago, coined the now well-known phrase " village mark ", when he was referring to the sometimes very rare postmarks emanating from tiny sub-post offices in territories or islands with a very small number of persons who could read or write. The Leeward Islands have many such small sub-post offices and the pleasure in acquiring a village mark is a very real thing and something which most specialist collectors enjoy many times over. Therefore, I commend postal history to all those who have not been bitten by the bug so far; try it, and find out for yourself whether you like it.

Postal Stationery

For many years, postal stationery of all countries has been a " cinderella " but things have now changed and I think this facet of collecting is on the up-grade. If you can find them there are some beautifully embossed stationery die proofs on thin card in trial colours and in the adopted colours by De La Rue for ordinary envelopes and registered envelopes; also die proofs in black on card with small margins of the King George V key-plate type with the word " POSTAGE " on both sides. Die proofs in black for the King George V 1d. stamp for wrappers and the King George V 1d. stamp used for envelopes and postcards also exist.

" SPECIMEN " postal stationery also exists and can form quite an interesting collection. Although one would think that " SPECIMEN " material for Queen Victoria and King Edward VII postal stationery would be more difficult to acquire than that of King George V and King George VI, this is not so. The most difficult to acquire is King George VI " SPECIMEN " postal stationery, closely followed by King George V material while King Edward VII and Queen Victoria material are comparatively easy to find.

The only difficulty with the first two reigns is that because of time passing and the fact that collectors have tended in the past to stick down covers and postcards unnecessarily heavily in an album, the condition of the material in the earlier two reigns has not been good and there is, of course, climatic staining to contend with as well. Unused and used postal stationery calls for no particular comment and nothing else can really be added about postal stationery in a general article of this kind.

I would only add that, today, more and more collectors find that they must restrict their collecting scope because of the cost. In limited or specialised collecting, material and information will be gathered together which the more general collector will not be able to acquire. I commend, therefore, the collecting of the Leeward Islands to anyone who does not wish to spend large sums of money and who, at the same time, would like to form an interesting collection with considerable variety.

Rare Tête-Bêche G.B. 1912-22 Pair for Auction

An unused *tête-bêche* pair of the Great Britain 1912-22 King George V 1d. bright scarlet, watermark Royal Cypher, is being offered by Stanley Gibbons Auctions on behalf of a Canadian collector and is expected to realise around £2,000. It is believed to be the only known *tête-bêche* pair of this stamp in private hands. This lot will be in the sale, devoted exclusively to Great Britain, scheduled for October 23rd and 24th.

The British West Indies Study Circle

ON January 27th, 1975, the British West Indies Study Circle had been in existence for twenty-one years and it now has a world-wide membership of over 300 with communication between members through a quarterly Bulletin in which several pages are devoted to Notes and Queries enabling members to publish information and findings or pose problems which require a solution with the help of other members.

In addition, the Study Circle has published works resulting from research and the study of various aspects of philately of the British West Indies as follows: An Introduction to the Postal History of The British West Indies " by L. E. Britnor in 1959 (Paper No. 1); " The Postal Markings of Barbados " by Basil B. Benwell and L. E. Britnor in 1961 (Paper No. 2); " The Philatelic History of Trinidad to 1862 " by J. B. Marriott, F.R.P.S.L., R.D.P. in 1963 (Paper No. 3); " Montserrat " by L. E. Britnor in 1965 (Paper No. 4); " The History of the Sailing Packets to the West Indies " by L. E. Britnor in 1973 (Paper No. 5).

Members give displays on behalf of the Study Circle to other societies each year in furtherance of the interests of British West Indies philately. To-day, the stamps of the British West Indies are very much favoured by collectors and undoubtedly this Study Circle has helped to bring about this position. Each year, more and more collectors turn to the stamps of the British West Indies and gain full satisfaction in the pursuit of their collecting. This Study Circle wishes to encourage all facets of collecting the stamps of the British West Indies, and while much has already been done it is, so far, only a small proportion of what remains to be done.

The story of the B.W.I. Study Circle would be incomplete without mentioning the late Philip T. Saunders whose foresight and energy brought it into existence and who guided it during many years as its Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. The best tribute that the present members—and those who join in the future—can pay to its Founder is to make certain that the Study Circle goes from strength to strength.

