## BRITISH CARIBBEAN AUGUST 1971 VOL. 11 NO. 4 WHOLE NO. 62 

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"THE dAY the mail was late" is the title which the photographer suggested for THIS JAMAICA POST OFFICE MAIL VAN UNDERGOING REPAIRS. Photo by Eric H. Heyer

## IN THIS ISSUE:

## EDITORIAL ELUCIDATIONS <br> 98

TO CAYMANS FOR CANCELS AND CONCH ..... 103
members get together at syracuse ..... 107
UNUSUAL ST. KITTS CDS REVEALED ..... 109
BRITISH HONDURAS STAMP BOOKLETS ..... 118
BCPSG MEMBER GUIDES BALPEX 1971 ..... 119
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORTS ..... 120
BCPSG RUBBER STAMPS IN STOCK: ..... 120
BITS \& PIECES FROM HERE \& THERE ..... 121
OUR SECRETARY REPORTS ..... 124
MEMBERS' MART ..... 127
BERMUDA CHANGES OUTMODED PROCEDURE. ..... 99
THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE ..... 107
ANTIGUA ADDENDA ..... 108
JAMAICA POSTAL STATIONERY ..... 110
TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HARRY E. HUBER ..... 119
PLANS CONTINUE FOR JPS EXHIBITION. ..... 119
ELECTION OF TRUSTEES UNDER WAY ..... 120
11TH BCPSG AUCTION AT NOJEX ..... 120
NEW ISSUES ..... 123
PERSONAL MENTION ..... 125
AND AS WE GO TO PRESS ..... 128

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## THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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## EDITORIAL ELUCIDATIONS

The latest word on NOJEX from Dottie Stapp advises us that we will have use of the "Front Room" for our two meetings at the Cranford Motor Lodge which take place Saturday from 3 to 6:30 PM, and Sunday, the Brunch to start at 10 AM. On Sunday we can keep the room until 1 PM, which should allow enough time for our auction. The NOJEX Banquet on Saturday will start at 7:30, and will be preceded by an hour of cocktails in the Dutch Treat Bar.

This year, the nominations for Trustee have been made by the members at large. Six members have agreed to accept nominations, and their names appear on ballots sent you with this Journal. Please vote to show that you are really interested in your Group.

In the early days of stamp collecting, self-appointed authorities were quick to castigate anyone who didn't collect as they did. Their war cry was: "The stamp's the thing", and those few who went beyond studying of the stamp itself were branded fools. Maj. E.B. Evans who edited a British stamp magazine, argued both long and violently that a British stamp used abroad was no different than one used in any British town. Who was really the fool has long since been established. The prices realized in the Glassco auction of Used Abroad material prove beyond a doubt that today's collectors consider it most important just how a stamp was used.

The postage stamp is still the keystone of philately, but now shares the limelight with postmarks and other aspects of postal history. Mindful of Maj. Evans, we choose to be tolerant of the interests of others, but can't help wishing that some of our contemporaries in philately would help stem the flow of new issues with a more discriminating choice of what they purchase.

If you can't get to NOJEX, be sure to submit your bid list for the auction to Bob Topaz, and do it now!

Fred

# Bermuda Changes Outmoded Procedure 

by Jack Arnell

Since the eastern part of the main island of the Bermudas encompasses a large body of salt water known as Harrington Sound, there have always been two routes leading to the Town of St. Georges, which is located at the northeastern tip of the island group. Two roads separate at Flatts Village in the center of the main island, one going around the north side and the other around the south side of the Sound. The roads link up again at Bailey's Bay, from whence a single road runs across several smaller islands to St. Georges.


Ever since the first post offices were established, more than a century ago, there have been Receiving Houses along both of the roads around Harrington Sound. These were serviced by Hamilton-St. Georges mail coaches taking the two routes on alternate runs. This system was described in an official notice published in the Royal Gazette of 22 March 1881:

## NOTICE

## Alteration of Mail Route <br> between <br> Hamilton and St. Georges

I hereby give notice that on and after the 1st of April, the Mail Coach from Hamilton to St. Georges will leave Hamilton every morning and will travel by the North Road, calling at the Receiving Houses of Devonshire, Flatts, Crawl, Bailey's Bay, and Ferry Road, and will return in the afternoon by the same route.

And that the Mail Coach from St. Georges to Hamilton will leave St. Georges every morning and travel by the South Road, calling at the Receiving Houses of Ferry Road, Hamilton Parish (Wilkinson's), Harrington Sound, Flatts, and Smith's (Joell's), and will return from Hamilton in the afternoon by the same route.

Over the years the Sub-Post Offices at the Ferry Road, Hamilton Parish and Smith's were closed, leaving only Crawl, Harrington Sound, and Bailey's Bay between Flatts
and St. Georges. In addition, the Bailey's Bay Sub-Post Office was moved along the North Road to where the two roads around Harrington Sound join the road leading to St. Georges. As the mail coaches continued to be horse-drawn until after the end of WW II, it is not surprising that the 1881 routes remained in force. When mail trucks were finally introduced, nothing seems to have been done about changing the routes, even though by that time most international first class mail in and out of Bermuda was being carried by air.


HARRINGTON SOUND POST OFFICE AS IT APPEARS TODAY
In January 1970, the following hand-written letter was received by Sydney Corbett, the Bermuda Postmaster General:

From Harrington Sound Post Office
Harrington Sound, Bermuda 17th JAN., 1970
T0 The General Post Office
Hamilton, Bermuda
Postmaster General
General Post Office
Hamilton, Bermuda
Dear Mr. Corbett,
After talking to Mr. McBeath on the phone yesterday about the Mail pickup he suggested I write to you to see if we couldn't get this matter straighened up.

The Postmen here at Harrington Sound Post Office have been kicking about having to go to Flatts afternoons to pick up the Mail when it wouldn't take the Van more than ten minutes to come here and turn around and go to Crawl.

Grants gripe is he dont get enough allowance for Gas and repairs for Car and the late hour we receive the Afternoon Mail, he says it is impossible to make delivery when the mail don't get here at the Post Office until 3.45 p.m. or sometimes as late as 4.30 p.m. The Postmen come back here
at 2 p.m. and sit around to wait until they get the mail which is very annoying to them.

Smiths gripe is, he only has a small motor Bicycle, and with these RainyWindy days, it is almost impossible for him to bring the mail bag on his bicycle. He came in the other day and said he was blown off his bicycle trying to manage the large mail bag and the Winds. I had to call up and


CRAWL POST OFFICE AND AUTHOR'S RENTED MOTOR-BIKE
ask the Mail Dept not to put Dutiable packages in the regular mail bag as it was impossible for Smith to bring the bag load up to the top.

It seems to me they have a real cause to be upset, in this day and age of Motor Vans it would be a very simple matter for the van to come here and then turn around and go back to Crawl they may lose ten minutes in doing this, but in the long run, it would pay off. I am sure the van drivers could make up this time they waste along the route.

Please give this very serious though as I have two very dissatisfied Postmen on my hands at present who threaten to leave if something is not done about the Afternoon Mail delivery.

I have two very good Postmen I think I can very truefully say the best in the Government Imployment, and I would not like to lose them on this account.

Sincerely
June Hollis
Subpostmistress H.S.P.O.
Corbett took immediate steps to eliminate this touch of the Nineteenth Century, by following up on Mrs. Hollis' suggestion. When this was proposed, the truck drivers complained that this would lengthen their run between Hamilton and St. Georges and they had to be persuaded that it would add little to their total trip. On 27 JAN, a new instruction was issued, which seems to be the first since the 1881 one.

As of today you are instructed that the local mail to St. George's is to be routed as follows:-

1. The morning mail run to St. George's - From Flatts Sub Post Office via Crawl Sub Post Office and to take the route to St. George's via Harrington Sound Sub Post Office.
2. The afternoon mail run to St. George's - To be repeated as above.
3. Morning return from St. George's - Return via Crawl Sub Post Office - leave out Harrington Sound Sub Post Office.
4. Afternoon return from St. George's - Return via Harrington Sound leave out Crawl Sub Post Office.

Cut Off Times for sorting mails to be as follows:- Morning - 8.45 a.m. Afternoon - 2.45 p.m.

Driver to have bags sealed at a 5 minute point before despatch times 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m.

Corbett's letter to Mrs. Hollis sums up the situation, and is a suitable finale to an archaic practice:-

> | The Sub Postmistress, |
| :--- |
| Harrington Sound P.O. |
| Carriage of Mail by Postman - Between Crawl,, |
| Flatts, and Harrington Sound from Mail Vans |

I refer to your letter of the 17 th instant, on the above subject, and would advise you that the practice of the postman having to meet the mail van for the pickup of mail is as of now "discontinued".

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the instructions to the "Senior Supervisor" to the Letter Department effecting the order, and the cut-off time for sorting the mail and the despatch time from Hamilton, dead on 9.00 and $3.00 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$.

I feel the above agreement will go a long way to improving the situation and I would say that the Postmen of Harrington Sound, and Crawl have done a magnificent job of receiving and handling the mail from the vans over the years, and it must not go unheralded, now that it is ended.

It really was a hangover from the horse and buggy days, and I only wish it had been brought more to my attention before now.

I thank the Postmen, both of Harrington Sound and Crawl, for the fine co-operative spirit that was always shown by them.

29th January 1970
cc: Sub Postmistress, Craw1
S. Corbett

Postmaster-General.

