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BERMUDA'S SMALLEST POST OFFICE BUILDING IS THAT AT BAILEY'S BAY. ORIGINALLY BUILT AS THE LOCAL JAIL, IT NEVER SERVED AS SUCH. *Photo by Dr. J.C. Arnell*

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THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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Those of us who were fortunate enough to be able to attend TRINIPEX '72, will long remember the warm welcome and hospitality that was extended us during our visit there. We thank the Trinidad Philatelic Society for inviting us down to Port of Spain for another successful BCPSG get-together.

We have been pleased to note of late that articles published in this Journal in which requests for information have been made, have been getting good response. This indicates not only are the articles being read, but the readers are finding the material interesting. Further, it shows that we are fulfilling our function as a "Study Group" of discovering and compiling postal history information. However, it is very important that all new information which corrects or adds to that which has previously been published, gets into print as soon as practicable. We trust that our contributors will follow up their original articles with timely supplements as they acquire new information.

Members will be pleased to know that a new Membership List will be ready for distribution very shortly. The old August 1970 List has been out of print for quite some time, but since getting out the Journal takes up all of our time we haven't been able to prepare a new one. Now Stan Durnin has taken over the job, and at last report the copy was just about to go to press.

Despite all of the excellent publicity our Group receives in the philatelic press, there still seem to be a few collectors of British Caribbean countries who haven't heard of us, or at least haven't been sold on the merits of BCPSG membership. If you know of any such persons, do them a favor by showing them some of our Journals and explaining what a friendly group we are. If you need a supply of membership applications, drop us a line.

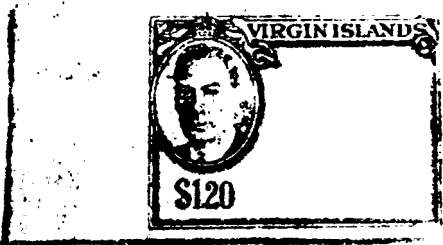
Fred

KG6 PROOFS of the BVI

by Frank R. Saunders

Die proofs and plate proofs are well known to collectors, and some remarkable examples of these are to be found among the earlier West Indies stamps. But there is another kind of proof, less well-known to collectors--the 'workshop proof'. Whereas the die proof is an official test of the efficacy of the die, and the plate proof an official test of the suitability of the plate, the 'workshop proof' is an unofficial test of registration of impression and color made before a printing run is carried out. 'Workshop proofs' are thus 'waste paper' and as such should be destroyed in the workshop, and indeed this practice is adhered to so strictly that virtually the 'workshop proof' is unknown to the collector.

However, in the year 1952 a batch of 'workshop proofs' escaped from the printing works of Messrs. De La Rue. The 'escape' was obviously illegal, no doubt the work of a dishonest



employee who saw an opportunity of turning an 'honest' penny for himself. He must have found a none-too-honest broker to handle his ill-gotten goods, since in time they cropped up in the occasional collection and even in an advertisement of one dealer. In a collection that was sold to an honest dealer, there were about a dozen of these 'workshop proofs', quite strange to him. Knowing that I

was interested in things appertaining to King George VI, the dealer offered them to me at a ridiculously cheap rate on an 'as is' basis, which I quickly accepted.

It was quite obvious that whatever their intent or origin, they had emanated from the original die or plate, presumably the latter as some of them bore portions of other printed stamps on the face or on the back. Some ten years later, a much larger batch of 'proofs' came up for auction, and the existence of multiples confirmed their origin as the plate. In the main they were printed on a thin green paper, though one or two were on white paper, and one was on a greyish-green surfaced, white-backed card. They were in the issued color of a stamp, and the bulk of them consisted of frames, centers, whole designs, and occasionally wrong combinations of designs, of the Kenyan color changes and new values issued in April 1952. All were items that had been issued between February and November 1952, which seemed to pinpoint the date of 'escape', and all were productions of De La Rue.

Among the original small batch that I obtained, were two examples from the April 1952 new definitive set of the Virgin Islands. One, on thin green paper, consisted of the frame of the 3¢ in sepia-brown in conjunction, to form a whole but false design, with the center of the 60¢ in sage-green. The other on grayish-green faced, white backed card, was of the frame only of the \$1.20 value in blue. (See illustration above). Although I have kept a sharp eye open for the emergence of more of these, particularly of other values, thus far, apart from two more copies of the \$1.20, no further examples of the Virgin Islands 1952 set have come to light.

The scarcity of any type of King George VI proof material is such that phoney 'waste' of this sort gains enhanced value. I have tried to make a census of this material and would welcome information of other items, not necessarily of the West Indies, from any member possessing such material or having knowledge of its type and whereabouts. Send your information either directly to me or in care of our Editor. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

NEW DATA ON BARBADOS P.O.W. CAMP

by Edmund A. Bayley

I have recently been doing some research on other matters and have come across some information on the Prisoners of War in Barbados that was referred to in the April 1970 Journal (Charles Cwiakala) and December 1970 Journal (J.M.G. Adams). I will pass this information on to readers, and if in my further research more information is uncovered, then I will be happy to pass this on also.

On the 26th July 1918, the acting Governor of Barbados informed the honourable House of Assembly that His Excellency Sir Leslie Probyn, KCMG, before departing from Barbados had addressed a despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to enquire whether it would be practicable to transfer the Prisoners of War then interned in Barbados to Canada.

Such Prisoners of War numbered 56 and had been interned since the early months of the War, and for various reasons it had not been found expedient to employ them outside the Internment Camp. It was felt that considering the length of time they had been prisoners, they should, if possible, be employed.

A Statement was attached giving the cost per head per diem of the Prisoners of War in Barbados, from which it was seen that the cost of maintenance per head in Canada exceeded the present cost by the small sum of 7¢ per day. Considering the wear and tear on bedding, etc, it was doubtful whether the cost of maintaining the Prisoners of War would be appreciably increased. In addition their internment involved considerable anxiety and responsibility on the local authorities, and His Excellency felt that the offer of the Canadian Government should be accepted, and if decided upon should be effected during the Summer or early Autumn months, and further stated that an opportunity might arise at the end of August.

On the 30th July 1918, a Resolution was introduced into the House of Assembly and passed, granting £1,000 from the Public Treasury and charged to the Special Account for War Expenditure to defray the cost of 3rd class passages for the Prisoners of War, together with the cost of return passages of an adequate guard, and for other minor expenditure, to carry the transfer of the Prisoners of War into effect. Also that the Governor in Executive-Committee be authorised to agree with the Government of Canada to maintain the Prisoners of War at a cost of 85¢ (3/6½) per head per diem. The Legislative Council concurred in the Resolution the same day.

THE BAHAMAS 1967 WOODFREE PAPER STAMPS

by H. Moreton Black

The story of how the woodfree paper printing of the 1967 issue of the Bahamas was saved for collectors just before the stamps became obsolete in April 1971, has been well told by Mr. O.J. Urch himself, in an article published in *Stamp Collecting* of 29th July 1971. I have now been able to examine these stamps and to establish some of the technical details of this printing, and it is clear that these stamps are of much greater interest than might have been supposed.

Mr. Urch concentrated his efforts upon the twelve stamps in the series whose shades are obvious at first sight, mainly because of the softer shades of blue and green in the vignettes, and it is these twelve values that have been catalogued by his firm. The main difference in these stamps is, however, in the paper, and it is now established that the 3¢, 8¢, and 15¢ values also exist on this whiter, woodfree paper. When the stamps are examined under the ultra-violet lamp, the difference in the paper is quite startling. Whereas the original printings appear as a dull and rather muddy color, the woodfree stamps light up with a fluorescence that is almost electric! One wonders whether Mr. Urch would have neglected the three other values if he had happened to have an ultra-violet lamp with him in Nassau!

The woodfree paper is probably the same as the one used for the $\frac{1}{2}$ d value of Tristan da Cunha which was reported in *Stamp Collecting* on 22nd July 1971. The three additional values on woodfree paper are apparently very scarce, as they have thus far been offered by only one dealer (M. & N. Haworth), while several firms have offered the set of twelve values, some of which at least must have come from the original Urch Harris stock, as the only examples of the 4¢, 12¢, and the \$3 values sold by the Post Office were purchased by Mr. Urch. From the figures he gave, there can only be 1220 complete sets of the woodfree paper stamps.

I have been fortunate in obtaining plate-number pieces of most of the woodfree stamps, and the plate numbers are in all cases different from those of the original printing of 1967. New litho vignette plates were used for every value of the woodfree printing, and these were all numbered "2", except in the case of the 11¢ value which can be found with the red plate number "2" or "3". It is intriguing to note that in many of the values the vignette plate numbers have been transposed. On the 4¢, for example, the red plate number "2" is situated below stamp 99, with the light blue vignette number "2" below stamp 100. However, on the original printing the red plate number "1" was below stamp 100, with the light blue plate number "1" below stamp 99. This transposition of the vignette plate numbers occurs on the 2¢, 4¢, 5¢, 8¢, 12¢, and 50¢. I have not seen the 15¢, but it does not occur on the other values. The 3¢ is the only value to show a new frame plate, where the number "2" occurs below stamp 98, in place of the original plate number "1".

In the case of the 10¢ stamp, the plate maker seems to have made an error in the original printing, since the two vignette plate numbers "1" are superimposed one upon the other under stamp 100, necessitating the addition of a rather crude hand-drawn "1" in purple below stamp 99. In the woodfree printing this has been rectified, and the transposition results in a blue "2" appearing below stamp 99, with a purple "2" below stamp 100. No example has been recorded of any plate number "2" appearing on the original printing of 1967.

A recent letter from the printers, Bradbury Wilkinson & Co., reveals that only one reprinting was made of each value, and that this was done in 1969, when new litho plates were needed for each value because of deterioration suffered by the original plates. Presumably, this was because of flood damage in the printing works in August 1968. The printers also reveal that because there was insufficient paper available of one making, the 4¢ denomination was printed on paper with PVA adhesive instead of the usual gum arabic which was used for all the other values. They explain the transposition of the vignette plate numbers by saying that the plate maker probably switched the positions unwittingly because none of the old plates would be available for comparison, and because the printers are not permitted to retain file copies of whole sheets for reference.

The printers have kindly supplied me with the total number of stamps ordered for the 1969

reprinting, and I reproduce them in the table below, together with the plate numbers and the most important features of the woodfree stamps. In the table the symbol "T" indicates that the vignette plate numbers have been transposed, and the symbol "G" indicates the presence of guide lines in the margins.

BAHAMAS 1967 ISSUE ON WOODFREE PAPER

<u>S.G.</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>ORDER</u>	<u>VIGNETTE SHADES</u>	<u>PAPER</u>	<u>PLATE NO.</u>	<u>SOLD</u>
295a	1¢	800,000	Much deeper red	White	1 2 2 2	G
296a	2¢	500,000	Softer blue and slate	Very white	1 2 2	T
297a	3¢	5,000,000	Yellower green	White	2 2 2	
298a	4¢	1,000,000	Brighter blue (PVA)	Very white	1 2 2	T 1600
299a	5¢	1,500,000	Brighter blue	Purple tone	1 2 2	T
	8¢	3,000,000	Softer blue and green	White	1 2 2	T
301a	10¢	200,000	Very pale blue	White	1 2 2	T
302a	11¢	6,000,000	Very pale green	Very white	1 2 3	G
303a	12¢	2,000,000	Paler green	Very white	1 2 2	T 1520
	15¢	4,000,000	Duller yellow	White	1 2 2 2	
305a	22¢	400,000	Softer blue	Very white	1 2 2	
306a	50¢	200,000	Very pale blue	Very white	1 2 2	T
307a	\$1	300,000	Brighter blue	Very white	1 2 2	1500
308a	\$2	200,000	Darker grey	Very white	1 2 2 2 2	G 1220
309a	\$3	200,000	Lighter blue & brown	Very white	1 2 2	1220

These figures give an interesting indication of the usage of the various denominations, and one cannot help wondering how many copies of each value were sold over the counter of the Post Office as they came into use in the normal way before the issue was taken off sale on 26 April 1971. The October 1971 issue of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal reports that a special trip to the docks at Nassau was made by Mr. John V. Saunders to get for Mr. Urch the sheets of the 4¢, 12¢, \$1, \$2, and \$3 which had not been unpacked before that day. All the other copies of these values were presumably destroyed, but other values on woodfree paper may have been in use at Nassau for some time before Mr. Urch's visit. In view of the obvious scarcity of these interesting stamps, I would strongly advise any collector of the Bahamas to complete his set and, by putting them under the lamp, to enjoy a new philatelic experience.

