

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

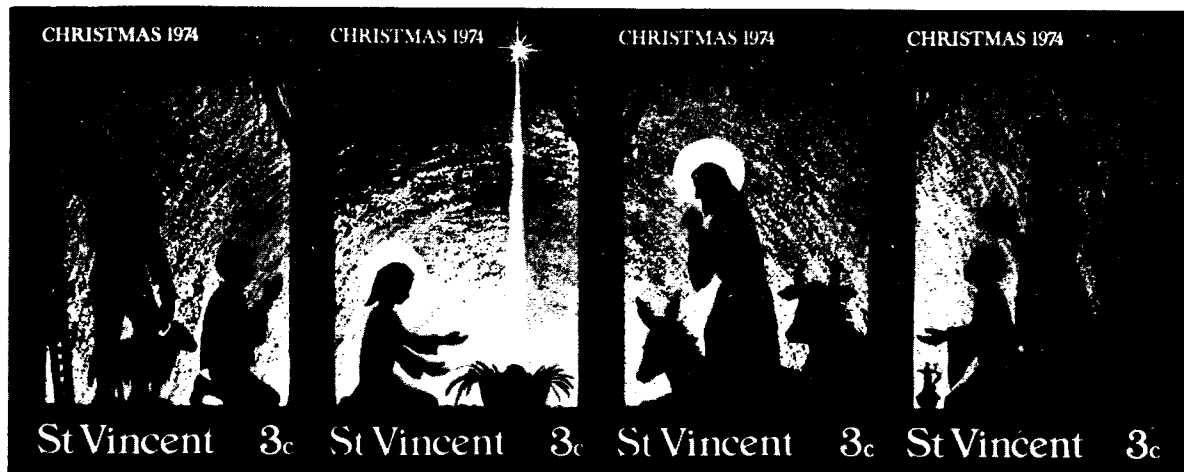
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Season's Greetings





THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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To those members who missed the President's Message in the October Journal, I extend my apologies. Elaine and Stan have worked so rapidly that the October Journal was ready for the printer before I could think about writing. Working on this letter in November, I am hopeful that I will not be too late again.

One of the key positions in the BCPSG is that of Group Leader for each country or colony. By assembling items of interest and by assuring regular publication of data and information on their specialty, the Group Leaders provide a continuing source of new information for all members. For the sake of those not familiar with the present Group Leaders, the names of those currently serving are listed below:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Antigua | W.G. (Bill) Cornell |
| Bahamas | G.J. (Gale) Raymond |
| Grenada | W.D. (Dan) Walker |
| Jamaica | R. (Bob) Topaz |
| Leeward Islands | S.C. (Stan) Durnin |
| St. Lucia | G.G. (Geoff) Ritchie |
| Turks & Caicos | L.E. (Louis) Zell |

If any have been omitted from this list, would you please make this known to Stan Durnin so that he can amend this list in a subsequent journal. Other members who have a favorite country not listed above should indicate their willingness to serve as group leader to Stan, also. A new membership list is in preparation so you will be able to contact others with a like interest.

Perhaps you ask what is expected of a Group Leader. Here are some thoughts offered to stir the imagination. Each leader should maintain a file of data on his specialty so as to be able to respond to inquiries from other members or to assist them in their research studies. Having answers is not as essential as being able to suggest sources of information. A group leader should also act as a clearing house for informa-

(Continued on page 135)

More on...Bermuda Prize Court Mail

by Jack Arnell

In the August 1972 Journal, Lincoln Kieffer described two covers which were backstamped "Released by Prize Court" and datestamped HAMILTON, BERMUDA 3 FEB 50. He wrote to me recently to ask whether any further information was available on such covers. I can only describe several World War II activities having a direct bearing on the subject and draw some conclusions from them as a way of explaining the existence of these covers.

During the war, Bermuda was made the focal point for contraband control of ships and cargoes attempting to run the allied blockade of Europe and to reach the neutral countries of the American continent, including the United States until Pearl Harbor. Coupled with this operation was a large censorship organization, which operated in the Princess Hotel.

When ships suspected of carrying cargoes or mails from Germany or German-occupied countries were captured by the British navy, they were usually sent to Bermuda for examination and possible confiscation. Any mails were turned over to the censors for scrutiny by trained experts looking for secret messages for covert agents and similar information. My younger sister worked in this organization after she finished school and was directly involved in this type of work. She was found to have the knack of recognizing the handwriting of a number of known German agents and had the job of going through all captured mail looking for letters from these agents. When found, these letters were then examined by the cryptographic experts.

There must have been a lot of mail which was of no interest to allied intelligence and was just put to one side until the war was over. A Prize Court was set up in Bermuda to adjudicate the claims of the original owners of the captured cargoes or their agents for their return. If a ruling was made in the claimant's favor, the goods would be "Released". After the war, all the accumulated mail would have been released in the same way, as time permitted. After release, it would have been stamped "Released by Prize Court" and then posted like any other mail, receiving a regular datestamp and nothing else. Aubry Manuel, the Bermuda Postmaster General during this period, has confirmed that this mail did not receive any special treatment and therefore passed through the G.P.O. unnoticed except for a datestamp to record its date of mailing.

Hence the "Released by Prize Court" stamp is a judicial mark and has nothing to do with the postal service. This is not to say that it is not an interesting marking to have in a collection.

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The Posts of St. Lucia

Part 2

by Geoffrey G. Ritchie

SECTION 2 CANCELLATIONS USED AT CASTRIES (continued)

In 1937 a radical change was made in the design of the regular cancellations. The double-ring type with "killer" blocks was introduced with the wording CASTRIES ST. LUCIA, and for the first time in St. Lucia the time of posting was shown. Two stamps differing in the size of the lettering were used (C15-C16), but these are more easily differentiated by the position of the full stop after ST. Type C15 may have been kept in reserve since only four strikes have been seen, two being on FDC of the 1937 Coronation and the 1946 Peace respectively. After some 10 years the letters GPO were added (C17-C18); C17 had a long life with a gap between 1964 and 1971, but C18 has been seen only on FDC of the 1951 Reconstruction of Castries issue.

For some reason a new single circle (C19) made a fleeting appearance in 1959. Of this, only one strike has been encountered. In this "Saint" was represented by two capital letters ST, a full-sized T having replaced the small I as standard in all date stamps of St. Lucia (with one exception) made from 1937 onwards.

In 1964 Type C17 was temporarily withdrawn in favour of the "Birmingham" type of double ring with arcs instead of blocks at the sides. Four individual stamps can be distinguished, but C22 has been seen only on a single Shakespeare FDC. After 1966 Types C21 and C23 were apparently used mainly on FDC's. For some reason the Birmingham type does not seem to have found complete favour and, probably in 1971, Type C17 was brought back and the similar Type 32c is in use today. The single ring again reappeared with Types C24 and 25; this also was the favoured type for FDC's, for which they were specially suitable as no time was included.

Thus, in late 1972 several different types of cancellation were in general use -- C17, C23 and single-rings C24 and C25. In addition, at one of the counter positions Type C9 had been put into temporary use for registered mail. Then a spate of new stamps appeared. It was decided to give each counter clerk her own date stamp, mainly for registration and postal orders, and single rings numbered 1 to 4 were put into use around 23rd October, together with Birmingham types with figures 1 and 2 in the time slot. As this was rectangular, the position of the numeral can vary. With registered letters one odd point is that the letter and the receipt are not necessarily stamped with the same date stamp. For example, I have a letter cancelled with single ring no. 2 and the receipt has Birmingham no. 1.

Following a change in Postmaster, many of these numbered stamps had a short life, 4 being particularly scarce. A new stamp similar to Type C18 was introduced; this was first used on local letters with the time space blank (C32a), and later with an asterisk inserted (C32b), which again could take up different positions in the slot. In spite of the similarity of the position of the full stop in ST. to that in Type C18, this is a new stamp which, finally, with the time inserted in the usual way, replaced C17 for regular use.

This seemed to have brought the Castries cancellations right up to date. However, a letter just received was cancelled with Type C22, which, as mentioned above, previously was known from only one strike in 1964. Perhaps, therefore, at this point a list of the date stamps known still to be held in the GPO at Castries in August 74 may be given. Guy Kilburn has provided strikes of C9, C10, C21, C22, C24, C26, C30,



C15



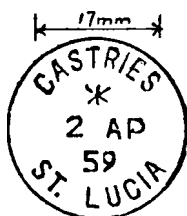
C16



C17



C18



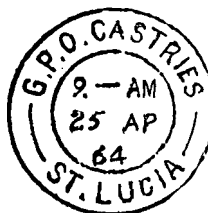
C19



C20



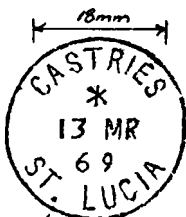
C21



C22



C23



4mm

C24



3mm

C25



C26



C27



C28



C29



C30



C31



C32a



C32b



C32c

C31, C32c and the machine date die, described below. Thus the possibility exists that any of these may be brought into use at any time.

