

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

Club News of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

Volume 5, No. 6.

November 1965.

Whole No. 28.

Robert Topaz, President.

Reg H. Lant, Secretary - Treasurer.

A. N. Johnson, 2610 Virginia St., Baytown, Texas, 77520, Editor.

EDITORIAL.

By the time this Journal gets to you, it will be almost time for the big show in Miami. Members of our Group will have a meeting there on Saturday, November 6th at 2:00 p.m., in one of the meeting rooms of the Hotel Everglades, for a rundown on the year's work and where some slides will be shown of many rare stamps and cancellations.

Milt Erickson spent the night at my place the weekend of September 19th and brought along some of the Jamaica obliterations that he plans to show at the exhibition. Fred Seifert was here last month and plans to exhibit his fine collection of Street Letter Box cancellations. Morris Ludington will show selections from his Bermuda collection. Gale Raymond will bring along a surprise selection and I will show my "Free Franks" and selections of Jamaica War Tax varieties.

Leonard Courtney from London will be in Los Angeles around the first of October and writes that he plans to be in Miami for the show.

Several of us are toying with the idea of making the B.W.I.A. flight to the Caymans and Jamaica after the show. These islands are as fine as any in the world for swimming, fishing, snorkelling or just plain loafing and November being the "off-season", the rates are extremely reasonable, (otherwise I couldn't go).

Eddie Adelson telephoned me last week while Hurricane Betsy was at her height there, and said that it was pretty windy, but they were used to it and everyone was O.K. Any damage should be cleared up by the time we get there, and the hurricane season will be over.

So put on your summer slacks and sport shirts and comedown to what we feel will be one of the best exhibitions of the year. If you can't make it, be sure and enter some of your prized material, and lets make the British West Indies section of the show outstanding.

See y'all in Miami.

Al Johnson, Editor.

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Milt Erickson has suggested that a survey of the Jamaica Numeral Obliterations now in the hands of the members of our Group, would be very revealing and would form a basis for evaluating our respective holdings. If each collector of Jamaica obliterations will send the Editor a listing of what he has, both Jamaica and the obliterator numbers on British Stamps used in Jamaica, as well as those on covers and pieces, we would be able to set up a master list, which could become available to our members interested. Let us know what you think of the idea.

* * * * *

A wedding ring is like a tourniquet, it stops your circulation.

NEW MEMBERS:

BUCHANAN, WARREN DUNN, 18 Briar Brae Road, Darien, County Fairfield, Conn., 06820, Occupation, Advertising. British Caribbean, Specialties Postal History, Postal Stationery, Jamaica, Barbados, Bermuda and British Honduras with particular emphasis on Jamaica. Member of Old Kings Highway Stamp Club.

CHAMPEAU, C. HENRI, 300 Venetian Drive, Clearwater Florida, 33515. Occupation, Associate Manager, Stock Brokerage. Collects British America. Member A.P.S.

COXE, HUGH, 5 East Street, Kingston, Jamaica. Occupation, Travel Manager, Collects B.W.I., Jamaica.

FRANK, SAMUEL, 2621 Westminster, Costa Mesa, California, 92626. Occupation, Teacher, Gr. Counselor, County Juvenile Hall. Collects British Colonies, across the board - Austria, Germany - Scandinavia. Member of A.P.S., Armed Forces Stamp Exchange Club (U.S.N. Retired).

LAMB, RICHARD M., Home Address 39 Waterloo St., Bridgeport, Ont. Canada, MAILING ADDRESS P.O.Box 573, Kitchener, Ont., Canada. Occupation, Clerk and part time stamp dealer. Collects B.N.A. and B.W.I., Member BNAPS, RPSC, APS, SPA.

NAMENY, WILLIAM F., 20191 Argonaut Drive, Saratoga, California, 95070, Occupation, Publisher's Representative. Collects US and possessions, UN, UN Revenue and Cut Squares, British America. Member of A.P.S.

NEW APPLICANTS:

STRIBLEY, GEORGE D., 417 Bay Lane, North Muskegon, Michigan, 49445. Attorney, Collects Barbados, Greenland, U.S., Specialties, S.C.C.

The above applicants 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 30 days, their names will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for full membership.

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NEW ISSUES:

MONTSERRAT: New Definitive Issue - Crown Agents Bulletin inclosed.

ANTIGUA: New Definitive Issue, release date to be announced.

JAMAICA: Salvation Army Centenary. Crown Agents Bulletin inclosed.

TRINIDAD: Forthcoming issue of Eleanor Roosevelt commemorative, date to be announced.

VIRGIN ISLANDS POSTAL CENTENARY Commemorative, date of issue to be announced.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE DURING W. W. II IN THE CARIBBEAN.

By Robert J. Devaux.

The entrance of the United States of America into World War II, less than a year after it began was evident when negotiations with Great Britain in 1940 were well advanced for the establishment of bases in the British Caribbean. In September 1940, some fifty U. S. destroyers were exchanged for base sites in these islands. It was not, however, until March 1941 that the lend-lease bill was carried through.

Some of the events leading to the choosing of these sites are as follows:

June 1940 saw France fall under Hitler's powerful sweep of Europe; the Atlantic ocean's shipping lanes were now threatened by U-Boats; there was a grave danger of invasion from French West Africa; Axis economic penetration of South America was becoming alarming; the French islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe posed a direct threat to the Panama Canal and even French Guiana could become a problem.

