

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

Club News of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

---

Volume Number 3, Number 6.

November 1963.

Whole Number 16.

---

Russell Gibson, President.

R. H. Lant, Secretary-Treasurer.

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

---

EDITORIAL

Your Editor has just completed a most wonderful trip with Byron Cameron on his ship, the "Cayman Hope", to Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. Before making the boat trip, however, we flew to Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, where Cameron had some business to attend to. First to Georgetown, Caymans, then to Montego Bay and then on to Kingston, and return via B.W.I. Airlines. Incidentally, these planes, the Viscounts, are equipped with Rolls Royce jet engines and are the smoothest flying I have ever been on. Our first stop at Georgetown, Grand Cayman, was like coming into a technicolor picture. The water being indigo blue outside and changing to an iridescent green close in to shore and within the reefs. The Caymanian people are all outgoing and friendly and the postmistress at "HELL" was most obliging, giving us fine, clear cancels on the letters that I mailed from there and helping us to locate the various plate numbers for the Red Cross and definitive issues. Our next stop was Montego Bay, where we met the Cayman Hope which was just coming into port. The ship, while able to carry around 1100 tons of cargo is of very shallow draft and was able to come into dockside at Montego Bay, the first ship of her size to do so in many years, in fact, since the small schooners of times past. This is a decided advantage for Cameron, as all other ships docking there have to remain off shore and have their cargoes lightered in to dockside. This being the ship's first trip to Montego Bay, it created quite a sensation in the town.

The Montego Bay and Kingston postal clerks were also very helpful, and an auto trip that we made from Montego Bay through Lucea, then down the interior to Little London and thence west to Negril and west and up the coast through Green Island, Lucea, and back to Montego Bay was very productive of good philatelic material, particularly of revenue stamps for Cameron.

While in Kingston we visited with E. F. Aguilar and saw some of his fine TRD and early material. Also had dinner at his home, where we met Mrs. Aguilar, a charming hostess, and his two daughters. We then took the diesel Railway Coach from Kingston the following day to Spanish Town and up through Old Harbour, Williamsfield, Maggoty and the Cockpit Country to Montego Bay, photographing the many small postoffices along the Railway. This trip took four hours and covered a most fertile part of the island, with many plantations in evidence, where sugar cane, pineapple, bananas, breadfruit, ackee, citrus fruits and many other products were growing in lush profusion.

After flying back to Miami, we took the ship for a run to Kingston, Georgetown, Grand Cayman and Belize. We travelled down the Florida Keys to the north coast of Cuba, then east along the Cuban coast to the Windward Passage and around Cuba to Kingston, where we discharged 5 1/2 tons of insulating material for a new Cold Storage plant there. Upon arrival at Kingston Harbour we began to be perturbed about the hurricane that was bearing down on Jamaica. However she veered off northward the second day and we continued around the western tip of Jamaica, (Negril Point), and on to Grand Cayman. Then the second hurricane, Flora, started heading for our area and after unloading the ship at Georgetown, put in at "North Sound", a protected area in the Caymans, consisting of a large bay, with coral reefs at the entrance and only a small channel to get in. Here the boat would be safe. Incidentally a schooner loaded with around 300 turtles, two and three feet in diameter, was in the Sound awaiting the blow.

After several days the Hurricane Flora also turned north and struck Hayti and Cuba, and therefore did not endanger the Caymanian area. The ship continued on to Belize and is probably there by now. I flew home on a Costa Rican plane, (LACSA airlines, using DC 7 B planes) and arrived in Miami on October 4, just one month since I had set out. All in all a most wonderful trip with a real fine companion. While in Miami and Fort Lauderdale I had the opportunity of seeing one of the finest collections of Jamaica that it has been my pleasure to examine. Byron's early Pre-Postal collection of Jamaica is outstanding, and his Jamaica Revenue stamps are most complete.

\* \* \* \* \*

PRESIDENT'S PAGE.

The annual get-together of our B.C.P.S. Group will be held at the Collectors Club, 22 East 35th St., in New York City at 2:00 P.M., on Saturday, November 23, 1963. It would be very nice if every member of the Group who lives in or near New York could arrange to attend this meeting, so that we may all become better acquainted. There will be several members in attendance from various parts of the country who come to New York for this meeting each year, and they will be delighted to greet their old philatelic friends and any other members that they have not met before. Mark your calendar now and arrange to attend, if possible. Bring along an album or two, and any ideas or suggestions you may have for the improvement and growth of our Group, and I am sure that you will have a pleasant afternoon. I am indebted to Dr. Yarry for making the necessary arrangements at the Collectors Club.

On September 24, the Secretary informed me that we had 127 members, all in good standing at that time except four. Inasmuch as we had 107 members on January 1, we should show a net gain of around 20 this year. If you feel that our Group can be of benefit to any of your philatelic friends, mail them an application blank and suggest that they join the Group.

We are still short Group Leaders for Nevis, St. Christopher, St. Kitts-Nevis, British Guiana, Dominica and Grenada. I have written several letters this year asking members who list these countries among their collecting interests to act as Group Leaders for one or more, but so far with no success. If any member wishes to volunteer to act as Group Leader for any of the above listed Colonies, I will be delighted to hear from him.

Three Trustees are to be elected by all members of BCPSG to serve for three years from January 1, 1964 to Dec. 31, 1966. A Nominating Committee consisting of Norman Brassler as Chairman, Dr. Irwin Yarry, Mr. Colin Bayley and Colonel Fred F. Seifert have submitted a slate of six candidates, and they are listed below in alphabetical sequence. (Editor's Note: A ballot has been prepared and placed on the last sheet of the Journal, and unnumbered, so that it may be removed and returned, without damaging the Journal pagination). Please vote by checking off three names or less, and any ballot showing more than three votes cannot be counted. If you wish to vote for any other members of BCPSG for the Board of Trustees, please insert the names at the bottom of the list of nominees. Inasmuch as Secretary Reg Lant does not expect to be able to attend our New York meeting due to a wedding in his family at that time, please mail your ballot to Robert Topaz, 34 Maryellen Road, Waban 68, Mass. and write the word "BALLOT" on the face of the envelope. Ballots should be mailed so they will reach Mr. Topaz not later than November 20.