BAHAMAS 1884-98 SPECIMENS

by Alfred J. Branston

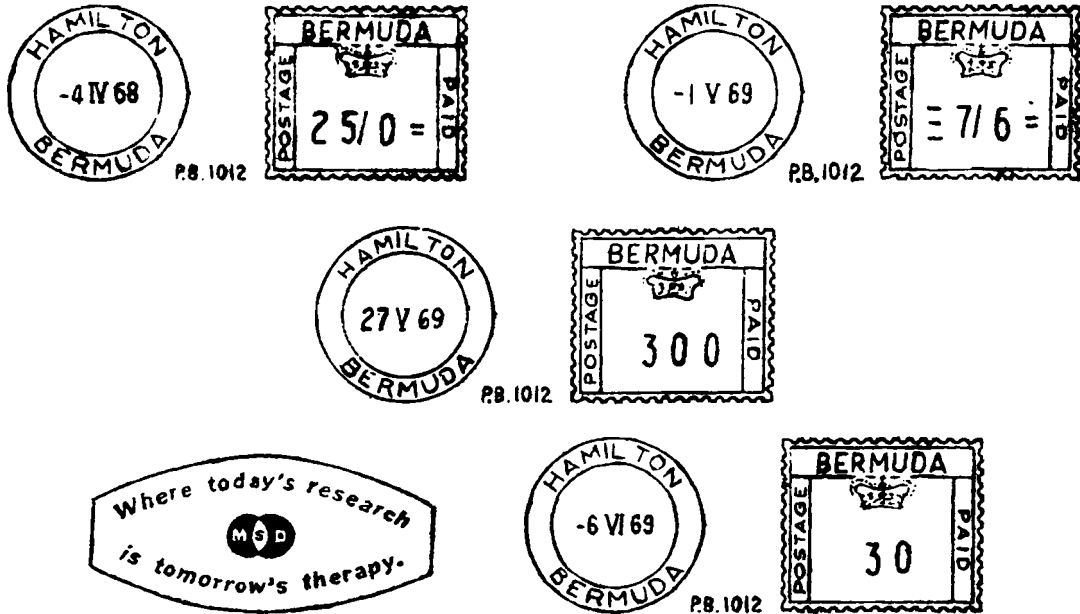
Enquiries by John M. Bailey and myself about these SPECIMEN overprints have brought to light an interesting point or two which seem to merit passing along to others. Records show that the printers of this issue, De La Rue, supplied 100 specimens each of the 1d and 4d, and 400 each of the 2½d and 6d. However, only the latter two values are mentioned in the U. P. U. Bulletin and are in the U. P. U. specimen collection. This collection does have a complete set of this issue from 1d to £1 but without overprints.

In one of the best specimen collections there are two of the £1 value, one with a larger sized overprint. The same collection contains a 5/- and a 1/- with a diagonal overprint in violet. It would be nice to know more about these four items. Can anyone help?

POSTAGE METERS OF BERMUDA

by Howard L. Godwin

The article by Lynn Wallace on Bermuda Postage Meters in the June 1971 Journal was most interesting, and I too have wondered when authorization for the use of these meters to frank "off the Island" mail was given. I had read somewhere that use of postage meters was restricted to "Local mail only". In this regard, our Editor has just informed me that the latest word from Lynn on returning from a holiday in Bermuda is that the postal people there told him in writing that "as of 29 May 1962, a regulation was introduced to allow metered mail to be distributed internationally".



The earliest meter strike that I have available is dated 4 April 1968, and this and all of the others which I have are from mail addressed to a Johannesburg, South Africa address. The machine number is P. B. 1012, and it is still used by Merck Sharpe & Dohme (International) Ltd. of Hamilton. All strikes are in red ink.

Initially values were in shillings and pence, as 25/0= (4 April 1968), and this continued until at least 1st May 1969, a strike of that date reading =7/6=. This meter was altered sometime between the 2nd and the 27th May 1969, as a strike of the latter date reads 300 (for 30/-) with no decimal point or horizontal lines. A 6th June 1969 strike reads 30 (for 3/-), still no decimal point or horizontal lines. All of the meter strikes except the first one, which was printed on a tape, have the slogan at the left, but to save space it has only been shown once in the above illustrations.

It is interesting to note that this alteration to the meter took place nine months before the actual change to decimal currency in Bermuda. I have further examples of these strikes, and if anyone would like copies, please drop me a line at P. O. Box 1066, Benoni, South Africa.

A few copies of the Commemorative Issue of the Jamaica Philatelist are still available for U.S. 80¢, Postpaid. Send orders to E. M. Adelson, Box 333, Uleta, Florida, U.S.A.

COLONEL REID'S ST. LUCIA NOTEBOOK

The late Colonel H.G. Reid of Soufriere, St. Lucia, was an ardent student of St. Lucia's postal history. As President of the St. Lucia Philatelic Society and its most active member, he was largely responsible for the editorial content of the "St. Lucia Philatelist", published for the Society in four annual issues, 1948, 1949, 1950, and 1952, by Robson Lowe Ltd. of London. While visiting St. Lucia in 1964, Dr. John M. Lockie met Colonel Reid, and that gentleman most kindly loaned him his "Notebook", an assembly of penciled notes and newspaper clippings, and allowed him to copy it.

Dr. Lockie has suggested that these notes might be of interest and use to the St. Lucia fans in our Group, so we are printing them here. Dr. Lockie notes that he has transcribed them as accurately as possible, and that not all entries in the book were in the same handwriting.

THE NOTEBOOK

- 1772 Population 15446.
1789 Population 21778.
1810 Population 17485.
 January 5 - Mrs. Catherine Addison appointed Postmistress at £30.
1816 January - Thomas Goodsir - Postmaster.
 October - William Hill - Postmaster.
1820 The "Courier des Antilles".
1823 "L'Impartial".
1825 Population 18595.
1833 May - Chas. Wells - Government printer.
1837 M. Flossiac appointed printer in place of Mr. Wells who lost the contract for the Government printing held since May 1833.
 Dreuil appointed Commissioner of Police.
1838 June - The "Palladium" founded.
 October - Charles Wells dismissed on instructions received from PMG in consequence of the terms in which Mr. Wells had alluded to H.E. Colonel Everard and the Chief Justice in a publication called the "Palladium" of which he is the author.
 The Acting Governor was found concealing notes in newspapers.
 Wells was tried for libel.
1839 May - D. P. M. Charles Wells twice imprisoned for libel.
 December - Francis Dreuil appointed D. P. M. by Colonel Everard and confirmed by P. M. G. (£70 from British Government, £100 from Colonial Government)
1840 August 4 - Price of Doublon fixed.
1843 Population 20694.
1844 August 1 - Francis Dreuil appointment as head of police disallowed by S. of S., and Patrick Brennan appointed by H. M. Govt. to fill that appointment.
1845 October 9 - P. Smith was appointed D. P. M.
1850 March 16 - Soufriere date stamp and the "Inland Postage Paid" date stamp left London.
 April 8 - Government notice re Inland Post.
1851 Population 24185.
 Inland Post leaves Castries daily 11 a. m., Soufriere daily 7 p. m., Arrives Castries daily 7 a. m.
 July 1 - Charles Robinson is appointed D. P. M. Soufriere in place of Mr. Alex

- 1851 cont. Bourgeois, resigned. Confirmed by P.M.G.
- 1852 April 16 - Charles Robinson suspended from duties of D.P.M. on charges of irregularities and breach of trust. Mrs. Marulaz was appointed to succeed him as D.P.M. Soufriere.
- 1854 May 17 - C.F. Stuart to be Deputy P.M.G.
October 16 - Oscar Lapite to be Deputy P.M.G.
- 1857 January 31 - P.M.G. advocates the registration of letters between U. K. and Barbados at a fee of 6d per letter. In those Colonies still under control of the British P.O. these privileges had been enjoyed for some time.
- 1858 January 16 - P.M.G. directs that all letters for U.K. be prepaid as from April 1 next.
April 16 - P.M. instructed to keep 1d, 4d, and 6d stamps.
- 1860 March 7 - An ordinance to transfer to the Executive Government of the Island of St. Lucia, the authority and control over the said Post Office Establishment of the said Island, hithertofore exercised by the Imperial Post Office Department.
May 1 - Post Office taken over by local authorities and use of British Postage stamps discontinued.
- 1861 Population 26674.
- 1862 December 1 - Ordinance providing for prepayment of postage on inter-colonial letters.
Contract for supply of stamps transferred to De La Rue.
- 1863 Paper "Crown CC" brought into use. Colour of stamps changed.
April 1 - Packet rate to U.K. increased to 1/-.
March 4 - First SS of Compagnie General called at St. Lucia.
- 1864 March 3 - Ordinance for payment of inland postage on letters carried by French mail packets.
November 19 - New colours and 1/- value added.
- 1866 S.S. Penelope imported for coastal service.
- 1867 September 13 - Legislative Council consider Capt. Shugg's suggestion for the establishment of a system of 1d postage for coastal towns to cover the cost of the subsidy. Subsidy of £150 voted.
- 1868 July - Capt. Shugg dies - Penelope wrecked shortly before.
- 1869 March 1 - Registration of St. Lucia Steam Conveyance Company.
August 13 - Received annual subsidy of £250.
- 1870 S.S. Aide bought in Barbados.
- 1871 Population 31610.
- 1873 Issue of St. Lucia S.C. Co. stamps of 1d, 3d, and 6d.
P.O. Notice of February 11 - Stamps will not be taken in payment of postage except from persons who have purchased them from the Postmistress. Notice is hereby given that no one is authorised to sell postage stamps.
April 30 - Arrival of S.S. Creole from London - cost £2975.
May 15 - "Gazette des Timbres" - Messrs. Duboulay Mervielle & Co. concession for whole coast of St. Lucia.
- 1879 June 11 - St. Lucia S. Conveyance Co.
July 29 - Fleming and Barnard deceased. Barnard and Peter born.
- 1880 July 7 - Memorial laid before Legislative Council by A.G. Peter owner of the coastal steamer "Assistance" in respect to the subsidy now granted to the St. Lucia S.C. Coy. (that fine had not been inflicted on Company).
December 11 - St. Lucia joins U.P.U.
Rate of postage reduced from 1/- to 4d per 15 grammes (GPO London memo).

