

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

Club News of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

Volume 3, Number 1.

January 1963.

Whole Number 11.

Robert Topaz, President,

R. H. Lant, Secretary-Treasurer.

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

Promptly at 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 17, thirteen members of the Group met in the Board room of the Collectors Club of New York for the annual get-together of the Group. The following members were present:

Jordan Churchill  
Edwin M. Erickson  
Ralph E. Group  
Dr. Arthur Griswold  
Russell Gibson  
A. N. Johnson

Reg. H. Lant  
Mark Swetland  
Col. Fred F. Seifert  
Robert Topaz  
Mr. Bert Taylor  
Mrs. Pamela Taylor  
Dr. Irwin Yarry.

Bob Topaz greeted and introduced all of the members and called upon Reg Lant for the results of the mail ballot for the election of a Board of Trustees for 1963. Total Ballots cast were 69 and the following members were elected:

Three year terms:

Reg H. Lant 68 votes.  
Robert Topaz 67 votes.  
A. N. Johnson 61 votes.

Two year terms:

Byron R. Cameron 49 votes.  
Gale J. Raymond 49 votes.  
E. F. Aguilar 47 votes.

One year terms:

Russell A. Gibson 37 votes.  
V.N.F. Surtees 29 votes.  
Clinton L. von Pohle 28 votes.

The Treasurers report was read by Reg Lant, and follows:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 1962.  
Jan 1 - Nov. 30, 1962.

INCOME

Admission fees - 25 new members.	\$25.00
Membership dues - 102 @ \$3.00	306.00
" " - 2 @ 2.25	4.50
" " - 3 @ 1.50	4.50
Total 107	
Advance membership dues for 1963 - 8 @ \$3.00	24.00
" " " " 1964 - 2 @ 3.00	6.00
Oversubscribed membership dues 1962.	4.01
	<u>\$374.01</u>
Cayman Handbook Ordered - 20 @ \$5.00	100.00
Cash in bank - December 31, 1961.	9.99
	<u>\$484.00</u>

\$484.00

Expenditures.

Bank Checking Account	\$ 2.81
Stationery - Secretary-Treasurer	7.45
" - Editor	92.45
Postage - "	82.61
" - Secretary-Treasurer	20.31
	<hr/>
	\$205.66
Cayman Handbooks from Everard Aguilar.	89.86
	<hr/>
Total	\$295.52
Balance on hand (including \$1.35 postage)	\$188.48

MEMBERSHIP

Total Members on books	-	115
Total dues paid for 1962	-	107
Still outstanding		<hr/> 8

DELINQUENT MEMBERS - UNPAID DUES FOR 1962.

J. H. Boardman	Captain Evans	R. R. Hall
S. S. Beck	E. M. Doane	D. O. Gore
		F. F. Neltner

MEMBERS RESIGNED

E. A. Behr	N. W. Townsend.
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Reg. H. Lant,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

It was agreed that the above named delinquent members would be dropped from the membership listing, since numerous requests for dues have been sent them, without response. The balance of the meeting was spent in visiting and many of the Group brought along some of their choice material which was passed from hand to hand for examination. Prior to and after the meeting many of the members visited the A.S.D.A. Exhibition and nearly the entire group had dinner together at a fine Italian restaurant where much good food and talk was enjoyed.

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Morris H. Ludington's "Bermuda", the long awaited volume on all phases of Bermuda Postal History and Stamps has been published, and is a splendid volume that every collector of Bermuda or the B. W. I. will find of great value. Book one covers the early years of the Post Office and the postal markings, while book two has to do with the various postal acts, postage rates, check list of postoffices and the adhesive stamps of Bermuda, among many other interesting facts and figures on the Bermuda Philately. It was published by Robson Lowe and is one of the best publications of its nature that has come my way in a long time. A must for Bermuda Collectors.

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William W. Busher has written that he will be in Jamaica twice each year, and will be glad to obtain stamps or cancellations, when possible for any member of the group.

BAHAMAS NEWS AND NOTES.

by Gale J. Raymond.

Perhaps one of the rarest "modern" Bahamas TRDs is the single-ring (30mm) inscribed "Man-O'-War Cay", in letters upper and lower case. Previously, only a partial strike on a loose stamp had been reported. Moreton Black has now turned up a fine commercial registered cover to Nassau, bearing a fine strike of this elusive TRD on the front and one on the back, dated 22 APR 1949. It appears now that this TRD was in use about April-June 1949 (Type C-1). Oddly, the more common large 3 ring TRD (Type 3C) encompassed this period. I have a cover with the latter TRD very sharp (new?) dated Feb. 1949, and other covers reported have dates up to May 1953. The 3-ring type has not been reported in use during the April-June 1949 period. One theory is that possibly some mechanical defect caused the 3C type TRD to be sent to Nassau for repairs, with the C-1 type issued for the interim. Neither type is at that p.o. now. Other theories would be welcomed.

It is known that in recent years (circa 1949), TRDs were briefly used at ROSES and HATCHET BAY, according to their sub-postmasters. Can any reader supply details of those datestamps? As yet no reports have been received. The Bimini 3SL (3 straight lines), TRD is presently in full-time duty, together with any and all available other Bimini datestamps, in an unending attempt to cancel the staggering piles of picture postcards and letters now posted daily by the tourists over to Bimini from the Miami Beach hotels. The hotels presently include a free trip "abroad" (to Bimini!) for their guests, a one-day journey total. Steel datestamps are on order, but have not arrived yet. A new American-made Bimini TRD is simply another copy of type 2C-1, but this time the lettering is very neatly aligned, not so "higgledy-piggledy" as the first one. A Forces cover shown me by Moreton Black, an RAF "OHMS" cover dated May 17, 1943, bears an unusually large rubber stamp marking, a 2-lined circle inscribed "R.A.F. STATION NO. 111/ NASSAU, BAHAMAS", with "OFFICIAL MAIL" across the center. The use of this mark was discontinued by Jan. 1944, undoubtedly at behest of Security. It is most unusual for a place-name to appear in a British Forces WW-II postal-marking, and further information is badly needed.

