

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL
(Formerly the West Indies Federation Journal)

Club News of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

Volume 2, Number 6

November 1962

Whole Number 10

Robert Topaz, President.

R. H. Lant, Secretary-Treasurer.

A. N. Johnson, Editor, 2610 Virginia St., Baytown, Texas, U.S.A.

Our Group is very fortunate in having so many knowledgeable philatelists, who have volunteered their services as Group Leaders for the various British West Indies, as indicated by the following list:

For the Leeward Islands,	Stanley C. Durnin.
For St Lucia	Robert J. Devaux.
For British Honduras	Ralph E. Group.
For Jamaica	Russell Gibson.
For Antigua	Mark Swetland.
For Montserrat	Tommy Thompson.
For the Bahamas	Gale J. Raymond.
For the Virgin Islands.	Gale J. Raymond.

This is a wonderful start and we can be proud that these men have offered their services in their particular specialty. However, in order to have a full roster of experts in the field, we need coverage of the rest of the British West Indies. There are openings for members to act as Leaders for Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, the Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Nevis, St Christopher, St. Kitts-Nevis, St Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks, and Turks and Caicos.

Upon looking over our membership listing we find that there are specialists in all of the above named colonies in our membership. For example, Morris Ludington for Bermuda, Shilstone or Bayley for Barbados, Harold Box for Trinidad and Tobago, Bert Taylor for Nevis, Byron Cameron for the Cayman Islands and many more. Why dont you write to Bob Topaz and offer your services as a Group Leader for your specialty? It will not only increase the value of the organization to all of us, but will, through publication of inquiries and replies, give us all a better knowledge of B. W. I. philately.

* * * * *

Robert Topaz has asked that I set aside a shelf in my den for the beginnings of a library, and has donated the following publications as a start:

Bahamas Temporary Rubber Date Stamp and Cancellations by Gale J. Raymond.
The Postal Markings of Barbados by Benwell and Britnor, published by the
British West Indies Study Circle.
The Cayman Islands, Their Postal History, Postage Stamps and Postmarks, by
Aguilar and Saunders.
Dominica, by Fred Melville.
Jamaica, by Fred Melville.
The Philatelic Handbook of Jamaica, by E. F. Aguilar,
The Philatelic Handbook of Jamaica, Vol. 2, by E. F. Aguilar.
The Numeral Cancellations of the British Empire, by Rev. H. H. Heins.
Nevis, by Fred J. Melville.

These books will be sent to any member, upon request, the only requirement being that

they are returned to me within two weeks, and the only cost to you will be return postage. We hope that you will avail yourselves of these books and if you have anything that we would add to our Library, send it in and I will notify the membership of any new acquisitions. We owe a round of applause to Bob for this generous gesture.

* * * * *

New Postal Regulations on Envelope Size in Mails.

New Postal Regulations regarding, size, shape and ratio of envelopes permitted in the U. S. Mails becomes effective January 1, 1963.

Section 122.3 of the Postal Manual will read as follows:

"Envelopes of standard sizes and shapes are essential to the economical handling of mail, both by machine and manual methods. The following standards apply to envelopes:

"a" Envelopes less than 3 inches in width (height) or $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length are unmailable.

"b" Envelopes more than 9 inches in width (height) or 12 inches in length are not recommended.

"c" Envelopes having shapes other than rectangular are nonmailable.

"d" Envelopes having a ratio of width (height) to length of less than 1 to 1.414 (1 to the square root of 2) are not recommended"

So use up all of your odd-ball size envelopes before the first of the year.

* * * * *

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POST OFFICES AND POSTAL AGENCIES.

The following is a complete listing of the Trinidad and Tobago postoffices as we have been able to compile from several specialized collections together with information from these islands:

TRINIDAD

Abyssinia	Caparo	D'Abadie
Adeline	Cap de Ville	Debe
Anchissei	Carapichaima	Delhi Road
Arima	Caratal	Diamond Valley
Arouca	Caranage	Diego Martin
Balandra	Caroni	East Dry River
Balmain	Cedros	Ecclesville
Barrackpore	Chachacare	Enterprise
Bassaterre	Chaguana	Erin
Belmont	Charlieville	Fatima
Biche	Clark Rochard	Febeau
Blanchisseuse	Claxton Bay	Felicity
Boissiere Village	Cocoyea	Fishing Pond
Bonne Adventure	Coromandel	Five Island
Brasso	Coroyal	Forest Reserve
Brasso Piedro	Couva	Four Roads
Brothers Road	Cross	Freeport
Buenos Aures	Cumana	Fullerton
Caledonia	Cumuto	Fyzabad
California	Cunapo	Gasparillo
Caiqual	Cunapo Junction Road	Gonzales
Calcutta Settlement	Cunupia	Gran Couva
	Curepe	