- 1881 Population 38551.
January 1 - St. Lucia admitted to U. P. U.
December 31 - Ordinance No. 19 - Newspapers 1d each, Book postage 4 oz - 1d.
- 1882 Legislative Council moves revenue stamps to be used for revenue purposes instead of postage stamps.
Watermark on paper changed to Crown CA.
Five values printed - $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, 4d, 6d, and 1/-.
- 1883 July - Stamps in new design - $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d, 4d, 6d, and 1/-.
July 16 - Formation of local post between Castries, Soufriere, and Vieux Fort, the rates of postage being 1d per 1 oz.
May 23 - R. M. S. P. Co. formed.
- 1885 January 19 - Opening of post offices at Dennery, Canaries, and Choiseul.
- 1886 Introduction of parcel post with U. K.
- 1887 October 28 - Subsidy to St. Lucia S. C. Co. increased to £750 for 5 years.
Vessels - Aide, Creole, and Assistance.
- 1891 January 1 - Gros Islet P. O. opened. Peter Jaffe says he does not think that it got its date stamp before 1899 at the earliest.
- 1892 Introduction of parcel post with U. S. A.
Postage to places in U. P. U. reduced to $2\frac{1}{2}$ d per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Contract made with R. M. S. P. Co. for coastal service. Vessels "Tees" and "Wear". Subsidy £1000.
Inland postage rate $\frac{1}{2}$ d per oz. (Remained in force until increased to 1d in 1935).
- 1895 Postage on letters between Windward Is. reduced to 1d per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
- 1898 May 6 - Postage to foreign countries reduced to 2d.
June 16 - Postage on letters within British Empire reduced to 1d per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
- 1900 Insurance of parcels inaugurated. Inland letter rate 1d per oz. Reg. fee - 2d.
- 1901 January 29 - 1d embossed envelope on sale at face value.
Post offices in 1901: Soufriere, Vieux Fort, Choiseul, and Laborie with daily service. Micoud, Dennery, and Gros Islet.
- 1902 Commemorative stamp issued.
De La Rue says: Two suggestions for design prepared locally reached us on 14 February 1902. Design submitted in accordance with instructions received from Colony. Design twice amended and finally approved on 14 October 1902. Stamps printed by recess in two colours. First delivery 20 November 1902 of 250,000. Crown Agents no records. They have been destroyed.
- 1903 Insurance of letters inaugurated.
- 1904 May 6 - Crown Circle paid stamp.
- 1905 Introduction of Inland Money and Postal Orders and Imperial Postal Orders.
January 1 - Inland rates on letters $\frac{1}{2}$ d per 1 oz.
Peter Jaffe says Anse La Raye was served once a week from 31 October 1905.
- 1906 August 15 - Date stamps for Anse La Raye and Canaries left London.
Peter Jaffe says Canaries was served weekly from March 12, 1906.
- 1907 October 1 - U. P. U. decrees that all $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d stamps shall be printed in green, red, and blue.
- 1908 C. O. D. system to U. K. introduced.
- 1913 Inland registration of letters inaugurated.
- 1916 Introduction of War Tax stamps of 1d on all letters and parcels.
- 1919 June 30 - War Tax stamps discontinued.
July 1 - Postage on letters to U. S. A. reduced from $2\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1d per oz.
Introduction of parcel post to France.

- 1920 Inland Postal Order System discontinued.
November - As a result of the Postal Union Congress held in Spain in November 1920, the international rate on letters was fixed in St. Lucia as from December 1921 at 3d for first oz. instead of 2½d; Post Cards 1½d from 1d; and 3d from 2½d for registration, as was also the fee for Advice of Delivery.
- 1921 December 24 - Rate to British Empire and U. S. A. raised to 2d for the first oz. and 1½d for each subsequent oz. instead of 1d for every oz. Remained in force until October 1935.
- 1926 S. O'Dell - Colonial Postmaster.
There were ten post offices in operation as in previous years. At four of these, Dennery, Micoud, Soufriere and Vieux Fort, the Revenue Officer was in charge, while five offices, Anse La Raye, Canaries, Choiseul, Gros Islet, and Laborie, were in charge of the Senior Police Officer.
- 1927 Fire at Castries. A temporary date stamp was taken into use. This was made by H. N. Myers, now Colonial Postmaster.
- 1929 September - Direct air mail service.
- 1930 January 1 - Postage due labels of 1d and 2d introduced. These superseded the handstruck labels of 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, and 6d.
- 1932 Introduction of C. O. D. service with France.
- 1934 Parcel Post convention with Martinique. C. O. D. system with British Guiana.
- 1935 November 9 - Air mail service discontinued.
Rates on letters increased to 1½d per oz. to Empire and 2½d per oz. to U. S. A.
- 1936 April 11 - Gazette. Stamped postal envelopes 2 values, 1d and 1½d. 1d value specially suited for inland post and in one size, viz commercial 5¾ x 3½. 1½d value in two sizes, 5¼ x 4¼ and 5¾ square. Price ½d for every three envelopes, plus stamps. If envelope is accidentally spoiled, the stamp may be cut off and used for postage provided it has not already passed through the post.
Annual report for 1935 - as 1926 above.
30 January - G. P. O. transferred to 8 Micoud Street.
2 April - Stamped postal envelopes on sale at all post offices.
8 April - Coil stamps first issued. First stamp vending machines.
29 September - Patience P. O. opened, authority St. Lucia Gazette of Sep. 26th.
- 1937 December 31 - Withdrawal of Coronation stamps and burning of surplus. The Pictorials of 1936, 1d, 1½d, and 2½d, again put on sale. During the sale of the Coronation stamps the 1d was in use in coil machines.
- 1938 August 18 - Installation of new coil machines to take smaller George VI stamps.
- 1939 January 1 - Stamps issued during reigns of Queen Victoria and K. E. VII shall not be valid for payment of stamp duties - Gazette of 3 September 1938.
- 1941 Agreement signed to lease bases at Vieux Fort and Gros Islet, including P. O. (March 27, 1941).
April 28 - P. O. opened at U. S. Naval Air Station, Gros Islet.
June 16 - Army bomber makes its first scheduled flight.
August 4 - 14 officers and 296 men arrive at Vieux Fort, and "presumably" the P. O. opened.
December 23 - New date stamp showing time brought into use at APO 805 Vieux Fort.
- 1942 April 23 - New date stamp - APO 867.
June 14 - Dedicatory service in honour of Lt. Beane for whom Beane Field was named.
August 8 - '867' dropped from date stamp for security reasons.

- 1942 cont. November 15 - (?) Mender construction.
- 1943 March - Coil machine out of order until January 1945.
- 1945 January - Coil machines again in use until Castries fire.
August 19 - St. Lucia Philatelic Society formed.
- 1946 February 14 - First Stamp Exhibition of St. Lucia Philatelic Society.
October 8 - Peace and Reconstruction stamps, 1d and 3½d, issued.
November 17 - E.F. Twining Patron, St. Lucia Philatelic Society, departs, and J. M. Stow becomes Patron.
- 1947 January 25 - 4d and 8d postage dues on sale.
- 1948 June 19 - Castries fire - coil machines out of use.
November 1 - St. Lucia Philatelist issued - 500 copies printed.
November 26 - First day of issue of Silver Wedding stamps, 1d and £1.
- 1949 February 25 - Last day of Silver Weddings.
August 27 - Beane Field Stars and Stripes hauled down.
October 1 - Decimal currency issue.
October 10 - U. P. U. issue.
November 19 - Coils on sale - different perf. to sheets, 1¢ and 2¢.
- 1950 February 13 - Coils off sale.
June 1 - New sub-post offices, Mabouya Valley (at La Resource) and Saltibus in Laborie District.
H.N. Myers appointed Acting Colonial Postmaster.
October 1 - H.N. Myers appointed Colonial Postmaster.
- 1951 February 16 - University College commemoratives issued.
May 16 - University College commemoratives withdrawn from sale.
September - Issue of New Constitution overprints, 2¢, 4¢, 5¢, and 12¢.
June 19th - Castries Reconstruction stamp issued.
November 20 - Invalidation of George V stamps, Coronation issue, 1938 George VI head issues, and Peace commemorative.
December 18 - Castries Reconstruction stamp withdrawn from sale.
December 24 - New Constitution issue withdrawn.
- 1952 November 11 - 12¢ stamped Air Mail Letter Form issued.
December - New registration label for Castries.
- 1953 June 2 - Coronation stamp issued.
August 1 - H. N. Myers on 6 months leave. George St. Jour acting Colonial PM.
October 28 - 2¢ issued in perf 14½ (K.G. VI).
November 17 - Q.E. 2¢ placed on sale in place of K.G. VI 2¢, sold out here and in the U.K.
- 1954 January 7 - Q.E. 4¢ placed on sale.
February 25 - Silver Weddings invalidated.
April 1 - 1¢ and 5¢ placed on sale.
July 1 - Millet P.O. opened (District of Anse la Raye).
July 12 - Babomeau P.O. opened (Sub P.O.).
- 1955 May 2 - Bexon, Crown Lands Sub Post Office opened.
May 6 - Fond St. Jacques Sub Post Office opened.
November 14 - New Air Mail Letter Form, Queen's Head, value 10¢.
- 1956 May 1 - Marchand P.O. opened.
May 16 - La Clery Sub Post Office (Bouteille area) opened.
May 16 - Des Ruisseaux Sub Post Office (Micoud and V.F. area) opened.
June 2 - Roseau Sub Post Office opened. Closed 1/12/56. Reopened 7/12/56.
- 1957 June 11 - P.O. transferred to new building.

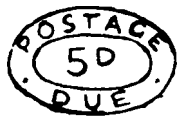
- 1957 cont. April 8 - Sub Post Office opened at Leslie Land, Castries.
- April 17 - Sub Post Office opened at Monchy (Gros Islet).
- June 1 - La Croix Maingot Post Office (Roseau Valley).
- August 1 - "G" size registered envelope embossed in the facsimile of 8¢ stamp.
- Cost of envelope 10¢ (8¢ registration and 2¢ for envelope).
- 1958 April 22 - Special issue of commemorative stamps to commemorate opening of
- First Federal Parliament - 3¢, 6¢, and 12¢.
- 1959 June 30 - 3¢ Coronation stamp invalidated.
- 1960 September 1 - Delaide Post Office is opened.

Bermuda's Adjustable P.D. Stamps

by Jack Arnell

In Ludington's BERMUDA, a small double oval POSTAGE DUE handstamp, adjustable for any denomination in shillings and pence, is listed as used at Hamilton and St. Georges from 1902 until at least 1955. In the Supplement to BERMUDA, the dates of use are extended to 1901 and 1966. This handstamp is designated Type DUE 2 and is shown among the illustrations. There is no mention of more than one form of strike.

I have recently realized that I have strikes of two different handstamps, which are quite distinctive. These are sketched below. The first of these appears on a letter addressed to



I



II

for additional postage, which had not been applied, the 5D POSTAGE DUE marking was struck on the front at Hamilton. Further due markings and two 5 cent red Postage Due stamps were applied at New York.

I have a number of the second type of strike in various denominations on letters addressed to Paget, which would have all been handled through the Hamilton Post Office. These date from 1960 on. In 1964, I obtained several strikes of this type from the handstamp in current use at Hamilton. All my examples show the broken outer frame, as illustrated. This is also the strike shown in Ludington's book, although his illustration is with a complete frame.