# To the Gaymans for Cancels and Conch 

by Thomas E. Giraldi

Ever since $I$ first developed a philatelic interest in the Caymans, I have hoped to be able to visit there some day. Last April I achieved that ambition when Werner Framke and his sister Nancy joined me on a trip to Grand Cayman. We chose a Delta 747 flight from Chicago to Miami, scheduled to depart on a Friday evening, but the departure was delayed some three and one-half hours, and it was well into Saturday when we finally took off. Arriving in Miami at $4: 00 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$. , we decided it was a bit too early to phone the Bahamas Bum, so we had to forego the pleasure of talking to him. Changing to a LACSA flight, we reached Georgetown, Grand Cayman at 7:15 a.m. After a quick Customs check, we hunted down a taxi to take us to the Galleon Beach Hotel on West Bay's Seven-Mile Beach where we would be staying for the next week.


MRS. PARSONS AND WERNER AT HELL P.A.


WEST BAY POST OFFICE AND MRS. EBANKS

As soon as we had checked in the hotel and stowed our luggage in the room, we took a quick refreshing dip in the warm, blue Caribbean Sea. Feeling much improved despite having had little sleep on the flights down, we got to matters philatelic as quickly as possible. Taking a cab to the HELL Postal Agency, we met Mrs. Parsons, the pleasant Postmistress, who cheerfully canceled the covers we had brought along with us. She also had some post cards for sale, and we purchased a few to impress the relatives back home. Our taxi driver then took us over to the Club Inferno to enjoy a quick brew and a good long look at HELL - the weird and awesome coral formation found behind the nightclub. For a time the Hell P.A. was located inside of Club Inferno (See BCPJ, March 1966, page 42).

Our next stop was at the G.P.O. in Georgetown. We learned that Head Administrator Wentworth Bodden was at home with the flu, and his duties were being performed for the moment by Mr. Noel Johnson. The latter gentleman gave us a few moments and we arranged a meeting with him for the following Monday morning. The G.P.O. was just about to close, as it does at noon on Saturdays, but we were able to purchase some stamps such as the current definitives and the recently released Turtle and Orchid sets. We also obtained the three denominations of airletter sheet on sale. These cover the 3 cents rate to Jamaica, 7 cents to Canada and the United Kingdom and 10 cents to all other parts of the world, including the U.S.A. The Caymans dollar is equal to British 50 P or U.S.A. $\$ 1.20$, but consideration is being given to changing it to par with the U.S.A. dollar because of the many North American tourists.

Sunday was a day for relaxation, and we spent it walking, swimming, picture taking and just enjoying the pleasant surroundings. Then on Monday, after we had secured a driver's license and a rental car to drive, we took off with vigor and velocity, on the left side of the road, mind you! At the G.P.O. we spent a half-hour or so with Mr. Johnson, since he was tied up for most of the day. The job of temporary Administrative Postmaster had been literally dropped in his lap, and he was in the process of learning his duties while performing them. He gave us lists of all the employees at the G.P.O. and of those who man the District Offices. We were introduced to Mrs. Nadie MacLean who is in charge of the Philatelic Department, and she agreed for us to visit her on Thursday when she would have a bit more free time.


SAVANNAH POSTMISTRESS MRS. JAN WEST


MRS. MCCOY, NORTH SIDE POSTMISTRESS

After lunch we took off for our first District Office, WEST BAY. Mrs. Pep Ebanks, the postmistress here, was very polite and courteous to us stamp collecting "nuts" as was true of all the postal people we met. She has three handstamps for use on mail: the standard 24 mm CDS, a boxed Registry mark, and a coat-of-arms stamp for FDC's. Strangely, this office is the only one other than the G.P.O. that has been provided the boxed Registry mark.

We had planned to stop next at SOUTH SOUND P.O., but we couldn't find it either on this trip or a subsequent one. We later learned at the G.P.O. that it is located in a private home, apparently unmarked by any signs. Bertha Bush is postmistress. Next on the list was SAVANNAH. This was several miles along the road to the east, on the southern part of the island. The road was a fairly decent one, being paved with asphalt. The Post Office stood next to a schoolyard, and being alongside the road was easy to find. Luck was against us though, for it was closed. We made a return visit on Thursday and found it open. Mrs. Jan West is postmistress and she gladly let us cancel covers to our heart's content. She has only a 24 mm CDS, and for registered mail she writes "Registered" in manuscript on the cover. When such mail reaches the G.P.O., the boxed Registry handstamp is applied in purple. Since the Savannah CDS was a bit worn, we had difficulty getting clear impressions.

After discovering the Savannah office closed on our first trip, we continued along the same road to BODDENTOWN. Postmistress, Mrs. Adena Bodden, has at her disposal both a 24 mm CDS and an oval " R " for registered mail. She is a large woman built like a blacksmith, and when she canceled our mail it was as though she hammered on the handstamp with a two-by-four! I remained in the car addressing some covers as

Werner was inside getting his canceled, and the noise sounded like gunshots! Mrs. Bodden was camera-shy, so we settled for a photograph of the building, with Werner standing in the doorway.

Our last stop on the South Shore Road was at the EAST END office. The flu had hit here too, and we found Mr. Arthur Conolly substituting for his wife who was ill at home. He evidently was not too experienced at canceling mail, for he smeared most of the postmarks, a case of over-inking. Postmarks in use were the 24 mm CDS plus the Registration oval " $R$ ". Leaving the East End P.O., we walked over to a nearby store for a bottle of pop, then headed west to get on the road to the north shore.


WERNER ENTERS THE BODDENTOWN P.O.


THE EAST END POST OFFICE BUILDING

Reaching it, we turned north and found that after a short stretch of paved road it degenerated into little more than ruts until we entered the village of North Side. We almost sideswiped a milk cow standing in the road. As we rounded one of numerous curves, we encountered her munching on the grass in the right-of-way:

As it was around 5:45 p.m. by the time we arrived, it was a pleasant surprise that the NORTH SIDE Post Office was still open. Mrs. Nettie McCoy said her office kept open for business until 6:00 p.m., so we lost no time in presenting our covers for canceling. Again, she had only the 24 mm CDS and oval " R ". We called it a day at this point and drove back to the hotel for dinner.

On Thursday morning, we took off again - first to see the turtle breeding farm and then to try and find the South Sound Post Office. We still were unable to find it so went on to the Savannah Post Office as mentioned previously. Later in the day we finally got in our visit at the G.P.O. with Mrs. Maclean, spending an enjoyable three hours with her. She provided us with strikes of every handstamp in current use at the G.P.O. All of these are shown on the following page.

One interesting feature of the G.P.O. is the fact that they keep a complete set of the 24 mm CDS's of the district post offices at the G.P.O. to service requests for postmarks from collectors in other countries. These CDS's have slight differences from their counterparts in actual use at the district post offices. At the G.P.O. Post Office Boxes have been in use since 1960 and are in constant demand.

The G.P.O. has no plans for any closings or opening of new offices at present. We were told that the Government Savings Department was moving into a new building in
a short time, leaving the Postal Department as sole occupant of the building which they now share. Except for airletter forms, there is no postal stationery in use by the Caymans. However, authorized users can purchase envelopes of various sizes with "ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE" printed across the top. There is no official seal or tape for sealing damaged mail or letters found unsealed in the mails, but plain brown paper tape is used for that purpose.
ON POSTAL BUSINESS
Special Delivery:

```
    RETURHED FROM GRANO CAYMEN
```

    RETURHED FROM GRANO CAYMEN
    TO? Trie aidASON CHECKED BELOW
    TO? Trie aidASON CHECKED BELOW
    I.) LEFT ISLAND
    I.) LEFT ISLAND
    T UNKNOWN
    T UNKNOWN
    ITREFUSED
ITREFUSED
F vivClaimed
F vivClaimed
E! INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS

```
E! INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS
```

RECEIVED IM A DOUBTFUL CONDITION


AIR PARCEL POST
MISSENT TO GRAND CAYMAN
Returned for ...... Additional Postage

| Certified corkect | SECOND CLASS | POSTMASTER GENERAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ......... | AIR MAIL | CAYMAN ISLANDS |

RETURNED FOR GETTER ADORESS
RETURNED FOR GETTER ADCRESS
SURFACE MAIL
SURFACE MAIL


We spent the last few days of our Grand Cayman vacation on the beach, swimming and diving for conch shells, taking home about ten huge shells. One could see several hundred feet through the clear water, a big aid to looking over the wonders of the underwater world. The week went all too fast, and on Saturday evening it was time to bid farewell to new friends and return home. The short stay served to whet my appetite for more. It had been quite a thrill to visit the Caymans, and I hope to pay them another visit some day soon, hopefully for a much longer stay.

## The President's Page

Much attention has been focussed on our Tenth Anniversary and NOJEX in the letters reaching me in recent months from the Secretary, the Editor and others. These two events must be written about together, because of all the plans being made for our participation at Cranford, New Jersey in October. While the emphasis of the NOJEX organizers must obviously be on the exhibits, including the BCPSG section, of most significance to me will be the two meetings of the Group taking place on Saturday, October 30th and Sunday, October 31st.

There is real anticipation and a growing excitement respecting this in the letters reaching me, and I am taking this opportunity to pass some of it along to you. I hope that all of you within reasonable travelling distance of Cranford will make a special effort to attend this Tenth Anniversary BCPSG get-together. I am planning to drive or fly down from Ottawa, and hope to meet many of you for the first time.

