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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

No, this will not be the full page which ye Editor has allotted me, for time and circumstance will not suffice. I do want to start the year right, though, by an expression of my most humble appreciation for this vote of confidence you have accorded me by electing me your President for 1968. The fine men preceding me in this office have set a standard which I will sincerely and solemnly attempt to maintain and progress. The newly-increased dues established by your majority vote (96%!) are more realistic, in keeping with all that the BCPSG is trying to do publicationwise, for it is indeed our fine Journal which makes membership in our Group worthwhile. It actually "sells on sight"! Show a copy to any collector of British America, and his response is immediate, he HAS to join! I know that it works because I have done it, and you can too! This is a real "live-wire" organization, and some fine new talent has come to light in recent articles, some by postal-history students for the first time writing up their discoveries to share them with us. It has been said that we are "most informal,-quite!" That we be, and how wonderful it is. If you have turned up an interesting item recently, or have a question to ask about an unusual item, just send a note about it to our Editor for the Journal.

As this is being written, many of us are finalizing plans for the visit we are making to Jamaica, and in some cases points beyond. The extra space provided by the brevity of this message will undoubtedly be used for some fascinating trip reports. I'll honestly try to accomplish all possible to make this the greatest year yet for the BCPSG, and I know I can count on you to help all the way. We have a great team. Good hunting,--and write us an article!

*Gale*

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## EDITORIAL

Please do not think that the long period which has elapsed between this and the previous issue of this Journal denotes a collapse in our operation. The delay has been a deliberate one, designed to avoid the mailing of an issue during the annual Holiday Rush. Henceforth, issues will be dated the even numbered months of the year and will be mailed out in the latter half of the month previous to the date they bear. We trust that all of our readers will find this new system satisfactory. Our status as Editor having been confirmed by the Trustees for the year 1968, we pledge to do our best to provide a publication that will merit your continued support.

## OUR SECRETARY REPORTS

### NEW MEMBERS:

SCOTT, RAYMOND JOHN - Mailing Address: "Cymara", 12 Camborne Road, Addiscombe, Croydon, CRO 6LR, Surrey, England.

WINCHESTER, RONALD ANDREW FRANK - Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4685, Johannesburg, South Africa.

See previous issue for collecting interests and other data for above members.

### NEW APPLICANTS:

FAIRHEAD, MICHAEL ANTHONY - Home Address: 139A Bath Road, Hounslow, Middlesex, England. Mailing Address: Same. Occupation: Chemical Technician; Philatelic Preference: Bahamas. Member of BWISC, Hounslow and District P.S. Sponsored by Alfred Branston.

HOUGHTON, VICTOR - Home Address: 636 Kindersley Avenue, Mount Royal 16, Quebec, Canada. Mailing Address: Same. Occupation: Chartered Accountant. Philatelic preferences: Canada, U.K., B.W.I. Specialties: West Indies - Mint. Sponsored by John F. Ayre.

PLASS, GILBERT N. - Mailing Address: P.O. Box 576, Richardson, Texas 75080. Occupation: Professor. Philatelic Preferences: British Caribbean. Specialties: Virgin Islands, Leeward Islands. Member of APS, SPA, RPSL, Collectors Club, BIA, Canal Zone S.G. and BWISC. Sponsored by Gale Raymond.

READER, PAUL H. - Home Address: 83 Woodhaven Road, Orchard Park, N.Y. 14127. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 206, Orchard Park, N.Y. 14127. Occupation: Salesman. Specialties: British America. Member of SPA and UPSS. Sponsored by Gale Raymond.

WALKER, BRYAN JOHNSTONE - Home Address: Apt. 206, 65 Keewatin Avenue, Toronto 12, Ontario, Canada. Mailing Address: Same. Occupation: Economic Analyst. Philatelic Preferences: B.N.A., British America, G.B., Gibraltar. Specialties: Leewards, Montserrat. Member RPS of Canada. Sponsored by Reg Lant.

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### NEW ADDRESSES:

ELMER D. ADAM, No.15 - 2405 Lakeshore Road, Burlington, Ontario, Canada.

THOMAS BARROW, 307 Shadywood, Houston, Texas 77027

PATRICK W.C. BURKE, P.O.Box 201, Kingston 8, Jamaica.

STANLEY C. DURNIN, 2764 West 11th Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46404

DR. HARRY K. ELKINS, 747 Altos Oaks Drive, Los Altos, California 94022

JOSEPH R. PEREIRA, Spanish Department, Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

Correct the Summer Address of FLORENCE OLSEN to read RFD No.1, Box 363, South Salem, New York 10590.

Bob Devaux and family are visiting his folks at Castries, St. Lucia, where they will spend the Winter. His address there is P.O. Box 68, Castries, St. Lucia, W.I.

# A TALE of DUBIOUS DEALS IN DOMINICA

by FRED F. SEIFERT

For many years a few used Post Cards of Dominica have rested undisturbed in my collection of that Island. Recently, I took a close look at these cards and found that their messages are of considerable philatelic interest. Since all were written nearly eighty years ago, and the writer and recipients have long departed this Earth, I consider it proper to pass the contents along to my fellow philatelists.

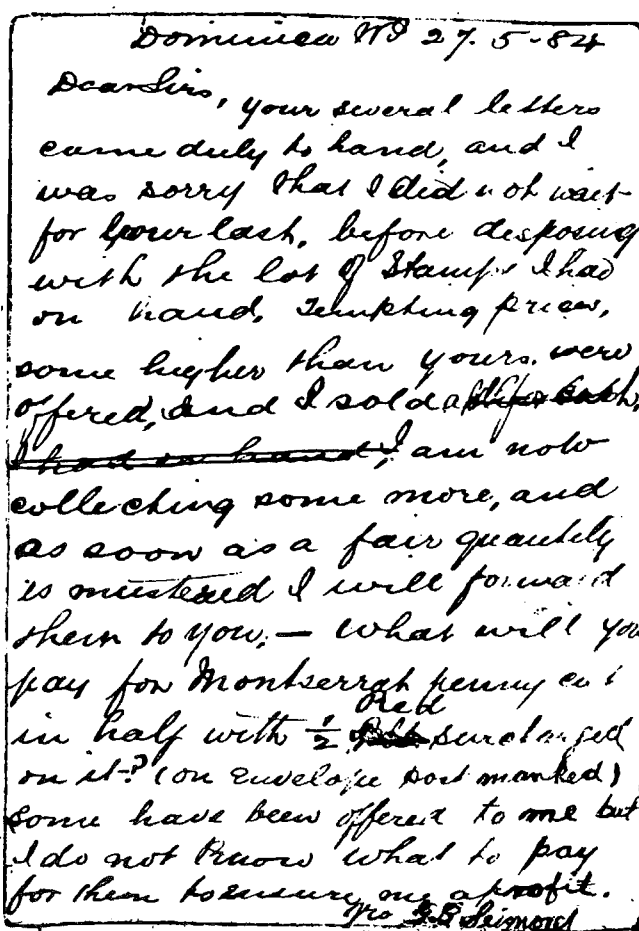
All three cards were written by Griffith B. Seignoret who apparently was a clerk in the Dominica Post Office at Roseau at that time. In the paragraphs which follow, I shall illustrate each card and then discuss its message.

The card shown to the right has the postmark DOMINICA with the date of 27 MAY 1884. It is addressed to a stamp dealer in London. I consider the most significant portion of its message is the final query, "What will you pay for Montserrat penny cut in half with 1/2 Red surcharged on it-? (on envelope postmarked) Some have been offered to me but I do not know what to pay for them to ensure me a profit."

Consulting the most recent Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue on hand, that of 1963, I found a notation in the Montserrat listing "No. 1 was bisected and used for a 1/2d. in 1883. This bisected stamp is found with a small "1/2" in black. This is bogus." We found the same note in the 1968 Gibbons-Whitman Catalogue, but here the editor appears to have had a change of mind, for the statement "This is bogus" has been deleted.

Next, I looked in the Handbook of the B.W.I. which was published by the Philatelic Society, London in 1891. Here I discovered a note: "In the month of March, 1883, the then current 1d. stamps divided vertically, and each half surcharged "1/2d" in small block type, were seen upon envelopes which apparently had passed through the post between Montserrat and Dominica, but the authenticity of such a provisional issue was doubted at the time, and it has since been repudiated by the Postal Authorities."

Finally I consulted Leonard Britnor's 1965 Montserrat Handbook in which the major part of a page is devoted to discussion of this overprint. Britnor has



Dominica 27.5.84  
Dear Sir, your several letters  
came duly to hand, and I  
was sorry that I did not wait  
for your last, before disposing  
with the lot of stamps I had  
on hand, thinking prices,  
some higher than yours, were  
offered, and I sold all for cash.  
~~What is to be done,~~ I am now  
collecting some more, and  
as soon as a fair quantity  
is mustered I will forward  
them to you. — what will you  
pay for Montserrat penny cut  
in half with <sup>Red</sup> 1/2 surcharged  
on it-? (on envelope post marked)  
Some have been offered to me but  
I do not know what to pay  
for them to ensure me a profit.  
Yrs F. B. Seignoret

studied a number of covers bearing this item. He concludes that the bisects are genuine and were validly used between Montserrat and Dominica. However, he notes that the "1/2" in black is similar, if not identical, to the small 1/2 used to surcharge Dominica bisects of the same period, and that the surcharge was probably added after the covers had reached Dominica. He considers that the surcharge is an unnecessary embellishment, but states that it would certainly not seem to be bogus.

The evidence of our findings suggests that covers bearing genuine Montserrat bisects were doctored after arrival in Dominica by addition of an overprint of the "1/2" handstamp which was conveniently at hand in the Dominica Post Office. Since when these were offered for sale it was at least implied by failure to mention their Dominican origin, that the overprint had been applied by or for the Montserrat P.O., we cannot share the charitable view of Mr. Britnor that the "1/2" is not bogus. Here we define bogus as "Not proceeding from the true source" in this case the Montserrat Post Office. As for Seignoret's proposal to provide this item with "1/2 Red surcharged", since no examples in red have been reported, we must assume that this was an error on the part of Seignoret, or perhaps the "designer" of this item had planned to use red ink but subsequently discovered that a black overprint would offer better contrast on a red stamp.

GRIFFITH B. SEIGNORET  
Roseau, Dominica, B.W.I.

Dear Sir

To the above address please send your Catalogue of used postage stamps. I have got some 1882 1/2<sup>d</sup> at prov's issue selling at 16¢, 1/2<sup>d</sup> on 6<sup>d</sup> green, 1884 issue selling @ 4¢, 1<sup>d</sup> red lilac used postally on envelope 2¢, 1 red postage with Revenue printed across. These last named stamps were used in the place of 1<sup>d</sup> lilac which had run short about the end of August this year only 6 sheets were printed of these 90 were used postally not one unused is to be found at present. I offer them at 1/2 price. Hoping a reply from you.

My second card, shown above, is addressed to a dealer in Baltimore and is post-marked Dominica, 18 DEC 1888. Here Seignoret offers to sell copies of the 1882 and 1884 Dominica provisionals at prices which would be bargains today, but which represented a large profit to one who had obtained them at face value. It was probably not considered unethical at that time for a Post Office employee to make a personal profit on the philatelic sale of the stamps of his country, but now most governments take a dim view of such activities by their civil servants. As for the Revenue stamps "used postally on envelope", the Philatelic Record for October 1879 states that the mail from Dominica which reached England on the 13th of that month contained many letters and circulars franked with the 1d (lilac) Revenue stamps. While no authorizing document has been found, it would appear that this use was allowed during a temporary shortage of the 1d postage adhesive. It is difficult to find a similar excuse for the 1d red

Revenue which Seignoret offers. There seems to be no doubt that this Revenue was prepared to serve a valid revenue use as replacement for the 1d lilac. In the 17 July 1909 issue of The Postage Stamp, Bertram W.H. Poole states "A number of these were used for postage though there could have been no necessity for this as there were evidently plenty of the ordinary postage stamps in stock." Thus, Seignoret's precise statement that "90 were used postally" would lead one to suspect that he might have had something to do with their "postal use."

Postoffice  
Dominica  
28<sup>th</sup> June 1889.

Dear Sir

I would be thankful if should I permit and you could procure me some St Kitts-Nevis Revenues postmarked them for me. Have you any old issues or provisionals of St Kitts? If so I would be glad to make an exchange business. Hoping to oblige you in any way I am here,

Lam  
Seignoret J.B. Seignoret

My third and final card, shown above, is addressed to W.P. Pearce, Clerk in Charge, Post Office, St. Kitts and postmarked Dominica, 28 JUN 1889. From it we learn only that Seignoret attempted to buy St. Kitts-Nevis Revenues from Pearce and asked to have them postmarked. Whether or not he was successful, I cannot say. However, the mere fact that he tried to obtain postmarks on St. Kitts-Nevis Revenues which would have never seen postal use, makes me all the more suspicious of his earlier offers of "postally used Revenues of Dominica."

There is very serious doubt that any St. Kitts-Nevis Revenues ever saw authorised postal use, despite the fact that Gibbons lists them as "Revenue Stamps Used For Postage." In the 1891 Philatelic Society, London, B.W.I. Handbook, E.D. Bacon tells of a letter from St. Kitts: "Mr. W.P. Pearce, the clerk in charge of the Post Office at Basseterre, St. Kitts, writes to me under date December 9th, 1890, saying \* \* \* \*. He further states that Revenue stamps have never been authorised to prepay postage, and that they have never been used for that purpose." In the 17 July 1909 issue of The Postage Stamp, Bertram W.H. Poole reported that the remainders of the revenue issues of the individual islands were recalled by the Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands in 1896, and in 1897 were sold to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. Being a reputable firm, Gibbons were no doubt unaware of the purely fiscal status of the St. Kitts-Nevis Revenues when they listed them in their catalogue, but once such an error has been made it seems to live on forever.

Thanks to Philip Saunders, I have learned a bit more about Seignoret. Philip has been in correspondence with a resident of Dominica bearing the same surname, who has advised: "I refer to your letter of the 9th February (1967)

about Griffith Berry Seignoret who was my uncle. According to the Leeward Islands Blue Book he was appointed to the post of Postmaster, General Post Office, Roseau on the 1st October 1925. He died on the 26th July 1933 according to an obituary notice in the Dominica Official Gazette. If my memory serves me right he was still in the post when he was take sick shortly before his death."

One cannot really be too critical of Seignoret and his contemporaries for succumbing to the temptation to profit at the expense of the philatelists of the 1880's. The salary of a post office clerk was (and still is) exceedingly small, and dealers were constantly asking them to provide the valid provisionals in quantities far in excess of the available supply. The clerks could easily rationalize that any profits they realized would not be at the expense of their post office, but would, in fact, bring in additional revenue for the government by the sale of additional stamps. The personal profit they made provided a welcome supplement to their official earnings. When their supply of local items was exhausted, it was but natural for them to write to their counterparts in other colonies seeking further material to sell, or as a last resort to devise their own "Unofficial Provisionals."