The first meeting of American Republics to consider the possible Nazi take-over of any Western Hemisphere country was held on 21 July 1940 at Havana. Another meeting between Canada and the United States to consider a possible invasion from Greenland was held on 17 August 1940 at Ogdensburg. It became obvious of the need to establish bases stretching from Newfoundland to British Guiana for the proper defense of the Panama Canal and the Western Hemisphere.

Negotiations began between Great Britain and the United States in summer 1940, to find ways of setting up these bases and to consider Britain's dire need for warships and arms. The Destroyers-for Bases idea was tossed around all summer in an effort to overcome the legal entanglements. It was not until September 3, 1940 that fifty overage destroyers were transferred to Britain for base sites in the Bahamas, Jamaica, Antigua, St. Lucia, Trinidad and British Guiana on a preliminary agreement of which details were later worked out, and signed in London on March 27, 1941. Two other bases sites in Bermuda and Newfoundland were of special value to the defence of Canada, as well as the United States and, therefore, no obligations were attached to them. Bases were also later established in the Cayman Islands and Barbados, but not part of the Destroyers-for-Bases deal.

The following letter dated 27 March 1941 signed by the President, outlines briefly what transpired:

"To the Congress of the United States:

On September 3, 1940, I transmitted for the information of the Congress notes exchanged between the British Ambassador at Washington and the Secretary of State on the preceding day, under which this Government acquired the right to lease naval and air bases in Newfoundland and in the islands of Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Antigua and in British Guiana. I now transmit for the information of the Congress, a copy of an agreement for the use and operation of these bases, which was signed in London on March 27, 1941, together with the notes exchanged in connection therewith. These bases are for American defense against attack, and their construction is consistent with such defense. International developments since my message to Congress of September 3, last have emphasized the value to the Western Hemisphere of these outposts of security.

Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The White House, March 27, 1941."

Thus from January to April 1941, personnel of the United States gradually entered these islands and constructed the bases there. By the end of 1941 all bases, both Naval and Military, were completed in Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Cayman Islands, Antigua, St. Lucia Barbados, Trinidad and British Guiana, as well as other sites which are outside the scope of our interest.

Postal facilities were established in accordance with the regulations outlined and agreed upon dated 27 March 1941, as follows:

ARTICLE XVI. POSTAL FACILITIES.

The United States shall have the right to establish United States Post Offices in the leased areas for the exclusive use of the United States forces and civilian personnel (including contractors and their employees), who are nationals of the United States and employed in connection with the construction, maintenance, operation or defense of the bases, and the families of such persons, for domestic use between United States Post Offices in leased areas and between such Post Offices and other United States Post Offices and Post Offices in the Panama Canal Zone and the Philippine Islands.

Censoring of United States Mails passing through these bases was carried out along the lines outlined in the following letter dated March 22, 1941:

Note from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the
Ambassador of the United States of America in London.

March 27, 1941.

I have the honor to inform your Excellency that my Government has agreed to the following understanding in respect of Article XVI of the Agreement signed this day between our respective Governments concerning the lease of bases:

- (1) Mails passing between United States Post Offices shall not be subject to censorship except by the United States.
- (2) In connection with the establishment of any United States Post Offices in a leased area, the United States will arrange administratively for such time as Great Britain may be at war, for the examination of all nonofficial incoming or outgoing mail destined for or originating in a leased area.
- (3) The use of these Post Offices will be strictly limited to persons entitled under Article XVI to use them and any mail deposited in such a Post Office which may be found by the United States examiners to be from a person not entitled to use it, will, if required, be made available to the authorities of the territory for examination.
- (4) Should the United States be at war and Great Britain be neutral, the British Government will insure that a similar procedure is adopted, with respect to incoming or outgoing mail destined for or originating in the territory in which a leased area is located, to safeguard the interests of the United States in the leased area.
- (5) The United States and British authorities will collaborate to prevent their respective mails, in the leased areas or in the territories in which they are located, being used prejudicially to the security of the other.

(6) There will be no examination of official mail of either Government by the other under any conditions.
If your Excellency's Government agrees to this understanding I would suggest that the present note and your reply to that effect be regarded as placing it on record.

The following is a brief list of Post Offices that operated in the British Caribbean during and after World War II, known to me. It is incomplete, but trust that it may be used as a guide to interested members, whom I hope, will submit whatever errors or omissions this list obviously contains:

ANTIGUA

Marine Det. Antigua Leeward Islands (Temporary P.O.) Possibly existed in 1941 - 1942.

F. P. O. #11 % N.Y. Parham Sound Naval Base, 1 Feb. 1942 - 15 July 1947.

A.P.O. 806 Coolidge Field - 16 Aug 1941 - July 1942.

A.P.O. 855 Coolidge Field - 3 July 1942 - July 1945.

BAHAMAS

One or more Mar. Det. Temporary P.O.'s may have existed - dates unknown.

F.P.O. #22 % N.Y. Great Exuma Is. Naval Base - 1 May 1942 - 1 July 1947.

F.P.O. #32 % N.Y. Nassau Naval Base - Unknown dates.

F.P.O. #513 % N.Y. Walker Cay Naval Base - Unknown - 10 Aug 1944.

A.P.O. #618 Windsor Field - 1 Aug. 1942 - 31 Oct. 1947.

BARBADOS

A.P.O. 695 Seawell Field - Dates unknown (Sent through Trinidad).

A.P.O. 869 Seawell Field - Dates unknown (Sent through Trinidad).

BERMUDA

Mar. Det. Temporary P.O. may have existed - Dates unknown.

F.P.O. 158 % N.Y. St. George Naval Base - Dates unknown.

F.P.O. 602 % N.Y. Mobile Hospital # 1 - Never activated.

