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WEST INDIES FEDERATION JOURNAL

Club News of the West Indies Federation Study Group.

Volume 1. MAY 1961 Number 2

Robert Topaz, Temporary President. R. E. Lant, Temporary Sec-Treas.  
A. N. Johnson, Temporary Editor.

We mentioned in the last issue of the Journal that many of the numeral obliterator cancellations on early British West Indies stamps were becoming quite rare and valuable citing one, an A8\$ from Old Harbour, Antigua, that was quoted at 50 pounds by Stanley Gibbons, when used on 6d lilac of G.B. It occurs to us that if each of us would survey our collections and duplicates for these cancellations, and advise others in the Groups interested in that particular country, of their holdings we might benefit our fellow members who are looking for these items, and in turn, profit from some material they would be willing to exchange for them.

In connection with this, it has been suggested that we have a column in the Journal for the purpose of exchanging or selling items to each other. The ads to be limited to three lines, This seems to us to be an excellent means of increasing our favorite collections. We would like to have an expression from the membership as to their ideas on this subject. The Journal is your means of keeping in contact with the Group and with each other and it is your obligation to tell us what you want to see in its pages! We are inclosing a copy of the "Free Marks" brochure of Jamaica with this issue.

Since it was issued, several members have sent in other marks, which will be shown on a page at the back of this issue, and may be removed for attachment, as a supplement to the brochure. If anyone has other marks not shown in these listings, it will be appreciated if they will notify the compiler, so that a later, more complete paper may be issued.

A. N. Johnson, Temporary Editor.

## **The Jamaica International Stamp Exhibition - July 14-21 1962.**

E. F. Aguilar, Kingston, Jamaica, has given us the following early information about the forthcoming Jamaican International Stamp Exhibition:

"Jamaica will be having an International Stamp Exhibition from July 14 to 21, 1962, just one week before the Ninth Central American and Caribbean Olympic Games takes place. This Exhibition will be confined to the stamps of the BWI Islands which include Bermuda, Bahamas, British Honduras and British Guiana. This has been organized through the Institute of Jamaica with the backing of the Government.

The Exhibition will be staged on three floors at the Institute of Jamaica, and will have 500 -frames, for competitive display while 100 frames have been reserved for special collections.

The Committee organizing the show is made up as follows.

Chairman	Dr. F.H.N Cruchley.
Recording Secretary	Mr. C. B. Lewis.
Organizing Secretary	Mr. E. F. Aguilar.
Treasurer	Mr. C. G.: Brooks.
Committee	Sir Geoffrey Gunter Sir John Carberry Sir Colin McGregor.

The Groups for the Exhibition are as follows:

**Group 1 JAMAICA**

- a) Postage Stamps 1860 - 1935 (to the end of George V reign mint and used)
- b) Obliterator numbers.
- c) Pre-stamp covers
- d) First flight covers to and from Jamaica.
- e) Temporary Rubber Date marks.
- f) Postmarks, single ring; squared circle and double ring steel stamp

**Group 2. Territories other than Jamaica.**

- a) Antigua, St Kitts, Montserrat and the Virgin islands.
- b) Barbados
- c) Dominica and Grenada,
- d) St. Lucia and St. Vincent
- e) Trinidad and Trinidad and Tobago.
- f) St Christopher-Nevis, Barbuda, Leeward Islands, Tobago.
- g) Cayman and Turks and Caicos Islands.
- h) British Guiana and British Honduras.
- i) Bermuda and Bahamas.

**Group 3 Postmarks, other than Jamaica.**

- a) Postal history of any of the territories listed in Group 2, including pre-stamp covers and postmarks.
- b) First flight covers to and from any of the territories listed in Group 2.

**Group 4. . George VI issues of Jamaica or any territories listed in Group 2.**

**Group 5 Approved collections for Junior collectors confined to Jamaica only.**

Cost of the frames are 3Pounds, 10 shilling each (\$10.00), and an entry is 35 shillings - (5.00). Every precaution and care will be taken of all collections received, as they will be coming into Jamaica in bond. But all collections must be insured by the owners .