E. V. TOEG, *President.*

* * *

Romano House B.W.I. Exhibition. The two-part October exhibition of B.W.I. stamps and postal history in Gibbons Romano House Gallery will be held on **October 16th** and not October 15th as previously announced.

KENT AUTUMN RALLY

The Annual Autumn Rally of the Kent Federation of Philatelic Societies will be staged this year by the Eltham P.S. on **Saturday October 11th** at Sherard Halls, Court Road, Eltham from 1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. The Rally will be officially opened at 2.15 p.m. by Mrs. Jean Farrugia, the Assistant Curator of the National Postal Museum.

Entries for the Parnell (Thematic) Cup will be on display and will be judged by Miss A. Grunberg and Mr. E. Good. Other displays by members of the host society will cover a wide range of philatelic material from postal history to the latest thematics. Dealers will be present and there will be interesting side shows. Refreshments will be available. Entry free; Programmes 5p.

Members of the B.W.I. Study Circle volunteered so many articles for this special issue of STAMP COLLECTING that a number of interesting manuscripts have been unavoidably held over. However, they will be published, at intervals, as quickly as possible.

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Underpaid Mail in St. Lucia and the West Indies

By Geoffrey G. Ritchie

POSTAGE dues have been relatively ignored in the past by the general collector, but when studied on cover as pieces of postal history they can provide some fascinating items. The "British" West Indies are not particularly rich in postage dues, as only six administrations—Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, Grenada, St. Lucia and Trinidad—have issued them, but they make up in interest what they lack in numbers. Some territories, such as the Caymans and the Bahamas, use normal postage stamps as postage dues, usually cancelling them with some form of T-handstamp, and when these T-stamps and other instructional marks are included the collection of underpaid mail they can provide great interest. The methods employed by the St. Lucia authorities in dealing with outgoing, incoming and internal mail are typical, and procedures in other territories, not only those in the West Indies, will differ only in detail.

When a letter, postcard or other postal item is posted unpaid or underpaid, it can be treated in several different ways depending on the normal practice of the postal administration concerned:

RETURNED FOR
ADDITIONAL POSTAGE

AIR MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES

_____ CTS PER 1/2 OUNCE

REQUIRER _____

AFFIXED _____

RETURNED FOR _____

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

1. If it carries the sender's address, the letter can be returned for him to make up the full postage by affixing additional stamps. This is the practice in the U.S.A. wherever possible. *Figures 1 and 2* illustrate stamps held in the G.P.O. at Castries, although no commercial strikes have yet been seen. In *Fig. 2* the word "REQUIRER" would appear to be an error for "REQUIRED".

In St. Lucia, there is a system under which many official and semi-official bodies, e.g. Government and Local Government Departments, schools, the Scouts and so on, get free internal postage merely by putting their rubber stamp on the letter or circular. External postage must, however, be paid in most cases, and the case can be quoted in which an official letter from a Government Department to the U.S.A. was first accepted and received an oval "POST OFFICE (CROWN) POSTAGE PAID" mark to show abroad that it was fully paid. However, on second thoughts this had been crossed out and the letter returned to the department concerned for the affixing of a 24c. adhesive to meet the air letter rate at the time.

2. Unless the letter bears a stated minimum percentage of the postage for the particular service required, it may be forwarded by a cheaper service, with or without a deficiency marking as necessary. Nowadays, this refers particularly to airmail items, which in the U.K. (and St. Lucia, which uses the British Post Office Guide) may be sent by surface mail unless at least 75% of the correct postage has been prepaid. However, in St. Lucia, as in many countries, practice is not entirely consistent. From their time in transit, some

INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID
Forwarded by Surface Mail

Fig. 3

unstamped air letters to the U.K. obviously have been forwarded by air, while others have not. The G.P.O. in Castries possesses the stamp in *Fig. 3* for use on such occasions, but again no commercial strike has been seen. In passing, it may be said that consistency is seldom met with in any country in any aspect of their handling of underpaid mail, and conclusions regarding rates and so on must never be based on a single cover.

3. The letter can be marked with the deficient postage and forwarded to its destination in the normal way, the recipient then paying the deficiency and fine. Most postage-due letters fall under this heading, and these are now discussed further.