A.P.O. 802 - Fort Bell - 18 April 1941 - 1942.

A.P.O. 856 - Fort Bell - Dates unknown.

BRITISH GUIANA

Mar. Det. Temporary P.O. may have existed - dates unknown

F.P.O. 12 % N.Y. - Georgetown Naval Base - 1 Feb. 1942 - 1 Apr. 1947.

A.P.O. 807 - Atkinson Field - 29 July 1941 - unknown.

A.P.O. 857 - Atkinson Field - Dates unknown.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

F.P.O. 512 % N.Y. - Grand Cayman Naval Base - 13 July 1942 - so Nov. 1944.

JAMAICA

Mar. Det. Portland Bight Jamaica (Temporary P.O.) - 18 July 1941 -, 1942.

F.P.O. 42 % N.Y. Portland Bight Base - 15 Aug. 1942 - 1 June 1947.

A.P.O. 804 - Vernam Field - 17 Nov. 1941 - 1942.

A.P.O. 861 - Vernam Field - 5 May 1942 - 6 Dec. 1949.

ST. LUCIA

Mar. Det. St. Lucia - Windward Islands (Temporary P.O. - 28 Apr. 1941 - 31 Jan 1942.

F.P.O. 37 % N.Y. Gros Islet Naval Base 1 Feb 1942 - 1 June 1947.

A.P.O. 805 - Beane Field 26 July 1941 - 17 Apr. 1942.

A.P.O. 867 - Beane Field - 18 Apr 1942 - 30 April 1949.

A.P.O. 845 - Beane Field - 2 May 1949 - Oct. 1949.

TRINIDAD

A Mar. Det. Temporary P.O. may have existed - Dates unknown.

F.P.O. 117 % N.Y. - Dates unknown.

A.P.O. 687 - Edinburgh Field & Carlson Field - 12 Oct. 1942 - 1944.

A.P.O. 688 - Green Hill - 11 Mar. 1942 - 12 Apr. 1946.

A.P.O. 695 - Waller Field - 9 Oct. 1942 - 31 Dec. 1945.

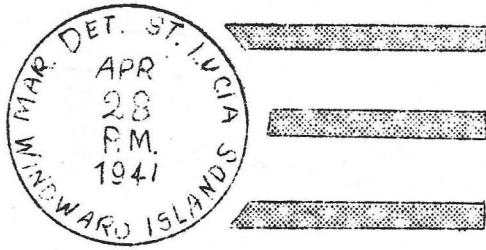
A.P.O. 803 Port of Spain, Fort Read and Waller Field - 28 Apr. 1941 - 1946.

A.P.O. 868 - Port of Spain - 8 June 1942 - 1949.

A.P.O. 869 - Fort Read - 26 June 1942 - 1949.

A.P.O. 880 - Chacachacare Island. 11 Nov. 1942 - 12 April 1946.

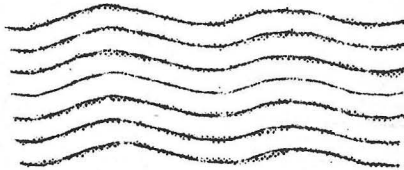
TYPE POST MARKS USED BY THE AMERICAN FORCES IN THE CARIBBEAN



Type 1

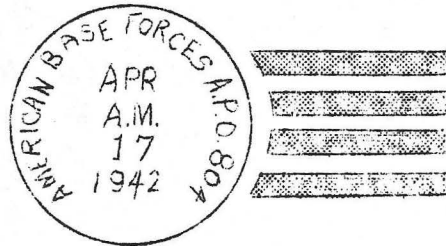
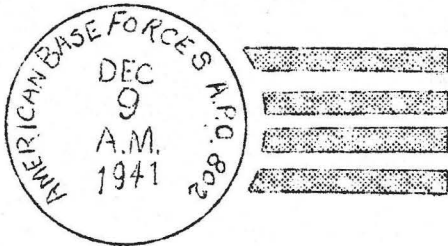
Type 1A

Marine Detachment Post Marks Used in 1941 & Early 1942



Type 2

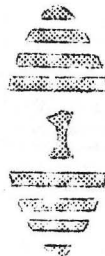
Naval Post Mark Used From 1942 Throughout The Caribbean



Type 3

Type 3A

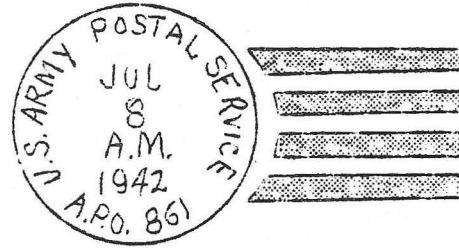
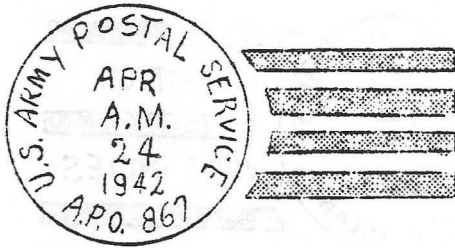
American Base Forces Post Marks Used in 1941 & 1942



