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THE FINAL DAY OF BUSINESS FOR THE ST.LAWRENCE BRANCH POST OFFICE ON BARBADOS WAS OCTOBER 12TH, 1973. FOR DETAILS SEE PAGE 154. *Photo by Gale J. Raymond*

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THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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We have long been an admirer of Robson Lowe for his many contributions to philately. Many of the books in our philatelic library were edited, published, or written by Robbie, and it is no secret that little, if any, profit can be expected from producing such material. The small quantities one is able to sell do well to cover the publication costs.

We recall a slogan of years past of the florist industry that said "Flowers for the Living". The idea of course, is that we should honor deserving individuals while they live, and not wait until their passing. With this thought in mind, we suggested to our Trustees that the BCPSG present one of our Silver Medals and a suitable scroll to Robson Lowe in appreciation of his support of British Caribbean philately.

The Trustees all thought it a great idea. Charles Sawyer produced an illuminated scroll, and medal and scroll were sent to London for presentation to Robbie on November 1st, 'British Caribbean Day' at the British Philatelic Exhibition. On that day BCPSG will also be honored, with the postmark for the day at the exhibition incorporating the central part of our BCPSG Seal and the letters B.C.P.S.G. Thanks to Al Branston for his part in accomplishing this.

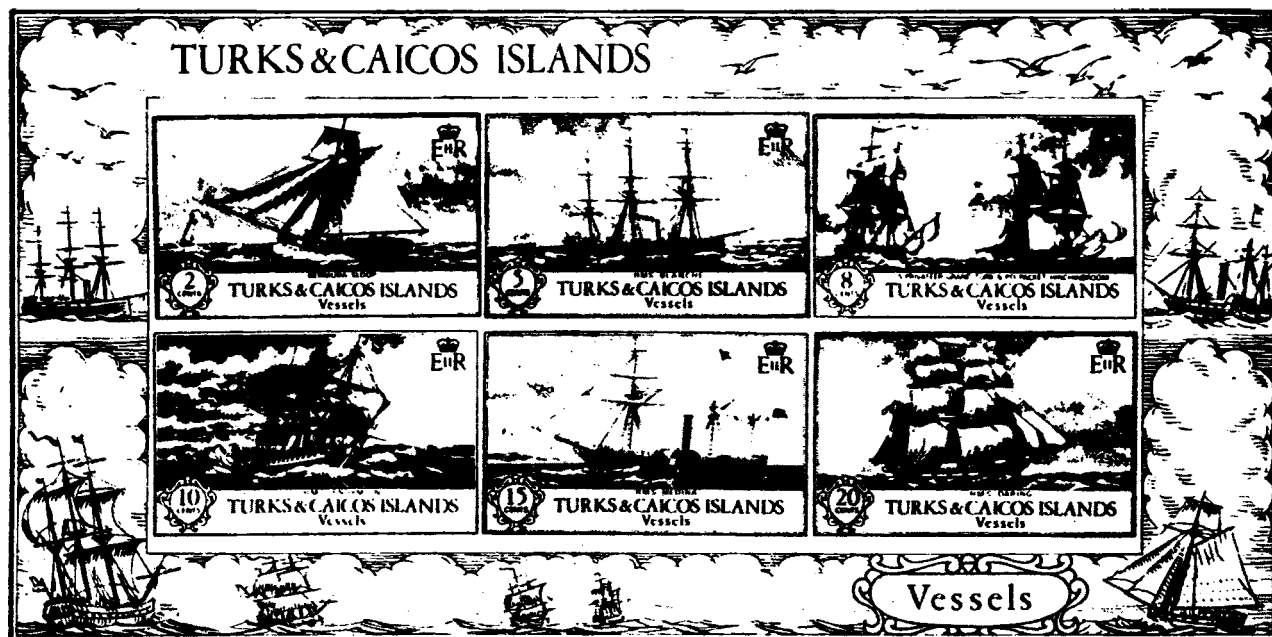
News that your Trustees have voted to increase our BCPSG membership dues to \$7.50 U.S. per year, should come as no surprise. The cost of producing this Journal has gone up nearly 50% in the last year and will probably continue to rise in 1954. Postage rates were increased this year, and another increase is scheduled for the coming January. The present \$5 dues have fallen far short of meeting our costs both in 1972 and 1973. The modest surplus we built up in earlier years, plus the generous donations of a few of our members have kept us from going broke, but it is time now to get back on a sound financial footing. Deficit spending is a luxury only governments can afford!

Fred

Ships of Turks & Caicos

by Michael R. Wilson

It adds considerable interest to a new issue of stamps, when one is able to learn a bit of the story behind the issue. It was thus for me with the recent issue of the Old Vessels Set which was released by the Turks and Caicos Islands on August 14th of this year.



The Bermuda Sloop depicted on the 2¢ stamp is not a specific vessel, but is representative of the hundreds of this type that have played so large and important a role in the history and development of the Islands. Ships such as this carried salt from the Turks & Caicos Islands to Bermuda. The Bermudan salt rakers established the first permanent settlement in Turks & Caicos Islands.

HMS ENDYMION (10¢) was a 44 gun frigate, built in 1779. Three years later she played her part in defeat of the French Squadron at the battle of The Saintes near the island of Dominica. The final chapter in the story of this ship began on 20 January 1789 when Capt. Daniel Woodruff assumed command. Nineteen months later, on 28 August 1790, she was wrecked about 4½ miles SSW of Sand Cay - the most southerly islet of the Turks Group. The spot is still known as 'Endymion Rock' - a wicked group of rocks with only about 4 feet of water showing above them in calm seas.

The 8¢ depicts a scene in 1814 when the Post Office Packet HINCHINBROOKE was attacked by the U.S. Privateer GRAND TURK. Unfortunately, I have been unable to trace the outcome of this encounter, and I wonder if any reader has such knowledge.

The Royal Mail Steamer MEDINA, a paddle-wheel ship, is shown on the 15¢ stamp. In 1842 this ship too came to grief on the reefs around Grand Turk, although unlike the Endymion, on this occasion it was to the north of the Island.

In 1855, the HMS DARING (20¢) visited the Islands. This was the second Royal Navy ship to bear that name, and she was a sloop of 426 tons. At the time of her visit she was under the command of Commander J. Napier and was part of the Navy's West Indies Squadron. There have been subsequently four other ships bearing this name.

HMS BLANCHE (5¢) shows the change in the Navy from sail to steam. She was built in 1867 and officially rated as a 'Sloop', though because of her dual method of propulsion was known as a 'screw-ship'. She was of about 1800 tons, and her engine was of 2158 horse power. In 1874, when visiting the Turks & Caicos Islands, she was commanded by Capt. C. H. Simpson. In the following year, the Navy list shows her as being a part of the Australian Squadron - a long voyage, with no convenient Panama Canal to transit. This was the eighth ship of the RN to bear the name Blanche. She was declared obsolete by 1886 and sold.

Current St. Vincent Post Offices

John M. Willem recently asked the GPO in St. Vincent for a current list of the post offices in operation outside of Kingstown. Following is the list he was furnished. It will be noted that it includes six offices "to be opened shortly". These are indicated by asterisks (*).

WINDWARD

Sion Hill
Arnos Vale
Calliaqua
Prospect
Stubbs
Biabou
New Grounds
Colonarie
Byera Hill
Orange Hill
Sandy Bay
Georgetown
Mesopotamia
Evesham
Lowman's Windward

Gomea
Park Hill
Obriens Valley
Calder
Richland Park
Belmont
*Greggs
*Owia
*South Rivers

LEEWARD

Edinboro
Lowman's Hill
Questelles
Buccament
Layou
Barrouallie

Spring Village
Cumberland
Troumaca
Rose Hall
Chateaubelair
*Rose Bank
*Rilland Hill
*Campden Park

GRENADINES

Bequia
Paget Farm
Canouan
Mayreau
Union Island
Mustique

THOMAS FOSTER TO VISIT JAMAICA FOR FIRST TIME ----

Having researched the postal history of Jamaica for a number of years, Tom Foster has now decided that it is time to pay his first visit to that island. He will be there from the 15th to the 31st of January 1974, and on his last weekend, 26th - 27th, the Jamaica Philatelic Society together with local BCPSG members are arranging the following program:

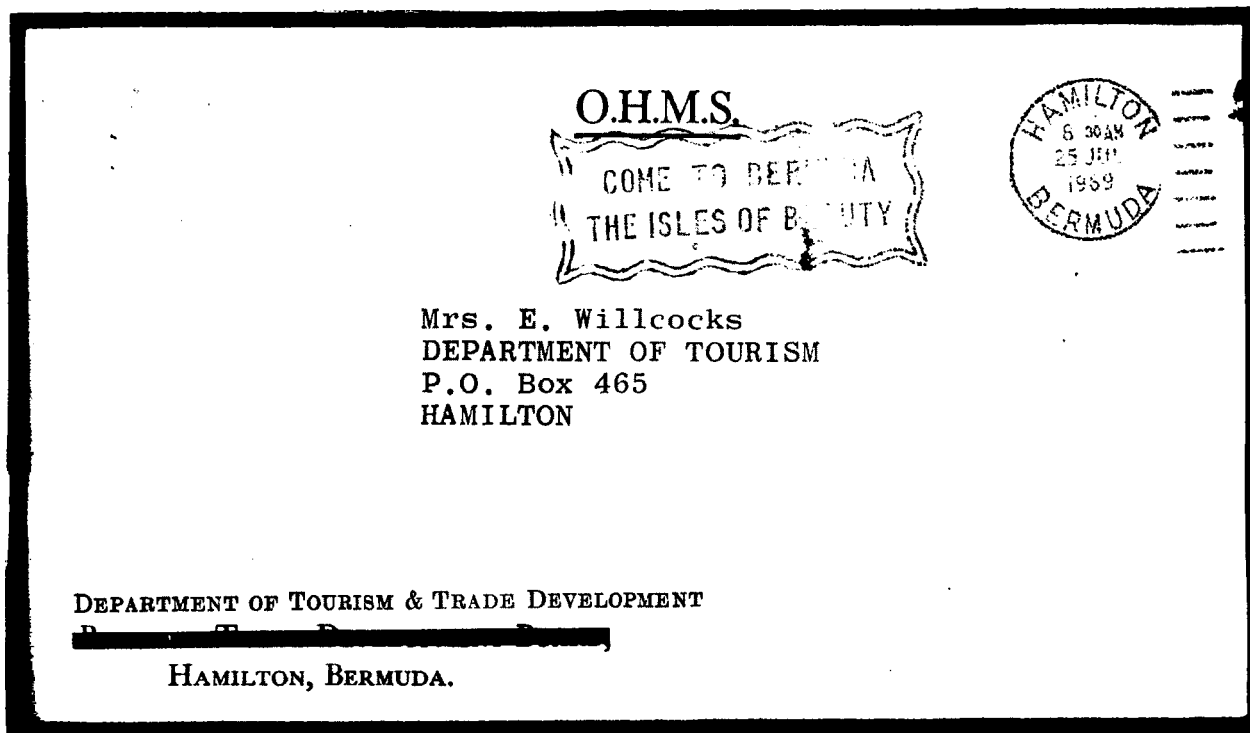
Saturday, 26th January	11:00	Auction
	11:30	Display and Talk on Stamps - Foster
	2:30	Informal Get-together
	7:30	Dinner with the Postmaster General
Sunday, 27th January	10:00	Display & Talk on Postal History - Foster
	7:00	Dinner, R. Wong, for Overseas Guests

JPS President, Basil Cawston will host a cocktail party for overseas visitors on Friday 25th. Any members of the BCPSG able to visit Jamaica at this time are most welcome to attend all of these functions. Reservations for accomodation can be made on their behalf if they will let the JPS Secretary, P.O. Box 165, Kingston, Jamaica, know of their plans.