Russell A. Gibson, President.

\* \* \* \* \*

NEW MEMBERS.

AVEY, F. Martin, 231 Clarence St., Brantford, Ont., Canada, occupation, Retail Lumber Dealer, Collects Australia, New Zealand, Canada, specializes in Jamaica. Member of Brantford Stamp Club.

HARDING, CHARLTON C. C., 1401 Pennsylvania Ave., Apt 1503, Wilmington 6, Delaware. Occupation, Treasurer's Dept., Dupont Co., Collects B. W. I., specializes in Jamaica. Member of A. P. S.,

HARRIS, C. GORDON, 36 Roslyn Road, Winnipeg 13, Manitoba, Canada, Occupation, Mining Engineer collects all material from B. Honduras, Jamaica and Cayman Islands, specializes in Turks and Caicos. Member of Winnipeg Philatelic Society.

MINER, HAROLD C., 200 E. 61st St., Hialeah, Florida. Occupation, Agent, Steamship Co. Collects Bahamas mint and used, covers and postmarks.

MORGAN, RICHARD H., P. O. Box 126, Princeton, N. J. Occupation, Executive. Collects St. Vincent. Member N.Y. Collectors Club.

EVANS, JAMES FENTON, 3769 West 138th St., Cleveland 11, Ohio. Occupation, Casualty Insurance Underwriter, Collects British America, specialty British Honduras. Member Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, N.P.S., S.P.A.

NEW APPLICATIONS:

The applicants listed below have applied for membership in the Group. In accordance with the Constitution their names are hereby published. If no adverse reports are received by the Secretary within thirty days, their names will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for full membership.

BRANSTON, ALFRED J., 144 The Avenue, Highams Park, London, E. 4., England, Occupation Civil Servant, Collects Bahamas only.

CANNARSA, Dr. DANTE N., 34 Renwick Avenue, R.D. #5, Huntington, N.Y., 11743. Occupation, Physician. Collects British America, specialty Bermuda.

COX, R. KEELER, 2861 E. Market St., Warren, Ohio. Collects British America, U.S.A.

RODMAN, IRWIN L., 19851 Citrona St., Chatsworth, Calif, 91311, Occupation, Psychologist Collects British America, mint.

\* \* \* \* \*

CHANGES IN ADDRESS, ETC.

DONALD F. WHARTON, new address: 342 Sibley Manor, 1294 East Maynard Drive, St Paul, Minnesota. 55116.

EDWARD WEIN BERG has now moved back to his old home and should be addressed as follows 278 - 23rd Ave., San Francisco 21, Calif.

JORDAN CHURCHILL, new address, P.O.Box No. 4, Ivy, Virginia, 22945.

C. Gordon HARRIS, new Address, Apt. 8, 498 Delmar Ave., Pt. Claire, P.Q., Canada.

OUR NEW LIB RARIAN.

Mr. Robert Lovett, R.D. No. 1, New Town, Pennsylvania, has volunteered to act as Librarian for the Group. I am forwarding all of our literature to Mr. Lovett within the next week, and in future when requesting books or pamphlets from the Library, please address him. All that is necessary to borrow material is to direct your request to Mr. Lovett who will prepay the material to you. Your only cost will be postage and insurance on the material when returning to Mr. Lovett. We hope that the members will use the library and if any of you have material such as philatelic books, pamphlets or catalogues, send them to him for inclusion in the library. Incidentally, Mr. C.C.C. Harding has donated the two priced catalogues of the T. Charlton Henry, British West Indies Sales Catalogues to the Library. Thanks Charlton.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Reg Lant, our Secretary Treasurer has had a considerable amount of trouble from time to time in receiving British Postal Orders, which are not negotiable in Canada, necessitating the return of them to the sender with a request for a Bank Draft to cover. In the future, Reg will appreciate it if moneys submitted for yearly dues or otherwise are remitted through a bank on a Canadian Bank, (Bank of Montreal, Royal Bank, etc.), or by currency.

\* \* \* \* \*

A.S.D.A. National Postage Stamp Show.

The ASDA Show will be held this year in the 71st Infantry Armory, on Park Avenue and 34th St., New York City, on November 22 to 24, 1963. For the first time, the show will be preceded by an International Stamp Dealer's Bourse in the Della Robbia Room of the Vanderbilt Hotel, across the street from the Armory, and the official hotel for the show. The Exhibition will include exhibits from the U. S. Post Office Department, the Smithsonian Institution and the Cardinal Spellman Museum, among others.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. John M. Lockie writes in as follows:

There are four types of Grenada Red Cross Labels issued during the First World War, viz:

Type I: Undated and reading "One Fraction". Perf line 11 in panes of 10 (2 x 5). The Horizontal member of the cross measures from 14 3/4 mm to 15 5/8 mm and the frame enclosing the inscription is from 32 to 32 1/2 mm.

Type II: Dated 1914 and 1915 and reading "One Farthing". Rouletted in panes of 10, (2 x 5). The horizontal cross measures 13 mm and the frame width is 33 1/2 mm.

Type III: ?? Dated 1916 ??

Type IV: Dated 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917 and reading "One Farthing". The cross member measures 13 mm and the frame width is 34 mm. The horizontal cross members are obviously added to the vertical bars. Perf line 11.

Type V: Dated 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918 and reading "One Farthing". Line perf 11 in panes of 10, (2 x 5) and printed tete-beche in horizontal pairs. The cross member is a constant 12 mm. Reading column 1 the frame line measures 34 1/2, 34 1/2, 34 1/2, 33 1/2 and 33 1/2 mm. Reading down column 2, the frame line measures 33 1/2, 33 1/2, 34 1/2, 34 1/2 and 34 1/2.