Trinidad Postoffices, continued:

Grande Riviere	Palmyra	Trou Ma--ve (?)
Granville	Penal	Tunapuna
Guiaco	Penal Rock Road	Turure
Guiaco Tamana	Pisaro	Upper Guiaco
Guanapo	Plaisance	Upper Santa Cruz
Guapo	Plum Mitan	Whitehall
Guanaco Junction	Point-a-Pierre	Williamsville
Guayaguayare	Point Cumana	Woodbrook
Gunupia	Point Fortin	
Harbour Master	Poole	<u>TOBAGO</u>
Icacoa	Port-of-Spain	Belle Garden
Indian Walk	Prince's Town	Bethel
Irios Forest	Prizgar Lands	Canaan
Jordan	Quarry	Carnbee
Kelly Village	Reform	Castara
La Brea	Rio Claro	Charlotteville
La Lune	Rochard Douglas	DelaFord
L'Anse Noir	Rock River	Hope
La Romain	Rose Hill	Les Coteau
Las Lomas	Rousillac	Mason Hall
Las Pastora Sasconas	San Fernando	Moriah
Laventille	Sangre Grande	Mount Saint George
Lengua	San Juan	Patience Hill
Les Efforts	San Raphael	Pembroke
Lomas Noi (?)	Sans Souci	Plymouth
Longdanville	Santa Cruz	Roxborough
Lopinot	Santa Flora	Scarborough
Los Bajos	Savanna Grande	Speyside.
Los Bauds	Ste. Madeline	
Manzanilla	St Andrew	
Marabella	St Anns	
Maracos Road	St Barbs Road	
Marcas-St Joseph	St Benedict	
Maraval	St James	
Matelot	St Johns	
Matilda	St Joseph	
Matura	St Juliens	
Mayaro	St Marys	
Mayaya	Siparia	
Mon Repos	Siparia Junction	
Morne Diablo	Tabaquite	
Moruga	Tableland	
Morvant	Talparo	
Mucurapo	Tacarigua	
NaveT	Tamana-Four Roads	
New Town	Timital	
New Settlement	Toco	
Oropouche	Todds Road	
Palo Seco	Tortuga	

There are two doubtful names in the above list, Lomas Noi and Trou Ma--ve. Does anyone have records of the first and a full spelling of the last? Also a listing for "Lark Rochard" was sent in, but was not listed because it is apparently "Clark Rochard". The Editor will appreciate knowing of any other Trinidad or Tobago postoffices not shown on this listing, or any corrections to the above.

Gale Raymond advises that he now has a supply of "invisible pencils" (wooden, similar to a regular lead pencil but with a "blackray" core, for invisibly marking stamps, covers, etc. Under ultra-violet lamp or suntan lamp the writing becomes visible. No thief in his right mind would steal material so marked, as it is thus positively identifiable. Most users put a notice in each album advising that the material is invisibly marked. The pencils cannot harm stamps, mint or used. He has been supplying these lately to APS members at regular retail price of \$1.00 plus 4¢ stamp postage, and is willing to extend the offer to our Group members. Write him at P. O. Box 35443, Houston 35, Texas. Incidentally, your Editor has just recently purchased an ultra-violet lamp, will be glad to check any stamps for the members, as to condition, cleaned postmarks, etc.

* * * * *

JAMAICAN TEMPORARY DATE STAMPS

Clinton L. von Pohle reports the following new TRDs: Progressive, Albion Mountain, Beecher Town, Time & Patience, Bunka Tree, Big Pear Tree, Caledonia, Mongrave, Moores, Mount Peace, Nutfield and Unity. TRD of Mark Hill comes in two types, No. 37 and 45. Marlborough in black and purple, Wilson Run in blue and purple, Newton was reissued again in Type 37, but with a difference in spacing between the letters, so is now to be found with both wide and narrow spacing between the letters of the name. York Pen is found in both purple and black.