Bermuda Official Mail

by Col. Lynn D. Wallace

Official (free franked) Bermuda mail, both local and foreign, has increased greatly during the past quarter of a century. It presents an interesting but frustrating study. Used official covers, cards, and wrappers are difficult to locate, and the search for them by the average collector is limited. There are no catalogues, lists of agencies authorized to use such mail, or guide lines to assist the collector.



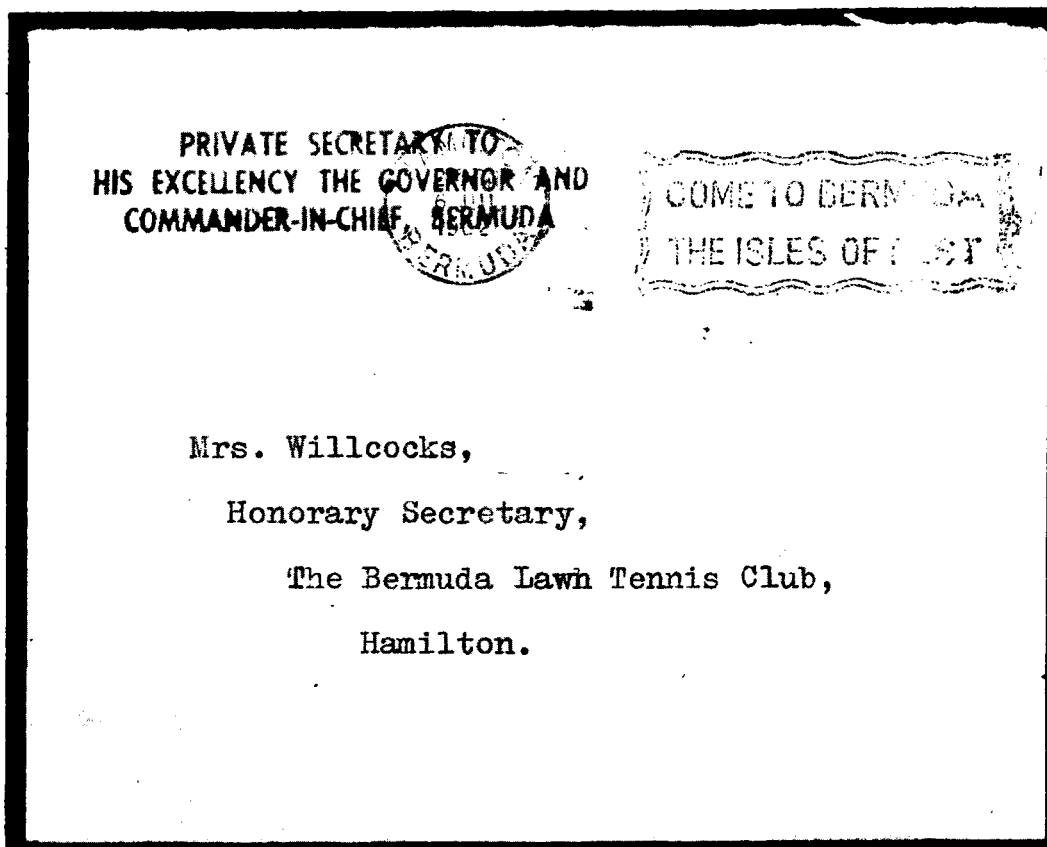
Bermuda, Report for the year 1970 gives a population of 53,000 persons living in an area of 18.293 square miles. Yet, the Government of Bermuda has, except for foreign affairs, all the departments, boards, authorities, services, and other agencies one would expect to find in any large well-operated western nation. The listings of Government Departments in the current telephone directory covers well over a page. It lists forty-one Officials or "Departments" in bold type, and most of these with sub-departments. All of these agencies have the free franking privilege and use "official" covers, cards, and wrappers.

The Report of the Bermuda Post Office for the year ending December 31, 1963 presented the magnitude of this "free franked mail" and its burden to the Post Office. This report lists the total of such mail for 1963 as follows:

Local official letters	196,645
Local official postcards	58,354
Local official papers	12,796
Foreign official letters	10,906
Foreign official papers	6,080

for a total of 284,781 pieces of mail handled. Who are the users and mailers of this official mail? Each of the government agencies contributed, and all Bermuda post offices stated that some such mail had been posted at their office during the period covered by the report. Most of the official mail, of course, was posted at the G. P. O. in Hamilton. The least amount was reported by Crawl, which was at the bottom of the list in all categories of mail posted.

A list of the agencies authorized to use the free franking privilege is not obtainable, but it is estimated such a list would number between two and three hundred. Over the years since the end of WW II, the writer has been able to gather cards, covers, and wrappers from some 42 officials, departments, and agencies. Some of these, such as the Post Office, have several different covers and cards for use in carrying on business with the public.



The usual cover or card has the words "On Her Majesty's Service" or the initials O. H. M. S. printed across the top, and the agency or official printed in the lower-left corner. There is an exception to this in the case of the Governor, his A.D.C., and his Private Secretary, the covers of their mail being hand stamped at the top. A plain envelope with O. H. M. S. written in manuscript at the top, and endorsed "Midwives Birth Registration" at lower-left, sent to The Registrar General, Hamilton, is in my collection.

The official wrapper is usually limited to copies of the Official Gazette, but official wrappers have been used by the Bermuda Trade Development Board, and presumably could be employed by any other office having a mailing requirement for them.

To meet U. P. U. requirements, Foreign official mail - generally using department or agency envelopes - is stamped in red or magenta with a rubber hand stamp "Bermuda-Official Paid" (See Franks O1 through O5 in Ludington's Bermuda Handbook).

Like all governments, that of Bermuda has changed during the years. New departments and boards have been created, old ones consolidated or dropped, and functions switched between agencies. Some of these can be followed through the collection of official covers. One such example is given by three covers following one another in point of time: (1) Board of Trade, Bermuda; (2) The Trade Development Board, Bermuda; (3) The Department of Tourist and Trade Development, Bermuda. If the title of this department continues to grow with expanded activity, they may soon have to resort to oversize envelopes to accommodate it!

Old envelopes are often overprinted to show new names. The illustration on page 133 shows one such example. Another has "Social Welfare Board, Hamilton, Bermuda" blacked out and "Department of Social Insurance, Paget, Bermuda" printed to the right of it.

Following is a list of free franked covers cards and wrappers in my collection:

His Excellency The Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Bermuda
A.D.C. To His Excellency The Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Bermuda
Private Secretary To His Excellency The Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Bermuda
Chief Justice, Bermuda
House of Assembly, Bermuda
Director of Education, Bermuda
Senior Coroner, Bermuda
Commissioner of Police, Bermuda
Warden of Prisons, Bermuda
The Director, The Bermuda Trade Development Board
Registrar General, Bermuda
Colonial Secretary, Bermuda
Colonial Treasurer, Bermuda
Office of The Secretary to Executive Council, Bermuda
Bermuda News Bureau
Accountant General, Bermuda
Registrar Supreme Court, Bermuda
General Post Office, Hamilton, Bermuda
Post Office, Bermuda
Board of Trade, Hamilton, Bermuda
The Bermuda Trade Development Board, Bermuda
Department of Tourist and Trade Development, Bermuda
The Bermuda Library
Marine Board, Hamilton, Bermuda
Medical and Health Department, Hamilton, Bermuda
Her Majesty's Prisons, Bermuda
Public Transportation Board, Bermuda
Department of Agriculture, Bermuda
Attorney General's Department
Colonial Secretary's Office, Bermuda
Board of Immigration, Bermuda
Department of Education, Paget, Bermuda
Department of Social Insurance, Paget, Bermuda
Bermuda Government Aquarium
Bermuda Historical Monuments Trust
Transportation Control Board
King Edward VII Memorial Hospital
Government Health Insurance Office
Department of Civil Aviation, Terry Reach, St. George's, Bermuda
Her Majesty's Customs, St. George's, Bermuda
Official Gazette
Meteorological Office, Bermuda
Land Tax, Accountant General
Youth Employment Office.
Bermuda Post Office, Hamilton, Bermuda.

Since these covers, cards, and wrappers result from the inner workings of the government and its day to day relationship with its citizens, the philatelic study and collection of them is not only very interesting to the Bermuda specialist, but also a proper and necessary part of his Bermuda postal history collection.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Previously you have been informed of our need to review our financial status and to remedy the substantial operating deficit experienced last year. Facing the fact of last year's deficit and another one this year, the Trustees have voted to increase the annual dues to \$7.50 to be effective for 1974 dues. In voting this increase, the Trustees repeated several comments in notes accompanying their votes.

The dues should be at a level to provide adequate operating income for a number of years so as to avoid the need for raising dues every two or three years. Sufficient funds should be on hand next year to cover the increased costs which will occur in the transfer of the Editor's office. Also, it is important to maintain the Journal at its present level without a reduction in size or number of issues, a majority of the members already having indicated that they so desire. The increased income will permit the new Editor to accomplish this.

In discussing finances, we should give thanks to those who donated lots in our June auction. Their generosity has added over \$1,000 to our Treasury, which will about cover the deficit from last year and a portion of this year.