Anyone interested in getting more details may write to Mr. C. B. Lewis c/o The Institute of Jamaica, 14-16 East Street, Kingston; or E. F. Aguilar, P.O. Box 406 Kingston. Mr., Aguilar is presently in England, and is making arrangements for the collections of Her Majesty the Queen, plus the de la Rues and Bradbury Wilkinson's, which will, occupy the special frames at the Institute. This will be one of the 'outstanding B.W.I. Exhibitions and (Dee Volenti), your Editor expects to be on hand for it.

Your Editor would like to throw this out as a suggestion: Wouldn't it be wonderful if the WIFSG could hold it's second annual meeting in Kingston, concurrently with the Exhibition!

**A Listing Of All Known "Judicial" Overprinted Stamps. Of Jamaica**

Clinton von Pohle submits the following taken from four listings, of all of the known JUDICIAL overprints: Scott's Nos. 21, 23, .28, 29, 30, 44, 45, 47, 53, 54, 56, 67, 68, 70, King Edward 3d King George VI 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 4/-, 5/-, 8/6, 10/-, Queen Elizabeth II 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 4/-, 5/-, 6 /6, 8/6 10/-, 20/-. If anyone knows of any other thus overprinted, let us hear from you.

Mr. G. J. Raymond has requested that the Group be queried as to whether modern manuscript postal cancels are known in Jamaica. Does anyone know? The only ones we have seen are the A-36 numeral obliterator cancellations on Scott's 1, 2, 4 and 5, which, of course, cannot be called modern. Mr. Raymond further states that in British Honduras, just last year, mail for some time, from GUINEA GRASS sub p.o. was normally cancelled by writing the village name and date in ball-point pen, across the stamp, circumstances not known. Also, in the Bahamas, due to a temporary lack of any date stamp, letters were normally cancelled in ink across the stamps, at various times in the past 8 months at PIRATE'S WELL, (Mayaguana Island) and PORT HOWE, (Cat Island). At the latter village a whole message appeared in ink across a single stamp! 'Date Stamp cut of order, G.T.S., P.M.". A few years previously, Lower Deadman's Cay had to cancel mail in a similar fashion, pending receipt of a new datestamp. Does any member know of any other offices pursuing this course in the absence of a date stamp?

Mr. Raymond also would like to know whether any member possesses a cover, or on-piece of the post WWII small circular Temporary Rubber Date Stamp of GRAND TURK.

**List Of Post Offices In British Honduras:**

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| <p>BELIZE DISTRICT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* General Post Office, Belize.</li> <li>Caye Caulker.</li> <li>Double Head Cabbage</li> <li>Gales Point</li> <li>Gracie Rock</li> <li>Haskall, Northern River.</li> <li>Rockstone Pond</li> <li>San Pedro, Ambergris Caye.</li> <li>Boom.</li> </ul> <p>CAYO DISTRICT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* El Cayo.</li> <li>Baking Pot (Central Farm).</li> <li>x Benque Viejo.</li> <li>Roaring Creek.</li> </ul> <p>COROZAL DISTRICT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Corozal</li> <li>Caledonia</li> <li>Louisville</li> <li>Sarteneja</li> </ul> | <p>ORANGE WALK DISTRICT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Orange Walk.</li> <li>Crooked Tree.</li> <li>Guinea Grass.</li> <li>x San Esteven.</li> </ul> <p>STANN CREEK DISTRICT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stann Creek.</li> <li>Hopkins</li> <li>Mullins.</li> <li>Placencia.</li> <li>x Seine Bight.</li> <li>Sitee.</li> <li>Stann Creek Valley 22 miles.</li> <li>x Mango Creek.</li> </ul> <p>TOLEDO DISTRICT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Punta Gorda.</li> <li>Barranco.</li> <li>x Monkey River.</li> </ul> |
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\* Principal offices, All Classes of postal work, including the issue and payment of Money and Postal Orders, are handled by these officers.

x These offices issue Inland Postal Orders.