Type 4

Experimental Post Mark Used For A Few Weeks Only

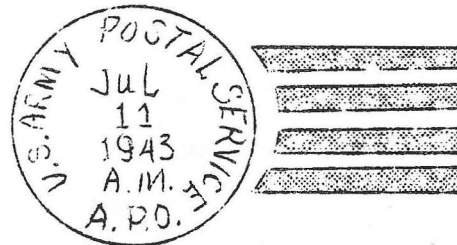
TYPE POST MARKS USED BY THE AMERICAN FORCES IN THE CARIBBEAN



Type 5

Type 5A

Army Postal Service Postmarks with A.P.O. Number Used in 1942 Only



Type 6

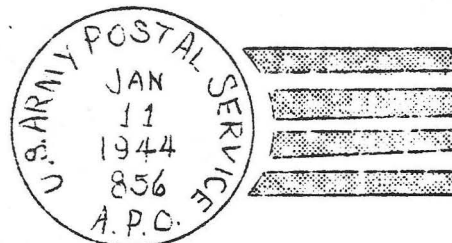
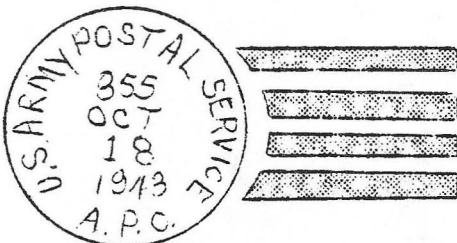
Type 6A

Similar Postmarks With A.P.O. Number Omitted in 1942 and 1943



Type 7

Special Postmark Used on Remembrance Day 1943 Only



Type 8

Type 8A

A.P.O. Number Restored in 1943 Used Throughout the Caribbean

TYPE POST MARKS USED BY THE AMERICAN FORCES IN THE CARIBBEAN



Type 9

Only Registration Mark Used By The Base Forces in 1941 - 1942



Type 10

Registration Mark With A.P.O. Number Used In 1942 Only



Type 11

Type 11A

Registration Marks Without A.P.O. Number Used In 1942 - 1944

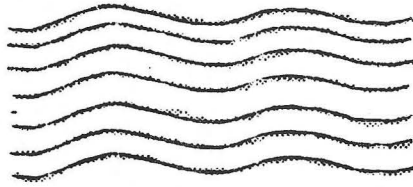


Type 12

Type 13

A.P.O. Number Restored On "MIAMI" Registration Marks

TYPE POST MARKS USED BY THE AMERICAN FORCES IN THE CARIBBEAN



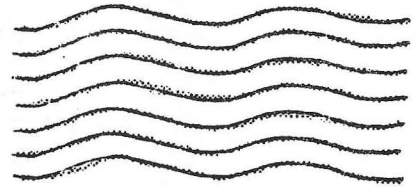
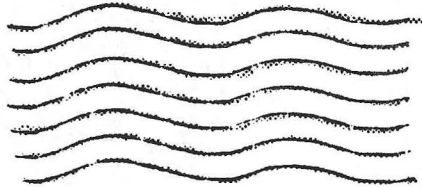
Type 14

Machine Cancellation Used In Trinidad at Chacachacre Is.



Type 15

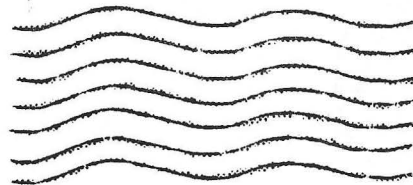
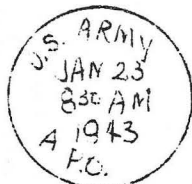
Machine Cancellation Used In Trinidad at Fort Read.



Type 16

Type 16A

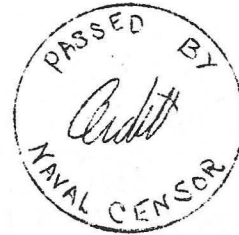
Machine Cancellations Used At Bermuda And Trinidad



Type 17

Similar Type Used At Bermuda

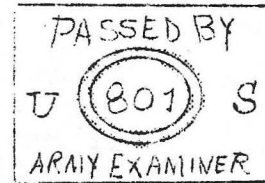
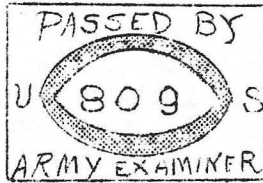
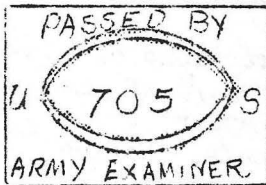
TYPE CENSOR MARKS USED BY THE AMERICAN FORCES IN THE CARIBBEAN



Naval Censor Marks



Army Censor Mark Circular Type



Army Censor Marks Boxed Type (Number Also in Manuscript)

*Censored by
Lt. J. J. [Signature]*

*CENSORED
BY
Lt. J. J. [Signature]*

*Censored by
No 91*

*Censored
by
R. M. Malner
U.S. Army*

Manuscript Type Censor Marks

THE BIASECTED STAMPS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

By Col. Fred F. Seifert.

Although neither the Stanley Gibbons nor the Scott Catalogues list them, on rare occasions bisected stamps of British Guiana on cover or piece appear on the philatelic market. Since these items have not been honored with catalog status, one might suspect them to be either fakes, or at best, examples of a freak usage which somehow passed undetected through the posts. After doing some digging through my philatelic library, I have reached a conclusion that although many fakes exist, some bisects saw valid postal use at times of a shortage of certain values.