Query: Who were the printers and what numbers were printed? Does Type III (1916) exist? Were they ever recognized officially locally by the postal authorities?

Let us hear from you Grenada experts.

EARLY POSTAL HISTORY OF ST. VINCENT.

By. John Medland.

The Earliest letters to be sent from the island of St. Vincent apparently bore no postmark of origin and it is only from the contents of the documents themselves, that one is able to prove that they emanated from that island.

About the year 1793 straight line handstamps in black and of the type shown in Figure A. were brought into use. Three years later a second type of handstamp, shown in Figure B. was put into service. I have seen two examples of this second mark, the one illustrated and one bearing the date "DEC 4 (1)". It is interesting to note that with the use of handstamp B, an "S" was added to the name of the island and it appears that this letter was retained on handstruck mail for several years.

St VINCENT

Fig. A.

ST

VINCENTS

JUN 7 99

In 1805 the handstamp illustrated in Figure C. was introduced, it being of a circular "Fleuron" type with the name St.VINCENTS" and the fleuron combining in a circular fashion to surround the date. About the year 1837 a new handstamp, illustrated in figure D. came into use, first appearing in black and subsequently in red. In 1841 a two lines "ST.VINCENT'S SHIP LETTER" appeared, but unfortunately an illustration of this handstamp is not available.

Fig. B.



Fig. C.



Fig. D.

At this time letters were also sent on which the name of the ship was written in manuscript and on which no local handstamp appeared. Mr. William Diggott, in an article appearing in Sanders' Philatelic Journal makes reference to a letter in his possession received on May 7, 1831, on the cover of which is endorsed in manuscript "Per Ship Pirie" with a rating of 1s.4d. also endorsed in manuscript. He suggests that 1s.3d. represents the single letter rate and that 1d. was for the Captain. The backstamps are "SHIP LETTER DOVER" in two lines within a step box and a double ring London receipt stamp in red.



Fig. E.

In 1852 the first General Post stamp in red was introduced, (see Figure E, apparently coinciding with the opening of the General Post Office at Kingstown. This handstamp is quite scarce but is well known in design as it is of a type similar to that used for several other Colonies. These handstamps are frequently found on covers with a figure, either 1, 2 or 3, in manuscript, in one of the corners indicating that the letter is either copy one, two or three. This precaution was frequently followed due to the hazardous journeys the vessels then had to undertake.

Several other handstamps were employed at St Vincent during this period and they appear in illustrations F(Ship's Letter), G(Registered), H, I.

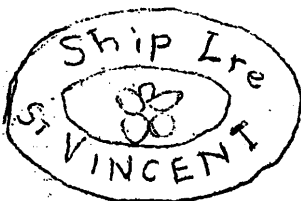


Figure F.

REG

Figure G.



Figure H.



Figure I.



Figure J.

Between the years 1858 and 1860, adhesives of Great Britain were employed in St. Vincent and cancelled with the numeral 10 between bars. (See Figure J). These stamps were then in current use in Great Britain and were of five denominations - 1d. rose-red, 2d. blue, 4d. rose, 6d. lilac and 1s. green. All are quite difficult to obtain and the 1d. and 1s. are exceedingly rare.

On June 14, 1860, the Post Office Act was passed authorizing the island authorities to take over the control of the post office at Kingstown. The Act set the following rates for postage:

- U. K. and Local 1d.
- Other countries 1d. first  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce.
- 2d.  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce to 1 ounce.
- 4d. 1 ounce to 2 ounces.
- 6d. 2 ounces to three ounces
- 2d. each additional ounce.
- 1/- registration and book packets.

The Act further stated that until postage stamps became available the postage could be prepaid in cash. On September 10, 1863, the postage rate for countries other than the U. K. and local was increased to 2d. for the first  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce.

Sale of the first St. Vincent stamps commenced in May 1861.

\* \* \* \* \*

John Medland also sends in the following:

Subsequent to my first article on St. Vincent, I received a letter from Stan Durnin with several inquiries, and as a result I would be grateful if you would pass the following information on to the members:

1. "New Grounds", although geographically correct, should be changed for postmark purposes to "New Ground".
2. "Lowmans (Windward)" is the usual strike for Lowmans, and Byera normally uses the strike "Byera Hill".
3. Some of the members may be wondering about "Bridgetown" strike on their KFWI stamps. The post office there was leased property and it has since been closed and moved to Biabou where a government building was erected to replace the rented property. No date of this move was available to the postmaster at Kingstown, but I will try to get more details of this move.
4. The following opening dates have been supplied to me:
  - Arnos Vale - March 1950      Prospect - June 11, 1957.
  - Evesham - March 1, 1953.      Byera - April 19, 1958.
  - Gomea and Park Hill, both December 1, 1962.
  - Buccament, Lowmans (Windward), Lowmans Hill and Paget Farm - all raised to District Post Offices in January 1952.

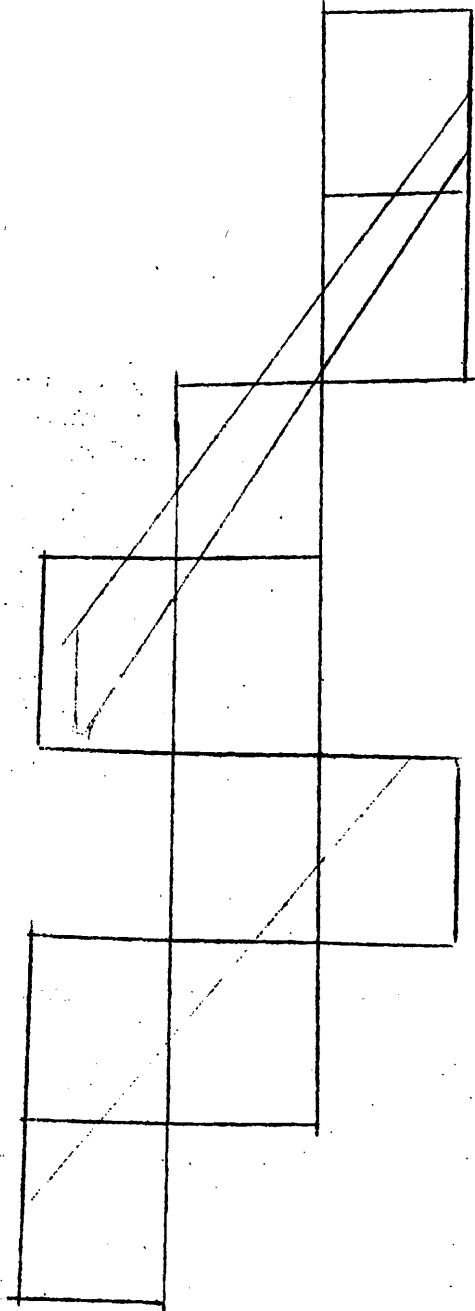
I have been trying to establish the dates of opening of some of the other p.o.s., this is the record so far:

Kingstown	-1852	Chateaubelair	1880	Rabacca	Feb. 1877?
Barrquallie	1871 or 1872	Colonarie	1868	Stubbs	1868?
Bequia	1883	Cumberland	1873	Union Estate	1872 or 73.
Biabou	1871 or 1872	Georgetown	1873 - 4	Mayreau	1886?
Buccament	1871 or 1872	Mesopotamia	7/27/1874	Canouan	1899
Calliaqua	1868	Peruvian Vale	1885 - 6	Red Bank	1883

Mr. Stanley B. Ineson has written Mr. John Medland, Group Leader for St. Vincent as follows:

I have ten mint single stamps all of them crossed by a tiny thin line in red, about the angle of the enclosed sheet. Five of them have two lines and five one line. It takes a glass to see them. I wonder if you could give me any information about them or tell me where I might be able to learn anything about them. The stamps are separated, but were apparently placed this way in the sheet. They are Scott's St. Vincent No. MR-2.

John has sent these on for publication in the Journal with the hope that someone might know something about them. They are apparently a printing flaw, but does anyone know whether they are constant or not?



\* \* \* \* \*

An Interesting Commentary on Grenada

-----Later the French actually bought the island from its original owners; it is said that the price was an assortment of hatchets, some glass beads and two bottles of brandy of poor quality. In spite of this transaction, war broke out between the French and the Caribs, in which the latter came off worst, and the last survivors, not caring to be slaughtered, jumped to their death from a high cliff into the sea. The nearby town still bears the name "Sauteurs", the Leapers. Presumably the French managed to retrieve all of the purchase price - except for the Brandy.

Caribbean Cocktail, by Enevold Yeung and K Helweg-Larsen.

JAMAICA JOTTINGS.

By Robert Topaz.

News from Jamaica indicates that two new Postal Agencies have been opened - namely, Mount Moriah and Blenheim. Mount Moriah is an old name since there was a post office bearing that name opened in 1894. It closed sometime before 1920 - whats your latest date???

A new TRD from WHITNEY has been noted in violet ink - a form or type 37 and dated 21 JUL 1963. Not new but noted for the first time are TRD's from Caledonia dated 18 OCT 1961 and from Leicesterfield dated 25 MAR 63. The new TRD's have all dropped the "W.I." from after "JAMAICA", following their new policy.

Reg Lant quotes from the Aug 30th issue of STAMP COLLECTING and more directly from a short article by a Mr. Norman Hill, concerning "The Mobile Post Offices of Jamaica". Mr. Hill gives a brief summary of the use of TRD's in Jamaica and then points out their use in connection with mobile, (travelling) post offices. He lists the following routes:

- Route 1 - Mandeville - Savannah-La-Mar and return 142 miles daily  
Inaugurated June 1st, 1961.
- Route 2 - Kingston - St. Ann's Bay and return 120 miles daily  
Inaugurated April 2, 1962.
- Route 3 - St. Ann's Bay - Montego Bay and return 114 miles daily  
Inaugurated April 1st, 1962.

Tjere is an illustration of the mark which is apparently as type 37G TRD with stars on both sides and the "W.I." after "JAMAICA". The mark illustrated is dated JUN 13, 1963. This is the first firm information that I have heard on this elusive subject, but I have heard of and seen T.P.O. #4, and understand that they actually go up to No. 6. The cover marked TPO #4 was from a letter off Hope Road. (Editors Note: Have examples of T.P.O. #, dated 28 MAR 61 and 23 APR 63, also T.P.O. 5, dated MAY 15, 63 and T.P.O. 6, dated MAY 6, 1963. The latter two marks do not have the "W.I." after "JAMAICA". However, no evidence where they were posted.)

There has been some question about the correct spelling of the former post office called VAUGHANSFIELD, the second "A" being omitted. However the Registry labels, Collins Road Map of Jamaica and the Public Works Dept. map of Jamaica all include the second "A", so we should assume that the error is in the steel date stamp type B-4.

Another TRD has been reported from Australia - my description is scanty but apparently it is in red ink, a 30 mm x 45 mm, oblong - dated Sep. 18, 58 and reading Up Park Camp-Harmon Barracks. Can anyone else help on this?

Reg Lant also reports a new date for the Kingston squared circle, type 1, three arc index 1b; AU 5 85. Please add this to your listings. Many thanks, Reg. Reg is also working on a listing of the parcel post marks of Jamaica along with Fred Seifert and this will be coming along soon.

Enough for now, hope to see you all in New York next month.

\* \* \* \* \*

Gossip is the art of saying nothing in a way that leaves nothing unsaid.



In compiling the the "Postmark History of the Post Towns of Jamaica" last issue, on page 83, some of the postmarks from Annotto Bay were omitted. Please add the following to your listing:

ANNOTTO BAY (continued)

There is a ship letter mark reported during this period, but I have no details.