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TO ALL POSTMASTERS.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,  
9th OCTOBER, 1826,

FOR the future an *additional Mail* for JAMAICA will be made up in London, on the *third Wednesday* in every Month, to be conveyed by Packet from Falmouth, which will also take out the mail for MEXICO, *which has hitherto gone by the Jamaica Mail of the first Wednesday in every Month.* Letters for St. DOMINGO (HAYTI), and for CUBA (HAVANNAH), will be forwarded by this Packet—those for St. DOMINGO to be charged as Letters for JAMAICA, and those for CUBA as Letters for MEXICO.

The Postage upon such Letters *must be paid in this Country.*

*No Letters for the other British West India Islands, or for Colombia, can be forwarded by this Mail.*

The first Mail under this regulation will be made up on *Wednesday the 18th Instant.*

By Command,

F. FREELING,  
Secretary.

The above notice is copied from an original in the private collection of C. Angus Parker. We thank him for providing us with a print of it.

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# Another British Guiana Forgery

BY WINTON PATNODE & FRED F. SEIFERT

Unlike the British Guiana forgery which we discussed in our previous article, the one we now consider was well documented by the Reverend R.B. Earée in his 'ALBUM WEEDS'. When one studies it closely he finds many obvious errors on the part of the forger, yet we would be willing to wager that a great many examples of this item repose, undetected, in present day collections of British Guiana.

Our forgery is modeled after the 1860-1863 series of stamps, those having the wide space between value and CENT(S). Although we illustrate only the ONE CENT black, SG 42 or Scott 24, the forger did not limit himself to this denomination. We have other examples of the 2, 8, 12 and 24 cent stamps and have had reports of the 4 cent value.



FORGERY



GENUINE

The most obvious error of the forger was in copying the motto surrounding the ship. He changed PETIMUSQUE to RETIMUSQUE, a rather stupid mistake. The numbers in the corner boxes of the forgery are poorly formed, also the boxes are taller than they are wide, whereas the numbers on the genuine stamp are well formed, and the boxes are nearly square. There is hardly a detail of design or lettering that does not differ between forgery and genuine, yet the overall appearance of the forgery is such that the average collector with no reason to suspect it might well place it in his collection without a second look. The perforating, if one can call it that, is very poorly done, and most copies we have seen have one or more straight edge. All copies known to us are cancelled with an A03 obliterator. The colors of all values of this forgery are a bit more vivid than their genuine counterparts.

# The Gray Correspondence

by WINTON PATNODE

In the year 1808 Charles Gordon Gray of Somersetshire, England, sent his son of the same name to Jamaica to manage his sugar plantation, Virgin Valley, near Montego Bay. For at least ten years they wrote to each other by the monthly Falmouth packets. Many of the son's letters to his father survive. Fifty-one of them were acquired a year or so ago by C. Angus Parker of London, a member of our Study Group, who kindly lent me 34 to transcribe. Bob Topaz lent me two more; I own three, making a total of 39. The earliest is dated Jan. 5, 1809; the latest April 16, 1819. Study of the letters reveals information of interest to postal historians. This first article based on the correspondence is an analysis of the time taken to exchange letters.

The son dated each letter, most of which were mailed at Montego Bay three days before the packets sailed from Kingston. Three were mailed at Savanna-la-Mar while he was serving as a juror in court there. All but one, a ship letter, bear one of three types of fleurons. The father in England noted the dates on which he answered his son's letters, 34 being so marked, but none bear post office receiving marks. Thus, the manuscript markings show us the dates when the letters were written and when they were answered. The elapsed time includes eastbound ocean transportation, land transportation at each end, and the time father held the letter before replying. These total elapsed times vary from 43 to 178 days, with a median time of 62 days. The distribution of these periods of time is tabulated below.

TIME IN DAYS:	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	OVER 89
NUMBER OF LETTERS:	5	8	7	9	2	3

Somewhat less information is provided concerning the elapsed time between the dates father wrote to son and son's reply. Fourteen of the letters include some such phrase as "I have your letter of April 6." These statements show us the elapsed times between the dates father wrote letters and the dates son replied. They include westbound ocean transportation, land transportation at each end, and the time son held the letter before replying. These times range from 52 days to 134 days, with a median time of 75 days. The distribution is shown in the following table.

TIME IN DAYS:	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	OVER 89
NUMBER OF LETTERS:	2	3	3	4	2

The difference between the median eastbound time (62 days) and the westbound time (75 days) is probably not significant; the data are too few and cover a ten year period of time. In sum, the median elapsed time between the date that son wrote a letter, received an answer, and responded to it was about 140 days, say 4 1/2 months. On occasion it might have been a month sooner or a month later. This allowed only about three complete exchanges per year, and points up the need of an absentee estate owner to have a reliable manager in Jamaica with considerable freedom of action. Many such managers were attorneys holding their clients' Power of Attorney for estate affairs.

During much of this period of time, 1809-1817, the packets were subject to harassment by French and American privateers who prowled the trade routes, but packets were fast sailers and under instructions to run rather than fight. Although encounters and losses have been recorded, it appears from the evidence of



these letters that communications in general were hardly affected. Analysis of the data for the post-war years of 1816 and 1817 show the median elapsed time for both eastbound and westbound letters was 70 days, the range being 43 to 90 days, not significantly different from the whole period 1809-1817.

I have just begun the study of these letters, but even on first reading several characteristics relating to communication stand out. One is what seems to be excessive repetition month after month. I believe it was for a purpose, not that son forgot what he wrote, nor that father was slow to understand, but the repetition was used to enhance reliability. In those days it was common practice for overseas correspondents to mail duplicate letters by different ships whenever possible, especially in war time. But from Jamaica there was no alternate fast reliable means of communication; there was only the monthly packet. Repetition month after month assured that the message would get through. Although many cargo ships called at Montego Bay, they were usually seasonal, often in convoys, at crop time. Thus ship letters were no substitute for packet letters throughout the year.

Another feature that stands out is the continual assessment of knowledge and characters of several of son's friends and associates. He would naturally make such judgements in the normal course of events, but why write them home? I believe this too was done for a purpose, rather than as gossip, in order to acquaint his father with persons who might be used for communication. Whenever such a friend or business associate was going home, son wrote to father urging him to be sure to go to whatever port city necessary to meet the homecomer. Such meetings and conversations would be much more meaningful when father had son's long-time description and appraisal of the visitor, and thus valuable supplements to letters.

In succeeding articles, I expect to present an analysis of the manuscript rates of postage and perhaps other information of interest.

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## **W.W. II Propaganda Issues for BWI**

by CHARLES E. CWIAKALA

Bob Topaz mentions in the November 1967 BCPJ the existence of propaganda/espionage issues for the British Possessions in the West Indies. For those of our members not having access to the MICHEL DEUTSCHLAND SPEZIAL-KATALOG (mine is the 1967/8 edition) the following information is offered.

The history of these 'un-issued' sets is interesting, and perhaps the total story will interest those who, as I, attempt total completion of their BWI collections.

These bogus issues for the West Indies are really overprints of a counterfeit issue intended for use in Great Britain. Let us describe these issues first in the light of the printing effort. The overprints will be described later. In the table which follows, the Scott and Gibbons Catalogue numbers refer to the genuine British issues, while the Michel Catalogue numbers are those of the counterfeits. Where two colors are given for the genuine stamps, the first is that given by the Gibbons Catalogue and the second is that given by Scott.

<u>SCOTT NO.</u>	<u>GIBBONS NO.</u>	<u>MICHEL NO.</u>	<u>GENUINE COLOR</u>	<u>COUNTERFEIT COLOR</u>
235	462	Ec3	Green/deep green	Green
236	463	Ec4	Scarlet	Red
237	464	Ec5	Red-brown	Dark lilac-brown
238	465	Ec6	Orange	Orange
239	466	Ec7	Ultramarine	Blue
240	467	Ec8	Violet/dark purple	Dark violet

Being propaganda issues the counterfeits had the following distinctive 'secret marks' about their design:

1. *The rose in the upper left-hand corner includes a tiny hammer and sickle.*
2. *There is a very prominent Star of David atop the crest of the crown.*
3. *The rose in the upper right-hand corner includes a miniature Star of David.*
4. *The 'd' of the 'pence' is a cleverly formed hammer and sickle.*

These bogus issues actually reached England during the war, but I have yet to see a copy postally or philatelically cancelled. Evidently some such do exist, and perhaps our British members will be able to add information!

Apparently enthused with penetrating Great Britain, the German Propaganda Ministry overprinted these issues for distribution in His Majesty's overseas possessions early in 1944. The overprint consists of a mourning border about the stamp design. Within this border and at the top of the stamp in two lines is LIQUIDATION/OF EMPIRE or LIQUIDATION/OF EMPRIE. At the bottom and within the border is the name of the colony. MICHEL quotes prices for both mint and used, but I imagine the 'used' sets were cancelled somewhere in Berlin. The overprints exist either in red or black.

These propaganda issues were supplied for British Colonies listed below as well as for Singapore, Hong Kong, Rabaul, Borneo, Rangoon and Bougainville. They were to be delivered to their destinations via U-boat or some other clandestine manner, and were to be distributed by German agents or their sympathizers. Whether any of these were actually received in the West Indies is not known, but some German specialists claim postally used copies exist on the Bougainville issue. Since they possibly reached the South Pacific, they may have reached the Caribbean! Issues were provided for the following BWI Colonies:

<u>COLONY</u>	<u>MICHEL NO.</u>	<u>VALUATION</u>	<u>SPELLING</u>	<u>OVERPRINT COLOR</u>
ST. LUCIA	IV b 9-14	15 DM	EMPIRE	R-B-B-B-R-B
BARBADOS	IV c 9-14	15 DM	EMPIRE	R-B-B-B-R-B
JAMAICA	IV d 9-14	15 DM	EMPIRE	R-B-B-B-R-B
TRINIDAD	IV e 9-14	15 DM	EMPIRE	R-B-B-B-R-B
BAHAMAS	IV f 9-14	15 DM	EMPIRE	R-B-B-B-R-B
BERMUDA	IV g 9-14	15 DM	EMPIRE	R-B-B-B-R-B
GRENADA	V a 9-14	15 DM	EMPRIE	R-B-B-B-B-R
ST. VINCENT	V f 9-14	15 DM	EMPRIE	R-B-B-B-B-R

The OVERPRINT COLOR column refers to 235 being red, 236 being black, etc. The current rate of exchange of a DM (Deutsch mark) is approximately four to the U.S. Dollar.

I wonder how many of our members have these in their stock books and have wondered what they were. Ever since I discovered these issues in a friend's collection, I have been attempting to secure copies of the Jamaica and Bermuda sets. Letters to German dealers have been answered with the notation 'no longer in stock'. I feel that these issues should be included as a portion of British West Indies Postal History and would appreciate hearing from members possessing further information. Surely with valuations as low as these there must be someone in our BCPSG having copies!

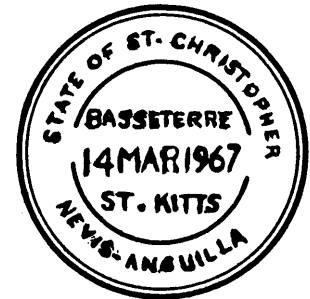
*EDITOR'S NOTE: Robson Lowe's ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF BRITISH EMPIRE POSTAGE STAMPS, VOL. I (Second Edition 1952) devotes several paragraphs to these issues under the title, "1944. German Propaganda Stamps." It states that the basic forgeries were on sale in Stockholm in November mounted on cards with the caption "SPECIAL STAMP IN MEMORY OF THE FIRST DAY OF INVASION" flanked with a circle surrounding a crown above G.P.O. on the left and a hammer and sickle on the right, and with the words repeated in Russian below. It further states that cancelled stamps show a circular stamp which reads "LONDON SPECIAL STAMP" around the circumference and "AAA0/-6 JUN/44" in three lines in the center. Reporting on the "LIQUIDATION/OF EMPIRE" overprints, the only items mentioned comprise a set consisting of 1/2d. Bahamas, 1d. Singapore, 1 1/2d. Trinidad, 2d. Bermuda, 2 1/2d. St. Lucia and 3d. Jamaica.*

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ST. KITTS-NEVIS-ANGUILLA STATEHOOD TRD'S

by Dennis G. Cartwright

Three special TRD Cancellations were used to celebrate the Statehood of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla. The format was the same for each TRD, with the central insert being respectively:- BASSETERRE ST. KITTS, ANGUILLA and CHARLESTOWN NEVIS. The outside diameter of the TRD is approximately 40 mm with a partial inner ring of approximately 25 mm diameter. The date is shown within the inner ring with "BASSETERRE" above and "ST. KITTS" below, etc. These TRD's had a very short use and were retired on account of their size and tendency to smudge (according to the Postmaster.) I have examples of Basseterre, St. Kitts with dates between 14th March 1967 and 23rd March 1967. My only example of Anguilla is not clear enough to tie the date, and I can only read - March 1967.



Stan Durnin has a TRD for Charlestown, Nevis, which is dated 14th March 1967. I would be very interested to hear of any other information members may have on this cancellation, particularly as regards dates. If anyone has a spare of Nevis, I would be most interested.

*Stan Durnin comments on the above to the effect that he has evidence that these Statehood TRD's were used in additional Post Offices. He is assembling his data and promises to provide a follow-up article, possibly for the next Journal.*

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Both Stan Durnin and Dennis Cartwright have reported that the SANDY POINT Post Office on St. Kitts was destroyed completely by fire a few months ago. Mail is now deposited in a pillar box and carried by van to Old Road P.O.

# ANTIGUA ADDENDA

by WILLIAM G. CORNELL

The BREDA commemorative 15c value is said to exist with inverted watermark. This is a new variety, two sheets being known. Regarding QE II varieties, in the 1968 Commonwealth Queen Elizabeth Stamp Catalog, now published by Urch, Harris & Co., Ltd. of Bristol and London, the following are listed:

CW#      DESCRIPTION

Wmk. Tudor Crown and *Script CA*

- 14a      1c, deep slate grey (cp. slate grey) 7 NO 61
- 16a      3c, black & orange (cp. black & yellow-orange) 23 SP 59
- 17a      4c, dull red (cp. scarlet) 11 DE 62
- 19a      6c, deep ochre (cp. ochre) 5 DE 61
- 25a      \$1.20, sage-green (cp. greyish-olive green) 10 AU 55

Wmk. St. Edward's Crown and BLOCK CA

- 32a      4c, red (cp. dull red) 26 JA 65
- 33a      5c, grey-black & deep violet (cp. black & slate violet) 28 AP 65
- 34a      6c, deep ochre (cp. ochre) 21 JA 65
- 37a      24c, black & brown (cp. black & chocolate) 28 AP 65

S29a      12c, brown, Shakespeare, Wmk. inverted

- S34a      ½c, multicolor, Churchill, value to left
- S34b      ½c, multicolor, Churchill, value omitted

- S42a      2c, blue & green, W.H.O., "apostrophe" variety (Row 2, Stamp 1, Plate 1B)
- S42b      2c, blue & green, W.H.O., "double impression"

S48a      15c, multicolor, Statehood, Wmk. reversed

The new definitive stamps have reached the stage of having new printings, so that shades can be watched for. The only new printing to reach Antigua to date is the ½c printing of 14 JY 67. However, the list of printings available in London is shown below.