The significant differences between the two strikes (dimensions in millimeters) are:

	I	II
Outer oval - long axis	22	23
short axis	14.5	15.5
Inner oval - long axis	14	16.5
short axis	7.5	8.5
Height of letters	2	1.75
Height of central "D"	2.5	2
Distance between dots	17	18

Because both of these handstamps were used at Hamilton - albeit sixty years apart, it is

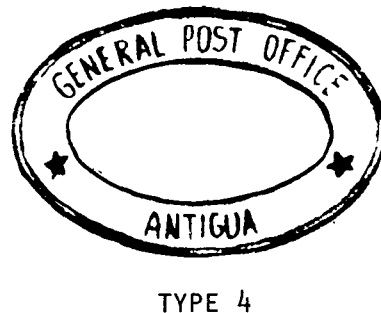
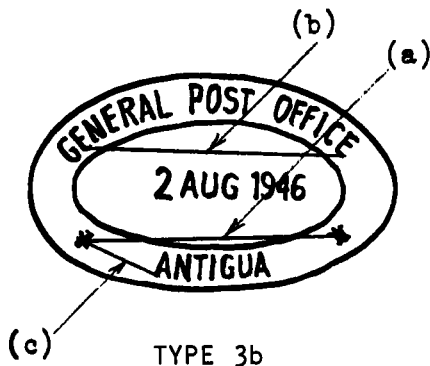
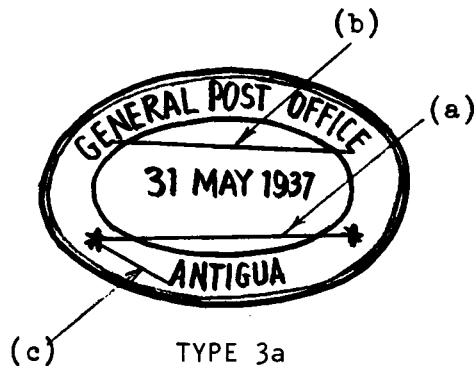
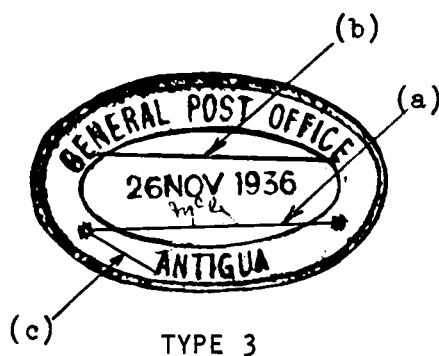
suggested that when first introduced, the Type II was used at the St. Georges Post Office and only transferred to Hamilton at some later date to replace the Type I handstamp which had worn out, because most overseas mail passed through Hamilton. If any reader can confirm the early use of Type II at St. Georges, a note to our Editor and to me would be appreciated.

ANTIGUA G.P.O. OVALS

by George W. Bowman

Since the appearance of my Antigua G. P. O. Ovals tabulation in the April 1972 Journal, I have acquired examples of two more such marks, which I believe could be classified as sub-types of Type 3.

My original Type 3 is illustrated below, as are the new sub-types, 3a and 3b. The principal feature separating Type 3's from the similar appearing Type 4 (also shown) is that the latter contains 5-pointed stars between the ovals. The Type 3's all seem to have 6-pointed stars.



Three additional dimensions are analyzed in my Type 3's. These are: 1. Distance between centers of stars (a); 2. Distance between right end of lower horizontal stroke of first "E" to identical part of third "E" (b); and 3. Distance between center of left star to bottom of left leg of first "A" (c). Dimensions of the marks are as follows:

Type 3 - 50 x 31 mm, letters $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm high, (a) 36 mm, (b) $34\frac{1}{2}$ mm, (c) 12 mm.

Type 3a - $49-49\frac{1}{2}$ x 31 mm, letters $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm high, (a) 34 mm, (b) 33 mm, (c) $11-11\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Type 3b - 50 x 30-31 mm, letters $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm high, (a) 35 mm, (b) 34 mm, (c) $11\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

The nagging problem of ink spread makes definite classification of the Type 3's extremely difficult. Type 3b could be interpreted as being a later state of Type 3a, since all points of dimensional comparison between the two marks are within one millimeter of each other. My reason for assigning a Type 3b is that the outer oval appears single, while double on 3 & 3a.

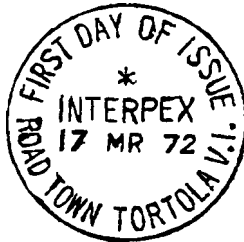
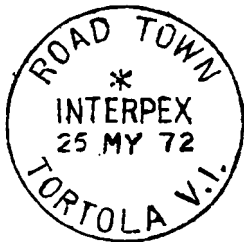
I have strikes of Types 3a and 3b with dates as shown in the illustrations. I will repeat what I asked in my April article: that members having further examples of these marks, plus new types that I have not yet reported, are urged to make their data known to our Editor.

NOTES ON THE B.V.I.

by Charles G. Ricksecker

The 31½ mm ROADTOWN/INTERPEX/TORTOLA V.I. cds is being kept in the Parcel Post room of the GPO. The clerk there apparently uses it from time to time and is not at all adverse to cancelling covers for patrons with it. I have several covers posted 29 MY 72. The date on the cds before my covers were cancelled read 25 MY 72, four days earlier. The word INTERPEX is removable, so that the cds can also be used plain or with another word inserted. I am expecting to see it used for other purposes in the future.

This INTERPEX mark was employed on 17 MR 72, the First Day of the INTERPEX stamps, according to Tom Giraldi, who reports a commercial cover bearing a strike of that date. However, I have no idea whether all the non-machine fed mail on that date was so cancelled. Has anyone seen mail having a 17 MR 72 strike of the ordinary cds of Road Town? The Parcel Post Clerk was also able to show me the FIRST DAY OF ISSUE/INTERPEX/TORTOLA V.I. cds but would only provide a strike on a blank piece of paper. This is the postmark that Dan Walker reported (April Journal, page 58) as used to tie a ½¢ INTERPEX stamp to a souvenir card presented to those attending INTERPEX on the opening day, 17 March 1972. It was also used on FDC's of the INTERPEX issue.



Tom Giraldi has reported a new ROAD TOWN machine slogan used on 18 May 1972, reading CADASTRAL SURVEY/PROJECT HELPS B.V.I. My earliest strike is dated 31 May 1972. The Cadastral Survey refers to a property boundry demarcation project underway on Tortola. It seems that the island has never been completely and properly surveyed, resulting in overlapping property claims. The government is trying to rectify the situation, but because the island is sub-divided into hundreds of tiny plots, many of them owned by Tortolians who have emigrated abroad, they have had difficulty determining the owners of many pieces of land, let alone the exact size and boundries.

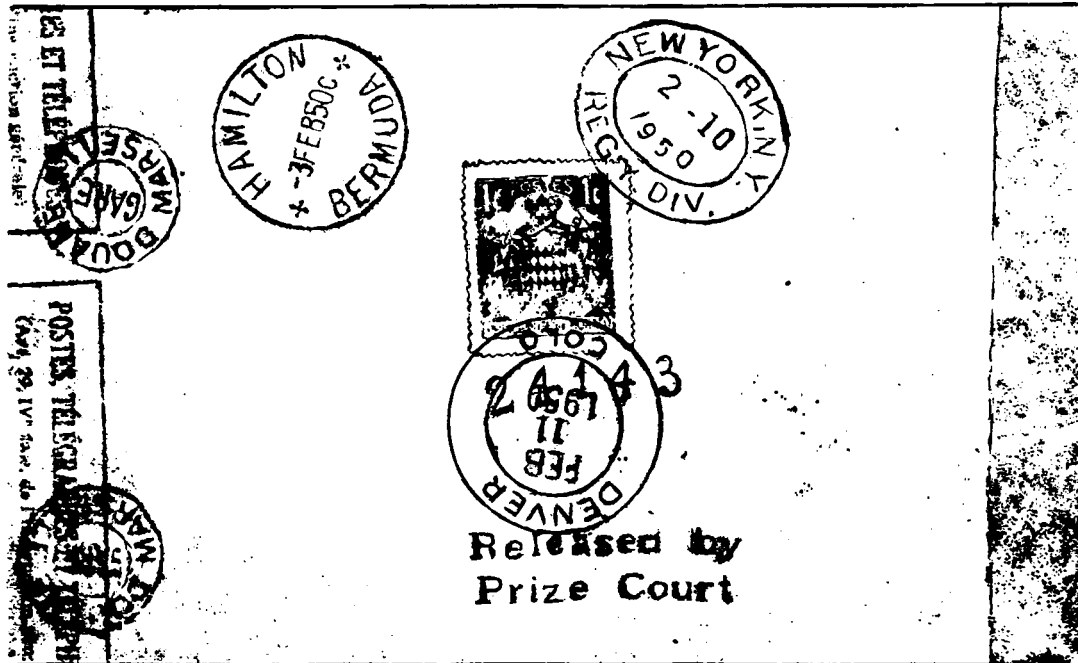
I recently received a letter addressed to St. Thomas and posted from the Fiji Islands. It has a backstamp of a ROADTOWN/TORTOLA cds. It does not carry a specific "MISSENT" handstamp, but must certainly qualify as a missent piece of mail. I have a special passion about receiving "MISSENT" markings on my own personal correspondence. This is the one type of postal marking that cannot be manipulated, and all such strikes are totally unexpected.

The official title of the territory which we commonly call the British Virgin Islands, or BVI, is actually the "Colony of the Virgin Islands", with no mention being made of the fact that it is a British Colony. Prior to 1917, the present "Virgin Islands of the United States" were the "Danish West Indies" so no confusion existed. Since then BVI and USVI have been commonly, although unofficially to differentiate between the two groups. Further confusion may be added by a recent title change naming the British group the "Territory of the Virgin Islands"!

BERMUDA PRIZE COURT MAIL

by Lincoln E. Kieffer

During World War II, the British Royal Navy siezed the cargoes of a number of vessels that were carrying mail from occupied portions of Europe and Africa to the Americas. Little is known of the actual details, as the British Government has never removed the security wraps of this operation. However, a few covers that I acquired several years ago give some clues.



Shown above is the back of a registered cover that was mailed at Monte Carlo, Monaco on 31 May 1941. It is addressed to the late Mr. A.E. Pade, a Denver, Colorado stamp dealer. It was censored by the French (Vichy) customs at the Marseille Railway Station (Gare), and no doubt embarked from Marseille on a ship destined for the U.S.A. Somewhere along the way, the ship was captured by the Royal Navy, its cargo being confiscated and taken to Bermuda, where it remained for nearly nine years. Finally, on 3 February 1950, a Prize Court made the decision to release the mail for forwarding to the owners. Our cover was duly stamped with a two line "Released by/Prize Court" handstamp in black, and given to the Bermuda Post Office at Hamilton. It reached Denver on 11 February 1950, where it was delivered to Mr. Pade.

Another cover that fared similarly is in my collection. It was posted in Algeria on 28 April 1941 to Jackson Heights, N.Y. Delivery was also finally accomplished on 11 February 1950. It bears the same "Released by/Prize Court" and Hamilton markings on its reverse side.

I trust that the addressees of these letters felt at least partly compensated for their long wait by the knowledge that they possessed items of considerable postal history significance. One cannot help but wonder why it took nearly five years after the end of WW II in Europe for the Prize Court to decide to send this mail on to the addressees.

I would be interested in knowing if anyone else has or knows of similar covers, or has other information that will shed further light on the seizure and ultimate release of these covers. Surely much other mail must have shared the fate of these two covers.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Here we are again in the midst of summer (an unpredictable one here in Ottawa), when philatelic activity has all but ceased for most collectors. As a result, I lack any real inspiration and have little news for you.

