



THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

Published bimonthly in the even numbered months. Available only to members of the B. C. P. S. G. with subscription included in the membership fee of \$10.00 per annum in U. S. funds due January 1st. Membership application forms and additional information may be obtained from the Membership Chairman or International Director.

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This 100th issue of our Journal is dedicated to Stan Durnin who passed away suddenly last December. I think it will be a most appropriate memorial and tribute to one of the really good-guys in the philatelic world.

Stan and I became friends during the Group's early days when we discovered our common collecting interest, the Leeward Islands. Most other collectors I knew didn't even know that such a place existed. We used to joke that we were the only Leeward specialists in the whole U. S. , perhaps even in the whole western hemisphere. Like me, I know there will be more than a few who will miss the twinkle in Stan's eye and his readiness to lend a hand whenever it was needed.

I am extremely pleased that Elaine was able to complete this 100th issue project. I know that a great many hours have been expended on our behalf; it would have been a job and a half under normal circumstances. My thanks to Elaine and to all our members who provided the written word for this oversize issue.

Keep in mind that the deadline (1 March) for entering material in the next Group auction is at hand. If you have not yet sent your lots to Bob Topaz (34 Maryellen Rd. , Waban, MA 02168), you must do so immediately. The auction will be held during our meeting in Toronto, Canada, on Sunday, 11 June 1978 during CAPEX '78.

It has come to my attention that one of the recent applicants for membership was challenged by a Group member residing in the applicant's locale. Upon further investigation it was determined that it would not be in the Group's best interest to grant this membership. This probably helped avoid some unnecessary problems for our members. I would like to commend the challenger and also urge that the members review the Secretary's Report in each Journal. The Secretary should be informed if there is any concern about an applicant's character or reputa-

(continued on page 54)

WEST INDIES FEDERATION JOURNAL

Club News of the West Indies Federation Study Group.

Volume 1.

MAY 1961.

Number 1.

Robert Topaz, Temporary President.

R. E. Lant, Temporary Sec-Treas.

A. N. Johnson, Temporary Editor.

As many of you know, a group of British West Indies collectors have decided to organize a Study Group, with a view of exchanging our knowledge, experience and stamps with one another, to the end that information on the stamps and postal history of these countries may be as widely disseminated as possible, particularly regarding Jamaica and its dependencies, Turks Islands, Turks and Caicos and Cayman Islands. This we hope to do through this Journal and through brochures published from time to time by members of the group.

Several of the members have already prepared papers on phases of Jamaican philately, in which they have specialized. Brochures will be sent to the other members of the group and eventually published in the Journal.

A Look at BCPJ History

by Col. Fred F. Seifert

With this issue, as our Group reaches the magic "Whole Number 100," a look back at how we got here seems appropriate. It all began back in 1961, when some of us decided that none of the existing philatelic societies adequately served the needs of the serious BWI collector. Obviously, you can't have a society with members scattered about the globe without having a publication to bond them together, so, to get things started, Alfred N. Johnson of Baytown, Texas, agreed to serve as the "Temporary Editor" of the Group's publication.

Knowing a good man when we saw him, we soon removed the "temporary" from Al's title and kept him on the job for the next six years. The early Journals were almost entirely a result of Al's labor, at least as far as their production and distribution was concerned. He typed stencils, mimeographed the pages, collated them, and mailed the finished product to the members. As with most editors of specialist publications, Al also wrote or rewrote much of the material. We owe Al Johnson much for getting the Journal off to a good start.

In 1967, after producing 38 issues and with the BCPSG firmly established as a viable group, Al had to resign because of illness. We happened to be President of the BCPSG at the time and fell heir to the editor job when no volunteer came forward. As a condition of accepting the position, we asked that the members vote a dues increase to provide sufficient income for a commercially printed publication. This was quickly approved, and since then our Journals have been offset printed.

Even with the increased dues, economy was the watchword. We found a cut-rate printer in Kansas City, Missouri, and for a few issues we used his services. We would send him our camera ready pages, and in a week or so our mail carrier would deliver the printed pages, 300 of each, to us. Next came the task of collating the pages to make up the Journals. We

have a screened and roofed patio, and in warm weather the work was done there, while in winter the kitchen was used. The piles of pages were placed on tables, chairs, ledges, and even the ironing board, to make up an assembly line. Gladys and I would walk around the circuit gathering up the 20 or so pages, until all of the Journals had been assembled. With 300 of each page, plus a printer's over-run of perhaps 30 or 40 more, this was a good half-day's job. The assembled pages were stapled together and the Journals were then stuffed into the previously addressed envelopes. Postage stamps were supplied and the envelopes taken to the post office.

Speaking of stamps, in our effort to economize, we would, when possible, buy large quantities of U.S. postage at a discount from face value. One lot of stamps came from Florida and when we tried to use them we found the gum impervious to water! We finally concluded that a previous owner had sprayed the gum with a lacquer of some sort to keep it from sticking in the humid Florida climate. Thus we had to get out the glue pot and glue on each stamp. If any member wondered why he couldn't remove some of those pretty commemoratives from the envelopes, now he knows why!

Our Kansas City printer's rate must have been too low to give him a reasonable profit, for after he had printed four or five issues for us he went out of business. After a bit of hunting, we found a local printer to take over at a slightly higher price. We continued the single page, home-collated operation through Whole Number 52. At this point, our printer suggested that he could print the pages in pairs, fold and collate them, and staple (saddle stitch) them in the fold within a heavier stock cover, at not too great an increase in price. Thus began the style of Journal that we enjoy today.

We still had to do the envelope addressing, stuffing, and mailing. This task was made a bit easier when we purchased a used hand-operated addressing machine. Additional time savings and economy were realized when, in 1971, the BCPSG was incorporated in the State of Ohio as a non-profit corporation. Shortly thereafter, the United States Internal Revenue Service granted the Group tax-exempt status; this allowed us to mail Journals to members in the U.S. at the non-profit organization bulk rate. In lieu of postage stamps, an imprint on the envelope could be used to indicate postpaid status, so only the envelopes for Canadian and overseas members had to have stamps applied.

We continued as editor through Whole Number 76 at the end of 1973 and then decided it was time to let someone else enjoy the pleasures and frustrations of producing a Journal every other month. A young member of the Group volunteered to take over production of the Journal, but after two issues it became apparent that the task was beyond his capabilities. Elaine and Stan Durnin came to the rescue of the Group, and the Journal was soon back in good health.

We are proud to have played a part in getting our Journal along its way to issue #100. It pleases us to see that Elaine continues to employ much of the format which we developed. The many awards our Journal has earned in literature competitions around the world indicate that our publication is among the best. Good things do not come cheap, and from time to time our dues have had to be increased to cover rising printing and mailing costs. The fact that few, if any, members have resigned because of a dues increase, indicates that our members appreciate our Journal and are willing to pay what it takes to keep us in business.

Thanks are due the many members whose articles on BWI philately have filled the pages of our 100 Journals. They have helped to make a file of Journals a treasure house of information, much of which cannot be found elsewhere.