Writing in the British Guiana Philatelic Journal of December 1906, Mr. E.V.A. Abraham tells of posting a letter at Capoey, Essequibo, calling for two cents postage. He states that the Postmaster told him there were no stamps of the value asked for, but took the letter from him and in his presence bisected a four cents stamp and affixed half of it to the letter. Afterwards, he saw the same letter having gone through the posts and in the possession of his brother. Mr. Abraham also reported that on various occasions when he was Registrar of Court he had similar experiences in posting letters from Suddie, Essequibo and from New Amsterdam, Berbice. Although he gives no dates for these mailings, he does indicate that the adhesives bisected were the stamps of 1860 with values of one, two, four and twelve cents. He also reports a twelve cents stamp quartered to prepay three cents postage. To clarify what he meant by stamps of 1860, Mr. Abraham stated that he meant those with that date on the stamps, (i.e. as S.G. illustration T7 or Scott A5.) In the British West Indies book of the London Philatelic Society (1891), Mr. E. D. Bacon lists an eight cents stamp of the 1860 issue, bisected diagonally and used as four cents in November 1861.

Based upon his experience, Mr. Abraham came to the conclusion that this practice of bisecting stamps was sanctioned by the Government of British Guiana. That this was not a valid conclusion is evidenced by a Post Office Notice signed by the Postmaster General of the Colony and reading as follows:

"Georgetown. 9th April 1862

Several parties being in the habit of affixing fractions of postage stamps to their letters viz - by using the $\frac{1}{3}$ of the 12 cent or the $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 8 cent stamp for the prepayment of a single local letter, of which the postage is 4 cents. Notice is hereby given that all letters so improperly stamped will be treated as unpaid letters and taxed double the ordinary postage, and newspapers sought to be forwarded in that illegal manner will be detained.

E.T.E. Dalton"

From the foregoing, it appears obvious that for an indeterminate period beginning sometime after mid-1860, when the 1860 format stamps first were issued, and ending in April 1862, when the above notice appeared, bisected, trisected and quartered stamps were frequently used to prepay postage, and such postal matter was accepted by the Post Offices of British Guiana as being fully prepaid. Under these circumstances, I consider that genuine covers of this period bearing fractionated stamps merit a place in the Postal History of British Guiana, despite the fact that Catalog publishers, whose arbitrary rules for such matters I have never been able to understand, refuse to accord them recognition.

In addition to the 1860 stamps, the two cents of 1876 is also known used in bisected form. Sometime during 1877, the British Guiana Post Office ran out of

one cent values, a stamp needed to prepay newspapers. Mr. N. Darnell Davis, the Postmaster General, let it be known that if bisected diagonally, the two cents stamps would be accepted in payment of one cent postage. Just how Mr. Davis promulgated this authorization, I cannot say. It seems quite possible that it was by informal notice to the local newspapers, and that an official Post Office Notice was not issued. However we do have the word of Mr. Davis in a letter dated 10th June 1907 to the Hon. B. Howell Jones, President of the British Guiana Philatelic Society, that he authorized this use of bisects. He states that "there was no authority from the Executive for the arrangement. It was done off my own bat". I doubt that he was exceeding his authority in this instance, for it would seem to be a prerogative of the Postmaster General to take whatever steps he deemed necessary to meet a stamp shortage emergency.

Like most other philatelic rarities, the British Guiana bisects have been extensively faked. Many of these fakes were made by removing genuine stamps from genuine covers, bisecting them, and carefully replacing them on the cover. Such examples will perforce not be tied by the cancellation across the cut edge. While a genuine bisect might display this same characteristic, it is more likely that the clerk cancelling it, having a small target to hit, would succeed in spreading some ink across the cut edge. Thus it would be well to suspect any bisect tied only across the perforated sides. A further requirement of the genuine article is, of course, that the cancellation have been current at the time the cover purports to have been posted.

A more dangerous fake was foisted upon the philatelic world by someone who got his hands on an old cancelling stamp. Securing a lot of old newspaper wrappers and some genuine ;860 stamps, he bisected the latter and tied them well to the wrappers. The existence of these was reported by Rev. Canon F.P.L. Josa in an article published in the British Guiana Philatelic Journal No. 3 of December 1907. Unfortunately he gave no details as to how they can be detected.

It is the privilege of each philatelist to decide for himself just what he considers to be collectible material. For my part, the British Guiana bisects meet all my standards for inclusion in my collection, but, alas, none repose there. Now that I have convinced myself that they are worthy of my attention, the search begins.

SWAN ISLAND:

Gale Raymond recently turned up an odd label on a scrap of cover, reading: "CUBA LIBRE/SWAN ISLAND/ISLE OF PALMS/KEY WEST-SAN JUAN/COURIER SERVICE/TWO DOLLARS FIFTY CENTS" with red borders. He can find no information on any such courier service. He thinks it might be a phoney!! Any information on any such courier service will be greatly appreciated by Gale.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

My wish for this month is that all of us could join one another in Miami on November 6th, and enjoy the warmth and enthusiasm that this group seems to engender. Unfortunately, I know this to be impossible for everyone, but I do urge all that can, to get down there. I know it will be worth your while. Those that cannot can join me in feeling unbounded envy. Good luck and enjoy yourselves.

Before the end of the year, our good Editor should have the new copies of the Constitution, as amended by the Group, ready for distribution. If any of you do not have a copy currently, be of good patience, and this will be straightened out. In accordance with the new changes, we will elect a new Board of Trustees during the second quarter of 1966. I request wholeheartedly, that any member who would like to serve on the Nominating Committee, to send me his name as quickly as possible. I shall be naming a Chairman for the committee within the next few weeks, and your cooperation is not only invited, but pleaded for. I especially would like some of you collectors who, because of distance or inability, have been unable to participate in the affairs of the Group, to come forward and help.

The Group continues to grow, even though I cannot say prosper, and this is gratifying. Our Editor has done marvelously in mailing big fat Journals every month, but the biggest refrigerator gets empty, unless refilled. Many members have promised articles on their pet subjects, but there are a lot of unfilled promises. Please sit down and write something that we can share with the other members.