President Kennedy and Prime Minister McMillan are to meet Dec 19th, 1962 in the Bahamas, and it is hoped some special postal marking will be utilized for the occasion, as was done in Bermuda. Although the Bahamas "Nassau Centenary" stamps were withdrawn from sale at the G.P.O. Nassau on 29 July 1962, the stamps are still appearing on commercial mail now late in November! The latest comes in from LONG CAY, where there is apparently still a small supply of the 8d. value at least.

"The Grapevine" suggests we ask member William Britton Stikt to write up the discoveries he made on postal markings in a huge lot of official covers which came his way! Please?

In replies to queries regarding Dr. Walter Hess, I can report he is alive and well, still traveling abroad annually, although his home now is in Guadalajara, Mexico. Dr. Hess, an American citizen, went out to Nassau a few years before WW-1, as Colonial Surgeon to the British Government, then stayed on in private practice there. Thirty five years later he retired to Mexico, where he still continues philatelically active. In Nassau, he was Exchange Manager of the now defunct Bahamas Philatelic Society, in which capacity he serviced a great many FDC and first flight covers for collectors worldwide. His name will long be remembered as the leading collector in Nassau, always ready for a "stamp-session" with visiting philatelists.

Gale J. Raymond.

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Morris H. Ludington has agreed to act as Group Leader for Bermuda and Turks Island. He further advises that he is readying a couple of articles for the Journal in the near future. We are to be congratulated in having such an eminent philatelist as one of our Group Leaders.

POST OFFICES CURRENTLY IN SAINT LUCIA

Compiled by Robert J. Devaux.

ANSE-LA-RAYE

BABONNEAU

BANSE

BEXON

CANARIES

CASTRIES

CHOISEUL

CONWAY

DELAIDE

DENNERY

DESRUISS EAUX

FONDS ST. JACQUES

GRACE

GRAND RIVIERE

GROS ISLET

LABORIE

LA CLERY

LA CROIX MAINGOT

LA POINTE

LESLIE LAND

MABOUYA VALLEY

MARCHAND

MICOUD

MILLET

MONCHY

PATIENCE

ROSEAU

SALTIBUS

SOUFRIERE

TI ROCHER

VICTORIA

VIEUX FORT.

MOREAU

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NEW MEMBERS AND ADDRESS CHANGES.

BUCHER, WILLIAM W., 324 Morris Avenue, Mountain Lakes, N. J., occupation, Executive, collects Jamaica, interested in all Jamaica including Postal History, Member of no other philatelic group. (Bill notes in his application that he visits Jamaica twice each year and "Would be glad to run errands, check and obtain if possible, cancellations, etc., for anyone in the Group)."

THETFORD, DR. NORMAN DAVIS, Occupation, Physician, Address 68 South Street, Eatontown, N. J., collects B. W. I., especially cancellations, paquebot and seapost, Worldwide and British Oceania. Member of APS, SPA, Royal Philatelic of London, TPO and Seapost Society, Maritime Postmark Society.

WEINBERG, EDWARD, 278 - 23rd Avenue., San Francisco 21 Calif., occupation, Hide Buyer, collects British America, Specialties Antigua, Leeward Islands, Member of APS, Calif. Collectors Club, Philatelic Research Society of Oakmont, Calif, Trinidad Philatelic Society.

The new address of J. A. Bruno Labelle is 5090 Des Sorbierg, Montreal 36, P.Q., Canada.

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NAT SURTEES sends the following information: "With reference to Telegraph stamps used postally---I have had for many years two examples. One with 6d. Arms type in blue and one with 9d. brown, 1929/32 issue which is supplemented by a 2d. Coco Grove. Both are addressed to a Mr. Linden in London and are from Malvern and both are dated MR 8 1933. I wonder if all of these covers are from the same source and to the same address? If so, they are philatelic covers, but do prove Telegraph cut-outs could be used for postage."

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Machines are s o nearly human that now they do things without using any intelligence.

COLLECTION LETTERS AND TIMES ON BERMUDA DATESTAMPS.

By. M. H. Ludington.

Collection letters are the code letters, usually A, B or C, found on the majority of Bermuda Datestamps, either above or below the date where the date is in two lines, or at the end of the date line. They represent the time of the mail collection, A for the first morning collection, B for collections during the day and C for the late afternoon collection. On the early machine datestamps the letters were combined with the actual times, but on later types the time alone appears.

The datestamp types are given according to my own classification, and all the examples listed in this article are in my collection, but obviously, others exist, and it would be appreciated if readers with further information would send it to me.

No collection letters are found on any of the pre-adhesive datestamps except type P<sub>4</sub>, of which, however, only one example is known. On type P<sub>5</sub> the space provided for the collection letter was used for the initials or initials of the post office in serified capitals, H for Hamilton, StG for St. Georges, I for Ireland Island and MB for Mangrove Bay. Undoubtedly spaces were available on other datestamps, but they were not used.

In the duplex cancellations of 1879 to 1895, Types K<sub>3</sub> and K<sub>3a</sub>, K<sub>4</sub> and K<sub>4a</sub>, the letters A, B and C were undoubtedly provided for all the post and receiving offices, but only Hamilton, St. Georges, Ireland Island and Paget West seem to have used all three fairly regularly. Mangrove Bay used A in type K<sub>3</sub> and C in type K<sub>4</sub> in all the examples I have. Among the receiving offices, Nos. 5 and 7 to 18 in Type K<sub>3a</sub> used A exclusively, except for 12, of which one example has B, and 12, 14 and 19 which are also found without a letter. In Type K<sub>4a</sub>, Nos. 9, 13, 15 and 17 have only been seen with A, Nos. 11 and 12 with B, and No. 7 with A or B. I have not identified examples of the datestamp portions of Nos. 5, 6, 8, 10, 14, 16, 18 and 19.