STANLEY C. DURNIN, 1930-1977



This issue Number 100 of our "British Caribbean Philatelic Journal" is dedicated to the memory of Stan Durnin, beloved friend and fellow BCPSGer. Stan suffered a fatal heart attack at his home in Sidney, Ohio, on 11 December 1977. He was buried in Cedar Point Cemetery, Pasco, Ohio, a small town near Sidney. Military honors at graveside were provided by a detachment from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Among those attending the funeral services were Paul and Joan Larsen, Dan Walker, and Fred Seifert.

The lives of men and women are measured not by their span of years on earth, but by their accomplishments. In his 47 years, Stan's experiences and accomplishments were many and varied. As a member of the U.S. Air Force, Stan served his country in many parts of the world for more than 20 years. During the Korean conflict, he flew on 57 combat missions. His military awards included the U. S. Distinguished Flying Cross and three Air Medals.

The great moments in Stan's life included his marriage in 1957 to Elaine Frank, a fellow student at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana. This was during a break in Stan's military service. Upon his return to active duty, Elaine accompanied him to duty stations in various parts of the U.S.A., as well as in Libya, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia. Their last duty station before Stan's retirement was at Clovis, New Mexico.

Upon his retirement in 1971, Stan took employment as Assistant Editor of "Western Stamp Collector," Albany, Oregon. Early in 1974, he moved to Sidney, Ohio, where he became Executive Editor of "Linn's Stamp News." Stan preferred postmarks to stamps, and his regular columns 'In Pursuit of Postmarks' and 'Behind the Postmark' have been the most popular features of "Linn's" in term of reader response.

Stan's contributions to the BCPSG were many. He served as President, Vice President, and Secretary of the Group, as well as Trustee. He was among the first few members to take up life membership. One need only glance through his file of Journals to see how Stan sustained our publication with many excellent articles on his favorite Leeward Islands. Especially popular was his well-illustrated 'In Quest of Ink' series, describing visits which he and Elaine made to the various Leeward Islands and their post offices. As editor of the BCPJournal at the time these were published, we can attest to how much they helped us fill the Journal pages, and how little editing they required.

As an employee of "Linn's," Stan was not permitted to have his name associated with other philatelic activities, but he continued to be active "behind the scenes." He played a prominent part in our annual Group meetings, and his camera reports helped bring the meetings to those unable to attend.

We will sadly miss Stan, but our sorrow will be tempered by the beautiful memories of our friendship. Having known Stan has enriched our life. Through continuing friendship with Elaine, we hope to keep those memories fresh.

FFS

An Annotto Bay Ship Letter

by Colin H. Bayley

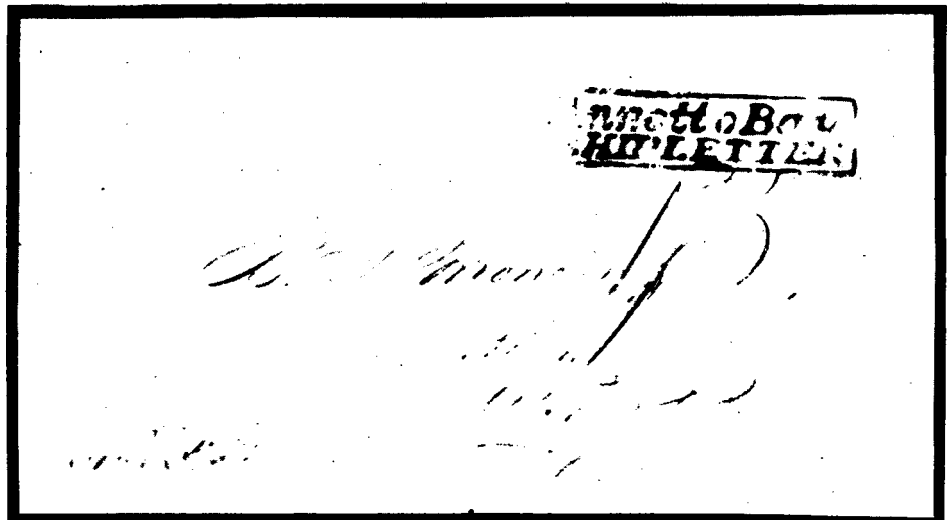
In Thomas Foster's "The History of Jamaica 1662-1860" (published by Robson Lowe, 1968), page 104, mention is made of early Jamaica Ship Letter marks and a table of rarity ratings is given.

With respect to Annotto Bay, Foster states that an illustration of a cover bearing the Ship Letter mark of this town was published in the journal "Postal Markings" in its 20 November 1934 issue. He goes on to state that this cover was probably the one in the A. V. Richardson collection. I have been unable to obtain a copy of the above-mentioned illustration.

However, I have in my collection an Annotto Ship Letter cover which came from the postal history collection of Dr. A. V. Richardson, who, at the time of his death in 1951, was Professor of Mathematics at Bishops' College in Sherbrooke, Quebec, and whose collection was broken up and sold by a friend in Ottawa, from whom I purchased the cover.



Annotto Bay
SHIP. LETTER



It seems to me that there is little doubt that my cover is the one to which Foster refers and assigns a rarity rating of "Unique" and I believe Jamaica-oriented readers of BCPJ would be interested in seeing a photo of it.

The cover contains no enclosure or letter, being, actually, a wrapper. It shows on its face a boxed (47 x 11 mm) mark containing, at the top, the words "Annotto Bay" in sloping upper and lower case letters (5 and 8 mm) and, beneath, the words "Ship Letter" in sloping serified capitals (3.5 mm).

At the bottom left front corner there is the name "John Pink" in manuscript, undoubtedly the name of the ship carrying the letter or of its captain, and, on the back, the date "20 May 1837" and the name "I" (or "J") "Carter," also in manuscript.

The rate mark on the letter is 1/3, apparently the rate applicable to the letter which would have rated as, at least, a double letter (wrapper plus one sheet) and possibly more, depending on the contents.

It is interesting to note the Ship Letter mark, which one would normally associate with a letter going a considerable distance, being used on a letter traveling by ship between two Jamaica coastal towns within a relatively short distance of each other.

CAYMAN ISLANDS REVISITED

by Thomas E. Giraldi

(Editor's Note: Judges Mark Cassidy, Fred Seifert, and Joe Frye have chosen this article as the best article submitted for issue number #100.)

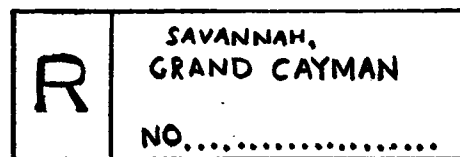
On Saturday, 19 November, my wife Debbie and I boarded a Southern Airlines DC-9 airplane for a (philatelic) vacation in the Cayman Islands. It would be Debbie's first visit to the Caymans, but I had previously visited there in 1971.

After several stops, we finally landed at Owen Roberts Airport around 3:30 in the afternoon, went through customs, and then taxied to the Galleon Beach Hotel, located on Grand Cayman's renowned Seven Mile Beach.

Sunday morning we picked up a rental car from Egbert Murray, taxi driver and one man rent-a-car service. The next few hours were spent at North Sound snorkeling, however the water was quite choppy so we headed back for the hotel and their delicious barbecue luncheon held on the beach on Sundays and Tuesdays.

We went for a drive and could not resist stopping to pay a visit to my friend, Savannah post-mistress Jen West and her husband Arthur. We had a nice long chat with them at their present home which is located next door to the post office. Arthur is building a new home for them on the next lot and informed me that their present home is for sale for 35,000 Cayman Island dollars, (approximately \$44,000 in U.S. money). The only problem is that they have no phone or electricity in the house -- and the plumbing is frugal at best!