I am pleased to announce that our Group is having a BCPSG Medal manufactured, that can be made available as an award at philatelic exhibitions where there are enough British Caribbean entries to warrant. Thanks to a very generous donation from our fellow member Byron Cameron, a die is being made, and a good stock of gold-plated, silver and bronze medals is being procured from a manufacturer in Germany. It has long been desired by many of our members that we have some kind of award available for this purpose. Our BCPSG Medal should provide a big incentive for philatelists to exhibit high quality British Caribbean material.

## Jack

## 

## ELEVEN MEMBERS GET TOGETHER IN SYRACUSE---

Thanks to the organizing efforts of BOB ANDERSON, a regional meeting of BCPSG took place in Syracuse, New York on June 19th. Joining Bob were the following members: JUDGE JULIAN EDGCOMB, MILT ERICKSON, ANDY HALE, FRANK MONTGOMERY, TOM NEVILLE, DON WINEGAR, MARK SWETLAND, IAN WOODWARD, WERNER ZEHETNER and LOUIS ZELL.

As usual, the main feature of the get-together was the good fellowship that always prevails when our members meet. However, there was an informal program, with Milt Erickson displaying a Jamaica cover he acquired recently in London, bearing a very beautiful strike of the Jl marking that differs from the example shown in Foster's handbook. Bob Anderson gave a talk on Airmail Routes of the West Indies, with the emphasis on current developments. The wrap-up was provided by Mark Swetland, with a show of his slides on Antigua. Mark found an interested viewer in Andy Hale who shares his great interest in Antigua. All who attended the meeting report that it was well worth the trip to Syracuse.

The 1971 Commonwealth QE II Catalogue shows several new Antigua varieties as given below:

CW 79a 25¢ ARMS COIL. In one of the reels there is a white flaw over the $N$ of ANTIGUA on the eighth stamp and every twenty-first stamp thereafter.
CW 84a HMS BARFLEUR DEFINITIVE. Watermark sideways inverted.
CW S82a 15; REDONDA. There is a white "extra island" off west coast, below the last A of ANTIGUA on Row 4, No.4, top left pane. There is also a black flaw below the Queen's left eye.
CW S83a 25¢ REDONDA. An orange "falling rock" is dropping into sea at island's left on Row 2, No. 5 of top left pane.
CW S84a $50 ¢$ REDONDA. There is a white "extra island" as on 15 ¢ , but no Queen's eye flaw.
CW S88a CHRISTMAS 1969. Watermark sideways inverted.
Gil Holmes reports the following recent varieties of Antigua, all GPO sheets being constant in this regard:

5c ADULT SUFFRAGE, Row 4, No. 4, Pane 1A (5x5). "White Crown" flaw. The crown in the Royal Cypher is "hollow", containing three vertical "chessman" shaped objects. The left object is much larger in the flaw.

20¢ RED CROSS CENTENARY, Row 3, No. 7, Pane 1B (10x5). A black diagonal slash beneath the A of CENTENARY, like a French acute accent as over the é in Café.

20¢ MILITARY UNIFORMS 1970. The upper right stamp of Pane 1D (the stamp below the black control number for the sheet) has "patch of daisies" flaw. A feathery white patch shows against the dark green background, below and to the left of C of Cents which it touches, and above the NE-SW stroke of the 2 of 20.

The Dickens commemorative set (May 1970) was available in a presentation pack. It consisted of a two-pocket stock card with clear pockets, which contained a copy of each of the four values. The card is enclosed in a white envelope inscribed with ANTIGUA/bust of Dickens/OFFICIAL PRESENTATION PACK at the left, while at the right it reads CENTENARY OF THE/DEATH OF/CHARLES DICKENS.

I noted in the June 1970 Journal a cover with red mss. cancel ESK on a QV Leewards ld postal stationery envelope, and erroneously reported it as the first such cover I had seen. Where my blank spot came from, I cannot say, for E.V. Toeg covered in detail mss. markings for EDEN, ESK and SOLENT in BWISC Bulletins No.'s 61-63. An additional comment by F.W. Collins appears in No. 65. The three ships were Royal Mail Steam Packet vessels built especially for Caribbean inter-island traffic. Up to now these mss. cancels have been found only on the stamps and postal stationery of the Leeward Islands, although they may exist on stamps of individual islands as the steamers stayed in the fleet until 1909 (EDEN and SOLENT) and 1910 (ESK).

Most known mss. cancels of this type are in red ink, although Toeg mentions having seen a single adhesive with a blue-black or black ink cancel. In Bulletin 67 Toeg notes an ESK mark in blue-black on a cover franked by a single Leeward Islands SGl and a pair of SG2, addressed to London, with 12 NO 97 St. Lucia CDS on the reverse of the cover. He believes that Dominica is the most likely point of origin for it as well as for the other six covers described in the previous articles. Only two
have definite Dominica Merchants' marks, but all are addressed to the same firm, a merchants' supplier in Manchester, England.

Peter Jaffé in the West End Philatelist of SEP-OCT 1953 discusses the mss. mark of the EDEN, as well as a straight-line rubber stamp mark in violet for ESK and YARE. Toeg notes that EDEN and ESK were built in 1882, SOLENT in 1878 and that a smaller ship, TYNE, was built in 1891 and left the fleet in 1897. Much other data regarding the RMSP Co. that is of considerable historical interest is given by Toeg.

If any reader is confused by the opening date of NELSON'S DOCKYARD Sub-Post Office being given as 15 November 1961, while First Day ceremonies for the commemoratives celebrating the Restoration of Nelson's Dockyard took place in the Dockyard on the previous day, George Bowman has the answer. An Official Notice, published on 13th November in The Antigua, Montserrat, and Virgin Islands Gazette, states:
"On 14th November a postal service, run by a staff of eight from the General Post Office, St. John's, will operate in the galley inside the Dockyard.
"A sub-post office will, however, be opened on the 15 th November. This will be situated at the gatehouse."

It appears that the special staff of eight was set up one day early to service the FDC's of the Dockyard Commemoratives, a task too great for a one-man S.P.O. Does anyone know what postmark appeared on the Dockyard FDC's?

## 

# Unusual St. Kitts CDS Revealed 

by Dick Mounsey \& Stan Durnin

While we were viewing the outstanding material on display in London last Fall, our Editor excitedly beckoned us over to a frame to see what he had just 'discovered'. With mouths agape, we beheld the most unorthodox St. Kitts marking we had ever run across. Naturally, every BCPSGer there was drawn to the item and questioned as to its history. No one knew. Discussion with the party exhibiting the material gave us little information, as his primary interest was in the adhesives, not the postmark. Dick photographed the item for us, but between the poor lighting conditions and reflections from the glass covering the frame, the resulting print is not good enough to be reproduced here. However, from it we can provide the basic details.


The sketch at the left is not to be construed as a precise representation, but shows the general layout of the stamp. The diameter of the outer ring is approximately $31 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$ and the letters are about 3 mm in height. It is very possible that this is a rubber stamp, as the characters of the date show slight differences in height, which is of ten the case with the strikes of a rubber stamp. We noted, though, the strike was very clear and sharp, which would indicate that it had seen little use or had good care.

This interesting marking appears on a registered piece that bears one copy each of St. Christopher SG 12 and SG 16. The stamps are canceled and tied together with a single strike of the Al2 Killer of the period. A plea of desperation is issued to all for ANY information on this mark. If you have a strike or know of one, please send us the details.

## JAMAICA POSTAL STATIONERY

by Thomas Foster
The purpose of these check lists is to work up material for a proposed new handbook, covering Jamaican stamps and postal stationery. The list numbers in the final work will almost certainly differ slightly from those given here as further facts come to light. Type numbers in the first column are my reference. Numbers in second column are Higgins \& Gage Catalogue numbers. Prices quoted are those seen by me at various sources in England, but in today's rising market can only be considered relative.
$c=$ Still current when this list was drafted; $\quad d d=$ Nominal value of a few pence.

## SINGLE POSTCARDS

Essays and Die Proofs in various stages of completion exist of some of the impressed stamps used on the definitive postcards listed in this section, but the author is in the process of working on these, and they are not listed at the moment.


1 APRIL 1877 1ST PROVISIONAL (LOZENGE) ISSUE.
Typographed in shades of Light to Dark Slate Blue, on Thick White Cards which differ. slightly in size. The frame line consists of a "lozenge" chain placed between two straight lines, with external dimensions of $113 \times 68 \mathrm{~mm}$.

Each card was handstamped at the Kingston G.P.O. in red ink, at the upper right-hand corner, with one of the three Utility Handstamps, Type PD16, PD16a and PD16b, set up to read JAMAICA at the top, the value at the bottom, and 1877/PAID across the center in two lines. Since they are handstruck, these red impressions can be found in most any position, so such variations do not merit separate listings.


The cards were distributed to post office sales clerks in packets of 12 cards of the same value secured by a gummed paper band. They are extremely rare thus.

The $\frac{1}{2} d$ card was for use within the same town or village limits, the ld for elsewhere within the island, and the 3 d for use to any U.P.U. country overseas.

This issue was not postmarked when sent through the post. The prices quoted are for items in first class condition, other material being far more common and worth less.

JUNE 1877 2ND PROVISIONAL (FLORIATE) ISSUE.
Typographed by the Government Printer, Mr. George Henderson, of Kingston, in varying shades of Light to Dark Slate Blue on cards differing slightly in texture, color and size. The frame line consists of individual "Floriate" ornaments and different settings of these exist throughout the several printings.