At the end of May, Stan, your hard-working Secretary, was after the Trustees for their decisions on a number of matters, before they ceased answering their mail altogether. One completed action was the placing of an order for pewter medals, which were donated by Bill Bogg for presentation at local stamp shows for the general encouragement of British Caribbean collecting. Hopefully, these will be available later in the year, and when backed up by the Award of Merit Certificates designed by Jack Ferguson, will go a long way to bring our Group to the attention of many younger collectors, thus leading them to investigate the possibilities of membership in the friendliest group of stamp collectors.

I always have a moment of pleasure when I open a letter from a previously unknown member of the Group, who has reacted to something I have written and writes to offer additional information or seeks help with an associated problem. Such a letter invariably leads to an exchange of more letters, with both of us benefiting; for I have never known a case where there was not some gain from such correspondence.

While I get similar letters resulting from membership in other societies, which relate to my other philatelic interest - the postal history of the early transatlantic mail, they tend to be much more formal. In the Group, we all seem to use first names as a matter of course, but with other correspondents, I find that I usually have to suggest such informality. This is one of our cohesive strengths - a sense of friendship among the members. Treasure it!

By the time you read this, summer will be nearly over. I trust that you found it a time full of holidaying and relaxation, and that you are now making plans to become active again with your collecting. Remember as you do that the Journal is looking to you for contributions. You may have to wait a few issues to see your effort in print, but that is just the result of healthy competition among you all.

CROWN AGENTS' CONTINUE TO DISTRIBUTE ANTIGUA----

In the last issue we expressed confusion over the fact that although the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation had announced that it had been appointed philatelic distributor of the stamps of Antigua, the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau was continuing to announce new issues of that country. To clarify the situation, we wrote to the CA in England and asked for an explanation. The CA Marketing Manager, M.A. Fairman has replied to our query, advising that the CA have issued the following statement:

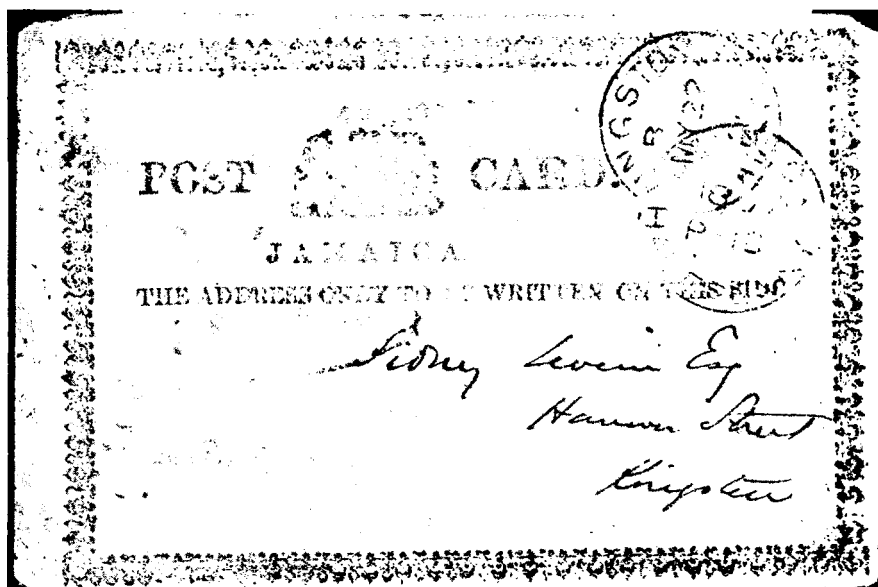
"We are pleased to inform you that we are continuing to distribute the stamps of Antigua on a world-wide basis. We are not in a position to comment on the statement made by IGPC (Lehmann)".

This information will be welcomed by collectors of Antigua, who had expressed concern that a change in philatelic agents would signal release of a flood of unwanted new issues such as happened when several other British Caribbean countries made such a switch.

Jamaica Post Card Shows Earliest Use

by Fred F. Seifert

A few days ago we received a letter from Editor Emeritus Al Johnson, in which he enclosed an example of a Jamaica Post Card of the Second Provisional Issue, the variety that bears the designation No. 4a in the 1928 Jamaica Handbook, and which Tom Foster calls PC6. It is a rather poor looking specimen, which at first glance one would dismiss as hardly worth adding to his collection. It has a spindle hole, the two top corners are missing, there are hinge remanents on both faces, and the card is badly foxed. However, a closer look rewards one with a startling bit of information. IT BEARS A KINGSTON cds DATED MY 22 77!



While the issue date of the First Provisional Post Cards of Jamaica, commonly referred to as the Penitentiary or Lozenge issue, has been definitely tied down as 1 April 1877, there has never been any certainty as to when the Floriate issue which followed was released. In the 1928 Jamaica Handbook by Nicholson, Collett, et al, the chapter on Post Cards written by Astley Clerk and L. C. C. Nicholson says about the Second Provisional issue "About June or July 1877 the printing of these Provisional postcards was placed in the hands of the then Government printer, Mr. George Henderson." They listed a number of varieties of these cards based on broken or misplaced ornaments in the border, differences in the printed wording, or in the color or type of paper.

Checking back in the 1891 West Indies book of the (Royal) Philatelic Society, London, we find the order of listing of these varieties is the same as in the later book, seemingly indicating that Clerk and Nicholson obtained their data from it. In our August 1971 Journal, Thomas Foster (pages 111-113) follows this same order in listing the Second Provisional issue. Now a question arises in our minds. Is this the actual order in which these cards were printed, or is it merely an arbitrary order in which the late Sir. E. D. Bacon placed them when he put together the Jamaica chapter of the 1891 book?

Although Foster designated each of the nine varieties of this Second Provisional issue as a separate printing, in subsequent correspondence he has indicated that he doubts there were actually nine separate printings. He has toyed with the possibility that they were printed in sheets comprising two or more cards, with the printing varieties merely being the position

in the sheet. Tom discussed possible setups of two and four cards to the sheet, and each of these worked well up to a point. In each case there is a missing or existing variety that can't be accounted for without making some unlikely assumption.

These "orphans" consist of what Tom called the First, Second, and Ninth Printings. The six other "Printings" comprise three basic type arrangements on two varieties of paper, a thick white card and a thick bluish card. The Ninth Printing has the same type arrangement as the Seventh and Eighth Printings, but is on a yellowish white glazed card. It is apparently a very rare item--we have never seen an example--and we wonder if it might not have been a proof or a printer's trial sheet. Economy-minded printers have been known to include such items as part of an order. In any event we feel it can be ignored in this analysis.

As for the Second Printing, Foster is the only one ever to report it, and we questioned its existence when we first heard of it from Tom. He was unable to produce an example, saying that he saw it in a dealer's stock some time ago while examining "many thousands of unused cards". We still would like firm evidence that it exists, but again its rarity makes it a good candidate for being ignored here.

The remaining "orphan", the First Printing, is relatively common, so cannot be easily explained away. It is an "orphan" because no similar type arrangement has been reported on the bluish card. Also, although this may not be of any great significance, its frame width is some 4 millimeters greater than any of the other types of the Second Provisional Issue. The theory of printing in multiple copy sheets requires us to explain this variety as an exception that was printed one per sheet or that somehow was removed from a plate of four varieties prior to the printing on bluish card. If we choose the former explanation, we end up with a plate of three subjects producing the present Third, Fifth, and Seventh Printings when run on white card, and the Fourth, Sixth, and Eighth Printings when run on bluish card.

Getting back to Al Johnson's card, the 22 May 1877 postmark does establish that the Second Provisional Issue did begin to appear earlier than "about June or July" as previously thought. It also calls for further consideration of Foster's statement that the early provisional cards were never postmarked, and leads to some new thinking as to how and in what sequence these Second Provisional Issue cards were produced.

GRENADA PREPARES

by John A. Cronin

When on the 1st April 1860, Great Britain implemented the terms of the Act of Transfer, the colonies still tied to the Imperial Post Office had postal independence thrust upon them. The use of British adhesives, never popular with the I. P. O., was forbidden. Instead each colony was granted the right to issue its own distinctive postage stamps. This move marked the end of the struggle between Great Britain and the West Indies over who should control the postal system. During the ten years prior to 1860, British efforts to shed the burden of the West Indies' posts had been stoutly resisted by the "tied" colonies. Britain was in the end forced to insist on transfer of responsibility. Dissenting colonies were given the choice of coming into line or of "Going it alone". Since the latter course would have entailed costs far beyond their financial capability, none of the colonies chose it.

Although not a militant voice among the dissenters, Grenada was not happy at the change, and her Executive from the Governor down refused to accept the situation as final. Ample illustration of their attitude may be seen in Grenada's own Act of Transfer which was passed on 19th September 1860. While authority was granted for the securing of postage stamps, local control was made valid for one year only. Thus the act had to be renewed several times until at last in 1867 reality was faced and long term legislation enacted.

With the passing of the Act of Transfer, the task of obtaining postage stamps was undertaken with a reasonable amount of enthusiasm. Perkins Bacon & Company eventually received the contract for making dies and printing postage stamps of 1d and 6d denominations. The date of final acceptance of the contract is not known to me, but a possible date may be deduced from the timing of the events which followed. The 1d die was completed on Tuesday March 26th 1861, and that for the 6d on Monday April 8th. As both dies were engraved by the same person, this indicates that each die took about ten working days to prepare. Thus in all probability work started on the 1d die on about Thursday March 14th. Allowing for a reasonable reaction time on the part of the firm, final authority to proceed must have been received by Monday March 11th. Therefore the Grenada Colonial Secretary must have accepted the estimates and put the order on a firm footing no later than the second week in February.

Work on the plate was completed, and printing and perforating began on Thursday April 25th, the whole order being completed and invoiced by the 27th. The stamps were forwarded to Grenada on May 1st, and it would seem logical that they were placed on board the R. M. S. P. Co. vessel that sailed from Southampton on May 2nd. Allowing for an average transit time of 24-26 days the consignment arrived at St. George's between 26-28 May 1861. Some doubt exists as to when the stamps were placed on sale in the Colony. June 1st is suggested as a possible date, partly I assume because it was the beginning of the month and thus made the accounting easier. In my view, the 3rd has equal merit as it was a Monday and thus the start of the "working week". I am, however, open to persuasion on this point, as either day might have found favor with the Executive as a release date. However, on one point I am certain--they were not released on Sunday June 2nd.

There are two points that occur to me on the subject of the changeover, and I would welcome any information that might help me answer them. Was Imperial Post Office control effective until 19th September 1860 when Grenada's Act of Transfer was passed? How was prepayment shown while Grenada's postage stamps were under preparation?