Standard Double Circle with Killer Blocks

C15	Small letters and full stop close to ST.	2. 3.37	22.11.47
C16	Larger letters and stop further from ST .	9. 3.37	31. 5.47

Similar, but G.P.O. added

C17	Stop separated from ST . Short thin blocks	13. 3.48	18. 5.74
C18	Stop close to ST. Longer thicker blocks	29. 5.51	----

Single Ring 24 mm Diameter. T in ST now Full Size, with close Full Stop

C19	Castries 17 mm in length	2. 4.59	----
-----	--------------------------	---------	------

Double-ring Birmingham Type with Arcs instead of Blocks

C20	Tall letters, stop spaced from ST .	1. 3.64	2. 2.70
C21	Tall letters, stop close to ST.	23. 4.64	16.10.67
C22	Shorter letters, ST. L widely spaced	23. 4.64	----
	Re-introduced about	3. 8.74	current
C23	Shorter letters, ST.L closely spaced	24. 1.66	12. 6.73

Single Ring 24 mm Diameter

C24	Full stop 4 mm from L	13. 3.69	19. 4.73
C25	Full stop 3 mm from L	18. 8.70	8. 6.73

Numbered Single-ring Series, generally Similar to Type C25

C26	No. 1	23.10.72	20. 8.74
C27	No. 2	?	6. 3.73
C28	No. 3	23.10.72	16. 5.74
C29	No. 4	23.10.72	8. 1.73

Numbered Birmingham Type. Number may be at Right or Left

C30	No. 1	?	6. 3.73
C31	No. 2	23.10.72	1. 8.74

New Stamp, generally Similar to Type C18, but CASTRIES Closer to G.P.O.

C32a	Blank time space	25. 7.73	----
C32b	Asterisk in time space, position variable	10. 8.73	17,12.73
C32c	Normal time figures	3. 8.74	current

All stamps discussed until now have been hand stamps, but Castries possesses also a cancelling machine. This was probably first used in 1957, but it has not been put to continuous use because of the local habit of sticking the adhesives anywhere on the envelope except the usual corner. As shown in MC1 and MC2 the machine is used with either a slogan or wavy lines. So far there has been only the one slogan, and the date-stamp die used is as pictured in MC1 - MC4. However, there exists today in the GPO a die (MCE) which was probably prepared in the days (1958-1962) when The West Indies existed as a political unit. It is not certain whether this was ever used, and if anyone can report a copy it would be of great interest.

Recently a new regular use has been found for the machine. Late in 1972 the electricity services began mailing their accounts to customers franked OFFICIAL PAID

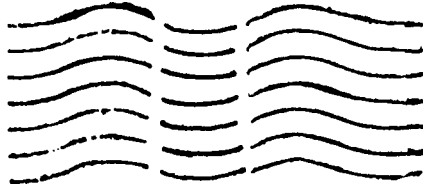


MCE



VISIT SUNNY
ST LUCIA

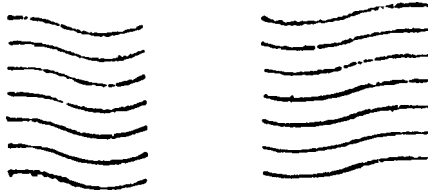
MCI



MC2



MC3



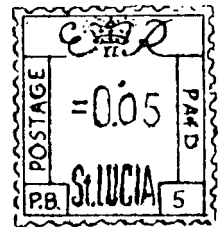
MC4



P1



P2



MM1



P3

CASTRIES
ST. LUCIA.

P4

PARCEL
POST

P5

as shown in MC3. The central plug is removable and may read up or down, and due to forgetfulness in changing the machine back to its normal condition the OFFICIAL PAID slug can be found cancelling adhesives on ordinary letters. The cancellation can also be found in the state shown in MC4, where the centre of the lines has not been replaced. Naturally, the entire wavy-line part also can be inserted inverted. This OFFICIAL PAID slug was in existence in 1968 (see Devaux, BCPJ, Dec. 1968), and reports of use earlier than 1972 are required.

Castries parcel cancellations are limited and appear to be very rare as this type of cancellation has always been unsightly and thus little preserved by "stamp" collectors. Two rubber cancellers were used on soft packets to avoid damage to the contents, but neither is in use today and little is known about them. In the St. Lucia Philatelist, Type P1 is said to have been worn out by 1944, and the author's one copy is on a pictorial George V sixpence of the 1936 issue; no strike of P2 has been seen. A strike of a similar stamp (P3) of intermediate size has been found by Guy Kilburn in Col. Reid's note book. This possibly dates from the 1950's and is obviously from a stamp in new condition, but it is not known if this was ever used. The same note book also showed a hitherto unknown cancellation (P4). Again it is not known whether this is a "favour" cancellation, or whether it was actually used. The metal stamp P5 exists today in the GPO, but the handle is broken and it is not in use. It may have been used to cancel adhesives on parcels, and evidence is required on this.

MACHINE CANCELLATIONS

MC1	With slogan VISIT SUNNY ST LUCIA	4.12.57	current
MC2	With wavy lines, normal or inverted	1.12.64	current
MC3	OFFICIAL PAID, reading up or down	10.11.72	current
MC4	Blank centre to wavy lines	- . 4.73	-----

PARCEL CANCELLATIONS

Rubber Stamp with CASTRIES ST.LUCIA between Bars (P1-P3)

P1	27 mm diameter approx.	1936?	1944?
P2	35 mm diameter approx.	?	?
P3	31 mm diameter approx.	?	?
P4	CASTRIES ST.LUCIA. unframed in two lines	?	?
P5	PARCEL POST in rectangular frame (metal)	?	?

METER FRANK MARKS

Meter marks are the modern equivalents of the pre-stamp paid marks, and are also struck in red. The machines used in St.Lucia are Pitney Bowes, with the registered number of the user in the bottom righthand corner of the impression. There is sometimes a slogan to the left of the date stamp.

Pitney Bowes Meter. Red impression.

MM1	Licensee Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6	22. 8.73	current
	1. J.E.Bergasse & Co Ltd	- slogan always	
	2. Barclays Bank	- slogan sometimes	
	3. Bank of Nova Scotia	- slogan sometimes	
	4. Minvielle and Chastanet Ltd	- slogan always	
	5. Chase Manhattan Bank	- slogan sometimes	
	6. Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	- ?	

This is a suitable point at which to record our great appreciation of the help obtained by Guy Kilburn from Mrs Annette James, who was Postmistress until recently, and from Senior Postman Gregory (Peck) Lewis. Their co-operation and interest has been invaluable in uncovering information which would otherwise have remained inaccessible and in providing official evidence of conclusions which might otherwise have remained surmise.

(to be continued)

THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Recently, an uncle of mine, who is in his eighties and lives in Toronto, sent me a couple of dollars with a request to buy him a selection of Bermuda stamps to give to some neighborhood children. When he got them, he was so taken with them that he kept most of them to enjoy himself, even though he has never been a collector.

He was a Greek professor for many years and in acknowledging the receipt of these stamps, he gave me a short lesson in linguistics on the derivation of the word PHILATELIST. I am so intrigued by the implications of his remarks that I am quoting the pertinent paragraphs of his letter. In doing so, I am not suggesting that we should begin calling ourselves PHILO-TELISTS, although in these inflationary days of ever-increasing postal rates, we might consider doing so.

He wrote in part:

'I'm not in any sense at all a stamp collector not even a dilettante 'philatelist'.

By the way the Greeks (who ought to know) say that the French who apparently coined the word and the English who followed after - and the other enthusiasts in their train - got the word all wrong suggesting the idea of 'free from tax' - exemption from payment.

The a in philatelist as the French first shaped it is the mark of negation - cf. atheist amoral aphasia (and for a scientist like yourself atom).

The Greeks say that everybody has got it wrong except themselves - that it ought to be 'philotelist'. That's what I am. Stamps (letters) require payment. "

In another vein, through the sterling efforts of Elaine Durnin, we are back on an even keel. My August issue arrived today and it was with great pleasure that I read it through. I am sure all of you will join me in thanking the Durnins for stepping into the breach and picking up at short notice the time-consuming job of typing the final copy and doing the layout work, which is so important to the appearance of a magazine.

Although I have suggested the possibility of making up the missing issue, I cannot hold out much hope until I receive considerable more material than is coming in at present. I do not blame many of you for holding back, because you were getting nothing from us. However, by now you should have had lots to read during the past couple of months. So come forward with the choice stories of your latest findings, be they big or small.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy 1975.

JACK

CORRECTION:

The illustrations for Colin Bayley's "The Surinam-British Guiana Covers" article which appeared on pages 41-43 in the June BCPJ were inadvertently interchanged. The cover signified as Figure 1 should really be that of Figure 2 and vice-versa. Also, on page 41 "AD3" should read "AO3".

A NEW JAMAICA FISCAL

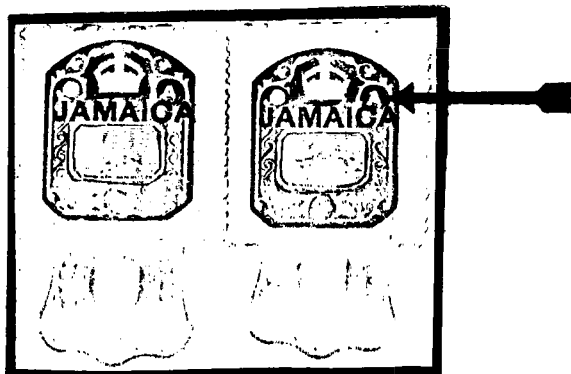
by Charles Cwiakala

While mounting an accumulation of Jamaican marine insurance fiscals in a comprehensible manner, I find that I may have a hitherto "unrecorded" item which may merit interest by our fellow BCPSGers.

