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THE POST OFFICE AT PEMBROKE NORTH IN BERMUDA SHARES QUARTERS WITH THE GLEBE ROAD GROCERY AND SERVES THE FORMER NORTH SHORE VILLAGE. *Photo by Dr. John C. Arnell*

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We are always saddened to learn of the death of a member, but especially so when the member is a dear friend. Thus, the news of the passing of Milt Erickson hit us hard. When our Group came into being ten years ago, Milt was the first member we met. While on a business trip out our way, he was our overnight guest. Subsequently, we corresponded frequently, and met again at a number of BCPSG meetings. Many of the choice items in our collections came from Milt either as swaps or gifts. They'll keep reminding us of Milt and our friendship with him.

Milt was a solid "behind the scenes" worker for our Group, and one of his last activities was in petitioning the Internal Revenue Service of the U.S. for tax-exempt status for our BCPSG. We are pleased to report that his efforts met with success. Our Group will have no tax liability as long as it continues to operate as a non-profit educational society. A member may deduct for income tax purposes, contributions to the BCPSG in cash or material.

We were pleased to note the names ALFRED J. BRANSTON and DR. NORMAN D. THETFORD listed among members of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, who were elevated to the grade of Fellow. Congratulations!

As we send each issue to press, we still have on hand quite a few articles that we just couldn't squeeze into its pages. Our aim is to publish each article in the next issue after it reaches us, but this is seldom possible. If you are one of those who has been waiting a long time to see your article in print, please be patient. We'll use it as soon as we can, so keep on sending us material. We can think of no worse fate for an editor than to have the well run dry!

Fred

ANTIGUA G.P.O. OVALS

by George W. Bowman

I am interested in preparing a check list of all known Antigua "GPO" or "Post Office" hand-stamps, and am requesting the assistance of all BCPSGers who have covers bearing any such marks in their collections. These handstamps generally are a single or double-lined oval, horizontally arranged, incorporating a crown and the words ANTIGUA and GENERAL POST OFFICE, or some derivative thereof. They can be found both on mail bearing adhesives and without stamps, from the GPO in St. John's. In the former case they serve only to identify the office of origin. Such covers occur most frequently with shipment of stamps ordered by dealers and collectors, which require payment of postage. However, on the unfranked mail the GPO stamp validates the post-free status of the item concerned.

My notes (and I must admit that I believe there may be more styles of this mark than I report here) contain the following nine items. Since I copied the marks on a machine that reduces a bit, the dimensions cannot be measured directly from my illustrations. The dimensions that I give are as accurate as I could make, considering the considerable amount of ink spread on some strikes. However, since each type is distinctly different from all others, there should be no problem of identification.



Type 1.
43 x 27 mm, 3 mm letters



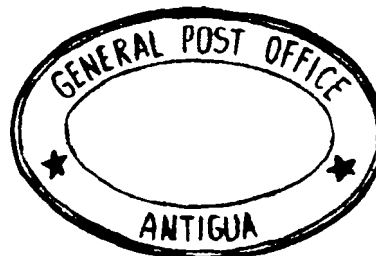
Type 2.
51 x 34½ mm, 3½ mm letters

I have the Type 1 on cover dated 15 January 1903, struck in purple ink, and the Type 2 also on cover dated 18 March 1929, in brownish-purple ink. Bill Cornell has Type 2 on cover for 24 September 1929, also in brownish-purple.

The first two types are the only ones I know that employ the designation POST OFFICE. The remaining seven types all read GENERAL POST OFFICE.



Type 3.
50 x 31 mm, 3½ mm letters



Type 4.
49½ x 33 mm, 3½ mm letters

Of Type 3, I have two strikes on cover. One dated 26 November 1936 is in blue ink, while the other dated 12 August 1946 is in black. Bill Cornell has shown me two examples of the Type 4 mark, both on OHMS covers. One is postmarked 15 September 1942; the other bears

a 12 May 1943 postmark. Both strikes are in grayish-black ink. Fred Seifert reports that he has a cover with a Type 4 strike, also in grayish-black, used on 18 March 1943.

My only example of Type 5 is on a cover dated 13 April 1949, struck in black ink. Cornell has Type 6 on cover postmarked 18 May 1956, ink color not stated.



Type 5.
37 x 24½ mm,
GPO 2¼ mm letters,
ANTIGUA 2¼ mm letters



Type 6.
37½ x 24 mm,
GPO 2 mm letters,
ANTIGUA 2½ mm letters



Type 7.
36½-37 mm x 22½ mm,
GPO 2 mm letters,
ANTIGUA 2 mm letters



Type 8.
37 x 23½ mm,
GPO 1½-2 mm letters,
ANTIGUA 2½ mm letters



Type 9.
39½ x 21½ mm,
GPO 2½-3 mm letters,
ANTIGUA 1½ mm letters

I have two examples of Type 7, both struck in purple ink. Dates of covers are 18 November 1959 and 6 October 1961. In BCPJ Whole Number 44, Bill Cornell illustrates this mark and notes that it was available at the St. John's GPO in February 1968.

Cornell has the Type 8 mark on two OHMS covers, dated 15 November 1963 and 2 January 1964. Both examples are in purple ink. Type 8 looks very similar to Type 6, and may be a worn version of Type 6. On both of Cornell's covers the crown is blurred, not sharp as on Type 6. I have Type 9 on a cover dated 17 February 1970, struck in purple ink.

Would those specialists in Antigua philately who have such marks on covers kindly report to our Editor the dates of such strikes, so that some "ball park" range of EDK/LDK's may be established? We need this information badly for the Antigua Monograph. Also if you have similar marks of types or styles not shown here, please pass that data along to Editor Fred as well. Any and all help that you can give will be greatly appreciated.

THE CHRONOLOGICAL POSTMARK HISTORY
OF THE POST TOWNS OF JAMAICA
(Concluded)
by Robert Topaz

WHITFIELD PEN St. Andrew Opened 27 January 1929

1. D.R. 28 mm, 3 mm letters 23 JY 61 26 NO 57

Name changed to Whitfield Town on 12 March 1943, but the above device was not completely retired and saw use as an occasional dater for some years.

WHITFIELD TOWN St. Andrew Renamed 12 March 1943

1. B 2 6 JY 43 5 JA 65

2. B 1x 9 AU 45 23 OC 64

The name is around the bottom of this mark; the top is blank, but some of the strikes seen show traces of some kind of marking in this space.

3. MSR * 4 OC 58 1 OC 71

There are several different dies of this mark that can be separated.

See Whitfield Pen for other usage.

WHITHORN Westmoreland Opened 1 March 1949

1. TRD Type 48b violet ink 10 MR 49 26 MY 50

2. Oval Registered violet ink 28 JU 50 24 JU 52
black ink 14 OC 52 4 JA 56

3. MSR * 10 MR 60 11 NO 69

4. MSR 1968 * 31 OC 69 2 JY 71

Forwarding Office: Montego Bay 2.

WHITNEY Clarendon Opened July 1963

1. TRD Type 37 violet ink 25 JY 63 5 NO 64

2. MSR * 17 FE 65 29 AU 68

Forwarding Offices: Mocho and Four Paths

WILD CANE St. Ann Opened 8 March 1939

1. D.R. 29 mm, 3½ mm letters 17 MY 39 23 JY 70

Forwarding Offices: Borobridge and Mandeville

WILLIAMSFIELD Manchester Opened 2 August 1894

1. TRD Type 8 black ink 4 OC 94 JU 95
"94" is in die.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 2. D.R. 26 mm, 3½ mm letters, dots | | 10 DE 94 | 18 SP 34 |
| 3. D.R. 28 mm, 3 mm letters | | 11 NO 35 | 25 FE 58 |
| 4. Oval Registered | Two states-Defaced Clear | 12 JU 50 20 NO 61 | 31 JY 60 2 SP 64 |
| 5. MSR (issued about 10 SP 56, in duplicate) * | | 6 NO 56 | 13 AU 71 |
| Another die was issued 18 DE 64. | | | |

WILLIAMSFIELD RAILWAY

Manchester

Opened before 1900

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. S 1b (broad letters) | blue ink red ink | 12 MY 02 6 SP 05 | 26 MR 07 06 |
| 2. S 1b (tall thin letters) | blue ink violet ink | 27 JY 15 19 NO 23 | 28 NO 24 |
| 3. S 3 | blue ink | 29 MR 17 | 14 OC 24 |

WILMINGTON

St. Thomas

Opened 1 March 1939

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|----------|
| 1. D.R. 30 mm, 3 mm letters | | 13 JU 39 | 23 JY 60 |
| 2. MSR | * | 31 AU 59 | 22 FE 71 |

Forwarding Office: Morant Bay

WILSON'S RUN

Trelawney

Opened 13 March 1959

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. TRD Type 37c | violet ink | 13 JY 59 | 30 OC 59 |
| Spelled Wilson Run. The ink has a bluish tinge. | | | |
| 2. MSR | * violet ink black ink | 23 MY 60 25 JU 64 | 27 MR 62 28 AU 68 |
| 3. MSR 1968 | | 10 AU 71 | |

WINCHESTER

St. Thomas

Opened 28 August 1968

- | | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 37 | violet ink | 28 AU 68 | 20 FE 71 |
| 2. MSR | | 20 JY 71 | 27 JY 71 |

Located near Stokes Hall and not in village of Winchester.

Forwarding Office: Golden Grove

WINDSOR CASTLE

Portland

Opened 19 August 1909

- | | | | |
|---|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 15 | violet ink | 12 OC 09 | |
| The year 1909 is a part of the stamp. | | | |
| | black ink | 25 FE 10 | 22 AU 10 |
| The year has been removed from the stamp. | | | |
| 2. D.R. 28 mm, 3 mm letters | | 27 OC 10 | JY 29 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 3. D.R. 29 mm, 4 mm letters | | 28 JU 37 | 5 SP 53 |
| 4. B 3 | | 26 DE 55 | 24 AU 71 |
| 5. TRD Type 37 | black ink | 5 DE 67 | 2 JA 68 |
| 6. MSR 1968 | * | 7 JA 70 | 12 OC 71 |

WINDSOR FOREST

Portland

Opened 16 February 1949

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. TRD Type 48b | violet ink | 16 FE 49 | 14 NO 51 |
| 2. Oval | violet ink black ink | 23 FE 51 13 AU 52 | 29 NO 51 17 DE 63 |
| 3. TRD Type 37b | violet ink | 18 FE 56 | 31 DE 56 |
| 4. MSR (issued 18 DE 64) | * | 3 MR 65 | 19 MR 68 |
| 5. MSR 1968 | * | 29 JY 70 | 23 JY 71 |

Forwarding Office: Port Antonio

WINDWARD ROAD

Kingston

Opened 1 April 1909

| | | | |
|--|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 15 | violet ink | 7 AP 09 | 28 AU 09 |
| 2. D.R. 28 mm, 3 mm letters Narrow thin letters | | 28 SP 09 | 8 NO 35 |
| 3. D.R. 30 mm, 4 mm letters Probably several dies of this mark existed. | | 6 MY 35 | 22 FE 55 |
| 4. B 1 | * | 16 DE 48 | 3 FE 70 |
| 5. B 3 (issued January 1954) | * | 24 FE 55 | 25 NO 69 |
| 6. MSR (issued 1 June 1954) A second die was issued 7 OC 55. | * | 3 FE 55 | 20 SP 71 |
| 7. MSR 1968 | * | 10 AU 70 | 17 AU 71 |

Kingston Postal Zone 2.