* * * * *

VARIATIONS IN KINGSTON SQUARED CIRCLE POSTMARKS.

Mark Swetland, who is now back in the U. S. after an extended tour of duty in England, (address 102 Woodland Road, Madison, N. J.), reports that he has found several different settings in the words KINGSTON and JAMAICA on these cancels. There is a narrow and a wide Jamaica and a narrow and two wide Kingstons, occurring in the following combinations:

1. Narrow Jamaica and Narrow Kingston.
2. Narrow Jamaica and Wider Kingston.
3. Wide Jamaica and Narrow Kingston.
4. Wide Jamaica and Wide Kingston.

The two wide Kingstons are called wide and wider for want of a better description at this moment. Mark would like to make a more extended study of these variations, and states that if the members interested, would like to submit their copies to him, that he will guarantee careful handling and prompt return.



Wide Kingston
Wide Jamaica



Narrow Kingston
Narrow Jamaica



Wide Kingston
Narrow Jamaica

The above are prototype only and given to show some of the variations.

* * * * *

Your money does go further those days, in fact some of it winds up in outer space.

CURRENT LISTING OF GRENADA POSTOFFICES:

The following list, submitted by Stanley C. Durnin, shows all of the postoffices now open in Grenada:

Birch Grove *	G.P.O.Grenada,	Morne Jaloux	Sauteurs
Byelands	Grand Anse	Morne Fendue	Snug Corner
Carriacou	Gouyave	Mt. Rose	St. David's
Chantimelle	Grand Roy	Mt. Moritz	St. Paul's
Concord	Grenville	Mt. Pleasant	Tivoli
Corinth	Happy Hill	New Hampshire	Union
Crochu	Hermitage	Paraclete	Victoria
Dunfermline	Hope	Munich	Vincennes
Duqusne	LaDigue	Piedmontagnes	Woburn
Florida	LaTaste	Petit Martinique	

* Belvedere has no Postoffice, mail from there is handled through Birch Grove. Stan is still waiting word on possible postoffices at Belmont, Pearls and Tempe.

* * * * *

CURRENT LISTING OF MONTSERRAT POSTOFFICES:

Tommy Thompson submits the following listing of Montserrat postoffices:

Bethel	Salem
Cudjoe Head	St. John's
Dyers	St. Patrick's
Harris	St. Peters
G.P.O. Plymouth	

* * * * *

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

STANLEY C. DURMIN'S New permanent address is: 4018 Cortright Way, North Highlands, Calif.

RALPH E. GROUP, 304 A Street, S. E., Washington 3, D. C.

* * * * *

SWAP COLUMN:

Stanley Durnin wants to dispose of his holdings of British Commonwealth stamps except for B.W.I. This entails over 10,000 issues. Wanted in exchange used Leeward Islands and Windward Islands material with the cancels in readable condition. What do you need? (Note that Stan's new address is 4018 Cortright Way, North Highlands, Calif).

Looking for any (non-Monrovia) Liberian covers and postmarks, P.O. lists and fellow collectors of Liberian Postmarks. Gale Raymond.

Wanted, Postal Stationery and Post Cards from the Cayman Islands, Byron R. Cameron.

Wanted, covers showing Crowned Circle handstamp of St. Lucia, any date, will swap or buy, you name it, Robert Devaux.

Have world wide duplicates to swap for Bermuda, Bahamas and B.W.I. James M. Weaver.

THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO "ONE CENT ON 2¢ PROVISIONAL OF 1956.
by H. T. Eckhardt.

Reprinted from the Trinidad Philatelic Society Bulletin, July-Aug. 1962.

A dramatic rush shipment of stamps which failed to arrive in time led to the issuance of the Trinidad and Tobago "ONE CENT" overprint on 2¢ provisional in 1956. While the plane with the new supply of the regular 1¢ stamps aboard was delayed, first by fog in London and then by engine trouble in New York, stocks of these stamps ran out of supply at Port of Spain. At 11:30 A.M. on Friday, December 20, the postal authorities reluctantly placed hastily printed provisionals on sale at the General Post Office, where they were available until the 4:00 P.M. closing time. Meanwhile the regular stamps arrived during the night, so the provisionals had a life of only 5½ hours, one of the shortest on record. None were sold at any location other than the G.P.O. at Port of Spain.