The collection of these fiscals were being mounted using Byron R. Cameron's excellent article in the BCPJournal ("Marine Insurance Fiscals of Jamaica", Whole No. 61, June 1971, pp. 77-79). For further reference, the Forbin catalogue was consulted ("Catalogue de Timbres-Fiscaux", A. Forbin, Published by Yvert & Tellier, Paris, 1915, p. 546).

My accumulation of these fiscals readily checked out with Byron's listings for the 1899, 1903, 1913 and 1926 issues. However, one item, on an original document, contains an issue which does not appear to be included in Byron's listing.

A die letter appears in varying locations on these fiscals to designate the embossing plate used. For the 1913 issue, Byron indicates that the 9d value (No. M42) includes the die letter "B". However, on the photocopy below (25% reduction) the stamps which appear on a document are two copies of the 9d value which include the die letter "A".



These fiscals are definitely of the 1913 issue, being ultramarine in color, of the small size, and with the Type II (sans-serif) overprint. The document is dated 21 NOV 1919 and relates to the shipment of "one case of dry goods" on the ship "Klondyke" consigned to C.H. Bodden & Co. in Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands. The embossed vermilion cancel, which did not reproduce in the copying, is dated 20.11.19 (20 NOV 1919), tying the fiscals to the document.

It is possible that more than one die was used for the 1913 9d issue; more than one die was used for identical values on the previous issues (e.g. 1899 1/- value has dies "R" and "T"; 1903 2/- value has dies "G" and "I"). I would be interested in knowing whether BCPSG members possess values of these marine insurance fiscals with die letters other than noted in Byron's article, especially for the 1913 and 1926 issues. Finally, it would also be of interest to find if any of the members have individual values of these fiscals which are not listed in Byron's article.

ST. VINCENT GRENADINES - The current St. Vincent 5¢ definitive overprinted for the St. Vincent Grenadines has been found with one stamp (sheet position unknown) incorrectly inscribed "Bamier" while the adjoining copy reads the correct "Ramier". The notification in Britain's "Stamp Collecting Weekly" relates that close examination of the pair shows that the "B" is correctly screened for photogravure printing, thus excluding the possibility of faking.

NOTES ON BARBADOS

by Eric Heyer

The following are excerpts from an old Barbados Almanac of 1880. Like the Almanac of 1889 described in the BCPJ of October 1972 (Vol. 12, No. 69, page 143), it contains all the details and facts pertaining to the island's government and its departments as well as its civil and commercial organizations.

It also contains a calendar for the year 1880 with chronological notes as to Holidays, Solar Cycle etc., as well as blank spaces for each day to record the rain gage reading, payments received and made by the owner Mr. E.A. Pilgrim, who, I have been told, was the brother of the Moravian minister at that time at Mount Tabor.

About twenty pages in the back contain notes by the owner on fertilizer, corn planting dates, medical prescriptions and other details pertaining to his plantation and family.

The interesting parts to the postal history researcher are, of course, the details about the post office, its personnel, postal rates and the schedule of mail and paquebots. Interesting to me, as an old sailboat enthusiast, were pages 5-7 of the Almanac, which showed in color the various pennants used for signals from the Commercial Signal Stations to indicate what type of ship or boat was in sight and approaching the island; from men of war to commercial and mailboats.

His Excellency Major G. C. Strahan, R.A., was the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Barbados, as well as the islands of St. Vincent, Tobago, Grenada and St. Lucia. He was also the Chancellor Ordinary and Vice-Admiral of these same islands.

Excerpts have only been taken from sections relating to the post office. Anyone interested in some of the other political or legislative details can get in touch with the writer or, better yet, with our member-friend Frank Gibbons of Barbados, who kindly lent me these Almanacs to make these excerpts.

POST OFFICE: (Page 26). Amounts given are annual salaries.

Colonial Postmaster, R.A.D. Bynoe	£500	Second Clerk	£120
Accountant	300	Third Clerk, E.F. Evelyn	100
First Clerk, W. Browne	170	Fourth Clerk, F.M. Bishop	100
		Fifth Clerk, S.B. Walcott	£100

Deputy Postmasters:

	No.1	St. Michael	£25	John Mayers	No.6	St. Joseph	£25
Edward Forde	No.2	Christ Church	25	Dowding Thornhill	No.7	St. James	30
J.H. Crawford	No.3	St. Philip	25	John L. Layne	No.8	St. Thomas	25
J.E. Wiles	No.4	St. George	25	Robt. H. Lewis	No.9	St. Andrews	25
R.H. Robinson	No.5	St. John's	25	Thos. R. Lawrance	No.10	St. Peter's	30
		C.H. St. John	No.11	St. Lucy			£25

5 Letter Carriers, each £30; 32 Letter Carriers, each 20; 32 Letter Receivers, each 5; 3 Mail Carriers, each 25; 1 Messenger, 30; Contractor for Conveying Inland Mails, John Roett (L402), 10.

POST OFFICE REGULATIONS & RATES OF POSTAGE - Prepaid by Local Stamps (Pp. 95-6)

Local Postage

Letters - each $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. or its fraction...1d. Newspapers - each... $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Book or Parcel Packets - each 4 ozs. or its fraction...1d.

Postage Abroad

Destination	Letter Postage		Book or Parcel Postage								
	each $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. or its fraction	Newspaper Postage ea. paper not exceeding 4 ozs.	1 oz. or its fraction	2 ozs. or its fraction	4 ozs. or its fraction	From 1 oz. to 2 ozs.	From 2 ozs. to 4 ozs.	From 4 ozs. to 6 ozs.	Every additional 2 ozs. or its fraction	Every additional 4 ozs. or its fraction	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
To the United Kingdom....	1 0	nil	0 1	-	-	0 2	0 3	-	-	0 3	
British West India Islands.	0 6	0 1	-	-	0 3	-	-	-	-	0 3	
Except Nevis	0 5	0 1	-	-	0 3	-	-	-	-	0 3	
British & Foreign Guiana .	0 6	0 1	-	-	0 3	-	-	-	-	0 3	
British North America,											
Bermuda, Bahamas	0 5	0 1	-	-	0 3	-	-	-	-	0 3	
Foreign West India Islands	0 5	0 1	-	-	0 3	-	-	-	-	0 3	
African Colonies	1 5	0 1	-	-	0 4	-	-	-	-	0 4	
Australia, New Zealand ..	1 5	0 1	-	-	0 5	-	-	-	-	0 5	
Gibraltar & Malta	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 1	-	0 2	-	-	0 3	0 5	0 2	0 1	
India.....	1 5	0 1	-	0 3	-	-	0 5	0 8	0 2	0 1	
Hong Kong.....	1 5	0 1	-	0 3	-	-	0 5	0 8	0 2	0 1	
Japan.....	1 11	0 1	-	-	0 5	-	-	-	-	0 5	
Foreign Countries not passing through the U.K...	0 5	0 1	-	-	0 3	-	-	-	-	0 3	

Note - Changes are so frequent in postage via the United Kingdom, that it is as well to enquire at the Post Office before posting.

The Inland Mails for St. Michael's Parish are made up daily (Sundays excepted) at half past 10 a.m. For other Parishes - daily at 1 p. m. Newspapers and books must be posted one hour earlier.

The Post Office authorities deliver letters addressed to the following estates in the Parish as set under, against their respective names:

Hopefield	to be addressed as in	Christ Church
Mount Pleasant	" "	St. John

Palmer's	to be addressed as in	St. John
Clifden	" " "	" "
Hill View	" " "	" "

(The above are under the head of St. Philip in the General List)

Worthing View	to be addressed as in	St. Michael's
Amity Lodge	" " "	" "
Belle Isle	" " "	" "
The Cot	" " "	" "
Abingdon	" " "	" "

(The above are under the head of Christ Church in the General List)

Hanson	to be addressed as in	Christ Church
Egerton	" " "	" "
Lemon Arbor	" " "	St. John
Jonathan W. King, near Boarded Hall	" " "	Christ Church
Boarded Hall	" " "	" "

(The above are under the head of St. George in the General List)

Fisher Pond	to be addressed as in	St. Joseph
Hillaby	" " "	St. Andrew

(The above are under the head of St. Thomas in the General List)

Risk	to be addressed as in	St. Lucy
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(The above is under the head of St. Peter in the General List)

The public is advised to address letters to the above places as directed herein, or some delay may take place in their delivery.

(Note by author - In early 1930 Postmaster General G. F. Sharp established a numbered route system which replaced the above delivery system.)

Notice

Mails for Port au Prince, Havana and Vera Cruz and for New York and Bahamas via Havana are forwarded on the 10th or 11th of each month only.

For Jacmel and Turk's Island, on the 30th of each month.