<u>PRINTING DATE</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
27 JU 67	1c	NO CHANGE
	2c	NO CHANGE
	15c	MUCH DEEPER BROWN
	25c	NO CHANGE
14 JY 67	½c	SLIGHTLY DEEPER GREEN

An interesting philatelic literature item acquired recently is "The Philatelic Index, compiled by an Index Committee appointed by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, June 1925, Wood & Son, Perth, U.K." The work comprises a listing of the principal articles in important British Stamp Journals to the end of 1924, plus a listing of many of the leading monographs in English published 1908-24.

Twenty-two Antigua references are listed, along with sixteen for Leeward Islands, one for the BWI, four for the WI and other interesting listings. The listings for Antigua will be included in the Bibliography Section of the present Monograph Project.

The village of OLD ROAD has a brand-new hand-struck Registration rectangle, in the same format as the ANTIGUA PHILATELIC SERVICE mark illustrated in the last issue of the Journal. OLD ROAD in 3 mm sans-serif capitals surmounts ANTIGUA in 2½ mm sans-serif capitals. A single thin line below ANTIGUA surmounts No., with a blank for manuscript number fill-in. At left, behind a vertical pair of lines (one thick at left and one thin at right) is a sans-serif R, 7½ mm tall. My copy is on a 6 OC 67 cover, and I hear that this handstamp replaced its predecessor in early 1967. Does anyone have any further information on early use of this mark?

Peter Jaffé, in an article entitled "Notes on Leeward Islands Cancellations" in the West-End Philatelist, v.XLIII, n.441, Sept-Oct 1953, pp.65-67, 75 (concluded in the following number) gives important data on Antigua cancels, based on official records at the GPO-London and the Public Record Office, as well as on the author's own holdings. Jaffé says that "...the Antigua straight line cds with code letter C was sent out from the GPO on 14 AP 1859...", seeming to refer to the Type PR small cds which was illustrated in the last issue of the Journal, but introducing C as code letter, a new piece of information to me. I have only seen A and B as code letters on Type PR strikes. Has anyone ever seen a strike of Type PR with code letter C? It is possible that C was used only in the proof strike in London. The date of sending of the canceller fits the Robson Lowe EDK of 1859 with code letter A.

The A02 vertical obliterator is said by Jaffé to have been sent out from the GPO on 16 JY 80, while V.N.F. Surtees has noted use from 1876 to 1890. Jaffé has the A18 obliterator being sent out 1 JU 58, agreeing with previous data. He knows of no later use of A18 than on the issue of 1876, except for a manuscript "18" on a 1d stamp of the 1880's. This could be a fiscal usage, although Jaffé notes that both Dominica and St. Kitts used manuscript cancels on low values for letters from their villages to capital in the 1880's.

According to Jaffé, "...the ANTIGUA/ENGLISH HARBOUR cds with code letter A is known used on 12 AP 84 and was sent out on 10 DE 57..." This is presumably the cds which was illustrated as part of Lot 67 of the R.H. Urwick BWI Sale by Robson Lowe of 6-7 October 1964, on an 1885 cover from English Harbour to Bristol. Incidentally, the catalog of the Urwick Sale is full of interesting research material. The Urwick cover had two strikes of the cds used as a datestamp, with adhesives obliterated by the A18 obliterator. Jaffé notes that "...circular date stamps inscribed St. John's/Antigua were sent out from London on 16 AU 03, 3 DE 07 and 1 OC 08, all proofed with code letter C..." These dates agree well with the EDK's of 10 SP 03, --JA 08 and 31 OC 08 for the first three St. John's single ring cds marks. However, the cancels of the first type which I have seen bear no code letter. Again, the C may have been used only in the proof strike.

The Antigua/Official-Paid (actually OFFICIAL-PAID is at the top in strikes I have seen) cds was sent out 27 AP 06, according to Jaffé, while dates of use known to me range from 16 JY 09 to 26 SP 29. The first village cds marks were sent out from the GPO as follows: All-Saints/Antigua with C and St. Peters/Antigua with C, both sent out 10 OC 98, agreeing reasonably well with EDK of --MR 99 (Jaffé) for All Saints and 7 DE 98 for St. Peters. St. Marys/Antigua and St. Pauls/Antigua were sent out 7 NO 04. My EDK of St. Marys (with C) 28 -U 05. Stan Durnin has reported St. Pauls

(with C) on 4 SP 05, with some question about the year. Jaffé illustrates the four-ring target cancel on an 1890 QV Leeward Islands adhesive and notes it as "...ebony ruler end used in emergencies or on ship mail..." Similar material on other Leeward Islands cancels is given in the Jaffé article, including the following table of Post Offices open at various periods.

	<u>1893</u>	<u>1903-04</u>	<u>1924</u>	
ANTIGUA	9	11	14	
ST. KITTS	3	3	3	
NEVIS	1	1	1	
ANGUILLA	1	-	1	
DOMINICA	2	14	14	(Castle Bruce opened 1925)
MONTserrat	1	1	5	
VIRGIN ISLANDS	1	1	1	(?)

The Antigua figures given by Jaffé are obviously erroneous. In 1893 one would say one and possibly two, if English Harbour was open. In 1903-04 one would say five and maybe six, with English Harbour. In 1924 one would say six with Barbuda and maybe seven, with English Harbour. In 1928 my information indicates that eight additional village post offices opened, which could give the anomalous fourteen Jaffé quotes for 1924, if English Harbour was indeed closed. English Harbour presents a mystery. Additional data are given by V.N.F. Surtees (Journal Sept. 64) noting a cover with SG21 of 1882 plus pair of SG25 of 1884-86 cancelled A18 plus cds with ANTIGUA at top and ENGLISH HARBOUR at bottom, dated 1886. Mr. Surtees further notes a single SG16 of 1876 struck with this cds dated 25 JU 81, without A18. This would seem to be the same cds discussed above. Mr. Surtees has a piece with SG42 of 1908-12 and SG54 of 1918 struck with a second cds having ENGLISH HARBOUR on top and ANTIGUA on bottom, without A18 and dated 17 AU 21. He says that his impression is that English Harbour closed in 1931. In final comment on the Jaffé article, Stan Durnin notes that he has a strike dated 19 JY 04 of the OFFICIAL-PAID mark, well before the sendout date of 27 AP 06 of Jaffé. This is a real anomaly and may indicate the existence of two PAID marks. Stan has some of the early manuscript cancels of Dominica which Jaffé discusses, including "Ports 12/2/87" for Portsmouth.

An interesting article by Winifred Smith in the 18 AU 67 issue of Stamp Collecting magazine (London) notes that the Treaty of Breda has recently been commemorated on stamps by not only Antigua, but also by Surinam. The Treaty was signed 25 Aug. 67, by France, Denmark and Holland as allies and by England, marking the end of the Second Dutch Naval War against England. Under the Treaty, New Amsterdam (New York) and New Jersey became English, Acadia (Nova Scotia) was returned to France, and St. Christopher, Antigua and Montserrat were returned to England. Surinam remained Dutch. In regard to stamps, the Surinam set of three values includes a 25c value showing Breda Castle which still stands today in Holland. The arms shown on the Antigua Stamps are the gartered Royal Arms of England of 1667.

Stan Durnin's "TRD" as discussed on page 106 of the last Journal has a third example according to Joe Chin Aleong, this time dated JAN 13 1940. Who has more to report? The power of our Group is shown by the fact that information on this previously unrecorded item has come from California, Texas, Florida and Trinidad.

Our project team on the Antigua monograph now consists of four members--Mark Swetland, Stan Durnin, Norman Brassler and myself. The proposed outline of the monograph is in review by the team and will be published shortly in these pages. Stan Durnin has agreed to take over the section on cancellations, as Mark Swetland

has likewise done for registration markings. I am continuing the compilation of the philatelic bibliography. Further volunteers for the project team are awaited anxiously. We need a strong group to do the right job.

In reference to this column in the Journal, I will be more than delighted to pass on any information anyone would like to send along, with full credit to the sender. The major benefit of our Group is the early airing of questions and opinions. Too frequently, bits of important information are lost due to their holders logically being unready to write a full article around the point in question. This column can be a good insurance against such losses. Let me hear from you!

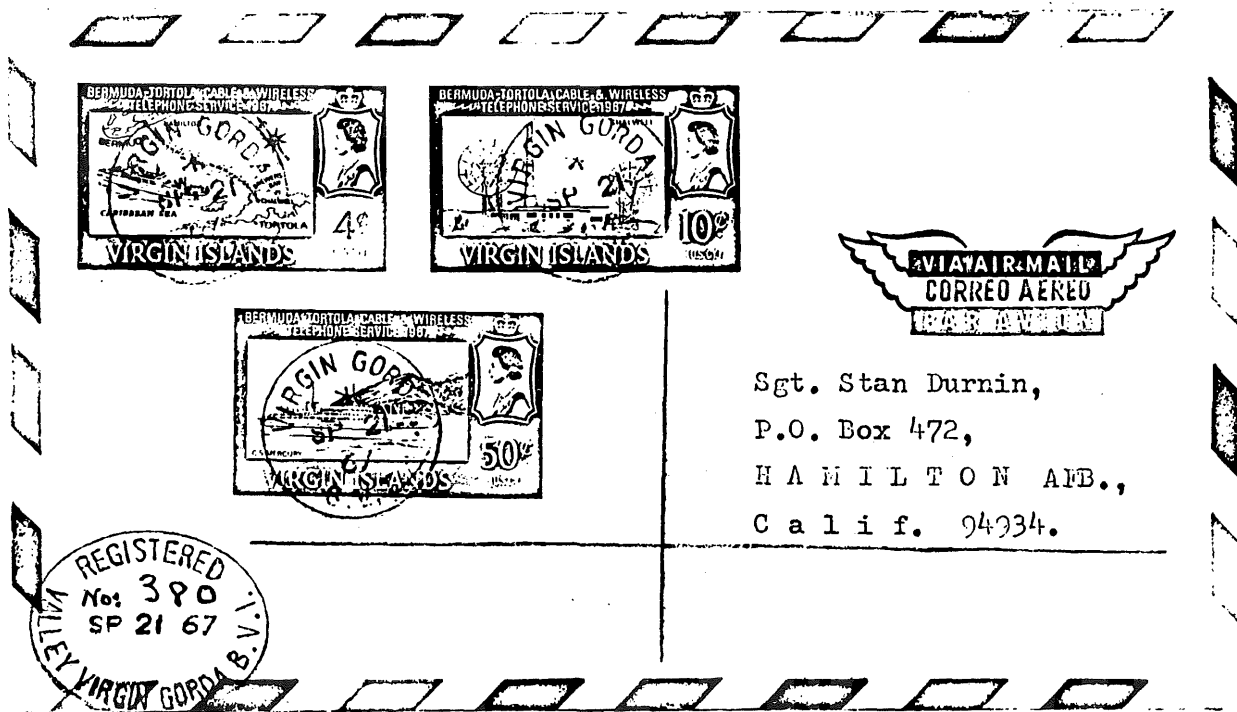
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## A New B.V.I. Mark.

by STAN DURNIN

A new registration oval handstamp has appeared from the British Virgin Islands. Its format is as depicted in the illustration and is quite new to the B.V.I. (Road-Town and West End are using the rectangular boxed registration mark, while Virgin Gorda was previously using an unframed straight-line REGISTERED handstamp.)

The pertinent measurements of the new strike are 31 3/4 mm major diameter and 25 mm minor diameter. The letters of REGISTERED VALLEY VIRGIN GORDA B.V.I. are all 3 mm in height, while the date data are 2 1/2 mm in height. Notice that the registration number has been entered in manuscript within the oval.

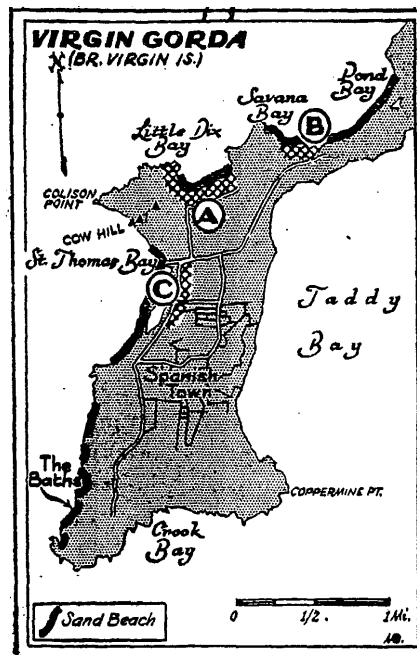


To my mind this handstamp is meant to be a canceller of franking, and not as a registration indicator or record as it is used on my cover dated SP 21 67. The stamps on the cover are cancelled by the normal VIRGIN GORDA B.V.I. cds. (Query: When did Virgin Gorda obtain registration privileges, and what was the first day for this charming strike?)

Undoubtedly you are startled, as was I, to see the word VALLEY incorporated in the strike. A check of my B.V.I. map does not show me a village by this name, but does indicate a mountain peak area named Valley Hill. Perhaps one of our members who has visited the island can straighten us out on this, i.e. just what and where is VALLEY VIRGIN GORDA?

COMMENT BY GALE RAYMOND--

I have a note that the Virgin Gorda sub-post office re-opened on Virgin Gorda on 5 February 1957 at "THE VALLEY" with Malvin Flax as Postmaster. Quoting from a publicity sheet for Little Dix Bay Resort on Virgin Gorda, "A peninsula known as 'The Valley', at the southern end of the island, is almost entirely cleared for grazing and farming. It terminates in an unusual geological formation of enormous granite boulders, some the size of a three-story building, tumbled along the beach. Silhouetted against the sky they form a dramatic picture of rugged beauty. Beneath these boulders is the watery labyrinth of grottoes known as 'The Baths'." This in general appears to coincide with the location of the principal village, Spanish Town, where the airstrip is located. (SEE MAP). As I expect to spend a day at Virgin Gorda while enroute to our B.C.P.S.G. Meeting in Jamaica in November, I will try to find the answers to the postmark questions posed by Stan Durnin.



COMMENT BY EDITOR--

Two stamps of the current Virgin Island definitives depict Virgin Gorda scenes. In the Crown Agents publicity folder prepared for the release of this issue in 1964, these scenes are described as follows:

8 cents, The Baths, Virgin Gorda---Perhaps the most outstanding feature of the Colony. A grouping of enormous igneous rocks (diontes, commonly but erroneously referred to as granite) with an inlet for the sea which results in a cavernous shallow pool in two parts. The area is one of great interest geologically and attracts numerous visitors from abroad.

\$1.00, Virgin Gorda---Virgin Gorda is the third largest but second most active island in the group, after Tortola. It is the site of a fine new hotel built by Mr. Laurance Rockefeller and opened in January 1964 at Little Dix Bay which has already brought many new visitors to the Colony. The centre peak-Virgin Gorda Peak-shown in the design is over 1,000 feet high, with commanding views of the area.