Robert Topaz,
President.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

LEONARD A. COURTNEY, new address, 4 Pilgrim's Rise, New Barnet, Herts, England

Wm. G. CORNELL, new address, 230 Hillcrest Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio. - 45215.

KENNETH S. SARGEANT, new address, 38 Hawks Town Crescent, Hailsham, Sussex, England.

JAMES M. HOPPE, new address, % Ashcroft House, Tower Road, Tadworth, Surrey, Eng.

"Stamp Collecting" magazine notes as follows: "The current 25¢ British Honduras definitive is reported by A. Souvultjis, (East London, S. Africa), with inverted watermark in a block of four received from Belize G.P.O. and on a single of the same stamp."

The Crown Agents announce that the Antigua I.T.U. pair, originally to be 2¢ and 12¢, will be 2¢ and 50¢.

Men and rivers grow crooked from following the same thing; the path of least resistance.

one cent values, a stamp needed to prepay newspapers. Mr. N. Darnell Davis, the Postmaster General, let it be known that if bisected diagonally, the two cents stamps would be accepted in payment of one cent postage. Just how Mr. Davis promulgated this authorization, I cannot say. It seems quite possible that it was by informal notice to the local newspapers, and that an official Post Office Notice was not issued. However we do have the word of Mr. Davis in a letter dated 10th June 1907 to the Hon. B. Howell Jones, President of the British Guiana Philatelic Society, that he authorized this use of bisects. He states that "there was no authority from the Executive for the arrangement. It was done off my own bat". I doubt that he was exceeding his authority in this instance, for it would seem to be a prerogative of the Postmaster General to take whatever steps he deemed necessary to meet a stamp shortage emergency.

Like most other philatelic rarities, the British Guiana bisects have been extensively faked. Many of these fakes were made by removing genuine stamps from genuine covers, bisecting them, and carefully replacing them on the cover. Such examples will perforce not be tied by the cancellation across the cut edge. While a genuine bisect might display this same characteristic, it is more likely that the clerk cancelling it, having a small target to hit, would succeed in spreading some ink across the cut edge. Thus it would be well to suspect any bisect tied only across the perforated sides. A further requirement of the genuine article is, of course, that the cancellation have been current at the time the cover purports to have been posted.

A more dangerous fake was foisted upon the philatelic world by someone who got his hands on an old cancelling stamp. Securing a lot of old newspaper wrappers and some genuine 860 stamps, he bisected the latter and tied them well to the wrappers. The existence of these was reported by Rev. Canon F.P.L. Josa in an article published in the British Guiana Philatelic Journal No. 3 of December 1907. Unfortunately he gave no details as to how they can be detected.

It is the privilege of each philatelist to decide for himself just what he considers to be collectible material. For my part, the British Guiana bisects meet all my standards for inclusion in my collection, but, alas, none repose there. Now that I have convinced myself that they are worthy of my attention, the search begins.

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SWAN ISLAND:

Gale Raymond recently turned up an odd label on a scrap of cover, reading: "CUBA LIBRE/SWAN ISLAND/ISLE OF PALMS/KEY WEST-SAN JUAN/COURIER SERVICE/TWO DOLLARS FIFTY CENTS" with red borders. He can find no information on any such courier service. He thinks it might be a phoney!! Any information on any such courier service will be greatly appreciated by Gale.

* * * * *

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

My wish for this month is that all of us could join one another in Miami on November 6th, and enjoy the warmth and enthusiasm that this group seems to engender. Unfortunately, I know this to be impossible for everyone, but I do urge all that can, to get down there. I know it will be worth your while. Those that cannot can join me in feeling unbounded envy. Good luck and enjoy yourselves.

Before the end of the year, our good Editor should have the new copies of the Constitution, as amended by the Group, ready for distribution. If any of you do not have a copy currently, be of good patience, and this will be straightened out. In accordance with the new changes, we will elect a new Board of Trustees during the second quarter of 1966. I request wholeheartedly, that any member who would like to serve on the Nominating Committee, to send me his name as quickly as possible. I shall be naming a Chairman for the committee within the next few weeks, and your cooperation is not only invited, but pleaded for. I especially would like some of you collectors who, because of distance or inability, have been unable to participate in the affairs of the Group, to come forward and help.

The Group continues to grow, even though I cannot say prosper, and this is gratifying. Our Editor has done marvelously in mailing big fat Journals every month, but the biggest refrigerator gets empty, unless refilled. Many members have promised articles on their pet subjects, but there are a lot of unfilled promises. Please sit down and write something that we can share with the other members.

Robert Topaz,
President.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

LEONARD A. COURTNEY, new address, 4 Pilgrim's Rise, New Barnet, Herts, England

Wm. G. CORNELL, new address, 230 Hillcrest Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio. - 45215.

KENNETH S. SARGEANT, new address, 38 Hawks Town Crescent, Hailsham, Sussex, England.

JAMES M. HOPPE, new address, % Ashcroft House, Tower Road, Tadworth, Surrey, Eng.

"Stamp Collecting" magazine notes as follows: "The current 25¢ British Honduras definitive is reported by A. Souvultjis, (East London, S. Africa), with inverted watermark in a block of four received from Belize G.P.O. and on a single of the same stamp."

The Crown Agents announce that the Antigua I.T.U. pair, originally to be 2¢ and 12¢, will be 2¢ and 50¢.

Men and rivers grow crooked from following the same thing; the path of least resistance.