Some progress can be reported in finding a new Editor. Mark Kellner who recently became a member of our Group has volunteered to serve as Assistant Editor, and in that capacity to do all the layout and typing work of the Journal. While we still need a volunteer to undertake the editorial work, Fred Seifert can assure this individual that Mark Kellner's offer will reduce the hours of work by more than half. In addition (subject to a reasonable cost), we will have the printer mail the Journal. In any event, we will find some way of relieving the Editor of that task so he can concentrate his efforts on articles in the Journal. As you can see we find it necessary to split the work of getting out the Journal three ways to fill the shoes of Fred Seifert, so thoughtfully assisted by his wonderful wife Gladys!

With the above change in the scope of the Editor's work, we hope to announce the name of our new Editor in the December Journal. While we are in contact with several members, we are still looking for suggestions of possible candidates, as the position is still wide open.

With warmest regards to you all.

Mark W. Swetland
President, BCPSG

CAYMAN ISLANDS FIRM GETS P.B. METER FRANCHISE -----

George Kimber informs us that Pitney Bowes has given a franchise to a Cayman Islands firm to handle its meter sales in the Colony. It is anticipated that after a suitable die design has been agreed to by the Caymans Postmaster, the machines will be available within about six months. At that time, it is planned that all of the machines on the Island will be numbered in sequence. The machines in present use are modified Jamaican ones, having the numbers on the dies blanked out.

Leeds Meet Acclaimed Success

by Alfred J. Branston

September 1973 will be long remembered by Caribbean collectors in the United Kingdom, for on the week-end of the 22nd and 23rd days of that month some 42 of them assembled in Leeds for the First Caribbean Collectors Convention, sponsored by the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society. Thanks to the good work of Malcolm Watts, all arrangements with the Hotel Metro-pole and in the Alveston suite, the venue of the convention, were above first class, and in all respects the management of that hostelry were absolutely with us!

Dr. Geoff Ritchie made an excellent Convention Chairman, with Derek Sutcliffe (Chairman of the Roses) and Al Branston as his henchmen. The members of the convention were delighted to have Bob Topaz with them, and he was undoubtedly the most popular person there. The B.W.I. Study Circle was ably represented by E. Victor Toeg, who made a special journey to be there. Bruce Walker of Aberdeen, one of our BCPSG Trustees, was well in evidence with a lot of hard work, as was Graham Hoey of Glasgow. All but a few of the attendees indicated membership in the Roses, BCPSG, or BWISC, with some being members of all three. Four new members were recruited by the Roses, several being signed up for BCPSG membership as well. Including these, 30 of the 42 present were BCPSGers!

Informality was the keynote when Geoff Ritchie opened the convention at mid-day on Saturday. At the 'four-square' luncheon, Derek Sutcliffe welcomed those present, whilst Bob Topaz replied for the Group, and Victor Toeg did likewise for the Circle. An excellent meal was then enjoyed under most friendly conditions.

The competition arrangements in the hands of Tony Shepherd were first class, and more entries were received than could be displayed. The Court of Honor contained displays by E.V. Toeg (Montserrat Postal History), R. Topaz (Jamaica Postal History), and A.J. Branston (Bahamas Forgeries). They received Roses Diplomas in acknowledgement.

The panel of judges was headed by Al Branston, who was assisted by E. Victor Toeg and Jim Richardson. There were 43 entries, and the following awards were given.

BEST IN SHOW - Tony Shepherd (Inland Posts of Grenada, 1844 - 1910). BCPSG Bronze.

CLASS A. PRE-1920 GENERAL

1st Place - S. Graham Hoey (Bahamas 1d Interinsular Post). BCPSG Pewter and Roses 1st Place Diploma.

2nd Place - G. Saviile-Smith (Jamaica 2½d on 4d Red Brown). BCPSG Certificate and Roses 2nd Place Diploma.

3rd Place - Dr. Geoff G. Ritchie (First Type of St. Lucia). Roses 3rd Place Diploma.

Roses Diplomas of Merit - Miss B.J. Collinson (Barbados Britannias), Tony Shepherd (Barbados 1852 - 1871), Fred Walsh (Jamaica War Tax Stamps).

CLASS B. POST-1920 GENERAL

1st Place - Dr. G.G. Ritchie (St. Lucia Postage Dues). BCPSG Pewter and Roses 1st Place Diploma.

2nd Place - M. Steward (Leeward Islands KG VI Key & Duty Plate Flaws). BCPSG Certificate and Roses 2nd Place Diploma.

3rd Place - T. Foster (Jamaica - the Blue Mahoe). Roses 3rd Place Diploma.

CLASS C. POSTAL HISTORY

1st Place - Tony Shepherd (Inland Posts of Grenada, 1844 - 1910). BCPSG Bronze and Roses 1st Place Diploma.

2nd Place - W. Ken Watson (Jamaica Pre-stamp). BCPSG Pewter and Roses 2nd Place Dipl.

3rd Place - M. Sheppard (Barbados Rates & Handstamps). BCPSG Certificate and Roses 3rd Place Diploma.

Roses Diplomas of Merit: Miss B.J. Collinson (Barbados Pre-1880), Rev. T.S. Bates (Brit. Honduras, Belize Government TRD's), A.P.D. Sutcliffe (Jamaica, Early Kingston Markings), Malcolm D. Watts (Jamaica Pre-stamp), A.W. Blackmun (Dominica), and R. Heap (Bermuda, Censor Marks & Labels of Boer War, WW I and WW II).

CLASS D. POSTAL STATIONERY

1st Place - S. Graham Hoey (Proofs and Specimens of Bahamas Postal Stationery). BCPSG Pewter and Roses 1st Place Diploma.

2nd Place - W. Ken Watson (Jamaica Provisional Post Cards). BCPSG Certificate and Roses 2nd Place Diploma.

3rd Place - M.R. Rego (British Guiana Postal Stationery). Roses 3rd Place Diploma.

Roses Diploma of Merit: Ron Ward (Haiti).

Displays and papers were submitted and presented in the afternoon. Tom Foster told of the Development of the Modern Jamaica Postage Stamp, with a selection of the Arawak used. He also discussed Jamaican Military Mail. Ron Ward asked "How About Haiti?" and also told of War Stamps of the West Indies in the 1914-18 Conflict.

This was followed by a very lively auction by Fred Stephens (with Bob Topaz in evidence too) which realized well over £200. The donated lots, for which so many members both in the UK and USA are to be thanked, provided the Committee with the useful sum of £81.70.

The panel of "Hullo There" letters from Group Members prevented from attending, including a photo showing Fred hard at work on the Journal, attracted quite a lot of attention.

Finally, as Geoff Ritchie closed the official side of the convention, there were many requests for a repeat 'do' in the future. There is a good possibility that this will be done, perhaps two or three years hence. Congratulations to the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society!

BAHAMAS 1974 STAMP ISSUES ANNOUNCED ---

Joe Lleida of Nassau provides the following information on the Bahamas 1974 stamp program:

January or February - 25th Anniversary of the University of the West Indies, 15¢ and 18¢.

April - Universal Postal Union Centenary, 3¢, 11¢, 15¢, 18¢, and a souvenir sheet.

Christmas 1974, 3¢, 11¢, 15¢, 18¢, and a souvenir sheet.

There will be one additional issue, but time and details have not been announced.

The first portion of Morris Ludington's Bermuda will be sold at auction by Robson Lowe Ltd. on 16 Jan 1974. For a catalogue by air, send \$3 to R.L. at 50 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JZ.

JAMAICA JOTTINGS

by Robert Topaz

Having been lazy or busy for so long, we have a large list of postmarks to record, which is at the end of this set of notes. Keeping up with these marks and offices is a long tedious job of recording, and I thank a few of our members periodically, for without the hard work and cooperation of people like Lloyd Brandon, Reg Lant, Hugh James, Tom Foster, and Ralph Scrivens, as well as a few others, I never would have any information to pass along.

A presentation to the Jamaica Philatelic Society in July by Stephen Hopwood, apparently included some new unrecorded Dummer letters, and a Rio Bueno Ship Letter mark. I have no further information of these at this writing, but I am sure that some news will be forthcoming soon. I have also seen some astounding photostats of some KINGSTON straight-line markings from the eighteenth century that have previously been unrecorded. As soon as we can get more info on these and clearance to write about them, I will try to get something more definite in print.

As noted elsewhere in this issue, I attended the Roses Convention in Leeds this past September. I enjoyed the meeting so much, and really appreciated having the opportunity to meet so many of our fellow BCPSG members and the few who were not. I must thank Al Branston who teased me into going, along with Derek Sutcliffe, Mal Watts and all the rest of the Roses for a very memorable week-end.

Among the exhibits at Leeds, were the earliest recorded Jamaica mark of 1746 exhibited by Col. Saville Smith, a first class exhibit of Jamaican Postal Stationery by Ken Watson, and a great many other interesting Jamaican exhibits by Messrs. Walsh, Bolton, Foster, Sutcliffe, and Watts. The other colonies were also well represented, and I enjoyed them all.

Among the items I saw there was a stamped Ocho Rios Registration mark. I neglected to jot down who showed me that mark, but would like to get more information about it. One of the attendees showed a cover from Duxes to Scotland bearing a green ink straight-line sans serif mark reading "TAX CANCELLED" - thus negating the postage due marking on the letter of 12 OCT 1971. I had never seen this mark before. Is it of Jamaica or U.K. origin?

Tom Foster notes a new LDK for the PD4 mark in red ink of 17 SEP 1840.

Jamaica has apparently experienced a very bad flood in the Kingston area, according to some mail I have seen, although I have seen no mention in the local newspapers around here about it. Our Editor suggests that Watergate may leave no space for reporting troubles of others!

OFFICE REOPENINGS

ALDERTON	1 MAR 73	HALSE HALL	8 MAR 73	RAYMONDS	10 MAY 73
AXE & ADZE	16 JAN 73	KITSON	30 JAN 73	RED BANK	13 MAR 73
COKA	9 APR 73	PORTLAND	5 DEC 72	SCARBOROUGH	8 MAR 73
FAIRBURN	5 APR 73	COTTAGE			

OFFICE CLOSINGS

ALBION	15 MAR 73	COKA	11 DEC 72	RAYMONDS	10 DEC 72
MOUNTAIN		FAIRBURN	16 FEB 73	RED BANK	9 MAR 73
ALDERTON	11 DEC 72	INNSWOOD	16 FEB 73		

The Albion Mountain closing was because of destruction by fire of the postal agency building.

NEW TRD's Those indicated by * are in black ink, the remainder being in violet.