Each card has a PAID handstamp in red as in the previous issue, and these cards were packeted in the same way. The note concerning prices after PC3 also applies to this issue as well as to the Third Provisional Issue.

The author would appreciate help in determining the different dates of the printings of the 2nd and 3rd Floriate Issues, and this could be done by informing him of dates of use of printings seen.

1ST PRINTING JUNE 1877.
On thick white card. The external dimensions of the frame line are 111 x 72 mm , and the second ornament from the top in the right-hand border points downwards while the others point to the right.

| PC4 | 4 | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red and Blue | $15 /-$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| $4 a$ | 5 | $1 d$ Red and Blue | $10 /-$ | 25/- |
| $4 b$ | 6 | 3d Red and Blue | $15 /-$ | E1 |
| 4ba |  | Variety: 2nd Ornament from right in the top |  |  |
|  | border omitted. |  |  |  |

This printing was not postmarked when sent through the post.
2ND PRINTING JULY 1877.
As lst Printing with frame 111 x 72 mm , but with all ornaments normal.

| PC5 | - | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red and Blue | $15 /-$ | $25 /-$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $5 a$ | - | $1 d$ Red and Blue | $50 /-$ | $75 /-$ |
| $5 b$ | - | $3 d$ Red and Blue | $12 / 6 d$ | E1 |

From the second printing onwards and inclusive, cards sent through the post received a cancellation in the usual way with date-stamps and obliterators.

3RD PRINTING
1877.

On thick white card. Frame $106^{1 / 2} \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$. In the right-hand border the 5 th and 15 th ornaments from the top are incomplete.

| PC6 | $4 a$ | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red and Blue | $15 /-$ | $25 /-$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $6 a$ | $5 a$ | $1 d$ Red and Blue | £2 | E3 |
| $6 b$ | $6 a$ | $3 d$ Red and Blue | £1 |  |

4TH PRINTING 1877.
On thick bluish card. Frame $106 \frac{1}{2} \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$, exactly as 3rd Printing.

| PC7 | $4 b$ | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red and Pale Blue | £2 | £3 |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $7 a$ | $5 b$ | $1 d$ Red and Pale Blue | £3 | £4 |

The $3 d$ postcard has never been recorded from this printing.

5TH PRINTING
1877.

On thick white card. Frame $107 \times 72 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$. All broken and damaged ornaments replaced and the top right corner ornament points upwards and forms part of the top border.

| PC8 | 4 c | $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$ | Red | Ve | Pale | Blue | £2 | £3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8 a | 4 c | $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$ | Red and | Dark | Blue |  | £2 | £3 |
| 8 b | 5 c | 1 d | Red and | Very | Pale | Blue | £3 | £4 |
| 8 c | 5c | 1 d | Red and | Dark | Blue |  | £3 | £4 |

The 3d postcard has never been recorded from this printing.


THE PC6 CARD ABOVE IS TYPICAL OF THE FLORIATE DESIGN
6TH PRINTING 1877.

On thick bluish card. Frame $107 \times 72 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$, exactly as 5 th printing.

| PC9 | $4 d$ | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red and Very Pale Blue | $50 /-$ | £3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $9 a$ | $4 d$ | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red and Dark Blue | $50 /-$ | £3 |
| $9 b$ | $5 d$ | $1 d$ Red and Very Pale Blue | $70 /-$ | $£ 4$ |
| 9 c | 5 d | 1 d Red and Dark Blue | $70 /-$ | £4 |

The 3d postcard has never been recorded from this printing.
7TH PRINTING
1877.

On thick white card. Frame $107 \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$ with a colon after the word "JAMAICA:" below the Arms, and with damaged ornaments in left-hand border. The 2 nd ornament from the bottom in the right-hand border is broken.

| PC10 | 4 e | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red and Very Pale Blue |  | $30 /-$ | £2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 a | 4 e | $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$ Red and Dark Blue | $30 /-$ | £2 |  |
| 10 b | 5 e | 1 d Red and Very Pale Blue |  | $£ 2$ | $50 /-$ |
| 10 c | 5 e | 1 d Red and Dark Blue | £ |  | $50 /-$ |

The 3d postcard has never been recorded from this printing.
$\frac{\text { 8TH PRINTING }}{\text { On thick bluish }} \frac{1877}{\text { card. }}$ Frame $107 \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$, exactly as 7 th Printing.

| PC11 | 4 f | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red and Very Pale Blue | $£ 2$ | $50 /-$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 11 a | 4 f | $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$ Red and Dark Blue | f | $50 /-$ |
| 11 b | 5 f | 1 d Red and Very Pale Blue | $50 /-$ | $£ 3$ |
| 11 c | 5 f | 1 d Red and Dark Blue | $50 /-$ | $£ 3$ |
| 11 d | 6 f | 3d Red and Very Pale Blue | $£ 3$ | $£ 4$ |
| 11 e | 6 f | 3d Red and Dark Blue | $£ 3$ | $£ 4$ |

9TH PRINTING 1877.

On thick yellowish-white glazed card. Frame $107 \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$, exactly as 7 th Printing.
PC12 $4 \mathrm{~g} \quad \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$ Red and Blue $\quad$ £3 44
The lst and 2nd Provisional Issues were issued for use pending arrival of a shipment from London of the first definitive postcards.

14 NOVEMBER 1877 FIRST QUEEN VICTORIA DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on thin card. There are slight variations in texture and shade. Frame measures $113 \times 66 \mathrm{~mm}$.

These cards were supplied in packets of 12 items secured by a broad paper band which was suitably inscribed as to contents.

| PC13 | 7 | $\frac{1}{2}$ | Red Brown (shades) on Buff | 2/6d | 1/- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 13a | 7 | $\frac{1}{2}$ | Red Brown on Cream (c. 1892?) | 2/- | 1/- |
| PC14 | 8 | 1 | Blue on Buff | 5/- | 2/6d |
| 14a | 8 | 1 | Blue on Straw | 7/6d | 5/- |
| 14b | 8 | 1 | Blue on Cream | 5/- | 2/6d |
| PC15 | 9 | 3 | Green on Buff | £1 | 10/- |
| 15a | 9 | 3 | Green on Cream | £1 | 10/- |

The initial demand for these cards was very heavy, and the first consignment quickly sold out. Pending arrival of the second consignment from London, three further provisional printings on stout white paper were made by the Government Printer. These are known as the Third Provisional (Floriate) Issue.

DECEMBER 1877 3RD PROVISIONAL (FLORIATE) ISSUE.
Typographed on stout white paper watermarked ANTIQUE PARCHMENT NOTE PAPER, in Gothic letters, with or without a shield above the letters A.P. \& S.

IST PRINTING
Frame measures $106 \frac{1}{2} \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$ and in the left-hand border the 7 th ornament from bottom is broken. In addition, there is a colon after "JAMAICA:" and the top of the letter " $I$ " in that word is missing.


## 2ND PRINTING

Frame measures $107 \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$ and the 9 th ornament from the top in the left-hand border points downwards instead of to the left. The bottom left corner ornament forms part of the left-hand border instead of the bottom border. "JAMAICA." is now followed by a period, and the broken letter "I" has been replaced.

PC17 $4 \mathrm{j} \quad \frac{1}{2} d$ Red and Very Pale Blue

| PC17a | 4j | $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$ Red and | Dark Blue | 30/- | £1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 17b | 5j | 1d Red and | Very Pale Blue | 50/- | £2 |
| 17c | 5 j | 1d Red and | Dark Blue | £2 | 30/- |
| 17d | 6 j | 3d Red and | Very Pale Blue | £2 | 25/- |
| 17e | 6 j | 3d Red and | Dark Blue | £2 | 30/- |
| 17f | 6 k | Variety: | Impressed Stamp omitted | ? | - |

I have never seen or recorded PC17f in used condition, and it is extremely difficult to see how it could have passed through the post in this condition. Most likely, it is a remainder, not stamped by the post office, thus never put into circulation.

3RD PRINTING
All the ornaments are in order except the third from the top of the right border. It points downwards instead of to the right. Frame measurements as previous.

PC18 61 3d Red and Blue £4 £4
According to Jamaica Post Office records, the total numbers printed of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Provisional Issues were as follows:

```
\frac{1}{2d}
1d Postcard......................16,228
3d Postcard.......................4,701
```

On 24th January 1879, the postcard rate to all U.P.U. destinations overseas was lowered from 3d to $1 \frac{1}{2} d$. A further ruling of that body was that all such cards must bear the inscription UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION.

Jamaica took no action on these orders until lst April 1879, at which time stocks of the 3d Green on Buff postcard were overprinted and revalued by the Government Printer at Kingston. In addition, the public were requested to exchange $3 d$ cards then in their possession for equivalent value in the provisionally overprinted cards. The 3d postcard, despite this U.P.U. regulation, can be found used to overseas countries until as late as August 1896, without surcharge.

1 APRIL 1879 PROVISIONAL ISSUE FOR U.P.U. USE.
The 3d Green postcard, PC15 is known struck in purple ink in what appears to be some sort of essay of the overprint and surcharge of this provisional. The overprint is in sans serif capitals and measures $79 \times 4 \mathrm{~mm}$, while the surcharge, which appears to have been carried out as a separate operation, has overall dimensions of $26 \times 6 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$, its letters are much smaller and squarer, and there is a period after the letter " $Y$ " of "HALF-PENNY".