Incoming mail from abroad, and indeed internal mail also, will have been marked by the office of origin if insufficiently franked, and normally all that remains to do is for the delivery office to affix postage dues (if it uses them) and collect the amount due from the addressee. However, in St. Lucia postage dues are used only at the G.P.O. in Castries. For letters not touching the capital, for example from Vieux Fort to Laborie, the amount due is merely marked in manuscript. With local letters this will be "T$\frac{1c}{5c}$", 5c. being the local postage, and twice this will be collected from the addressee when he calls for his mail. In St. Lucia, as in many larger countries even today, there is no general house delivery as we know it here, and with a few exceptions in the centre of Castries all postal items have to be collected from the various post offices.

(*Continued on page 253*)

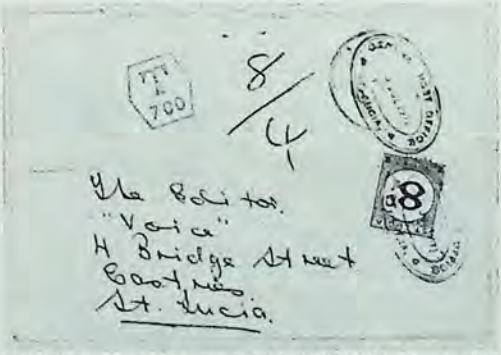

Fig. 4. An unstamped cover posted at Sheffield, Yorks., showing the "T" mark of Sheffield, the ms. international charge mark "8/4" and the 8c. St. Lucia P.D. cancelled by rubber stamp. The correct charge should have been 24c

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"Thank you for your valuation. I confirm acceptance of your figure. I was quite surprised at such a prompt reply and I am more than satisfied with your valuation." W.C., Winchester.

"Thank you for your offer for the lot I sent; I consider it a very fair price and have no hesitation in accepting." S.S., Blackheath.

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"I thank you for the very satisfactory price and have pleasure in accepting." E.W.W., Sevenoaks.

The above letters have been submitted to the Editor.

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St. Lucia, Underpaid Mail—*(continued from page 251)*

The handstamps normally applied to underpaid items at their office of origin are the T-marks. According to the rules of the U.P.U., each member-country can deal with its underpaid internal mail in any way it likes and there is no obligation for such mail to conform to the U.P.U. rules for underpaid international mail, which must be marked with a "T" (for "Taxe") in the top centre of the envelope, together with an indication of the amount due from the addressee. This is done by inscribing a fraction in which the denominator is the single-weight postage to the country in question and the numerator is twice the deficiency (*Fig. 4*).

When the letter is dealt with on delivery in the country of destination, the recipient country's foreign rate is multiplied by this fraction and the addressee pays this amount. It will be noted that he does not pay exactly twice the deficiency, but rather the same relative amount in his own country. Unfortunately, officials in many countries seem to have difficulty with the reverse calculation, and often in St. Lucia the numerator figure is charged directly as cents. This can be very much less than the correct sum, e.g. the G.B. marking of $\frac{8}{4}$ in *Fig. 4* was charged as 8c. instead of 24c. ($\frac{8}{4}\times12$). However, correctly carried out, this method of



Fig. 5. Understamped letter from Jamaica (1929), showing Jamaica T/charge mark in gold centimes and St. Lucia postage-due handstamp. The fact that this item had accidentally been sent to St. Vincent is not relevant to the charge

calculation gets over the difficulty inherent in the method used before 1967, in which the deficiency was converted from the sending country's currency into a fictional currency known as "Gold Francs" and then reconverted to the currency of the receiving country (*Fig. 5*). This method relied on each administration knowing the rate of exchange of its own currency against the gold franc, and in the present state of daily varying exchange rates this is no longer practicable. From this summary of U.P.U. practice it will be seen why, in many countries, T-stamps were supplied only to offices which handled international mail.

The Castries G.P.O. has used T-stamps for over 50 years (*Fig. 6*). In theory, T-marks could date in St. Lucia from 1881, the year of entry to the U.P.U., but the earliest recorded so far is a thick seriffed "T" in circle, which was in use at least by 1924. This was followed by a larger thinner "T" in circle which, in its turn, gave way to the standard type of "T" in hexagon currently used at Castries and a few sub-offices. A smaller, unringed "T" is used at Vieux Fort and some other sub-offices. Offices not possessing a hand-stamp, and sometimes even some that do, mark letters in manuscript. Similar marks are used in the other West Indian countries, but Barbados had a unique "T" in a heart which was used on occasions between at least 1928 and 1940.