Sales of the 1¢ value had been very heavy all through early December, since this was the postal rate for Christmas cards locally. With stocks dwindling, a quantity of the current 2¢ stamp was ordered overprinted "ONE CENT" by the Government Printing Office in Port of Spain as a precaution, though the emergency shipment of 1¢ stamps was expected right up to the last minute.

News of the provisionals spread quickly around the Port of Spain business district, and the stamps were soon eagerly sought by speculators. A policy of limiting sales of two sheets (120 stamps) per customer was immediately adopted. Although sales of the ordinary 1¢ value had been about 100,000 per day during the month, the sales of the overprinted provisional were less than 82,000 due to the clamp-down by postal authorities. This low sales figure has caused the stamp's price to rise to a phenomenal 275 times its original face value, which was equivalent to 6/10ths of a cent in U. S. Currency. The actual records show that a total of 539,940 2¢ stamps (8,999 panes) were overprinted of which 81,840 (1364 panes) were sold and 379 of the stamps retained for records. On February 19, 1957, the remaining 457,721 stamps were officially destroyed. All of the 2¢ stamps overprinted "ONE CENT" were with Bradbury Wilkinson's imprint and plate number 1 - 2 in the bottom margin of the sheet.

THE SHIFTED OVERPRINT: As might be expected, the hasty overprinting by the local Government Printer resulted in errors, but considering the total quantity a creditable performance was turned out by the pressmen. Only four sheets are known to have been released with the overprint shifted, although flaws in individual letters are fairly common.

Two of the sheets with shifted overprint are known to have been bought by local citizens, and although one of them, (Serial No. 004), was broken up, the other (No. 003) is at present in the collection of a Port of Spain philatelist. The other two sheets were included in a shipment from the Colony received by an English new-issue dealer. He broke up one sheet (Serial No. unknown) and sold the other (No. 073) to an American collector who holds it intact. Of these four sheets, three were fed into the press in such a manner that the overprint angles upward to the right while sheet No 003 has the overprint shifted to the right in a horizontal plane.

First Day Covers are comparatively scarce, since the heavy load of Christmas mail forced the post office workers to cancel most of the pieces bearing the provisional late at night or on the next day. No advance notice was provided, and both dealers and collectors were taken unaware by the issuance of these stamps. The shifted overprint is, of course, a modern rarity since only 240 copies are known to exist.

* * * * *

The average woman has a smaller stock of words than the ordinary man, but the turnover is greater.

NEW ISSUES, NEW PRINTINGS AND WITHDRAWALS.

The new Trinidad and Tobago issue, mentioned in the last issue is given here in more detail:

This special issue was produced by Harrison & Sons Ltd., by the photogravure process. The stamps are in horizontal format size 1.1" x 1.75", perf. to perf. The values, subjects and colors are as follows:

- 5¢ Buccoo Reef, Blue Green.
- 8¢ New Terminal Building Piarco, with Royal Portrait, Olive Black.
- 25¢ Trinidad Hilton Hotel, with Royal portrait, Mauve.
- 35¢ Bird of Paradise on Map of Trinidad and Tobago. Yellow, Green, Brown and Black.
- 60¢ Scarlet Ibis on Map of Trinidad and Tobago. Red, Blue and Black.

There are new definitive issues on order for Bermuda, and the Cayman Islands, and Dominica. Further details will be announced.

Withdrawals: Antigua, October 31, 1962.

Further printings of Grenada current issue: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 50 cents and \$2.50.

For those of you who collect Falkland Island with British America, the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Establishment of Radio Communication was released on September 23. The set consists of three values, 6d. 1/-, 2/-, in sheets of 60.

* * * * *

Your Editor committed an unpardonable error in the last issue. On page 70, the item on "SOME NOTES ON BAHAMAS POSTMARKS" the authors name was given as "Mr. Moreton." The authors correct name is H. Moreton Black, and we apologize for the error.

* * * * *

PERSONAL MENTION.

EVERARD AGUILAR spent the last week in September in Miami Florida, on business and pleasure. Everard is not only a philatelist, but is a dealer in Nursery stock and plants as well.

JOHN BUCKNER dropped me a post card from Chicago Ills, with an Irish stamp on it, and it came through the mails all right. John has spent the summer in England and Ireland and visited Frank Saunders, Hooten Mitchell and others. Hope you enjoyed the trip and found plenty of material in your wanderings, John.