ABOVE ROCKS 37x/41d	8 MAR 73	NORMAN MANLEY 37x	19 DEC 72
*ATHALONE 38c	19 SEP 72	OLD HARBOUR 37x	22 DEC 72
BAMBOO 37x/41d	9 FEB 73	*PAPINE 37x/41d	16 MAY 73
COLONEL'S RIDGE 37x/41d	2 OCT 72	RAYMONDS 37x/41d	11 DEC 72
JONES TOWN 39	15 JAN 73	*ROCK HALL 37x/41d	8 DEC 72
*MARTHA BRAE 37	4 JAN 69	SMITHVILLE 37x/41d	19 JAN 73

MEADOWBRIDGE has a TRD reading "Take Delivery at Meadowbridge Postal Agency", Type 37x, known in violet 5 DEC 72.

NEW MSR's Those marked # are in violet, others in black ink. All have asterisks.

BARNEYSIDE 15 JAN 73	HAMPDEN	29 MAY 73	#MOUNT FELIX	28 MAY 58
#BIDDIFORD 28 FEB 72	LAKES PEN	21 APR 73	PEDRO RIVER	1 JAN 73
BIDDIFORD 5 JAN 73	MEARS	7 JUN 71	REFUGE	19 SEP 73
#BOIS CONTENT 14 SEP 73	MILES TOWN	2 MAR 73	#ROCK RIVER	19 APR 73
GOLDEN RUN 27 FEB 73				

NEW MSR 1968's All are in black ink. All have asterisks.

ARLINGTON 22 JUN 71	HARMONY VALE 15 FEB 71	OLD ENGLAND	17 JUL 67
BANBURY 1 JUL 68	HOPEWELL 10 DEC 68	PLUM TREE	18 JAN 73
HAMPSHIRE 3 JAN 73	MUIR HOUSE 7 MAR 70		

MSR's WITH INDICES

BOG WALK	A	14 FEB 73
CONSTANT SPRING	C	7 DEC 71
HAGLEY PARK	B	13 JUL 73
MAY PEN	A	3 FEB 73
MYRTLE BANK	A	15 MAR 72
	B	7 MAR 72
MONTEGO BAY	1	19 FEB 73
	2	14 FEB 73
	5	15 FEB 73
	7	27 FEB 73

PORT ANTONIO continues to use the 1-6 indices that they have been using for several years. Doubtless there are other MSR's using indices.

Antigua Monograph

THE VICTORIAN DE LA RUE KEY PLATE STAMPS

The following pages contain the second section of the Antigua Monograph to be published. As previously noted, these sections are being published in random order as completed. Drafting of this section was done by Bill Cornell, and the following reviewed or contributed to it, or both: George Bowman, Leonard Britnor, Stan Durnin, Andy Hale, Fred Seifert, Nat Surtees, Mark Swetland, Edward Thompson, and the late Kay Horowicz.

5.3 THE VICTORIAN DE LA RUE KEY PLATE STAMPS

Perkins, Bacon & Co. printed the first type of 1d and 6d stamps from 1862 to 1871, at which time De La Rue & Co. were awarded the contract. After the initial De La Rue printing of the first types in 1871 (CC, 12½) and 1875 (CC, 14), the new 2½d and 4d stamps appeared in 1879 in the second or "Key Plate" type.

On 1 July 1879, Antigua, along with the other members of the Leeward Islands group, joined the Universal Postal Union, and new postal rates required new denominations of stamps (2)).



John Easton (2) quotes from a letter written on 15 May 1879 by the Auditor General of the Leeward Islands to the Colonial Secretary as follows: ". . . . From the 1st July the rates will be 4d per fifteen grammes for letters, 1½d for Postage cards, and 2½d for a packet not exceeding 4 ounces of commercial papers. The registration fee 2d for each letter or postal packet. It will therefore be necessary to provide 4d stamps for Antigua, St. Kitts, Dominica, and Montserrat. Nevis and the Virgin Islands have already stamps of that denomination, and for all the Presidencies stamps for 2½d, and a sufficient number of post cards will also be required for each Presidency." Melville (3) notes that bisects of the 1d stamp exist used

with whole stamps to make up a 2½d rate. (See Section 5.2). Robson Lowe (4) states that the ½ ounce letter rate from the West Indies to England was reduced from 1/- to 2½d in 1875.

The new plates were the first Uniform Key Plates designed to serve several colonies (See the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue). They were suggested in the Auditor General's letter discussed above (2) & (7)), as being more economical than separate stamps. Although it is frequently designated the "Cyprus type" plate, its initial use was in Antigua, Montserrat, Nevis and the Virgin Islands in 1879, with Cyprus following in 1881 (3) & (20)). The Key Plate is the "Head Plate" with frame and Sovereign's head, leaving blank tablets for colony name and stamp denomination, the so-called "name and value tablets", which were applied in a second printing operation, using the "Duty Plate".

The 2½d and 4d stamps were reprinted in 1882-83, in the initial colors, and again in 1886, in new colors to conform to the U. P. U. basic color scheme (2)).

The ½d value was issued in 1882, the precise purpose being unclear. It is conjectured that it may have been for use to make up the 1½d post card rate or the 2½d packet rate.

The 1/- value was issued in 1886, the purpose again being unclear. It may have been aimed at making up rates for heavy letters and packets, and fiscal use.

CHECK LIST

<u>VALUE</u>	<u>S.G. COLOR</u>	<u>WMK/PERF</u>	<u>YEAR ISSUED</u>	<u>S.G./SCOTT CAT. #</u>
½d	Dull green	CA/14	1882	21/12
2½d	Red-brown	CC/14	1879	19/9
2½d	Red-brown	CA/14	1882	22/13
2½d	Ultramarine	CA/14	1886	27/14

(1) Numbers refer to similarly numbered references at end of this section.

CHECK LIST (cont.)

<u>VALUE</u>	<u>S.G. COLOR</u>	<u>WMK/PERF</u>	<u>YEAR ISSUED</u>	<u>S.G./SCOTT CAT. #</u>
4d	Blue	CC/14	1879	20/10
4d	Blue	CA/14	1883	23/15
4d	Chestnut	CA/14	1886	28/16
1/-	Mauve	CA/14	1886	30/17

PRINTERS - De La Rue & Co.

PRINTING - Surface-printed or typographed.

GUM - The several issues had white gum, although the ½d and the 4d of 1882 exist with yellow gum, possibly due to tropicalization ((9)) & ((20)).

SHEETS - The stamps were printed in sheets of 120, consisting of twelve vertical columns of ten stamps each, having a vertical gutter in the center separating two panes of 60 stamps ((6)). Complete panes that have been reported include both panes of the 2½d of 1886 ((6)) & ((10)), the left pane of the 4d of 1886 ((19)), and possibly of the ½d value ((1)). Large positional blocks of some of the stamps exist ((1)). The largest known used block of the 1/- value is a block of 8 stamps ((20)).

Plate numbers (head plate) appear four times on each sheet. They consist of negative or uncolored numerals on a solid-colored circle within a thin colored ring. These are located in the selvedge, above Stamp 2 and below Stamp 56 of the left pane, and above Stamp 5 and below Stamp 59 of the right pane ((1)). Recorded plate numbers are as follows:

1879	2½d and 4d	Plate No. 1
1882	½d	Plate No's. 1 & 2
1882	2½d and 4d	Plate No. 1
1886	2½d, 4d, 1/-	Plate No. 2

Other selvedge markings on the 2½d and 4d of 1886 are as follows: On both left pane (LP) and right pane (RP) dots of color appear above and between Stamps 3 and 4 and below and between Stamps 57 and 58. In addition, dots superimposed on hairline crosses appear above Stamp 6/LP and below Stamp 55/RP ((1)), ((9)) & ((19)). In the case of the ½d value, a hairline cross alone appears above and between Stamps 3 and 4/LP, based on a corner block ((9)).

QUANTITIES - John Easton ((5)) lists quantities invoiced by De La Rue as follows, quantities being in stamps rather than panes or sheets, and invoice dates being dates of despatch from the printers:

<u>½d OVERPRINT PLATE OF 60, 10 MAY 1882</u>	
92,400	10 May 1882
30,600	4 May 1886 (No color change).
30,360	23 May 1887
18,240	19 Apr 1888

½d OVERPRINT PLATE OF 60, 10 MAY 1882 (Cont.)

24,000	18 Sep 1889
18,000	28 Apr 1890
<u>213,600</u>	(L.I. ½d invoiced 15 Oct 1890)

2½d OVERPRINT PLATE OF 60, 7 NOV 1879

1,620	7 Nov 1879 (First issue)
2,100	13 Apr 1881
<u>3,720</u>	
30,120	10 May 1882 (Second issue)
6,000	8 Aug 1883
<u>36,120</u>	
12,000	4 May 1886 (Third issue, no specimens)
12,240	23 May 1887 (400 specimens)
18,120	19 Apr 1888
18,000	18 Sep 1889
18,000	28 Apr 1890
<u>78,360</u>	(L.I. 2½d invoiced 15 Oct 1890)

4d OVERPRINT PLATE OF 60, 7 NOV 1879

7,980	7 Nov 1879 (First issue)
50,040	25 Feb 1880
51,120	13 Apr 1881
<u>109,140</u>	
51,300	8 Aug 1883 (Second issue)
<u>51,300</u>	
30,000	4 May 1886 (Third issue, no specimens)
30,300	23 May 1887 (400 specimens)
30,420	19 Apr 1888
24,000	18 Sep 1889
30,000	28 Apr 1890
<u>144,720</u>	(L.I. 4d invoiced 15 Oct 1890)

1/- OVERPRINT PLATE OF 60, 4 MAY 1886

6,000	4 May 1886 (400 specimens)
<u>6,000</u>	(L.I. 1/- invoiced 15 Oct 1890)

Although the change of colors for the 2½d and 4d of the Third Issue was approved on 9 March 1886, and the color for the 1/- value on 11 March 1886, the shipment of these three values on 4 May 1886 included specimens of only the 1/- value. Specimens for the 2½d and 4d were included with the next printing which was invoiced on 23 May 1887. This caused Easton to note the possibility that these colors were not changed until 1887 (Reference (2)), p. 444). There is other evidence of this possibility. The "Philatelic Record" of June 1886 reported the 1/- value's appearance, but did not record the 2½d and 4d in changed colors until a year later, in its July 1887 issue.