- 5. A28 obliterator type H 1859 1876
- 6. S. R. 22 1/2 mm diameter index letter A 1863 2 JA 1885
- 7. A28 obliterator type M 1876 1885
- 8. S. C. type 1. 30 MR 85 AP 14 95
- 9. D. R. 26 mm diameter, 3 1/4 mm letters NO 27 94 AU 18 04
- 10. D. R. 29 mm diameter, 3 mm letters SE 10 98 MY 2 15
- 11. D. R. 28 mm diameter, 2 1/2 mm letters JA 20 16 JY 25 35
- 12 D. R. 29 1/2 mm diameter, 3 mm letters DE 15 37 AP 3 51.  
The distance between the initial "A" in Annotto and the "J" in Jamaica is about 6 mm.
- 13 M. R. S. with Asterisk OC 4 56 MY 2 62

\* \* \* \* \*

NEW ISSUES, NEW PRINTINGS, WITHDRAWALS, ETC.

St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla will have a new definitive issue soon. The printers will be Harkison and Sons Ltd. and will be 40 x 26 mm perf. to perf, C.A. Block watermark, using the photogravure process. Following are the values and designs:

- 1/2 cent - New Lighthouse, Sombrero
- 1 cent - Loading Sugar Cane, St. Kitts
- 2 cents - Pall Mall Square, Basseterre
- 3 cents - Gateway to Brimstone Hill Fort
- 4 cents - Nelson's Spring, Nevis
- 5 cents - Grammar School, St. Kitts
- 6 cents - Crater of Mt. Misery, St. Kitts
- 10 cents - Hibiscus Flower
- 15 cents - Sea Island Cotton - Nevis
- 20 cents - Boat Building, Anguilla
- 25 cents - White Crowned Pigeon
- 50 cents - St. Georges Armdi Tower, Basset
- 60 cents - Alexander Hamilton
- \$1.00 - Map of St. Kitts - Nevis
- \$2.50 - Map of Anguilla
- \$5.00 - Arms of St. Christopher-Nevis, Anguilla.

Antigua, Current Definitive issue printed on Block W.M. Paper: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12 and 24 cents, in sheets of 50.

Further printing of current issues:

- Bermuda 1d., 3d., 8d., 1/3, Postage and Revenue.
- St. Kitts 1/2, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 48 cents, \$1.20, 2.40 and 4.80.
- Jamaica 1d., 3d., 8d.
- British Honduras 4, 5, and 25 cents.

THIS JAMAICA PRE-STAMP STRAIGHT-LINE MESS.

By Byron R. Cameron.

Until recently, I thought, and most collectors gave me the credit for being sort of a half-baked authority on the pre-stamp cancellations of Jamaica. Over the years, I had accumulated quite a pile of this sort of material, and the amount which passed through my hands while looking for fine markings is almost impossible to imagine. Exhibition of my material and what I had to say about it brought lots of prizes and comments, but the critics kept their tongue in cheek as if to say, "It was all Greek to them".

Recently I have become aware that these markings, particularly a certain group of them, just do not seem to fall in their proper order and the overlap of sequence does not follow what any publications have to say about them. My belief now is that the philatelic specialists just gave them a sort of "Honorable Mention", put them where they thought they should be, and let it go at that.

So, in short, this article is being written to get those of you who are interested in this subject, or who have some of this type of material, to do some thinking about it, and I hope, writing to me about it so I can get the information collated and maybe take this element of doubt out of the entire matter. If it works out this way, the results can be herein published at a later date.

Not too long ago, these straight-line markings could be bought for a reasonable price as there was not too much interest shown in them by collectors. Today, the story is different. They have been gobbled up to where almost anything can and does bring a price that shakes us. Few good copies are still floating around and about the only time a few worth while appear is at an auction, and most times they are poorly described. An effort to properly classify them should be worth while to everyone.

Mr. L. C. C. Nicholson issued a pamphlet which considerably revised a lot of the information he had authored in the Jamaica Handbook of 1928. Reference to this pamphlet or its type designations will be preceded by (N).

Robson Lowe assembled some information about these markings in his "Handstruck Postage Stamps of the Empire", and reference to his work will be preceded by (RL).

A Mr. Thomas Foster of England has recently completed the manuscript for a fantastic book about this subject. It has not been published yet, but reference to his work will be preceded by (F).

Now let's examine the corpse.

The first post-town marking (NO) T1, (RL) PC, (F) T1 should not present much trouble to anyone. The type used was so large, it would be difficult to mistake; further, not too many of us will ever get the opportunity to own one of them.

(F) goes further with this above type of marking and gives the towns which are written in a single line the type T2. This appears to be worthy of merit, even though they were all about the same class of office and came out about the same time.

The second post-town markings (N) T2, (RL) P8, (F) T3 again should not create any problem as it contains the letters "JA" below the town name. The colors may vary from albino to red to black, and often the markings were so spread out that they even appear to be a sub-type. Even so, it would be difficult to mistake.

Now we move into the trouble zone.

Where do those next class of post-town markings belong? Did they come out before or after (N) T<sub>2</sub>, did they come out before and after (N) T<sub>2</sub>, are some of them just poorly struck (N) T<sub>2</sub> that did not land level on the letter sheet, and why should there be such a distinct difference in sizes, and in some cases, types?

(N) states that after his description of T<sub>2</sub> that T<sub>3</sub> came out in 1833, and further that T<sub>2</sub> was in use until after 1840.

(RL) shows it as PD and claims it went into use in 1810.

(F) records it as T<sub>4</sub> and shows a usage in 1804. He further claims the larger size type to be the renewals, which (F) makes no mention of, but shows as coming out in 1833.

(RL) in his catalog of the Urwick sale in 1957 referred to this type when used prior to 1833 as T<sub>2A</sub>. This would appear to be a safe way to classify and avoid a possible dispute, but it does little to help us with the problem.

(F) further claims that the larger type, which he claims to be the renewals, does not appear used before 1833. From the copies which I have, this is not borne out as they appeared in the early 1820's.