I have a clipping from Western Stamp Collector of 1951 vintage which states that in 1948 the postal activity on Virgin Gorda was called a "Distributing Office" and had no postmarking facilities. In the Crown Agents "Handbook of British Colonial Stamps in Current Use" published in 1955, it is said that there are three post offices on Tortola and one each on Anegada and Virgin Gorda, but that only at Road Town are stocks of stamps always on hand. Obviously the term post office is used rather loosely here and refers to the distributing office.

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THE CHRONOLOGICAL POSTMARK HISTORY  
OF THE POST TOWNS OF JAMAICA  
(Continued.)  
by ROBERT TOPAZ

OCHO RIOS

St. Ann

Opened about 1812

This office superseded an office called White River, which had been opened in the area sometime before 1788.

- |     |  |  |               |    |          |
|-----|--|--|---------------|----|----------|
| 1.  | T 3 (Foster T 4)                           | 4 mm letters                                   |               | 36 |          |
| 2.  | P 2 (Sent out 1 AP 39)                     |  | 28 AU 41      |    | 31 MY 43 |
| 3.  | P 3 (Sent out 15 DE 42)                    |  | AP 43         |    | 22 MY 59 |
| 4.  | A60 Oblit Type H (Put into use 1 MR 59)    |  | 8 MR 59       |    | 7 SP 71  |
| 5.  | S.R. 22 mm                                 |  | 23 SP 62      |    | 9 AU 29  |
| 6.  | A60 Oblit Type M (Sent out about 1874)     |  | 14 MY 84      |    | 30 AU 87 |
| 7.  | D.R. 28 mm                                 |  | 16 MY 32      |    | 13 MR 51 |
|     |  | (Recut or reissued in the 1940's)              |               |    |          |
| 8.  | B 3  | 4 mm spacing between "Ocho" and "Rios"         | * 18 FE 52    |    | 27 JA 67 |
|     |  |  | no * 4 SP 53  |    | 23 JA 54 |
|     |  | 5 mm spacing between "Ocho" and "Rios"         | * 24 DE 51    |    | 29 JA 67 |
| 9.  | MSR (issued 7 OC 55)                       |  | * 18 OC 55    |    | 13 JA 67 |
|     |  |  | no * 25 MY 58 |    | 21 MY 59 |
|     |  | There have been several reissues of this mark. |               |    |          |
| 10. | MACHINE CANCELLER - Seven wavy broken bars |  | 21 OC 60      |    | 16 JA 62 |
|     |  | Independence Slogan                            | 29 JU 62      |    | 2 JY 62  |
|     |  | Tourism Slogan                                 | 11 DE 62      |    | 10 FE 67 |

OLD BOTTOM

St. Elizabeth

Opened in early 1961

- |    |              |            |          |  |          |
|----|--------------|------------|----------|--|----------|
| 1. | TRD Type 37a | violet ink | 22 MY 61 |  | 22 NO 61 |
| 2. | MSR          | *          | 14 AU 65 |  | 17 JU 67 |

Forwarding Office: Junction

OLD ENGLAND

Manchester

Opened 9 June, 1897

- |    |             |           |          |  |         |
|----|-------------|-----------|----------|--|---------|
| 1. | TRD Type 8  | black ink | 12 JU 97 |  | AU 97   |
| 2. | D.R. 26½ mm | dots      | 9 FE 98  |  | 9 AP 00 |

Closed 8 May, 1900 - Reopened 8 August, 1921

3. TRD Type 21	bluish-violet ink	5 SP 21	9 DE 21
4. D.R.	black ink	20 DE 23	1 MR 67
	blue ink	14 FE 32	

Forwarding Office: Mandeville

OLD HARBOUR St. Catherine Opened before 1774

1. T 3 (Foster T 4 a) (Sent out 7 February, 1833)			
2. P 2 (Sent out 1 April, 1839)		5 FE 42	8 NO 64
3. A61 Oblit Type H		8 NO 64	6 NO 73
4. S.R. 22 mm		9 MY 67	8 NO 82
5. S.C. Type 1	A index	10 MR 83	2 DE 08
	C index	14 MR 83	5 OC 04
6. D.R. 28 mm 2½ mm letters		6 AP 10	4 DE 28
7. D.R. 27 mm 3 mm letters		6 MR 26	8 MR 33
8. D.R. 29 mm 3¼ mm letters		1 JY 30	21 AU 65
	(Several dies exist--the "O"'s are round)		
9. D.R. 28 mm 3½ mm letters		23 OC 35	17 SP 64
10. MSR	*	4 NO 57	17 NO 66

OLD HARBOUR RAILWAY St. Catherine Opened before 1900

1. S 1	Blue ink	3 FE 02	17 DE 12
2. S 2	Blue ink	11 FE 03	1 SP 08
	Violet ink	14 JA 09	
3. S 3	Blue ink	23 MY 14	30 DE 24

OLD HARBOUR BAY St. Catherine Opened 23 December, 1920

1. TRD Type 21	violet ink	27 AP 21	
2. D.R.	violet ink	1 MY 22	
	black ink	23 FE 23	13 MR 64
	(Several undated violet ink marks have been noted.)		
3. TRD Type 37	violet ink	15 MY 64	5 JA 65
4. MSR 27½ mm	*	27 MY 63	10 MR 66

Forwarding Office: Old Harbour

OLD HOPE Westmoreland Opened 20 March, 1959

1. TRD Type 37 c	violet ink	AP 59	16 JA 61
------------------	------------	-------	----------

- |        |              |          |          |
|--------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 2. MSR | * violet ink | 30 MY 60 | 20 OC 62 |
|        | * black ink  | 24 FE 65 | 24 SP 66 |
- (This mark did not stand up well.)

Forwarding Office: Little London

OLD MOUNTAIN

Trelawney  
(Formerly called BROMPTON.)

Renamed on 1 August, 1957

- |   |            |          |          |
|---|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 46 b                              | violet ink | 2 AU 57  | 8 MY 58  |
| 2. TRD Type 37 c                              | red ink    | 6 AP 60  | 27 DE 60 |
|   | violet ink | 24 MR 59 | 9 DE 61  |
| (Also recorded in black ink--date illegible.) |            |          |          |
| 3. MSR  | violet ink | 9 OC 63  | 30 JY 64 |
|   | black ink  | 14 JU 63 | 26 MY 65 |

Forwarding Office: Jackson Town

O'MEALLY

St. Catherine

Opened 1 June, 1966

- |                |            |         |          |
|----------------|------------|---------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 37 | violet ink | 3 JU 66 | 27 MR 67 |
|----------------|------------|---------|----------|

Forwarding Office: ? ?

ORACABESSA

St. Mary

Opened 1 November, 1881

- |                              |         |          |          |
|------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|
| 1. S.C. Type 1               | A index | 3 FE 82  | 17 AP 11 |
|                              | B index | 4 MY 83  | 18 MY 83 |
|                              | C index | 3 FE 82  | 18 MY 95 |
| 2. D.R. 28½ mm 3 mm letters  |         | 22 OC 12 | 28 OC 35 |
| 3. D.R. 29½ mm 3½ mm letters |         | 13 OC 35 | 31 AU 56 |
| 4. MSR                       | *       | 5 JA 57  | 14 MY 67 |

ORANGE BAY

Portland

Opened in 1899

- |                                |           |          |          |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 8                  | black ink | AP 99    | 3 NO 99  |
| 2. D.R. 27 mm                  | dots      | 25 OC 99 | 1 JY 19  |
| 3. D.R. 28 mm 3¼ mm letters    |           | 27 JU 21 | 12 AP 28 |
| 4. D.R. 29 mm 2 3/4 mm letters |           | 24 JU 39 | 4 NO 66  |

ORANGE BAY RAILWAY

Portland

Opened ? ?

- |        |          |          |          |
|--------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. S 1 | blue ink | 27 AU 02 | 17 OC 12 |
| 2. S 3 | blue ink | 20 MR 14 | 3 AP 24  |

ORANGEFIELD

St. Catherine

Opened 31 January, 1966

- |                |            |         |         |
|----------------|------------|---------|---------|
| 1. TRD Type 37 | violet ink | 8 FE 66 | 6 JU 67 |
|----------------|------------|---------|---------|

ORANGE HILL

St. Ann's  
(Formerly called LOWER BUXTON.)

Renamed in 1964

- |                |            |          |          |
|----------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 37 | violet ink | 14 AU 64 |          |
| 2. MSR         | no *       | 19 AP 65 | 19 JY 67 |

Forwarding Office: Brown's Town

OSBORNE STORE

Clarendon

Opened 9 October, 1931

- |         |  |          |          |
|---------|--|----------|----------|
| 1. D.R. |  | 11 SP 33 | 27 FE 67 |
|---------|--|----------|----------|

Forwarding Office: Four Paths

OXFORD STREET

Kingston

Opened 15 November, 1960

- |                  |            |          |          |
|------------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 37 a | violet ink | 18 NO 60 | 21 AP 62 |
| 2. MSR           | *          | 18 JU 62 | 15 NO 66 |

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**B.C.P.J. SURVIVES FIRE ON OCEAN LINER---**

In the final paragraph of the November 1967 Journal, we published a report from England that a copy of the September Journal had arrived with the envelope stamped "DAMAGED BY SEA WATER" and asked for any other reports. This initial report was supplied by Ajax Jakes of Ewell and referred to a copy of the Journal sent to him for review by the staff of the Robson Lowe publication, THE PHILATELIST. Now our Sheffield member, Ronald Ward, has come through with a similar report, and we can do no better than quote from his letter.

*"Regarding the comment on the last issue, my copy arrived without stamps on 12th September 1967, and with the boxed handstamp in green DAMAGED BY/SEA WATER.M.P./I.S. This represents Mount Pleasant, Inland Section.*

*Based on a paragraph in "Stamp Collecting" of Nov. 23rd, supplied by another contributor:-*

"MAIL FROM LINER FIRE."

"Mail carried on the "American Charger" which sailed from New York on 1st September 1967 bound for Le Havre, which she reached on the 8th. That night in the harbour she caught fire, and the mail, which included parcels, was affected by sea-water in extinguishing the flames. The ship sailed from Le Havre the following day and reached London on September 10th. When received at the Inland Section of the British Post Office at Mount Pleasant, the mail was subjected to a drying process, and the boxed handstamp (quoted above) was applied."

Ron also calls our attention to an article in Stamp Collecting for November 30th in which R.C. Coleman describes a Visit to Anguilla, in which he details how he obtained stamps of the Independent Anguilla and sent some covers to friends abroad, as well as to himself. Ron was one of the lucky ones, and received a cover bearing the ANGUILLA registration label and three stamps 10c, 15c and 25c to make the 50c rate to the UK including the registration fee. His cover had the cds of ANGUILLA/VALLEY and was received about 12 days later.

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# **LET'S GET TOGETHER IN SAN FRANCISCO**

The first West Coast get-together of the BCPSG will be held next Spring during the big annual WESTPEX exhibition in San Francisco, California. The dates are April 26-28 1968. Our West Coast members have been polled by Stan Durnin, and all are agreed that this presents a grand opportunity for us to meet our fellow members face to face. They invite you to come out and join them for a great stamp session.

WESTPEX is held in the Jack Tar Hotel on Van Ness Avenue. Hotel or Motel (there is a motor lodge just across the street) reservations will be made for those who notify Stan Durnin of their requirements. Please note that Stan's address is now 2764 West 11th Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46404. Those who anticipate attending this affair are urged to notify Stan of the number in their party, so that he can make arrangements to entertain the ladies and kiddies, if any, while their hubbies are deeply engrossed in their stamps.

For those interested in exhibiting material in the WESTPEX Show, a prospectus can be obtained either from Stan or from the WESTPEX Secretary, Mrs. Adrienne O'Neill, 298 Bancroft Street, San Leandro, California 94577. Stan reports that little BWI material has been exhibited in previous WESTPEX shows, so that the display of such material would be a most welcome change, and would help to publicize our field. You might even take home a trophy or two (for your wife to polish!)

The merits of San Francisco as a place to visit need not be told here other than to state that no matter what your interests, San Francisco has something unusual to offer. For the gourmets among us San Francisco offers the ultimate in World-wide cuisine. Your West Coast members are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to show you the Town. So, pack up a few duds and some of your philatelic gems and meet us at WESTPEX. Don't forget the dates---April 26-28, 1968!!!

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## **POMONA, BRITISH HONDURAS**

At Philipsburg, St. Maarten, recently, Albert E. Moffett chanced to mention in telling of a most adventurous lifetime, that he had once been a Salvation Army officer at Pomona, British Honduras. I mentioned my long (unsuccessful) quest for the Pomona postmark, and he asked, "Which one?"! Turns out that on his arrival there in 1939 he'd been asked to revive the defunct Pomona P.O. as Postmaster. He did not know the dates of its previous existence, but it did operate under his care from 1939 to 1943 at least. It was located in Stann Creek Valley, about twelve miles west of Stann Creek town. At that time his canceller was a TRD (oval). For extra funds, his schoolchildren collected cancelled stamps which he sold in bulk to a stamp dealer in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. However, the dealer strongly objected to any stamps with rubberstamp cancels, as he could not market "fiscally-used" stamps to collectors. Accordingly, these were weeded out and discarded, at least partly explaining the present scarcity of B.H. postally used TRD material! We know now that most B.H. sub-p.o. mail was in fact cancelled with TRD's postally. Mr. Moffett found that the Stann Creek P.O. still had in their safe then a Pomona steel-die

cancel, and he was permitted to apply it there to letters, packets, etc. to the dealer, and upon loose stamps with previous light or illegible cancels. No, he now had no examples of either postmark, alas. Any reports of examples by BCPSG members would be most welcome! Please send info to me.

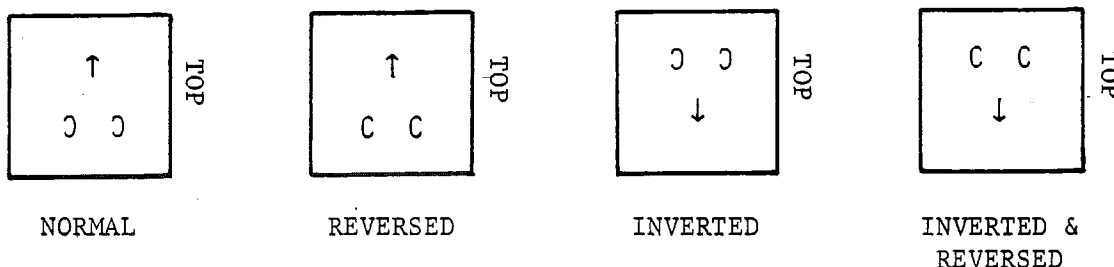
GALE RAYMOND

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HELP WANTED ON JAMAICA WATERMARKS ---- by Robert Topaz

The two Llandoverly Falls stamps, Scott No. 31 and No. 32, have suddenly become a problem to me, and very unexpectedly, so I appeal to you all for help. All the catalogues describe the watermarks on both stamps as "Crown & CC sideways." Aguilar and Nicholson go a bit further and say "top to left." Nicholson adds that the two stamps are watermarked the same. However, one of our members has sent in a couple of these stamps for the auction, and I am most perplexed just how to present them fairly.