INVALIDATION - When the Leeward Islands Federal issue replaced the earlier Antigua and other member colony stamps on 30 October 1890, the stock of remainders was offered for sale. The announcement of the offer was made in an official circular dated 20 August 1891 by the Leeward Islands Colonial Secretary, Mr. Fred Evans (Ref. (3)), p. 42). The successful bidder was T.H. Thompson of Bishop Auckland, England at £5,800 (face value £4,788). His bid was accepted in 1892. With the stamps were included certain defaced plates, including the first Antigua 6d plate (See Section 5.1) and postal stationery (See Section 17). The Antigua ½d, 2½d, 4d, and 1/- duty plates were officially destroyed in 1894, along with the 1d plate. The Key Plate was retained for use for other colonies (Ref. (3)), p. 25-26). Antigua Key Plate remainders sold were as follows: ½d - 41,064; 2½d - 26,009; 4d - 38,464; 1/- - 1,387. It will be noted that the quantities issued were relatively small, and the quantities available for postal and other use even smaller in view of the above remainder data, e.g., some 4,600 of the top value.

For several years following sale of these remainders, there was some uncertainty whether they were still valid for postage. Queries to the various postmasters concerned brought negative or no replies. This question was finally resolved when a New York philatelic writer, in response to a query to the Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua, received the following reply dated 15 April 1896. "I am directed by the Governor to inform you in reply to your letter of the 13th ult., that the question of using postage stamps of a particular Presidency to frank letters passing through the post office of such Presidency was referred to the Crown Law Officer, who has advised that stamps above referred to may be so used in the Presidency to which they relate." (22).

COMPOSITE ARTIST'S DRAWING - The composite artist's drawing, shown on the following page, is reported by E.K. Thompson (20). Dated 19 JUN 79, it portrays the design of the Virgin Islands 4d stamp, with hand-painted alternative value and Colony name tablets. The color used is a pinkish-brown color wash as background to the head. The "banknote" tablets below are De La Rue color samples, the left being in a reddish-brown, again with a pinkish appearance, and the right in a pale blue. The notations below the tablets are in pencil.

DIE PROOFS

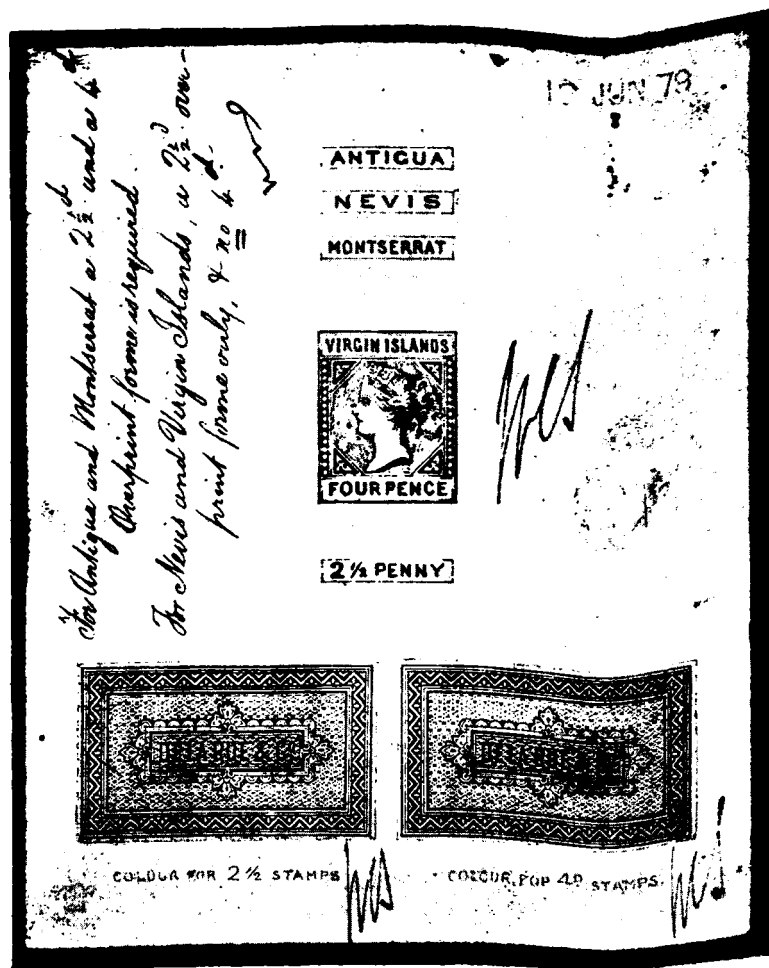
- . Black on glazed card, blacked-out name and value, dated July 23, 1879 (6), (11).
- . Black on glazed card, blank name and value (13).
- . Black on glazed card, unissued 1½d value, dated September 1, 1879 (6), (11).

COLOR TRIALS - (½d value, watermark CA, experimental perf 12).

- . Blue (8), (12).
- . Brown (3), (6), (11), (12), (13).

COLOR TRIALS (cont.)

- . Green ((12)).
- . Mauve ((3)), ((8)), ((11)), ((12)).
- . Olive ((3)), ((11)), ((12)), ((13)).
- . Red-brown ((6)), ((13)).
- . Rose ((12)).
- . Rose, with blank value tablet ((13)).
- . Sepia ((3)), ((6)), ((8)), ((11)).
- . Yellow ((3)), ((8)), ((11)), ((12)).



COMPOSITE ARTIST'S DRAWING

COLOR SAMPLES

Issued stamps, blank name and value tablets, watermark CA, perf 14.

- . Dull green ((11)), ((13)).
- . Ultramarine ((11)), ((13)).
- . Red-brown ((13)).
- . Mauve ((6)).

IMPRIMATUR PROOFS - (Imperforate sheets in issued colors).

- . ½d dull green, watermark CA ((3)), ((6)), ((8)), ((11)), ((20)).
- . 2½d red-brown, watermark CC ((3)), ((6)), ((11)), ((13)), ((20)).
- . Same overprinted SPECIMEN, Samuel ((21)) Type SD2 ((6)), ((13)).
- . 2½d red-brown, watermark CA ((6)), ((11)), ((20)).
- . 2½d ultramarine, watermark CA ((3)), ((6)), ((11)), ((20)).
- . 4d blue, watermark CA ((3)).
- . 4d chestnut, watermark CA ((3)), ((6)), ((11)), ((20)).
- . 1/- mauve, watermark CA ((3)), ((6)), ((11)), ((20)).

SPECIMENS - All issues are discussed in Section 10.

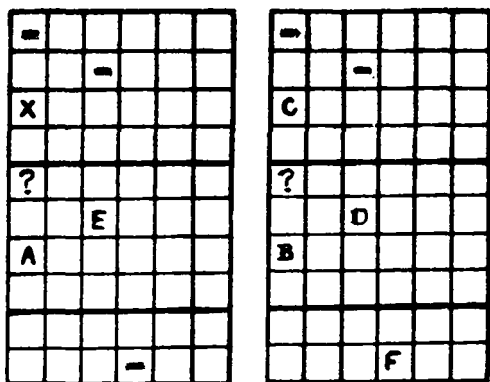
PLATE FLAW VARIETIES OF 2½d STAMPS - For some time the first 2½d variety has been known, denoted "Large 2 of 2½ with Slanting Foot", and catalogued by Gibbons as No's. 19a, 22a, and 27a for the three issues, with three types known in the sheet. Recent research has added two more varieties, as described below. Melville ((3)) first described the Slanting Foot variety as occurring at Stamp 13/RP. Later research of Robson Lowe ((15)) showed that two additional types occurred at Stamps 37/LP and 37/RP. The three Slanting Foot varieties have been found on singles of all three 2½d issues, although plating has been possible only on the third issue, where full panes are available.

Andrews B. Hale discovered the second 2½d variety ((14)), which may be denoted "Large 2 of 2½d with Broken Crook". BCPSG research ((1)) has shown that this variety occurs twice on each sheet, at Stamps 33/LP and 33/RP, in two different types. As in the case of the Slanting Foot varieties, the two Broken Crook varieties are known on singles of all three issues, but are plated only on the basis of the third issue. Surtees, confirmed by Swetland and Bowman, discovered the third 2½d variety ((1)), which may be denoted "Slanting Value Tablet". It occurs at Stamp 58/RP. This variety has been noted only on the third issue.

The three varieties must be due to flaws in or damage to the duty plate, with the possible exception of the Slanting Value Tablet variety. Robson Lowe ((15)) hypothesized on this as follows, with reference to the Slanting Foot variety: Presuming that the original setting of the value "2½ PENNY" was from type and that this was set up in four horizontal rows of six, the type on the first stamp was damaged, but unnoticed until the stereotypes were made. In all probability, the damage was more extensive than that found on the final stamps, and the repairs made to four stereotypes were all different. The plate was made up of four complete stereotypes, each with the damage more or less repaired, and with two undamaged stereotypes of half-size. A sketch of this hypothetical composite sheet is shown on the following page.

Stamp 13/LP (indicated by X on the sketch) shows no variety, and Lowe attributes this to the repairs having been very carefully made, with new numbers and letters probably having been inserted in the value tablet. In the case of Stamps A and B, Lowe suspects that the letters were repaired, leading to the difference in size, while he accounts for Stamp C by assuming that new letters were inserted.

In commenting on Lowe's hypothesis, Surtees ((5)) notes that it is plausible, but that the number of stereotypes is unknown. Further, it is unclear why new stereotypes would not have been made



after the damage. The construction is based only on the 1886 panes, as noted above. No recorded examples of the varieties exist on known proofs. It is not clear just when the initial damage occurred, but it evidently preceded the first printing in 1879. According to careful examination of 1886 panes, the Broken Crook varieties (D and E on the sketch) appear to be consistent with the Lowe hypothesis, while the Slanting Tablet (F on sketch) is not. The "hyphen" marks indicate absence of variety referring to the hypothetical symmetry of Lowe, and the question marks show the possible locations of the "Long Leg A" varieties which are discussed in the paragraphs which follow.

Leg A" varieties which are discussed in the paragraphs which follow.

A fourth possible variety may be denoted as "First A of ANTIGUA with Long Left Leg", in which the long leg extends below the legs of the other letters. Surtees ((1) & (6)) reports the Long Leg A on Stamp 25/LP of the 1886 issue, with no companion flaw on Stamp 25/RP. On this example, the A is tallest on the right side of the leg and the projection touches the frame line below.

Hale ((1)) reports a Long Leg A on a single 1886 stamp. In the Hale type, which is somewhat different from Surtees', the A is tallest on the left side of the leg, and the projection almost touches the frame line.