WIRE FENCE

Trelawney

Opened 24 February 1964

| | | | |
|--|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 37 The name is in two words | violet ink | 22 AU 64 | 9 NO 64 |
| 2. MSR (issued 18 December 1964) | | 11 MY 65 | 19 JA 71 |

This office was a sub-postal agency from 1958 to 1964.

Forwarding Office: Wait A Bit

WOODFORD St. Andrew Opened 21 February 1921

Aguilar claimed this office opened up without stamps for sale.

- | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | TRD Type 21 | black ink violet ink | FE 21 28 JY(21) | 5 SP 21 |
| 2. | D.R. 28 mm, 3½ mm letters | violet ink black ink | 5 AU 22 7 SP 23 | 7 AP 23 8 MR 68 |

Forwarding Office: Gordon Town

WOOD HALL Clarendon Opened 18 September 1920

- | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. | TRD Type 21 "1920" is in the stamp | violet ink | 11 OC 20 | 10 NO 21 |
| 2. | D.R. 28 mm, 3 mm letters | | 29 AP 24 | 16 AP 68 |

This office is located in the village of Teak Pen.

Forwarding Offices: May Pen and Chapelton

WOODLANDS St. Elizabeth Opened 10 March 1958

- | | | | | |
|----|--------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. | TRD Type 47b | violet ink | 31 MR 58 | 31 MR 60 |
| 2. | MSR | * | 4 DE 60 | 29 JY 70 |

Forwarding Offices: Springfield and Middle Quarters

YALLAHS St. Thomas Opened before 1774

- | | | | | |
|----|---|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. | D.R. 29 mm, 3 mm letters Thin rings. | dots | 4 MY 06 | 2 OC 35 |
| 2. | D.R. 30 mm, 3½ mm letters Heavy letters. | | JY 36 | 27 OC 70 |
| 3. | MSR | | 15 JA 58 | 25 JU 71 |
| 4. | TRD Type 37 | violet ink | 1 AU 67 | 25 JY 68 |

This office was called St David in the 1833-1902 period.

YARMOUTH Clarendon Opened 16 November 1954

- | | | | | |
|----|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| 1. | TRD Type 37b | violet ink | 16 NO 54 | 1 SP 55 |
| 2. | MSR (issued 7 OC 55) | * violet ink * black ink | 25 JA 56 19 MR 56 | 15 MY 69 |
| 3. | MSR 1968 | * | 1 MR 69 | 20 AU 71 |

The opening date was considered to be 13 DE 54, but Foster claims it opened 16 NO 54 on the closing of Sandy Gully and lists a TRD of that date.

YORK CASTLE

St. Ann

Opened 1 March 1879

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|
| 1. PSQC1 | Index A | 8 MY 83 | 19 OC 99 |
| | Index B | 1 SP 83 | 4 AU 88 |
| | Index C | 8 MY 83 | 16 MY 91 |
| 2. D.R. 26½ mm, 3 mm letters, dots | | 29 NO 94 | 19 OC 99 |

This office was closed 28 FE 99 and reopened before 23 AU 99; then closed for an extended period after 19 OC 99. Reopened as a Postal Agency 6 MY 60.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| 3. TRD Type 37a | bluish violet ink | 30 MY 60 | 18 FE 61 |
| 4. MSR | * | 23 AU 61 | 18 AP 67 |
| 5. MSR 1968 | | 19 MY 70 | 22 MY 71 |

YORK PEN

Clarendon

Opened April 1959

- | | | | |
|--|--------------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 37c Mark reads "T.W.I." | black ink | 2 AP 59 | 23 MY 59 |
| 2. TRD Type 37d | violet ink | 12 MY 59 | 7 DE 59 |
| 3. MSR | * violet ink | 14 JA 60 | 11 AP 60 |
| | * black ink | 27 MY 60 | 19 AP 66 |

Closed 15 MY 66; reopened 7 NO 66. 1964-65 marks carry no year plugs.

- | | | | |
|---|------------|----------|----------|
| 4. TRD Type 37 Some strikes are blackish violet. | violet ink | 15 NO 66 | 11 MY 68 |
| 5. MSR 1968 | * | 15 JU 68 | 14 JU 71 |

Forwarding Office: Four Paths

YTHANSIDE

Portland

Opened in 1964

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRD Type 37 | violet ink | 29 FE 64 | 14 JA 65 |
| 2. MSR (issued 18 DE 64) | * | 17 FE 65 | 15 MR 68 |
| 3. MSR 1968 | * | 11 JA 69 | 7 MY 71 |

Forwarding Office: Buff Bay

B.V.I. "MISSING VIRGIN" VARIETY SOLD----

Stanley Gibbons Ltd. have announced that during the recent ANPHILEX in New York they sold a copy of that great rarity, S.G. 20a, the 1 shilling "Missing Virgin" variety of the British Virgin Islands. The selling price was not stated in the press release by the S.G. firm, but in all likelihood was well above the last stated catalogue value of £1800. Only five copies of this variety are known, according to Gibbons. Most authorities consider them to have been produced as printer's trials, and not to be issued errors as is sometimes claimed.

Bahamas' Earliest Official Out Island Postmarks?

by M.H. Ludington

The recent acquisition of several Bahamas covers of the 1880 period, plus the evidence of several others already in my collection, have, I believe, supplied definite proof of the earliest regular postmarks used in the Out Islands.

For many years the "27" bar cancellations, of which there were two, Types K3a and K3b, have been associated with mail from the Out Islands. But it was not known if they had been used on one of the Out Islands, on the mail boat which ran between Nassau and Inagua, or at Nassau to cancel stamps on letters from the Out Island post offices which had no cancelling devices of their own. Why the figure "27" was chosen remains a mystery, for there were not 27 post offices in the Bahamas until the end of the century, and no other numeral has ever been found.

Research in Nassau into the early postal history, has revealed that the mail boats employed under the Government contracts were small schooners of not much over 20 tons, which also carried cargo and a few passengers. It is highly improbable that they had either the space or facilities on board to sort or cancel even the small amount of mail carried. Letter sorting was done by the various post offices beforehand, and mail for the different destinations was placed in separate packages or bags and sealed. Some of these seals have been recorded used as cancellors on adhesive stamps.

In the Postmaster's Annual Report for the year 1882, published in the *Nassau Guardian* of the 24th February 1883, he stated: "In consequence of Inagua having been made a port of call by American Steam Ship Companies," (for salt), "it became necessary to make the post office there an office for the receipt and despatch of Mails between New York, Jamaica, and Turks Islands."

The salt trade with Inagua lasted less than five years owing to high protective tariff imposed by the United States, and by 1887 Inagua had reverted to its previous impoverished condition.

Elsewhere in the Postmaster's Report, he states that the route of the mail boats from Nassau via seven intermediate post offices to Inagua was 422 miles, and other issues of the newspaper revealed that the journey usually took from 10 to 14 days in each direction, depending upon the weather. The service was monthly.

In *The Bahama Islands* by Ludington and Raymond, owing to the lack of any evidence one way or the other, I tentatively assigned the two "27" cancellations to Nassau. Both are known used on the 1d imperforate of 1859, and Type K3a (4.5 mm between the "2" and the "7" and the outer arc on the left bent inward since very early in its life) survived until about 1811. Type K3b (4.0 mm between the "2" and the "7" and with an undamaged arc) is known used until about 1890.

Examination of a number of copies of Type B4 datestamp, with BAHAMAS in a straight line across the upper half of the circle, has shown that two datestamps of this also exist. Clear impressions are not hard to find, and the differences are quite noticeable. See table on next page for a comparison of several measurements of the two stamps.

The earliest Type B4a seen is dated DE 12 70, and the latest DE 10 84, with many examples between 1881 and 1884.

The earliest date seen of Type B4b is MR 8 75, and the latest JA 4 98, with many examples dated throughout 1897. All of these later examples are cancellations on stamps, but it was

also used, particularly in the early 1880's, as a datestamp with either the "B" or one of the "A05" bar cancellations cancelling the stamps.

| MEASUREMENT | TYPE B4a | TYPE B4b |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Diameter..... | 19.5 mm | 20.0 mm |
| Overall length of BAHAMAS..... | 17.25 | 16.0 |
| Width of "B"..... | 2.0 | 1.5 |
| Top of "B" to circle..... | 0.75 | 1.25 |
| Height of "S"..... | 2.75 | 2.5 |
| Top of "S" tp circle..... | 0.5 | 1.5 |

Several covers with Type B4a are known with dates up to MR 8 80 (see Fig. 1). All of them were written to the United States by tourists, so that Type B4a could only have been applied at Nassau, where there was a hotel.

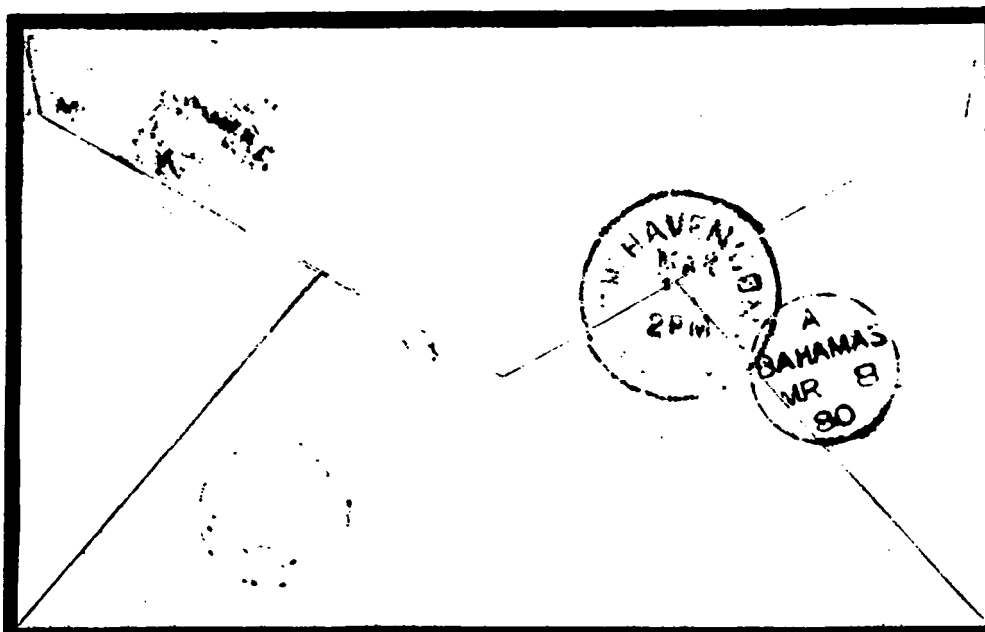


Fig. 1
Type B4a used in 1880 on a letter from Nassau.