GEOSIX FEATURES ARTICLE ON BAHAMAS LANDFALL ISSUE----

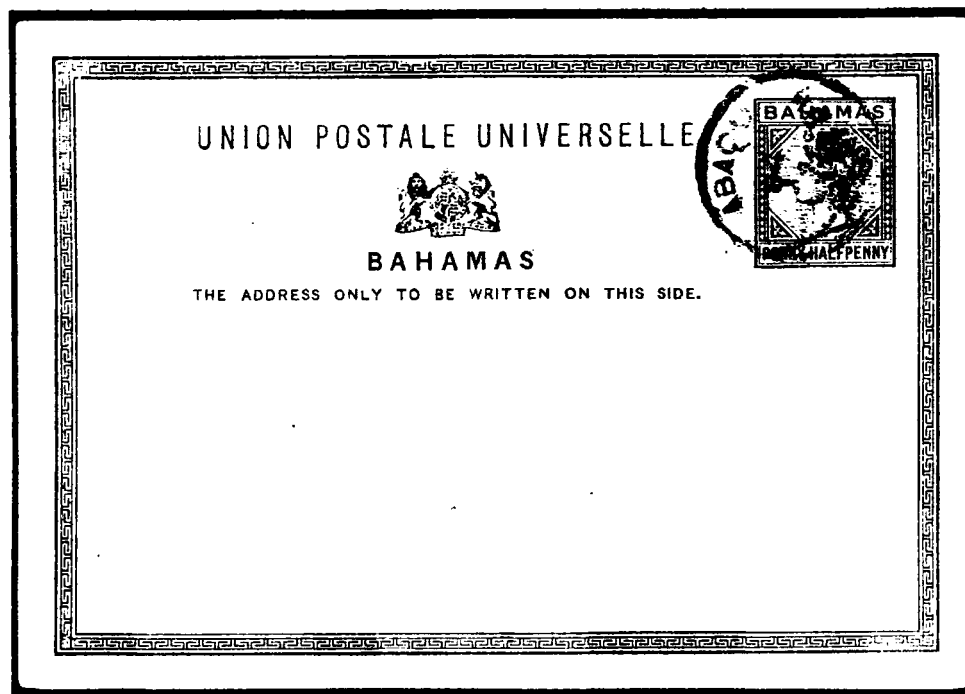
An article on the Bahamas Landfall of Columbus issue has appeared in the May 1972 issue of "GEOSIX", the publication of the King George VI Collectors Society. It will continue in the July issue. Editor Frank R. Saunders has written us to explain that it was entirely coincidental that the article appeared so soon after publication of the article by H. Moreton Black on that subject in the February 1972 BCP Journal. The articles do disagree in a few areas, mostly a matter of terminology. It will be worthwhile for those interested in these stamps to have copies of both articles. Frank's address is 65 Westbrooke Avenue, Hartlepool, County Durham TS25 5HU, England. He will be happy to sign you up as a member of the Society if you share his interest in the varieties of King George VI stamp issues.

BAHAMAS NEWS & NOTES

by Gale J. Raymond

For collectors who make up and send out their own covers for postmarks of the various post offices in the Bahamas, it will be useful to know that there have been some changes in postal rates. First Class Airmail to the USA remains at 15¢ (Bahamas) per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz, but has been increased to 18¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz to Europe, U.K., West Indies, South and Central America. Aero-grammes (airletters) are now 11¢ anywhere. Second Class Airmail (prints) goes to 8¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz to USA and Canada, 10¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz to Europe, 15¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz elsewhere. Both Bahamas and foreign Registration fees are an extra 20¢, Special Delivery (Express) is 20¢. Note that both the fees and weights have been changed.

Thanks to Bob Murphy for sight of recent Bahamas "paquebot" mail. Letters posted aboard the S. S. ARIADNE received the "SHIP MAIL, Freeport Bahamas" TRD on June 7, 1972. The Nassau "SHIP MAIL, BAHAMAS" TRD dated June 27, 1972 appears on M. V. FREEPORT and (earlier) R. M. S. QUEEN ELIZABETH mail. This answers the query in my last column.



Real "treasure trove" can sometimes be found in old postal stationery collections formed at the turn of the century. From one such collection a few years ago, I acquired a Bahamas QV Penny-Halfpenny post card, used. The intriguing thing about it was the datestamp, a poor but legible strike of a TRD inscribed simply "ABACO", with only the year-date "94" being clear enough to read. If there are any other such strikes known, reports are much needed. On a common card of such low value, it is unlikely that the postal marking is a fraudulent device to enhance its value as a used card, since its value either mint or used is minimal. In the Abaco postal district, MARSH HARBOUR Post Office opened in 1884, with manuscript cancels known postally, but no datestamp has been recorded prior to 1911 and then inscribed "MARSH HARBOUR". MAN-O-WAR CAY was another early P.O. which closed June 1895 but was re-opened again in 1920. The earliest reported datestamp at HOPE TOWN is 1887, although it became known by that name in 1881 after eleven years as "GREAT HARBOUR" Thus we find various possibilities as to location of the P.O. using this simple "ABACO" datestamp.

Léotaud Wins BCPSG Gold at TRINIPEX

A superb display by René Léotaud of the rare Trinidad & Tobago Coastal Steamer Markings was the outstanding feature of the 108 frame exhibition at TRINIPEX 1972, held on 5th to 7th August 1972, in the Centenary Hall of St. Mary's College, Port of Spain, Trinidad. The judges deemed it worthy of the BCPSG Gold Medal, which was presented to Rene at a buffet dinner at the home of Joe and Carol Chin Aleong.

Two exhibits, St. Vincent Postal History, entered by Joe Chin Aleong, and Jamaica Street Letter Box Markings, by Fred Seifert, received BCPSG Silver Medals. Other entries were given various Trinidad Philatelic Society awards.

Seven BCPSGers flew down to Trinidad from the U.S.A. to attend TRINIPEX: Ed and Dorothy Adelson, John and Ann Gavelek, Andy Hale, Gale and Naoma Raymond, and Fred Seifert. A more extensive report of their visit there and on several other islands in the West Indies will appear in the next issue of this Journal.

JOURNAL GIVEN AWARD AT BELGICA----

While we have had no direct word, we learn from reports in other publications that our BCP Journal was awarded a Bronze-Silver Diploma at BELGICA, the International Exhibition held in Brussels, Belgium, 24 June-9 July 1972. Other publications that received similar awards included Scott's Monthly Journal and the U.S. Postal Service's "Stamps Stories".

A BARBADOS BISECT---- by Michael Sheppard

Since the inception of adhesive stamps in Barbados, the bisected stamp has been no stranger to the postal authorities. On numerous occasions, when supplies have run out, stamps of double the value required have been bisected and used until further supplies arrived.

Such was the case with the 1d postage due. In March 1934 when stocks of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d p.d. were exhausted, the bisected 1d value was used. In many cases the bisect has the figure " $\frac{1}{2}$ d" in manuscript across the stamp.

The cover in my possession was inland mail and is franked with two $\frac{1}{4}$ d stamps of the 1925-35 issue. The question I should like answered is - was the inland letter rate 1d, and if so why the $\frac{1}{2}$ d postage due? Is it possible that there was no fine imposed at this time, with only the unpaid postage charged? Members comments will be most welcome.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP TOTAL NOW ELEVEN----

The total number of Life Memberships in the BCPSG was recently increased to eleven when Charles E. Sawyer attained that status. If you would like to be number 12, drop a line to our Treasurer, Dr. Ben Ramkissoon for details.

NEW ISSUES

ANGUILLA

72

NEW DEFINITIVES. 1¢-Spear Fishing; 2¢-Lob Lolly Tree; 3¢-Sandy Ground; 4¢-Ferry at Blowing Point; 5¢-Agriculture; 6¢-St. Mary's Church; 10¢-Gerrard's Church; 15¢-Cottage Hospital Ext.; 20¢-Public Library; 25¢-Sunset at Blowing Point; 40¢-Boat Building; 60¢-Petrol Station South Hill; \$1-Man-O'-War; \$2.50-Frangipani; \$5-Brown Pelican. No other details given.

NOV 72

SILVER WEDDING ISSUE. 25¢ and 40¢ in the Omnibus design.

ANTIGUA

1 AUG 72

SHELLS ISSUE. Release date changed from 15 July 1972. For details of this issue see the June 1972 Journal, page 88.

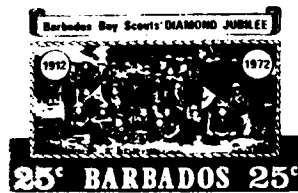
BAHAMAS

27 JUN 72

OLYMPIC GAMES ISSUE. Set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet. 10¢-Pole Vaulter; 11¢-Cyclist; 15¢-Runner; and 18¢-Sailing. Designed by John Waddington Studio, and lithographed by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. in sheets of 50 stamps on Block CA watermarked paper.

13 NOV 72

SILVER WEDDING ISSUE. 11¢ and 18¢ in the Omnibus design.



BARBADOS

1 AUG 72

DIAMOND JUBILEE OF SCOUTS. 5¢, 15¢, 25¢, and 50¢ in designs as above. The design of the 50¢ stamp was drafted by Mrs. Caroline Barrow, wife of the Prime Minister of Barbados. Major Lawrence Quintyne of the Barbados Boy Scouts Association drafted the designs of the other three values. The designs were adapted by Gordon Drummond, and stamps lithographed by Questa in panes of 25 stamps on Block CA watermarked paper.

BERMUDA

21 AUG 72

WORLD FISHING RECORDS. Set of four stamps, 4¢-Bonefish; 15¢-Wahoo; 18¢-Yellowfin Tuna; and 24¢-Greater Amberjack. Designed by Maynard Reece and lithographed by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. on Block CA watermarked paper in panes of 25 stamps.

BRITISH HONDURAS

21 AUG 72

HARDWOODS 1972. Set of five stamps, 3¢-Banak (*Virola Koschnyi*); 5¢-Quamwood (*Schizolobium parahybum*); 16¢-Waika Chewstick (*Symphonia globulifera*); 26¢-Mammea Apple (*Mammea americana*); 50¢-My Lady (*Aspidosperma megalocarpon*). Designed by Jennifer Toombs and lithographed by Questa in panes of 25 stamps on Block CA watermarked paper. This is the fourth set of stamps of British Honduras depicting its hardwoods since the series was started in 1969.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

15 AUG 72 GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS. Four values in two designs, 5¢ & 25¢-Court House Building; 15¢ & 40¢-Legislative Assembly Building. Also a souvenir sheet with one of each value. Designed by C. Abbott and lithographed by Questa in panes of 25 stamps on Block CA watermarked paper.

DOMINICA

5 JUN 72 HUMAN ENVIRONMENT ISSUE. ½¢-Manicou; 35¢-Agouti; 60¢-Orchid; \$1.20-Hibiscus. Also a souvenir sheet containing one stamp of each value. Designed by R. Granger Barrett. Lithographed by Questa in panes of 50 stamps on Block CA watermarked paper.

13 NOV 72 SILVER WEDDING ISSUE. 5¢ and \$1 in the Omnibus design.

GRENADA

2 MAY 72 DEFINITIVES OVERPRINTED FOR AIR MAIL USE. All 17 values of the definitive issue were overprinted "Air Mail", with some being revalued. This issue has seen little, if any, use in Grenada. Face value is \$16.28 Bewee!!

GUYANA

20 JUL 72 CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES. Set of four values, 8, 25, 40, and 50 cents in a common design, featuring a map of the South American continent with Guyana shown in sharp white. Each stamp is embossed with the symbol of the non-aligned countries. Lithographed by John Waddingtons of Kirkstall Ltd. on Lotus Blossom Bud watermarked paper in sets of 25 stamps, from designs by John Criswick.

25 AUG 72 FIRST CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL OF ARTS. 8, 25, 40, and 50 cents in a common design featuring the symbol of the festival. The symbol was designed by Billy Ryan Enterprises of Antigua, being selected from 50 entries. Stamps designed by George C. Bowen and lithographed by John Waddingtons of Kirkstall Ltd. on Lotus Blossom Bud watermarked paper in panes of 25 stamps.

18 SEP 72 NEW DEFINITIVES PART II - FLOWERS OF GUYANA. See June 1972 Journal, page 89, for details of this issue.

JAMAICA

8 AUG 72 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE. The 3, 10, & 50 cents definitives were overprinted in black TENTH/ANNIVERSARY/INDEPENDENCE/1962-1972.