The overprinting was finally carried out in black ink, with "UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION" at the top of the card in serif capitals, and the impressed stamp surcharged in sans serif capitals "ONE PENNY/HALF-PENNY" in two lines. Two settings exist:

1ST SETTING
With the overprint measuring $75 \times 4 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$.
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { PC19 10a } 1 \frac{1}{2} d / 3 d \\ \text { Green on Buff } & \text { 10/- } 1\end{array}$
2ND SETTING
With the overprint measuring $79 \times 3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$. In this setting there is considerable variation of the two lines of the surcharge with respect to one another.

PC20a 10b Variety: Overprint Double, one being inverted at the bottom of the card.

Both settings appear to have been on sale at the same time. This issue continued in use until 16 June 1883, when the $1 \frac{1}{2}$ d definitive postcard was put on sale.

Until 5 June 1883, the issued postcards could only be used for the service they covered, i.e., $\frac{1}{2} d-U r b a n ; ~ l d-W i t h i n ~ t h e ~ I s l a n d ~ a n d ~ l i \frac{1}{2} d-O v e r s e a s ~ t o ~ U . P . U . ~ c o u n t r i e s, ~ a n d ~$ the addition of adhesives to make up the postage made no difference whatsoever since the item was not acceptable to the post office. On that date, however, the rule was relaxed slightly, and the Urban card could be used to anywhere on the Island if a $\frac{1}{2} d$ adhesive was added to make up the ld Inland Rate. All other restrictions still were kept in effect.

5 JUNE 1883 ONWARDS LEGAL USE OF $\frac{1}{2} D$ POSTCARD WITH $\frac{1}{2} D$ ADHESIVE AFFIXED.
PC21 - $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red Brown on Buff, plus $\frac{1}{2} d$ adhesive stamp
(postmarked 5 June 1883 until 31 December 1889)
Such cards as these are extremely difficult to find, and must be datestamped between the dates stated. (See PC23).

16 JUNE 1883 QUEEN VICTORIA DEFINITIVE ISSUE WITH BILINGUAL U.P.U. INSCRIPTION. Typographed by De La Rue $\&$ Co. on stout straw card with no printed frame and overall dimensions of $139 \times 88 \mathrm{~mm}$. Issued in banded packs of 12 suitably inscribed.

| PC22 | 11 | $1 \frac{1}{2} d$ Slate-grey on Buff | $5 /-$ | $10 /-$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | ---: | :---: |
| 22a |  | Overprinted SPEC IMEN diagonally | $50 /-$ | - |
| 22b | $11 a$ | $1 \frac{1}{2} d$ Slate-grey on Ivory | $5 /-$ | $7 / 6 d$ |

On 1 January 1890, the two Inland Jamaica Postcard Rates were abolished and replaced by a single $\frac{1}{2} d$ rate which covered a card conveyed within the Island. From this date $\frac{1}{2} d$ postcards could be legally used to anywhere within the Island and thus form a new serial:

1 JANUARY 1890 THE NEW $\frac{1}{2} D$ INLAND POSTCARD RATE.
PC23 $\frac{1}{2} d$ Red Brown on Buff 2/6d
23a
$\frac{1}{2} d$ Red Brown on Cream (c. 1892?)
2/6d
$\frac{1}{2} d$ postcards illustrating this rate must prederably have been sent between different towns or villages on the Island.

As a result of this new rate, the $1 d$ postcard became obsolete, and stocks which were held at the post office were revalued by means of a surcharge applied by the Government Printer.

OCTOBER 1890 REVALUED ISSUE.
The ld postcard revalued by a surcharge "HALF-PENNY" printed horizontally across the impressed stamp in sans serif capitals, in black. Position of the surcharge differs from card to card.

| PC24 | 15 | $\frac{1}{2} d / 1 d$ Blue on Straw | $15 /-$ | $25 /-$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $24 a$ |  | $\frac{1}{2} d / 1 d$ Deep Blue on Straw | $10 /-$ | $12 / 6 \mathrm{~d}$ |
| $24 a b$ | $15 a$ | Variety: Surcharge Double | $?$ | $?$ |
| $24 a c$ |  | Variety: Surcharged Diagonally across stamp | $?$ | - |

Since PC24ac has not been recorded in used condition, perhaps it is a rejected essay of the surcharge.

In 1891, the postcard rate to U.P.U. countries was reduced from $1 \frac{1}{2} d$ to ld. As there were no 1d cards in stock, all having been revalued per the issue of October 1890, a new supply had to be ordered.
$\frac{1 \text { JUNE } 1891}{\text { Typographed by }} \frac{\text { QUEEN VICTORIA DEFINITIVE ISSUE. }}{\text { De La Rue } \& \text { Co. on stout card me }}$ U P inscription, and without frame items secured by a broad paper band suitably inscribed.

| PC25 | 17 | 1d Blue on Buff | $5 /-$ | $2 / 6 d$ |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $25 a$ |  | Overprinted SPECIMEN diagonally | $50 /-$ | - |
| 25b | 1d Blue on Cream | $3 / 6 d$ | $2 / 6 d$ |  |

Up to this time, an Inland postcard could not be used for transmission overseas to a U.P.U. country, even if bearing the full rate in adhesive stamps, because it was not a U.P.U. card and its imprinted stamp was not recognized abroad. Now the rules were relaxed to allow the $\frac{1}{2} d$ Inland card to be used for that purpose, by addition of a ld adhesive to pay the correct overseas postcard rate, the $\frac{1}{2} d$ imprinted stamp remaining void and valueless in that capacity.

1 JUNE 1891 ONWARDS LEGAL USE OF INLAND POSTCARDS TO OVERSEAS U.P.U. DESTINATIONS.
PC26 - $\quad \frac{1}{2} d$ Red Brown on Buff or Cream, plus 1d adhesive stamp affixed and postmarked 1 June 1891 or later

Inland postcards used in this manner are extremely rare:
17 JANUARY 1903 OR EARLIER KING EDWARD VII DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on card measuring $121 \times 74 \mathrm{~mm}$ and supplied in packets of 12 items secured by a suitably inscribed band.

| PC27 | 19 | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Green on Buff | $2 / 6 d$ | $2 / 6 d$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $27 a$ | - | Overprinted SPECIMEN diagonally | $50 /-$ | - |
| 27 b | $19 a$ | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Green on White | $10 /-$ | $5 /-$ |

DECEMBER 1904? KING EDWARD VII DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on card measuring $115 \times 89 \mathrm{~mm}$ and supplied in packets of 12 items as previous issues.

| PC28 | 21 | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Green on Buff | $2 / 6 d$ | $2 / 6 d$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $28 a$ | $21 a$ | $\frac{1}{2} d$ | Green on White | $10 /-$ |

No SPECIMEN copies of this issue were distributed.
7 MAY 1906 OR EARLIER KING EDWARD VII DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on card measuring $139 \times 89 \mathrm{~mm}$ abd supplied in packets of 12 items as previous issues.
PC29 23 1d Carmine on Buff
7/6d
29a - Overprinted SPECIMEN diagonally 50/-

The above card bears a U.P.U. inscription in English and French.

1912 KING GEORGE V DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on cards which measure $114 \times 89 \mathrm{~mm}$ for the $\frac{1}{1 / 2}$ and 139 x 89 mm for the 1 d . The latter bears the bilingual U.P.U. inscription. Packeged as previous issues.

| PC30 | 25 | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Green on Buff (issued October 1912?) | 7/6d | $5 /-$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 30a | 25 | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Pale Green on Buff | $5 /-$ | $3 / 6 \mathrm{~d}$ |
| PC 31 | 26 | 1d Carmine on Buff (issued 2 October 1912) | $7 / 6 \mathrm{~d}$ | $3 / 6 \mathrm{~d}$ |

Do SPECIMEN cards exist of this issue? The author has never seen or recorded any.
1937? KING GEORGE VI DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Higgins \& Gage gives date of issue as 1936 but this appears to be very early. Your EKD's would be appreciated.

Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on card measuring $115 \times 89 \mathrm{~mm}$ and supplied in packets of 12 as previous issues.

| PC 32 | 29 | $\frac{1}{2} d$ Green on Buff (EKD 11 January 1939) | $10 /-$ | $1 / 6 \mathrm{~d}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 32 a | - | Overprinted SPEC IMEN diagonally | $50 /-$ | - |
| PC33 | 30 | 1d Red on Buff | $5 /-$ | $1 / 6 \mathrm{~d}$ |
| 33 a | - | Overprinted SPECIMEN diagonally | $50 /-$ | $-\mathbf{d}$ |
| PC34 | 31 | 1d Red on Grey (EKD 23 APril 1949) | $5 /-$ | $1 / 6 \mathrm{~d}$ |

Can anyone definitely state if SPECIMEN cards exist of PC34? If so, they should be listed as PC34a.

194(?) KING GEORGE VI DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Your EKD's would be appreciated.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on card measuring $139 \times 89 \mathrm{~mm}$ and supplied in packets as previous issue.

| PC35 | 33 | $1 d$ Red on Buff | $7 / 6 d$ | $2 / 6 \mathrm{~d}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| PC36 | 34 | $1 \frac{1}{2} d$ Brown on Buff | $10 /-$ | $10 /-$ |

The author has never recorded a SPECIMEN card of PC36 but it certainly should exist. If found it will become PC36a.

1948 OR EARLIER KING GEORGE VI DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Your EKD's would be appreciated.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on card measuring $127 \times 100 \mathrm{~mm}$ and supplied in normal banded packets of 12 items.
PC37 35 1d Brown on Buff Granite
5/-
1/6d
37a - Overprinted SPECIMEN diagonally

As SPECIMEN cards are known of this issue it must have appeared during 1948, for the practice of such overprinting ceased in that year.