But two local covers of 1884 are of particular interest. The earlier (Fig. 2a front and Fig. 2b back) is addressed to Stephen A. Dillet, believed to be the son of Stephen Dillet, Postmaster at Nassau from 1846 to 1876. "L.H.T." means "Light House Tender", and these lighthouse tenders made periodic visits to all the lighthouses established throughout the Bahamas. The *L.H.T. Richmond* was obviously expected to be at Inagua, where a lighthouse had been built in 1868. G.A. McGregor was the postmaster at Inagua at that time. The 1d Interinsular stamp is cancelled A05, Type K1b, while on the back is a strike of the Nassau datestamp, Type N2, of JY 28 (18)84. There are also a Type B4a, dated AU 9 84, and another Type N2 bearing a date of AU 28 (18)8(4). The mail boat, as mentioned before, took from 10 to 14 days to reach Inagua from Nassau. The *L.H.T. Richmond* must have already left, so the letter was returned, reaching Nassau on August 28th. A notation on the front in manuscript shows that it was received on September 1st.

The later cover (Fig. 3a front and Fig. 3b back) is addressed to Nassau. The 1d Interinsular

stamp is cancelled by Type K3a (the damaged "27" cancellation), and on the back are a Type B4a dated DE 10 84 and a Nassau Type N2 dated DE 2(0?) (18)8(4), again approximately ten days apart. This cover strongly suggests that Type K3a was applied at Inagua, but to con-

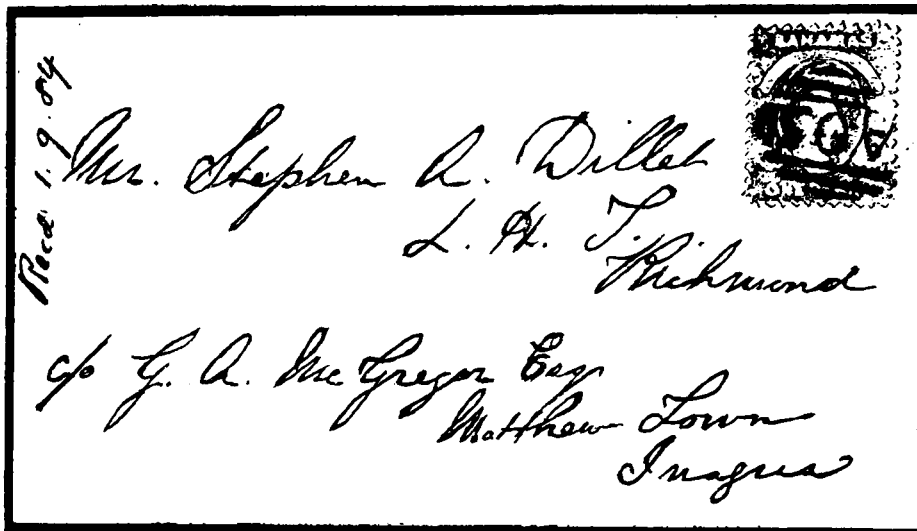


Fig. 2a

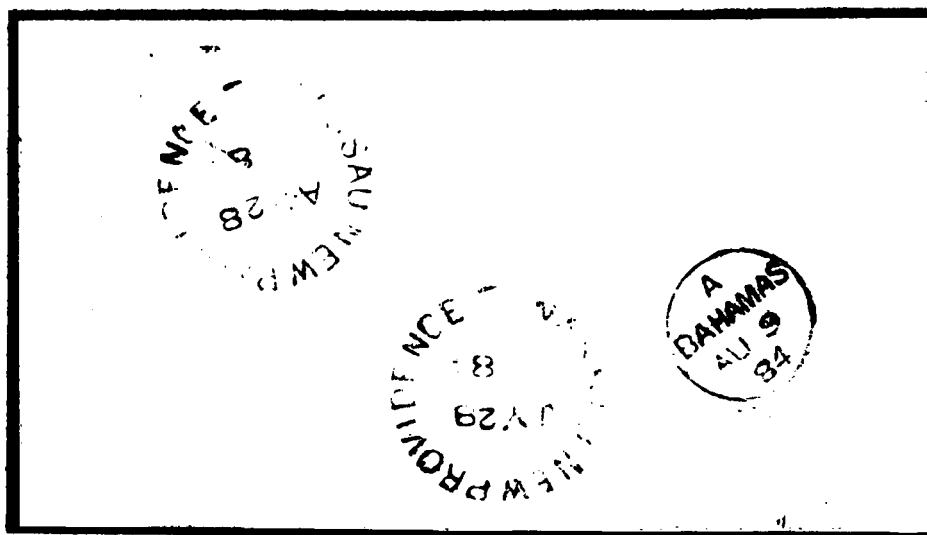


Fig. 2b

Type B4a used as a "transit" datestamp at Inagua.

firm this conclusively, the registered cover (Fig. 4) shows Type K3a used with an Out Island Type 1 datestamp of Inagua on SP 21 98. Both Type B4a and K3a may well have been sent to Inagua in 1882, though Type K3a could have been there earlier.

Meanwhile, the Type B4b remained in use at Nassau, apparently as a datestamp for overseas mail, as is shown in Fig. 5. The message on the reverse of the card is headed by "Nassau,

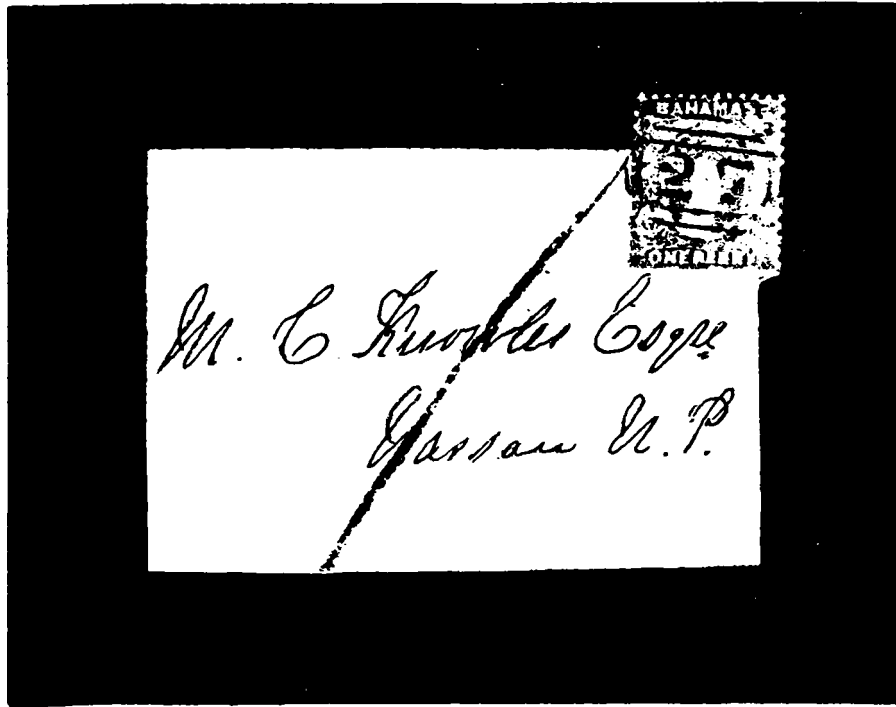


Fig. 3a

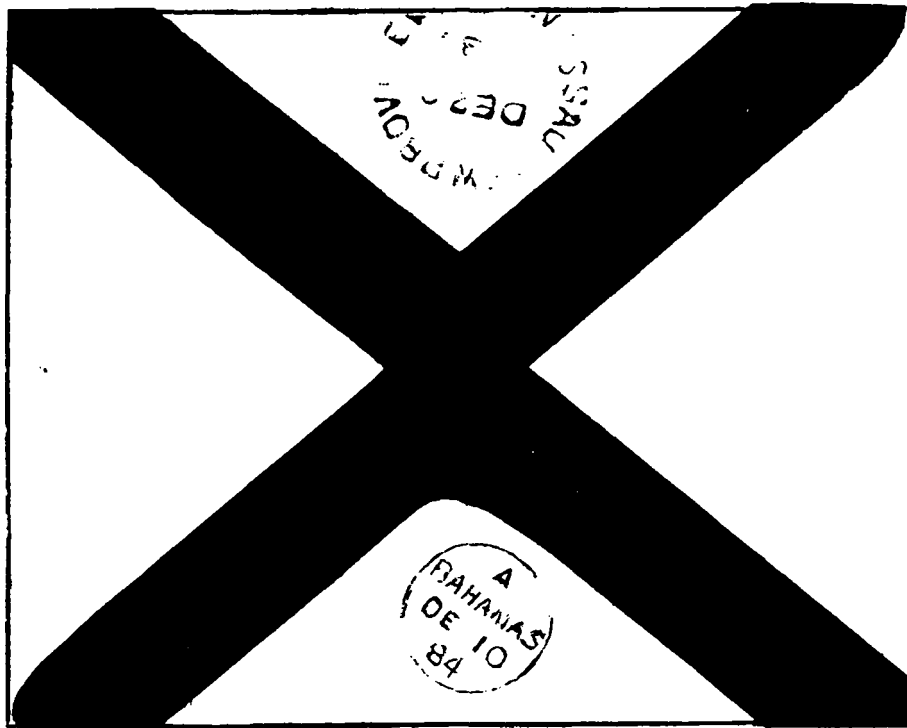


Fig. 3b

Types K3a and B4a used at Inagua.

Bahamas". All other examples with later dates that I have seen are also on overseas mail.