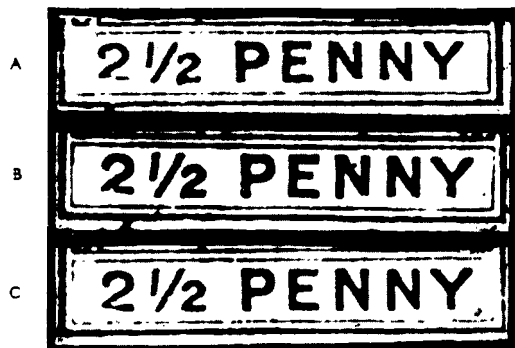
Swetland ((1)) reports a Long Leg A on Stamp 25/RP of the 1886 issue, noting that it is more like the Hale flaw than that of Surtees, but different from either. More data are required to relate these several Long Leg A flaws and to establish their relative constancy.

A number of additional possible 2½d varieties have been reported as follows: Swetland ((1)) reports an 1886 example with a circular hole in the top of the crook of the large 2 at the two o'clock position, touching the lower edge of the crook. Hale ((1)) reports an 1886 example that has a rectangular hole in the top of the crook at the eleven o'clock position, touching the lower edge of the crook. Surtees ((1)) reports an 1882 example with an "underline" beneath and to the right of the foot of the large 2.

Detailed descriptions of the three definite varieties of the 2½d are given below:

SLANTING FOOT VARIETY -

A. A slice is cut away from the left half of the foot of the large 2. The letters NNY are shorter than the letters PE, with the left vertical stroke of the first N longer than the right stroke, being as long as the vertical strokes of PE. Stamp 37/LP.

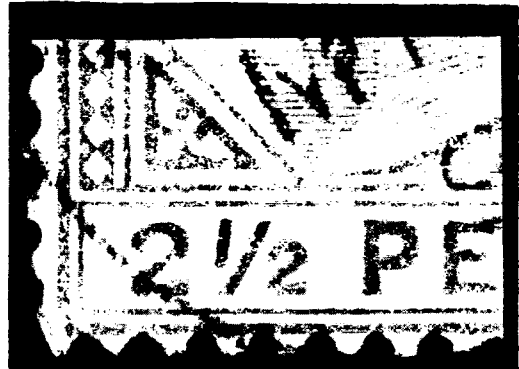


B. A slice is cut away from the whole foot of the large 2. The letters NNY are as variety A. Stamp 37/RP.

C. A slice is cut away from the left half of the foot of the large 2, at a sharper angle than in variety A. The letters NNY are the same height as PE. There is a small dot to the right of the top of the fraction stroke of 2½, sometimes joined to the stroke on heavily-inked examples. Stamp 13/RP. There is no companion variety at Stamp 13/LP (X on the chart).

examples. Stamp 13/RP. There is no companion variety at Stamp 13/LP (X on the chart).

BROKEN CROOK VARIETY -



D. A trapezoidal slice is cut away from the lower side of the diagonal part of the crook of the large 2. Stamp 33/RP.

E. A triangular slice is cut away from the lower side of the diagonal part of the crook of the large 2. Stamp 33/LP.

SLANTING VALUE TABLET VARIETY -

F. The inscription 2½ PENNY is slanted downward to the right relative to the frame lines. Stamp 58/RP. Noted only on the third issue.



MISPLACED DUTY PLATE VARIETY -

The 1882 issue of the 2½d red-brown stamp is known with a major relative displacement of the head and duty plates, the duty plate being shifted low and to the right. The amount of the shift varies somewhat with examples ((6)), ((8)), ((9)), ((11)), ((16)), ((17)) & ((20)). The pronounced lack of register somehow evaded the inspectors. However, it is to be noted that no used examples have been reported, and the known mint copies may be material not released for postal use. Mint singles have been reported, along with one mint pair ((20)). It is thought that a single sheet may have existed ((1)). A minor displacement of the same sort has been recorded on a single 1879 red-brown ((9)), and such can probably be found on examples of all three issues.



VARIETIES OF 4d STAMPS -

E.K. Thompson ((20)) reports a copy of the 4d stamp of 1882 having ANTIGUA slightly doubled and FOUR PENCE clearly doubled.

V.N.F. Surtees (1) reports a mint single of the 4d stamp of 1886 on which the terminal E of PENCE has the bottom two horizontal strokes missing, to appear as "Capital Greek Gamma" for E. A photograph of this example is shown in Reference (18). M.W. Swetland (19) reports that the left pane of the 4d chestnut does not contain the variety.

VARIETIES OF ½d STAMPS - E.K. Thompson (20) reports a copy of the ½d stamp with name and value tablet lettering slightly thicker than normal.

FORGERIES - Rather crude forgeries exist of the 4d blue, perf 11½. Two copies examined are "used", crude, misshapen, having indecipherable obliterator-like cancels used. While Earee's Album Weeds does not report this or any other forgery of the Antigua Key Plate issues, Robson Lowe (23) notes that forgeries of the Antigua 1879 4d exist, lithographed in blue and mauve. The Sperati book and that cataloguing the Fournier forgeries show no productions of Antigua. The forgery illustrated here may have been made by Spiro Brothers of Hamburg, Germany, who between 1864 and 1879 lithographed 'reproductions' of then current stamps.



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NOTES ON BARBADOS

Frank Gibbons, one of our members in Barbados, who is on the Postmaster General's Stamp Committee, writes as follows on the new issues of the island:

"We are expecting one more issue this year, but the release date is not settled yet. It is to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the University of the West Indies.

"Our 1974 program has already been decided on, and I have the approval of the Postmaster General to pass on the information in case our editor would like to include it in the next issue of the Journal.

"There will be four issues for 1974, a definitive issue and three special issues. The definitive issue will feature Orchids, and there will be sixteen values. The selection of orchids will include those indigenous to Barbados, those that have been grown in Barbados for a long enough time to be considered Barbadian, and others more recently grown in the island. Considerable assistance has been given to the Postmaster General by one of the leading collectors of Orchid stamps, and by the island's leading horticulturist, who are both members of the island's Horticultural and Orchid Society. The values of the 16 designs are under consideration, and it is expected that the total face value may be in the region of \$20.00 E.C. The three special issues, each of four stamps will feature:

- (1) Fishing Industry in Barbados
- (3) The Centenary of the U. P. U.

- (2) (2) World Population Year

"The actual dates of release are not yet fixed, and as soon as I know definitely I will pass on the information. I do not know what I will learn today, but I am to meet with the P.M.G. this afternoon.

"In our Aviation issue, unfortunately the names of the aircraft were omitted, and will probably result in a loss of sales. Also, quite an error crept into the 5 cent value somehow. We did not do our homework early enough. Someone gave us the date of the First Aircraft Flight in Barbados as 1911, but research proved this to be incorrect. The true date was Good Friday 1913. I was quite a kid yet, my chin could just reach the window sill, and I still remember seeing the object floating in the sky. That one was clearly visible from our house, as in those days many houses here had not reached a sufficient height to obscure the vision.

"I am trying to get together all the reprints of our current definitive issue, which were re-issued in 1971 on glazed paper, and will be able to report to you when I check through the lot. The only value I am in doubt about so far is the 6¢ on glazed paper. It is not available here in Barbados. You should contact a London dealer and get some. As this value is sold very little here, the old stock on unglazed paper is still rather big!"

Roy Botwright notes a QV $\frac{1}{2}$ d brown post card used to send details of a meeting at St. Peter's Vestry. It is postmarked by a ST. PETER single ring cds, dated MR 26 98, but also bears a TOO-LATE handstamp. This is similar to Benwell & Britnor Type M1, but has a hyphen between the words. It would seem to be used only in St. Peter, as the post card is addressed to someone in St. Peter, and thus would not have left that post office.

Also reported by Roy, is a new EKD for the First Day of Issue slogan, B & B Type E8. He has this mark dated 11.45 AM, 24 NOV 1948, used on KG VI Silver Wedding stamps. This is quite likely the first issue on which this slogan was used.

Another item called to our attention by Roy is a 1937 Coronation FDC, cancelled by a G. P.O. Barbados, Birmingham Type cds. The cancel is lightly struck and date is not legible. A red ink manuscript notation has been added reading "Certified as Datestamped 14 May 1937" with two letters (possibly someone's initials) beneath it. Below this inscription are two black ink rubber stamp strikes: (1) G.F. SHARP, (2) COLONIAL POSTMASTER. The latter is similar to B & B Type M.12a, but with wider letters, and the O's being exact circles. It is 54 mm in length, and the words Barbados, B.W.I. are not included.

Major Stephen Cave sends a photostat of the Barbados Formula Card illustrated at the top of page 182 of the December 1972 BCPJ. Its unusual feature is that the adhesives affixed to it, one each of SG 72 & 73, are overprinted SPECIMEN. While specimens of these cards would have been provided U.P.U. countries, since the cards were intended for International mail, it had not occurred to us that cards with stamps affixed would be used for such specimens.

Stephen provides an explanation of the Barbados oval Registration mark shown on page 185 of the December 1972 Journal. It is used as a backstamp in the registration office for letters passing through that office. It is occasionally known on the front of a cover, and sometimes, but rarely, on a postage due. This latter use is because the office in which postage dues are added has no mark of its own, so they go next door and borrow the registration mark.

UNUSUAL BRITISH HONDURAS REGISTRATION SEAL NOTED --- By Jack W. Biancotti

Most of our readers have probably run across registered covers of years past where the flap has been secured with a blob of (usually red) sealing wax. Recently, I came across another kind of seal that I had never seen before.

While going through a dealer's accumulation of covers at a local exhibition, I discovered one from British Honduras bearing a pair of the 5¢ semi-postal issue of 1932, Scott B5, SG 142. It is postmarked with a Belize Registration cds, but its most interesting feature is a small metal gadget used to seal the flap. As seen from the back of the cover, it is a small circular red disc of about 10 mm diameter, with a raised rim and raised letters B.H.P.O. On the inside of the envelope, it has five prongs, turned radially inward to secure it to the cover. On close examination, it was determined that the seal has a two layer construction, prongs and surface in contact with the envelope being of a ferrous metal, while the outer portion is some softer metal, probably lead.

Just how this little device was inserted is not clear. Obviously, a press of some sort must have been used to squeeze it on and impress the B.H.P.O. However, since it goes through both flap and the back of the envelope, it had to be applied after the flap was sealed, yet the prongs had to be bent over before penetrating the contents and front. Perhaps a stiffener of material strong enough to bend the prongs was placed behind the contents.

Our Editor advises he too has a cover with one of these unusual seals. His was employed on a registered cover from Belize of 19 October 1933. Have other readers come across any?