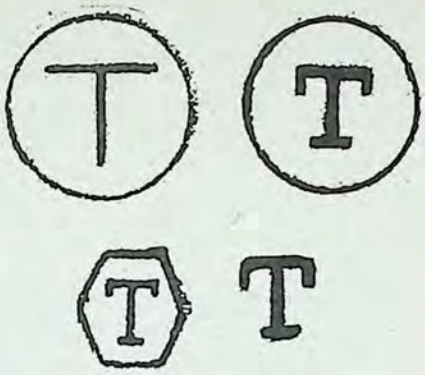

Fig. 6. "T" marks of St. Lucia

Postage due stamps are required only for accounting purposes and, in fact, ordinary postage stamps would do equally well. These have been used for this purpose in at least one St. Lucia sub-office and, indeed, they are, or have been, used regularly instead of specially printed-postage dues by some of the world's postal administrations including Switzerland, Norway, the Cayman Islands, Finland and Liechtenstein.

As in the case of the normal postage stamps, the adhesive postage dues of St. Lucia were preceded by "pre-stamp" markings. An early underpaid item to the island, a post card from Ireland in 1906 bearing only a G.B. K.E.VII ½d. stamp, had been marked with a deficiency of "T5" (gold centimes) in the U.K., and the 1d. to be collected was shown by a figure "1" in blue pencil beside the Castries date stamp. However, the first handstamped marks were similar to that shown in *Fig. 5*. Their date of introduction is not known for

(Continued on page 255)



Fig. 7 (above) and Fig. 8

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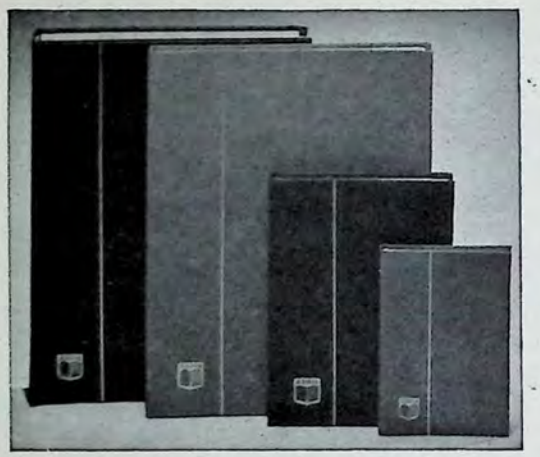

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certain, but it would be after the Great Fire of 1927, when the G.P.O. was burnt down along with most of Castries, and all existing equipment and records were lost. Six separate handstamps covered the denominations from 1d. to 6d. These were in use only a short time as they became superfluous in 1931 on the issue of the 1d. and 2d. adhesive postage dues locally printed by *The Voice* newspaper.

Although this issue has been widely studied, not all the facts surrounding it are yet known, even its exact date of issue. The issue may have suffered in popular estimation due to the fact that it is relatively easily obtained on the many philatelic covers sent by Panton, but quite scarce on genuinely commercial covers. Suffice it to say here that there were several successive settings and printings, the first and smallest being on pale grey-blue watermarked paper for the 1d. and on laid buff paper for the 2d. value. These are easily distinguishable from the bright blue and bright yellow of the later prints, these being the shades found on the Panton covers. All stamps were numbered in serial order like registration labels, although not necessarily in printing order, and since the numbers ran down the vertical columns of the 6×10 sheets, starting in the top right-hand corner, the net result was that vertical pairs differ in number by one, horizontal pairs differ by ten (*Figs. 7 and 8*). The catalogued variety with wide "No." occurred in the tenth (bottom) horizontal row, and various settings can be distinguished by the number of times it is present in this row. The top, right-hand and bottom edges of each set were not perforated (*Fig. 7*), and the inter-stamp perforations are crude in the extreme.