Other offices only accept and deliver correspondence and sell stamps. Postage stamps are also obtainable at the Jubilee Library, Belize. Facilities are provided at Stanley Field Airport for the sale of stamps and posting of correspondence by air travellers.

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We have received a lot of good material for this Journal from several of the members.

Mr. Aguilar has also sent in the following listing of NEW POST OFFICES AND POSTAL AGENCIES OPENED IN JAMAICA SINCE 1958, which should be of interest to all cancellation collectors:

Type of Office	Town Name	Parish	Date Opened.
Postal Agency	Free Town	Clarendon	12/2/58
	Dundee	Westmoreland	12/2/58
	Barnstaple	St Ann	12/2/58
	Woodlands	St Elizabeth	15/3/58
	Treadways	St Catherine	15/3/58
Postal sub Agency	Hopewell Pen	St Mary	23/4/58
	Grants Pen	St Thomas	21/4/58
Postal Agency	Daniel Town	Trelawney	17/2/58
	Constitution Hill	St Andrew	4/3/58
	Lumsden	St Ann	19/3/58
Postal sub Agency	Red Bank	St Elizabeth	19/3/58
	Mount Salem	St James	16/4/58
Postal Agency	Chigwell	Hanover	16/4/58
	Dressikie	St Mary	6/10/58
	Waterworks	Westmoreland	3/10/58
	Grovetown	Manchester	23/10/58
	Hutchings Hill	St James	31/10/58
	Norris	St Thomas	14/11/58
	Russells	St Elizabeth	23/12/58
	Chambers Pen	Hanover	23/12/58
	Mango Valley	St Marys	23/12/58
	Golden Spring	StAndrew	23/12/58
	Huntley	Manchester	8/1/59
	Byndloss	St Catherine	16/1/59
	Spring Vale	St Catherine	2/2/59
	Mike Town	Manchester	10/2/59
	York Pen	Clarendon	26/2/59
	Lys s one	St Thomas	5/3/59
	Wilson's Run	Trelawney	14/3/59
	Old Hope	Westmoreland	20/3/59
	Byndloss	St Catherine	26/3/59
	Gordonts Crossing	StJames	9/4/59
Bybrook	Portland	26/3/59	
Brae Head	Clarendon	13/4/59	
St D'Aore	St Ann	17/4/59	
Post Office.	Kirkvine	Manchester	16/10/59
Postal Agency	Petersville	Westmoreland	13/2/59
	Change of name from Hopewell Pen to Marlborough Postal Agency		1/5/60
	Bois Content	St Catherine	4/4/60
	Flagaman	St Elizabeth	22/4/60
	Mount Zion	St Ann	6/5/60
	York Castle	St Ann	6/5/60
	Mount Rosser	St Catherine	2/5/60
	Goshen	St Elizabeth	13/5/60
	Durham Gap	Portland	17/5/60
	Albion Mountain	St Mary if	9/7/60
	Middlesex	St Elizabeth	29/7/60
	Croton	St Thomas	2/8/60

Postal Agency	Elgin	Clarendon	22/7/60
	Scarborough	St Ann	9/8/60
	Santoy	Hanover	3/9/60
	Litchfield	Manchester	5/9/60
	Lot 224 -Harbor View		2/12/60
	New Longville	Clarendon	8/11/60
	Oxford St. No. 60½ Oxford St, Kingston		15/11/60
	Tropical Plaza	St Andrew	5/12/60
	Mitchell Town	Clarendon	15/12/60
	Charles Town	St Mary	3/1/61
	Kemnay Portland		4/2/61
	Latium	St James	4/2/61
	Montego Bay No. 2 St. James		21/4/61
	Joe Hut	Trelawney	15/4/61

Gail J. Raymond has submitted a listing of post offices in the Bahamas (1960), which will be mailed out with this Journal. 'Recently Mr. Raymond's "Bahamas Postal History Study Group" requested that they merge with the West Indies Federation Study Group. Correspondence with the seven founding members, resulted in enthusiastic approval of the-plan, and Mr. Raymond is now in process of mailing application blanks to his membership. All of us felt that a merger of the two groups under the name of the WIFSG, would considerably strengthen both groups. As soon as Mr. Lant receives replies from the BPHSG, a full membership listing will be made and forwarded to everyone. We hope that this meets with the full approval of all concerned, and feel that nothing but good can come from such a merger. Mr. Raymond has also supplied us with the information that BRITISH HONDURAS has recently published a new 1960 POST OFFICE GUIDE, obtainable at 60¢ U.S.A. plus 15c postage, from the General Post office at Belize, British Honduras.