For Bermuda and Halifax and for New York and Bahamas via Bermuda, once a month according to the date of departure from St. Thomas of the Halifax packet.

ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY (Page 105)
Agents at Barbados - Messrs. M. Cavan & Co.
Superintendent at St. Thomas - J.B. Cameron, Esq.

Passenger fares from Barbados to Plymouth, Cherbourg or Southampton and vice versa; which includes the use of bedding and linen, steward's fees and all other charges, except for wines, spirits, malt liquors and mineral water:

1. For berths in cabins on lower deck, £30
2. For berths in cabins on upper deck, £40 and £43 10s,
3. Per cargo steamer on the 10th, outwards only, £25

When a whole cabin is taken for the use of one passenger, the fare will be the usual charge for one berth and half such charge for each of the other berths in the cabin.

Page 105 of the Almanac lists fares for Intercolonial Voyages in silver dollars. As examples, the fare for the long route from Antigua to Colon was 105 silver dollars while the short route cost 85 silver dollars; from Antigua to Trinidad the long route cost 45 silver dollars and the short route cost 40. A complete rate schedule can be found on page 105.

Second class passenger fares for Intercolonial Voyages are $\frac{3}{5}$ of cabin fare. Deck passenger fares are $\frac{1}{4}$ with 50 cents per day extra for victualling when the voyage exceeds 24 hours.

ROUTES AND DUE DATES OF MAIL STEAMERS (Page 106)

Southampton to Colon via St. Thomas
leaving Southampton 2, 6 p. m.

St. Thomas..... 15	Jamaica..... 9
Jamaica..... 20	St. Thomas..... 14
Colon..... 23	Plymouth..... 28

Via Barbados - leaving Southampton 17

Barbados..... 30	Jamaica..... 24
St. Thomas..... 3	Jacmel..... 25
Jacmel..... 4	St. Thomas..... 27
Jamaica..... 5	Barbados..... 29
Colon..... 8	Plymouth..... 13

St. Thomas to Demerara, via Barbados & Trinidad
leaving St. Thomas 16

St. Kitts 16	Grenada..... 20
Antigua 17	Trinidad 20
Guadeloupe..... 17	Demerara 22
Dominica..... 17	Trinidad 26
Martinique 18	Grenada..... 27
St. Lucia..... 18	St. Vincent..... 28
Barbados..... 19	St. Lucia..... 28
St. Vincent..... 19	Barbados..... 29

Barbados to Trinidad (done by Cargo Steamer)
leaving Barbados 1, 8 a. m.

St. Lucia..... 1	Grenada..... 3
St. Vincent..... 2	Trinidad 3

Barbados to Demerara and back, via Trinidad to St. Thomas
leaving Barbados 1, 9 a. m.

Tobago.....	1	St. Lucia.....	11
Demerara	3	Martinique	12
Tobago.....	8	Dominica.....	12
Trinidad	8	Guadeloupe.....	12
Grenada.....	9	Antigua.....	13
St. Vincent.....	10	St. Kitts	13
Barbados.....	10	St. Thomas.....	14

Barbados to St. Thomas - leaving 1, 3 a. m.

Martinique	1	Antigua	3
Dominica.....	2	St. Kitts	4
Guadeloupe.....	2	St. Thomas.....	5

St. Thomas to Barbados - leaving 26, 1 a. m.

St. Kitts	26	Dominica.....	27
Antigua	27	Martinique	28
Guadeloupe.....	27	Barbados.....	28

R. M. Co.'s Steamer: A steamer leaves Southampton on the 11th of each month due at Barbados on the 27th. Passage money - £25, freight on light goods - 50s to 75s per ton, weight or measurement.

Harrison Line of Steamers (Page 107)

London Brokers - Messrs. Temperleys, Carter & Dorke, 3, White Lion-Court, Cornhill
Barbados Consignees - Messrs. Louis, Son & Co.

A steamer leaves Liverpool on the 15th and 27th of each month, due at Barbados on the 2nd and 14th of the following month.

Freight on fine goods - 50s per ton, freight on other goods - 30s to 45s per ton.

For further particulars and rate of passage, application must be made to the owners, Messrs. S. Baker, Bulman & Co., 2 India-Buildings, Water Street, Liverpool.

BCPSG HOUSTON CONVENTION ----

The first Southwest convention of the BCPSG will take place in Houston, Texas, May 30 - June 1, in the Shamrock-Hilton Hotel. A total of 50 frames have been reserved for BCPSG member exhibits. Details (special hotel rates, frame reservations, etc.) may be obtained from Robert Ramey, HOUPEX '75, 9615 Emnora St., Houston, TX 77055, but please send information about your planned exhibit (number of frames desired, category, title, etc.) to Gale J. Raymond, BCPSG Coordinator, Box 35666, Houston, TX 77035 as soon as possible.

BCPSG awards will be given in addition to HOUPEX '75 awards, so reserve your frames now. We hope to see you all in Houston next spring.

EXHIBITIONS & AWARDS

BPE, LONDON

Major S. Cave of Blechingley, Surrey was the recipient of a BCPSG Bronze Award at the huge British Philatelic Exhibition held recently in London. His winning display of Barbados traced the development of the postal services on the island up to the 20th century.

EXFILMEX '74

Three BCPSG members garnered awards at the Fifth Inter-American Philatelic Exhibition held in Mexico City from 26 October to 3 November 1974. Dr. Daniel C. Warren was awarded a vermeil in the Canada, United States and possessions category, Charles I. Ball was awarded a silver in the Europe and Colonies section, while Henry Gobie won a bronze in the philatelic literature section with his "The Speedy: From Dawn to Midnight".

FLOREX

Paul Larsen displayed his Togo collection at FLOREX in Clearwater, Fla. recently and went home with a Germany Philatelic Society silver award with felicitations of the jury.

LERCPEX

John Field went home with a LERCPEX (Lockheed Employees Recreational Center Exhibition) bronze award for his unidentified (most probably Pitcairn Islands - Editor) exhibit at the October philatelic show in Burbank, California. Continued on page 147.

BAHAMAS (And Other) BITS

by The Bahamas Bum

Now that I have retired and have a little time on my hands, I decided to clean up my desk. Would you believe that by actual weight there were twenty-seven pounds of covers piled up as high as twelve inches. What a relief to have them out of the way, I now can see my typewriter; I thought it was lost!

Some time ago, I made some notes on a variety of items and offer them now as my first post-retirement effort.



Fig. 1

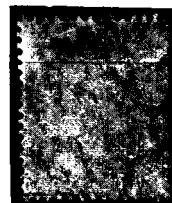


Fig. 2

Figure 1 shows Bahamas Scott No. 30 with a malformed final "E" in PENCE. Figure 2 shows a salvage on the back of a Bahamas Scott No. 72, which was the connector in a coil assembly. This confirms that coil machines were in use in the late 1920's and early 1930's during the reign of King George V.

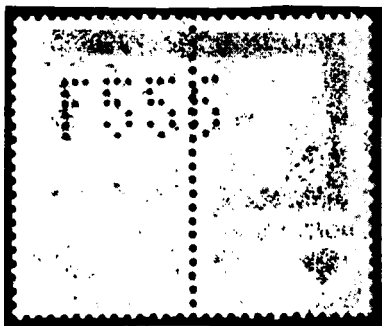


Fig. 3

The only perfin of the Bahamas I have ever seen is on a Scott No. 166 showing "F555" (Figure 3). I do not know the significance of this, but can report that the stamps came from Stanley Toogood & Co. (now a part of Lofthouse). This company was the largest photo-finisher in the Bahamas some years ago, and the stamps were attached to a Kodak film box addressed to Rochester, New York.



Fig. 4

Figure 4 shows the Olympic surcharge on a used Bahamas Scott No. 202 too high to delete the 1/- value. For comparison is a mint example of a normal surcharge. Some years ago, I saw a mint copy of a similar faulty surcharge in the Bahamas.

Figure 5 shows an irregular line of perforations on the right hand side of a Bahamas Scott No. 248. This is the only time I have seen anything like this and assume that the sheet must have moved during the perforation of this row. Has any member seen anything similar on any other stamp?

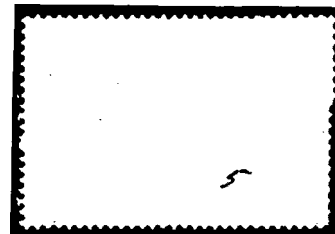


Fig. 5

The pair of St. Christopher Scott No. 22 (Figure 6) appear to have a single line deleting the original value of the first stamp and a double line through the second stamp. Is this simply the result of over-inking or is there another explanation? Any information will be appreciated, as my knowledge of St. Christopher is limited.



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

Figure 7 shows a St. Lucia Scott No. 42A with what appears to be a double surcharge. A Turks Island postmark "T1" on a Great Britain Scott No. 44 is shown in Figure 8. Is this an example of a G. B. used abroad, which were quite common in the 1870's, although normally cancelled in England, or a case of a letter which arrived at Turks Island with an uncanceled stamp? Again my lack of knowledge of covers of this period leaves me wondering whether the "T1" handstamp was used as a receiving mark on foreign mail reaching the island.