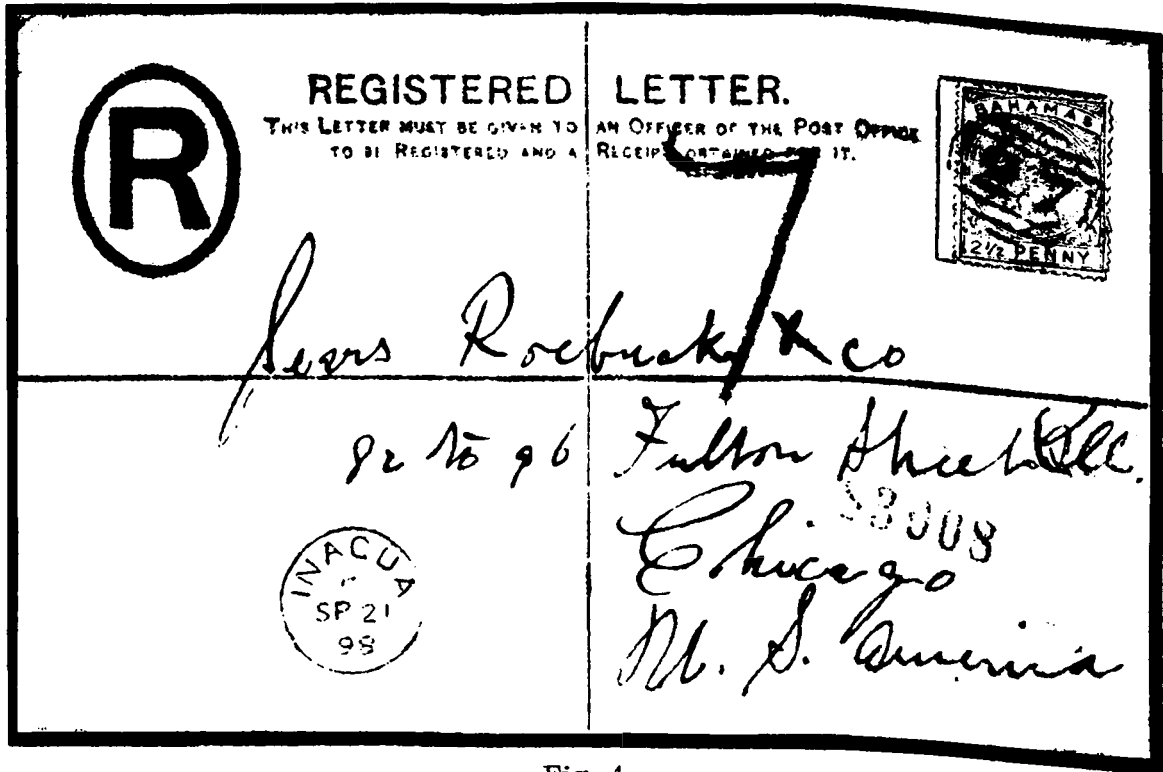


Fig. 4
Type K3a used with Out Islands Type 1 at Inagua.

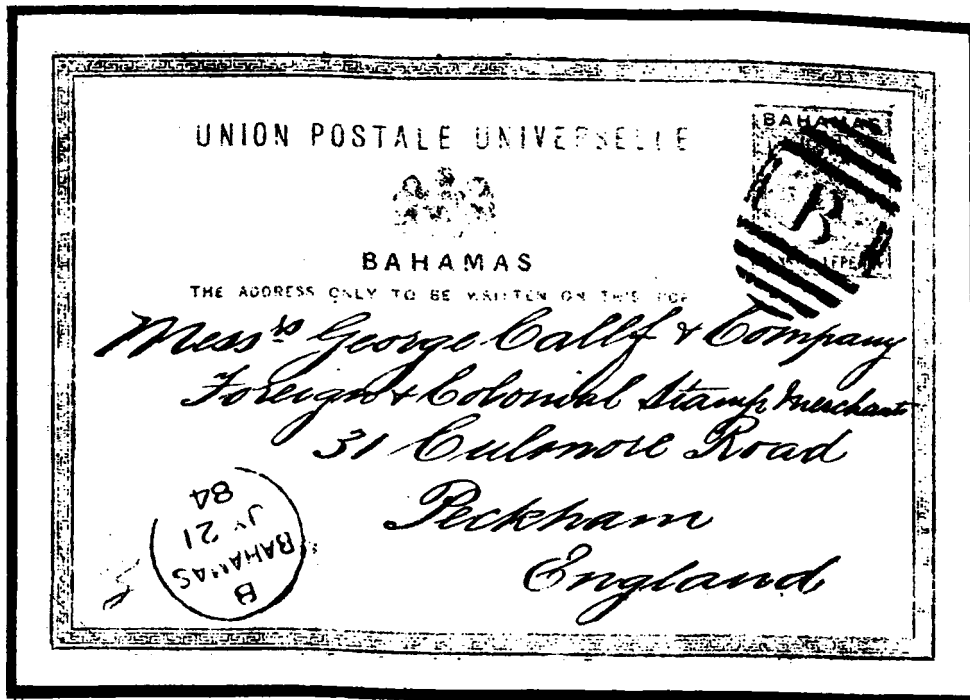


Fig. 5
Type B4b used at Nassau in 1884.

Any further information, whether confirming or refuting my conclusions, would be greatly appreciated.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Many of you may not realize that the quality of this Journal of ours is really the work of one man--Fred Seifert, our Editor. He it was who introduced the offset printing that made it possible to have the half-tone illustrations which have added so much to many of the articles. Not being content with an ordinary type face, he bought himself an IBM Selectric typewriter to get what he wanted. Then without being asked, he began to justify (straighten) the right-hand margin of each page. This meant careful editing and typing each page a number of times to make the lines come out even, but being the perfectionist he is, Fred believed it was worth it--and the awards the Journal has since won support his view.

At NOJEX last year, the first concrete plans were drawn up for the preparation of two monographs, to be published in sections in the Journal before being consolidated. Reflecting on the need for even better composing of these monographs, and facing the necessity to reduce the time involved in setting up a page, Fred asked the Group to buy him an IBM Executive typewriter, which has features to cut the work by from one-third to more than half. This was approved by the Board of Trustees, and Ben Ramkisson was authorized to expend the sum of \$736.32 for this machine. Several members have made contributions to our Treasury either in cash or auction lots, to lessen the drain on our funds, and to them I send the thanks of all the members. Additional contributions by those able to help will be most welcome.

As I have written before, there is nothing more satisfying for a stamp collector who has a regional interest than to get together with his peers. A recent letter from Andy Hale proposes that there be an informal assembly of Group members at ROPEX-72 to be held at the Flagship Rochester in Rochester, New York, on 16-18 June 1972. This will be an exhibition sponsored by the Niagara Frontier Federation of Stamp Clubs and the Federation of Central New York Philatelic Societies, so should be quite a show. I would encourage any of you who are within striking distance of Rochester to plan to go to ROPEX-72. Andy would like to have an opportunity to entertain you and introduce you to other BCPSG members, so drop him a line and tell him that you will be there (and exhibit, if you want). Write Andrews B. Hale, 61 Douglas Road, Rochester, NY 14610.

Jack

EAGLE HALL "D.O." HANDSTAMP USE EXPLAINED-----

A letter received recently from Major Stephen Cave advises that the Eagle Hall, Barbados, Post Office now has handstamps reading D.O. 1 through D.O. 6, and they are used as follows:

D.O. 1 is used on the daily mail; D.O. 2 through D.O. 5 are used by Cashiers, and are not normally employed on letters; D.O. 6 is used by the Postmistress, Miss Mary Hope. The precise date that D.O. 4 through D.O. 6 came into use is not known to Stephen, but he thinks it was sometime between 1 April and 31 December 1971--probably around August.

If the above employment is maintained, numbers 2 through 6 should be rarely seen, but it has been our experience that clerks and their stamps tend to move around in post offices. We have seen numbers 2, 3, and 4 on commercial registered letters, so perhaps the duties of the cashiers include registering mail at times. Use of the D.O. handstamps began when Eagle Hall P.O. opened on 20 October 1969, as reported in the April 1970 Journal, W/N 54.

Grenada Post Office Opening Dates

by Anthony Shepherd & John A. Cronin

For some time, the two of us have been trying to compile a list of the opening dates of each of the post offices of Grenada. From the limited data provided by Charlton in his Grenada handbook, and a few Post Office Lists, plus a number of covers used at some of the offices, we made the preliminary compilation which follows. There are many gaps, and we hope that our fellow collectors of Grenada will be able to close a few of them.

| <u>OFFICE</u> | <u>OPENING DATE</u> | | <u>REMARKS</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| | <u>DEFINITE</u> | <u>POSSIBLE</u> | |
| GPO, St. George's | 1784 | | "G" postmark use begun in 1861. |
| St. John's (Gouyave) | 1861 | | "A" postmark use begun in 1861; Gouyave CDS used from 1907. |
| St. Mark's (Victoria) | 1861 | | "B" postmark use begun in 1861; Victoria CDS used from 1907. |
| St. Patrick's (Sauteurs) | 1861 | | "C" postmark use begun in 1861; Sauteurs CDS used from 1907. |
| St. Andrew's (Grenville) | 1861 | | "D" postmark use begun in 1861; Grenville CDS known used 1905. |
| St. David's | 1861 | | "E" postmark use begun in 1861; St. David's CDS used from 1898. |
| Carriacou | 1841 | | "F" postmark use begun in 1861; Carriacou CDS used from 1907. |
| Belmont | ? | 1936? | Known operating in 1946. |
| Belvedere | ? | 1945-46 | Known operating in 1946. |
| Birch Grove | 1899 | | |
| Byelands | ? | | Known operating in 1961, but not shown on 1955 P.O. List. |
| Calliste | 1970 | | |
| Chantimelle | ? | | Known operating in 1961, but not shown on 1955 P.O. List. |
| Concord | 1890 | | |
| Corinth | ? | 1927 | Known operating in 1955. |
| Crochu | 1902 | | |
| Dover | ? | | Known operating in 1947, but not shown on Colonial List of 1949. |
| Dunfermline | 1930 | | |
| Duquesne | 1970 | | |
| Florida | ? | | Known operating in 1964. |
| Fontenoy | 1970 | | |

| <u>OFFICE</u> | <u>OPENING DATE</u> | | <u>REMARKS</u> |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| | <u>DEFINITE</u> | <u>POSSIBLE</u> | |
| Grand Anse | ? | 1949 | Not shown on Colonial Office List of 1949. |
| Grand Roy | 1900 | | |
| Happy Hill | 1927 | | |
| Hermitage | 1903 | | |
| Hope | 1916 | | |
| La Digue | ? | 1927 | Known operating in 1946. |
| La Taste | ? | post-1936 | Known operating in 1946. |
| L'Esterre | 1968 | | |
| Morne Fendue | ? | | Known operating in 1959, but is not shown on 1955 P.O. List. |
| Morne Jaloux | ? | post-1936 | Known operating in 1947. |
| Mt. Moritz | 1957 | | |
| Mt. Pleasant | ? | 1945-46 | Shown on 1947 Colonial Office List. |
| Mt. Rose | ? | | Known operating in 1945; Closed in 1946? |
| Munich | ? | | Known operating in 1958, but is not shown on 1955 P.O. List. |
| New Hampshire | ? | 1962-63? | Known operating in 1963, but is not shown on 1955 P.O. List. |
| Paraclete | ? | | Known operating in 1962. |
| Petit Martinique | 1907 | | |
| Piedmontagnes | ? | 1890 | Also called Perdmontemps. |
| Post Royal | ? | | Known operating in 1964. |
| River Road | 1970 | | |
| St. Paul's | 1907 | | |
| Snug Corner | 1893 | | |
| Springs | 1968 | | |
| Tempe | ? | | Known operating in 1964. |
| Tivoli | ? | post-1949 | Known operating in 1959. |
| Union | ? | 1927 | |
| Vincennes | ? | 1937? | |
| Windward | 1968 | | |
| Woburn | 1916 | | |