These provisional postage dues were followed in 1933 by the same two values in a De La Rue key-and-duty design, 4d. and 8d. values being added in 1947. "Specimen" stamps for the U.P.U. were by this time produced in the form of "perfins", instead of being overprinted as was done before 1928. Such items have recently proved tempting to the forger, and care must be taken in their purchase. This same design of postage due is still in use today, although the currency was decimalised in 1949 (*Fig. 4*) and various papers and watermarks have come and gone. The only other territory in which this St. Lucia design was used was Gold Coast/Ghana; Grenada used a similar type, although the earlier issues were inscribed "Surcharge Postage", as were those of Trinidad. These, however, were in De La Rue's standard "circular" type, this being favoured also by Barbados and British Guiana/Guyana. British Honduras used a third De La Rue design, which it shared with the Straits Settlements.

Adhesive dues in St. Lucia were, from their introduction, cancelled with contemporary circular date stamps of Castries. However, probably commencing in 1971, a change was made to rubber stamps for this purpose. The first (*Fig. 4*) was one of a long line of General Post Office oval rubber stamps which, prior to this time, had been used only as departmental identification stamps, e.g. on the front of mail on Post Office business and on other documents. Later, in early 1973, other stamps were substituted, including one which read "ACCOUNTS BRANCH G.P.O. ST. LUCIA" (*Fig. 9*). A main use of this had been on inter-office mail as, for example, when the G.P.O. sent a consignment of stamps or postal orders to a subsidiary office by registered post.



Fig. 9

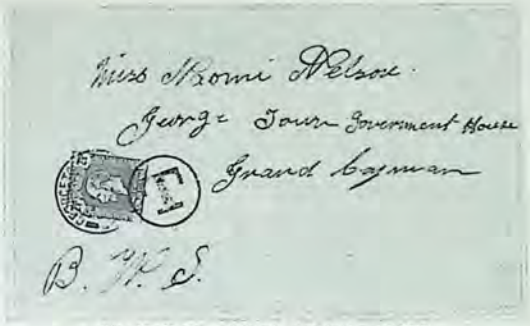

Fig. 10. Cayman Islands ship letter of 1922

In conclusion, mention can be made of an unusual use of the T-mark in the Cayman Islands. While this territory normally uses T-cancelled postage stamps instead of postage dues—and the 1933 Centenary issue can be found used this way on "Panton" covers—in 1922 it extended this practice in a particular way to "Ship letters". These were defined as letters handed in unstamped by the master of a trading schooner, and they were to be taxed 1½d. if from the British Empire and 2½d. if from any other place in the U.P.U. This was to be collected by the affixing of local stamps, which were then to be cancelled by the local date stamp together with a T-mark (*Fig. 10*). It will be noticed that only single postage, not double, was charged in each case, this being in accordance with the general practice of not doubling the amount on items posted where no stamps were available.

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The person submitting the best design for each day's cancellation will be INTERPHIL's "Guest-for-the-Day" during the Bicentennial stamp exhibition being held in Philadelphia, May 29th—June 6th, 1976. Everyone is eligible to enter the contest except officers and directors of INTERPHIL '76.

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All entries must be submitted by December 1st, 1975. The name of the day for which the design is intended, together with the name, address and telephone number of the designer must appear on every entry submitted. The envelope must be addressed to the "day" for which the design is intended (for example: "Bicentennial Day") c/o INTERPHIL '76, P.O. Box C, Philadelphia, Pa. 19105, U.S.A. A committee of prominent philatelists will select the best designs.

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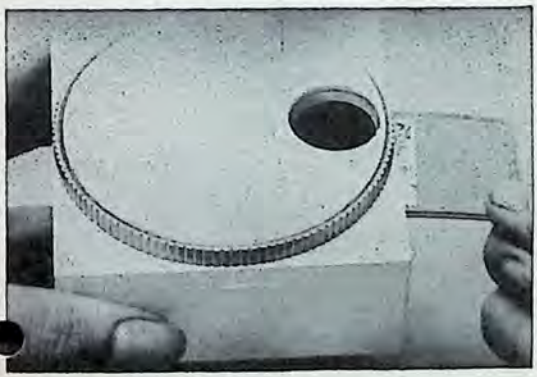

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October 18th	**PETERBOROUGH** (Coin and Stamp) 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Wirrina Stadium Ballroom.
October 19th	**ASTON CLINTON** (Coin and Stamp) 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Bell Inn on the A41 near Aylesbury.
October 23rd	**INVERNESS CANCELLED**
October 24th	**GLASGOW** (Stamp and Coin) 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Central Hotel in Gordon Street.
October 25th	**ABERDEEN** (Stamp and Coin) 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Music Hall Ballroom and Square Room in Union Street.
October 27th	**NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE** (Stamp and Coin) 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Guildhall, Teesside.
October 29th (Wednesday)	**LEEDS** (Stamp and Coin) 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Golden Lion Hotel in Lower Briggate. If this event is successfu we hope that this will become a regular monthly venue