Monday morning saw me setting off for my visits to the islands' post offices. The new hours for the sub post offices are 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturdays. I began my journey at the Savannah Post Office where Mrs. West was open and waiting. She had four or five shopping bags full of newspapers which she had saved for me for quite some time.



Mrs. West canceled my covers and let me make impressions of every mark she had. While there, the mail truck, a red colored van, arrived with the mail sack for Savannah and picked up the mail that had been posted there.

The next stop was Georgetown and Debbie went shopping while I went in to visit Postmaster Noel Johnson. I chatted with him for a few minutes, a little humorously, I might add, as lying on his desk were all the letters I had sent him along with the list of questions I had enclosed each time. He handed me a typewritten copy of my questions -- and I definitely got the impression that my handwriting is hard to decipher!

As Johnson was busy that morning, we arranged a meeting for the next morning at 9:00 a.m. After lunching at MacDonalds, a restaurant in Georgetown, Debbie and I went back up Seven Mile Road to West Bay where we visited the Hell Postal Agency operated by Mary Powell. Her

mother had previously operated the Agency but was retired. We posted our postcards to friends and relatives, took a couple of pictures, and headed for West Bay Post Office.



AIR PARCEL POST
SECOND CLASS AIR MAIL
RETURN TO SENDER

R	WEST BAY, GRAND CAYMAN
	NO.....

Special **DELIVERY**

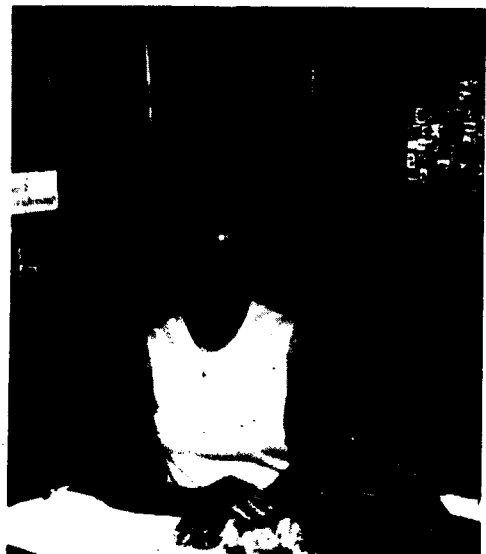
AIR MAIL

Mrs. Pep Ebanks is still the postmistress at West Bay as she was when we paid a visit there six years ago. I posted a few covers and got impressions of all her handstamps. She has the most handstamps of all the post offices on the islands, other than the G. P. O. After taking Mrs. Ebanks picture, I decided to show Debbie the turtle farm.

The Mariculture farm had grown quite large since I saw it in 1971. They have numerous developing tanks for the smaller turtles and large ponds for the full-grown ones. The rest of the day we spent in touring the West Bay area, which consists mainly of small homes, a few tiny shops, and gas stations.



Mrs. Pep Ebanks, Postmistress of West Bay



Phyllis Ebanks, G. P. O. Philatelic Bureau

Tuesday morning I went to the G. P. O. for my appointment with Johnson; however, he was again extremely busy so Rupert McCoy, in charge of Accounts and Statistics, spent the day with me answering my many questions.

What few items I needed from the Philatelic Department I got cheerfully from Mrs. Phyllis Ebanks. All of the people who work in the post office go out of their way to help you, no matter what crazy request you might have, and I had some crazy ones!

Following is a list of people who have important positions at the various post offices and agencies:

At the GPO - Postmaster: Noel Johnson
 Accounts and Statistics: Rupert McCoy
 Philatelic Bureau: Phyllis Ebanks
 Mail Operations (Incoming & Outgoing): Nadine McLean
 Registry Division: Ruth Moncrieffe

At the Sub Post Offices and Postal Agencies which cancel mail -
 P.A. - Hell - Mary Powell, postmistress
 P.A. - South Sound - Bertha Bush, postmistress
 SPO - West Bay - Mrs. Pep Ebanks, postmistress
 SPO - Savannah - Mrs. Jen West, postmistress
 SPO - Boddentown - Petrea Kelly, postmistress
 SPO - Northside - Mrs. Nettie McCoy, postmistress
 SPO - East End - Valerie Connolly, postmistress

At the three postal agencies which distribute mail, but do not have canceling and registering privileges -
 Breakers - Marie Connor, postmistress
 Old Man Bay - Gloria Bell, postmistress
 Gun Bay - Geraldine Connolly, postmistress

The GPO is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The SPO's and PA's that cancel mail are open Monday through Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., as I mentioned earlier. The three postal agencies that merely distribute mail do not have any set hours.

The demand for postal boxes has grown; the GPO now has 1,570 boxes, Savannah has 30, and East End has some 40 boxes. The other offices have boxes as well, but I did not get the exact figure. With the population boom in some of the areas, the need is there. In fact, the three postal agencies that merely distribute mail may eventually be upgraded to active agencies with canceling and registering privileges.

When I mentioned to Rupert McCoy that East End and South Sound are still using the old oval R for registry while the other offices had brand new rubber registry cancelers, he produced the brand new, never used rubber handstamps for the two offices, as well as for Breakers, Old Man Bay and Gun Bay. However, he refused to give me sample impressions -- no matter how much I pleaded!

McCoy did, however, give me just about every other mark he could find that the GPO is currently using and there are quite a few to say the least!



PAQUEBOT

RECEIVED OPEN

RETURN TO SENDER

UNCLAIMED
RETURN TO SENDER

YOUR CORRECT POSTAL ADDRESS IS
ANY OTHER FORM OF ADDRESS MAY LEAD TO DELAY. PLEASE ADVISE SENDER

AIR MAIL AIR MAIL

PAID AIRMAIL LETTERS TO

SECOND CLASS AIR MAIL
SECOND CLASS AIR MAIL

SURFACE PARCEL POST AIR PARCEL POST PRINTED MATTER

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED RETURNED FOR ADDITIONAL POSTAGE

POSTMASTER GENERAL
CAYMAN ISLANDS

ON POSTAL SERVICE

POSTAGE PAID
G.P.O. GRAND CAYMAN

OFFICIAL POSTAGE PAID MISSENT TO GRAND CAYMAN

DAMAGED IN HANDLING IN POSTAL SERVICES
DULY REPAIRED AT G.P.O.

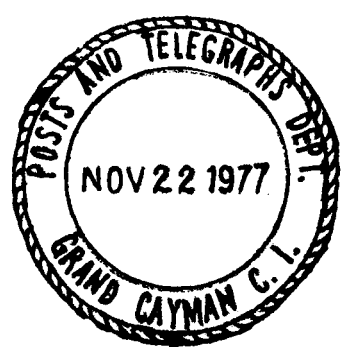
RETURNED FOR BETTER ADDRESS

RECEIVED IN A DAMAGED CONDITION
AT G.P.O. GRAND CAYMAN

RETURN TO SENDER

REFUSED DELIVERY PROHIBITED
UNDER PENAL LAW
CAYMAN ISLANDS

POSTAGE DUE.....



POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT
GRAND CAYMAN, CAYMAN ISLANDS

RETURNED FROM GRAND CAYMAN FOR THE REASON CHECKED BELOW

- LEFT ISLAND
- UNKNOWN
- REFUSED
- UNCLAIMED
- INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS

A. O.

PARCEL	GENERAL POST OFFICE	POST
	17 NOV 77	
	CAYMAN ISLANDS	

The majority of the handstamps are self-explanatory, but a few are new and deserve comment.

The Paquebot mark is new, but not the first of its kind in the Caymans. Roger Hosking, in his very informative and newly released book "Paquebot Cancellations of the World," has a paquebot mark listed as being used in the Caymans during 1964-69.

The boxed "Returned from Grand Cayman/For the reason checked Below" is used for dead letter and any unclaimed mail at the GPO, plus whatever gets sent back from the other offices. I saw a number of unclaimed Electric and Phone Survey Ads sitting in the West Bay and Savannah post offices that were fated for this handstamp. Alas, I couldn't persuade the postmaster to give me an example of unclaimed mail.

The small "Postage Paid/G.P.O. Grand Cayman" is used on small packages where there is not enough room to place stamps.

There are several handstamps for damaged mail which are used along with a note of explanation from the postmaster which is attached and dated. Sealing tape is used to reseal mail that is damaged and the appropriate handstamp used to notify the addressee of this fact.

On the matter of postage due, you will notice two types of handstamps that are used; however, both the postmaster and McCoy informed me that they are seldom used. In fact, there is a move on the way to abolish the collection of postage due on underfranked letters because it is a losing proposition for the post office. As all the bother and traveling about necessary to collect the small fees is not worth it to the post office, it just may, eventually, be phased out completely.

The A.O. mark is for international airmail or surface mail such as small packets, one to two pounds, mail for the blind, and printed matter. A blue form is used along with the handstamp.

The "Official Postage Paid/Air Mail" is used by Government Services on the Island. The "Return Receipt Requested" is used along with registered letters.

The two CDS' used for canceling mail are illustrated. The 24 mm CDS is used almost exclusively on regular mail, while the CDS with the arcs is used mainly on First Day Covers.

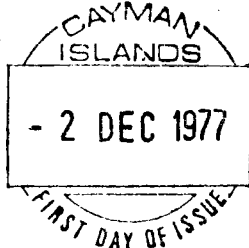
The M.O.B. CDS, for which I pleaded and got an impression of, is used strictly for money orders cashed at the GPO. Its usage on mail is entirely by accident.

The Hell CDS is used on mail at the GPO for customers who wish the cancel but do not want to go all the way out to the Hell agency. The GPO does have an extra set of datestamps of the sub post offices for emergency usage. Due to the popularity of these 24 mm CDS' there will be no new datestamps in the near future according to the postmaster.

One other mark I might comment on is the handstamp "Refused Delivery Prohibited/Under Penal Law /Cayman Islands." This mark was especially made for none other than the De Laurence mail and correspondence and the voodoo merchandise that floods the islands. Any mail sent from De Laurence or any other outfit suspected of selling religious items and propaganda gets stamped with this cancel and returned. Evidently it is very effective because the amount of material has dwindled to nothing. The postmaster showed me a few pieces that had come in and were to be duly stamped and returned to Chicago.

Next, I have illustrated three different First Day of Issue handstamps: the 7 February item

was used for one day only for the Silver Jubilee issue; the 25 July 1977 handstamp was used one day only for the Tourism issue; the third mark is brand new and yet to be used. They are hoping that the Butterfly set will be issued on 2 December 1977 and are hoping to use this new mark. There is a difference in this third mark, as it can be adjusted and reused again and again while the others were for one day only usage.



Some other information worth commenting on concerns the Special Delivery handstamp the SPO's are currently using. If a person wishes to speed up the delivery of his letter to its destination, he may pay an extra 30¢ and send it Special Delivery. However, the GPO is changing this feature to Express Delivery, as Special Delivery is too general a term while Express Delivery means letter delivery only -- nothing else. When the GPO receives the brown labels for themselves and the SPO's, they will retire the Special Delivery handstamp permanently. This should start around the beginning of 1978.

As of now, only West Bay, Savannah, and Boddentown have the special delivery handstamps. The others must write Special Delivery in manuscript and when the letter arrives at the GPO it is supposed to be handstamped; however, they have stopped doing this as I have evidenced on some items received.

The same can be said of registry now. The GPO is currently, and has since March 1977, been using registry labels. They have six digits, starting with numeral one. The SPO's will receive their labels sometime around the beginning of 1978 and the registry handstamps will be used then only in emergency situations.

Aerograms beginning some time this year will be two values only - 10¢ to USA, Canada, Central America, and West Indies, and 15¢ to the rest of the world. They are using up their current supply of aerograms to make ready for the new issue. As of now, they only have the 3¢ and 7¢, as the 10¢ is already sold out.

Beginning some time this year, the postoffice plans on charging each meter machine user \$20 a year for license fee. There are now 21 meter machines (19 Pitney Bowes and two Neo Post) in use on Grand Cayman. The users are as follows:

Neo Post

- 1. Nem (National Employer's Mutual)
- 2. Scotia Bank

Pitney Bowes Machines

- 1. Cayman Airways
- 2. Cayman Freepress
- 3. Barclay's Bank
- 4. Cable and Wireless
- 5. Caribbean Utilities
- 6. Rochester Photo (Two Machines)
- 7. Royal Bank of Canada

- 8. City Bank, N.E.
- 9. Cayman National Bank & Trust
- 10. Bank of Commerce
- 11. Citco (Cayman Islands Trust Company)
- 12. Guinness Mahon
- 13. Northwestern Bank
- 14. Royal Bank Trust
- 15. World Bank & Trust
- 16. Scotia Trust
- 17. Cayman Turtle Farm
- 18. A.L. Thompson

(To be continued)

WILLIAM GEORGE AIKMAN

by Howard Barnstone and Bob Richter

William George Aikman is often thought the philatelic scoundrel in British Honduras postal history; whether he was is not yet known. This article begins a series which will look into the question, using personal interviews, records of the period, and contemporary correspondence. This section serves as an introduction to W.G. Aikman and his philatelic activities.

Since 1840, when stamp collecting became a serious hobby and business, no area has been more neglected than biographic histories of the individuals involved. The lives of many in philately, past and present, are fascinating; all their actions have not been necessarily commendable, particularly when viewed from our present vantage point.

William George Aikman probably was born in Scotland about 1850. He went to British Honduras with his two brothers, Walter Bryan and Edward Herbert, in approximately 1870. Apparently, there were two Aikman sisters ((1)). A postcard written in 1900 by Edward Herbert Aikman to a Captain Reynard in New York confirms a female family member, certainly one of the sisters (Figure 1).

The "Handbook of British Honduras, 1880," shows that the Aikmans went to British Honduras to enter the import-export business. Deed records show they also invested in property and mortgages. W.G. Aikman is first on record ((2)) in Belize, 10 June 1878, when he purchased a lot in the City on Bishop Street from Thaddeus Panting, a druggist, for \$1,750 ((3)). That deed was witnessed by Walter, the brother later to become his business partner and to hold his power of attorney.