Further, there are some town names that came out so early and in even larger type that they would seem to be another variation of (F) T<sub>2</sub>.

It is my humble opinion that the secret to the whole matter boils down to the fact that of those 42 town names which went out on the 7, February 1833, that they were not all renewals, and that some of the towns had never had a postal marking before that date.

I further think these markings were issued in an assortment of sizes ranging from 4 to 5 mm in height, both when they first came out at a yet unknown date and including those which were issued in 1833.

Is it possible that the ones which appeared prior to 1833 were in fact those which were issued with the "JA" below the town name, but for some unknown and yet unrecorded reason, the "JA" had been removed?

One thing is certain, and that being until we can find out about those single line markings prior to 1833, we can only keep guessing about their acknowledged existence.

In the meantime, it would appear that the only way they can be safely classified would be by size, with special mention made of those dated prior to 1833.

For those of you who wish to have this matter collated, kindly provide me with:

1. Town Name
2. Date on the letter.
3. Height and length of town name.
4. Color, if other than black.

\* \* \* \* \*

A professor of Greek tore his suit and took it to a tailor named Acidopolus, from Athens. Mr. Acidopolus examined the suit, and asked, "Euripides?" "Yes" said the professor, "Eumenides?".

PUBLISHED ARTICLES ON ST. LUCIA POSTMARKS.

Compiled by Robert J. Devaux.

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL.

- Vol. 2, No. 5, p 60 - Crowned Circle Handstamp - Devaux  
January 1963, p. 5. - Post Office Listings - Devaux.  
March 1963, p. 26 - St. Lucia Post Offices - Reid  
July 1963, p. 52 - Code Letter "A" query.

B. W. I. Philatelist.

- June 1950, p. 3 - Enquiry as to post office openings.  
March 1952, p. 44 - Post Office List.  
June 1954, p. 59 - 40¢ Mark.

B. W. I. S. C Bulletin.

- Oct. 1956, p. 54 - Post Office Information.  
April 1958, p. 23 - Crowned Circle Provisional.  
July 1959, p. 56 - Reply to April 1958. de Burca.  
Oct. 1959, p. 70 - 40¢ Mark Explained.

Godden's Gazette.

Jan 1938, p. 97/98

Philatelic Magazine

Nov. 2, 1956, p. 723 - "Code Marks" - Scott.

Philatelist

1935, p. 111 - Forged First Day Covers.  
Jan 1946, p. 82 - "Initial" Postmarks, Gordon.

Saunders' Philatelic Journal

Jan. 1960, p. 212 - "All" Cancellation - Anthony.  
Feb. 1960, p. 231/233 - Postal Service - Anthony.

Stamp Collectors Fortnightly.

Aug. 8, 1953 - George VI Postmarks - Halward.

Stamp Collecting.

February 24, 1961 - Correction - de Burca.

Stamp Magazine.

November 1959, p. 141 - ad. 1927 Provisional Postmark.

S. P. A. Journal.

April 1956 - "S" Code Mark  
November 1957, p. 97/98 - Code Marks.

St. Lucia Philatelist.

- 1948, No.1, p.5 - Post Masters of St. Lucia.
- " " p. 7 - Circular Date Stamp.
- " " p.12/14 - A. P. O. Cancellations.
- 1949 No.2, p.11/14 - A. P. O. Cancellations.
- 1950 No.3, p.13 - A. P. O. Cancellations.
- 1952 No.4 p.22 - Post Office Information.
- " " p.9/13 - Hand Stamps and Cancellations - Reid.

West End Philatelist

Sept/Oct. 1954 p. 100/102 - Maritime Marks - Jaffe.

\* \* \* \* \*

SWAP COLUMN.

Want to purchase a copy of the Jamaica Philatelist #6, also any other issues after No. 23 if actually issued. Need to complete set for binding. Kenneth Watson, Leeds, Eng

I am interested in buying or swapping any covers from St. Lucia, 1779 to date.  
Robert J. Devaux.

Wanted, GIBRALTAR CAMP cancellations, any type, on or off cover, will give good swap.  
Al Johnson.

Would like to swap mint Jamaica, Bahamas and Falkland Island Dependencies for other mint B.W.I. Write me what you have and need.

Charlton C. C. Harding.

\* \* \* \* \*

Er. Ed. Doak reports that he has received an example of a cancellation from Snug Corner, Grenada, reading SUNG CORNER, dated Aug 23, 1963.

\* \* \* \* \*

PERSONAL MENTION.

E. F. AGUILAR played the good fairy and transported Byron Cameron and me around Kingston while we were there, and otherwise helped make our stay a very pleasant one. Thanks a million, Everard, you must come up to the states and let us return the favor.

Roy BOTWRIGHT writes that he and Doreen have returned from vacation on the Isle of Wight and that he is feeling better these days.

JOH N BUCKNER writes that he will be in Houston over the Thanksgiving Holidays, and will drop by Baytown while here. Maybe we can get the Houston fellows for a little get together, John.

BYRON CAMERON has some of the mostest of the bestest pre-postal material that I have seen. He went on with his ship to Belize, while I flew back from Grand Cayman. Hope the Cayman Hope is safely back in Miami by now.

JORDAN CHURCHILL has retired and is now living in Ivy, Virginia, where he has built a new home. He plans to attend the New York meeting in November.

Dr. ED DOAK has been active all summer racing his Thistle Sloop on Galveston Bay, and has won some top prizes. Congratulations, Ed.

Stan DURNIN writes that he is attempting to get a cancellation from every town along the Trans-Canada Highway. This is a good opportunity for some of our Canadian members to give him a helping hand. He also tells of a get together with Ed Weinberg, Harold Lopes and Ken Woods, all B.W.I. Collectors, where Harold showed movies of his recent trip to Trinidad.

RUSSELL GIBSON has been getting around to the Exhibitions recently. He reports winning a gold medal for his obliterator collection of Jamaica at MAVEX '63 in Youngstown Ohio. Congratulations, Russell and keep up the good work.