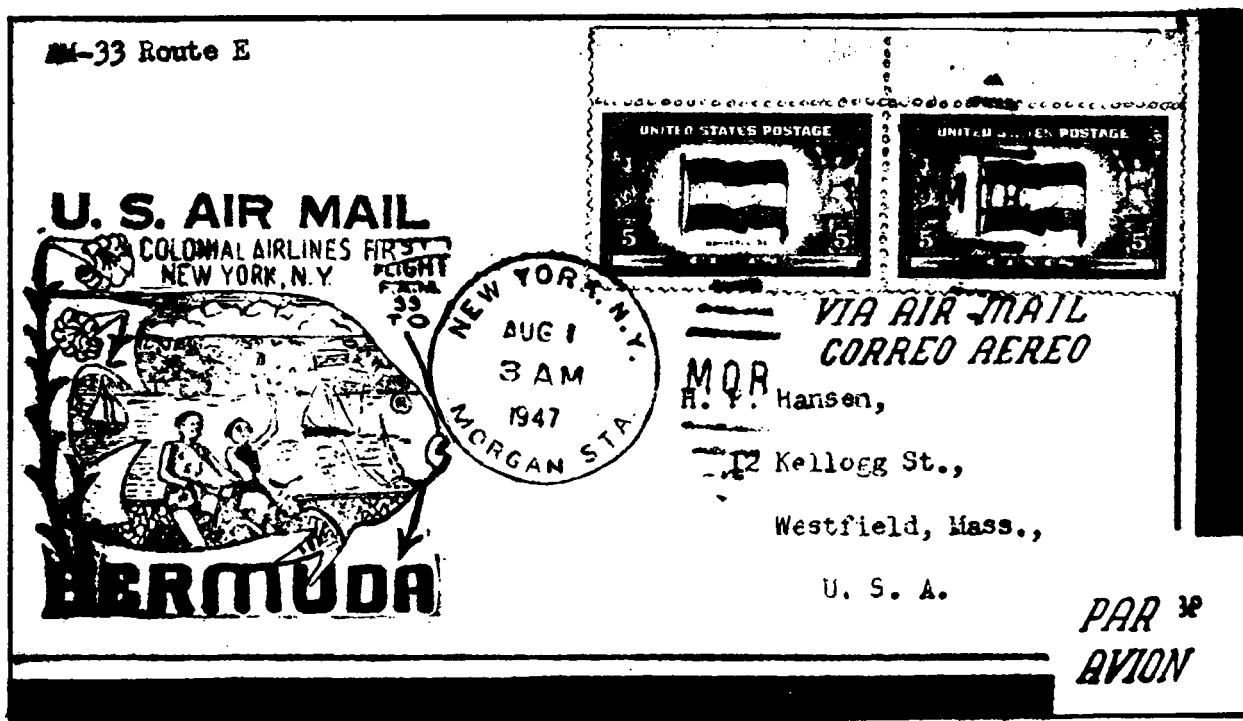
First Flight to Bermuda

by Lynn D. Wallace

The latest supplement to "Air Mails of the West Indies" by Dr. John M. Lockie, published in the BCP Journal for June 1970, indicated that four cancellations had been used on first flight covers of the Colonial Airlines New York/Washington to Bermuda, 1 August 1947. Checking my covers, I found that I had an additional cancellation, and I wrote of it to Dr. Lockie who replied in part:

"Thank you for your interesting letter of the 4th regarding the Colonial Airlines New York/Washington flight to Bermuda of Aug 1, 1947. I have the two Washington that you mentioned--small Washington, D.C. cds with dark blue cachet, and large AMF with large cds, but the dark blue cachet with the large Washington, D.C. cds is new to me..... I presume you know that a similar cachet was used from New York--green from the New York G. P. O. and red (maroon?) from AMF."

The Doctor's presumption was correct, but recently I obtained another New York first flight



cover with a different cancellation. It has the cachet in green, but the cancellation is a hand-stamped duplex mark of Morgan Station, New York, dated Aug 1, 3 a.m., 1947. My other New York cover bears the Morgan Station machine cancellation of the same date and time.

It is interesting to note that all of the covers were backstamped in Bermuda. Those from Washington bear machine cancellation M6, dated Aug 2, 1947, 5 p.m., while those from New York, with one exception, bear the same Hamilton machine cancellation but with time 4 p.m. The exception is the Morgan Station handstamped cover, which is backstamped with the H-12 Hamilton handstamp, 1 Aug 47A. Could this cover have arrived in Bermuda in a separate non-philatelic mail bag and been processed first? Are there any other cancellations of this first flight around?

Ludington lists the Washington-Bermuda flight cachet as AC13, and states that it took place on 2nd August, although the covers were postmarked the day before. The 2 August Hamilton receiving mark bears this out. He does not list the New York cachet, but indicates in his text that the New York-Bermuda flight also took place on the 2nd. Since in this case there are 1 August Hamilton receiving marks on my covers, the flight obviously took place on the 1st of August. While the Hamilton P.O. employees might have forgotten to change the date on one of their datestamps, it is extremely unlikely that both machine and handstamp would bear incorrect dates. Can anyone produce a news clipping of that time detailing the flight specifics?



Mail carried in the reverse direction also received a cachet (Ludington Type AC5), the same stamp being used on mail destined for New York and Washington, and struck only in one color ink, purple. Covers normally bear a manuscript endorsement by the sender indicating which city the cover was to be carried to, and backstamps of New York or Washington verify that it actually went via the designated city.

WINGS OVER THE CARIBBEAN----

Those who are interested in first flights of the Caribbean area will find a new publication that is being produced by our Treasurer, Reuben A. Ramkisson, M.D., a useful aid. Published as a part of the AFA "Wings Over the Americas" and the "Pan American Philatelist" of the Jack Knight Collectors Club Federation, "Wings Over the Caribbean" reports on several first flights in its beginning number, Vol. 1, No. 1, of November 1971.

Illustrated and written up, are BOAC's initial London-St. Lucia weekly service which began on 20 July 1971, and American Airlines 747 service to the Caribbean inaugurated 2 Mar 1971.

If you desire more information, write to Ben at P.O. Box 122, El Toro, California 92630.

St. Lucia's Coded Postmarks

by Geoffrey G. Ritchie & Fred F. Seifert

Coded postmarks have always been fascinating items to postmark collectors, and those that were used by St. Lucia in the late 19th and early 20th centuries are no exception. They have been the subject of a few articles in the past twenty or so years, the best of which was one by Robert J. Devaux in the May 1965 BCP Journal, W/N 25, page 39.

Fortunately, identification of the town associated with a particular mark is made easy by the fact that the code consists of the initial letter of the town name. Thus we have no problem in identifying S, VF, L, D, and M as signifying Soufriere, Vieux Fort, Laborie, Dennery, and Micoud. However, with C the identification is more complex, as Bob Devaux pointed out in his article. In addition to Castries, there were post offices in operation at Canaries and at Choiseul during the period that these marks were in use. While most early students of these datestamps have either ignored the latter two offices and assumed that all C strikes had been used at Castries, or recognized the problem but suggested no likely explanation, Bob Devaux offered what we consider a very logical possibility.



Bob noted that the common C mark is 19½ mm in diameter, while the remaining town marks all measure 21 mm. However, he discovered that a few of his C marks measured 21 mm, bringing them into line with the other town marks. Thus, he hypothesized that the larger C marks were used at either Canaries or Choiseul, and possibly at both offices.

In the July 13, 1951 issue of "Stamp Collecting", Peter Jaffe presented an article describing "The Inland Post of St. Lucia". In it, he included a table showing the quantities of mail that were handled at the various village post offices for certain years between 1886 and 1919. An odd fact disclosed by this table is that entries for Canaries do not start until 1908! Jaffe also mentions that "Canaries had a weekly service (of mail to and from Castries) on Saturdays from March 3rd, 1906". He also says that a Canaries datestamp was sent out from London on August 15th, 1906.

The post office at Canaries is said to have opened on 19 January 1885, at the same time as those at Choiseul, Dennery, Laborie and Micoud. If so, why do the postmaster's reports of the years 1886 through 1905 showing mail handled omit Canaries? A possible explanation is that the 1885 'opening' of Canaries was merely a paperwork one, and that the office did not begin operations until 1906, or functioned prior to then in a lesser capacity.

Faced with the foregoing, we are inclined to assign Choiseul the 21 mm C datestamp. In the volume of mail handled Choiseul was well ahead of Laborie, Micoud and Dennery, so it is not reasonable to believe that while they were given datestamps Choiseul did not receive one.

The earliest St. Lucia code cds known to us is a 19½ mm C, dated FE 27 81, which is struck on a cover from Castries to London, which now resides in the Ritchie collection. The stamp

is cancelled with the A11 obliterator. Another early strike of AP 9 82 is found on a post card to London, also in the Ritchie collection. Again the stamp is cancelled with the A11 device. From these examples, it is apparent that the cds was not used to cancel stamps when it first came into use. The earliest use we have seen on a stamp is MR 12 84. When this 19½ mm C went out of use is uncertain. Our latest strike is NO 11 98, and while Jaffe indicates that the Castries C was used at least until 1909, he does not differentiate between the two sizes, so the later dates could be for the larger variety.

The C/A11 duplex handstamp with Castries spelled out at the top of the cds portion is known for 5 April 1897, and the similar cds without the A11 attached is known from 19 July 1901, so it is unlikely that the 19½ mm C code stamp saw much use after early 1897, unless as has been suggested by Jaffe it was reassigned to Choiseul (or Canaries).

The 21 mm C code cds, which we believe was used at Choiseul, is found used from FE 10 93 to 15 JA 04 in our collections. Devaux mentions his strikes as being from 1895 and 1896.

The other village post office code marks are not known used before 1899, except for a strike of the S for Soufriere, which Devaux reports for SE 6 85. This latter mark is said to have remained in use until at least 1915, per Jaffe. Range of use of the remaining marks are as follows: D for Denmery--1889 (Jaffe) to FE 3 12 (Seifert); L for Laborie--JU 26 89 (Ritchie) to 1911 (Jaffe); M for Micoud--1889 (Devaux) to 1911 (Jaffe); VF for Vieux Fort--AU 16 89 (Seifert) to 1912 (Devaux).