Following the catalogues, I would expect that if one were to put the stamps in a watermarking tray, face down, that the following would represent the way the watermarks should look. In each case, the word JAMAICA (top of the stamp) is positioned to the right. This is the same as "top to the left" looking at the face of the stamp.



The head of the arrow represents the top of the Crown.

Going through about 50 copies of the all-red Falls stamp, I find that the majority of my stamps are the Normal above. This is what Nicholson indicates. My next most numerous variety is the Inverted and Reversed, and this is also in accord with the finding of Nicholson. However, when I come to the black and red Falls stamp, I find almost all of my copies are the so-called Inverted variety. Could it be possible that this stamp was put through the opposite way? I would appreciate any comments and help from anyone interested.

*EDITOR'S COMMENT: Inspired by the above, I checked a portion of my Falls stamps. Of 63 of the all-red stamps, 50 were Inverted and Reversed while only 13 were Normal. For the black and red variety, all 33 copies I checked were Inverted and Reversed. My classifications are in accordance with the above diagrams as provided by Bob Topaz, but shouldn't the last two figures be interchanged?*

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A recent publication which should interest many of our members is "AIRMAILS OF BERMUDA" by N.C. Baldwin. Although we have not seen a copy, we understand that it covers flights through 1966. Copies are available at 7/6 plus postage from the publisher, Francis J. Field Ltd., Richmond Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, England.

# MY VISIT TO VIRGIN GORDA

by GALE J. RAYMOND

Through fortunate circumstance, I had the opportunity on Nov. 18, 1967 to visit on the island of Virgin Gorda, a 20-minute lightplane-hop from St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. It is truly a lovely island, with splendid beaches, and fortunately as yet largely "undiscovered" by the tourist crowds.

Flying over the island, it was immediately apparent why the settlement area was called "VALLEY," for a wide valley it surely was, toward the southern end of the island, a saddle between the hills. Spanish Town village was spread all over the valley, scattered dwellings here and there. The Post Office was quite a new one, the bottom half of a new 2-story building, located practically on the beach by the Jetty. Actually, there was a bit of work yet to be done on the building, and the upper floor was to be a doctor's office. Miss Nora Waters was Postmaster, but was seriously ill, and a clerk from the G.P.O. at Roadtown was holding forth at the new P.O. Mr. Cecil E. Dawson, quite knowledgeable and efficient, has set the P.O. off on a good course, taking over at least temporarily on November 11th. From the G.P.O. he brought with him a new Mailbag Seal to supplement the present standard CDS and the more recent Oval Registry Mark. (see examples illustrated.) Most of the values of the current B.V.I. definitive set were in stock. However, they had apparently gotten wet and were totally without gum. Fortunately a supply of the new Bermuda-Tortola Cable & Wireless Telephone Service commemoratives were on hand of 4c, 10c, and 50c denominations.

Mail arrives by boat 3 times weekly from Roadtown, on Monday, Friday and Saturday. There is no official airmail to Virgin Gorda airstrip; all airmail to the B.V.I. comes in at Beef Island airstrip, which is now connected by bridge to Tortola. Airmail goes thence to Roadtown and on to the out-islands by boat.

At the time of my visit, First Day Covers of the new commemorative Telephone Set were available at the P.O. on attractive printed-cachet covers postmarked VIRGIN GORDA SP 14/67, B.V.I., for 78c each. A mile or so away, at the beautiful LITTLE DIX BAY resort, they were priced at \$1.25 each! Again at the P.O., a handstamp cachet inscribed "BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS/AIR SHOW/DECEMBER 2nd & 3rd 1967/BEEF ISLAND AIRPORT" was being applied to mail in blue ink. This cachet had been privately supplied by a gentleman at Beef Island.

Inquiring re First Flights, I was told that not too long past there had been an official first flight by LIAT from Antigua to Beef Island, carrying mail, but no information was known of cacheted covers or any special markings. At some time in the near future there is expected to be an official airmail service directly to Virgin Gorda airstrip from St. Thomas, but no date has been set. According to the registry book, the Virgin Gorda P.O. was initiated for registry facilities on 1 December 1965. Current airmail rates to USA are 10c, to Canada 12c, to the UK 25c, with an additional 8c fee if registered mail. Airletters are 10c to all countries, but only standard unimprinted sheets are available, to which adhesive stamps must be applied. Printed matter rate is 3c (unsealed mail.)

The one Branch P.O. is at WEST END, Tortola, with a postmark of its own. The Sub-P.O.'s with no datestamps are CANE GARDEN BAY and EAST END, both on Tortola, JOST VAN DYKE (island) and THE SETTLEMENT, Anegada. Technically VIRGIN GORDA is



NEW VIRGIN GORDA POST OFFICE  
 CECIL E. DAWSON, ACTING POSTMASTER

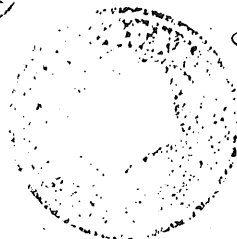
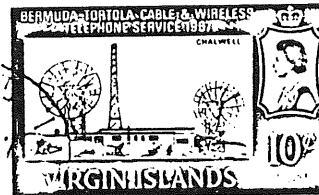


BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

AIR SHOW

DECEMBER 2nd & 3rd 1967

REEF ISLAND AIRPORT



G. J. Raymond  
 Virgin Gorda,  
 B.V.I.



listed as a Sub-Post Office, but obviously does have its own datestamps. However, according to Mr. Dawson, there are no plans to provide datestamps to the other Sub-Post Offices, as far as he knows.

Strolling about the island with a Methodist minister from Roadtown, I had the privilege of meeting many of the fine gentle people of Virgin Gorda, visiting in their homes and church, talking with people from Barbuda, Anguilla, Barbados, etc. If you too would like to visit this restful, pleasant and beautiful island, there are accommodations available at LITTLE DIX BAY resort, OCEAN VIEW HOTEL and the LORD NELSON INN. Our thanks to LITTLE DIX BAY for the fine island map utilized with this article. (*The map is provided as a supplement to this issue - Editor.*)

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### NEWS OF BRITISH HONDURAS

by Gale J. Raymond

Several unusual items have recently turned up from British Honduras. Not previously recorded, to my knowledge, is a large single-circle (34 mm?) TRD inscribed SAN PEDRO at top, AMBERGRIS below, and the date OCT 4 1931 in 3 lines in the center. This is on a nice commercial cover to Chicago. Another commercial cover to St. Louis has a JY 15 03 date (1903) of the rare WELLSPORT cds, certainly the earliest date as yet seen by me from this sub-postoffice.

A large double-circle TRD of "BENQUE VIEJO, BRITISH HONDURAS" has the date in three lines, 17 JAN 1940, and a printed registry label also so inscribed. A picture post card ("Belize") to California bears the first complete strike I have seen of the large double-circle STANN CREEK TRD. The actual wording thus comes out as being "STANN CREEK, B.H.", with M.O.B. at bottom, 29 OCT 1937. Apparently this is not normally a postal cancel, but its use thus is clear enough. Again nonphilatelic. Most intriguing of the lot is a cover (front only) from Guatemala to Belize (commercial) showing an odd large three-ring cds, not completely legible, reading in the outer circle "-----POSTMAN", and inside the second circle "G.P.O.\* TAKEN OUT" while the date "9-AM/MR 24/23" is in three lines in the center. This is a puzzling mark, and reports of other examples would be welcomed as would some good ideas on the purpose of it.

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*In the October 1967 issue of TRAVEL magazine we read the following: "Newest republic in the Americas, a place where your travel dollar really stretches, it is the independent country of Belize. Formerly called British Honduras \* \* \*".*

*If the writer of the foregoing isn't jumping the gun, when did this come about? We try to keep up on such things, but can't recall even a rumor to this effect in the many publications we scan. Can anyone clarify this for us? EDITOR*

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WE KNOW YOU GET TIRED OF BEING REMINDED OF THE NEED FOR MORE NEW MEMBERS. THE BEST WAY TO SHUT US UP IS TO BURY REG LANT UNDER AN AVALANCHE OF NEW APPLICATIONS. A GOOD SUPPLY OF LETTERS OF INVITATION AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS IS ON HAND AT YOUR EDITOR'S 'OFFICE'. WE CAN ALSO PROVIDE SAMPLE COPIES OF THE JOURNAL. WE STORE THESE IN OUR GARAGE, AND THE VOLKSWAGEN IS SCREAMING FOR MORE ROOM. HELP!!!

AUCTION PRICES REALIZED IN SALES 3 AND 4

201	\$ 5.50	237	\$ 8.00	273	\$ 5.50	309	\$11.00
202	9.50	238	16.00	274	N.S.	310	13.00
203	3.25	239	12.00	275	12.00	311	5.00
204	16.00	240	2.50	276	N.S.	312	4.50
205	2.15	241	24.00	277	230.00	313	15.00
206	16.00	242	18.00	278	7.00	314	16.50
207	11.00	243	63.00	279	4.50	315	55.00
208	3.75	244	40.00	280	21.00	316	45.00
209	3.50	245	5.50	281	2.50	317	21.00
210	6.50	246	3.00	282	4.25	318	65.00
211	6.50	247	9.00	283	13.50	319	22.00
212	2.50	248	3.25	284	1.25	320	11.00
213	37.50	249	7.00	285	7.00	321	10.00
214	5.50	250	1.00	286	7.00	322	17.00
215	5.00	251	2.50	287	1.40	323	12.00
216	20.00	252	5.50	288	N.S.	324	13.00
217	7.00	253	5.50	289	2.50	325	11.00
218	3.00	254	2.50	290	N.S.	326	15.00
219	5.50	255	4.50	291	1.50	327	8.50
220	3.00	256	23.00	292	4.50	328	6.00
221	4.50	257	3.50	293	2.00	329	10.00
222	3.00	258	10.00	294	1.25	330	11.00
223	25.00	259	15.00	295	1.25	331	18.00
224	3.00	260	8.00	296	N.S.	332	22.00
225	2.50	261	N.S.	297	N.S.	333	18.00
226	9.00	262	2.75	298	2.75	334	7.50
227	22.00	263	1.75	299	1.75	335	42.50
228	4.00	264	4.00	300	2.00	336	18.00
229	6.00	265	8.50	301	12.50	337	4.00
230	16.00	266	10.00	302	21.00	338	2.00
231	6.00	267	11.00	303	N.S.	339	N.S.
232	15.00	268	5.00	304	20.00	340	3.00
233	3.00	269	2.50	305	2.50	341	3.00
234	6.00	270	16.00	306	16.50	342	9.00
235	21.00	271	N.S.	307	60.00	343	2.00
236	23.00	272	7.50	308	16.50	344	5.50

If our dedicated Auctioneer hasn't collapsed under the strain of these last two Sales, we hope to have our 5th Auction Sale listed in the April issue. We still have a need for material to sell, especially from other than Jamaica. We would appreciate hearing from our Overseas Members as to whether we are allowing enough time for them to get in bids.

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TRINIDAD VARIETY ---- A few months ago the 60¢ definitive of the current Trinidad series was discovered perforated  $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$  rather than the normal  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ . It is thought that this variety is from a 1966 printing which somehow escaped notice when it was issued. Judging from dealers' offerings of this item, very few mint copies appear to have survived, and even used copies may be rare.

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**JAMAICA  
OTTINGS** by Robert Topaz



Since this is being written two days before Christmas, may I take the liberty to thank all of you who were kind enough to send me Season's Greetings, including Betty & Angus, Robbie, Bill & Henry, Jean & Mark, Milt & Becky, Joan & Al, Morris, Bert, Chuck, Bill and all the rest of you wonderful people. May the New Year bring you all health and happiness. This column covers three months stamping activities, since our Editor has moved our publication date back one month starting with this issue. So, bear with me if I just keep writing, or reporting.

STAMPLESS period was the most exciting to me this past few months, for I was fortunate enough to view--thanks to Chuck Cwiakala--a fabulous group of Jamaican stampless material, which apparently has never been recorded in the writings of Jamaican Postal History. The Ship Letter markings are so unusual that I will have to write of them separately, but I list here those marks which are definitely Jamaican:

JAMAICAN SHIP LETTERS--Town Markings--as Nicholson rectangular marking described on Page 14 of his "Pre Stamp Covers" pamphlet.

- FALMOUTH 21 July, 1845
- MONTEGO BAY 13 Nov, 1845 & 11 May, 1846
- PORT ANTONIO 9 July, 1845
- PORT MARIA Late 1847
- SAINT ANNS BAY 8 Sept, 1846
- SAVANNA LA MAR October 1848.

These are all very rare, and a couple of them have never been recorded prior to this writing. There was a copy of the Type S 3 Ship Letter Marking dated Nov., 1846, but in red ink. Because of the importance of the above grouping, a special item will be printed as soon as space permits.

Other stampless markings noted were a new "TOO LATE" marking dated March 1844--by far the earliest date recorded. A beautiful P 2 strike of ROBINS RIVER dated 15 NO 48--the LDK of this mark. A large oval strike of the forwarding cachet of "Robert Taylor, Kingston, Jamaica", and a neat strike of a forwarder of Port Maria with name illegible. A puzzle at the moment is a strike dated around 1814 and reading in black ink "KINGSTON T." Can anyone shed any light on this marking???

OBLITS were a bit dull as far as news is concerned. Bert Latham reports A41/27, the provisional, in violet ink. I regret to say that while my personal interest remains strong in this area, I have disposed of my oblits, so I may suffer from items to compare in the future.

SQUARED CIRCLES seem to keep extending their area of usage, and new dates reported this month include the 4 S index of the Kingston Type 2 marking--now reported on 4 June, 1890.

NEW OPENINGS include the following, all type 37 in violet ink:

RAYMOND	Clarendon Parish	Opened	8 SP 67	Noted	14 SP 67	Via Hayes
WARWICK CASTLE	St. Mary		18 NO 67		24 NO 67	Gayle
PAPINE	St. Andrew		20 NO 67		25 NO 67	Liguanea
PRINCESS FIELD	St. Catherine		24 NO 67		30 NO 67	Linstead
MACCA TREE	St. Catherine		1 DE 67		7 DE 67	Browns Hall
WATERLOO	Manchester		8 DE 67		12 DE 67	Harry Watch
To be opened but not yet reported:						
FORT GEORGE	St. Mary		11 DE 67			Annotto Bay

Postal Agencies are also scheduled for CONCORD, St. Ann, GREEN PARK, Clarendon and Red Hills Road in Kingston. A name for the latter is still to be selected, with MEADOW BRIDGE the favorite at the moment.

CLOSINGS include GARLANDS-closed 25 NO 67, SANGUINETTI-closed 1 NO 67 and using Spaldings instead.