The New Queen Elizabeth stamps for British Honduras are in process of completion. The photographing as been done by one of the leading artistes in New York and the series depicts the Bird Life of this Colony:

Denominations	Designs
One Cent	Great Currassow.
Two Cents	Red Legged Honeycreeper.
Three Cents	American Jagana.
Four Cents	Great Kiskadee.
Five Cents	Scarlet Rumped Tanager
Ten Cents	Scarlet Macaw.
Fifteen Cents	Massena Trogon.
Twenty-five Cents.	Red-footed Booby.
Fifty Cents	Keel-billed Toucan.
One Dollar	Frigate Bird.
Two Dollars	Rufous-tailed Jacanar.
Five Dollars	Montezuna Oropendola.

For all of we computer minded and technologically trapped humans of this generation, the following should have some significance: "Man is the only non-linear servo-mechanical system that can be mass produced by unskilled labor".

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The following listing of Money Order Offices, Sub-Offices and Postal Agencies in Trinidad and Tobago, -were submitted by Mr. E. F. Aguilar:

DISTRICT OFFICES  
(Money Order Offices)

Arima  
Arouca  
Belmont  
Carapichaima:  
Caroni  
Cedros  
Chaguanas  
Charlotteville  
Couva  
Cumuto  
Curepe  
Diego Martin  
Erin  
Forest Reserve  
Fyzabad  
Gran Couva  
Guayaguayare  
La Brea  
Laventille  
Manzanilla  
Moriah (Tobago)  
Moruga  
Mucurapo  
New Town  
Palo Seco  
Penal  
Pointe-a-Pierre  
Point Fortin  
Port of Spain n  
Rio Claro  
Balmain  
Barrackpore  
Basseterre  
Rose Hill  
Roxborough (Tobago)  
San Fernando  
Sangre Grande  
San Juan  
Scarborough (Tobago)  
Siparia  
Speyside (Tobago)  
Tabaquite  
Tableland  
Tacarigua  
Toco  
Tunapuna  
Williamsville  
Woodbrook

SUB-OFFICES.

California	Fullerton
Claxton Bay	Gasparillo
Guaico	Grande Riviere
La Lune	Granville
Oropouche	Guaico Tamana
Ste. Madeline	Guanapo
Rock River	Harbour Master
San Raphael	Icaoca
Sans S ouc i	Indian Walk
Santa Cruz	Irois Forest
St. Ann's	Kelly Village
St. Johns	L'Anse Noir
St Joseph	La Romain
Biche	Las Lomas
Blanchisseuse	Lengua
Boissiere Village	Les Efforts
Bonne Aventure	Longdenville
Brasso	Marabella
Brasso Piedra	Marcas-St. Joseph
Brothers Road	Maraval
Buenos Ayres	Matelot
Caigual	Matura
Calcutta Settlement	Mayoyo
Caparo	Mon Repos
Cap de Ville	Morne Diable
Caratal	Morvant
Carenage	St.Mary's.
Chachacare	Talparo
Charlieville	Tamana-Four Roads
Clark Rochard	Timital
Cocoyea	Todds Road
Coryal	Tortuga
Cross	Upper Guaico
Cumana	Upper Santa Cruz
Cunapo Junction Road	Valencia
Cunupia	Siparia Junction
D'Abadie	Five Island
Debe	St, James
Diamond Valley	Santa Flora
East Dry River	Piparo
Ecclesville	Delhi Road
Fishing Pond	Matilda
Flanagin T mm	Lark Rochard
Felicity	Balandra
Four. Roads	
Freeport	
Princess Town	