19(??) KING GEORGE VI DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Your EKD's would be appreciated.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on card measuring $115 \times 89 \mathrm{~mm}$ and supplied in packets of 12 items as previous issue.

| PC38 | 36 | $1 d$ Brown on Buff Granite | 7/6d | $1 / 6 d$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| PC39 | 37 1d Reddish Brown on Grey | 10/- 2/6d |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

1956? QUEEN ELIZABETH II DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on cards varying slighty in size and packeted as the previous issue. Your EKD's would be appreciated.


4 MAY 1964 INDEPENDENCE DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
Typographed by De La Rue \& Co. on card measuring about $115 \times 89 \mathrm{~mm}$. This issue had a plain paper band securing packets of 12. Impressed stamp shows Arms of Jamaica.

PC41 39 1六d Light Brown (shades) on Smooth Fawn card dd dd
41a 39 11 $\frac{1}{2} d$ Dark Brown (shades) on Smooth Fawn card dd dd
8 SEP 1969 INDEPENDENCE DECIMAL DEFINITIVE ISSUE.
$\overline{\text { As previous issue, but with value in decimal currency. }}$
PC42 - 1\& Light Brown on Smooth Buff Card c dd
NOTE: The Reply Paid Postcards of Jamaica will be listed in a subsequent article.

## ***********

## BRITISH HONDURAS STAMP BOOKLETS OF 1920---

Finding information on stamp booklets of yesteryear, especially where they were made up from normal sheets of stamps, is difficult at best. Recently, Tony Shepherd sent us a clipping which we recognized as coming from an article on British Honduras that was written by the late Harry Huber, and published in The Stamp Lover in about 1926. It reports two British Honduras stamp booklets that must indeed be rare items.

According to Huber, the June 1920 communique of the Crown Agents announced that they had on order "books containing (a) 100 2c. stamps and (b) 1003 c . stamps." Both of these were prepared with stamps printed from the De La Rue 1912, King Geo. V Postage and Revenue keyplate No. 2, in the usual sheets of 120 stamps ( 2 panes of 60 ) watermark MCA. Each booklet contained 100 stamps in ten strips of $5 \times 2$.

To keep the booklets a reasonable size, the four stamps at the end of each strip had to be folded over. The sheets were stapled between colored covers, pink for the 2 c . and grey-blue for the 3 c ., with waxed paper interleaving. The staple was at left or right, depending on whether the stamps came from the left or right pane. The covers were printed in black "BRITISH HONDURAS - 100 - Two Cent (or Three Cent) Stamps, and the inside covers bore postal information. The booklets were sold at face value.

Huber gave no figures as to the quantity of booklets prepared, but it could not have been very large. The stamps, of course, having come from ordinary sheets, cannot be identified as coming from a booklet once they have been removed from it. Has any of our members ever seen any of these booklets?

PLAN NOW TO JOIN US AT TRINIPEX '72, IN PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD, 5 TO 7 AUGUST 1972.

# A Tribute to the Late Harry E．Huber 

by Fred F．Seifert

Although we never knew Harry E．Huber，we feel that his passing deserved something more than a scant listing among the deceased members of the A．P．S．in the February 1970 American Philatelist．Anyone who has done any philatelic research on British Caribbean countries，cannot have helped noticing how of ten the name Harry Huber is found as author of articles in philatelic periodicals of the 1920＇s and 1930＇s．A glance through the Cumulative Index to the Stamp Lover，shows articles by Huber on Bahamas，Barbados，Bermuda，British Honduras，Leeward Islands，and Turks \＆Caicos．

We have copies of some of these in our philatelic clipping file，and are impressed by the documented detail they provide．In a period when most stamp collectors had little interest in philatelic history and postmarks，he gave them more than casual attention．A long article on British Honduras that was continued through a number of issues of the Stamp Lover，is one of the few articles of any substance covering that country that we have ever come across．

Huber was an Honorary Member of the Jamaica Philatelic Society，and contributed 29 articles to the Jamaica Philatelist from its beginning in 1927 through 1936．They cover all but one or two of the British Caribbean countries，providing a multitude of facts and figures，well supported by extracts from his sources of information．

Harry Huber＇s contributions to philatelic literature survive his passing，and they remain as a memorial to him．We can only add our brief words of appreciation that he shared the fruits of his philatelic research with us．

BCPSG MEMBER GUIDES BALPEX 1971－－－－
BALPEX，a major U．S．philatelic exhibition staged each year by the Baltimore Phil－ atelic Society，will have its 1971 show directed by BCPSG member，Lt．Col．Mark M． Cassidy．Mark was appointed General Chairman when the party holding that post had to relinquish it to take over another office in the Society．BALPEX 1971 is being held in the Baltimore Civic Center on Sept．24， 25 and 26，and about 400 frames of exhibits are anticipated．Annual conventions of the American Air Mail Society and the Postal History Society will be held in conjunction with BALPEX，and there will be a bourse of 38 dealers offering a great variety of philatelic material．

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## PLANS CONTINUE FOR JAMAICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY EXHIBITION－－－－

The Newsletter for May－June 1971 of the Jamaica Philatelic Society reports some of the organizational details of the exhibition which that organization will stage in October．Dates are given as 29th October through 7th November 1971．The occasion is to celebrate the Tercentenary of the Post Office in Jamaica，and the opening of the show will coincide with the issuance by Jamaica of a set of six commemoratives for the Tercentenary．

Stan Murphy is Chairman of the exhibition to be held in a new ground floor display room at the Institute of Jamaica in Kingston．Serving on the Staging Committee of the show are Jack Blackmore，Ronnie Wong and Stephen Hopwood．

Unfortunately，the dates conflict with NOJEX，preventing a large BCPSG attendance．

## NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following names have been submitted in nomination for the position of Trustee， and permission of the named individual obtained to place his name on the ballot：

THOMAS FOSTER，England<br>REUBEN RAMKISSOON，U．S．A．<br>GEOFFREY OSBORNE，Bermuda

PAUL LARSEN，U．S．A． MARK SWETLAND，U．S．A． BRUCE WALKER，Scotland

The following names were placed in nomination，but the nomination was declined：
JAMES HALE, U.S.A. RONALD WONG, Jamaica

Respectfully submitted，
MAJOR DANIEL C．WARREN
CHM．，NOMINATIONS COMM．
＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊

## ELECTION OF TRUSTEES NOW UNDER WAY－－－－

With this issue，each member is being furnished a ballot for the election of three Trustees to serve during the years 1972 through 1974．Members are urged to return ballots to the Secretary by lst November 1971．Ballots will be tallied after the receipt of mail on that date，and winning candidates declared elected．The names of the new Trustees will be announced in the December 1971 Journal．

BCPSG RUBBER STAMPS AGAIN IN STOCK－－－－
A new batch of BCPSG Seal rubber stamps has just been procured．By purchasing them in minimum quantities of ten，we have been able to get a good unit price，and thus save almost one dollar per stamp over what the first ones cost．Thus far，some 28 members possess these stamps，but we would like to see many more of you buy one to use on your philatelic correspondence and help advertise the BCPSG．An impression of the stamp appears on the inner front cover of each issue of the Journal．

Stamps may be ordered from the Editor at $\$ 3.00$ each，postpaid by First Class Mail． They will also be available at TEXANEX and NOJEX．

## ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊

## ELEVENTH BCPSG AUCTION TO BE MAIL／FLOOR SALE AT NOJEX－－－－

With this issue of the Journal，you will receive a list of the 176 auction lots to be sold at NOJEX on October 31st．Look it over carefully，for it offers some very unusual material that is seldom found either in auctions or dealers stocks．There is a good selection of early Barbados Britannia types and stampless covers．Those who collect Jamaica TRD＇s will find nearly 40 lots of early ones，while those with a yen for modern Jamaica stamp varieties will also have a good number of interest－ ing items upon which to submit bids．A few of the lots are donations，to be sold on behalf of our Treasury．Please send your bids in early before you forget．

## BITS \& PIECES from HERE \& THERE

BAHAMAS -- Tom Giraldi notes a Type 8 CDS with STAMPS 7 NASSAU at top, and BAHAMAS at bottom, dated 3 MAY 71. Be on the lookout for other numbers of this series and also for new Registration stamps such as the R.L.E. CDS's used at Freeport.

The Royal Victoria Hotel in Nassau has been permanently closed. It was the oldest hotel in Nassau, having opened 111 years ago, but operating costs and the need for repairs and improvements made it uneconomical to continue in business.

Bahamas plans to issue a new set of gold coins during 1971. These will be in the denominations of: $\$ 100$ (the Bahamas Coat of Arms), $\$ 50$ (the ship Santa Maria), $\$ 20$ (a Lighthouse) and \$10 (a Bahamian Fort).

BARBADOS -- Ben Ramkissoon reports an air mail cover from Barbados having a strike of the boxed AR mark. It is dated 26 MAY 71 and bears $25 ¢$ postage. Does Barbados have some sort of return receipt system for unregistered mail? This is the first time we have seen $A R$ struck on an unregistered letter.

Both Tony Shepherd and your Editor possess picture post cards from Barbados having strikes of an oval handstamp INFORMATION BUREAU/BARBADOS, B.W.I. between two ovals and Baggage Warehouse in the center. The dates of the G.P.O. CDS canceling stamps on the cards are 12 AP 39 and 25 MY 39 . Can anyone explain this mark?