BYRON CAMERON writes that he will be in New York for the A.S.D.A. Show in November. Bring some of the other Florida fellows along, Byron. See you then.

STAN DURNIN has at last gotten a permanent address by buying a place in North Highlands, Calif. Glad to see you get settled Stan, and be sure and take Elaine up to the Napa Valley for their festival. Look Clint von Pohle up too, he's not too far from you.

MILT ERICKSON Writes that he spent a few days at Kingston, Jamaica this summer, then took the train to the Montego Bay area for a week. On the way back dropped by Byron Cameron's place. Milt also visited his son who was at Kingston on a research scholarship in Chemistry and spent eight weeks in Jamaica with his faculty advisor.

Dr. MARTIN GARFINKLE visited Jamaica this year and has become interested in their stamps, and has purchased Russ Gibson's collection as a starter.

Speaking of RUSS GIBSON, haven't heard from him recently but hope to see him in Boston this fall. Hope you still plan on making it, Russell.

ROB ERT GRIMBLE Writes that he hopes to make it to New York this fall to meet some of the Group. We'll be looking for you, Bob.

RALPH GROUP says that he has been 'politicking' recently and hasn't had much time for anything else, but promises to send in some British Honduras material for the Journal as soon as possible.

AL JOHNSON wishes that more of the members would write him, so that he would have something interesting for this section. Let me hear from all of you, and I will promise to answer.

REG LANT must be living it up in England and the continent, as I haven't heard from him since he left. He is due back home around the middle of October and hopes to get to New York for the Show. (Later: Just had a card from him from Rome)

MORRIS LUDINGTON'S new book on Bermuda will be out in October and is in two volumes. Robson Lowe is the publisher. Better get your order in soon if you want one as this is a limited edition.

GALE RAYMOND is to be congratulated on a nice article on the Maldive philately that appeared in the September issue of the American Philatelist. When are you and the fellows coming down, Gale, have a lot more material to show you.

MARK SWETLAND sends a card from Mexico City, and says that he will be back home for the meeting in New York. Looking forward to seeing you, Mark.

Pamela Taylor writes that she and her son spent a pleasant vacation in Nova Scotia this summer.

Tommy Thompson, Gale Raymond and I have had a first class siege of Hay Fever this past few weeks. The pollen count around Houston has been between 2800 and 3000 grains so something had to give.

Bob Topaz advises that if there is enough demand, that he will take his photo equipment to New York and make color slides of any material that anyone brings. However, write him ahead of time and let him know. This way valuable stamps would not have to be entrusted to the mail. He will charge for the cost of the material plus postage and registration on the slides, only. This goes for stamps, covers, or anything else of a philatelic nature. Here's a change to get a slide for that special piece that you are proud of.

* * * * *

SPECIAL NOTICE!!!

We are preparing to revise the membership listing shortly after the first of the year. Anyone who changed or added to their philatelic preferences or their philatelic society affiliations, please write the Editor, giving these changes, or any additional information that you would like to appear with your name. Let me have them by the latter part of December. Only by keeping this roster up-to-date can we know what the other fellow is interested in.

BAHAMAS NEWS LETTER, by Gale Raymond.

In 1869 a Methodist Minister, Reverend Joshua Jordan, began preaching at a place on the north end of Great Abaco Island, on the east side. Islanders who attended the meetings grew to like the spot and a small village began to grow. They built a stone chapel in 1874 and developed the economy based on farming and sponging. In 1932 a terrible hurricane destroyed the entire village, leaving only one house standing. The grief-stricken people rebuilt the community again courageously, only to have it once again destroyed in 1935 by another hurricane. Governor Dundas offered the villagers a large uncleared tract of land farther south on the island, West of Marsh Harbour, but it was not until the spongeing industry failed that they eventually made the move. By October 1940 only 9 families remained at OLD PLACE. Most of the men began that month to clear the land and build new homes and by January 1941 all the people, (about 40), were resettled in the new village, DUNDAS TOWN, named after the Bahamas Governor.