Organised by:

NORTHERN NUMISMATIC NEWS
MEMBER A.S.C.F.O.
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POSTAL HISTORY



FIRST UNITED STATES STAMPS WITHOUT A DENOMINATION

The two Christmas stamps to be issued during the 1975 holiday mailing season are based on an early Christmas Card and a 15th century Madonna and Child painting. The stamps released during October are valid for the first class postage rate in effect at the time of issue. Because of the traditional large quantities of Xmas stamps—about one billion of each—it is necessary to print the Stamps well in advance. The **NON-DENOMINATIONAL** format was adopted because of the uncertainty of postage rates later this year. *Delivery November.*

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BARBADOS. To 1912 with vals. to 1/–. Cat. £24 .. (28) **£9·50**

BELGIUM. A strong general collη. with early issues to Lf. and 5f., later to 1940. Cat. £160 .. .. (sev. hunds.) **£54**

CAYMAN IS. Useful early collη., majority mint to 1930 with sets to 3/– incl. the scarce S.G.29. Cat. £65 .. .. (42) **£37·50**

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EGYPT. 1921–30. Neat range with vals. to 50p. and sets to £1 (2) .. .. (77) **£17·50**

GAMBIA. To 1960 with vals. to £1. Cat. £46 .. .. (82) **£17·50**

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G.B. 1841 to 1920 with vals. to 5/–. Cat. £72 .. .. (62) **£28·50**

G.B. An early range in stockbook with vals. to 10/–. Mixed condition. High cat. val. of over £300 .. .. (85) **£38·50**

G.B. to 1890 with vals. to 5/–. Cat. £65 .. .. .. (28) **£24·50**

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NIGERIA with K.G.V to 5/–, K.G.VI to 5/–. Issues to 1960. Cat. £45 .. .. (110) **£16·50**

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1	Substantial world-wide collection	£850
2	Remainder of an old-time collection	£200
70	Australia: 1913–72 collection	£130
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85	Barbados: 1861–70 6d. rare used block	£75
99	British East Africa: 1890–94 imperf. 4a. grey, unused	£85
114	Canada: 1897 Jubilee $1, $2, $3 opt. Specimen	£60
124	Ceylon: 1912–25 100r. opt. Specimen	£60
136	Egypt: 1926 Port Fuad set mint	£80
148	France: 1849–52 1f. carmine-brown, fine used	£50
155	1853–61 1f. fine used	£75
172	1936 air 50f. green, marginal mint	£50
177	German States: Bremen 1855 vertical laid 3g. fine unused	£45
187	Germany: comprehensive mint collection	£275
198	Gibraltar: 1953 and 1960 sets mint	£12
206	Great Britain: 1840–1974 collection	£150
211	1867–80 2/- brown, fine used wing marginal	£75
217	1913 Waterlow set opt. Specimen	£200
224	1934 re-engraved set mint	£40
228	1957 graphite set in mint blocks of 12	£36
240	Greece: 1896 Olympic 5d. fine mint	£35
266	Italian States: fine collection	£350
271	Papal States 1852–64 50b. fine impression, fine used	£100
282	Italy: 1879–82 10c., 20c., 25c., 30c. mint	£50
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332	Natal: 1902–03 £20 opt. Specimen	£90
348	New Zealand: 1913 Auckland set mint	£40
359	Norway: 1934 U.P.U. Congress booklet	£15
372	Portugal: 1866–67 imperf. 5r., 10r., 20r., 80r. fine mint	£50
374	Rhodesia: 1898–1911 correspondence	£125
376	1913 Admirals ½d. to £1 opt. Specimen	£100
379	St. Helena: 1922–27 ½d. to 15/- opt. Specimen	£60
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412	Sweden: 1920 air 20ö. on 2ö. wmk. Crown, mint	£150
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RHODESIA