2 OCT 72 FINAL INSTALLMENT OF NEW DEFINITIVES. For details, see June Journal, page 89.

ST. VINCENT

31 JUL 72 FLOWERS OF ST. VINCENT. 1¢-Candlestick Cassia (*Cassia alata*); 30¢-Lobster Claw (*Heliconia restrata*); 40¢-White Trumpet (*Datura candida*); \$1-Soufriere Tree (*Spachea perforta*). Designed by Sylvia Goaman and lithographed in panes of 25 stamps on Block CA watermarked paper by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd.

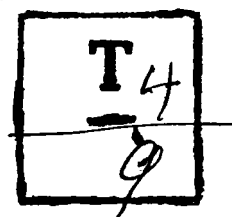
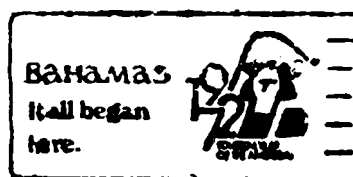
Information in the foregoing listings has been provided by the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau, StanGib Ltd., the Jamaica Government, and the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR TRUSTEE BALLOT PROMPTLY TO SECRETARY STAN DURNIN.

BITS & PIECES from HERE & THERE

ANTIGUA -- George Bowman asks if any reader can help to identify the island using a boxed rubber stamp of about 50 mm x 34 mm, reading in seven lines of sans serif caps: RETURN TO SENDER/INSUFFICIENTLY ADDRESSED/ADDRESS UNKNOWN/REFUSED/UNCLAIMED/DECEASED/LEFT THE ISLAND. George found this mark on a window envelope with contents removed, and thus no indication of address. It was mailed by British-American Insurance Company Ltd. in St. John's, Antigua on 18 June 1971, franked with a 10¢ Antigua adhesive.

BAHAMAS -- From Joe Lleida we have received a cover postmarked with 23 May 1972 first day of use of a new slogan, "BAHAMAS/it all began/here". A strike is shown below. We haven't figured out just what the design at the right depicts, but from the small print under it reading TOURISM YEAR/OF THE AMERICAS, it is apparently the symbol of that promotion. According to Joe the same slogan was to go into use at Freeport on the same day (we have a cover of 30 May), but it was not planned to use it at Mackey Street P.O.



On a recent visit to Nassau, Charles Ricksecker checked the Stamps windows at the G. P. O. for postmarks. Windows 1, 3-6, and 8 each had both a TRD reading NASSAU, BAHAMAS/STAMPS....., and a STAMPS.....NASSAU cds, numbered per the respective positions of their windows. Clerks at windows 2 and 7 had neither TRD's nor a STAMPS cds, but were using plain NASSAU/BAHAMAS cds's of two different types. The only TRD in current use seemed to be the one at window 8, and according to that clerk she used it to cancel stamps on parcels. The others were found in drawers, and that at window 1 was in its box and bore a August 1970 date.

BRITISH GUIANA -- A valuation of £120,000 has been given the so-called "world's rarest stamp", the British Guiana 1 cent black on magenta of 1856, in the 1973 edition of the Stanley Gibbons British Commonwealth Catalogue. This is £3,400 more than the last price paid for it in 1970. It is the first time the Gibbons Catalogue has shown a valuation for this stamp.

BRITISH HONDURAS -- An O. H. M. S. wrapper received from Rev. Trevor Bates has a black printed frank OFFICIAL PAID/PRINTING DEPT./BELIZE CITY, BRIT. HOND. in a 42½ mm circle. Trevor says that this wrapper is only used for mailing of Government Publications by the Government Printery, and that the P. O. never datestamps them.

GRENADA -- Dan Walker reports that a letter he sent to La Barie in hope of obtaining a new postmark was answered by Theresa Bartholomew, who placed a strike of the St. Paul's cds, dated 7 JY 72, on her letter, saying it was the postmark of her P. O. Dan notes that La Barie is located right next to St. Paul's.

Returning from TRINIPEX, several of us spent a few days on Grenada, and in the course of our travels on that island visited POMME ROSE. Details and photos will appear in the next Journal. POMME ROSE P. O. opened on 6 April 1971, per Postmistress Sybil Peters.

Several members have written to report additional strikes of the small Grenada cds that was

the subject of an article on page 85 of the June 1972 Journal. While the MR 27 85 strike still stands as EDK, John Cronin has learned of six more strikes, with dates ranging from JU 6 85 to FE 27 86, the latter now being the LDK. Four of the strikes starting from DE 20 85 have no index letter. Livingston Dickason reports two strikes, OC 31 85 with index C on its back, as in the June Journal illustration, and JA 9 86 without index. Our thanks for their help.

JAMAICA -- The 30¢ "Dia de Sello" (Stamp Day) adhesive issued on 24 April 1972 by Cuba is certain to be of interest to Jamaica collectors. Unfortunately, though, U.S.A. collectors are not permitted to purchase Cuban emissions of the Castro government. The stamp shows a cover sent in 1897 from the battle fronts of Cuba to Venezuela by Jamaica route through the "Mambí Mail". Two locals and a Jamaica stamp frank the cover, the latter being cancelled at Kingston with a double ring cds dated JA 5 97. The cover is in the Cuban Postal Museum collection. Does anyone have any information on the "Mambí Mail"?

Tom Giraldi shows an underpaid Airmail cover from Strathbogie to Chicago on which the Tax is shown by a 25 mm square boxed rubber stamp with "T" but with the value cut away. The amount to be collected is shown by manuscript figures 4/9 in the box in red ink. Jamaica had a whole family of these stamps with values in shillings and pence which were used to tax its underpaid domestic mail prior to the change to decimal currency. See illustration, page 121.

A boxed machine slogan JAMAICA/HEART FOUNDATION is noted on covers from Kingston dated 16 May 1972 and 1 August 1972. Another boxed machine slogan, used at Kingston on 29 March 1972, reads MORE SUGAR/MORE SUCCESS.

LEEWARD ISLANDS -- In the October 1970 Journal, Paul Larsen asked for help in identifying a partial postal stationery envelope of the Leewards. Bill Cornell has come forth with an answer, being proud owner of an unused example of the 152 x 90 mm, King George V (brown) on thin, airmail-type paper stock. Bill also reported that he has unused copies of the King George VI 1d red and 1½d brown envelopes printed on thick cream stock. These envelopes were listed in the 1939 Leeward Islands P.O. Guide, but their actual existence could not be confirmed by anyone whom Paul had contacted. Bill says the envelope size is 133 x 108 mm, corresponding to 5¼ x 4¼ inches. The Guide listed the final dimension as 4-1/8 inches, so we have a small variation to resolve if any more examples turn up.

ST. LUCIA -- Our most recent applicant, Guy Kilburn of Castries, starts off his membership right by supplying us with data on recently opened St. Lucia post offices. 1. GARRAND was opened on 12 March 1971 and lies east of Castries, between Babboneau and Bogius; 2. MORN SION opened 1 August 1971 and lies NNW of Choiseul, between Choiseul and La Pointe; and 3. DERNIERE RIVIERE opened 1 February 1972 and is located due east of Marc and NNE of Mabouya. Our thanks to Guy and to Postmistress Mrs. Annette James who dug through her records to provide Guy with the opening dates.

The VISIT SUNNY/ST. LUCIA machine slogan was back in use on 8 May 1972.

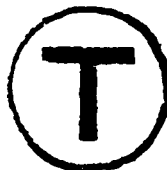
The article on page 52 of the April 1972 Journal on St. Lucia's Coded Postmarks has brought forth additional data from some of our members. Roy Botwright reports a number of strikes which helps in filling in dates of use and studying the relative rarity of these marks. A new LDK of MR 25 11 is provided for L (Laborie) by Dr. John Lockie. The EDK for VF (Vieux Fort) is moved back to 29 MR 89 by Joe Chin Aleong, who also comes up with a new LDK of 29 OC 18 for M (Micoud). Further reports will be appreciated.

It should be noted that there was a typographical error in the afore-mentioned article. The first line of the second-last paragraph of that article (page 53) should read "...are not known used before 1889..."

ST. VINCENT -- There has been much publicity regarding the St. Vincent current definitives with MUSTIQUE ISLAND printed on the selvedge. Our BCPSGers returning from TRINIPEX visited that small island in the Grenadines (and getting there wasn't easy!), and will present an illustrated report in the next Journal. We can report now that none of the Mustique booklets remain on sale, and only a few of the selvedge printed stamps were obtainable - at well above face value!

TRINIDAD -- According to Ben Ramkissoon, the T & T 25¢ definitive, SG 348, with the silver printing of the Queen's head and the map shifted 6 mm downwards, has been found at the San Fernando Post Office (Plate 1B 1B 1B). Such color mis-registration errors are supposed to be caught by the printer and destroyed, but now and then a sheet gets through to the delight of the specialist.

In his "Slogan Postmarks of Trinidad" in the October 1968 Journal (W/N 45), Dan Warren listed as item 12 a SAN FERNANDO/CENTENARY boxed machine slogan, noting that he had never seen an example. Subsequently, in the December 1968 Journal (W/N 46) he expressed some doubt that this item existed. Well it does! While looking over one of René Léotaud's displays at the recent TRINIPEX, we spotted a cover bearing this rare item with a Port of Spain cds dated 14 FEB 1946 at its left. Discussing it with René, we were delighted to hear that he had a "spare" for us. True to his word, on the following day he presented us with a cover bearing a 27 FEB 1946 strike. It is in a box of about 22½ x 50 mm, with 5 mm letters, and has the P.O.S. cds, Warren Type B, to the left.



While visiting Trinidad in late May, Ben Ramkissoon toured the Satellite Station at Matura, and took the opportunity to stop off at the Matura P.O. which is a couple of miles away. The current P.M. at Matura is Mrs. Edna Edwards, who took over that office on 13 July 1971 on the death of Mr. Charles Toytol. The P.O. had only three handstamps: a single-ring cds, a "T" Tax stamp in a 21 mm circle, and a boxed "Unclaimed" mark. These are shown above.

Ben also reports a new, or at least previously unreported, boxed machine slogan from San Fernando, POST EARLY/IN THE DAY/AVOID DELAY. His strike is dated 20 NOV 1971, the cds to left. By 4 DEC 1971, San Fernando was back to the 7 wavy lines in lieu of a slogan.

BCPSG MEDALS TO BE AVAILABLE AT FLOREX '72----

If you would like to compete for one of our beautiful BCPSG Medals, FLOREX '72 which is to be held Oct. 27-29, 1972 at the Fort Harrison Hotel, Clearwater, Florida is a good place to try. For the Prospectus, write to R.B. Whitney, Box 2382, Satellite Beach, FL 32937.

OUR SECRETARY REPORTS:

NEW MEMBERS:

ABBOTT, Robert R.
EDWARDS, Dr. Brian
PINKERTON, Earl C.

DE. CEAN, Graham P.K.
FARTHING, John
SCRIVENER, Norman R.

DOYLE, Alan F.
FELIX, Ervin J.