JAMAICA JOTTINGS.

By Robert Topaz.

My apologies to any of you who read this column, for missing last month's issue. But a combination of laziness and golf did the damage, plus a little lack of news to pass out. Please excuse.

The London auction market continues very strong for Jamaican Postal History and the tendency to be unable to estimate the market continues to plague the mail customers and the auction houses alike. For example, Robson Lowe had a lot containing eight covers or postcards in their July 9th Bournemouth auction. Since it is quite difficult to describe eight pieces in three lines, a great deal of reliance must be placed on the valuation. The valuation was £ 12 and the final selling price was £ 65. This was not a "name" collection, which at times tends to inflate prices, but a grouping of various lots and countries. I guess this just about tied up the Spring season on Jamaica in a neat and unvaried package.

Turners is the only new office opening that I have noticed and they are using the usual type 37 TRD in violet ink. Location and date of opening are unknown to me as yet, but apparently it is near Four Paths. A few of the offices have new TRD's like Torrington and Ellicress.

Kingston has again started to use two different marks that appear to be rubber date stamps on some of their registered mail. This was noted about nine months ago, but the previous episode was very short lived. Now they have been using these marks for several months. Both marks appear in violet ink and are circular in shape. They both are about 37-38 mm. in diameter and the lettering is seriffed capitals. They both read KINGSTON around the top and JAMAICA around the bottom, and they both have a date line across the center with the year expressed in full. One mark consists of a double outer circle, and has lines above and below the date. The other mark has either a double circle outer line, or a very thick single line. In addition, there is an inner circle that runs inside the lettering. There are no lines above or below the date. Both have asterisks beside the date on each side. The date breaks the inner circle on both sides in the second mark.

Tom Moseley has a new squared circle EKD for us; Kingston type I, index 1 U noted on 15 September 1886. Thank you Tom. Devon squared circle with index "A" has been noted by the only part of the date that is legible is JA 10.

A new slogan mark is being used in Jamaica reading: "BUY/NATIONAL/SAVINGS BONDS". Noted at Half Way Tree and Montego Bay. Also noted at Kingston, but not as common there. Noted first on 18 May 1965 at Montego Bay and Kingston and 2 June at Halfway Tree.

The August 1965 issue of the Jamaica Philatelic Society's Journal lists a whole group of offices that received single ring marks on December 18, 1964. Many of these were offices that were already using this type. It is doubted if any new offices listed were offices that put these marks into use before 1 January 1965. The P. M. at Caymanas Bay states that the 1st of January was their first day of use - thanks to Al Johnson. Listed below then, is the listing in alphabetical order. Please note that Bensonton is known in violet ink. Dalvey has started to use their single ring and this means the last postoffice to use the skeleton marks has gone.

Alexandria
Arcadia
Banbury
Bath Mountain
Bensonton
Blairs Hill
Borabridge
Boulevard
Boyne Park
Browns Town
Broadleaf
Castle Hyde
Caymanas Bay
Clay Ground
Cross Keys
Croton
Dalvey
Darley
Falmouth
Fullerton Park
Garlands

Golden Grove
Golden Valley
Hagley Park
Halse Hall
Hayes
Hessen Castle
Ketto
Kingston
Kirkvine
Lydford
Mercury House
Morant Bay
Mount Lebanus
Mount Moriah
Myrtle Bank
Newmarket
New Port
Newton
Nutfield
Old Harbour Bay
Orange Hill
Paisley
Parcels Post
Point

Point Hill
Portland Cottage
Race Course
Reserve
Retrieve
Returned Letter Branch
Richmond
Rio Bueno
Sawyers
Spring Vale
Stewarton
Thornton
Tranquillity
Whitfield Town
Whitney
Williamsfield
Windsor Forest
Wire Fence
Ythanside

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FURTHER PRINTINGS OF CURRENT ISSUES:

Barbados - 1 cent, 2 and 6 cents, P.D.L's, August 3, 1965.

British Honduras - 4 cent P.D.L. August 3, 1965.

Falkland Islands - 1d. 9th August 1965.

NEW DEFINITIVE ISSUES:

Antigua - release date to be announced.

NEW COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES:

Trinidad - Eleanor Roosevelt - release date to be announced.

Virgin Islands - Postal Centenary - release date to be announced.

British Guiana - Sir Winston Churchill - release date Nov. 30, 1965. Printed by Harrison and Sons, Ltd. by photogravure process, values 5 and 25 cents on CA Block watermarked paper in panes of 50. Design common to both values depicting St. George's Cathedral in Georgetown and portraits of Sir Winston and Her Majesty The Queen.

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BAHAMAS NEWS AND NOTES.

By Gale J. Raymond.

Of course, the major news event in the Bahamas is Hurricane Betsy, Sept 5-9, 1965. Particularly the northeastern islands, the Abacos, Eluthera, as well as New Providence and Andros were badly hit, with property damage great, but fortunately few lives lost. At this writing there has not yet been time to receive letters from the Out-Island p. o.'s except that one note is in from HOPE TOWN reporting much damage. The same datestamp is in use, however the stamps are heavily stuck down with mucilage, indicating the stamp supply had lost its original glue by a thorough wetting-down! Airmail news - clipping reports from Nassau have reported hurricane damage village by village, as observed by the Chief Out-Island Commissioner in charter aircraft flights over the stricken islands. Marsh Harbour p.o. was inundated deeply, and it remains to be seen how postal markings were affected in the Bahamas. Reports from members of unusual hurricane markings would be most appreciated, and will be promptly recorded here.