Gail Raymond has sent in the following, representing the contents of his Bahamas Newsletter:

"Some 2½ years later we now learn that the Bahamas P.O. no longer exists at remote, tiny WALKERS CAY. The northern most of the Bahamas Islands, it has supported a small crawfish industry, but is more well known for the famous WALKER CAY CLUB, fishing resort. A Bahamas P.O. opened here on 10 March 1953, with Mr. Ellis I Boyd, (Collector of Revenue), serving as postmaster. It utilized a large 23 mm double-ring Temporary Rubber Datestamp, usually poorly struck in red ink. It was used quite rarely, as most mail arrived and departed with the frequent airflights to West Palm Beach, Florida, with U.S.A. stamps on outgoing mail. When the two enterprises closed the Collector of Revenue was no longer needed and departed on 31 Dec. 1958, thereby quietly closing the P.O. The Club has since reopened, but the P.O. is not expected to re-open. During WWII the U. S. Navy had a small rescue unit on the island, with the P.O. designated as NAVY 513, using only a stock U. S. Navy datestamp. Covers are identifiable only by the Navy 513 return address. Covers from either P.O. are rare. New Steel Datestamps are now in use at FORT HOWE, HIGH ROCK, FORBES HILL, KNOWLES, CHESTER, LONG CAY, LANDRAIL POINT, NORTH PALMETTO POINT, SOUTH PALMETTO POINT, WEMYSS BIGHT, BANDY POINT, SIMMS, BURNT GROUND, ROLLEVILLE, SMITH POINT, CHEROKEE SOUND, JAMES CISTERN AND INDUSTRIOUS HILL. An old "ROSES" steel die (star over date), is being used again.

Recent TRD's as follows:

Type C-5

Pirate's s Well	26 Dec 60	B	"Pirate Well" in postmark
High Rook	Dec-60, Feb-61	B	"High Rocks" in pmk. Now 30mm steel die.
Snug Corner	Dec-60- current	B	
Kemps-Bay	Dec-60- current	B	
Ship Mail, Nassau	Jan 61-current	P	
Industrious Hill	4 Jan 61-31 Jan 61.	B	New 30 mm steel die
Bimini	3 Jan 61	B	

Type C-6

McKennons	Jan 61	B	40 mm TRD
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Type 2C-2

Upper Bogue	3 Jan 61	B	Letters differ from previous.
Savannah Sound	Jan 61- Apr 61	V	

Types quoted are from the Handbook "BAHAMAS T R D's & CANCELLATIONS"

C7 (new type)	35 mm.		
DEVILS POINT	April 47	B1-B	Established Dec 1937

3SL:

Ship Mail, Nassau	10 Aug 1934	B1-B	Date on bottom
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TRC IX: Missing initial words are "To Regain Health"....

P. O. List: DUNMORE TOWN postmark is "HARBOUR ISLAND" Closed: Walkers Cay.

Editor's--quote "I consider the day a total loss unless I receive Hell from someone

## **Personal Mention:**

CLINT von POHLE is back on the job after surgery in April. He has sent in additional "Birmingham" cancellations of Jamaica, and wants to thank the members of the Group who responded with additions and suggestions.

EVERARD AGUILAR left for England the last of May and hopes to contact Bob Topaz while there, He has sent in several items for this issue of the Journal. Thanks, Everard.

His family is with him and they expect to be back in New York around the 1st of August. He can be reached at c/o Wingfields, 392 Strand, London WC.2,

HARRY M. DAGGETT, Vancouver, collects Philatelic Literature of the B.W.I. and B.N.A. He is presently working on a bibliography of the literature of these two areas, which he intends publishing in two parts One for B. N. I. and one for B. N. A. This should be extremely helpful to us in researching various aspects of B, W. I. Anyone having literature on these subjects will confer a favor on Harry by letting him know of this. Bob Topaz has returned from abroad and says that they don't know what "Jamaica" is there, however I note that he has increased his obliterator collection. considerably, which he must have found in England. Bob states that he became acquainted with a man in England, a Mr. Foster, who is trying to get a book published by Robson Lowe. This book covers the field of Stampless Jamaican covers and instructional markings like "Too Late", "Advertised", etc. Bob says that Mr. Surtees recommends the book very highly, and Bob has seen the Book which is in its final form at Robson Lowe's.