In the regular datestamps only Types H<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>12b</sub>, H<sub>12c</sub>, H<sub>13a</sub> and H<sub>13a</sub> are without collection letters.

Hamilton Type H<sub>1</sub>, appears from January 1869 to at least September 1872 with the letter A only. From about January 1873 to at least July 1876 no collection letter was used, but after about May 1878 all three letters are found. All three letters are also found on the known examples of the St. Georges Type H<sub>1</sub> and on the two Type H<sub>4</sub> "Local" datestamps.

In Type H<sub>5</sub> spaces were provided both above and below the date for collection letters, and this, together with the fact that most offices were more conscientious than before, provides a number of varieties. Hamilton used A, B or C at the top or at the bottom, St Georges and Ireland Island, A, B or C at the top only, while Mangrove Bay is found with A or B at the bottom or more rarely with C at the top and A at the bottom.

Among the Receiving Offices the following are known without any letter: Paget East, Warwick West, Southampton East, Bailey's Bay, Crawl, Flatts, Devonshire North, St. George's West, St. David's and Pembroke West. The following are found with collection letters

1. At the top only:

Paget East. A or B. Also A inverted.

Paget West, A, B or C. Also A or B inverted or B Sideways reading down.

Warwick East. A or B. Also B inverted.

Warwick West. A, B or C. Also B or C inverted.

Southampton East. A.  
 Southampton West. A.  
 Bailey's Bay. A, B or C.  
 Crawl. A, B or C. Also Sideways; B reading down or C reading up.  
 Harrington Sound. A.  
 Flatts. A or B.  
 Devonshire South. A  
 St. David's. A.  
 Pembroke West. A or B. Also A1, A or B diagonally.

2. At the Bottom Only.

Somerset Bridge. B.  
 Devonshire North. B.

3. At both Top and Bottom:

Southampton West. A/B or C/B. A/B with B sideways reading up.  
 Somerset Bridge. A/B. Also A/B with B inverted.  
 Devonshire North. B/C.  
 Devonshire South. A/B.

Hamilton types H6 and H7 have only been seen with A, B, B inverted or C, all at the bottom, and Type H7 with A inverted at the bottom. St. Georges and Ireland Island in Type H7 have A, B or C at top. The latter office is also known with B or C inverted at the top.

In all the above types the dates and collection letters were in loose type inserted by hand from the back of the datestamp. On the later datestamps with the date in one line, each portion was on a movable ring which was turned to the appropriate date and letter and could not be removed from the handstamp, so that inverted or sideways letters could no longer exist.

In Type 8 Hamilton, Parcel Post and Ireland Island are found with A, B, or C and Hamilton also occurs with a dash, a blank or a solid square. In Type H9 Hamilton and St. Georges are known with A, B or C, but Flatts has only been seen with A or B, as has Mangrove Bay in Type H9a.

In Type H9b, used at the Sub-Post Offices, the collection letters went at least as high as the letter G, and there were also a solid square (listed below as X) and a blank. The following have been seen.

Paget East. B, C, F.  
 Paget West. A, B, C, X.  
 Warwick East. A, B.  
 Warwick West. A, G, X.  
 Southampton East. A, B, C.  
 Southampton West. A, B, E, F. Also Blank.  
 Somerset Bridge. A, B, D, F, X.  
 Bailey's Bay. A.  
 Crawl. A, B, X.  
 Harrington Sound. A, B.  
 Devonshire North. A, B, E.  
 Devonshire South. A, B, C.  
 St. George's West. l. A, E, and Halfway between two letters.  
 ll. A, B.  
 St. David's. X.

Curiously enough, Type H10 of Hamilton has only been seen with A, and the Parcel Post datestamp with A or B or a solid square. Type H11 of Hamilton (all datestamps), St. Georges and Flatts exist with A, B or C, Type H11a of Ireland Island and Mangrove Bay with A or B, and Harrington Sound with A only.

Types H12 to H15 most probably exist with all three letters, though a few have not been seen. In Type H12 the Parcel Post and Southampton West also occur with a blank space.

All the datestamps used with the machine cancellations show the time, and in addition the datestamps used with Type M1, M1a, M2 and M3 also had collection letters. Type M3a has no letter for the time takes up more space than when this datestamp was used with Type M1a. The following combinations have been seen.

Type M1 A 8a.m.  
A 9a.m.  
B 11a.m.  
B 3p.m.  
C 5p.m.

Type M1a A 8a.m.  
B 9a.m.  
B 11a.m.  
C 5p.m.

Type M2 A 8a.m.  
B 3p.m.  
C 5p.m.

Type M3: A 9a.m.  
B 3p.m.  
C 5p.m.

Later machine cancellation datestamps are all found with 8a.m., 11a.m., 3p.m., and 5p.m. In addition certain types are known with other times, probably representing extra collections when the mail was heavy. The datestamps used with Type M12 "POST EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS and even the regular slogans used just before Christmas are frequently found with a dash instead of the time owing to the pressure of business. The extra collection times so far noted are :

Type M5: 7a.m. (1939), 1:30p.m. (1952).

Types M5a

and M5b: 8:30a.m., 11:30a.m., 2:30p.m.

Type M6: 12:15a.m. (as a backstamp on November 7, 1946 with "HAMILTON BERMUDA" inverted

Types M12, M12a, M12b and M12c: 8:30a.m., 2:30p.m.

Type M14a: 8:30a.m.

Type StGM1: 10a.m., 4p.m. (These were probably to make connections with the 11a.m. and 5p.m. collections at Hamilton.

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SWAP COLUMN.

Wanted to buy, U. S. Naval Cancels on cover from Antigua and Bermuda ports or waters. Have nothing to swap, but will pay cash for these items. W. G. Cornell., 22 Hamlin Drive, Cincinnati 18, Ohio

Wanted Postal Stationery of 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 J. Devaux.