The money used in this purchase was North American dollars. Dollars were the actual money used in the colony even for recorded property transfers, although official currency did not change from sterling to dollars until 1 January 1888. Since the change to official dollar currency was not apparently anticipated by the colonial postal authorities, available pence stamps were surcharged with "cents"; we know this period from 1888 through 1891 as the Provisionals.

Why De La Rue, the great London Stamp designer and printer needed three years to print his first non-surcharged "cents" stamps in 1891 is a question of great interest. De La Rue was noted to have gotten out stamps, when pressured, from first sketch through engraving, trials, proofs, imprimaturs, specimens, and the delivered printed pane in less than three months. There is evidence in De La Rue's biography that the whole Provisional scene was the work of the colonial government in order to make money in philately. Was Aikman's close relationship to Postmaster W.J. McKinney involved in the delay?

Philatelic records suggest that Aikman was active in stamps only after the currency change-over. What pressures on the colonial government were applied to rid the rude fiscal system in 1887, and before, from the fiction of sterling is not known. Logically, this would involve the merchants, perhaps W.G. Aikman and his brother, Walter. Could the Aikmans have known that the money change would create enormous philatelic opportunity with surcharges?

In the 1878 voting records ((2)), W.G. Aikman is listed as a "mercantile clerk." Nine years later, in a power of attorney, he is called a "merchant." He was also a lawyer and, at one

((1)) Similarly numbered references appear at the end of this section.

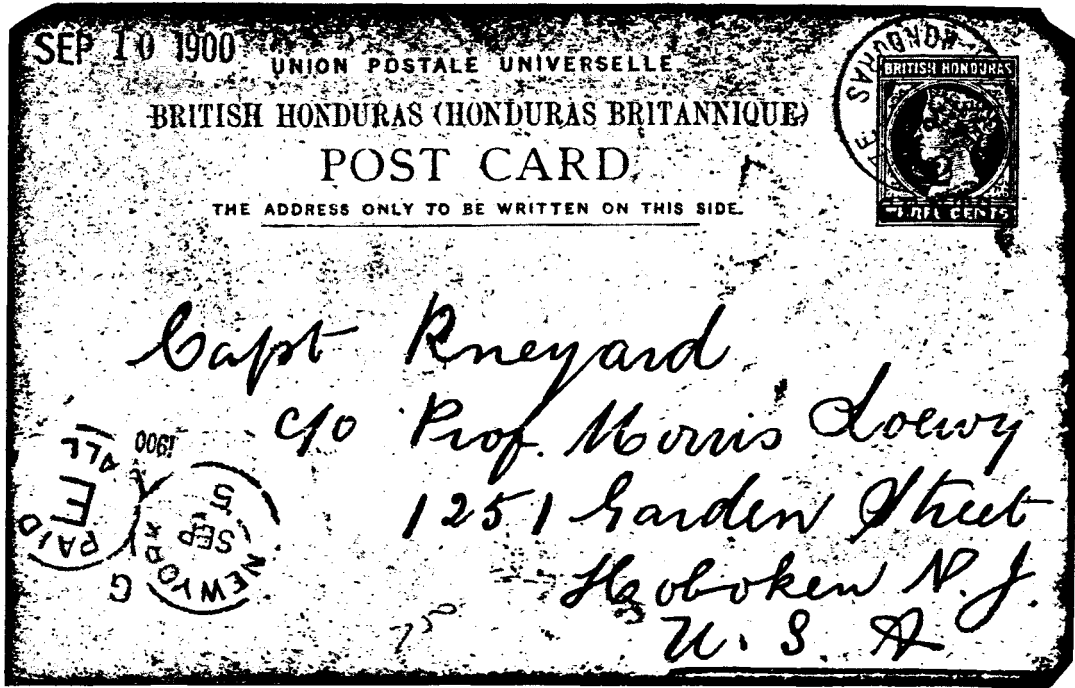


FIGURE 1

The message on the reverse of this postcard reads: "Belize 31st August 1900. Dear Sir, I received your Post Card addressed to Miss Aikman As she is away I am answering it. We have no Illustrated Cards here so I send this. Yours truly, E. H. Aikman"

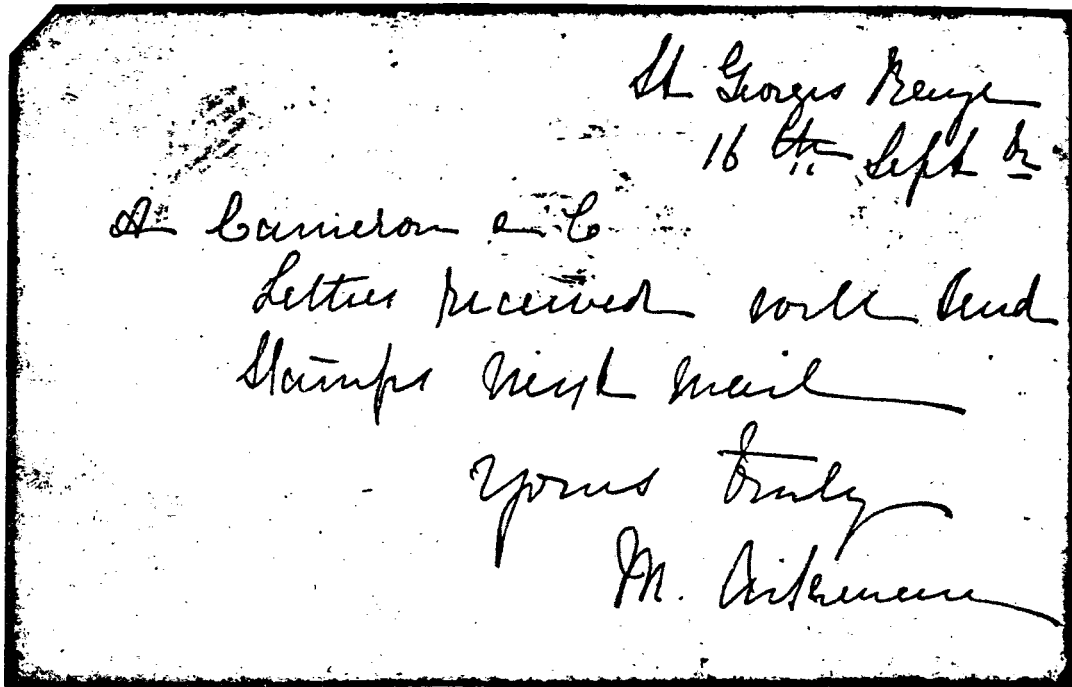


FIGURE 2

This card is addressed to A. Cameron & Co., Clairvale Rd, Jersey, England, and is post-marked Belize SP 16 92. It reads: "A. Cameron & Co. Letter received Will send Stamps next mail. Yours truly, M. Aikman"

(These two postcards seem to indicate an international stamp business.)

time, was appointed justice of the peace for the colony. BCPSGer Eric W. King confirms, by letter, that this was largely honorary.

Joel Gabourel, husband of Consy Gabourel, niece of W.G. Aikman and daughter of Walter, told Henry T.A. Bowman ((4)) of Stann Creek, Belize, many years ago that W.G. was known around town as "The Aristocrat," and that "he always appeared in public fully dressed with a big tie and sporting a cane."