The interior of the old GPO building has been greatly revamped and modernized in Nassau, under guidance of the London GPO experts still in the Bahamas, but reports of Out-Island changes have still not come in, other than greatly increased P.O. space and more P. O. boxes at Freeport, pending construction of a large modern new Freeport P. O. building.

At long last, a correct paquebot-mail was put ashore at the Freeport P.O., from the M.V. "TROPIC ACE". Only Bahamas postage stamps, however, were accepted, receiving the new large "SHIP MAIL, FREEPORT, BAHAMAS" with Aug. 23 1965 dateline. Can members report other dates of use of this TRD? - SANDY POINT is once again utilizing the old metal C.D.S., after a period of temporary use of the Commissioner's Office TRD as the normal cancel. Eddie Adelson reports the SMITH POINT 30 mm, C.D.S. is now at last in actual use there.

A study of British stamps used in the Bahamas is long overdue. Gisburn has only brief mention of their use in his definitive handbook. There are apparently relatively few examples in collections in the U.S.A. The only item I possess is a strip of three 2d. Blue on a piece of folded-letter with BAHAMAS cds dated OC 27/1859, the stamps barely tied to piece by their A05 cancels. Like the Jamaican specialists, I am attempting to record systematically such examples of GB used in Bahamas as have been preserved by the philatelic world. Again, all reports would be greatly welcomed.

Don't forget the Nov. 8th meeting at Bimini of the Bahamas Postal History Study Circle and friends! Final arrangements can be made at the Miami FLOREX-65 show at the Everglades Hotel, in Miami Beach. Although most will make a one day trip of it, via Mackey Airlines, some will wish to spend the night; if so, please let me know as soon as possible to arrange for accommodations. Mackey DC-3's and DC-6's leave for Bimini at 8:25 a.m., Miami Airport, and return any evening at 5:30 p.m., \$21.00 per person round-trip fare. Excellent overnight accommodations are available at reasonable rates.

* * * * *

SEEKING BAHAMAS 2d. coin, circa 1838, Cat Cay tokens, Inagua "local-coins", any Bahamas tokens or coins. Also French Oceania/French Polynesia used stamps, post-cards, postmarks and covers. Swap or Buy.

Gale J, Raymond, P.O.Box 35143, Houston.
77035.

GUAVA RIDGE

St. Andrew

Opened 19 June, 1894

1. TRD type 8 black ink
 2. D.R. 28 mm. 3 mm. letters dots

27 AU 94 OC 94

1 JA 97 8 OC 00

Closed in 1908

GUY'S HILL

St. Mary's

Opened 1 January, 1874

1. 199 oblit type O (sent out Sept. 1874)
 2. S.R. 24 mm. (no apostrophe)
 3. D.R. 28 mm. 2½ mm. letters dots
 Dot used as an apostrophe in "Guy's"
 4. D.R. 28 mm. 3 mm. letters
 5. B 4 *

3 MY 97 31 AU 03

19 JA 06 29 MR 38

10 FE 40 28 OC 57

3 MY 52 28 SP 64

HADDINGTON

Hanover

Opened 8 January, 1946

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|
| 1. | TRD type 37 | violet ink | 8 JA 46 | 2 DE 46 |
| | The date line is struck separately. | | | |
| 2. | B 1 (issued 26 DE 46) * | violet ink | | 8 JY 47 |
| | | black ink | 4 AP 51 | 4 SP 64 |

HADDO

Westmoreland

Opened 26 June 1944

This office was closed on 15 JY 45 and reopened on 20 April 1946. The reason for closing was the brutal attack at a couple of other nearby offices at this time and so the postmistress would not keep the office open.

- | | | | | |
|----|--|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. | TRD type 39 | violet ink | 26 JU 44 | 21 JY 46 |
| | A strike has been reported dated 15 JU 44. Either this was a courtesy strike or the opening date is erroneous. | | | |
| 2. | B 1 (sent out MY 45) * | * | 26 AU 46 | 9 JY 51 |
| | The B 1 strike is supposed to have been used during 1945, but was damaged and sent out for repair in mid 1946. | | | |
| 3. | B 4 | * | 14 AU 56 | |

HAGLEY GAP

St. Thomas

Opened 2 June, 1884

This office was moved from Mount Charles on 2 June 84.

- | | | | | |
|------|--|-----------|----------|---------|
| 1. | TRD type 2 | black ink | 20 JU 84 | 9 MY 85 |
| | The name is spelled "Hagly" Gap in this mark. The date is in ms. | | | |
| 2. | A 80 oblit type K (small numerals) | | 20 JU 84 | |
| | This mark was transferred from Mount Charles. | | | |
| 3. | S.C. type 1 | no index | 9 MY 85 | NO 26 |
| | This mark is spelled "Hagly". Recorded in blue ink on 22 JU 05. | | | |
| N.B. | If this office was open without interruption, it must have operated at the same time as Mount Charles during at least part of this period. | | | |
| 4. | D.R. 29 mm. 3½ mm. letters | | 7 MR 32 | 6 MR 64 |

HAGLEY PARK

St. Andrew

Opened 1 October, 1956

This office was called Cockburn Pen before 1 Oct. 56.

Kingston Postal Zone #11.

- | | | | | |
|----|--|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. | TRD type 37 b | violet ink | 1 OC 56 | 20 SP 57 |
| 2. | MSR | * | 12 NO 57 | 28 AP 65 |
| | As was the case in most of the offices, there is more than one copy of this mark. There are small differences between the dies, on occasion. | | | |

(cont.)