NEW TRD's for old offices include:

IRWIN- a 2nd strike of the Type 37 mark-Irwin is now 21 mm long versus 16 mm on the previous mark. First noted 27 JY 67.

BOURBON- A new TRD but misspelled BURBON was noted from 10 AU 67.

ALLMAN HILL- A new Type 37 mark first noted 11 SP 67.

SHORTWOOD- A new Type 37 mark dated from 28 AU 67.

BERRY HILL- A new Type 37 mark dated from 5 NO 67.

NEW FOREST- A new TRD in black ink, Type 37 but distorted, from 27 OC 67.

B.C.P.S.G.- A new Type 37 mark in violet ink, personally designed by Acting PMG Brown for use during a Meeting of BCPSG Members in Kingston. Differs from Type 37 in that it reads "KINGSTON, JAMAICA" around the bottom. In use 23-25 NO 67.

GIBRALTAR- A new type TRD in violet ink has been noted for this office. It is oval in format, but the inner oval has open ends with the date extending through these open ends on some strikes. The mark measures about 26 x 40 mm and has 2 1/2 mm letters. First noted 26 AU 67.

SPANISH TOWN- Type 37 but in black ink dated ? DEC 1967, Apparently an extra mark to take care of the Xmas rush.

MODERN SINGLE RING marks have been noted for THORNTON and TOWER HILL. Does anyone have any knowledge of an office called Tower Hill as to Date of Opening or Location? HELP. Help help!!! (The 1962 Jamaica Post Office Guide lists a Tower Hill PA as does also the 1963 Handbook of Jamaica. The latter indicates that it is in St. James, with Routing via Reading.===EDITOR.)

Decimal Currency is due in Jamaica about September 1968, and I assume that this means stamps also. Has devaluation affected these plans at all??

Another new marking has been noted by Reg Lant, and it is an odd one. It reads:

NOT ENCLOSED IN MAILS  
TAXED AS UNPAID

This mark is about 50 mm long and has 2 mm letters. In black ink dated 12 Jan. 1888.

Another instance has been noted of a letter from Jamaica to the U.S.A. going through Derby, Great Britain--dated 6 OC 67.

The last new marking is a TRD in violet ink, similar to type 37, but it reads "POST AND TELEGRAPHS" across the top and "KINGSTON, JA." across the bottom. Used on a registered letter from Kingston.

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DO IT NOW! PAY YOUR 1968 B.C.P.S.G. DUES BEFORE YOU FORGET. YOUR OFFICERS ARE WORKING HARD, DONATING FREELY OF THEIR TIME TO GIVE YOU THE KIND OF ORGANIZATION THAT WILL MERIT YOUR SUPPORT. SHOW THEM THAT YOU APPRECIATE THEIR EFFORTS BY GIVING THEM THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT THEY NEED.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY - YEAR 1967

Dear Fellow Members:-

Another milestone has passed, and once again I am privileged to present the Secretary's Annual Report.

Your Group enjoyed another successful year. We admitted 24 new members including 11 from overseas, which I feel is an excellent barometer of the appeal that our releases are creating in B.W.I. circles the world over.

Unfortunately, we were again faced with a high rate of attrition. We lost three senior members to the Grim Reaper; two resigned and nine others failed to remit their 1967 dues.

The "Drop-out" situation is one that all societies are called upon to meet, nevertheless, I personally feel that mature collectors who join a society of their own free will could at least extend the common courtesy of submitting their resignation, and thus relieve the Group of unnecessary printing and mailing expenses as well as the time and expense of extra dues notices. A little thought in this regard will be appreciated.

Before closing, may I add a belated THANK YOU to all who so kindly mailed me their Festive Greetings. Their thought is deeply appreciated and reciprocated in full, and to all my sincere wishes for a 1968 of Peace, Health and Happiness, also good stamp hunting.

You will find my report below -

Total Membership December 31st, 1966		180
New members admitted during 1967		<u>24</u>
	TOTAL	204
LESS - Members deceased	3	
Members resigned	2	
Removed from roll account NPD	9	14
		<hr/>
	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP DECEMBER 31st, 1967	190

Respectfully submitted,

*Reg Lant*

Secretary.

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We regret to report that another of our members has been claimed by death. On December 19th, 1967, Arthur D. Pierce, passed away in a Bennington, Vermont, hospital. He had spent most of his life as a newspaper writer in the Philadelphia Area where he served on the editorial boards of several papers. He was a frequent contributor to philatelic publications, especially during the 1940's and 1950's, and many of his articles were published in the Jamaica Philatelist and in Robson Lowe's The Philatelist. His most recent activity has been preparation of a yet unpublished Postal History of St. Vincent. We extend our sympathy to his wife Margaret.

# Meeting in Jamaica

by FRED F. SEIFERT

Well, the BCPSG Meeting in Jamaica has come and gone, and all that remains is to pass along a report to those who were not fortunate enough to attend. Gladys and I left Albuquerque a week early, and our first stop was New Orleans. Our headquarters there was a room on the 14th floor of the Monteleone Hotel, from which vantage point we had a superb view of the sweeping curve of the Mississippi River which has given New Orleans its second name, the Crescent City.

While our primary purpose in visiting here was to partake of the famed Creole Cuisine and to allow Gladys to browse through the many antique shops along Royal Street, I naturally considered it a duty to check out the local stampdealers for BWI postmarks. The firm of Raymond Weill was located about a block from the hotel, but I knew from a previous visit that they would have nothing to offer, so I consulted the Yellow Pages of the phone book. Of the few stamp shops listed, the only one within a reasonable distance of our hotel was the Minkus operated stamp department of the Maison Blanche department store.

As we entered the store, we noted that most of the shoppers were headed for the floor on which the stamp department was located, and for a moment we thought that New Orleans was experiencing an unprecedented boom in stamp collecting. However, we soon discovered that the source of attraction was the store Santa Claus who was listening to the Christmas wants of the children. At the stamp department we finally managed to get the attention of a clerk, and asked if he had any used BWI material. Somewhat jolted by his reply "What's BWI?" we sadly left the counter only to be engulfed by a mass of unhappy children who were muttering something about Santa Claus having gone to lunch. At this point this sounded like a good idea, so we proceeded to nearby Kolb's German Restaurant where a couple of steins of Löwenbräu and a platter of Sauerbraten helped to restore our equanimity.

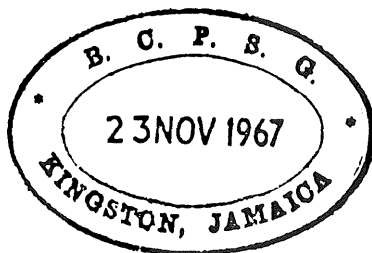
Our next stop was Miami, where for 3 days we were guests of Ed and Dorothy Adelson. As might have been expected, quite a few hours were spent in Ed's stamp room where my host allowed me to go through his British Guiana material and check the postmarks. This included looking over bundle stock of common B.G. stamps of the turn of the Century which hadn't been opened or picked over since they were assembled 60 to 70 years earlier. With such material, it was not surprising that quite a few unusual postmarks were uncovered. While I was trying to figure out some way short of outright larceny to acquire these items, Ed casually remarked that I was welcome to keep anything I could use. WOW! With such an auspicious beginning my trip could not help but be a success.

On the 22nd of November, Dorothy, Ed, Gladys and I finally took off for Jamaica on a BWIA jet. After an intermediate stop at Grand Cayman, we made our Jamaica landfall in the vicinity of Point Negril, and shortly thereafter landed at Palisadoes Airport. Ronnie Wong was there to meet us, and after we had cleared customs and enjoyed the complimentary rum punch with which Jamaica welcomes its visitors, Ronnie drove us into Kingston and our hotels.

That afternoon we went shopping. Since it was Wednesday which is early closing day in Kingston, most shops were closed, but the Victoria Market at the foot of King Street was open, and a plentiful supply of local handicrafts was found at the various stalls. The Bahamas Bum had to do some searching to find a sport shirt in a reasonably subdued pattern and large enough to cover his ample frame. However, our Eddie is not one to give up easily, and he finally found a suitable item. That evening we were dinner guests of the Wong's and were treated to some exotic dishes prepared

by Ronnie's wife, Avery. In the course of the evening we managed to look over a portion of Ronnie's collection which includes a number of modern Jamaica rarities, such as inverted watermarks and printing errors. To top off the evening, Ronnie allowed each of us to go through a large box of surplus covers and select any that we could use.

On Thursday morning, while the wives went shopping in Kingston, Ronnie, Ed and I descended upon the Philatelic Section of the G.P.O. to post covers bearing the impression of the Special TRD that Acting Postmaster General Brown had designed to honor our BCPSG Meeting. An impression of this mark is shown below. Our thanks are also due to Ronnie Wong for making the arrangements for this TRD and to Bernard Lewis of the Institute of Jamaica, who as a member of the Stamp Advisory Committee approved the use of this special postmark.



At the Philatelic Section, Mrs. Barbara Gordon and Miss Rose Campbell were most helpful in supplying the necessary stamps, souvenir sheets and postal stationery to meet our requirements, in spite of the fact that the office was already well occupied in preparing First Day Covers of the Jamaica Constabulary issue for mailing on November 28th. Those who desired to do their own postmarking were allowed to apply the special TRD to their cards and letters, with Mrs. Gordon performing this task for the less ambitious ones such as myself.

Leaving the G.P.O. we drove out to the airport to meet Gale Raymond who was due to arrive from the Virgin Islands and John Gavelek coming from Miami. As we arrived at Palisadoes both of our men had already cleared customs, and after an exchange of greetings we were off to the Green Gables Hotel where they were to stay. Shortly after our arrival at the Green Gables, which is located in the Half Way Tree area, the wives returned from their shopping trip, and all of us gathered around a large table on the veranda to have lunch and discuss further plans.

That evening we were again dinner guests of the Wongs. This was the day upon which Thanksgiving was being celebrated in the U.S.A., and in tribute to her guests Avery had selected the turkey as her pièce d'occasion, no mean feat in Jamaica where that large fowl is rarely consumed. The meal was a true Thanksgiving feast with just enough tropical flavor to provide a bit of novelty for the visitors from the North. During that afternoon the Kirklands had arrived in time to join us for this dinner which will long be remembered by all of us. We were also joined in spirit by Stan Durin who sent us a telegram reading "You all have a ball in the islands. We unfortunates are with you in spirit. Ferret out lots of Postal History."

On Friday morning Avery escorted the wives on a tour of the Botanic Gardens, while the men were paying a visit to the G.P.O. Again, the starting point was the Philatelic Section where those who had not been there the previous day were able to get

their fill of TRD strikes. (Your Editor mailed out covers with the BCPSG TRD to most of his regular correspondents. He also has a reserve supply on Post Cards which he will pass on, while they last, to members who failed to receive one. A 6¢ stamp--new Domestic Rate as of 6th January--will be appreciated.) Leaving the Philatelic Section, we were given a tour of the G.P.O. covering every section that had even a remote connection with postal functions. We were allowed to take strikes of any stamps and postmarks that we saw, and will report later on some of the those that were new to us. Asking about the T.P.O.'s, we were informed that these had all been eliminated as a matter of economy and efficiency on the recommendation of a group from the London G.P.O. who had been studying Jamaican P.O. operations. The electrical cancelling machines were not in operation as we visited the outgoing mail section, but one of the operators started one up to demonstrate how it works.

Exhausted, but elated at having seen so much; we retired to the Courtleigh Manor Hotel to meet Mark and Jean Swetland who had arrived during our absence, and to have lunch on the veranda. After a short rest, all moved on to the Institute of Jamaica for a BCPSG Meeting. Thanks to Bernard Lewis, Director of the Institute, we were allowed to use the air-conditioned lecture hall. In addition to Ronnie and those of us visiting from the U.S.A., Mr. Lewis and two Jamaican BCPSG Members, Lloyd Brandon and Pat Burke were also in attendance. Our Guest of Honor was the Acting Postmaster General of Jamaica, Winston G. Brown. The Meeting was opened with an address by Mr. Brown who explained some of the problems and plans for expansion by the Jamaica Post Office. The major problem is the one which most countries now have; a tremendous increase in the volume of mail being handled and inadequate facilities to do the job properly. Plans are in preparation for a new G.P.O. Building which when completed will do much to alleviate the situation. The suggestions of the advisors from the London G.P.O. are being implemented to improve procedures. Mr. Brown was asked if Jamaica was considering leaving the Crown Agents' fold and employing a commercial agent for philatelic sales. His reply was to the effect that he felt to do so would be killing a Golden Goose, and that he would certainly recommend against any such action. He also said that they had been approached by a number of agents from New York and England who would like to take over philatelic distribution. The members strongly applauded his stand on this matter.

Mr. Brown then gave a rundown on planned issues of stamps by Jamaica. These included a set of 3 for the M.C.C. (Marylebone Cricket Club) Test Match to be issued about 8 February, the date of the start of the Jamaica Test; a set of 3 for the International Year of Human Rights in 1968; 1 or 2 stamps for W.H.O. issued 7 April 68 and possibly a set for the Olympic Games in Mexico City. He also told of new Postal Agencies being opened or planned, and these are listed by Bob Topaz in his Jamaica Jottings column in this issue. After a financial report by Mark Swetland and brief addresses by your Editor, both in this capacity and as outgoing President, and by Gale Raymond as President-elect for 1968, the meeting adjourned to the floor.

That evening, all of the visiting members entertained the Wongs at a dinner at the Kingston Sheraton Hotel. While the food suffered by comparison with that which Avery had served us, the service displayed a bit of culinary showmanship, with some of the dishes prepared in tableside chafing dishes.

On Saturday, our Group divided with some going on a visit to the famed Blue Mountain Inn, and the remainder taking a drive to the North Coast, with Ronnie and a friend named Vinnie furnishing their cars. The route took us through Spanish Town, Bog Walk, Linstead, Ewarton, Moneague and Walkers Wood to Ocho Rios. Along the way a



few brief stops were made at Mount Rosser and Faiths Pen PA's to check for post-marks and to take photographs, and again in the famed Fern Gully as we neared Ocho Rios. After lunch in the latter place, we resumed our tour heading eastward past many of Jamaica's famed beach resort hotels. At Tower Isle we paused to photograph the small island with tower which gives this resort its name. Our next halt was at Galina PA where letters were posted and a photo taken. While we had not planned a stop in Port Maria, a flat tire on Vinnie's car and a jack that wouldn't function conspired to delay us for over an hour. Fortunately, a local citizen popped up who was eager to take on the repair job.

Our route back to Kingston was by way of Albany, Broadgate, Castleton, Golden Spring, Stony Hill and Constant Spring. This is an exceptionally beautiful drive through mountainous country, although the narrow road with a multitude of blind curves and no significant shoulders presents a constant hazard as pedestrians, animals, large trucks and buses must share a road barely adequate for two small cars to pass. With lavish use of their horns, Ronnie and Vinnie managed to get us safely back to Kingston with only one stop enroute, at a fruit stand where we examined and sampled some unusual tropical fruits.