We would appreciate reports from those having St. Lucia code marks, even with dates of use that fall within the range mentioned above. This will help us determine the relative rarity of these marks. Please give us your help on this project.

SOMBRERO ISLAND, W.I.

by Gale J. Raymond

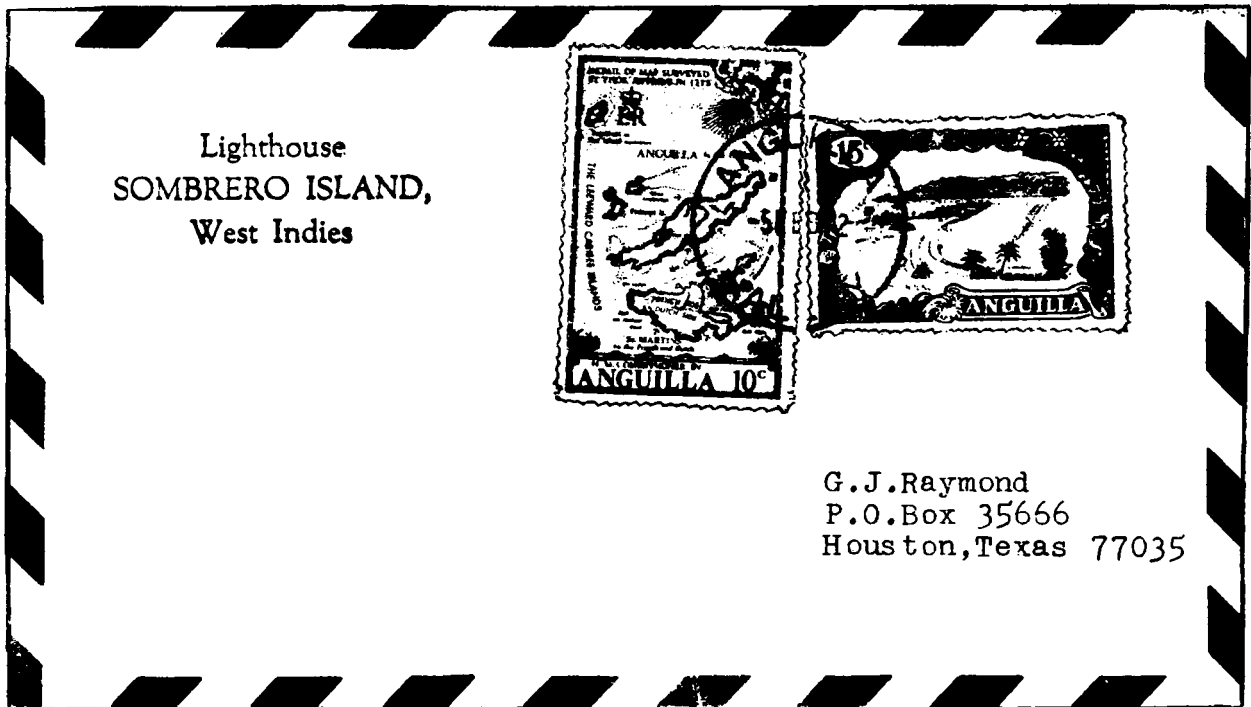
The 1952 British Virgin Islands 1¢ stamp depicts "SOMBRERO LIGHTHOUSE" and is thusly described in most catalogues. However, Minkus calls it "Sombrero Island, not part of the presidency, but maintained as a lighthouse by the British Govt." Although it is difficult to spot on most maps, it lies east of the British Virgin Islands and north of Anguilla, a rugged stark rock scarcely a mile long and about 400 feet wide. The sides are precipitous, 20 to 40 feet in height, inaccessible for the greater part. The surface is exceedingly rough, and it rises in sharp jagged rocks, the whole island honeycombed by old phosphate company workings of the mid-1800's. There is not a blade of grass or vegetation of any kind to be seen, save a few prickley cactus plants in the bottom of some of the lesser pits.



At the head of the treacherous Sombrero Passage, it came tragically into the news in 1859 by the wreck, with considerable loss of life, of the Royal Mail Steam Packet "PARAMATTA". As it was then occupied by a phosphate company at an annual rental of one thousand pounds, the British Government contributed half the cost of building and maintaining a proper lighthouse. The light first shone from the new Sombrero tower on New Year's Day, 1868.

Especially engineered for the island, the lighthouse consists of a wrought-iron open framework structure, supported and strengthened by a large central tube which contains the narrow spiral stairway, winding 156 feet upward to the lantern room. The old Argand lamp and reflectors were abolished 63 years later, replaced by the present-day vapour and incandescent mantle lighting. Its 200,000 candle power beam is visible 18 miles away, seen at intervals of five seconds.

When last on Anguilla, I stayed with the Rev. C. Leonard Carty. As it turned out, he was a member of the party who take supplies and mail once a month to the seven or so Anguillans who man the Sombrero Lighthouse. He showed me some photos of the isle, and a more inhospitable terrain can hardly be imagined. A tiny wooden ledge has somehow been anchored to the base of the cliff, and one climbs up slippery iron rungs by means of a rope. Supplies and mail are hauled up by a pulley-cable. Heavy seas constantly dash against the cliffs, so a thorough drenching is the certain fate of everyone and everything entering or leaving.



To my dismay, it appeared that no marking of any kind had ever within memory been applied to identify outgoing mail as having originated from Sombrero Island, other than a manuscript return address. While some books say that Sombrero is simply under the Leeward Islands administration, and others say it falls under B.V.I. control, it appears that all contact is via Anguilla. The lighthouse personnel are Anguillans, paid by Anguilla, and all mail goes out with Anguilla postage stamps.

Be that as it may, beginning 5th February 1972 all mail departing Sombrero Island carries a three-line rubber stamp inscribed "LIGHTHOUSE/SOMBRERO ISLAND/WEST INDIES". The 27 first covers were postmarked ANGUILLA, VALLEY on that historic date, on mail brought back by the resupply boat. Each carried at least one 10¢ Anguilla adhesive of the new Map set which clearly shows Sombrero Island. No interest has been indicated by Anguilla, the B.V.I. or anyone else in establishing a formal post office to serve the small community of this desolate remote island outpost of the West Indies.

BAHAMAS BITS by the Bahamas Bum

DISENCHANTMENT--that's the word--that's what the natives are feeling with their present government. Six years ago the odds were 10 to 1 that this government would win. Now with an upcoming election the odds are 6 to 5. Hard pressed for cash, they let Howard Hughes leave, and his yearly cash outlay as a visitor was almost two million dollars. Now with Independence coming next year, there could be some interesting speculations!

No new TRD's and many of the last few years are now replaced by steel dies. Only expected new post office will be on Paradise Island, but at this time nothing definite. Those who made it to our 1969 BCPSG meeting in Nassau will remember the warm welcome we received, and Mr. Claude Saunders, the PMG, along with Mr. Harris, John Saunders and Mr. Levarity of the Mackey Street P.O., send their regards.

Two stamp issues scheduled: the Olympics issue will be out in July with four values, 10, 11, 15, and 18 cents, plus a souvenir sheet and official FDC's. The Royal Wedding set will be issued on November 20th, with two values, 11 and 18 cents and an FDC.

The Whale Cay stamp that I reported in the December 1971 Journal was purchased for a most astounding \$300, making this as far as my knowledge goes, the highest price ever paid for a Bahamas postmark on a stamp. This trip provided me with a GRAND BAHAMA cover with a Type 3 cancel showing a complete date of 5-11-18, giving an exact date for the EDK. From the same correspondence were some local covers bearing SG #76 (Sc. #49), showing the $\frac{1}{2}$ d local out island rate, with one cover having a straight-line UNCLAIMED and several others marked DEAD in red crayon.

A law suit is currently to be tried in Nassau where an alleged deed is presumed to be false, and the proof rests on the stamps used on the deed. Executed in 1941, it bears a Landfall of Columbus stamp which was not issued until 1942! A post office official (who must be nameless at this time) will appear as a witness for the Crown, giving date of issue of the Landfall stamp, which may well be the deciding factor in this case where several million dollars are at stake. Keep reading this column for further episodes in this heart-rending stamp opera!

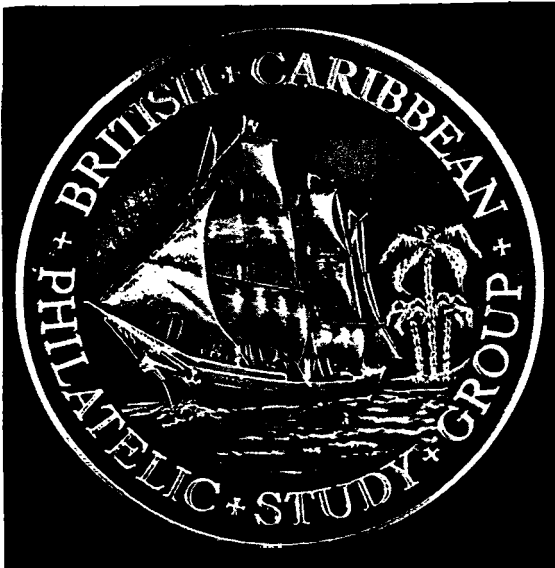
Now that the Post Office is two blocks in back of the former old one on Rawson Square, and all the way uphill, and me not getting any younger, my trips up there are limited as I am not a great walker nohow. After my last trip up, on the way back I found that I needed some refreshment to compensate for that hike and dropped into the Smugglers Pub and though I do not favor the mild stuff I greatly appreciated the cold Watneys RED Barrel beer that is now being served in Nassau and is fast gaining in popularity and may overtake the German and Holland beers that have long dominated the market here. So Graham Hoey won't feel slighted, I want to tell him that both McEwans ale and beer are available here.

The Virgin Islands notebook has now been bound and will be sent to anyone requesting it so they may look it over and add to what is already there. If you have any information no matter how little, please add it so we may have a real good handbook.

DON'T FORGET THAT THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE YOU WILL RECEIVE IF YOUR DUES ARE NOT PAID!

BCPSG AWARDS ESTABLISHED

Shown below is the front side of the BCPSG medal which was first presented to the philatelic world last October at NOJEX in Cranford, New Jersey. It has been produced in gold, silver, and bronze versions from a die prepared by a firm in Germany who used our BCPSG seal as a model. The seal, as most members know, was designed by our architect member, Charles Sawyer.



The medals were made possible by the generosity of Byron Cameron, who donated a sufficient amount to cover the cost of making the die and procuring good supplies of the gold, silver, and bronze versions, as well as attractive cases for them.

A committee has worked up a set of criteria governing awarding of the medals, and exhibitions anywhere in the world that meet the established conditions are to be provided with medals as warranted by the number and quality of British Caribbean exhibits. There

will also be a BCPSG Award of Merit Certificate to recognize exhibits that deserve an award of some kind, but that do not meet the criteria established for award of a BCPSG medal. The certificate is being designed by member Jack Ferguson, a professional art director. He has submitted two designs, of which one will be chosen to be produced.