Wanted, Grenada early letter cancellations. Will swap or buy. Al Johnson.

CURRENT LETTER SHEETS OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS -- UNGUMMED.

Byron R. Cameron writes that he has found some of the current lettersheets (airmail), of the Cayman Islands, without gum on the flaps. He says that the Postmaster at Georgetown stated that all of this series of letter sheets received by him, the 2<sup>d</sup>, 6d. and 9d. were issued without gum. Might be advisable to write him for a set of these.

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A new booklet, "THE BAHAMAS POSTOFFICES", compiled and published by Gale J. Raymond has been received by us. Over 200 years of Bahamas postal history is packed in this 10 page booklet. As few G.P.O. official records have survived, the information has been laborously gathered, postoffice by postoffice over recent years from present and former postmasters, longtime out-island villagers and data from older postmarks in historical collections. In directory format, it lists all known Bahamas post-offices, past and present, dates established and closed, population, past and present, mail transportation and schedules, Postmasters names, etc, together with highly detailed maps showing location of all p.o.s, old and new. A most unusual little booklet which may be obtained from the author, P.O.Box 35143, Houston 35, Texas, for \$1.00 each.

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NEWISSUES, NEW PRINTINGS AND WITHDRAWALS.

A new definitive issue for Bermuda was printed in multicolor by Harrison and Sons., Ltd. by photogravure process on C.A. (Block Capitals) watermarked paper. The stamps are in horizontal format in sheets of 60, size 1.197" x 1.575", perforation to perforation. The designs include the Queen's portrait with St. Edward's Crown and famous buildings of Bermuda. Values and subjects as follows.

1d.	The Old Rectory, St. Georges, c 1730.	1/3	The City Hall, Hamilton, 1960.
2d.	Church of St. Peter, St. George's.	1/6	Bermuda Cottage, c 1705.
3d.	Government House, 1892.	2/-	Town of St. George.
4d.	The Cathedral, Hamilton, 1894.	2/3	Bermuda House, c 1710.
5d.	H. M. Dockyard.	2/6	Bermuda House, early 18th century.
6d.	W. B. Perot's Post Office, 1848.	5/-	The Colonial Secreteriat, 1833.
8d.	The General Postoffice, 1869.	10/-	Old Post Office, Somerset, 1890.
9d.	The Library and Historical Society	1/-	The House of Assembly, 1815.
1/-	Christ Church, Warwick, 1719.		

These stamps were released for sale on October 26, 1962.

A new issue for the Cayman Islands has been printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., by the recess process, in size 38 mm x 25 mm. perforation to perforation on white, C.A. (Block Capitals), watermarked paper. The design includes the Annigoni portrait of the Queen with St. Edwards Crown and the values, subjects, colors and format are as follows:

1/4d.	Cayman Parrot	Green and Red	Vertical.
1d.	Catboat	Black and Olive Green	Horizontal.
1 1/2d.	Orchid	Yellow and Purple	"
2d.	Map	Blue and Brown	"
2 1/2d.	Fisherman casting	Mauve and Green	"
3d.	West Bay Beach	Blue and Red.	"
4d.	Green Turtle	Dark Green and Mauve	"
6d.	Cayman Schooner	Green and Brown	"
9d.	Angler with Kingfish	Blue and mauve.	"
1/-	Iguana	Brown and Red	"



New issues (continued).

1/3	Swimming Pool, Cayman Brac.	Green and Orange	Horizontal
1/9	Water Sports	Blue-green and violet	"
5/-	Fort George	Mauve and Dark-green	"
10/-	Coat of Arms	Olive and Blue	Vertical.
£ 1	Royal Portrait.	Red and Black	"

These stamps were released for sale November 28, 1962.

NEW PRINTINGS, of CURRENT ISSUES.

Montserrat  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

St. Kitts,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 12, 24, 48 and 60 cents. ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, 60, \$120 and 2.40 by DeLaRue)  
Falkland Islands Dependencies 1d.

WITHDRAWALS:

Trinidad Independence Issue, withdrawn November 30, 1962.

Invalidations St. Christopher, Nevia and Anguilla commemorative 24 cents to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of Alexander Hamilton will cease to be valid after March 30, 1963.

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Tommy Thompson our Group Leader for Montserrat has requested that the following request for information be circulated to the membership:

"Will all of the members of the Group list any Great Britain stamps used in Montserrat and mail to me for compilation. To my knowledge there are only two, the 1857 1d. Rose Red and the 1856 6d. Lilac. Would be pleased to have any further information on these stamps....Also if any member has any covers, circa 1860 to 1876 bearing any handstamp, would like a complete description, size in mm, color etc. To date all members contacted, plus some in England not in our Group have failed to come up with any pre-stamp covers from Montserrat....also a report of any Montserrat stamps bisected on cover will be appreciated.

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PERSONAL MENTION.

EARL APFELBAUM IS to be congratulated on receiving the Luff Award at the recent A.P.S. meeting for Distinguished Service to Philately. A well deserved tribute, Earl.

EVERARD AGUILAR recently spent some time in Florida and visited with Byron Cameron.

BILL BOGG and HENRY SP ELMAN were much in evidence around the ASDA Show and had some fine material to offer the postal history collectors.

NORM BRASSLER was missed at the Collectors Club meeting. Hope that you can make it next time, Norm.

JOHN M. BUCKNER dropped in on your Editor during the latter part of November. My, how you do get around, John. Thoroughly enjoyed the visit.

BYRON R CAMERON was in the Cayman Islands with his new ship, the "CAYMAN HOPE" during the recent unpleasantness with Cuba. Hope you weren't blockaded, Byron.

JIM CLAPP spent a pleasant afternoon with the Editor last month, and showed him some material on the flaws of the Commonwealth Jubilee Issues, other than the double flagpole variety. If anyone is interested, Jim or I will be glad to furnish you with information on these flaws.

CHET CROMLEIGH and PAT have just returned from a vacation in the Pennsylvania Dutch country, and report a fine vacation. What do you weigh now, Chet, after all of that good, rich food?