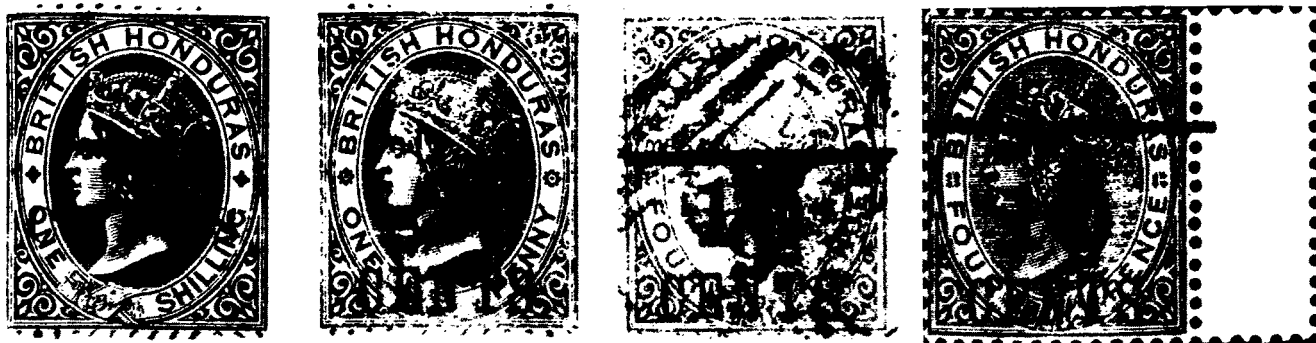
In "The Handbook of British Honduras for 1888-89," Aikman, in an advertisement, lists himself as General Merchant, Commission Agent, "Importer of Every Description of British and American Goods," "Exporter of Logwood, Tortoise-shell, and other Central American Produce." He is further listed as Agent for the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co., Ltd., Milwaukee Lager Beer ((5)).

In the Commercial Directory of the same publication, Aikman is listed as "a General Merchant and Dealer in every kind of imported store with an office on North Front Street in Belize," where he was also local agent for P. Leckie & Company, a London firm; he is further listed as having lighters for hire. In addition, Aikman was a director and treasurer of the British Honduras Fruit Company. Sir Henry Tucker says he may have even owned a hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana ((6)).

However, W.G. Aikman is famed neither for his riches nor good works in the colony. A letter from Chief Librarian A.R. Gibson of the National Library Service in Belize, dated 23 August 1976, says: "I regret to inform you that I have not been able to trace any information concerning W.G. Aikman."

He is remembered only amongst the small coterie of stamp collectors of British Honduras, many who traditionally have thought of Aikman material as "nasty concoctions" -- the words of John Taylor, a well-known London stamp dealer, in a letter to Howard Barnstone dated 15 June 1976.

Our specific knowledge connects W.G. Aikman with very few stamps and with having an active philatelic interest over a very short period. While it is possible he collected, even manipulated, stamps before 1888,* his earliest known connection with British Honduras stamps was that year. It appears his interest was for a maximum of seven years during which he was connected with only these four stamps and their varieties:



* One of the authors has in his possession a 1d bisect SG #19 (1882-87) with an 1888 CDS. This is unusual, for no postal rate of ½d is known for that year. It is possible that this was an early Aikman freak, for we are sure from voting records and local advertisements that he was in the colony as early as 1877-78.

SG #35	1888	surcharge "TWO" on 50¢ on 1/- gray in black and in black and red
35b and 35c		
37	1888	2¢ on 1p carmine
37a	1888	bisected 2¢ on 1p carmine
37 and 37a	1888	se-tenant whole and bisect
43a	1891-94	6¢ (red) on 10¢ (black) on 4p mauve -- "6" and bar inverted
43b		6¢ (red) on 10¢ (black) on 4p mauve -- "6" only inverted
44a	1891-94	6¢ (black) on 10¢ (black) on 4p mauve -- "6" and bar inverted
44b		6¢ (black) on 10¢ (black) on 4p mauve -- "6" only inverted

Highly respected London attorney and collector Simon Goldblatt, writing of Aikman, says "My impression is that his greatest philatelic activity covered a fairly short period, because he seems to have used very few of the first local surcharges as bisects, and I have seen no indication that he exploited the "Revenue" overprints at the end of the century. Could he have resisted the "BEVENUE" or "REVENUE" varieties (1 July 1899), or the long and short overprints se-tenant, if he were active at this time? (These overprints are quite scarce on cover, and usually traveled to Germany, rather than anywhere else.)" ((7))

From the earliest stamp catalogs, only 37a, the bisect in its various forms, has been cheap -- all other Aikman material is rare and very expensive. Nevertheless, it has always carried the stigma of made-to-order philately. It is a terrible excommunication of one who tried too hard.

Are they better or worse than the endless flood of first day covers, Franklin "Mints," Bicentennial junk, silver jubilees, and the stamps of entire countries whose economies revolve around "philately"?

Subsequent articles will examine, in detail, W.G. Aikman's specific philatelic activities.

REFERENCES:

1. Letter from O. N. D. Phillips to the authors, 28 January 1977.
2. "Government Gazette-British Honduras," List of Male Persons Entitled to Vote in the Election of Members of the Town Board of Belize for the Year 1878.
3. All references to deed or other recorded material is a result of examination of the Registry of Deeds in Belize City on 28 August 1976.
4. Personal conversation with H. T. A. Bowman in Stann Creek, Belize, on 28 August 1976 with reference to statements by Joel Gabourel.
5. "The Handbook of British Honduras 1888-89," comprising historical, statistical, and general information concerning the colony. Compiled from official and other reliable records by Lindsay W. Bristowe of the Judicial Department and Philip B. Wright of the Colonial Secretary's Department. Published by William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh and London, 1888.
6. Letter dated 2 November 1976 from Sir Henry Tucker to the authors.
7. Letter dated 20 September 1976 from Simon Goldblatt of London to Howard Barnstone.

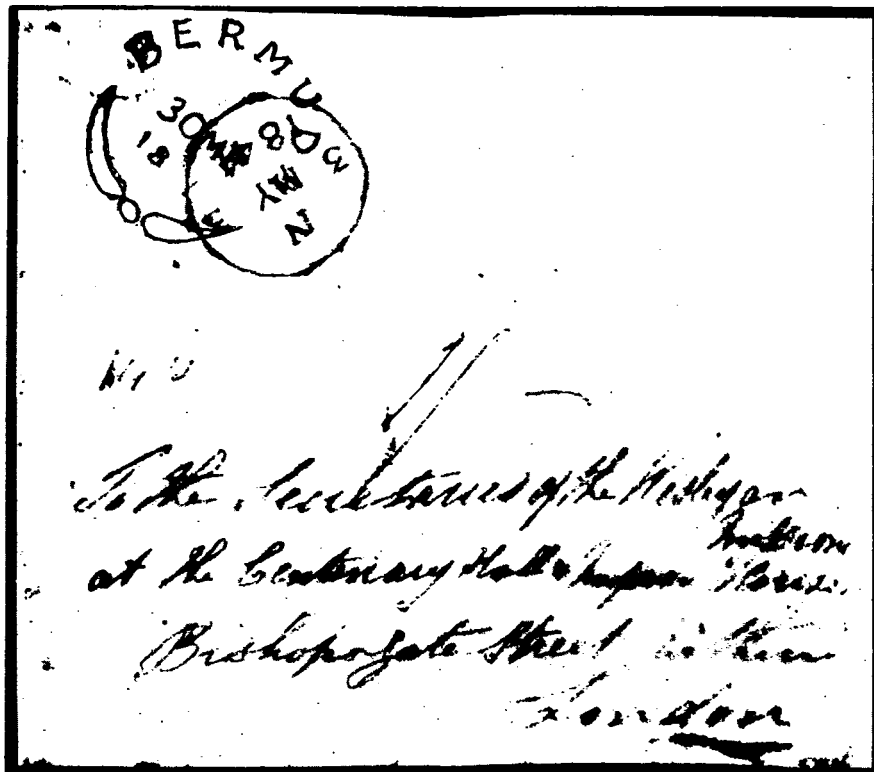
The island of Anguilla was so named because of its shape -- the word coming from the French "anguille," meaning eel. However, don't pronounce it An-geela or An-gweela for it is Anguilla. Remember, "There was a young girl from Anguilla
Who slept on an eiderdown pilla..."