EUGEN HERST was out of town when Byron and I were in Jamaica, and we missed meeting him. Maybe we will have better luck next time.

PAUL LARSEN has submitted a copy of the URWICK-JAMAICA 1957 sales catalogue for our Library. Thanks, Paul, it will be very useful.

Dr. JOHN LOCKIE has submitted a splendid article on the aerophylately of the West Indies, which will, with his permission, be made into a brochure to go out with the January Journal.

ROBERT LOVETT, who has volunteered as Librarian for the Group, will be in business as soon as I can send the contents of the Library to him. Let's all use the material in our Library, and contribute anything we may desire, so that it will be a real help to the Group.

HARVEY O'CONNOR writes that the last time he was on Grand Cayman, that the runway asphalt was so hot that he ruined a pair of shoes and his trousers in the muck. Apparently most of that has melted and run off, as we were able to get to the airport unscathed. Possibly the fact that Administrator of the island, Jack Rose came on the same plane had something to do with it.

FRANK SAUNDERS and Madeline have returned from their holiday and Frank is busy answering his backlog of mail and Madeline is about to start on the Christmas Plum Puddings. She sent Joan a copy of the recipe and we are trying our hand at the old original puddings.

FRED SEIFERT, I understand, is writing up an article for the Journal on British Honduras. Send it in soon Fred, and we'll start the January issue off with a bang.

ROBERT TOPAZ just made a trip to Porto Rico and Kingston, but couldn't be induced to join Cameron and me for the boat ride, as he had to go to Atlantic City the middle of September.

ED WEINBERG is moving back to his old home, San Francisco, where the geraniums grow like weeds. Now you and Stan Durnin can get together on your Leeward Cancels more often.

Dr. DONALD WELSH writes that he and his family spent a vacation this summer in Barbados, loafing and soaking up sun.

VERNER WILLEMSSEN and Mrs. Willemsen are planning on a vacation in Yucatan, Honduras and Cayman and Jamaica this November. Can recommend the Coral Caymanian as a wonderful place to stay while in Georgetown.

LEEWARD ISLAND CANCELLATIONS.

By Stan Durnin.

- 2. DOMINICA.
  - c. King George V.
  - d. King George VI.

Once more we put on the "big eye" for a continuing look at the postal markings of Dominica as found utilized on the stamps inscribed LEEWARD ISLANDS. This article covers the reign of King George V and that part of King George VI until 31 December 1939, for Dominica, on paper, was transferred to the Windward Islands Grouping on the day following.

The first new type of postmark encountered could be considered a "cousin" to that of the figure 7 type, (see Journal Vol 3, No. 2), in that this new canceller has the wording reversed, I.E., G.P.O. around the top and DOMINICA around the bottom of the single ring CDS, and the same measurements applying. However, our "cousin" type maintains its own air of individualism in that it evidences utilization of the six point asterisk over the familiar two-line date format. My examples run from 5 FE 27 through OC 22 31, with a 'loner' dated 12 MY 37. A mighty short sprint for such a strong contender. Expansion is in order.

The KGV era evidences the advent of Roseau's own name being implemented in a postmark. In a single ring CDS, ROSEAU is curved within the upper section, while DOMINICA lies similarly in the lower portion. The diameter is 25 mm; the letters 2 1/2 mm high. The six-pointed star, asterisk is used over the date. My examples show usage from AP 30 32 until the end of '35, see Figure 9. After much scrutiny I'm resigned to the fact that I believe that an almost identical strike was introduced in 1937, (with the KGVII Coronation issue?). All pertinent data is duplicated except that the diameter is definitely 25 1/2 mm. This last strike has a very clear and new appearance, as compared with the 'used' look of the 25 mm item. Two different cancellers, or the same one, cleaned?



Figure 9.

In concurrent use with the last was the double ring canceller for Roseau. Its general appearance is as depicted in Figure 10. The diameters of the respective rings are 27 mm and 16 1/2 mm with the letters measuring 3 mm in height. Here the wording is separated by 3 mm wide solid colored arcs on either side. The asterisk is used above the date. However this asterisk looks more like the top view of a 'bug with six legs' in that the center of the asterisk always appears 'full'. My earliest readable example is dated 29 JU 37 and it is seen to have continued into the Windward era of the Island.



Figure 10.

As previously mentioned, in connection with Figure 5, the 2 1/4 mm PORTSMOUTH and MARGOT strikes continued in use until late 1929. Their letters are 3 mm in height. Sometime in 1930 a quite similar strike for PORTSMOUTH came into use - the only difference lying in the fact that the asterisk was used instead of the previous letter C. I would say that MARGOT elected to choose the double ring solid arcs, type of figure 10, but cannot venture a guess as to when, as my only example of such is dated MY 12 37. I might say, though, that it appears as if nearly all of Dominica's Post Offices and/or Postal Agencies were issued this figure 10 type canceller sometime in the 1930's as it is seen quite frequently in the Windward era and to date, I might add. But all of that will be discussed in a future article.

One more interesting point here is the fact that MARGOT opened on 1 August 1903, while WESLEY closed down the previous day - 31 July 1903. Coulibistrie closed on 30 June 1905. This number of offices was sufficient to the needs of Dominica until 1925, when CASTLE BRUCE (single ring CDS, 23 1/2 mm diameter, letters 2 3/4 mm high, and asterisk over date) was opened. DUBLANC seems to have disappeared from the scene, but exactly

when, I do not know. Therefore the Leeward Islands era of Dominica came to its end with fourteen offices operating on the island.

As can be appreciated, examples of Dominica's 'outstations' aren't plentiful, so my collection does not afford a very clear running account of these postmarks. So with reservation, I will say that those cancellers issued to the various Offices in 1900 or thereabouts saw service until 1930, (which interim changes for the two 'big' offices), when the figure 10 type came into existence.

My interest in the postal markings of Dominica does not stop with her transfer to the Windward Islands group on the first day of 1940, thereby terminating her use of the stamps inscribed Leeward Islands. However, since we are primarily concerned with the L. I. here, we will stop for the time being.