The new EAGLE HALL Post Office now has a machine canceler, and Tom Giraldi reports a strike used 24 MAR (or MAY?) 1971. It is used with a boxed slogan to the right reading YOU/NEED TOURISM/TOURISM NEEDS/YOU.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS -- In reporting on his BVI visit in the April 1971 Journal, Gale Raymond mentioned that Anegada's Postmaster/Commissioner, Capt. Ira Smith had mentioned previous receipt of three requests for postmarks. We hear from Charles Ricksecker that one such request was from him, and he shows us a strike for 28 AUG 1970 of the ANEGADA CDS.

Charles also sends us a BVI slogan that we do not recall having reported. We show it here along with three similar CDS's in current use at the G.P.O. in ROADTOWN.


The CDS at the left is used at the Registry Window; the alternate Registry Window, open for business from 12:00 Noon until 1:00 PM while the other clerk is at lunch, uses the center CDS; and the CDS at the right is kept in the mail sorting area to be used on mail that can't be processed by the machine, and for small batches that do not warrant use of the machine canceler. These CDS's have small differences in shape and spacing of letters that make it possible to identify them. For example, the distance between the period after I. of V.I. and the $N$ of ROADTOWN is 8 mm for the left mark, $6 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$ for the center mark and 7 mm for the right mark.

BRITISH HONDURAS -- Barclays Overseas Review reported that TACA Airlines had plans to inaugurate a new flight from Belize City to Kingston, Jamaica on lst June. The
plans call for use of a Viscount aircraft, with a change later to a BAC 111 jet if traffic justifies. The schedule provides for two trips a week each way. Have any First Flight covers been noted?

GRENADA -- New details of Air Grenada have been announced. Present plans call for it to be in operation with six Convair aircraft by the end of 1971. It intends to operate throughout the Eastern Caribbean, from Puerto Rico in the north to Guyana, Surinam and Venezuela in the south. (Info. from West Indies Chronicle, May 1971).

GUYANA -- The 1969 Christmas stamp issue has a variety of each value which has the first's' in 'Christmas' inverted. We first learned of this variety last October, while Gale Raymond and your Editor were touring Europe. During a visit with Theo. Klewitz in Fulda, Germany, we were shown examples of several of them. Now we note that the Commonwealth E. II Catalogue lists them as S53a, S54a, S55a and S56a, all priced at 10 to 20 times the normal. The inverted 's' is easily detected, because the overprint is in Gothic type with the 's' having an ornamental stroke extending upwards on the normal letter and downwards on the inverted one.

ST. KITTS -- The first machine cancel slogan from the GPO at Basseterre, St. Kitts has been reported by both Ben Ramkissoon and Charles Ricksecker. The slogan is in a three sided box with 5 horizontal lines completing the right side of it, and the text is MINI ISLE (S)/MAXI POTENTIAL. The CDS is the previously reported one which reads STATE OF ST. CHRISTOPHER/NEVIS-ANGUILLA, and is to the left of the slogan on both strikes. The earliest use known is 4 MAY 1971.

ST. LUCIA -- A straight line ON POSTAL SERVICE has been seen on an O.H.M.S. cover. It has sans serif letters $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$ high, and is approximately 60 mm long. The strike is in black ink, and the cover bears a strike of the oval GENERAL POST OFFICE mark dated 26 NOV 1970, also in black. The mark appears to be quite worn, so must have been in use for a few years.

ST. VINCENT -- Ben Ramkissoon reports a Kingstown machine strike having the slogan ST. VINCENT FOR/HEALTH AND BEAUTY used on 3 MAY 1969. This brings the LKD along a bit further.

TRINIDAD -- We are constantly amazed at how long it takes for surface mail sent us from Trinidad to get to Albuquerque. Joe Chin Aleong posted a price list to us at NEWTOWN, Trinidad on 6 JAN 1971, and it took until 19 MAY 1971 to reach us. Makes us wonder if such mail comes via the U.K. or takes some other devious route.

On the other hand, we received a magazine sent by surface from New Zealand in just a shade over a month. We hope the Journals we send to our members in Trinidad get better service than Joe's price list received.

TURKS \& CAICOS -- Charles Ricksecker recently had a letter from the Turks \& Caicos Islands GPO which mentioned that there are seven postal facilities there: the GPO; two SPO's, one at Cockburn Harbour and another at Salt Cay; and four PA's-one each at Middle Caicos and Providenciales and two at North Caicos. It appears that mail from the PA's is cancelled by the GPO, and Charles wonders if there is any way one can identify such mail, other than by a return address.

Charles also notes that decimal-surcharged definitives that were sold by the Crown Agents have Gum Arabic, while some purchased at the Turks \& Caicos GPO by a friend of his have PVA Gum. Has anyone seen this noted elsewhere?
help keep this feature alive by reporting your bits and pieces info to the editor.

ANGUILLA
21 JUN 71 BUTTERFLIES 1971. 10, 15, 40 and 50 cents depicting butterflies.

## ANTIGUA

12 JUL 71 MILITARY UNIFORMS 1971. $\frac{1}{2}, 10,25,35 \& 75$ cents depicting five of the uniforms worn by British troops during the 18 th and early 19 th Century. Designed by John Waddington's Studio and lithographed on Block CA paper in panes of 25 by Questa. There is also a souvenir sheet that contains one stamp of each value.

## BARBADOS

AUG 71 TOURISM. $1,5,12,25$ and 50 cents.
BRITISH HONDURAS

| 14 JUN 71 | RACIAL EQUALITY YEAR. (See June issue.) |
| :--- | :--- |
| 16 AUG 71 | HARDWOODS 1971. 5¢-TUBROOS; 15¢-YEMERI; 26c-BILLYWEBB; 50c-LOGWOOD. |
|  | Designed by Jennifer Toombs and lithographed by Questa on Block CA wmk. |
|  | paper in panes of $25 . \quad$ Also a souvenir sheet with one of each value. |

CAYMAN ISLANDS
27 SEP 71 CHRISTMAS 1971. $\frac{1}{4}, 1,5,10,12$ and 20 cents and a souvenir sheet.
$\frac{\text { DOMINICA }}{14 \text { JUN } 71}$
UNICEF 25TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE. 5, 10,38 cents and $\$ 1.20$ having common design featuring emblem of UNICEF in an ornamented " $D$ ", also a souvenir sheet containing the 10 c and $\$ 1.20$ values. Printed by Questa.
$\frac{\text { GRENADA }}{1 \text { JUN } 71}$
MISS WORLD ISSUE. $5,10,15,25,35$ and 50 cents in common design that features "Miss World", Jennifer Hosten of Grenada, and a map of Grenada in outline. There is also a souvenir sheet of the $50 ¢$ value printed on silk. Printing by Format International.

## GUYANA

19 JUL 71
SELF HELP ROAD. 5, 20, 25 and 50 cents in common design which features a worker felling a tree. The designs are by J. Criswick and stamps are lithographed by Harrison \& Sons Ltd. on Lotus Blossom Bud wmk. paper in panes of 25 stamps. The Self Help Road is a volunteer project by which the people of Guyana are constructing a road to Brazil which will place Guyana on the Latin American Highway and also open up many thousands of square miles of the interior to development.

## $\frac{\text { JAMAICA }}{30 \text { AUG } 71}$

TOURISM. 5, 10 and 50 cents.
LOCAL ART.
71 ESTABLISHMENT OF EARTH SATELLITE STATION. See June Journal for details. Release date not established.

## MONTSERRAT

8 JUL 71 GOLDEN JUBILEE OF BRITISH COMMONWEALTH EX-SERVICES LEAGUE. Stamps show Military Medals: 10c-Distinguished Flying Cross and Distinguished Flying Medal; 20c-Military Cross and Military Medal; 40c-Distinguished Service Cross and Distinguished Service Medal; \$l-Victoria Cross. The stamps are designed by Col. Alister Maynard. Lithographed by Questa.

SIEGE OF BRIMSTONE HILL. Four stamps illustrating incidents during the siege. $\frac{1}{2} ¢$ - Soldiers of the East Yorks Regiment; 20¢ - Royal Artillery in Action; 30¢ - French Infantry on the Charge; 50¢ - The Royal Scots in Action. Designed by Victor Whiteley, and lithographed by Walsall in panes of 50 stamps, on B1ock CA watermarked paper.



STKITTS NEVISANGUILLA



ST. LUCIA
I MAY 71 OPENING OF BEANE FIELD AIRPORT. (Revised date of issue).
10 AUG 71 OLD AND NEW VIEWS. 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents (all x 2). Designs feature old and new views of the same features of St. Lucia taken as far as was possible from the same vantage point. All will be in se-tenant form to provide a side-by-side comparison. Designed by V. Whiteley and printed in lithography by Questa on Block CA watermarked paper, in panes of 30.

ST. VINCENT
4 AUG 71 NATIONAL TRUST. 12 and 40 cents-National Trust Emblem; 30 and 45 cents Fort Charlotte Cannon. Designed by Gordon Drummond and lithographed by John Waddington of Kirkstall in panes of 50 on Block CA wmk. paper.

TURKS \& CAICOS
17 JUL 71 PIRATE ISSUE. 2¢̧-Pirate Sloop; 3ç-Pirate Treasure; 15¢̣-Marooned; 30ç Buccaneers. Designs are by John Waddington Ltd. Studio, and stamps are lithographed by John Waddington of Kirkstall Ltd. in panes of 25 stamps on Block CA watermarked paper.