STANLEY DURNIN stopped by my place on his way from North Highlands, Calif. to Gary, Indiana. He and Elaine are vacationing and hit Texas just as a foggy norther came in. Joan and I thoroughly enjoyed the visit.

EDWIN M. ERICKSON attended the New York meeting and made a number of new acquisitions. Enjoyed the Japanese luncheon with you and Ralph Group, Milt.

FRANK J. FREEMAN is now back home after around a year abroad. Thanks for your letter, Frank.

RUSSELL GIBSON was also at the New York meeting and brought two of his albums of his incomparable Jamaican obliterations. Good to see you, Russell.

DR. PHILIP GRABFIELD gave an interesting philatelic talk at the Boston Philatelic Society which I missed due to previous commitments. Sorry was unable to make it.

DR. ARTHUR GRISWOLD rode down to New York with Robert Topaz and I for the meeting. Thoroughly enjoyed seeing you again, Arthur.

RALPH E. GROUP is attempting to contact all of the Postmasters in British Honduras for information on its postal history. A sizable effort, Ralph. If anyone has information on early B.H. postal history, please pass it on to Ralph.

MRS. BETTY KIRBY is back at Hobe Sound, Florida for the winter. Hope its not as cold and foggy as it is here today, Betty.

REG LANT, our hard-working Socy. Treasurer came down for the New York meeting with Mrs. Lant. Thoroughly enjoyed meeting you Reg, and thanks for the splendid report that you made.

GALE RAYMOND has another mark to his credit for the Bahamas booklet that he has just published. 10 pages, but cram packed with nearly everything pertinent to Bahamas Philately.

FRED F SEIFERT is really a man that goes places. He flew in to Albuquerque from Hawaii, and immediately took a jet for New York for the meeting. This, after having flown all over the Pacific, Okinawa, Tonga, etc. Fred had promised to give us an article on the Railway postmarks of Jamaica soon.

BILL STITT was unable to attend the meeting due to being out of town, but had Ralph Group and me out for dinner and another view of his magnificent collection of B.W.I. Enjoyed seeing you and Mrs. Stitt again, Bill.

BERT and POLLY TAYLOR attended the meeting, and Mrs. Taylor donated another volume to the library, Thanks, Polly.

TOMMY THOMPSON and His Missus are the proud parents of a new son. Tommy says that he collects Naval Covers, allsoaked. Congratulations.

BOB TOPAZ has completed a new "stamp den" in his basement, with air conditioning, and all the comforts of life, including a fine set up for making slides of important stamps.

GEORGE TURNER was spotted at the A.P.S. Booth at the A.S.D.A. Show, where we had a nice conversation.

"DOC" YARRY lent his support to our obtaining the Collectors Club for our get-together. Thanks a lot, Doo,

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The new Jamaican Postal Guide is now available from the G.P.O. at Kingston. The first issue since 1958. All Jamaican collectors will find this volume most valuable.

The cost is 5/9 including surface mail postage \* \* \* \* \*

SOME ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE TRINIDAD LISTING IN NOVEMBER JOURNAL.

BASSATERRE should read BASSETERRE  
BRASSO PIERRO should read BRASSO PIEDRA  
CARANEGE should read CARENAGE  
COROYAL should read CORYAL  
D:ABADIE is also shown as DABADIE  
DIAMOND should be added to listing.  
Charlieville also reads Charlie Ville.  
GUIACO should read GUAICO  
GUIACO TAMANA should read GUAICO TAMANA  
ICACOA should read ICACOS  
L:ANSE NOIR is also shown as LANCE NOIR  
JORDAN HILL should be added.  
BLACK ROCK TOBAGO should be added.  
CHACHACARE should read CHACACHACARI  
GOLDEN LANE, TOBAGO should be added  
PARLATUVIER TOBAGO should be added.  
UPPER BELMONT VALLEY ROAD should be added.  
GONZALES PLACE is now GONZALES  
LA PASTORA SOSCONOS is now LA PASTORA

LES COTEAUX should be added.  
MORNE DIABLO should read MORNE DIABLE.  
FLANAGIN TOWN should be added.  
GONZALES PLACE should be added.  
MAYO should be added.  
VEGA D:OROPOUCHE should be added.  
PENAL ROCK ROAD should read PENAL RO CK R  
PRINCES TOWN also without apostrophe.  
ST. MADELEINE should be added  
ST. MARYS Should read ST. MARY'S.  
SIPARIA JUNCT, RD. should be added.  
UPPER GUIACO should read UPPER GUAICO.  
BUCCOO POINT should be added.  
P.O. BUCCOO POINT should be added.  
LAMBEAU TOBAGO should be added.  
MT. PLEASANT TOBAGO should be added.  
MUCURAPO is now ST. JAMES  
POINTE-A-PIERRE is now MARABELLA  
PISARO should read PIPARO

\* \* \* \* \*

GALE RAYMOND HAS JUST BEEN ELECTED A FELLOW OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LONDON. Congratulations, Gale, a real pleasure to hear of this.

\* \* \* \* \*

ATTENTION \* ALL MEMBERS.

Within the next two months, each member will receive a bill covering his dues for 1963, which are the same as for 1962. We will appreciate your cooperation in the payment of this bill within a few days of receiving it in order to cut down on the expense of sending out reminders. Please take care of this promptly.

REG H. LANT, SECY-TREAS.,  
161 Highbourne Road, Toronto 7, Ont.Can.

LEEWARD ISLAND CANCELLATIONS.  
By Stanley Durnin.

1. ANTIGUA.

- D. King George VI.
- E. Queen Elizabeth II

To round out my study of the postal markings of Antigua as found used on the stamps inscribed Leeward Islands and, understandably, supplemented by her own stamps, we will now study the evidence in use during the reign of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II, thus bringing us up to date.

Allow me the privilege to comment on items previously covered.