In leaving the wrinkled face of Dominica, (she is said to boast of over 100 rivers), let us take a look at the important role of the 'lowly' farthing' stamp. This tiny, figuratively speaking,  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. item carried the load of the rate for internal printed matter. With the death of her use in the island, Dominica was left high and dry (sic) without this workhorse for a denomination. What to do? For it was  $\frac{3}{2}$  months until her comparable replacement came to be issued on 15 April 1940. However were the newspaper wrappers to be franked? Aha, why not bisect the 'hapenny'; such certainly wasn't setting a precedent, for look at the rash of bisections we had back in the '80's. Well Sir, this is exactly what happened - for a short period in February 1940 at any rate. The Dominica definitive  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. item received the vertical 'cut'! This apparently was conceived by some enterprising individual for the P.O.D. did NOT authorize such mutilation of the "Fresh Water Lake" scene.

This by no means terminates the matter. How shall this little Hercules be cancelled? Still contrary to instructions of not affixing any type of mark to such mails, our mysterious, enterprising, individual came up with the ingenious idea of using the "Crown Paid at Dominica" canceller. And, sure enough, it was so utilized! There it sits, majestically, on the right-hand half of the bisect on my wrapper example. And to positively date the item, the  $25\frac{1}{2}$  mm ROSEAU CDS dated FE 19 40 sits right along side of the "Crown Paid at Dominica". Who says that postmarks are not intriguing? There is more drama in this little item than in "King Lear".



It would be most interesting to compile a list of known examples of this unorthodox procedure to determine exactly the 'life-span' and quantity of this modern bisect. Should you possess, or be aware of, any such examples, please let it be known for the benefit of our membership in particular and Philately in general.

Our able leader for MONTSERRAT, Tommy Thompson, will now pick up the reins and describe the postal markings of that member of the Leeward Islands. I will subsequently 'eke' out a bit of information on the markings of ST. KITTS-NEVIS-ANGUILLA.

Note: The illustrations are not exact as to measurements.

\* \* \* \* \*

We all have weaknesses. But I have figured that others have put up with mine so tolerably that I would be much less than fair not to make a reasonable discount for theirs.

William Allen White.



B AHAMAS NEWS AND NOTES.

By Gale J. Raymond.

First day covers in from Bahamas of the new 1d. and 10d. "RED CROSS CENTENARY" pair are dated 2 SEP 63. Even though the 1d. rate is only for Nassau and N.P. "drop-mail" to p.o. boxes, a tremendous quantity of the 1d. stamps are daily used thus, according to Eddie Adelson, who regularly receives large shipments of used stamps from Nassau sources.

Already a major variety has turned up in the recently issued 8d. Bahamas "Freedom from Hunger" stamp. B. W. King (New York) has found a sheet of the stamps with the imprint "BAHAMAS" missing. This undoubtedly will get catalogue status. The Undersea Williamson Photosphere (The SEA FLOOR Bahamas p.o. 1939-42) appears on a 1962 stamp of Monaco! For a really eye-catching new sporty shirt, the Nassau shops now offer "Moygashel" Sea Island cotton material decorated with postage-stamp designs of the Bahamas. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: A new book just out, "OUT-ISLANDS DOCTOR", by Evans Cottman, (Dutton \$5). It is by far the best book yet on the Bahamas out-islands and islanders, well written in "popular" style, highly entertaining and full of postal references. I bought my copy from Kent Books, 139 Elm, Andover, Mass, for \$3.65 ppd.

It is doubtful if member Dr. H. Burnett Bruce (Australia) realized back in 1930 that he was recording Bahamas postal history! He sat down and addressed letters to each Bahamas postmaster, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. In each letter was a polite printed request for neat examples of their postmarks, and two simple questions to answer: When was your office opened, and When was your present onlitterating stamp issued to you? No, he did not get 100% returns from his mailing (and neither will you, even today). As each reply and cover reached him in Australia, he grouped them by islands and neatly mounted them in an album painstakingly, briefly writing-up each cover. Replies, (such as they were) he left inside the covers. Dr. Bruce may like to know the collection has now fallen into highly appreciative hands (mine!), with thanks to Bob Topaz. While most of the postmarks are known and recorded, from loose stamps and pieces, these on cover are indeed rare birds. The real gem is a 17 NOV 1930 cover from "OLD PLACE", with two superb strikes of the "Many-letters" steel-die C.D.S. and a letter inside from the Subpostmaster, J.H.Saunders. He did not know opening date of p.o. but did know it was there by 1924. (Examples are recorded by 1918 and now through 1930). "Star" type C.D.S. are scattered throughout the collection, and since many of them were issued during this period, many postmasters were able to tell month and year issued. Great Guano Cay came through with two different steel-die cancels. Acklins Island double-circle cancel was still in use at this late date (1930), as was first-type CHEROKEE SOUND (1930). Other then-old double-circle datestamps in 1930 use were STANYARD CREEK and SIMMS. Morris Ludington, Bill McFarland and I are still coming up with data from the collection, far too lengthy to include here. Now if someone would just come up with a similar collection of the periods 1910-1920, 1920-1925, 1933-39, and mid 1940's. It is of interest to record that no TRS's appeared in the above collection.

On another theme, it is distressing to note that collectors are still being "stung" by certain high-catalogue old Bahamas stamps neatly postmarked in a small single-line circle, BIMINI, FE 8 92. This date is a tip off to look closely at the stamp, itself: invariably it will be a "cleaned" fiscally-used stamp. Frustratingly, the postmark does appear to be the genuine cancel, but may well be a forgery, itself; your best protection is to pay no more than 10 cents for an example. Ink-eradicator marks are easily detectable on careful inspection. (Editors note; I have an excellent ultra-violet lamp, with which I will be happy to use in checking any suspected stamps of this kind or any other suspected stamps. Just send them on and let me know what you want.)