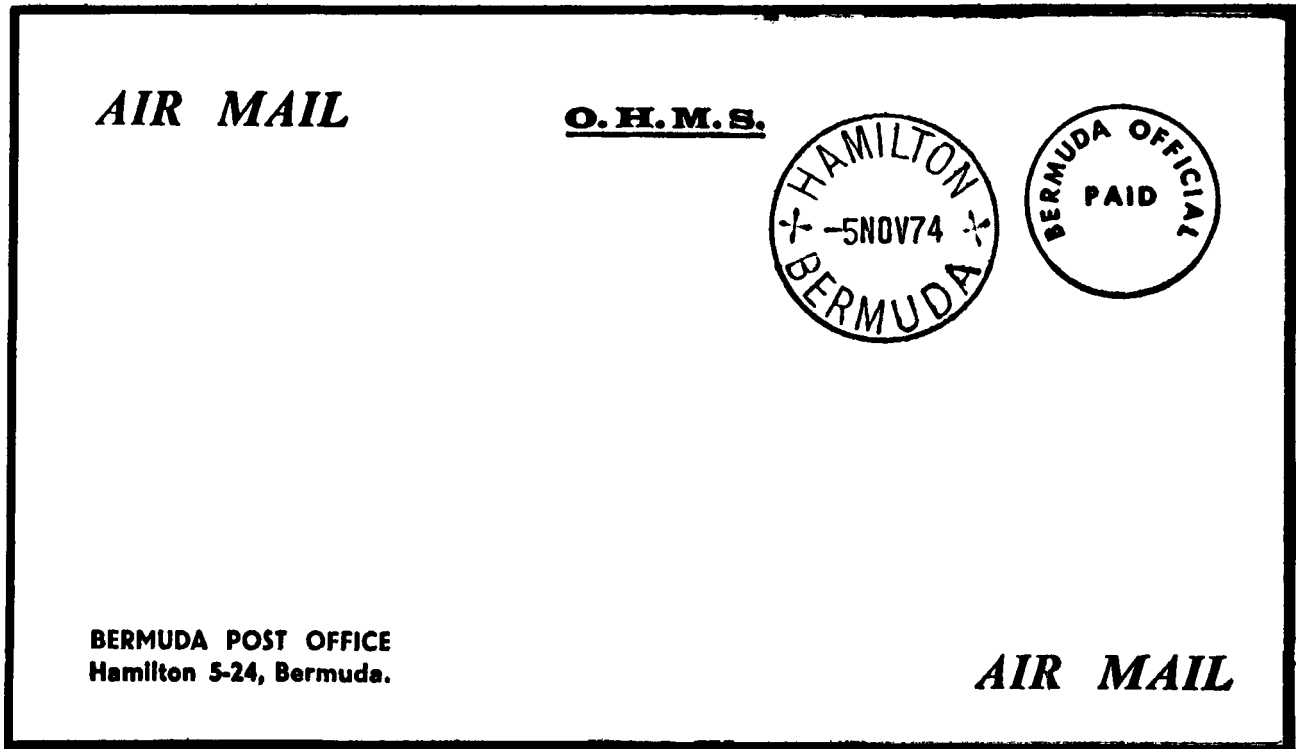
Now that the new owners of Scott's catalogue are asking for suggestions on how to improve their catalogue, write them a letter and tell them to recognize and list Independent Anguilla.

On a recent trip to Brazil, I found that the cost of sending a postcard was 2 Cruzeiros or 30¢ U.S. This is 12¢ more than that of all other South American countries and the U.S. rate to Brazil. The postal clerks were insistent that this was the rate, but could not explain why.

BITS & PIECES from HERE & THERE

ANGUILLA - Fred Seifert notes that the illustration of Anguilla's U. P. U. Centenary issue used in advertisements for that issue, shows the waters around the island labeled "Carribbean Sea". However the error in spelling was spotted somewhere along the line, and the released stamps have Caribbean properly spelled with one "R". The illustration is also incorrect in that it shows a 10¢ value, a denomination not included in the issued set.

BERMUDA - The G. P. O. has introduced a new O. H. M. S. envelope for overseas use. This has the circular OFFICIAL PAID printed on, thus eliminating the need of handstamping each envelope. This is in black ink, instead of the traditional red.



Three commemorative issues are planned for early 1975. Full details will be available when the official notices are sent out.

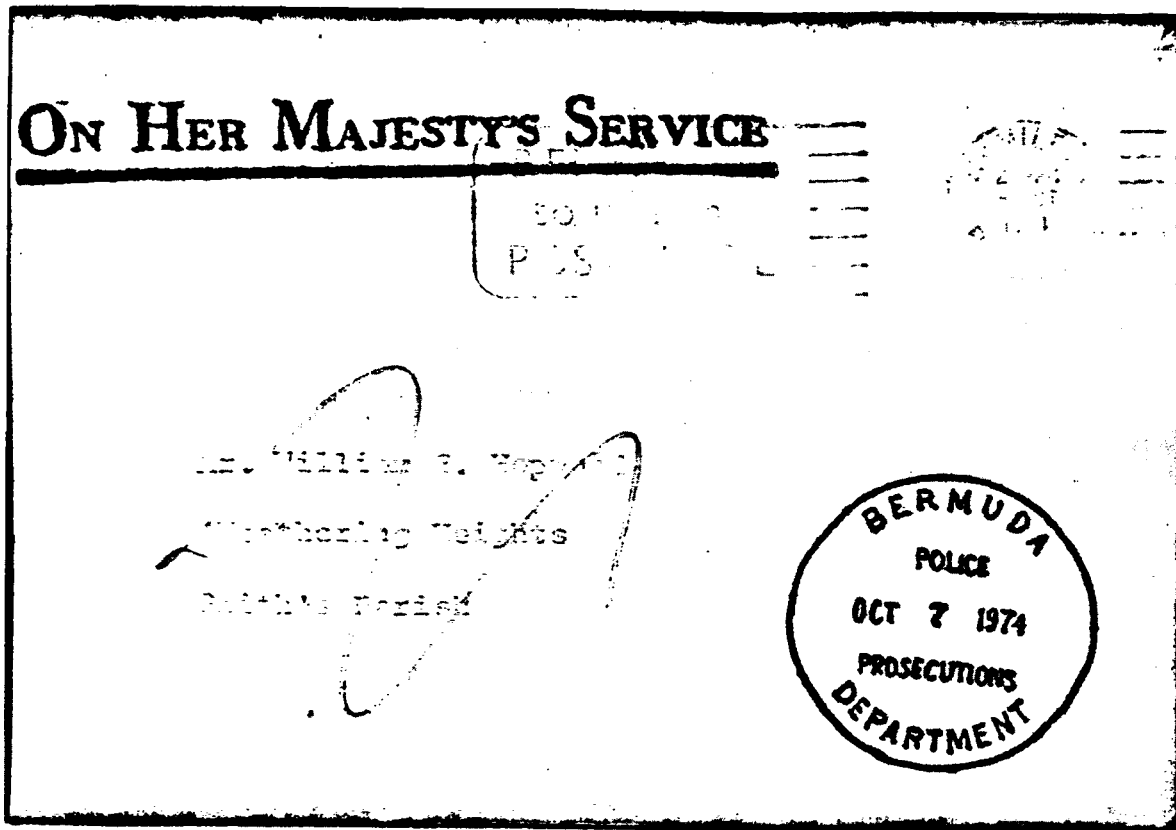
25th Anniversary of the Bermuda Cup. This is the top prize in international bridge. The first day of issue will be during the tournament competing for the cup being held at the Southampton Princess in January.

Queen's Visit. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be visiting Bermuda 16-18 February 1975.

50th Anniversary of Air Mail. Commemorating the first airmail to and from the island carried by the airship "Los Angeles" in April 1925. Geoffrey Osborn, the Assistant Director of Civil Aviation in Bermuda and a former BCPSG member produced the original designs and has promised an article discussing them.

A new official cover was obtained recently which reflects a new department of government, viz. POLICE PROSECUTIONS. The envelope was brown manilla legal size on which both the ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE and the circular TRD had been handstruck in blue. All regu-

lar government departments have properly printed envelopes, so it is presumed that this is a temporary measure until stationery could be obtained.



CAYMAN ISLANDS - King Parker Jr. has sent us a copy of a letter giving information on the inaugural flight of a regular air service between Jamaica and Cayman Islands. As the founder of Jamaica Air Transport Ltd., he writes:

"This airline was started at the suggestion of Sir John Huggins, then Governor of Jamaica, and ran daily between Kingston and Montego Bay and commencing the latter part of November (1946), once a week to Georgetown, Grand Cayman with stops at Cayman Brac. My airline was given a mail contract and subsidy by the Cayman Island Government and the first flight occurred on November 23, 1946."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ... Continued from page 118

tion and assure regular publication through a column in at least every other issue of the journal. This also makes the editor's work easier, something we need if we want to keep our present editor and his assistants for a long time. And if sufficient interest develops in preparing a monograph such as Bill Cornell has undertaken for Antigua, the group leader can play a major role in its successful accomplishment. If you think you would be willing to serve, let me suggest that you write to Stan now. The contacts with other members will enrich your collecting.