The 26 January 1974 meeting of the 'Roses' will feature "Life in the West Indies", with films, etc., by our BCPSG member, Rev. Trevor S. Bates. Trevor was a missionary there for 18 years, so is well qualified on the subject. Time: 2.30 pm, Place: Leeds Reference Library.

NEW ISSUES

ANGUILLA

10 SEP 73

COLUMBUS DISCOVERS THE WEST INDIES. 1¢ - The Santa Maria; 20¢ - An Early Map of the West Indies; 40¢ - Map of the Voyages; 70¢ - Sighting Land; \$1.20 - Columbus Landing. There is also a souvenir sheet incorporating one of each value. Designed by John Lister Staff Artists and lithographed by Questa in sheets of 25 stamps.

ANTIGUA

15 OCT 73

CHRISTMAS 1973. A five value set and souvenir sheet containing one stamp of each value, portraying religious paintings. 3¢ - David's The Virgin of the Milk Porridge; 5¢ - Stomer's Adoration of the Kings; 20¢ - Raphael's The Virgin of the Grand Duke; 35¢ - Battista's Nativity with God, the Father and Holy Ghost; \$1 - Murillo's Madonna and Child. Printed by Format International.

14 NOV 73

ROYAL WEDDING. This will not be in the omnibus format, although the photograph will be the same. Two values, 35¢ and \$2.00, plus a souvenir sheet with one each of the same values. Designed by Gordon Drummond and lithographed by Format International.

BAHAMAS

16 OCT 73

CHRISTMAS 1973. A set of four with a souvenir sheet containing one of each. 3¢ - The Virgin in Prayer by Sasso Ferrato; 11¢ - Virgin and Child with St. John by Filippino Lippi; 15¢ - A Choir of Angels by Marmion; 18¢ - The Two Trinities by Murillo. Designed by C.E. Abbott and lithographed by Format in sheets of 50 stamps.

BELIZE

1 NOV 73

ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. 2¢ and 50¢.



BERMUDA 4c



BERMUDA 15c



BERMUDA 18c



BERMUDA 24c

BERMUDA

3 SEP 73

NATIONAL TRUST 1973. Release date confirmed. Stamps are shown above.

1 NOV 73

ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. 15¢ and 18¢.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

1 NOV 73

ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. 5¢ and 50¢.

7 DEC 73

CHRISTMAS 1973. ½¢ - Virgin and Child by Pintoricchio; 3¢ - Virgin and Child by Credi; 25¢ - Virgin and Child by Crivelli; 50¢ - The Virgin and Child with St. John by Luini. Designed by Gordon Drummond and lithographed by Questa, on Block CA watermarked paper in sheets of 50 stamps (2 panes of 25).

CAYMAN ISLANDS

2 OCT 73

CHRISTMAS 1973. Corrected release date. Details in previous Journal.

CAYMAN ISLANDS (cont.)

1 NOV 73 ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. 10¢ and 30¢.

DOMINICA

OCT 73 CHRISTMAS 1973. Eight values and a souvenir sheet bearing the two top values of the set. ½¢ - Bruegel; 1¢ - Botticelli; 2¢ - Duer; 12¢ - Botticelli; 22¢ - Rubens; 35¢ - Duer; \$1 - Giorgeone. Designed by Shamir and lithographed by Format International in sheets of 25 stamps.

OCT 73 FAUNA & FLORA ISSUE. Four stamps and a souvenir sheet containing one of each. ½¢ - Cyrique Crab; 22¢ - Blue Land Crab; 25¢ - Breadfruit; \$1.20 Sunflower. Designed by G. Drummond and lithographed by Format in sheets of 25.

14 NOV 73 ROYAL WEDDING ISSUE. Not in omnibus design. Two stamps, 25¢ and \$2.00 and a souvenir sheet bearing two stamps, 75¢ and \$1.20. Designed by Gordon Drummond and lithographed by Format International.

GRENADA

14 NOV 73 ROYAL WEDDING ISSUE. Not in omnibus design. Two stamps, 25¢ and \$2.00 and a souvenir sheet bearing two stamps, 75¢ and \$1.00. Designed by Gordon Drummond and lithographed by Format International.



GUYANA

1 OCT 73 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GUYANA RED CROSS. Four stamps, 8, 25, 40, and 50 cents, in a common design as illustrated above. Designs are by Stanley Greaves (of Guyana), and stamps lithographed by Harrison & Sons Ltd. on Lotus Blossom Bud watermarked paper in panes of 25 stamps.

JAMAICA

8 OCT 73 ORCHIDS OF JAMAICA. Four stamps and a souvenir sheet which contains the four values. 5¢ - Broughtonia sanguinea; 10¢ - Arpophyllum jamaicense; 20¢ - Oncidium pulchellum; \$1 - Brassia maculata. The designs are by Mrs. Sylvia Goaman and stamps lithographed by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. in sheets of 25 on Jamaica Upright 'J' and Pineapple watermarked paper. It is to be noted the souvenir sheet is priced at 10¢ over face value at \$1.45, on the information release sheet of the Jamaica Postmaster General.

MONTSERRAT

9 JUL 73 480TH ANNIVERSARY OF DISCOVERY BY COLUMBUS. Revised release date.

15 OCT 73 CHRISTMAS 1973. 20¢ - The Virgin and Child (Studio of David); 35¢ - The Holy Family with St. John (Jordaens); 50¢ - The Virgin and Child (G. Bellini); 90¢ - The Virgin and Child (C. Dolci). Designed by J.E. Cooter and lithographed by Questa in panes of 25 on CA watermarked paper.

1 NOV 73 ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. 35¢ and \$1.00.

ST. KITTS - NEVIS

1 OCT 73 70TH ANNIV. OF FIRST ST. KITTS - NEVIS STAMP. Revised release date.

ST. KITTS - NEVIS (cont.)

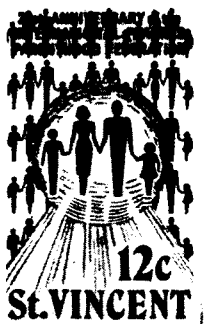
1 NOV 73 ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. 25¢ and 40¢.

ST. LUCIA

17 OCT 73 CHRISTMAS 1973. 5¢ - The Virgin and Child (C. Maratti); 15¢ - The Virgin in The Meadow (Raffael Santi); 35¢ - The Holy Family (Bronzini); 50¢ - Madonna of the Pear (Albrecht Durer). The original paintings are located in Vienna, in the Kunsthistorisches Museum. Designed by J.E. Cooter and lithographed by Walsall Security Printers Ltd. in panes of 25 on CA watermarked paper.

1 NOV 73 ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. 40¢ and 50¢.

3 DEC 73 \$10 DEFINITIVE. Stamp will feature a colored map of St. Lucia. Designed by J.E. Cooter and lithographed by Questa in panes of 25. CA watermark.



ST. VINCENT

3 OCT 73 THE 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION. Two stamps, 12¢ and 40¢, in different designs, as illustrated. Designed by PAD Studio and lithographed by Walsall in panes of 25 stamps on CA watermarked paper.

1 NOV 73 ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. 50¢ and 70¢.

1 NOV 73 ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. (St. Vincent Grenadines). 25¢ and \$1.00.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

22 OCT 73 CHRISTMAS 1973. 5¢ and \$1, both portraying Murillo's Virgin and Child, and a souvenir sheet containing one of each value. Designed by PAD Studio and photo-gravure printed by Harrison & Sons Ltd.

TURKS & CAICOS

1 NOV 73 ROYAL WEDDING OMNIBUS. 12¢ and 18¢.

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

NEW BARBADOS POST OFFICE TO REPLACE ST. LAWRENCE --- by Frank L. Gibbons

A new Worthing Post Office was scheduled to open on Monday, 15th October 1973, to replace the St. Lawrence P.O. The latter office was actually located in Worthing, next door to the Worthing Police Station, just before one reaches the St. Lawrence Gap Road when travelling east on the highway along Barbados' south coast. It inherited the St. Lawrence name from an earlier location. The old office was definitely in a dangerous spot, around a bend of the very narrow road, and almost "on the road". It was also too small for the present business, for in recent years many new hotels and apartments have been built in the area it serves.

I don't know if any announcement was made on the radio or T.V., but there was only a small notice in the press headed "Opens on Monday". Even the Post Office staff at St. Lawrence did not seem aware of what was happening. As all Post Offices in Barbados close Friday PM and do not reopen until Monday AM, I dropped two covers for Eric Heyer in the box on Friday so they would get the last date from the old P.O. I also dropped 6 covers in the "hold box" in an attempt to get the cancellation of Monday, October 15th. Sad to say, instead of the mark I was seeking, Eric reports that all of the latter 6 arrived with the G.P.O. cancel!

Presumably postmarks reading "Worthing" will be employed by the new office, and thus after just over 40 years the name St. Lawrence will disappear from the Barbados postal scene.

OUR SECRETARY REPORTS:

NEW MEMBERS:

All applicants listed on page 123 of the Aug. 1973 Journal have been admitted to membership.

NEW APPLICANTS:

HEAP, Walter R. C., 196 Bramhall Lane, Davenport, Stockport, Cheshire, England. Barr-
ister. Bermuda. By M.D. Watts
MARTIN, L.W., Jr. (Larry), P.O. Box 1061, Bellaire, TX 77401. Stamp Dealer.
British America. By G.J. Raymond
PROUD, Edward, 25 Meeting House Lane, Brighton, Sussex, BN1 1JS, England. Stamp
Dealer. Postal History of all British Colonies up to Independence. By C.E. Cwiakala
SALTZMAN, Kathryn M., 12205 Gorham Ave., #2, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Travel Book
Editor. All BWI up to QE II. Specialty - Jamaica and Leeward Islands. By G.J. Raymond
STEIN, Robert W., 628 Country Lane., Glencoe, IL 60022. Salesman. General British and
Leeward Islands (used). By A.N. Johnson
THOMPSON, Arthur, 30 High Thorpe Crescent, Gleethorpes, Lincs., England. Company
Director. Jamaica. By A.P.D. Sutcliffe
WIKE, Ronald Gordon, c/o Dunlop Trinidad Ltd., Point Fortin, Trinidad, W.I. Tyre Tech-
nical Manager. Trinidad, Great Britain, Canada. By A.N. Johnson
WININGER, John D., 9214 Glover Lane, Louisville, KY 40222. Computer Operator. US and
Possessions, UN, Canal Zone, British Empire (KG VI & QE II). By A.N. Johnson

DECEASED MEMBER:

We regret to report the death on 6th October 1973, of G. Scott Brooks of Montreal, Quebec, Canada, at the age of 81. He was a member of our Group for the past eight years.