The problem here is that of necessity, any book. on such a limited field has a small market and no publisher will print it unless he has a. reasonable assurance that it will sell They are looking for about two or three men who will guarantee the sale of about \$3500.00 worth of the books. In lieu thereof if enough people subscribe to the sale before publication they will go ahead with it. The price might go as high as four pounds. Bob believes that if those of us who could use such a book were to subscribe to it, they would go ahead. No money is necessary, just the offer to purchase one, when published. Bob has ordered two, and your Editor will take one. Is anyone else interested? If so, advise Bob Topaz,

LIVINGSTON T. DICKASEN has sent Bob Topaz a copy of the Charlton Henry catalogue and, Bob states that it is available t o anyone who would like to borrow it. Just drop him a line. These are the kind of thoughtful things that will make our organization grow and go.

JOHN M BUCKNER dropped by your Editor's home on his way back from Florida to Calif. while on vacation. We had a wonderful all day session, with me bragging on my obl iterators and he on his TRDs. He has a wonderful collection of them. He plans to move to Florida within the next two months and continue his education.

JAMES A CAMPBELL also spent an overnight visit with me while on his vacation. He spent some time in Corpus Christi and Galveston, then over here, and, thence on to San Antonio to visit relatives. Jim we thoroughly enjoyed the visit, and hope you and Carrie will come again.

REG H. LANT has just returned from Edmonton, where he visited his son and has been up to his neck in correspondence and setting up a file of members of the Group. You are doing a fine job. Reg, keep up the good work.

GAIL J RAYMOND paid us a visit recently and brought along his Bahamas TRDs and Cancellations. A most interesting and detailed collection. Come again soon, Gail.



MARK W. SWETLAND, now in England, states that his assignment may be extended somewhat., Says that he has met a number of philatelists there, and remarks that, the hospitality of the English is` remarkable, and that he has made some very good friends while there;

## More On The Birmingham Markings

Fred Seifert has written the following concerning the Birmingham cancellations, and feeling that it is of interest to the entire group, am, reprinting his letter, in parts ' ? All of my Duncans are Type B-3. ' Have never seen B-1. I have the following to add to Clint's list: Half-Way-Tree B1, MOB Kingston Paid B1, Parcels Office Kingston B1,Rowlandsfield B1, Whitehall B1,

In the nitpicking department: Dee Side appears as two words, although on earlier types it was one word; Kings Vale is two words; Savanna La Mar.is spelled out in full; Carisbrooke with one r; Dumfries not Dunfries; Epworth with one p. Reference dates of issue, the following may help. I have a sheet of 36 proofs strikes of B-1 types in purple. Attached to the sheet is a small printed form "With the Compliments of the Postmaster for Jamaica" and in manuscript "These are new stamps just received (some initials I can't decipher) 6/12/46". The marks .are as follows -- as they appear on the sheet: Birds Hill, Parcels Office Kingston, Benbow, Haddington, Burnt Savannah, Kingston. Jamaica Registered, Grove Town,, Silver Spring, Jacks River, Mandeville, T..P.O. Jamaica, Morgan's Pass, Whitehall, Irish Town, Perth Town, Dias, M.O.B. Kingston , Paid, Dumfries, Carmel, Parcels Office Kingston, Freeman's Hall, Clover Hill Rowlandsfield, Salt Spring, Kingston, Jamaica Registered, Falmouth Kingston, Haining, Strathbogie, Brandon Hill, T.P.O. Jamaica; Muirhouse, Darley, Newton, Braeton. Dates on the strikes are 6, 9, or 26 Jy 46. However, a note on the sheet says "The dates are just samples and not the true dates of issue, G.C.G." (Probably Geoffrey C. Gunter. It looks like his handwriting). Where there is duplication in the above list there was mote than one stamp. This is evidenced by differences in the letter spacing and in-the lengths of the bars at the sides.