This letter will be my last as your President. Gratefully do I turn over this position to my successor knowing that he will do an outstanding job. Since the trustees have not yet voted, his name can not yet be announced but I have complete confidence in their selection knowing with some certainty whom they will elect.

MARK

The Postal History of Soufriere, St. Lucia

by Robert Devaux

(Editor's Note - At the time the abbreviated version of the history of the Soufriere Post Office was put in the April 1974 Journal, it was not known that Eric Heyer was reworking this much longer article by Bob Devaux. When this latter was received, it was found to contain enough additional information to justify printing it.)

A document of 1764 states that the District of Soufriere was the most important in St. Lucia, not only in the number of inhabitants, but also by its trade. Throughout the eighteenth century, it had at least 25 percent more colonists than any other district. Today, the population of Soufriere is approaching 10,000 and it is the island's second most important town.

According to the Commission Book at the GPO, London, Abraham Shaw was appointed Deputy Postmaster General of Martinique, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Dominica and Grenada. This appointment took effect on 14 May 1762, during the English occupation of the islands. The English were not famous for operating local posts, so it is unlikely that one existed in Soufriere at this early date.

By the treaty of Paris on 10 February 1763, St. Lucia was assigned to France. We have no evidence of a French postal system before 1773, but the possibility of one nevertheless exists. It is possible that St. Lucia again came under a Deputy Postmaster in Martinique, when on 20 September 1768 it became a dependency of that island.

As we have seen, Soufriere at that time was a flourishing town and if it did not possess a post office, it most certainly acquired one soon after the inauguration of a French postal service in 1773. According to a document of that year entitled "The Inauguration of a Postal Service in the French Antilles", inland posts were to be established throughout the French Antilles, of which St. Lucia was a part.

After war broke out again between England and France, St. Lucia was captured from the English on 13 December 1778 and was not restored to France until the Peace of Versailles on 20 January 1783. It should be noted that during each of the brief English occupations, remarkable consideration was shown to the settled French inhabitants. The English did not disrupt the established French system of either politics or religion.

Not until 1786 do we have direct references to an established postal service in St. Lucia. One in "The Royal Administrator's Orders", dated 10 November 1786, mentions the existence of "Receveurs Particuliers" (Sub Postmasters); the other from "The Rules for the Packet Boats" dated 14 December 1786, describes the mail service.

The first mention of a post office at Soufriere in our possession is found in the "Almanach, Historique, Chronologie de Commerce, etc." of 1890, where a flourishing inland post of twelve offices is described. The postmaster for Soufriere was M. Duperron. The rate for an ordinary letter was 15 sols. The office was open from 7 a. m. to 12 noon and from 1 p. m. to 6 p. m. (except Sundays and Feast Days). Postmasters were not compelled to send letters to the estates, not even the registered ones. The Leeward coast mail left Castries every Thursday at noon, calling at Soufriere, Choiseul, Laborie and Vieux Fort, to reach Micoud about 4 p. m. Friday, returning by the same route to arrive at Castries by 8 a. m. Monday. Beside this mail, letters were sent daily by pirogues (canoes) to Anse-La-Raye, Canaries and Soufriere.

With the revolution in France, another war between England and France and the insurrection of the slaves in St. Lucia, conditions deteriorated so badly that most of the established systems broke down or were destroyed. Thus by 1795, when it was captured again by the British, little of the once prosperous colony remained. Castries, Dauphin and Praslin were completely destroyed by fire. Other towns were destroyed or damaged. The inland post had collapsed.

St. Lucia, along with all other British conquests except Trinidad, was returned to France in the Peace of Amiens in 1801, after which Napoleon attempted to reestablish control of the French West Indies. He was not successful and when hostilities broke out again between England and France in 1803, the British reoccupied all that they had held before the peace, but final inclusion of St. Lucia in the British Empire did not take place until 1815.

In 1803, a postal service of sorts was reestablished at Castries, but it was not until 5 January 1810 that a Deputy Postmaster in the person of Mrs. Catherine Addison was appointed. Even so, it took nearly half a century for St. Lucia to recover to the point that an inland post could be reestablished.

The British Post Office opened a branch office at Castries in 1844, letters being handstamped "Paid at St. Lucia". A daily postal service between Castries/Soufriere commenced in 1851. In 1872, a private concern, the St. Lucia Steam Conveyance Co., organized a postal service issuing postage stamps in three denominations. Such private letter carrying was brought to an end by Government order in 1894.

An act for Colonial Inland Posts was passed in 1849/50 at Westminster. In order to establish an inland post between the towns of Castries and Soufriere, extracts of two acts of the Imperial Parliament were published in the "St. Lucia Gazette" of 8 April 1850 for general information, viz: 1st Victoria Cap. XXXIII Sec. II and 1st Victoria Cap. XXXVI Sec. II.

From the "St. Lucia Blue Book" of 1850, the following extract was taken: "An inland post having been established under the authority of His Lordship, the Postmaster General, for the conveyance of letters between the towns of Castries and Soufriere, a Deputy Postmaster was in consequence appointed on April 22nd, 1850, the day on which the arrangements establishing the post came into operation."

"The St. Lucia Handbook & Almanac" of 1852 has this to say about the inland post: "The mail for Soufriere is dispatched from the post office at Castries at half past 11 a.m. daily (Sundays excepted); and the return mail for Castries is made up at Soufriere at 7 p.m. and is due at Castries at 7 a.m. the following morning. The postage of a letter not weighing above ½ oz. is



INLAND-POSTAGE
PAID



Fig. 1-3

one penny and must be paid at the Soufriere Postoffice only." According to the rules of the Post Office, a special "Paid" handstamp and a "Soufriere" date stamp had to be prepared and used at the new office. Order No. 17 dated 26 February 1850 authorized the preparation of the necessary handstamps. A proof impression of the "Soufriere" handstamp is found in the

G. P. O. "Proof Book", London, Vol. 3, page 16, dated 9 March 1850, while the two hand-stamps were dispatched to St. Lucia on 16 March and again proofed in Vol. 87a, page 70. (See Figures 1, 2 and 3.)

Peter Smith was appointed Deputy Postmaster of Soufriere on 22 April 1850 by the Post Office Authority at a salary of £10-0-0 per annum. He was granted leave of absence on 25 June to travel to Europe and Duncan Smith was appointed Acting Deputy Postmaster. Peter Smith either died in Europe or resigned on his return, because we find the resignation of Alex Bourgeois (who must have succeeded him) on 1 July 1851, at which time Charles Robinson was appointed Deputy Postmaster. However, Robinson was suspended on 16 April 1852 on charges of irregularities and breach of trust and was succeeded by Mrs. A. Marulaz.

Prepayment of postage became compulsory in April 1858 and contemporary British stamps, without any distinguishing overprint, were issued. They can only be detected by the cancellation - "A11". The stamps were 1d rose, 2d blue, 4d rose, 6d mauve and 1/- green of the 1856-58 issues of Great Britain.

St. Lucia's first postage stamps were issued on 18 December 1860, the values being 1d rose, 4d blue and 6d green. No denomination was shown. Later a 1/- orange was added, the colors of the other values altered and there were changes in watermark and perforation.

Before the issuance of postage stamps to St. Lucia, the G. P. O., London, had issued a hand-stamp for overseas ports. Prior to June 1852, this postmark consisted of a double circle, surmounted by a crown with the inscription "Paid at St. Lucia". The normal date postmark was also added to show the date of posting. It is very doubtful if this postmark was ever used on mail from Castries to Soufriere or on mail from Soufriere to overseas. L. E. Britnor, in his book "Postal History of the British West Indies", mentions that St. Lucia used her crowned circle mark as late as 1904, when they had a shortage of 1d stamps.

About 1856, the Soufriere Post Office ceased to exist as a branch of the postal service, for reasons unknown. A system of open mail bag collection was later established at the police station, where this unsatisfactory method continued for several years.

St. Lucian newspapers of the seventies contain numerous inferences to the inadequate inland post and suggestions for an updated system are not lacking. The postal mail bag was removed from the police station and relocated at the Sub-Collector's Office on 22 January 1879, where the Revenue Officer acted as sub-postmaster. However, when St. Lucia entered the Universal Postal Union in 1881, Ordinance No. 19 of 31 December 1881 set the guide lines for a new inland post to include Soufriere and Vieux Fort. Finally Soufriere was reopened as a District Post Office on 15 July 1884.

On 16 July a new circular date stamp with "S" town code came into use at Soufriere. The earliest recorded use in the writer's collection being 6 September 1885.



It was not until the 1920's that the current "SOUFRIERE *" postmark was introduced. No record has yet been traced of this or the earlier "S" mark in the "Proof Books" at London.

However the "SOUFRIERE" (without *) appeared about 29 November 1949 and has remained in use ever since.