Figure 22: LIBERTIA: This type is still in use today.

Figure 21: Delete JOHNSONS POINT, MONTPELIER and SEATONS from this type. Add BENDALS And BOLANS. Also add that letters are 2mm wide. All four P.O.s (BENDALS, BOLANS, OLD ROAD, PARHAM) of this type are employing such strikes today.

To commence on new types, I see that ALL SAINTS was utilizing a different type from what she had previously. This latest one shows ALL SAINTS curved around the top and ANTIGUA around the bottom of a single ring CDS measuring  $23\frac{1}{2}$  mm in diameter. The letters are  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm high and approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm wide, with the exception of the 'S's of SAINTS which appear closer to 3mm in height. The date in the usual two line format, is surmounted by the asterisk. My earliest date with this type is 1 NO 46 and is seen to be still in use today. I would certainly appreciate any help in determining which type was used in this Post Office between 1920 (the date of my latest first type) and the mid fortys of this type. I also find that the postmarks for BETHESDA BARNES HILL, CEDAR GROVE, JOHNSONS POINT, MONTPELIER. and SEATONS (the last three deleted from Fig. 21 type), are of this type, (Fig. 25). There seems to be a discrepancy concerning the first two mentioned, in that I have read that they closed in the early '30s, but here I find them on KGVI issues. What do you think? We must also include BARBUDA's present day strike in this group for the measurements are the same. It would appear that this Barbuda postmark replaced the one of Fig. 23 sometime in the early '50s; my earliest is 27 AU 50. All of these Post Offices are still using these strikes today, except the two controversial ones mentioned and MONTPELIER, which I understand closed about 1945, moved to St. PHILLIPS and reopened, which in turn closed shortly thereafter. Verification of this would be highly received.



Figure 25

FREETOWN and NEWFIELD employed the type covered in Figure 25 with the sole exception that they used an "A" in place of the asterisk over the date. Freetown is still utilizing this strike today. NEWFIELD is another Post Office which is shrouded in the mystery of opening and closing dates. To the best of my knowledge these two P.O.s of Antigua are the only villages employing the "A" in their strikes. This is the first time that the "A" has been seen since the disappearance of it in the single ring CDS of Figure 11. Can anyone come forward with an explanation for this; that is why the "A" here when all other single ring village CDSs employ the asterisk?

Quite similar to the St. JOHNS of Figure 20 is the strike for GRAYS FARM (no apostrophe) in that a double ring CDS was utilized. In fact the only differences are that the diameters measure 27 mm and  $16\frac{1}{2}$  mm, with the solid colored arcs measuring 3 mm wide in conjunction with the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm height of the letters. This last  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm difference could arise from "ink spread", but very clear examples are strong evidence against it. Not to be slighted in the 'intrigue' field, GRAYS FARM shows up on

two examples in my collection with a "B" in place of the "A" over the date. What significance does this establish? Surely not that GRAYS FARM used posting time designators!

It appears that about 1950, ST. JOHNS started using a new type of double ring CDS measuring 27 mm and 16 1/2 mm respectively. The letters are 21 mm high, and the asterisk was employed over the two line date format. In this type the spacing between the two rings and separating town and island name is occupied by a line arc on either side. (Fig. 26). This arc appears to be a hair closer to the outer ring than it is to the inner. This strike is still being utilized today. I also find an exact duplicate of this type being used from St. Johns with the sole exception that the outer ring measures 26 1/2 mm. I find this in use from 1951 to '56. That old bugaboo "ink spread" is the prime suspect in considering this difference of 1/2 mm, but I am of the opinion that these are separate strikes. (My nightmares consist of people and objects all in 1/2 mm dimensions.) After measuring your own examples of the line arc double rings, what do you conclude?



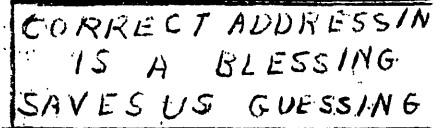
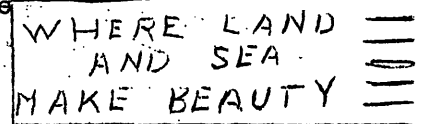
Figure 26

Antigua's newest Post Office, opened on 14 November 1961 at NELSON'S DOCKYARD, is utilizing a very similar double ring line arc CDS. Here the rings measure 27 mm and 16 mm respectively. (Don't say it - I know)! The familiar asterisk is employed here also, and needless to say, the strike is being impressed on today's mails. By the way, NELSON'S contains the apostrophe.

Present day St. Johns is employing slogan cancellations. I have examples of two which are, measurement-wise, practically the same. They are composed of a single ring CDS measuring 21 1/2 mm in diameter and with letters 2 1/2 mm in height (Fig. 27L). St. John's around the top contains the apostrophe, while ANTIGUA, W.I., around the bottom is striking, in that the familiar "B" (B.W.I.) is not used. A quite different date format is encountered here for the first time with Antigua's postmarks, in that it appears in three lines: the time on the top line, (the minute designators are shorter and underlined), day and month, (utilizing the three digits), on the second line and the four digit year designator on the third line. To the right of this CDS is a rectangular block which my examples show to have an open right hand end. The blocks, (Fig. 27R), containing different slogans, measure 23 1/2 mm in height and are at least 60 mm in width. The letters of the slogan "Where Land and Sea Make Beauty", in three lines, measure 3 1/2 mm high and 2 1/2 mm wide; while those of the slogan "Correct Addressing is a Blessing, Saves us Guessing", also in three lines are 3 mm high and 1 1/2 mm wide.



Figure 27 L



St. Johns today is using an oval registration cancellation. Its major diameter is 32 mm while its minor is 25 mm. The word REGISTERED is curved around the top while St. Johns, Antigua is curved around the bottom of the ring. The letters measure 3 mm in height and the date appears alone through the middle of the oval on one line. (Fig. 28).