Bermuda Mail Boats...1833-1867

by Jack Arnell

In 1833, the British Admiralty decided to limit the monthly transatlantic mail packet to the Falmouth-Halifax-Falmouth route and discontinue the on-going Halifax-Bermuda-Halifax service, which had formed part of the route for the previous six years. In place of the latter, a contract was made with Samuel Cunard of Halifax, Nova Scotia, to carry the mails between Halifax and Bermuda in the same way as he had been doing between Halifax and Boston since late in 1827. In each case, the subsidiary mailboats were to leave Halifax as soon as possible after the arrival of the Falmouth packet. While the mailboat remained at Boston for about two weeks, to allow the mail to go overland to Washington and the replies thereto returned to Boston, the Bermuda mail boat was only to remain at the island for four days. Because of the difference in sailing time to the two ports, both round trips took about three weeks.

The two services were met by the use of four sailing vessels, "Emily," "Lady Ogle," "Roseway," and "Velocity," with the "Emily" being replaced by the "Margaret" in 1836. These vessels normally operated in rotation and alternated between Bermuda and Boston, until the introduction of the Cunard steamers on the transatlantic route in July 1840. As this new steamer service had Boston as its North American terminal, with Halifax a port-of-call both out-bound and inbound, the mail boat contract was reduced to the Halifax-Bermuda route.

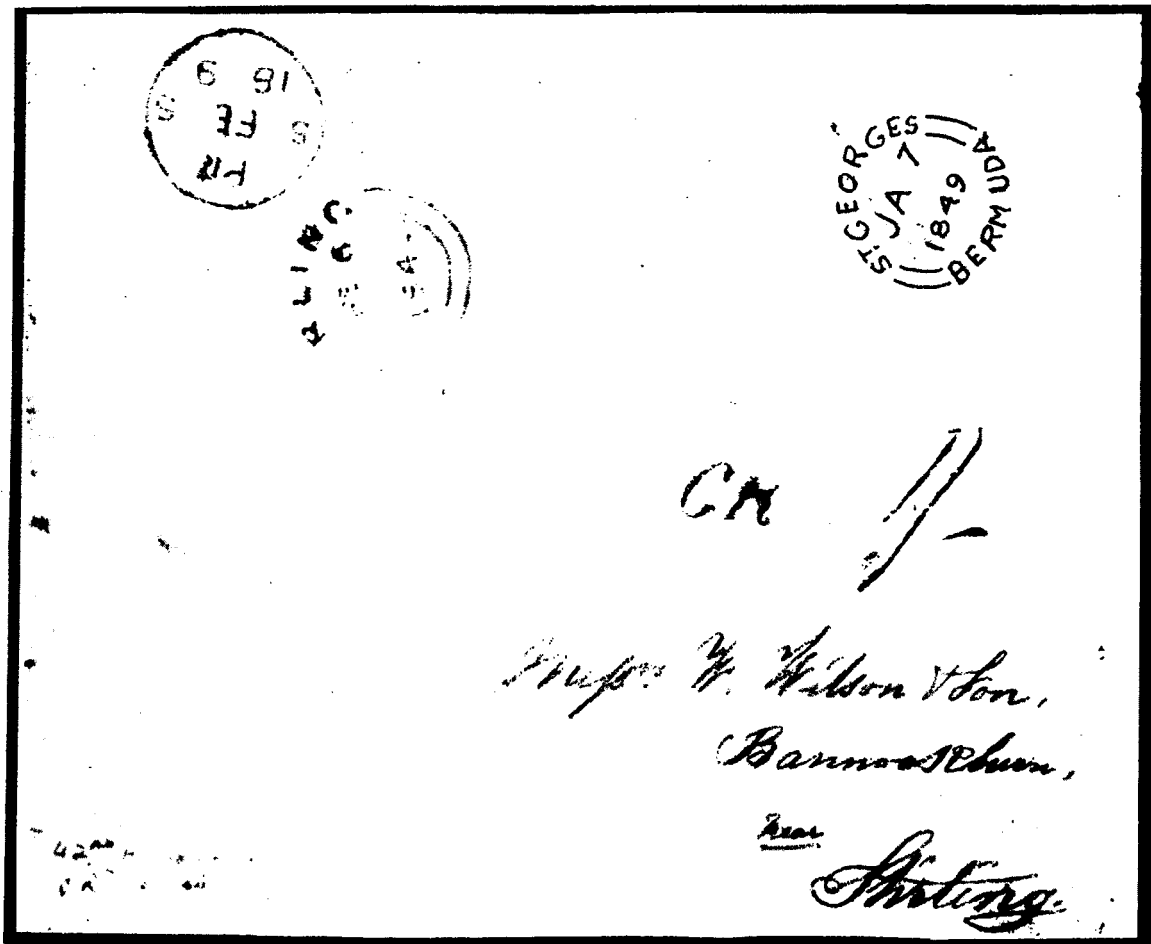


Mailed at St. George's on 30 March 1841, this letter was taken by the "Lady Ogle" the following day and reached Halifax on 8 April. It was carried by the "Acadia" from Halifax on 19 April and arrived Liverpool on 29 April. It was datestamped at London on 3 May.

At first, when the steamers were operating on a monthly basis, three mail boats, "Lady Ogle," "Roseway," and "Velocity," were rotated on the Halifax-Bermuda run, but when the transatlantic service was increased to twice a month in March 1841, the "Margaret" again joined the other three vessels. These vessels continued on this service until August 1848, when they

were replaced by screw steamers. An analysis of this mail boat service will be found in the April 1970 issue of the BCPJournal.

The steamer service was inaugurated by the "Ospray," which sailed for Bermuda, following the arrival of the "Acadia" at Halifax on 11 August 1848 with the 29 July mail from Liverpool. It arrived at St. George's on 16 August. This service was shared with the "Falcon," which made her first voyage on 22 September. A third vessel, the "Kestrel," was added the following summer. With the introduction of steam on the route, the average transmit time between Halifax and Bermuda was reduced to about four days.



This cover was mailed at St. George's on 7 January 1849, carried to Halifax on the "Falcon," and arrived on 23 January. It was transferred to the "America" on 26 January, which arrived Liverpool on 4 February. It was backstamped at London on 5 February and Stirling, Scotland, on 6 February.