The following list of provisional and appointed sub-postmasters was taken from the St. Lucia Blue Book:

A. Cuvillier (acting)	22 Jan. 1879 - 12 Sept. 1879
A. Duboulong (provisional)	12 Sept. 1879 - 22 Oct. 1884
Alfred F. Palmer (appointed)	22 Oct. 1884 - 22 Jan. 1902
J. F. Higgins (acting)	12 Aug. 1896 - 7 Sept. 1896
Edwin S. Blanchard (appointed)	22 Jan. 1902 - 21 Feb. 1914
N. Philip (acting)	10 May 1905 - 17 June 1905
L. T. Kerr (provisional)	21 Feb. 1914 - 1 Aug. 1916
J. F. Otway (provisional)	1 Aug. 1916 - 1920
H. Volney (provisional)	1920 -

The Soufriere Post Office has remained open since 1884 and is now housed in a fine modern building. (See front page of Journal No. 67 - June 1972). It is staffed by a Sub-Postmaster, clerks and mailmen. It offers every postal facility and has grown so large that the District has been subdivided postally, with additional sub-post offices located at Fond St. Jacques, opened 6 May 1955 and Victoria, opened 2 September 1958.

It is interesting to compare the basic inland postal rates at Soufriere over the years, as shown in the following table for letters under $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. :

1789 - 15 sols (6¢)	1924 - $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (1¢)
1852 - 1d. (2¢)	1953 - 3¢
1894 - $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (1¢)	1967 - 4¢
1900 - 1d. (2¢)	1968 - 5¢

There is now daily overland communications by bus or car on a fine road, as well as daily coastal communications by motor launch. It is possible to leave Soufriere for Castries in the morning, accomplish one's business and return the same day; a far cry from the hazardous journeys on horseback or by canoe one had to undertake a short time ago.

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NEW ISSUES

BARBADOS

NEW PRINTING. The 1¢, 2¢, 4¢, 8¢, 10¢, 15¢, 25¢ and \$5 definitives have all been reprinted and have reverted to the original watermark position (1¢, 2¢, 4¢, 8¢, 10¢ with watermark upright, all others with watermark sideways). The stamps remain on glazed paper, but the backs of the stamps have a bluish appearance due to the PVA-D gum. This bluish appearance helps to distinguish this printing from all previous printings.

BELIZE

2 JAN 75 DEFINITIVE. A \$10 definitive is to be released in addition to those which appeared on 2 September 1974. (CA)

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

30 OCT 74 SEA SHELL ISSUE. New release date - reported postponed in October Journal. Set of four values: 5¢ - Trumpet Triton, Charonia variegata; 18¢ - West Indian Murex, Murex brevifrons; 25¢ - Bleeding Tooth, Nerita peloronta; 75¢ - Virgin Islands Latirus, Latirus virginensis. Designed by Gordon Drummond and printed by Harrison & Sons by lithographic process. Issued in panes of 25 on CA watermarked paper. A souvenir sheet bearing all four values completes this issue. (SG)

NEW PRINTINGS. New printings of the 1¢, 10¢, 12¢ and 15¢ definitives have been released on CA sideways watermarked paper. (CA)

CAYMAN ISLANDS

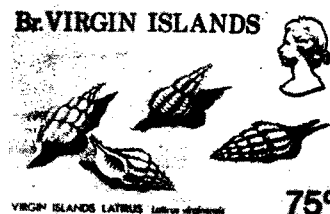
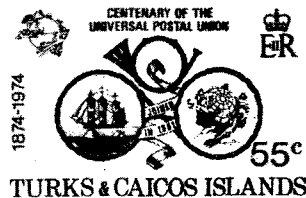
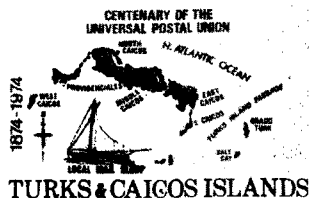
7 OCT 74 HANDICRAFT ISSUE. Reported in the August and October Journals. Details of this issue have finally been released. Set of three stamps plus a souvenir sheet: 8¢ - Sea Captain and ship, 12¢ - Thatch Weaver and bungalows, 20¢ - Farmer and banana trees, souvenir sheet - shows each of the three stamps. Designed by Vasarhelyi and printed by De La Rue & Co. by Delacryl process. Issued in panes of 25 on CA watermarked paper. (SG)

NEW PRINTING. A new printing of the 3¢ definitive has been released on CA sideways watermarked paper. (CA)

16 DEC 74 DEFINITIVE. An 8¢ definitive will be released to replace the current 9¢ value which will be withdrawn on release of the 8¢ value. The stamp will show the Jewelled Pomander Porkfish Anisotremus virginicus. Designed by Waddingtons

Studios and lithographed by the Kynoch Press in panes of 25 on W/M watermarked paper. (CA)

- 1 JAN 75 **BIRD SERIES II.** Set of six stamps, 3¢ - Yellow Shafted Flicker *Colaptes Auratus*, 10¢ - West Indian Tree Duck *Dendrocygna Arborea*, 12¢ - Yellow Warbler *Dendroica Petechia*, 20¢ - White Bellied Dove *Leptotila Jamaicensis*, 30¢ - Magnificent Frigate-Bird *Fregata Magnificens*, 50¢ - Cayman Amazon *Amazona Leucocephala Caymanensis*. Designed by Michael Goaman and printed by Questa on CA watermarked paper. (CA)



GUYANA

- 20 JAN 75 **OVERPRINT.** The 3¢ definitive Hanging Heliconia stamp will be overprinted 8¢. (CA)

- 23 FEB 75 **REPUBLIC DAY 1975.** Set of four stamps depicting various Medal Awards: 10¢ - Golden Arrow of Courage, 35¢ - Cacique's Crown of Honor, 50¢ - Cacique's Crown of Valor, \$1 - Order of Excellence. Designed by L. D. Curtis and lithographed by De La Rue in panes of 25. Lotus Blossom Bud watermark. (CA)

JAMAICA

- 9 OCT 74 **UPU CENTENARY.** Set of three stamps, 5¢, 9¢ and 50¢, all showing the emblem of the UPU. Designed by Victor Whitely and lithographed by John Waddington of Kirkstall Ltd. Issued in panes of 25 with a J and Pineapple watermark. (CA)

- 13 JAN 75 **UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES 25th ANNIVERSARY.** Set of four stamps, 5¢ and 30¢ depicting the Senate Building and portrait of the late Sir Hugh Wooding, 10¢ and 50¢ depicting the University Chapel and portrait of H.R.H. Princess Alice. Designed by R. Granger Barrett and lithographed by Questa in panes of 25. Jamaica Pineapple watermark. (CA)

MONTSERRAT

- 2 OCT 74 **LOCAL OVERPRINTING.** The local overprinting of various values which was reported in the October Journal was released on 2 October. (CA)

30 OCT 74 DEFINITIVE. A \$10 definitive showing a Forest Thrush. Designed by V White-ly Studio and printed by Harrison and Sons by photogravure process. Printed in panes of 25 on CA watermarked paper. (CA)

NEW PRINTING. A new printing of the 1¢ and 5¢ definitives has been released. The 1¢ has CA upright watermarked paper and the 5¢ has CA sideways paper.

ST. KITTS-NEVIS

16 NOV 74 DEFINITIVE. New release date for the \$10 definitive value. (CA)

16 DEC 74 OPENING OF GOLDEN ROCK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. New release date. Details in August Journal. (CA)

ST. LUCIA

13 NOV 74 CHRISTMAS 1974. Details of this issue reported in the August Journal. New release date.

ST. VINCENT

5 DEC 74 CHRISTMAS 1974. According to the St. Vincent Philatelic Bureau four values plus a strip of four se-tenant will be issued: 8¢, 35¢, 45¢, \$1 and four 3¢ se-tenant (front cover). Designed by Jennifer Toombs and lithographed by Enschede en Zonen on CA Block watermark paper. The 3¢ will be issued in two panes of 20, while the remaining values will be issued in two panes of 25.

TURKS AND CAICOS

9 OCT 74 UPU CENTENARY. Set of four values: 4¢ - GPO at Grand Turk; 12¢ - Map of the Turks & Caicos Islands; 18¢ - "United Service"; 55¢ - Turks & Caicos joined UPU in 1881. Designed by Gordon Drummond and lithographed by Questa in panes of 25. Watermarked CA. (CA)

Information in the foregoing listings has been provided by the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau and StanGib Ltd.

A NEW PHILATELIC BUREAU IN THE OFFING? -----

Fred Seifert has sent us an ad which he clipped from a recent issue of "Stamp Collecting". The ad reveals that "The Government of one of the most beautiful islands in the sun" is seeking a young man to assist them in setting up and managing their own independent national philatelic bureau. However, the ad fails to mention which island.

ST. LUCIA HANDSTAMPS -----

Hitherto unreported handstamps of St. Lucia have been seen by Joe Chin Aleong during a recent visit to the Castries GPO. The handstamps read:

CANNOT BE TRACED measuring 32 by 3mm in a 35 by 9mm rectangle.

DEFUNCT taping 24 by 4mm in a 29 by 9mm rectangle.

FOUND IN LETTER BOX - 39 by 3mm in a 42 by 9mm rectangle.

INSUFFICIENTLY ADDRESSED measuring 57 by 3½mm in a 60 by 9mm rectangle.

SHIP SAILED - 27½ by 3½mm in a 3 by 9mm rectangle.