Figure 27 R



Figure 28

All of Antigua's Post Offices operating today are employing rectangular block registration hand-strikes. Basically they are all the same with minor variations in the font of the "R", plus the fact that some use island name in conjunction with own name, while others do not. The blocks measure anywhere from 17 mm to 21 mm in height and anywhere from 40 1/2 to 46 mm in width. Numerous combinations of width-height

measurements are noted with that of Barbuda being the largest in both dimensions, and also being the most blurred (Fig. 29)

All of the aforementioned strikes are in black ink and contain sans-serif lettering. This concludes my findings on the evidence afforded by my collection of the postal markings of Antigua during the era covered. Understandably, some of this information has been taken from Antigua's own stamps, especially since those stamps inscribed "Leeward Islands" were withdrawn and invalidated on June 30, 1956. It can readily be seen that several of Antigua's Post Offices have not been discussed in this series. This is due to the fact that I do not possess such examples. Therefore I respectfully solicit any information that you might have on the postmarks of GUNTHORPES, PARES, ST. JAMES, ST. JOHNSTONS, ST. PHILLIPS and SWETES, and any others that I have not mentioned and am not aware of.

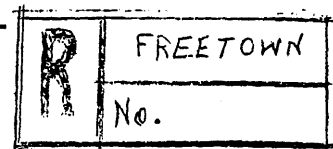


Figure 29

For my next article we must travel southward to the rugged and beautiful island of Dominica, and commence with her strikes on the Queen Victoria issues of the Leeward Islands.

NOTE: Illustrations are not exact as to measurements.

\* \* \* \* \*

THEY CALLED BERMUDA THE "ILE OF DIVELS"

By Eric Glasgow.

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The stamps of the various constituents of the British West Indies have a surpassing and undiminished popularity; but there is some tendency today to overlook the detached colony of Bermuda, isolated in the North Atlantic Ocean. Bermuda consists of an archipeligo of over 300 coral islands, of which only about 20 are inhabited. The most important of them is Main Island, some 14 miles long on which is Hamilton, the capital of Bermuda.

All the islands have delightful sheltered lagoons and their luxuriant tropical vegetation and warm climate make them very attractive as resorts for wealthy tourists, especially Americans. Indeed, they are quite idyllic as "Islands in the Sun", and a great part of their atmosphere can be distilled by collectors through the reflective medium of postage stamps.

The stamps well illustrate the deep influence of the sea upon Bermuda: the ships, the sea birds, the lilies and cut-flowers which are exported from the islands. There are few settings more devoted to the demands of the sea, of leisure and recreation, colour, activity and enjoyment. Bermuda resembles the Scilly Isles, or the Channel Islands, to bring the comparison nearer home, because of its undisguised dependence upon the ornamental and unutilitarian amenities of life.

A large-scale map of Bermuda, such as appears in the 3d. stamp of the 1953 pictorial set, shows its extraordinary shape. The larger islands of the group are joined together by causeway and road. These include St. George's and St. David's islands, in the east, of which there are quite a number of glimpses amongst the postage stamps. The U. S. A. since 1941, has had a base on St. David's Island, Kindley Air Force Base, overlooking Castle Harbour, in addition to its base near Wreck Hill, on the extreme western end of Main Island.

Main Island, in the center, is long and narrow, its coastline indented by shallow lagoons, such as Harrington Sound and Great Sound. It includes the two highest

points in an archipelago predominantly flat - Town Hill, (294 feet), in the southwest.

The Capital, Hamilton, is on a promontary overlooking a large coral indentation. Its harbour, ideally suited for small fishing and pleasure craft, is shown in the lowest value of the 1936 set of stamps. A delightful old house, in the little town, is depicted in the 6d. stamp of the same set.

The beaches are ideal for bathing purposes, and an example, from Spanish Rock, appears in the 1d. stamp of the 1936 set.

Bermuda is divided into nine parishes of which six are in Main Island. Two of these, Warwick and Paget parishes, are in the center of this area, between Hamilton and Gibbs' Hill, and these are represented in the stamp album, the former by a very pleasant stone house, in the 3d. stamp of 1936, and the latter by the sweeping sands of Grape Bay, shown in the 1/- stamp of the same set.

North of Main Island and linked with it by a causeway across Great Sound, is Somerset Island, the most westerly of the entire group, apart from the wide sweep of the offshore coral reef. This is a flat and monotonous piece of ground, including the little settlement of Somerset itself.

Bermuda is a source of much interest for postmark collectors, since apart from Hamilton itself, there are eleven sub-postoffices some of them with very intriguing names, such as the North Village, Tucker's Town, The Flatts and Sue Wood Bay. These have all the appeal of a remote, unusual, and invigorating maritime setting, detached from the congested troubles of our larger world. In conjunction with the vivid pictorial stamps of Bermuda, they do constitute most interesting quarry for the enthusiast of British Colonial postmarks.

Bermuda is equipped with a network of roads, from St. Catherine Point, in the east, to Grassy Bay on the west. These mostly run along the coast, and as might be expected, they converge upon Hamilton, the capital. There are now many private cars on Main Island, but it is interesting to remember that the use of motor vehicles, apart from ambulances and fire-engines, was prohibited in Bermuda between 1908 and 1946.

There is a submarine telephonic link, from Hamilton to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and through the Turks and Caicos Islands, and the Windward Passage, between Cuba and Haiti, with Jamaica. Air communications have, of course, much reduced the former relative isolation of Bermuda, which is now linked regularly by air with London, New York, Nassau, Havana and Caracas.

The railway in Bermuda has been disused since April 1948, it having been replaced by a government operated bus service.

#### Strange Legends.

Of Primary interest is the history of Bermuda, both postal and otherwise. The group has somewhat mysterious initial antecedents, and there were many strange legends and tales about it, of which there is some reflection in the "still-vex'd Bermoothes" of Shakespeare's play, "The Tempest" (Act 1, Scene 1, Line 229). This the last complete play of Shakespeare's was composed in the winter of 1612-13 and it is thought to have been influenced by the historic first settlement of Bermuda, in 1609, by Sir George Somers in the Sea Venture. Somers and his ship appear very graphically in the 2<sup>nd</sup>. stamp of Queen Elizabeth II set for Bermuda.