I have another proof sheet with 8 Type B-1 strikes also in purple as follows: Jeffrey. Town; Portland Cottage, Lacovia, Treasure Beach; Half-Way-Tree, Top Hill, Haddo and Maggotty, All are dated 4 Au 44. While, this was probably not the issue date, it gives a general idea of the time of issue.

## Swap Column:

Canadian First Flights: Have several duplicates 1938-50. Would like- to exchange for ditto. I'm lacking . Lets exchange lists. Clinton L. von Pohle.

In an auction lot of Jamaica also picked up some covers., postal stationery, TRS's, etc. from B. Honduras, B. Guiana Bermuda, Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago. Anyone interested. in exchanging for Jamaican TRD's? Al. Johnson.

We have had a letter from Mr. Richard F. Patton, P.O. Box 63 Pinole, Calif. Stating that he has a fair stock of BWI material in which our Group might be interested, and inquired as to our advertising rates for the Journal, Wrote him that we were not set up to accept advertising yet, but would pass his name on to the Group. so that anyone interested could contact him.

## The President's Letter:

My most cordial welcome to all of you new members who have joined us since the last Journal, and especially to those members of the Bahamas Postal History Study. Circle, whose publication will be found incorporated in our Journal in the Future. My special thanks to Gail Raymond, whose cooperation has been excellent according to all reports. I certainly hope that we will all meet in the near future.

As you can see from the above, the scope of our Group has been slightly enlarged, while I was away travelling, and by unanimous opinion of the Founding Group, we have taken in the Bahamas, as well as the other Colonies that we started on. Any future expansion will be voted on by the membership, now that we have reached the fine total of members that we have. I confidently expect at least 100 members in this Group within a year ... and I think that the wonderful response that we have had so far demonstrates how much need there has been for a Group of this type.

Our next big problem is to get ourselves organized along more democratic lines. For the information of the new members, each of the current officers were asked to act temporarily by the Founding Committee, but only on a temporary basis, so I am looking forward to elections in early September. I have asked Byron Cameron to be Chairman of our Nominating Committee. I have asked two other members to act on his committee to receive all nominations and act on them. Please send all nominations and seconding nominations to Mr. Byron Cameron, 1628 S.E. 10th St., Fort Lauderdale, Fla for the following officers:

- President,
- Vice President,
- Secretary Treasurer.
- Board of Governors (3)

The Nominating Committee will report in the September Journal, all nominations for all offices, so that the members will be in a position to ballot during September. Meanwhile, I have asked Milt Erickson of 2080 Cheshire Drive, Columbus 21, Ohio, to act as Chairman of our Constitutional Committee and I have also asked four other members to act with him and recommend to the membership a Constitution, a set of By-Laws and any other rules and regulations that we may need to effectively run the Group. This will take several months, I assume, and any member who has any ideas on the subject should write to the Committee Chairman and express their views, so that the Committee will have the opinions of all interested.

I have also asked Al Johnson, our Editor, who has done such a fine job under difficult conditions, especially during his ulcer attack of the last month, to head up a Committee of five members to determine what the future of our publications should be, and of what type of publication we should shoot for. I look for great things from this group for the members are admirably suited for this particular phase.

The only regret that I have is that I have not named members other than the Founding Committee to head these Committees. This is not done as a slight to anyone, nor as part of a working clique. This is only done because I know these men well enough to ask them to do this work, despite their daily work load, and I am sure that they will respond. I hope that from now on some of the work load will be taken off of their shoulders. In closing, let me thank you all again for reading this far, for your cooperation and your help which we will all need from now on.

Bob Topaz, Temporary President.

Nominating Committee: Chairman, Byron Cameron, Fred Seifert, Gail Raymond; Publications: Al Johnston, Chairman, Gene Johnstone, Harry Daggett, Everard Aguilar and V.N.F. Surtees. Constitution Comm.: Milt Erickson, Chairman, Judge Anderson, OK Eden, Frank Freeman and Henry Spelman.