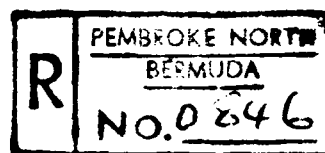
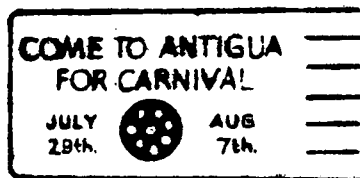
CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

CAMACHO, John, 1243 - 23rd Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404.
CARTER, Mrs. Betty, 135 Caulder Drive, Oakville, Ontario, Canada, L6J 4T2.
CASSIBRY, Hugh W., 3243 Nottingham Road, Ocean Springs, MS 39564.
COOK, R.F.W., 13 Broomhill Drive, Leeds LS17 6JW, England.
DODGE, William G., Box 121, New London, NH 03257.
HOWARD, Ray A., 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.
KELLNER, Mark A., P.O. Box 7418, Rego Park, NY 11374.
KINCH, Roy L., 54 Chantry Lane, London Colney, Herts., England.
McFARLANE, J.R., 10 Covington Close, Kingston 10, Jamaica, W.I.
PINKERTON, Earl C., P.O. Box 162, Philadelphia, PA 19105.

SAVILLE, Peter H., The Surgery, The Public Rooms, Quay St., Truro, Cornwall, England.
SAWYER, Charles E., 3333 West Alabama Street, Houston, TX 77006.
SHILSTONE, H.M., Jr., 2511 Avalon Place, Houston, TX 77019.
TUFFS, William S., 1119 43rd Avenue, Apt. #41, Sacramento, CA 95822.
WALKER, Bryan J., 217 Wright Street, Fredericton, NB, Canada.
WERTH, Richard T., 945 East Kenilworth Avenue, Apt. 129, Palatine, IL 60067.
WHALEN, John B., P.O. Box 3321, Crofton, MD 21113.

BITS & PIECES from HERE & THERE

ANTIGUA -- Bill Cornell quotes Gil Holmes to the effect that the machine slogan shown below was used to right of cds at St. John's recently. First day of use was June 15th, 1973. It was to advertise the Carnival festival, for which a commemorative issue was released on JUL 30. According to Tom Giraldi, this slogan was still in use on July 24th, 1973.



BAHAMAS -- Tom Giraldi reports several new Bahamas items. A newspaper he received in February 1973 from the Cayman Islands bears a new "MISSENT TO BAHAMAS" rubber stamp mark on its wrapper. The serified letters are 4 mm high, and the length is 56 mm. On the back of the wrapper is a strike of a circular TRD (slightly flattened) of about 37-38 mm, that reads NASSAU, BAHAMAS/FEB 22, 1973/(?.?.) 2. The letters before the 2 might be S or C as the tops are curved as in those letters. Both strikes are in violet. Perhaps our member in Nassau, Joe Lleida can further identify this mark and the G.P.O. section using it.

Also from Tom is a new BIMINI TRD in blue ink, dated AUG 17 1973. It is similar in text to Type C7, but somewhat smaller measuring 35½ mm vertically and 37 mm horizontally on his slightly flattened strike, whereas C7 has a diameter of about 43 mm. The letters are also of a different type style, having very thick vertical members.

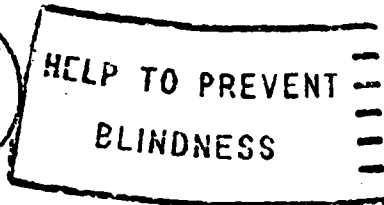
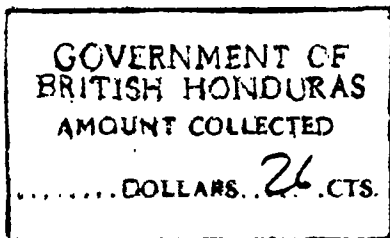
BERMUDA -- As a followup to Bruce Walker's report on the deterioration of the "MISSENT TO BERMUDA" handstamp between 4 MAY 1967 and 23 SEP 1970, Kil Bump advises he has a cover with a new "missent" strike. Backstamped in Hamilton, 23 FEB 1972, it bears a new, cleanly cut mark with the same wording, but only 62 mm long, compared to 87 mm of the old mark. It also differs in the type and shape of the letters, which are narrow and sans serif.

From Tom Giraldi comes a Registered cover of Pembroke North, 25 MAY 73, bearing a new rubber stamp registry mark of the label format. The strike is in red ink and it is illustrated above. Do the other Bermuda offices have similar marks?

BRITISH HONDURAS (BELIZE) -- A rubber stamp used for receipting payment was used as a franking mark on an air mail letter from the Belize Tourist Organization, Belize City to a travel agency in Chicago. It is shown on page 157. Tom Giraldi wonders if this might mean there was a shortage of stamps at the Belize City P.O., but we think it more likely that it is in the nature of an official mark, the Belize Tourist Organization being either a government or quasi-government agency. The 26¢ 'collected' is probably a bookkeeping transfer of funds

from it to the P.O. We have seen earlier covers with "Amount Collected" marks of the same sort reading "Secretariat Belize" used to frank them. Perhaps Trevor Bates can provide us with further information as to the use of these marks. Incidentally, the first cover noted has a 1 AUG 73, Belize City, British Honduras cds, so it appears the B.H. marks are still being used despite the name change of the country to Belize.

Further to this statement, Tom provides two covers of 23 JUL 1973 franked with the over-printed Belize definitives, both having the machine cancel with cds still reading Belize, Br. Honduras. A new slogan "HELP TO PREVENT/BLINDNESS" is used on the machine. Gilbert Jones also mentioned this new slogan. He wrote to the PMG of Belize to get a more legible strike of it, and received one as illustrated below. It will be noted that it shows a new cds reading BELIZE, showing that by 17 OCT 1973, or earlier, change to the new country name had begun. The curve in the slogan is due to the paper shifting in the machine.



BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS -- The "SUPPORT THE RED CROSS" slogan saw use again during 1973. Tom Giraldi notes a 4 JUN 1973 strike, and Gus McVicker one of 21 JUN 1973.

Bill Bogg notes that a new "Post Office Rules 1973" has replaced "Postal Rules & Regulations 1955". Copies, including new postage rates, are available at the GPO, Road Town at \$1.25.

TURKS & CAICOS -- Lou Zell tells us the Postmaster at Grand Turk has available a deposit new issue service. Lou has used this for about eight months and finds the service quite good, although the mail from there is very slow. Notice of the service is in the form of an improvised mailer, an 8 1/2" x 13 3/4" sheet folded in four, lengthwise, and secured with a staple. On the face is the common Grand Turk cds, "On Postal Service" in script, and a blue Air Mail label of the standard British variety.

POST MARKS

In the past two years we have supplied fellow members of the B.C.P.S.G. with manuscript cancels of Ville Case and Wesley, Dominica- the very rare Peruvian Vale of St. Vincent-Anageda B.V.I. TRD the second recorded in copy — the 1967 St. Kitts TRD of Anguilla and many, many more.

Recent find — the elusive FOREST, ANGUILLA postmark with clear strike

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P. S. The 1973 Literature List is now available free on request.

Personal Mention:

AL BRANSTON enjoyed an excellent lunch in London recently with BOB & HELEN LOVETT. There was much talk on Group topics, especially the Library which Bob notes is not too often utilized by the members. Al hopes to find some books to donate therein.

Recent recipients of BCPSG Medals at several exhibitions include GEORGE BOWMAN, Silver for Antigua entry at SESCOAL; DICK HIGGINS, Bronze for Barbados at CORNPEX; and DAN WARREN, Pewter for prestamp Trinidad & Tobago Ship Markings at MIDAPHIL. In the UK, JOHN CHALLIS won a BCPSG Bronze at the ESSEX COUNTY show.

GALE J. "Ramblin'" RAYMOND has just been elected a FELLOW of the Royal Geographical Society. Among other things a Geographer, he has made field studies in many remote spots around the globe as an area specialist on the governmental level.

Summer and early autumn have seen many of our BCPSGers off on travels. In June, JOHN BUCKNER visited the UK where he managed a visit with BERT LATHAM in Surrey, and one with NAT SURTEES in Shropshire. To make the trip complete, he then journeyed further north and in Yorkshire met with DEREK SUTCLIFFE, TONY SHEPHERD and a few of the local collectors.

DOROTHY & EDDIE ADELSON having been to most of the northern countries of South America, decided to check out the southern part of that continent, and in mid-October dropped us a card from Argentina.

The islands continue to lure JOAN and PAUL LARSEN, but this time it was Hawaii rather than the Caribbean. A good preparation for a rugged Chicago winter!

JOHN CRONIN also travelled, but his was in the line of duty. His employer dispatched him to Sharjah on the Arabian Gulf, where he will work for about three months.

A card from PETER McCANN explains why he

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is in Strasbourg, France. He is doing basic work in biological mechanisms of cancer, and expects also to have a faculty position at the University of Strasbourg.

AND AS WE GO TO PRESS:

A clipping from the Miami Herald provided us by John Gavelek, reports the recent death of Basil L. Rowe, age 77. If the name seems to have a familiar ring to you, it should. He was Pan American Airways' No. 1 pilot for some 30 years, and during his first 10 years with PAA, he surveyed more new routes and flew more air mail first flights than any other person.

Charles Lindbergh often accompanied Rowe on these first flights for publicity purposes, and the part played by Rowe was overshadowed by the glamour of the Lindbergh name. When he retired from PanAm in 1956, Rowe had made 28,870 individual flights, covering 5,883,775 miles and totaling 35,570 hours!

BCPSG was allotted 50 frames for members' exhibits at APS STAMPEDE '74 in Miami next April 19-21. Plan now to enter an exhibit and drop a line to Ed Adelson, Box 333, Uleta, FL 33164, and tell him the approximate number of frames you can fill. Ed has signed up for 3 so we have 47 more to go!

The Albuquerque Post Office postmarked the copies of the August Journal going to Canada and overseas with the wrong month! We did not get them into the mail until September 12, so service was not quite as poor as the date in the postmark would indicate! This October issue will also be mailed late - probably in the latter part of November. We regret this tardiness, but have had to take time off to attend to other things and for a vacation.

Space does not permit inclusion of a report on our SESCAL meeting in Los Angeles, but we will provide it in the December Journal. For the nonce, we can say that it was a very good session, with BCPSG well represented among the exhibitors (and award winners). While we missed a few members we had hoped to see at the meeting, it was a pleasure to meet others for the first time. If you missed this one, try to make Miami next April and NOJEX in 1975.

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