Our thanks to the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau for providing information on these new issues; also to John Lister Ltd. and the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation for data on Anguilla, and Dominica and Grenada.

## ***********

## OUR SECRETARY REPORTS:

New Members:
FUSSELL, JEFF M. PETKEVICH, CHARLES J.
ROETT, MAURICE F-A

HOLT, W. CLARY
RITCHIE, GEOFFREY G.
WINEGAR, DONALD M.

KERR, DR. GEORGE R. ROBERTSON, GEORGE B.

New Applicants:
BATES, REV. TREVOR S., P.O. Box 212, Belize City, British Họnduras, C.A. Methodist Minister. Leeward Is., Br. Hond., used stamps \& covers. By G.J. Raymond. BISHOP, CHARLES W., 24 Henleaze Park Drive, Bristol BS9 4LH, England. Retired Surveyor. Jamaica - All Aspects. By F.F. Seifert. COTTMAN, RONALD J., JR., 1110 West Doris St., Oxnard, CA 93030. Technician. Bermuda, Brit. Cols., U.S., Worldwide. Cardio-pulmonary By A.N. Johnson. EVANS, LEONARD A., P.o. Box F2627, Freeport, Bahamas. Croupier. Commonwealth.
U.S. and British By F.F. Seifert.

FRANKS, LAWRENCE J., c/o Laurie Franks Ltd. Private Bag, Christchurch 1, New Zealand. Stamp Dealer. China \& Treaty Ports. Dealer in World stamps/covers. By C.E. Cwiakala RENSHAW, E.B. (BRIAN), 317 Eakring Rd., Mansfield, Notts., England. Schoolmaster. Trin. \& Tobago (especially pmks.), Some other BWI, Switz., Venez. By F.F. Seifert ROBERTS, JOHN, 203 Southfield Rd., Waterloo, Huddersfield HD5 8RJ, Yorkshire, England Electrical Engineer. Sarawak, Brunei, Leewards, Antigua, Iraq. By A. Shepherd WARREN, RICHARD S., 1270 S.W. 29th Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312. Driver for U.P.S. British Colonies and United States.

By E.M. Adelson

## Resignation:

FIELD, JOHN F., has resigned in good standing.
Change of Address:
COLEMAN, R.C., Apartamentos Mediterraneo, Apartado 39, Altea (Alicante), Spain. COLLINS, RALPH E., 208 Robin Hill Apts., Preston Ave., Vorhees Twp., Cherry Hill, NJ 08034.

EVERETT, REV. WALTER H., 20 South Delaware Street, Stamford, NY 12167.
JONES, G. MORGAN III, 620 Crosswicks Road, Rydal, PA 19046.
NEVILLE, THOMAS R., JR., 59 Sargent Drive, Snyder, NY 14226.
***********

## PERSONAL MENTION----

"IT'S A BOY::" exclaims CHUCK CWIAKALA, adding that Mark Christian arrived on 13 July and weighed in at 7 lbs. 11 oz. Our congratulations to Teresa and Chuck! Chuck sent us the news by a note on the back of the envelope, so even the postman got the word.


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QUINTUS FERNANDO won both the Marcus White Trophy and a Second Award at ELPEX '71, in El Paso, Texas, May 28-30.

At the same event DAN WARREN was given the Reserve Grand Award and a Gold.

TONY and MAVIS SHEPHERD have been enjoying a vacation in Tarronga, Spain, but find it a bit hot there. Shortly after arriving, Tony had already spotted some stamp shops?

Further word from AL BRANSTON tells us the Jamaican Postal Stationery that KEN WATSON displayed at Wakefield, was also given the premier award, the Sidebotham Trophy. The Countess of Mexborough presented the award to Ken.

DR. R.G.S. MEADLEY won the Tice Cup at the recent Scarborough competition. Medicine was the theme of his exhibit.

We note that a Silver Award was given to a Jamaica Postal History entry at NAPEX held in Washington, DC on May 22nd. The report gives the winner's name as A.B. WHALEN but could this be a misprint for our JOHN B.?

JOHN OLTHOF again earns our thanks for one of the attractive FDC's of the Netherlands Antilles stamp that honors the 60th Birthday of Prince Bernhard.

We don't know when or for how long he will stay, but we can report that GALE RAYMOND, our ramblin' representative, will be working in Scandinavia soon-if not already, in a "contemporary-church" program. We admit to sounding a bit confused on this, but it is only because we are! Gale, among other things is an International Courier and has his own authorized personal TRD for use on mail he carries. Postal Regulations state that couriers must affix proper postage of the country of origin on any mail which is carried by them. The stamps are canceled by the courier, and the mail may be either taken to its final destination or given to any post office for delivery. Gale's TRD will see much use during his travels.

BRIAN LIMRICK on HMS Ark Royal got to Fort Lauderdale, Florida as scheduled, and then managed to visit with BYRON CAMERON during his shore leave. They called your Editor on the phone, reporting a heavy Scotch fog in Byron's penthouse apartment:

## BACK ISSUES

The following back issues of the BCPJ can be supplied at 70\& each POSTPAID:

WHOLE NUMBERS: 44-52, 55 and 57-59.
(Quantities are low on some issues)
SEND ORDERS TO THE EDITOR

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WANTED - BRITISH COMMONWEALTH STAMPS to be exchanged with the members of my ROYAL EXCHANGE for other stamps that you need. Only quality material handled. Drop me a line for full details and rules. ED FLADUNG, BOX 386, SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE AT A BIG DISCOUNT -- On behalf of the owner I am offering to our BCPSG members sets of the following three books at U.S. $\$ 7.50$ plus postage of $50 \$$ to U.S. addresses and $\$ 1$ elsewhere.

THE PHILATELIC HANDBOOK OF JAMAICA, VOL. I, E.F. AGUILAR
THE PHILATELIC HANDBOOK OF JAMAICA, VOL. 2, E.F. AGUILAR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS, E.F. AGUILAR AND P.T. SAUNDERS

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WANTED - JOURNAL BACK ISSUES --- Several philatelic libraries have indicated that they wish to complete their files with early issues of the BCP Journal. Members willing to part with back issues are requested to contact the Editor.

## CONVERSATION PIECES

Our Postal History Material of the World has postmarks, covers, proofs, specimens, used abroads, unlisted rarities, postal stationery, fakes, forgeries, multiples and Cinderellas. We specialize in British West Indies postmarks and numeral obliterators but many elusive items of the world are in stock. Drop us a line. It might take months till we get around to answering you, but the old bum, our staff of one, won't be rushed. We also buy and are much faster in that department.
1954 Bahamas coils - complete paste up strips of 5 values. ..... $\$ 30.00$
1965 Bahamas unissued coils complete paste up strips of 5 values ..... $\$ 300.00$
1964 Jamaica coils - complete paste up strips of 4 values ..... $\$ 25.00$

## AND AS WE GO TO PRESS:

The July issue of the Philatelic Magazine, a London stamp Journal, discloses the name of the mystery printers who have been producing the stamp issues for Anguilla since that island seceded from St. Kotts. They are Alden and Mowbray Ltd., an Oxford firm which previously had no experience in this field. The name is said to have been kept secret for security reasons.

In the same magazine, there is news that a late printing of the definitive issue that was recently replaced in the Bahamas shows some very distinctive shades, particularly on the top three values. At least a small quantity of them were rescued by a dealer, just before the issue was withdrawn. They will probably command a high price, unless other sources appear. The magazine points out that if the Crown Agents were handling Bahamas stamps, they would have reported a new printing, allowing dealers to check on the stamps and get in orders for supplies.

Bob Bolling tells us of a Bahamas postmark that Morris Ludington and Gale Raymond say is new to them. It is a single ring stamp of about 28 mm diameter, struck in red ink on a 4d Victoria, Sc.29, SG.53. While the strike is not too clear, Morris provides a likely reading of the text as being G.P.O. around the top and NASSAU, N.P. BAHAMAS at the bottom, and presumably the date in the center. He suspects it might be an office cancel rather than a regular postal cancel and, since the Registration Department was using red ink in the 1880's and 1890's, it might have come from there.

A few Journals ago, we asked if anyone was able to tell us where DIAMOND VILLAGE, St. Vincent, home of the newest Post Office on that island, was located. We now have the info, thanks to Charles Ricksecker. It is beyond Calliaqua, in the far southern part of the island, and off of the main road to Stubbs. Charles says Diamond Village P.O. opened sometime between June and August of 1970. He has seen mail prior to then that had a D.V. return address, but it bore the postmark of PROSPECT. Charles mailed some covers to D.V. in AUG and OCT 1970, trying to get its postmark, but they received the GPO CDS. The earliest reported strike of the Diamond Village CDS is 14 NOV 1970.

## BOOKS TO INTEREST THE CARIBBEAN SPECIALIST

## The Codrington Correspondence

1743-1851 by Robson Lowe. The Second Impression. It covers the postal history of Antigua and Barbuda in this period from a dossier of family letters from the Islands. Fifty-five plates, as well as illustrations in the text. Of considerable value to the students of the postal history of any of the Leeward Islands.

The Bahama Islands by M.H. Ludington and Gale Raymond. The history and catalogue of the handstamps and cancellations between 1802 and 1967. With a rarity guide and 155 illustrations £3.

## The Postal History of Jamaica

1662-1860 by Thomas Foster. The most comprehensive definitive work. One hundred and seventy-seven illustrations, nine being in colour. Was awarded the Nugent Clougher Medal 1970.
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