NEW APPLICANTS:

ATKIN, John A.R., 15 Gallow Tree Road, Rotherham, Yorks. S65 3EE, England. Scientist. Collects all British West Indies. By M.D. Watts
COASBY, Lionel R., 46 Frensham Road, Southsea, Portsmouth PO4 8AF, England. Civil Servant. Bahamas, Grenada, all other BWI except Bermuda, B.G. and B.H. By J.A. Cronin
GOLDENTAL, Lazaro, Box 1071, Jenkintown, PA 19046. Stamp Dealer. By C.E. Cwiakala
HAYNES, Robert D., Box 10164, Avonbell Station, Amarillo, TX 79106. Chemical Engineer Manager. Barbados, St. Vincent, and St. Lucia. By T.J. Chara
KILBURN, William G. (Guy), P.O. Box 476, Castries, St. Lucia, West Indies. Teacher in Government Secondary School. All aspects of St. Lucia. By R.J. Devaux
LÉOTAUD, René M., 27 New Street, Port of Spain, Trinidad, West Indies. Solicitor. All BWI, Specialized Trinidad Postal History. By F.F. Seifert & G.J. Raymond
ROSWELL, Robert G., P.O. Box 226, Allendale, NJ 07401. Mathematics Teacher, High School. British Colonies, Scandinavia, Japan, Switzerland. By A.N. Johnson
SCRIVENS, Ralph F.T., 49 West Broadway, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, England. Architect and Surveyor. West Indies Pmks. & Postal Hist., esp. Jamaica. By A.J. Branston
SIMPKINS, B. George, 26 Sydney Carter Street, Roosevelt Park Extension, Johannesburg, South Africa. Credit Manager. Cayman Islands up to 1946. By A.N. Johnson

DECEASED:

We have just learned of the death late in 1971 of WILLIAM COONS of Columbus, Ohio.

RESIGNATIONS:

BUGGELN, Robert W.; COLLINS, F.W.; KREGEAR, Rodney D.; GREEN, John R. II; and SMITH, Brian C. have resigned in good standing.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

BATES, Rev. Trevor S., (until 1 December 72) MMS Guest Houses, College Walk, Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LF, England; (after 1 December 72) 7 Gledhow Park Road, Leeds LS7 4JX.
BRANDON, Lloyd H., P.O. Box 27, Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies.
HANSON, Thomas G., Pleasantville Road, New Vernon, NJ 07972.
JUHL, Mrs. Chris A., Route 2, Box 44, Excelsior, MN 55333.
LOCKIE, Dr. John M., P.O. Box 1103, Brandon, Manitoba, Canada.
NEVILLE, Thomas R. Jr., 5149 Thompson Road, Clarence, NY 14031.
ROETT, M. F.-A., 1414 Barclay Street, Suite 608, Vancouver 5, B.C., Canada.
SPELMAN, Henry M. III, P.O. Box 645, San Anselmo, CA 94960.
STEPHENS, Fred, 19 Leeds Road, Wakefield, Yorkshire WF1 3JW, England.
WEDDERBURN-MAXWELL, Mrs. Janet, P.O. Box 77, Rivonia, Transvaal, South Africa.
WILSON, LCDR M.K., 18 Seafield Park Rd., Hillhead, Fareham, Hants. PO14 3LY, Engl.
ZWICK, Melvin, 5219 Sanford, Houston, TX 77035.

Anyone knowing reason for denying membership to any applicant should advise the Secretary.

Personal Mention:

Keeping the DIAL soap factories around the world functioning smoothly is part of the job that keeps CHUCK CWIAKALA hopping about. Recent cards and letters from him have come from Jamaica, Dominica, Venezuela, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Tokyo, Manila and Singapore. Needless to say, Chuck checks out the local stamp shops at each stop!

TONY & MAVIS SHEPHERD enjoyed a Spanish Holiday in July on Spain's Costa del Sol. Tony managed to slip over to Malaga while there, and had a stamp and swap session with former BCPSG member Elliot Wilson.

The nicest part of his recent visit to Antigua, says SCOTT GALLAGHER, was a day spent at English Harbour with its many historical associations. Scott found an interesting book in the Enterprise Book Shop in St. John's, "Historic Heritage of St. Kitts, Nevis & Anguilla". It is written by Kathleen Manchester, and was published in 1971 in Trinidad. Scott gives the price as \$10--probably Bewee (E.C.C.), although he didn't specify.

ROMAN BURKIEWICZ is spending August and September in England, Austria, Switzerland, and Poland on a combined philatelic business and pleasure trip. We can expect to see some interesting material in his auctions when he brings back his swag from the Continent!

REG LANT tells us that AL BRANSTON is to be a judge at the British Philatelic Exhibition in London, November 1-4, 1972. Quite an honor and well deserved! Al was the guest speaker at the 3rd Annual Convention of the South Wales Philatelic Federation held in Cardiff earlier this year.

We note that MARK CASSIDY is again playing an active role in BALPEX. The 1972 affair is to be held September 1-3, at the new Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley, Maryland, and Mark is Chairman of several committees and donor of one of the trophies.

It is now SENATOR HENRY HICKS, our Nova Scotia member recently having been honored by being appointed to that high office in the Canadian Government.

Two BCPSGers shared the loot at CANPEX '72 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The BCPSG Gold Medal went to JOHN WHALEN for a display of Postal History of Jamaica to 1860, while JOHN AYRE's Falkland Islands earned him the CANPEX Gold Medal.

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 obliterations 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



BAHAMAS STAMPS
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BOX 333, ULETA, FLA. 33164

LINCOLN KIEFFER won a Bronze Medal with a display of Surinam Censored Covers at the BECKPEX '72 held in Fullerton, California.

Across the country and down in Florida, the Stamporee '72 at Ft. Lauderdale provided two BCPSGers with awards. HENRY GOBIE took the Reserve Grand Award with U.S. 1¢ 1869, while LAURA CANTENS' Spain won the Cuban Philatelic Society's Novice Award.

Again back to California and WESTPEX '72 in San Francisco, where ELAINE DURNIN went home with two awards, the Lighthouse Topical Reserve Award and a Silver Medal. A Bronze Medal was won by GIL PLASS.

LAURIE FRANKS in New Zealand has monthly mail auction sales which contain much postal history material, including BWI. He'll send a catalogue on request to any BCPSGer. His address is Private Bag, Christchurch, N. Z.

AL and JOAN JOHNSON were among the many Texas philatelists attending the annual stamp affair of Jimmy Cryer at Port Lavaca, Texas recently. Other BCPSGers there included GIL PLASS, ALAN DOYLE, RICK RODGERS, TOM POLLARD, also GALE RAYMOND, CHARLES SAWYER, and HERB SHILSTONE. Gale taped a message from some of the above, and it was later played at TRINIPLEX.

At the Yorkshire Philatelic Association Convention in Otley on 20 May, FRED STEPHENS stepped down as President, but that office is still in good hands since GEOFF RITCHIE has replaced him. The ROSES again had a table with pictures and booklets on the Caribbean, and a special ROSES Brochure. MALCOLM WATTS reports 3 new recruits for the ROSES of whom one also signed up for the BCPSG.

DAVID POTTER asks that we correct the report in last December's Journal (page 191) in which we indicated that David showed Cayman Islands gems to DR. JOHN LOCKIE and to AL BRANSTON. It seems the material belongs to Dr. Lockie, who brought it to London just to show to David and Al. Sorry about that, but the report we received was a bit vague as to whose property was being shown, and knowing of David's great interest in the Caymans, we made an erroneous assumption.

JOURNAL BACK ISSUES

The following issues of this Journal are still available at 70¢ per copy: WHOLE NUMBERS 55, 59 and 61 thru 66. Availability of earlier issues is as noted on page 63 of the April issue, with WHOLE NUMBER 40 also available.

BCPSG Seal Rubber Stamps are again available, priced at \$3, postpaid.

SEND ORDERS WITH PAYMENT TO EDITOR



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AND AS WE GO TO PRESS:

With the U.S. Dollar and British Pound now floating freely, conversion rates have become a guessing game. On our recent TRINIPEX trip, the best rate we were given was at the Queen's Park Hotel where they allowed us \$2 T & T per \$1 U.S. The banks were giving a slightly lower rate, but the Hotel apparently felt it convenient and productive of good will to use a simple 2 for 1 rate. In Barbados the banks gave \$1.94 for travelers' checks, with the rate for currency being \$1.92. Grenada's banks gave about the same rate, but out at the Pearls Airport where the passengers were at its mercy, LIAT showed little compassion in allowing but \$1.75 on tickets that one paid for with U.S. Dollars. Pure extortion!

Chuck Cwiakala vouches for the fact that the "Royal Exchange" operated by BCPSGer ED FLADUNG has been a good way for him to get good BWI for his duplicates. Drop Ed a note at Box 386, Sierra Madre, CA 91024, and he will send you full details.

Arriving too late to list in the Secy. Report is an application for membership from David W. Dumas, 50 Spring Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818. David is an Attorney, and he collects 19th Century British Empire, especially the West Indies, Canada and India. Sponsored by Stan Durnin.

A supply of Pewter BCPSG Medals and boxes is now enroute to the U.S. from the plant in Germany where they are manufactured. They are being donated to the Group by Bill Bogg, and will be available as an award for displays of British Caribbean material that rates a bit more than our Certificate, but does not merit the Gold, Silver, or Bronze BCPSG Medal.

JOHN FIELD demonstrates his philatelic versatility by exhibiting award-winning displays from a variety of countries. His latest was a presentation of the "Postmarks of Australian Territories". It won a second for John at the FILA-FAIR held recently in North Hollywood, California. John is co-author of an article on "Pitcairn Island Life and Postal History" that appeared in the July and August 1972 issues of the American Philatelist.

A DATE FOR THE SPECIALIST TO NOTE

SEPTEMBER 6

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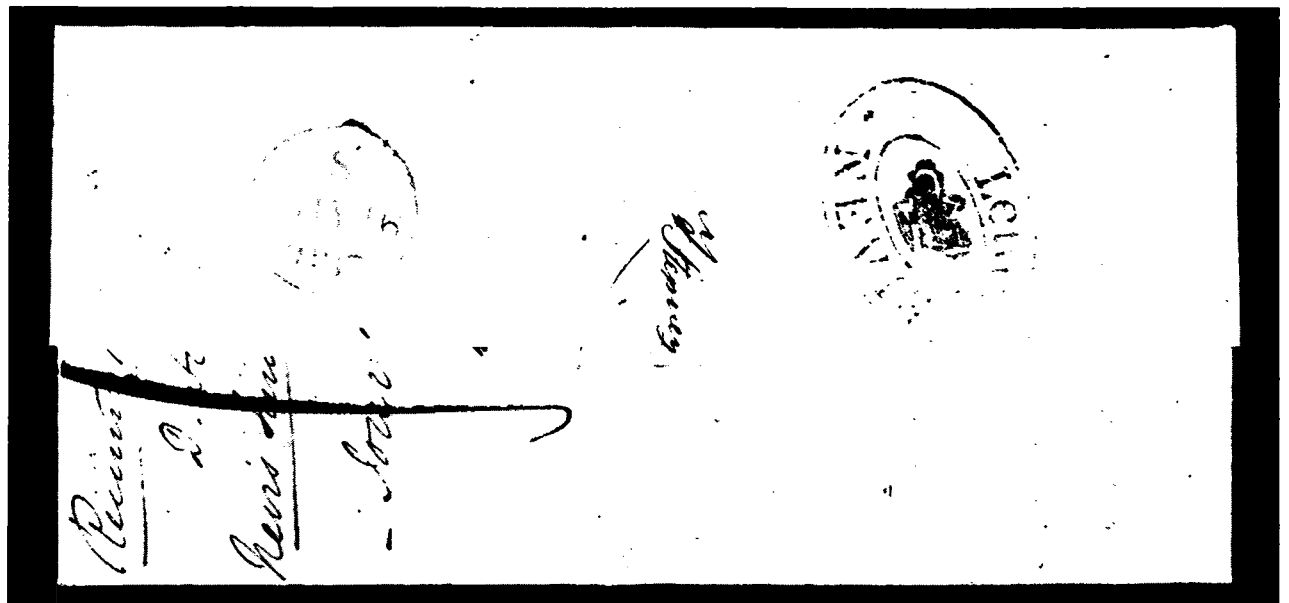
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