That evening Fay Aguilar entertained a few of her friends at her home high on Jacks Hill. Fay's lovely daughter Ann picked us up at our hotels and also assisted her mother as hostess. A bountiful buffet supper introduced us to a number of local foods. Those who have ever been guests of Fay will appreciate our difficulty in putting into words our appreciation of such a repast. However, we must comment on an unusually delicious soup which we learned is made from the local pumpkin, a vegetable which looks more like a green squash than the pumpkin of the U.S.A. As always, we enjoyed the beautiful view of the lights of Kingston, Palisades and Port Royal from the vantage of Jacks Hill.

On the following morning Gladys and I left Jamaica to visit a few other Caribbean countries before returning home. A report of this will be given in a subsequent Journal. Some of the other members of our Group went on to Montego Bay and Port Antonio, but thus far we have had no report from them.

It was a pleasure and privilege to meet the members and their wives who joined us on this venture, and we thank Ed and Dorothy Adelson, John Gavelek, Isaac and Ann Kirkland, Gale Raymond and Mark and Jean Swetland for coming down to Jamaica. Our thanks also to Lloyd Brandon, Pat Burke and Bernard Lewis for meeting with us and to the latter gentleman for use of the Institute of Jamaica lecture hall. We owe a special vote of thanks to Ronnie and Avery Wong for their extensive efforts in making the local arrangements and for entertaining us so royally.

Finally, a tribute to Acting Postmaster General Winston G. Brown for honoring us with an address at our meeting, for allowing his staff to show us the workings of the G.P.O. and for the special B.C.P.S.G. TRD, and to Mrs. Gordon and Miss Campbell of the Philatelic Section for their many favors.

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GUYANA LOCAL OVERPRINTS:-- Last October we received a letter from Guyana with a 3¢ definitive with the overprint in a different style of type. Subsequently we visited Guyana in early December and learned that a number of sheets of the B.G. stamps of 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 4¢, 5¢ and 6¢ denominations were overprinted locally. The 5¢ appears to be quite scarce. On some sheets the 70th stamp (#7 down at right edge of sheet) has the error 1966/INDEPENDENCE/1966. Error noted on 2¢, 3¢ & 6¢. We are trying to get the complete story for the next issue.



GETTING STAMPS AND STRIKES OF BCPSG TRD AT THE JAMAICA PHILATELIC SECT. L. TO R. RAYMOND, GAVELEK, WONG, ADELSON, MRS. GORDON AND KIRKLAND.



MRS. GORDON RECORDS A TRANSACTION IN THE PHILATELIC SECTION, WHILE A CLERK PREPARES CONSTABULARY FDC'S AND MISS CAMPBELL FILLS A PHILATELISTS ORDER.



KIRK AND ED LOOK ON WHILE OPERATOR DEMONSTRATES AN AUTOMATIC CANCELLING AT THE G.P.O., KINGSTON, JAMAICA.



VISITING THE GALINA POSTAL AGENCY IN SEARCH OF POSTMARKS, RONNIE TALKS TO POSTMISTRESS WITH GALE AT LEFT AND JOHN AT RIGHT.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear Fellow Members;

At the close of another year, I have the privilege and pleasure of presenting my first report as your Treasurer. While our bank balance remains good, there are certain aspects of our finances which should be noted. Your approval of the increase in our dues will be of considerable help in keeping up the strength of our Group. During the past year, the excess of expenditures over income from dues and admission fees amounted to about \$364.00. This deficit was reduced by donations, advance payment of dues and income from our auctions to the final figure for the year of \$47.39.

With the added income to be realized from dues next year it now seems that our receipts will equal or slightly exceed the anticipated expenditures. Your continued support of the auctions will assure that we show a surplus at the end of next year.

The most pleasant experience of the year for me has been the added contact with the members. My thanks to all of you and particularly to those who have written to me but to whom I still owe a reply. The demands of work and family limit my time for correspondence. Let me take this opportunity to thank you all for your help and to wish you the best of success for the coming year.

Balance on hand as of Dec. 31, 1966 \$812.30

RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS	
Membership Dues - 1967	\$516.70	Bank Checking Account \$	.65
Advance Dues - Future Years	99.35	Postage - Editor	166.87
Admission Fees	24.00	Postage - Sec'y.	33.85
Donations	77.00	Postage - Misc.	22.87
Publications Sold	8.79	Stat. & Prntg. Editor	625.50
Net Auction Lot Receipts	<u>3,012.22</u>	Stat. - Sec'y.	10.90
		Stat. & Illus. Misc.	75.61
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$3,738.06	Auction Forms	78.85
		Paid to Auct.Vendors	<u>2,770.35</u>
		TOTAL DISBURSED	\$3,785.45

Excess of disbursements over receipts -47.39

Balance on hand as of Dec. 31, 1967 \$764.91

Respectfully submitted,

Mark W. Swetland  
.....

Mark W. Swetland  
Treasurer

# INDEPENDENT ANGUILLA

by GALE J. RAYMOND

On November 20, 21 and 22, 1967, being on the island of Anguilla in the West Indies on other matters, I became quite interested in matters philatelic.

After seceding on May 30, 1967 from the St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla Associated Statehood for good and valid reasons, Anguilla found itself in an awkward position postally, among many other problems to be solved. Traditionally, over many decades, the mail had gone and come through St. Kitts; however, since May 30th St. Kitts had seen fit to impound all mail destined for Anguilla. For some three weeks after secession, there was no official mail service. Then an emergency set-up was organized wherein the Anguilla government paid for a post office box at Marigot, St. Martin, and mail came and went bearing French stamps which the Anguilla Post Office stocked. For convenience, another post office box was rented at Philipsburg on the Dutch ("St. Maarten") side of the island. Postmaster G. Kenneth Harrigan or one of his two clerks traveled twice weekly over to the adjoining island to deliver and pick up mail, and to restock French and Ned. Antilles stamps. This was still an awkward arrangement, with rate and currency complications as well, and mail service was somewhat unpredictable.

When the Police Detachment and Magistrate from St. Kitts departed hastily from the island on May 30th, a fairly large supply of current St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla postage stamps had been in the Magistrate's safe, from which supplies had been issued to the Post Office as needed. Entry to the safe was made through the back, the stamps removed and taken to the island of St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands where they were overprinted. This overprint took the form of an obliterating mark over the St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla inscription, and "Independent Anguilla" printed across each stamp in black ink. The overprinting was done by the Island Press Inc., which removed the selvage from each pane of 25 stamps in order to fit their presses. Two panes of the \$5.00 stamp and seven panes of lower values were spoiled during the printing set-up. These were all destroyed before witnesses at the same time as the overprint plates.

As one of my philatelic collections is an attempt to display at least one genuine postal cover from all stamp-issuing entities, past and present, I was indeed pleased to receive several personal letters from an "Independent Anguilla" friend, soon after the overprinted stamps had been issued on Sept. 4, 1967. When the opportunity arose to include Anguilla on a trip concerned with church matters, I found myself on the island on 20-22 November. As soon as business permitted, I paid a visit to the sole Post Office, located at "The Valley." This occupied two small rooms in a long, one-story Administration Building. There I found Postmaster G.K. Harrigan and his two assistants, Lionel Gumbs and Eustace Brooks. At this first visit I posted a few personal letters and found that most higher-value stamps were already sold out. Each letter had to be posted individually, stamps applied at the counter itself and placed in the outgoing mailbox for postmarking and transmittal. The P.O. is open six days a week, from 9:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M., but mail arrives only on Tuesdays and Fridays, from St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

The next day, in my island rambles, I caught a jeep ride with Postmaster Harrigan, and spent several hours visiting within the Post Office itself. I took this opportunity to go into postal matters as thoroughly as possible, supplemented by additional information acquired elsewhere on the island. Listed below are the denominations and quantities of overprinted stamps officially issued on Sept. 4th

and the remainders, if any, which I found in the P.O. on November 21st, by actual count:

<u>VALUE</u>	<u>4 SEPT. 1967 STAMPS ISSUED</u>	<u>21 NOV. 1967 STAMPS REMAINING</u>
½¢	3050	1425
1¢	2800	925
2¢	4250	200
3¢	3600	1500
4¢	3450	1125
5¢	2475	NONE
6¢	2575	350
10¢	4100	400
15¢	3200	125
20¢	2800	NONE
25¢	2575	25
50¢	175	NONE
60¢	100	NONE
\$1.00	175	P.O. NONE
\$2.50	225	P.O. NONE
\$5.00	225	P.O. NONE

As virtually all outgoing mail carried airmail rates, it was becoming increasingly difficult to get enough stamps on a letter to prepay postage, particularly if registered! The above figures do not include the few loose copies of the available values in the counter-book, perhaps 3 to 10 copies, each. It was not known if the Treasury safe still contained any \$1.00, \$2.50 or \$5.00 stamps as these had been withdrawn previously from postal sales to fill the demand for fiscal purposes. Virtually all of these were utilized on court documents, property deeds and transfers, etc. Actual postally-used copies must be extremely rare. (I was later told these were, in fact, all used up prior to my visit.) The Post Office itself included a small adjoining room normally used for parcels, etc. However, the only parcels in it were a few addressed to St. Kitts, postmarked May 28 and 29 1967, immediately prior to secession. As there was no exchange of mail, these parcels could not be delivered.

As yet, I have not been able to locate any covers from the St. Martin/St. Maarten mail period which are actually identifiable as originating from Anguilla. However, I did locate a few covers addressed to Anguilla via that routing. Shortly, it became possible to arrange a direct exchange of mails between St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, by a light aircraft. Parcel Post from the U.S.A. was routed from St. Thomas to Dutch St. Maarten for transmission to Anguilla. Scheduled airline service via LIAT had already been suspended. The U.S. Post Office Department took no political side on this secession, but made this informal arrangement due to a growing accumulation of mail at St. Thomas from Anguillians working and residing in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Initially, there were questions raised in the British Press as to the validity of the overprinted Independent Anguilla stamps; however, the first bag of mail through England from Anguilla via St. Thomas was processed normally through the British Post Office system, establishing a precedent of implied recognition of the stamps as prepayment of postage. To avoid an awkward situation, this tacit acceptance was simply continued. Again using this as a precedent, the U.S. as well as other international post offices simply followed suit. In illustration of only one of many similar situations, the Maldive Islands sent out mail under their own stamps since 1906, and only just now have signed-in with the U.P.U.

Any possible question as to the legitimate postal usage of the Anguilla stamps was nullified by on-the-spot observations. During my visit, some 100-150 letters were posted each day across the Post Office counter, of which my sharp eye detected only four obviously philatelic covers. These were posted by a local stamp collector to a relative in England. Most of the mail was going to personal and business addresses on St. Thomas, St. Croix, Tortola and Virgin Gorda, Barbados, Trinidad, British Honduras, France, England and a large number of cities in the U.S.A., plus at least one to Australia.

Anguillans are virtually all literate and maintain close contact with overseas relatives. This is due to the fact that most of the island income is from relatives working in other countries who send money back home. I was told that Anguillans make a living chiefly by going away to make it elsewhere! Although some 6000 people live on the island, more than twice that number of Anguillans live abroad!

Back in the Post Office I checked on the various cancels available. There was a single small 24 mm circular date stamp (B) of the "star" type, inscribed ANGUILLA above; the date in two lines, and VALLEY below in very small compact letters. Another cds had disappeared from the Post Office in mid-summer and was thought to have found its way to England. Lettering on the missing cds (A), according to 25 mm strikes found in the Post Office, was much more widely separated and in slightly larger letters. Independent Anguilla stamps showing cancellation by this cds might be questioned as to point of origin.

I also noted a long (63 mm) single-line rubber marking of the single word ANGUILLA on a desk, but was told this had no postal use insofar as canceling stamps was concerned.

Anticipating that the overprinted stamps might well be sold out before any regular definitive stamps were available, a 68 x 26 mm box marking was on hand inscribed in 3 lines VALLEY/W.I./ANGUILLA plus the word POSTAGE and a space below for a manuscript endorsement of the postage paid. (I note this mark is being utilized on 23 December 1967 on an airmail printed-matter mailing of the island's mimeographed news sheet, THE BEACON.)

In one corner of a desk I found a large 45 mm temporary rubber date stamp (TRD) inscribed VALLEY POST OFFICE ANGUILLA, W.I. with date in single line across the center. I was told that this had not previously been used, but had been recently acquired for such time as it might be needed. This was forseeing any future malfunction, defacement or loss of the sole remaining regular date stamp. I asked and was given permission to apply this TRD to some outgoing mail. It was utilized again on November 22nd mail sparingly and retired from further use, I understand, until actual necessity requires.

The only other marking noted in the P.O. was an aged "T" to indicate postage due on short-paid items. Asking about postage due mail, I was told that since Independence, very few letters, etc. were delayed from prompt delivery, and that normally postage due was overlooked. None of the Independent Anguilla stamps had been utilized as postage due stamps.

The only postal stationery available was a few remaining Air Letter sheets, of which 100 each of two values had been overprinted "Independent Anguilla." I was only able to acquire 5 copies of the 5 cent and 15 cent sheets; these had been rapidly utilized as the higher value stamps for Air Mail rates had been used up. I was told that the new issue of stamps of 6 values was in preparation in Holland.

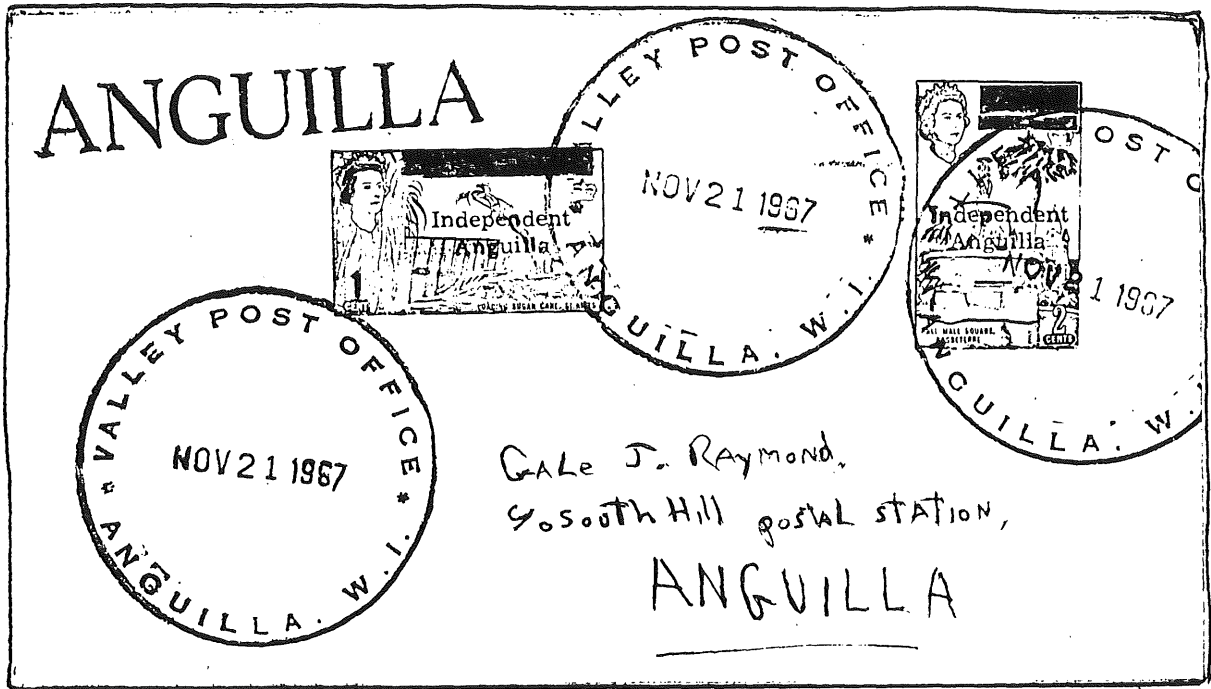


A.