It is not known when a Bahamas post office originally opened at OLD PLACE. The first postmark to my knowledge is a 25mm steel-die, inscribed in very small letters "OLD PLACE,BAHAMAS", with 20 SEP 1918 the earliest reported date. However, Morris Ludington has a cancel which may be earlier, a hand-drawn "datestamp" on a stamp reading "Juno 10"; the possibility exists that it indicates 1910, however OLD PLACE does not appear on an official post office list of 1913. Another example of the steel datestamp exists dated 3 DEC 24, my own is 1927, and another is dated 1930. It is illogical to suppose that temporary datestamps or markings of some sort were not used after the 1932 and 1935 hurricanes, but none have yet been reported. Needless to say, such reports would be most welcome! The next datestamp seen is on full cover in the MacFarlan collection, 6 strikes of a 25mm steel-die inscribed "OLD PLACE,BAHAMAS", this time in large letters, dated 28 JAN 38. Reports of other OLD PLACE postmarks and covers are urgently requested.

In the last years of the OLD PLACE post office, Rev. Jacob Saunders, the Methodist pastor, was the Postmaster. He passed away in 1942. Dec. 1940 appears to be the last possible date of OLD PLACE postmarks, It is not known if the DUNDAS TOWN p. o. opened Jan. 1941, at the time of the resettlement, but appears to be a reasonable conjecture. However, the earliest DUNDAS TOWN postmark seen by me is a 1947 date, an oval TRD already misshapen by use. Many thanks for this information is due to Sister Muriel Webb and Mr. John Ward, the latter the head of one of the nine families who made the move from OLD PLACE.

Current news from the out-islands is still sparse. My Oct. 1961 cover showing a new TRD revising the name from PIRATE WELL to PIRATES WELL (correct), went un-noticed at the time, due to the strong similarity of the two TRDs. This has now been drawn to my attention by members Black and Plowright, who have also reported a new 30mm ROLLETOWN c.d.s. Bimini has yet another new datestamp, and WEST END has a new TRD (Type 2C-2) inscribed "AIR MAIL, WEST END"; whether or not this is applied as a cancel to stamps is yet unknown. No new P.O.s are yet contemplated. A new 8d Air Letter form will be placed on sale within the next few months and a 6d registry envelope. The Registration fee was raised from 4d to 6d on Jan. 2, 1962, with the old 4d. envelope still in use, with an added 2d stamp. WEST END now has it's own printed name-type registry label.

I have recently been advised that the official viewpoint on the use of "COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE" datestamps on stamps, is that their use in this manner is not official, but that in instances when the regular postal datestamp is not available, their use as a cancel is "acceptable".

ITEM: For my personal Bahamas postmark collection, I am lacking any postmark of CORNWALL or WHALE CAY. Good exchange offered.

BAHAMAS NEWS ITEMS AND NOTES: by H. Moreton Black.