The photograph of the medal, shown above, was made by Emmett Lewis, Jr., a professional photographer of Raleigh, North Carolina, who donated his services to the Group, providing a sufficient number of prints to cover all of our publicity needs.

Slide Programs Planned

As a Unit of the American Philatelic Society, the BCPSG has an opportunity to present the many fascinating facets of BWI philately to the 25,000 plus members of the APS through slide talk presentations. Initial steps have been taken for BCPSG to participate in the APS slide program. Our founding member, Bob Topaz, has offered to photograph members' material for the cost of the film and processing, donating his time and the use of his equipment. Bob is well experienced in philatelic photography, as those who have seen his slides will attest.

The initial goal of BCPSG is to produce one set of slides on each of the countries in our area of interest, and one set of slides to provide an introduction to British Caribbean philately in general. Since these slide talk programs will be presented to audiences primarily not well acquainted with our area, they must be designed to educate the observer and instill a desire for further pursuit of British Caribbean philately.

A slide talk consists of 40 to 45 slides on one topic with a tape recorded commentary to make up a presentation of about 45 minutes duration. It has been determined that a subject cannot be adequately covered in less than 30 minutes, while anything over 45 will lose the attention

of the audience. The text of the presentation may be provided APS in written or taped form. In the former case the APS will have a professional speaker record it.

This is a golden opportunity for the BCPSG to let the philatelic world know the joys of being a student of British Caribbean philately, and members are urged to work up presentations on their favorite country or topic. Secretary Stan Durnin can provide you with further details as to how one should go about it.

ROSES FAVOR CARIBBEAN PHILATELY

Winters in the North of England are long, cold, and bleak. Perhaps this is why so many who live in Yorkshire and Lancashire dream of the tropics, and specialize in the philately of the Caribbean Area. Nearly fifteen years ago, a few such philatelists gathered in Leeds to talk over their common interests, and ended up by organizing the Roses Caribbean Society.



The scope of the Roses encompasses the entire Caribbean, not being limited to the British West Indies, but naturally the latter countries are of primary interest to many of the members. The Society meets about four times a year, generally in September, November, February, and April, at the Great Northern Hotel, Leeds, normally on a Saturday afternoon. Many of the Roses belong to our BCPSG as well, so that meetings take on all the features of a BCPSG regional convention.

Shown at the left is a group of BCPSGers getting together at a recent Roses meeting. Seen from left to right are: Fred Stephens, Jack Roberts, Tony Shepherd, Ken Watson, Fitz Roett, Derrick Sutcliffe, and Eric Spencer (potential BCPSGer). Seated at the table is Geoff (Doc) Ritchie.

The photograph was taken by Mavis Shepherd. In sending it to us, Tony called our attention to the tropical mural on the wall. He says that looking at BWI stamps and the tropical scene makes the cold Yorkshire winter seem much less severe!

NEW ISSUES

ANGUILLA

14 MAR 72 **EASTER 1972.** 10, 15, 25, 40, 50 cents, in se-tenant strips of five stamps, featuring five of the ten subjects of a stained glass window in the Parish Church of Bray in Berkshire. Designed by John Lister Staff Artists, and lithographed by Format International on unwatermarked paper, in sets of four strips.

BAHAMAS

(See data in Bahamas Bum column, page 55 of this issue).

BARBADOS

12 DEC 71 DEFINITIVE REPRINTING. The 12 December 1971 reprinting of a number of values of the definitive set was on glazed paper. It included the 12¢, 15¢ and \$2.50, the first appearance of these values on glazed paper. They will be catalogued by Commonwealth as CW 115, 116 and 121.

28 MAR 72 CABLE LINK CENTENARY. Set of four stamps: 4¢ - Transmitting "Then and Now"; 10¢ - "Stanley Angwin" off the St. Lawrence Coast; 35¢ - Barbados Earth Station and Intelsat IV; 50¢ - Mount Misery Tropospheric Scatter Station. The designs are by Cable & Wireless, and stamps are lithographed by Waddingtons of Kirkstall on Block CA watermarked paper in panes of 25 stamps.

BERMUDA

20 DEC 71 HEATH-NIXON TALKS. These overprints, reported in the February Journal, were produced by Format International.

7 MAR 72 VISIT OF H.R.H. PRINCESS MARGARET. This set consists of overprints on the 4¢ and 25¢ current definitives. Lithographed by Format International.

17 MAR 72 INTERPEX 1972. Set of four stamps first released at INTERPEX in New York. $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ - Seaman circa 1800; 10¢ - Boatswain (undress uniform 1787-1807); 30¢ - Captain (undress uniform 1795-1812); 60¢ - Admiral (full dress uniform of the 1787-1795 period). Designed by Waddingtons Studio and lithographed by Questa in panes of 25 stamps on Block CA watermarked paper. Visitors to INTERPEX on 17 March, when paying the admission charge, were presented with a small B.V.I. "Commemorative Sheet" bearing a $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ of this issue tied to the card by a Roadtown, Tortola, First Day of Issue cds postmark. (per Dan Walker).



GRENADA

3 FEB 72 WINTER OLYMPICS. Three stamps and the souvenir sheet of the 1971 Military Uniforms issue were overprinted "WINTER OLYMPICS/FEB. 3-13/SAPPORO, JAPAN". The stamps were also surcharged with new values as follows: 35¢ Air Mail on the $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 50¢ Air Mail on the 1¢; \$2 on the 2¢.

FEB 72 VOTE OVERPRINT. The 2, 3, 6, and 25 cents current definitives were overprinted "VOTE/FEB. 28 1972".

4 MAR 72 UNICEF ISSUE. Set of seven stamps and a souvenir sheet portraying children's stories and fables. $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ & 25¢ - King Arthur; 1¢ & 50¢ - Robin Hood; 2¢ & 75¢ - Robinson Crusoe; \$1 - Mary and Her Little Lamb. The souvenir sheet contains a perforated copy of the \$1 stamp. Printed by Questa in sheets of 50 stamps.

GRENADA (cont.)

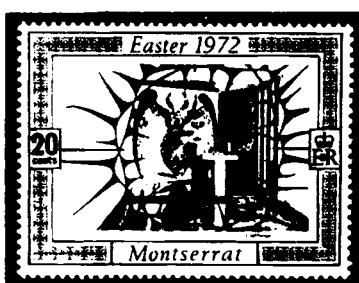
17 MAR 72 INTERPEX ISSUE. All values (5, 15, 25, 35 and 50 cents) and the 50¢ souvenir sheet of the Miss World Issue were overprinted "INTERPEX/1972" in black. A "Souvenir Card" of no postal value was sold at INTERPEX. It contained reproductions of four Grenada stamps, Scott 266, Scott 426, Scott 412 and the 25¢ of the 1971 Christmas set. The card was sold for \$1.50, per Dan Walker.

GUYANA

21 DEC 71 DEFINITIVE REPRINTING. The 10, 15, and 25 cents and \$1 definitives were reprinted appearing on glazed paper for the first time.

15 JAN 72 NEW DEFINITIVE. A new 1¢ definitive that features the Pitcher Plant of Mount Roraima was released on 15 January 1972. Designed by V. Whiteley and lithographed by De La Rue in panes of 25 on Lotus Blossom Bud paper.

23 FEB 72 REPUBLIC DAY. Set of four stamps in two designs, featuring both sides of the \$1 commemorative coin issued on Republic Day 1970. The coin embodies the portrait of Cuffy, a national hero of Guyana. Stamps designed by G. Drummond and lithographed by Questa in panes of 25 on Lotus Blossom Bud paper.



MONTSERRAT

9 MAR 72 EASTER 1972. Two designs by Gordon Drummond: 5¢ and 20¢ - The Chapel of Christ in Gethsemane, Coventry Cathedral; 10¢ and 75¢ - Bellini's "The Agony in the Garden". Lithographed in panes of 25 stamps on Block CA watermarked paper by Alden and Mowbray.

ST. KITTS

1 APR 72 EASTER 1972. 4, 20, 30, and 40 cents featuring "The Crucifixion" by Massys, which hangs in the National Gallery, London. Lithographed by Waddingtons of Kirkstall on Block CA watermarked paper in panes of 25 stamps.

ST. LUCIA

15 FEB 72 EASTER 1972. Release date corrected by Crown Agents.

18 APR 72 MORNE EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX ISSUE. 5, 15, 25, and 35 cents, with the design not indicated. Designed by P.B. Powell and lithographed by Questa on Block CA watermarked paper in panes of 25 stamps.

TRINIDAD

18 NOV 71 EARTH SATELLITE STATION ISSUE. 10¢ - View of Control Building at Matura Earth Satellite Station; 30¢ - Dish Antenna Complex; 40¢ - Satellite in Orbit. A souvenir sheet was announced, but according to Harold Box supplies had not yet reached the GPO in Port of Spain on the issue date. Lithographed by Harrison and Sons Ltd. in sheets of 50 on Block CA watermarked paper.

TRINIDAD (cont.)

18 FEB 72 BUTTERFLIES ISSUE. 3¢ - Morpho Hybrid Barcant; 5¢ - Purple Mort Bleu; 6¢ - Jeune d'Abriocot; 10¢ - Purple King Shoemaker; 20¢ - Southern White Page; 30¢ - Little Jaune. Designs are by Gordon Drummond, and stamps are photo-gravure printed by Harrison and Sons Ltd. in sheets of 50 on Block CA paper.

TURKS & CAICOS

21 MAR 72 EASTER 1972. 2, 15, and 30 cents featuring details of Rembrandt paintings of the Crucifixion. Designed and lithographed by Waddingtons on Block CA paper in sheets of 25 stamps.