T



B.



ANGUILLA

VALLEY POSTAGE  
W.I.  
ANGUILLA

Outside the Post Office, from other sources, I learned that a number of sheets of labels portraying two mermaids and a seashell had been printed for an Anguillan in the U.S. These labels were offered to the Anguilla Government for use as postage stamps, but the donation was respectfully declined. Postmaster Harrigan later told me definitely that none of these had ever been used at the Anguilla Post Office. I understand that these may have found their way subsequently to the New York stamp market.

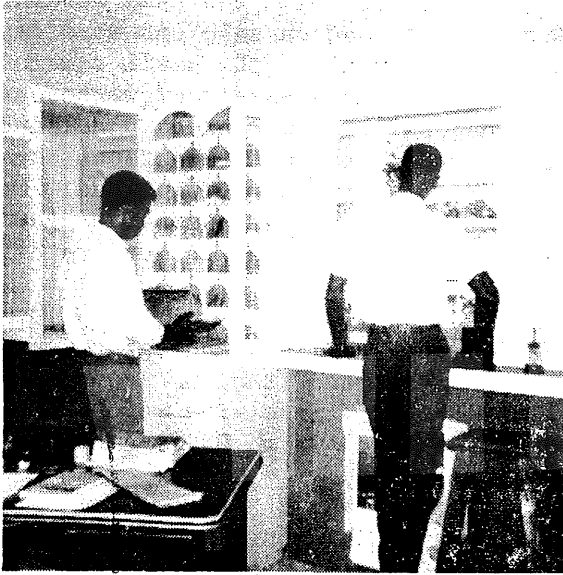
Regarding my inquiry on sub-post offices, I was told that there were none; however, there are collecting stations at West End, East End and South Hill. Each of these, and several other locations, have some old collection boxes painted "post office red"; however these simply are never used as the islanders have to buy their stamps at the Post Office anyhow. Mail is sent out regularly to these stations, though, for personal delivery. I was able to take pictures of several of the collecting stations, particularly the one at East End, which is under the supervision of Mrs. J.C. Fleming. Postal historians know that in the early 1930's certain sub-post offices did exist at East End, Blowing Point, Forest and The Road, with individual postmarks. However, these have been surrounded with mystery. By a little discreet questioning on this and nearby islands, I finally pieced together the story of these sub-post offices, which must await a later article.

Regarding internal mails (letters posted on the island to Anguilla addresses), I was told there were probably less than two dozen such letters per year. As news of the independent Anguilla stamps became known in the philatelic world, many collectors tried to obtain these stamps and covers direct. Each such letter was politely answered by Postmaster Harrigan, in returning the remittances, with the explanation that due to the small supply of stamps, sales had to be restricted to meet local needs. For this reason, no mail orders for stamps or posting of covers was currently permitted. I was shown a large file of stamp and cover orders, some as many as 4 pages long in fine detail as to requirements, but each had been answered the same way. This routine letter of apology, however, was in most cases answered in an official Government of Anguilla cover, and the overprinted stamps utilized as postage, so that each received at least one cover and a few stamps, compliments of Anguilla. One collector on St. Thomas had a massive unstamped manila envelope bursting with prepared philatelic covers flown over to Anguilla with orders for posting; these too were regretfully returned, but returned by the same channel-- "stampless."

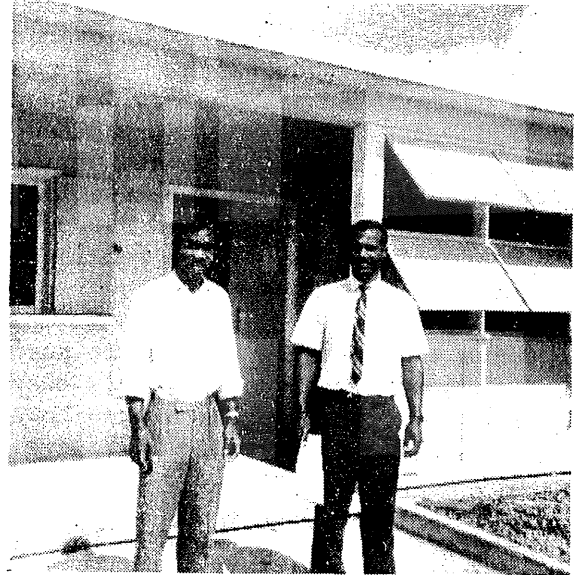
Postal rates are predominantly airmail, as all mail does go out via light aircraft. Typical air rates (per 1/2 oz.) are: U.S.A. - 40c. "BeeWee"; U.S. Virgin Islands - 20c.; Australia 90c.; U.K. 40c.; Antigua 6c.; Jamaica 16c.; European countries 44c. Registration is 10c. additional. Of the two air letter sheets, the 15c. one was for most of the world, while the 5c. one could be used only to Nevis and St. Kitts-- but weren't! The intermediate rates, 6c. to Antigua and Montserrat, 8c. to other B.W.I., had to be made up by adding adhesive stamps to the air letter form. Sea mail to U.S.A. is 12c., but goes air to St. Thomas, and thence by sea, or by airmail on "space-available" basis.

Anguilla had hardly seceded before the "wellwishers" began to arrive with grandiose schemes, suggestions, plots, advice and ideas. Some of the advice fortunately was sound. Plans to open Swiss-type "numbered accounts" banks were squelched, as were also gambling house offers. Representatives of at least 5 private philatelic agencies promptly made the scene, with the appointment going to John Lister Ltd. (England), represented by John King. The genuine need for stamps for normal mail was an urgent one, and the overprinting was quickly accomplished in St. Thomas. While the controlling stamp-rules for posting letters at the Anguilla P.O. were not foolproof, nevertheless the vast majority of the overprinted stamps were in fact





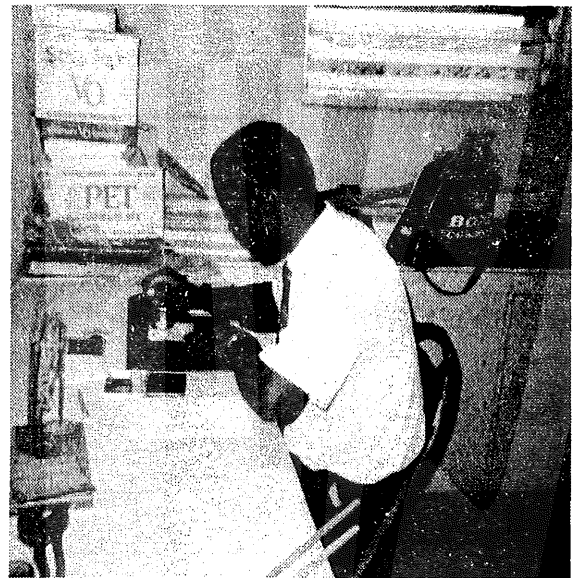
EUSTACE BROOKS AND LIONEL GUMBS  
INSIDE INDEPENDENT ANGUILLA P.O.



"THE VALLEY" P.O., POSTMASTER G.K.  
HARRIGAN AND CLERK EUSTACE BROOKS



MRS. J.C. FLEMING AND THE EAST END  
POSTAL STATION. NOTE LETTER BOX TO  
LEFT OF DOOR



POSTMASTER G. KENNETH HARRIGAN  
SEEN POSTMARKING MAIL WITH THE  
VALLEY TRD

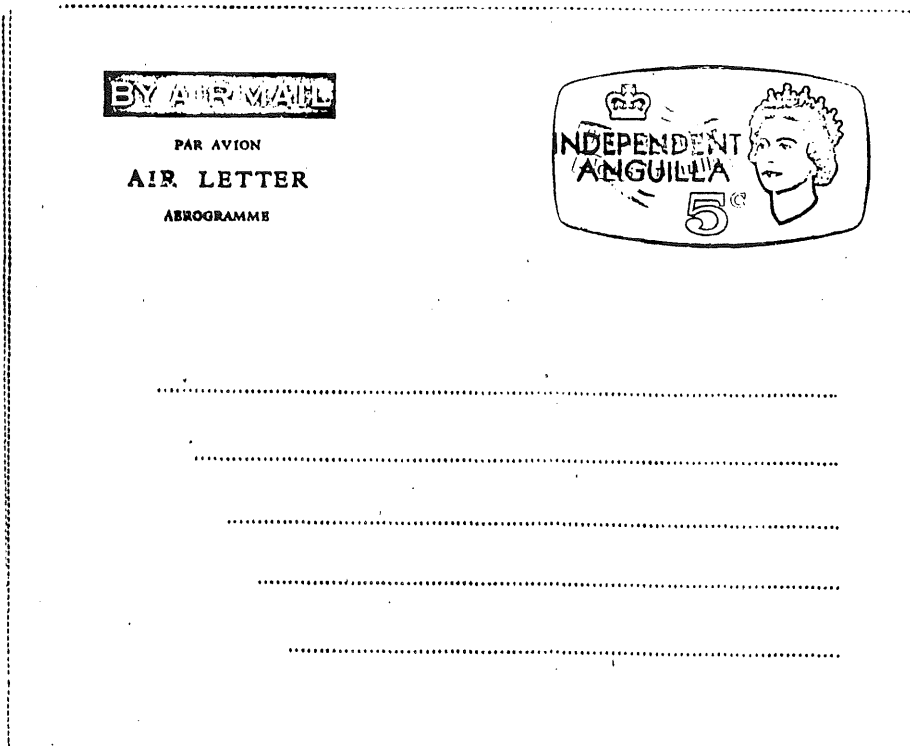
postally used on nonphilatelic mail. Small as the issue was, a dismaying number have been lost to collectors by the usual attrition. On St. Thomas, I saw one small handful of the stamps, each stamp neatly snipped from its cover--perforations and all! Not one stamp was in collectible condition.

Two days after my leaving the island, Mr. King returned, bringing supplies of the new six-stamp definitive set, and a new large 28 mm cds with the same wording as the two previous ones. The overprinted stamps continued on sale one more day, Saturday, November 25th. On Monday morning, November 27th, the small remainders of overprinted stamps were destroyed by burning, in the presence of witnesses. At 9:30 A.M., November 27th, the new set was placed on sale. Printed in Holland, they were lithographed in sheets of 50 on unwatermarked paper. Denominations are 1c., Mahogany Tree; 5c. Old Plantation House; 10c. Methodist Church, West End; 20c., Sandy Ground; 25c. Island Harbour; and 40c., Map of Anguilla. Number of FDC's is at present unknown. The remaining values to make up the complete set are expected for early 1968.

Coins and currency in use are East Caribbean (Beewee) dollars and coins, but U.S. coins and currency are freely accepted, plus guilders and francs! An unusual commemorative coin was minted however in limited quantities. The words "ANGUILLA LIBERTY DOLLAR July/11/1967" were die-stamped deeply on large Latin American coins, mine being on a Mexico 5 Peso piece.

Needless to say, my stay on Anguilla was a most enjoyable one, purely aside from an interesting philatelic visit. The total island situation was unusual in many ways, and it was inspiring to see the leaders facing and solving the tremendous problems involved. It was my privilege to meet and visit with many of the fine people of Anguilla, who treated me as a brother. The island has a strange beauty of its own, with long white sandy beaches and lovely bays, and soon tourists will be flocking in for better or for worse. I'd like to remember it as it was, though tourists may bring prosperity.

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## The Last Roundup

We have just received another application for membership:

COLEMAN, REGINALD CHARLES, Ph.D., FRHS. - MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2807 St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00801; Occupation: Horticulturist; Philatelic Preferences: B.W.I. and Rhodesian Postmarks; Specialty: B.V.I.; Member of P.T.S. (London), I.F.S.D.A. (N.Y.). Sponsored by Stan Durnin. Dr. Coleman is the B.W.I. Correspondent for "Stamp Collecting" Magazine of London. He is a citizen of Rhodesia having spent 20 years in that country.

The above applicant and those listed on Page 2. have applied for membership in accordance with the Constitution, and 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.

Eric Heyer is moving on February 1st to: 12073 Calle de Maria, Rancho Bernardo, San Diego, Calif. 92128.

A card from Bill Bogg, postmarked ROCK SOUND, Bahamas, reports that he was on Eleuthera for a mid-December visit. Bill says "Plenty of post offices but most are only open 1 or 2 days a week when the mail boat arrives."

The following were dropped from Membership in the BCPSG as of 31 December 1967 for failure to pay their 1967 dues: C. Henri Champeau, Dr. J. Alston Clapp Jr., Brian A Davis, William M. McFarlan, Dr. David M. Maynard, John D. Mitchell, Robert E. Pendleton, Kenneth S. Sargeant and ~~Capt. D.C. Warren~~.

PAUL LARSEN invites his fellow BCPSG members to participate as exhibitors in the 1968 Convention of the Illinois Federation of Stamp Clubs. The Show will be held in the Westwood Recreation Building, Lakewood and Wilson Streets, Park Forest, Illinois, on March 30-31, 1968. Paul will be handling the exhibits for the show, and competition is open to non-members of the Illinois Federation. Fees will be \$1.50 per frame, with frame size accommodating nine 8½ x 11 inch pages or six larger size pages. There will also be a bourse in connection with the Exhibit. For a prospectus write to Paul at 14 Wilson Court, Park Forest, Illinois 60466. Elaine Strauss is drafting the prospectus for the show, and Paul also mentions that Dick Higgins is a Vice-President of the Federation and Dick's wife, Gladys, is Secretary-Treasurer.

We apologise for the lack of information on NEW ISSUES in "this issue. We have received nothing from the CROWN AGENTS for the past three months and just do not have the time to dig through other publications for this information. We hope to do better in the April issue.

Our Treasurer, Mark Swetland, is also Editor of the Bulletin of the Bottle Hill Stamp Club of Madison, New Jersey. His feature article in the December 10th issue was a report of the trip to our Meeting in Jamaica. A recent issue of Western Stamp Collector quotes from Mark's article the news of our B.C.P.S.G. TRD which honored that event. Our thanks to Mark and to William W. Wylie, the Editor of W.S.C.

IF YOU ENJOYED THIS ISSUE, HELP US KEEP THEM COMING BY PAYING DUES PROMPTLY!!!