- ADVERTISED** Small circle cancel found on Edward covers. Postmaster reports that it is not now available, and that no one recalls such a stamp. I have it on covers circa 1912. (Note by G.J.Raymond: This "ADVERTISED" mark was applied to letters as notice of their arrival was posted on the P. O. Bulletin-board, listed by addressees, if not picked up in a day or so. Then, if not claimed in a reasonable time, it was, in theory, returned to the "P.O. of origin" for return to sender. Most such covers seen have been on mail to or from the Abaco lumbercamps circa 1909 to 1913, without return addresses. It is easy to conjecture that such unreturnable mail simply piled up at the GPO over the years and was then stored under the Library building, (which see on the recent Centenary of Nassau 10d stamp). As a large number of such covers appeared on the philatelic market a few years back it is likely that they were "salvaged" at the time a lot of old "superfluous" (???) G.P.O. records were burned to make more storage space. The story of this salvaging should make interesting reading! The ADVERTISED mark was applied at the GPO, and the practice apparently was of short duration).
- UNCLAIMED** . In heavy black seriffed type occurs on most "ADVERTISED" covers as above.
- BOOKLETS** G.P.O. Nassau reports that the 3/- and 6/- booklets were never actually sold out, and that they are still available.
- BIMINI** The Three-Line T.R.D. recently received struck in red.
- THE BIGHT** Still using Commissioner's Office TRD to cancel adhesives (in black).
- GOVERNORS HARBOUR** New Commissioner's Office T.R.D. reading, in three lines inclosed in an oblong box: "COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, Date, GOVERNOR'S HARBOUR" Struck in purple. This seems to replace former oval mark (This seen on a commercial cover as a cancel on stamp, but ordinary c.d.s. in use).
- G.P.O.NASSAU** New 38mm office mark in purple, reading General Post Office, and at foot, "NASSAU,BAHAMAS", and another, "NASSAU POST OFFICE, RECEIVED".
- FRESH CREEK ANDROS** New Oval Commissioners Office T.R.D. used to cancel adhesives, Struck in black, this seems to replace former circular type which was struck in brown.
- JET AIRMAIL** Cunard Eagle inaugurated a Jet Air Service between Miami and Nassau on May 5, 1962. Cover from Miami to Nassau has large black cachet showing the tail of a Cunard Eagle jet aircraft with "Cunard Eagle Airways" at top "First Jet Air Service" at foot, vertical Miami at left and vertical Nassau at right. Cover from Nassau has neat rectangular cachet struck in green showing two four-engined Cunard Eagle Aircraft flying in close formation with the inscription: "NASSAU,BAHAMAS TO MIAMI, FLORIDA" at top left, and at bottom right: "FIRST JET MAIL SERVICE". Postmarked Nassau 11am, 5 May 1962. Covers appear to be very scarce.
- WEST END** On March 25, 1961 Bahamas Airways marked the first airmail service from an out island direct to the United States by producing a cachet reading: "First Flight Cover, Grand Bahamas, to, The United States, March 25, 1961, carried by, BAHAMAS, AIRWAYS", in eight lines as indicated by commas the date being in one line. It is reported that 1400 letters were carried on this flight. As reported in the Nassau Daily Tribune, three officials of the Bahamas Post Office, Mr. Charles M. Harris, Miss Maud Aranha and

Mrs. Elizabeth Bethel were guests of Bahamas Airways at the send off.

Return Receipt Requested. A hand-stamp applied by the post office.

Insufficiently Prepaid. I have a 1942 cover intended for the R.A.F. North Atlantic Route To England with a hand stamp in three lines and boxed reading: "Insufficiently Prepaid for Air Mail Service".

Pirates Well. My first cover with the "S" added to the T.R.D. is dated 5/Oct/1961. Recent cover this month has the "S", but commercial cover 24 April 1962 has the "Pirate Well" T.R.D.

A large number of standard office markings have recently been sent out to the larger postoffices: INAGUA, SAN SALVADOR, WEST END, etc. Examples are "VIA AIRMAIL", "REGISTERED", "EXPRESS", "UNCLAIMED", "AIR PARCEL POST", "INSURED", etc.

* * * * *

We have the following from Robert J. Devaux, 224 Stevenwood Road, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada. Anyone having any information on this most unusual variety or varieties, please get in touch with him, and let the editor have a carbon copy of your letter for inclusion in the next Journal:

"I have a problem which I hope some member can solve. In my collection is a top right corner, horizontal strip of three stamps of the 1916, St. Lucia locally overprinted WAR TAX issue, with margins attached on two sides. It shows a number "3" in a circle, and I assume it is the third sheet of a plate of four, or the bottom left sheet. The three overprints appear on the threestamps, but above in the margin are three albino overprints inverted. In the single margin space at right is an albino overprint but reversed. Above in the corner margin is another albino overprint, but reversed and inverted. In other words, all possible positions appear on this strip. Can anyone explain why? No doubt there is a simple explanation due to the construction of the plate. However, I cannot justify the various positions on this section of the sheet. I would appreciate hearing from anyone with a suggestion."

* * * * *

NEW MEMBERS:

CORNELL, WILLIAM G., 22 Hamlin Drive, Cincinnati 18, Ohio, Occupation, Mechanical Engineer, collects Antigua, Bermuda, B.W.I., British Europe, U.K., France, Specialties Antigua and Bermuda. Member of A.P.S., B.W.I.S.C..

EDWARDS, PAUL J., 228 Hackberry Lane, Baytown, Texas. (P.O.Box 4130). Occupation, Banker, collects U. S. and British America, particularly B.W.I., Member of A.P.S.

LARSEN, PAUL A., 3374 Western Avenue, Park Forest, Ills., Occupation Chemical Engineer, collects Leeward Islands used, covers and used stationery, Territories of French Equatorial Africa on cover. Member of A.P.S., B.W.I.S.C., France and Colonies Philatelic Society.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS. U. S. CURRENCY OVERPRINTS - By Gale J. Raymond.