77b off centre £37
78b single from wide sheet margin £12
82a pair from margin .. £75
82a pair, ditto, gum crease £55
93R.L. guarantee .. £475
100–113 with shades, fine used, 16 stamps .. £12
113d v. good used, off centre £24
146 .. .. .. £10
152a gash on ear variety, a few uneven perfs, B.P.A. Cert. £90
159 .. .. .. £16·25
163 fine used .. .. £21·50
164 .. .. £35
164 blunt corner .. £10
165 v. good £50
166 fresh colour, one perf. short £66
166a heavy mount .. £85
166a fine used £48
167 v. good £15
172 .. .. .. £12·50
178 .. .. .. £125
178 v. good used .. £30
243 .. .. .. £35
245 fine used, off centre.. £26
253 just off centre .. £28·50
277 one short perf. .. £17·50
279a v. good £19
286 pair £11

ST. CHRISTOPHER

20 fine used .. .. £12·50
21 .. .. .. £15
22b v. good used on piece £19
25a v. good used .. £13

ST. HELENA

21 off centre .. .. £11·50
31 fresh colour, uneven perfs. £27
71 v. good used on piece £43
99b v. fine used £18
113 used, slight corner crease otherwise superb £88
123 v. fine used on piece £27·50

ST. KITTS

1–10 .. .. .. £18·50
11–21 11 stamps .. £11·25
24–36 top val. centred, a few others off centre £48
24–35 .. .. .. £13
33 sheet of 60 .. .. £120
34 ditto £160
35 ditto £325
The three sheets .. £575
36 paper flaw .. .. £28·50
48–57, 59 v. good £37
59 .. .. .. £30
59 v. fine used on piece .. £45
60 v. fine used £255
60 v. good used, ironed out crease £155

ST. LUCIA

2 off centre £24
2 unused £21
8 .. .. .. £25
27 .. .. .. £12
29 off centre £20
30 v. good £16
35 off centre £26
35 v. good £18
35 good used £25
36 v. good £24
43–52 minute spot on 5/- £11·50
56d fine used .. .. £17·50
89a fine used but tiny corner defect .. £21
128–41 (27) complete all shades and perfs .. £10
F4b off centre £39

ST. VINCENT

2 fine used, off centre .. £18·50
4b Unused, ironed out crease, but a rarity .. £75
6 unused, off centre .. £17
12 Unused, v. fresh .. £23
17 fine used £17
20 fine used, off centre .. £33
ditto perf. 11 & 14½ .. £33
21 fine used £21
24 fine used, off centre .. £12
30 Unused, off centre, fresh colour £22
30 Unused, toned .. £11
31 v. good Unused .. £25
33a £42
37 part o.g. £21
38 part o.g. perfs. uneven £20
44 v. good £21
52 v. good used £11
54a v. fine used on piece £31
76–83 .. .. .. £15
85–92 .. .. .. £16
93 superb used, centred.. £100
108–20 (13) .. .. £28·50
120 .. .. .. £23
120 v. fine used £30
141 .. .. .. £24

SAMOA

101c B.P.A. Cert. .. £80
101d fine used pair from margin.. .. .. £10
101d fine used pair from margin, strip of four, showing printed numbers £20
102/e in corner block, top two 102e £15
109 .. .. .. £21
122 .. .. .. £33
122 fine used B.P.A. Cert. £38
126 .. .. .. £16
126 f. used on piece .. £19·50
128 just off centre .. £17
132 v. fine used, c.d.s.. .. £17
133 .. .. .. £40
166 .. .. .. £24
166d £20
174 .. .. .. £12·50
175 fractionally off centre £75
177a .. .. .. £11·25
177a block of four .. £45
193 unmounted £21
194 .. .. .. £52·50
194 Cowan paper .. £52·50
211 unmounted £21
213 .. .. .. £32
214a wmk. inverted .. £65
234 unmounted .. .. £6·50

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ST. VINCENT. 70c., S.G.383 V7 ... ... £3
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120—Curved blue line by dress collar

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1952 Tudor (17) u/m £18·25; m/m £10; ½d. u/m 2p; 1½d. u/m 2p; 2½d. u/m 2p; 7d. u/m 60p; 8d. u/m 70p; 1/- u/m 50p; 1/3 u/m 95p; inv. (5) u/m £5·50.
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1959 De La Rue 10/- m/m £5; £1 u/m £20; m/m £12.
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