Somers' visit was quite unintentional, since he was driven to Bermuda by a storm on a voyage to the West Indies, and no permanent settlement in Bermuda was made, even in 1609, for his crew, escaping in two boats of cedar to Virginia, returned to

England in 1610. However, an account of the wreck by Sylvester Jourdain or Jourdan, and entitled, rather inauspiciously "A Discovery of the Bermudas, otherwise called the Ile of Divels" was published in October 1610 and the reading of this may well have influenced Shakespeare.

At any rate the group was known as "Somers' Islands" for some years thereafter, whilst its population was slowly swollen by shipwrecked mariners, pirates and others. The first official settlement was made in 1615, as a subsidiary enterprise of the Virginia Company, which had originated in 1607.

The group owes its present name to the fact that it was discovered in 1515 by Juan de Bermudez, a Spaniard, although there was never any Spanish occupation, and Bermuda, unlike many of the British West Indies islands has always had, since the definitive occupation of 1615, an exclusively Anglo-Saxon character. In 1684, Bermuda was taken over as a Crown Colony.

The postal history of Bermuda is of special interest for its admixture of maritime isolation, primitive simplicity and adventurous hazards. The internal communications have, for centuries, been maintained by small vessels, like those shown in the 1/2d. stamp of the 1953 Queen Elizabeth II set. But the contemporary expansion of sea and air links, across the wide Atlantic, has vastly increased the volume of postal traffic to and from Bermuda. Its very attractive postage stamps have also stimulated the same result, of course.

There was an official, if rudimentary, postal service in operation in Hamilton, Bermuda, as early as 1784, just after the conclusion of the War of American Independence. It was organized by a local printer, J. Stockdale, in order to facilitate the delivery of his paper, the Bermuda Gazette.

The first Government post office was not opened until 1811, however, and a postal rate was then fixed at 1/4d. per ounce for local delivery and 8d. per ounce (plud 1/4d. for delivery to the ship) for foreign mail. In 1842 the local rate was reduced to one penny per ounce, and the foreign rate was raised to a shilling per half ounce.

Early stampless covers exist from as far back as 1660, and there are handstruck post office stamps, reading "Bermuda Paid" or "Paid at Bermuda" from 1840. These are red in colour and not unduly scarce. There are also interesting handstamps from St. George, in the East and Hamilton, the present capital.

St. George town, founded in 1612, on St. George's Island, is the former capital of Bermuda, near the site of Sir George Somers' landfall in 1609, but as the capital it was superseded by Hamilton in 1815, the year of Waterloo. The two settlements, St. George and Hamilton, are the only two major towns in the group, and the respective locations of the two earliest post offices.

The first adhesive postage stamps were the famous Perot circular stamps, issued by William B. Perot, the postmaster of Hamilton in 1848. This one penny stamp, which occurs in both black and red, is a classic issue, which has lent an enduring philatelic celebrity to Bermuda itself. Full details most vividly related, of all the Postmaster stamps of Bermuda, will be found in Chapter VIII, pages 122-137, of "Famous Stamps" by L.N. and M. Williams (London 1946).

The centenary of the Perot stamps was celebrated by the issue for Bermuda of a set of three very beautiful commemoratives in April 1949 and the Perot stamp also appears in the 1d. value of the Queen Elizabeth II set. Perot's post office of 1848, restored in 1958, is depicted on a 6d. stamp, which was issued on January 1, 1959. It is a



squat building of typical Bermudan design, a fit setting for the social whirl of Hamilton in the middle years of the last century.

Perot's adhesive was used between 1848 and 1858, and thereafter handstruck stamps, usually circular in form and reading either "Bermuda" alone, or with, in addition, a more precise location such as "Hamilton", "St. George's", or "Ireland Island" - this last is on the north-west beyond Somerset Island, the other extremity of the wide bay on which Hamilton stands - were used until the first definitives were produced, in September 1865. This is a very impressive and dignified set containing some colourful and attractive stamps, as well as some interesting perforation varieties in the 1d., 3d., 6d. and 1/- values.

Since 1865, Bermuda has had a steady and impressive output of stamps, eclipsing rather the earlier pre-stamp material. There are also ship-letters for the period from 1841 to 1865, usually from Hamilton but occasionally from Nassau, in the Bahamas.

Modern Pictorials.

Apart from the numerous philatelic varieties of the stamps of the period from 1918 to 1935, a new phase begins with the first pictorial set of 1936. Thereafter, Bermuda issued a long succession of pictorial stamps, amongst the most luminous and interesting of all modern British Colonial stamps. These are all most colourful issues, illustrating very vividly Bermuda's vast scenic appeal, and its unique combination of History and life, tradition and sunlit beaches. With a present total of about 170 different stamps, excluding all of the miscellaneous handstruck material, Bermuda has, indeed, much to offer the discerning stamp collector and its issues may well attract more attention than has been customary of late.

Philatelic writing about Bermuda is less extensive than is warranted, at any rate in comparison with the similar Bahamas Islands. There is, however, a very valuable and interesting general literature about Bermuda. Apart from ubiquitous Colonial Office "Reports" there is H. Strode's "The Story of Bermuda" (1935), and W. B. Hayward's "Bermuda Past and Present" (1923). There is also a locally printed work, T. Tucker's "Bermuda's Story" (1959), which is first-rate, although rather difficult to obtain outside the largest British libraries in this country.

(EDITORS NOTE: Also just recently published is Morris H. Ludington's "Bermuda", a two volume treatise bound in one book, dealing with the Post Office, Postal Markings and Adhesive Stamps of Bermuda. This is a most impressive work, published by Robson Lowe (1962).)

\* \* \* \* \*

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A L JOHNSON