OUR SECRETARY REPORTS:

NEW MEMBERS:

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| BIANCOTTI, Jack W. | DICKINSON, Miles W. | FAIGIN, Martin A. |
| HANNAN, James B. | HANSON, Thomas G. | HARRISON, Robert |
| JUHL, Mrs. Chris A. | KIEFFER, Lincoln E. | LEU, Thomas W. |
| MACK, Millard H. | MUDRA, Boyd J. | PARKER, King, Jr. |
| PROKESCH, Dr. C.E. | STUBBS, James E. | WADSWORTH, Frank H. |

NEW APPLICANTS:

BROWN, William L., 145 Tuddenham Rd., Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2TE, England. Chief Officer, Local Government Service. Jamaica, Cayman Islands, Bahamas. By A. J. Branston

COLLIER, George P., 3040 Center Ave. N.E., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308. Retired. BWI stamps, F.M. covers, U.S. stampless covers. By A.N. Johnson

DANIELS, Rolfe B., American Embassy, c/o U.S. Naval Facility, FPO New York 09553. Foreign Service Officer. BWI, Venezuela, Chile, Austria, Liechtenstein, France, U.N., Ryukyus, and Congo (Zaire)--ALL USED. By A.N. Johnson

GARDNER, Arthur J., "Staddles", Station Road, Cheddar, Somerset, England. Solicitor. Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, BVI. By A.J. Branston

GRIFFIN, Bernard C., 201 Lowell Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97601. Accountant. U.S. and British Colonial stamps, Postal History of OR, IA, VT; RPO's, Phil. Lit. By A.N. Johnson

HELLNER, Haakon, 3075 Berger, Vestford, Norway. Engineer (retired). BWI, especially Jamaica, DWI, Canada, Norway, Denmark, Peru, Chile. By A.J. Branston

JAMES, Winfield H., 42 Eton Road, Larchmont, NY 10538. President of New York News. Bahamas, Turks & Caicos, Journalism and Communication (topicals). By S.C. Durnin

JANE, Charles W.E., August Hill, Wentworth, Surrey, England. Co. Director. Jamaica, Bahamas, Turks, Caymans. By A.N. Johnson

MEYERS, Stephen J., P.O. Box 2223, Rockville, MD 20852. Engineer. W.I., Scandinavia, Netherlands and Colonies. By A.N. Johnson

SANDFORD, Peter D., 61 Carrant Road, Tewkesbury, Glos., GL20 8AA, England. Student. Bahamas and British Virgin Islands. By A.J. Branston

SMITH, David I., 70 Birchall Road, Bristol BS6 7TU, England. University Lecturer. All aspects of Jamaica; UK-QE II. By A.J. Branston

WAYNER, Gary A., STGNS, Division 4, USS Biddle (DLG-34), FPO New York 09501. U.S. Navy (sonarman). Mint U.S. and British North America. By A.N. Johnson

WEST, Neil D., 2157 Turk Rd., Doylestown, PA 18901. Controller. General, specializing in used stamps of the West Indies. By A.N. Johnson

WOOD, Geoffrey C., 1298 Garvin St., Prince George, British Columbia, Canada. Banker.
 British West Indies and Canada. By A.N. Johnson
 YAMAGUCHI, Yukihiro, 4-12 2 chome Higashiobase, Higashinari-ku, Osaka, Japan. Student.
 British West Indies and Japan. By A.N. Johnson

Any member knowing good reason for refusing BCPSG membership to any of the above listed applicants is requested to advise the Secretary.

DECEASED:

Lt. Col. F. S. J. Norris, Edwin M. Erickson, and Clarence F. Heyser.

RESIGNATIONS:

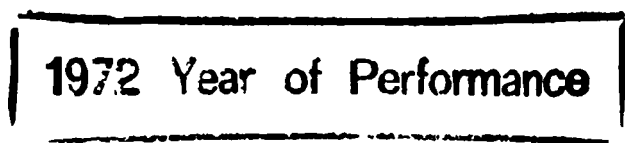
COHN, James; LABIUK, Eugene M.; LIST, Cecilie; and HERSH, Eugen, all in good standing.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

BUCHANAN, MSgt. Billie B., FR 227-42-8466, AFAT-4, APO San Francisco, CA 96215.
 GARDNER, Roy D., P. O. Box 481, Norwalk, CA 90651.
 HALLIDAY, Robert W., P. O. Box N-4845, Nassau, Bahamas.
 KIRKLAND, Isaac R., P. O. Box 3403, Baytown, TX 77520.
 MORGAN, Richard H., 3800 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Apt. 401B, Longboat Key, FL 33577.
 MOSES, Harold F., 210 Paseo Encinal, San Antonio, TX 78212.
 STORER, Hugo D., Box 21927, U. P. R. Station, San Juan, PR 00931.

BITS & PIECES from HERE & THERE

ANTIGUA -- The news that Antigua has switched to the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corp. as its philatelic agent, has not brought happiness to the hearts of our members who collect Antigua. We hesitate to prejudge the situation, but with the horrible example of such I-GPC represented countries as Grenada in mind, we can't help but agree with Bill Cornell's terse comment, "UGH!"



GUYANA -- The handstamped slogan "1972 YEAR OF PERFORMANCE" has been reported by David Allington and Ben Ramkisson, struck in black on covers from New Amsterdam during February. David wonders if one of the mail clerks has been hitting the bottle, as strikes are applied with gay abandon on some of his covers, one almost obliterating the address.

In September 1971, a boxed handstamped slogan, approximately 80 x 30 mm, was used at the Mackenzie Post Office. Our only strike is rather poor, and we can only make out the top line of the text, "ADVANCE GUYANA CAMPAIGN" in 3½ mm upper case letters. Struck in black.

JAMAICA -- In BCPJ W/N 37, May 1967, there was an article by Tom Foster on the "Postal History of the Canadian Forces in Jamaica, 1940-46". Warren Buchanan notes that although Tom says that the Irish Fusiliers of Canada "stayed until August 6th, 1944", he has recently acquired a cover which indicates that they remained there a bit longer. His cover was mailed by Lance Corp. C. Kolt, H 602323, Bn. Hq., 1st Bn. Irish Fusiliers (VR) CA, Y Force C.A.O.S., to (his brother?) Pt. W. Kolt, H 614644, Nanaimo Military Camp, Nanaimo, B.C. The "Y" Force purple ink censor marking has, as Tom stated, no number. The datestamp is Kingston, August 21, 1944, extending Tom's date by just over two weeks.

TRINIDAD -- John Cronin has shown us the HM FORCES/TRINIDAD skeleton mark pictured on page 61. He wonders if anyone can give any details of its use. His strike is on piece with a second strike cancelling a Barbados 3d adhesive. Tom Foster thinks that it may have been used by a unit of the Royal Navy. Does anyone know what British Forces were in Trinidad in or around 1947 when this military marking was in use?

Personal Mention:

The 1972 Honours List of Great Britain contained the name of SIR HENRY JAMES TUCKER. He received a K.B.E. following his retirement as Government Leader of Bermuda.

GALE RAYMOND got in touch with GEORGE BOWMAN while Gale was on his way out to Laos in January, and they had a good stamp session at George's lovely home in Redondo Beach.

FRANK SAUNDERS has his KG VI Collectors Society back in high gear, and has already sent out two 1972 issues of the Society's publication "GEOSIX". The text is now being printed by a different method, and is much more legible and pleasing to the eye than were earlier issues of this interesting and useful magazine. If you collect KG VI varieties, you would do well to contact Frank at 65 Westbrooke Avenue, Hartlepool, Co. Durham TS25 5HU, England.

Down in the U.S. Virgin Islands, CHARLES RICKSECKER is having his 9th Grade Caribbean History classes prepare an exhibit of postage stamps with Caribbean history themes, which

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will be displayed at the Social Studies Fair at Charlotte Amalie High School. Contributions of cheap stamps related to this theme would be most welcome. The students have a good supply of the current stamps of the BVI, St. Kitts-Nevis, and Antigua, but could use some from the other Caribbean countries, including the non-British nations. If you have anything of this sort to spare, send it to Charles, c/o Low, Box 270, St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. 00801.

LYNN WALLACE writes that he will be going to Bermuda sometime this summer. He will be looking for some material he needs to fill a few gaps in an article he intends to write.

The December Journal took an exceptionally long time in reaching our European members, and JOHN MUNTINGA says that his copy did not reach him until 17 March. We mailed the issue on 27 December, but apparently it was held up by the U.S. dock strike.

A long letter from BILL McFARLAN tells us of a three-week rail trip he took to Mexico in February. Along the way he made a few 'back office' visits to Mexican P.O.'s, including a few R.P.O.'s or "Ambulantes".

JOHN and MARCHESSA MORRISON have been wintering in Florida, from whence they have visited Costa Rica, the Caymans, and Bimini in the Bahamas. We understand that John has just about bought out the philatelic agency in San Jose, Costa Rica!

Come June, DICK HAMILTON will be off to the U.K. for a tour of cathedrals in England and Scotland with a church group. We have suggested he take along his BCPSG membership list so he can say hello to members as he passes in their vicinity.

TOM and BESSIE CHARA liked it so well at Little Dix Bay on Virgin Gorda that they plan to visit there again next November.

JOHN BRITT, AL HIGGINS, and DOC YARRY have been presented scrolls by the Collectors Club of New York, for service of 10 or more years as a Governor of the Club.

BACK ISSUE CLEARANCE SALE

TO HELP CLEAN OUT THE EDITOR'S GARAGE (and it really needs it), BACK ISSUES OF THE JOURNAL PRIOR TO 1970, WILL BE SOLD FOR 50¢ PER COPY, OR THREE FOR A DOLLAR WHILE THE SUPPLY LASTS. THESE ARE THE WHOLE NUMBERS AVAILABLE: 17-20, 22-26, 30-33, 39, 44-52. SOME OF THEM ARE XEROX COPIES.

SEND ORDERS TO THE EDITOR



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AND AS WE GO TO PRESS:

Nominations are now open for Trustees of the BCPSG to serve 1973-1975. Those wishing to place any fellow member in nomination should send his name to the Nominations Chairman, Major Daniel C. Warren, 1623 Brisbane St., Silver Spring, MD 20902, by 10 July 1972.

Bob Anderson writes us that our report of the Jemise of Caribair, page 24 of the FEB issue, was not quite correct. He notes that service is still being operated between some islands, but the current schedule, shown in Caribair's latest timetable, does not show service either to Trinidad or Martinique. Our original story was based on a report in the "Trinidad Guardian", but from Bob's new information it would appear that Caribair is "in receivership" only with respect to its assets in Trinidad.

The Prospectus for TRINIPEX 1972 has just been received, and here are some of the facts it provides. The Exhibition will be held in the Centenary Hall, St. Mary's College, in Port of Spain, August 5th through 7th, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day. There will be a Court of Honor consisting of non-competitive exhibits, as well as six competitive classes. Frames accommodate six standard size album pages, and the rental fee is \$1 T & T, per frame.

The closing date for submitting entries in the exhibition is 1 May 1972, and the final date by which exhibits must reach the committee has been set at 24 July 1972. However, since this information may reach you after the deadline, we suggest you contact TRINIPEX Chairman Joe Chin Aleong if you wish to enter some of your material. Perhaps a waiver of the above dates is possible. Write to Joe c/o the TPS, P.O. Box 596, Port of Spain, Trinidad.

In the December 1971 Journal, page 192, the report that a new post office had been opened at MUSTIQUE, St. Vincent, was in error. As Charles Ricksecker reminds us, a P.O. has existed there since 1 February 1968. Thus, our report should have indicated that the Air Mail service was the new feature. The new daily air shuttle is operated by LIAT, using a nine-passenger Britten Norman Islander, the flight time being ten minutes, each way.

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