RESUME OF APS/CPS CONVENTION, CHICAGO, 11-13 OCTOBER 1974

by Fred F. Seifert

The Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Society is always a major philatelic event of the year. Thus it is not surprising that quite a few BCPSGers attended the 1974 one held at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel, 11 through 13 October. While no formal get-together of our Group was scheduled, it was inevitable that a number of informal sessions transpired amongst the frames, in members' homes, and in hotel rooms.

Up from Houston were GALE RAYMOND and ALAN DOYLE who with FRED SEIFERT forsook the Sheraton and its high room rates for the smaller St. Clair Hotel, just around the corner and at half the price. BCPSGers somehow always manage to ferret out the bargains! There were no BWI exhibits entered in the show, exhibitors being limited to those who had qualified as entrants in the "Champion of Champions" competition by virtue of having taken top award at various regional exhibitions. However, HENRY GOBIE of Miami had entree to that select group, and proudly displayed his superb collection of U. S. Special Delivery adhesives on cover.

GEORGE TURNER of Washington, D. C., who seldom misses any exhibition of any consequence, was present, while on the bourse HENRY SPELMAN and KEN RICE had adjacent tables. STAN and ELAINE DURNIN drove over from Ohio to combine a visit with Elaine's parents in nearby Indiana with a trip to the show. CHARLIE BALL also came over from Ohio. Presumably, most of our Chicago Area members dropped in sometime or other during the show, but for lack of recognition we no doubt passed some of them by in the crowds. We did get to see PAUL LARSEN and TOM GIRALDI, as well as BOB STEIN for some good talk sessions. CHUCK CWIAKALA, whose office is a scant block from the Sheraton, managed to take a few long coffee breaks at the hotel, and on Friday night Gale and I visited Chuck's home, to meet his lovely wife TERESA, and to look through many albums and boxes of stamps and covers.

NAOMA RAYMOND had come up with Gale, but stayed with her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Chet Andrezak. They all came down to the Sheraton for the banquet on Saturday night to share a most enjoyable evening with us.

The bourse did not offer a great deal in the way of BWI material, but as most BCPSGers have other interests as well, we managed to make the dealers glad that they had come. Our sideline collections of Colorado and Wisconsin covers got a big boost. Alan Doyle seemed to be doing quite well in acquiring new material for his Canal Zone collection, and Gale Raymond, who seems to collect just about anything, went home with a mound of covers from various exotic places.

NEW WATERMARK APPEARING ----

The new watermark of the British Crown Agents, the Crown over CA design set out in staggered formation along the dandy roll, has already appeared on the Churchill centenary issues of Belize, BVI and Turks and Caicos Is. (also Brunei, Pitcairn Is., St. Helena, Tristan da Cunha).

Stocks of existing CA Upright and CA Sideways watermarked paper will continue to be utilized until exhausted. The Crown Agents advise that the new CA Spiral watermarked paper will be in sole use by mid-1975.

BERMUPEX '74

On 29 November, the Bermuda Stamp Club held its third annual exhibition, which was judged by Col. James DeVoss, Executive Secretary of the A. P. S., aided by Bob Odenweller, a director of the Collectors Club of New York. Even though two of last year's prize winners did not compete, because they had won the Best of the Show and two Golds at BALPEX, there was still strong showings in Postal History and Bermuda.

KIL BUMP, a BCPSG member and the one non-resident exhibitor, presented a very fine showing of Bermuda covers, ranging from an 1805 Ship Letter, through QV stamped envelopes, to a variety of O. H. M. S. and others. This was awarded a Gold and the Postal History trophy. Another Gold and the BCPSG Silver Medal was won by Malcolm Gosling with a specialized study of KGV high values, made up of singles, blocks and sheets.

Your editor showed the QEII "Buildings" definitives with photographs of the artist's original designs and the buildings as they are today. This was aimed more at encouraging new collectors to reach beyond mere "stamp saving", by showing what can be done with the use of collateral material. It was awarded a Silver. He did however receive the Best of the Show and a Gold for an exhibit of B. N. A. rate marking handstamps on transatlantic stampless covers.

Buoyed by successes overseas in both Britain and the United States and having some assurances of interest from abroad, the club executive has decided to upgrade BERMUPEX'75 to a major show with foreign exhibitors. It is planned to have a 300-frame show at the Southampton Princess, Bermuda's newest and largest hotel, on 29-30 November 1975. The dates were chosen to fit in with the American Thanksgiving holiday, when many come to Bermuda to mark the event. The prospect of a philatelic exhibition as a second excuse to come to the island has already caught the fancy of some along the eastern seaboard.

The prospectus for BERMUPEX '75 will be available by 1 July 1975, but if any BCPSG members would like to plan ahead, they are invited to write to Charles W. Post, P. O. Box 210, Hamilton 5, Bermuda. Thought had been given to inviting the Group to hold its fall meeting here, but NOJEX at Cranford, N. J. has already been chosen for that. We could still plan a mini-meeting, so think about it.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ----- IS YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT?

The BCPJ is now being sent out by the printer, Collins Radio of Richardson, Texas. They are using a computerized addressing system and as is usual in converting to a computerized system errors can occur. Please look at the address label on the envelope in which this journal arrived and if there is any error send the information to the assistant editor, Elaine Durnin (address on inside cover).

If you have previously made special arrangements for faster delivery of the Journal and are not receiving it per your arrangements let Elaine know.

If you are moving, it is important to send a change of address to the secretary as soon as possible. It is costly to you and to the Group if this is not done. Your cooperation is appreciated.

OUR SECRETARY REPORTS:

NEW MEMBERS:

All applicants listed in the October 1974 Journal have been admitted into membership.

NEW APPLICANTS:

MANDOS, Joseph, 315 Collingdale Avenue, Collingdale, PA 19023. Masonry contractor.
BWI. By John F. Field

MCMANUS, James W., 2808 Lawrence Ave., Nederland, TX 77627. Accountant. Cayman
Islands. By A.N. Johnson

NICHOLSON, Dr. Brian F., 47 Longmead Ave., Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 7EG
England. Physicist. Jamaica and BVI. By Al Branston

WYNNS, John P., 6835 De Soto Ave., Apt. #17, Canoga Park, CA 91303. Police Officer.
British Caribbean, British Southern Africa, Canal Zone, Germany. By A.N. Johnson

CORRECTION:

BREW, C. William, 4516 Marble Way, Carmichael, CA 95608. Customer Engineer (IBM).
West Indies, especially St. Lucia, U. S. By A.N. Johnson

RESIGNATIONS:

KERR, Dr. George R. (as of 1 JA 75).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

DOOLITTLE, F.W., 1203 Malvern Ave., Towson, MD 21204.

JORDAN, John M., 131 Devonwood Lane, Devon, PA 19333.

LUNDBERG, John P., Alberta Beach, Alberta, Canada.

MINK, Ellsworth B. III, 1316 S. Hopkins Ave., Titusville, FL 32780.

OSDENE, Dr. Thomas S., 1608 Hanover Ave., Richmond, VA 23220.

RICHMOND, Robert J., 207 East 15th St., "F", New York, NY 10003.

SALTZMAN, Kathryn M., 11858 Goshen Ave., #201, Los Angeles, CA 90049.

SCHRIVENER, Norman R., 320 Fulton Ave., Hempstead, NY 11550.

SLOTTER, Zane B., 2041 NW 93rd Ave., Apt. 5, Pembroke Pines, FL 33024.

WRAGG, Norton, 31 Stafford Ave., Clayton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Staffs. ST5 3BN, England.

NEW PRINTER OF JOURNAL

Some of our members have undoubtedly wondered over the Collins Radio Company, Dallas, Texas address label on their recent BCPSG Journals. This reflects the fact that your Group's publication is now being excellently printed and dispatched by the Collins Radio Company. BCPSG Charles Tanner is acting as on-the-scene liaison officer in Richardson, Texas, site of the physical printing operation. Your comments about the Journal will be passed on to the proper people.

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EXHIBITS/AWARDS...

Continued from page 132

SESCAL

George W. Bowman received a SESCOAL gold medal and the BCPSG bronze medal for his showing of "Antigua - A Philatelic Summary to 1920" at the Los Angeles, Calif. exhibition held last October.

STOCKHOLMIA

Frank Deakin won a gold medal at the recent Stockholmia with his display of "Barbados 1698-1870" display.

Modesty seems to be paramount among our fellow BCPSGers in that your editors have to find out about members' exhibition awards and accomplishments from outside sources, often long after the closure of events. Your fellow members are interested in sharing the joys of your philatelic winnings, so advise Paul A. Larsen, 14 Wilson Court, Park Forest, Ill. 60466 of any philatelic honors bestowed on you lately in order that the entire membership can share in your triumph via the pages of this journal.

Personal Mention:

PAUL LARSEN, our BCPSG Awards Chairman and current Trustee, has recently been elected as vice president of the Germany Philatelic Society Chapter No. 5 in Chicago, Illinois.

DAN WARREN, holding the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Medical Corps is now serving in the Republic of Korea. Distance had not deterred his philatelic ardor for he continues to serve BCPSG as Advertising Manager and has recently been named as a member of the Scott Philatelic Advisory Board of the Scott Catalogue publishing house.

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