Regarding the U. S. Currency overprints on British Virgin Islands. This is due to the fact that U. S. Currency and coinage is actually more widely used in the British Virgin Islands than Beewee currency. A large number of B.V.I. citizens are employed in the U. S. Virgin Islands, they are paid in U. S. Currency which in part reaches relatives in the B.V.I. St. Thomas, (U. S. Virgin Islands), is a free-port, with a wide supply of goods on sale priced in U. S. currency, of course. Relatively small stocks of supplies, equipment, etc., are maintained in the B.V.I., due to convenience to St. Thomas, so most purchases are from St. Thomas in U. S. Currency. The decimal coinage of the Beewee dollar in cents, has led to much confusion with U. S. cents and the annoyance of currency exchanges. The B.V.I. now get many tourists daily over from St. Thomas and St. John, within sight of Tortola, and the tourists have U. S. dollars and coins to spend. It has apparently become a necessity to settle on one currency, and that most widely in use appears the most logical. The stamps will continue to carry the normal inscription in Beewee currency, but the overprint in U.S. coinage should settle any confusion about what price to charge American tourists for them.

An interesting sidelight is that relatively little mail has passed through the B.V.I. post offices, in comparison with B.V.I. mail posted at St. Thomas with U. S. stamps, due to local custom. For many years airmail to the U.S.A. from St. Thomas, (U.S.V.I.), has been at a much lower rate than from Tortola, (B.V.I.) to the U.S.A., and it has been easy to simply hand letters for posting to any native boatman going to St. Thomas daily with produce. This practice is actually illegal but difficult to control. Many B.V.I. people actually receive their mail addressed "General Delivery, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands", for various reasons.

The overprinting of the B.V.I. stamps in U. S. Currency has an interesting parallel in the overprinting of Indonesian stamps in Straits dollars currency, for the Riau Islands. The Riau archipelago adjoins Singapore, and virtually all commerce is with Singapore and Straits currency is most normally in use.

* * * * *

The Collectors Club of New York has just notified us that a meeting room will be available for our Group for 1pm, November 17th, for the Group get-together. The Collectors Club is located at 22 East 35th St., New York City. All members who are in the city at this time are requested to attend this once a year meeting of our Group. A number of our members are also members of the Collectors Club, one of the oldest and most distinguished philatelic clubs in America.

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE.

They say that parting is such sweet sorrow -- but just in case anyone has the idea that I am departing, please forget it. I have enjoyed the last year and a half as President of this wonderful Group and now I am going to retire to the rear ranks and work as hard as ever for the Group, wherever and whenever I am asked to do so.

It has been a fruitful year for me personally and I do hope for the Group and all its members. I would be sadly remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to thank those members of the Group who have really made the Group work, for all their help, both physical and moral. To especially Al Johnson who has put endless amounts of time and money into making this thing work and Reg Lant, who must have this as his major occupation----to Milt Erickson and Byron Cameron and Everard Aguilar for all the work and help that they have given us---to Nat Surtees, Clint von Pohle and Russ Gibson who have never failed to come up with whatever we have assigned to them--to the ever busy Gale Raymond who made a major contribution to the size and scope of the Group--to all the Country Leaders and especially Bob Devaux, who has done a fine job in starting off St. Lucia for us--yes these men and many others too numerous to mention by name--my heartfelt thanks. I only am happy that I can have this space to thank them in.

We have been very fortunate to have another distinguished name in philately help us out, since Mr. Colin Bayley has volunteered to head up our Barbados studies and I would appreciate it if everyone would direct all inquiries and information concerning Barbados to him. In the near future we should start seeing some of his work regarding Barbados.

The Group has started a library, which is currently in the custody of our Editor. Any additions to this would be greatly appreciated. As soon as possible, we should have some rules about the use of this library. (Editor's note: See bottom of page 73 for titles and temporary rules). We now have some provisions to make slides for anyone interested, both for the purpose of showing their material and for more positive identification in case of question or theft. We hope that in the near future we will have accumulated funds so that we may start in the backing of Philatelic books covering our region.

All in all, I hope that the past is only a beginning and that with the help and effort of all of you, I'm sure that we can make this Group what we would want it to be.

Robert Topaz, President.

* * * * *