Samuel Cunard was now given a contract to operate a parallel Halifax-St. John's, Newfoundland, service. This had been in the hands of several different contractors using sailing vessels since it was first established in 1840. On 8 March 1849, following the arrival of the "America" at Halifax, the "Falcon" cleared for St. John's, while the "Ospray" sailed for Bermuda, thus inaugurating the double service. In July 1849, the "Kestrel" was lost off the coast of Newfoundland, and Cunard was forced to use sailing vessels on the Newfoundland mail run for several years, until he obtained a replacement steamer.

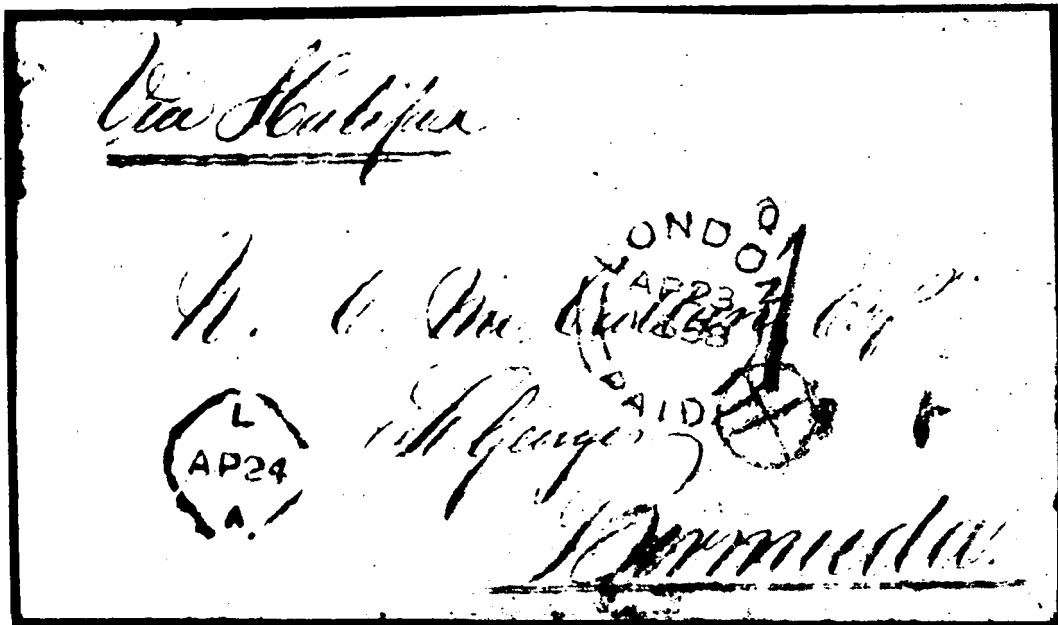
In 1850, Cunard decided to establish a monthly steamer service between New York, Bermuda, and St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, which would connect with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Com-

pany's service between Southampton and the West Indies. The "Ospray" was diverted to New York from Bermuda late in September in order to inaugurate this new service. In November, the "Merlin," which had been built for this run, replaced the "Ospray."

In the spring of 1851, with two steamers available and a third, the "Levantine," building, Newfoundland was again provided with a mail steamer service. This was to be very short-lived, for the "Falcon" was wrecked near St. John's on 8 May 1851. The "Ospray" carried on alone serving Bermuda, while sailing vessels again went to Newfoundland. In December, the "Levantine" was ready for the Bermuda run and the "Ospray" was put on the Newfoundland route. The "Levantine" proved to have more than her share of troubles (breaking down at sea, developing serious leaks, etc.) during the 16 months that she was kept in service. On 18 May 1853, she cleared Halifax for Glasgow and passed out of the Cunard mail service.

Bermuda, which had suffered from a very uncertain mail service from Halifax since the first appearance of the "Levantine," was to continue to suffer, as Cunard had to revert to sailing vessels for the remainder of 1853. The situation was finally resolved with the addition of the "Curlew" to the fleet. This steamer took over the New York-Bermuda-St. Thomas run from the "Merlin" in December 1853, releasing the latter for service out of Halifax.

In June 1854, Halifax replaced New York as the northern terminal of the route to St. Thomas via Bermuda, with the "Curlew" as the principal steamer. At the same time, the Halifax-Bermuda mail service was changed from fortnightly to once every four weeks, and continued thus for some years. The "Curlew" was lost on the reefs to the north of Bermuda on 18 March 1856 and was replaced by the "Merlin," until the "Delta," a new steamer, took over the route in November of the same year.



This letter was carried from Liverpool on the "Europa" on 24 April 1858 and arrived Halifax 4 May. It was taken by the "Merlin" on 6 May and reached Bermuda about 11 May.

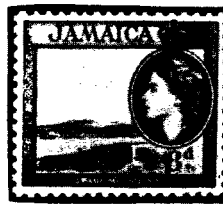
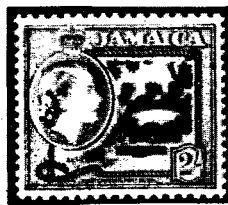
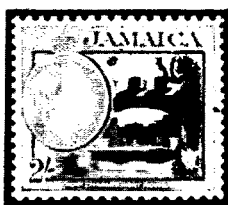
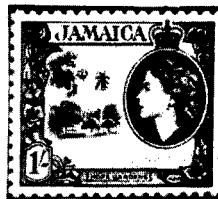
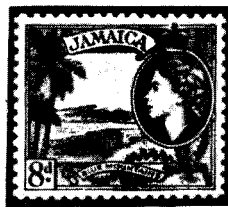
The "Delta" maintained a monthly service for the next seven years, being relieved on two to four voyages per year by the "Merlin." On 25 June 1863, the "Alpha" cleared Halifax for Bermuda on her maiden voyage as the new mail steamer. Through 1867, she provided most of the service, being replaced by the "Delta" on two or three voyages each year. There was one notable exception to this pattern. The "Africa" out of Liverpool was due at Halifax with the

transatlantic mails on 14 October 1863, but struck off Cape Race, Newfoundland, and was stranded. The "Alpha," which was waiting "Africa's" arrival before heading south, was sent to St. John's to pick up her mail and passengers, and, in the meantime, the "Ospray" cleared for Bermuda on 19 October in her stead.

Jamaica 1956 De La Rue Essays

by Michael Vokins

All philatelic materials have been removed from the De La Rue records in the National Postal Museum, London, but photocopies or color transparencies are available for inspection in their place. The essays illustrated were photographed from the originals through the courtesy of Robson Lowe.



(Reproduced by permission of De La Rue Ltd.)

The essays are a fascinating study in stamp design, especially in relation to the design of the frames. The accepted and simple organization of the 5d is a further refinement of the Waterlow designs for the George VI definitives. On the other hand, the unaccepted frames for the 6d, 8d, and 1/- hark back to the De La Rue pictorials of 1919. If the De La Rue designs for the George VI pictorials (rejected 6 May 1938) had similar frames, it is easy to see how De La Rue had become out of touch with the taste of the Crown Agents in 1938, but had learned their lesson by 1956.

It was during Al Johnson's reign as editor that Journal fillers read such as "During the recent cold spell, we were the first to realize the curse of miniature sheets." (Whole #6)

THE TUDWAY AFFAIR

by John M. Willem

On 5 July 1971, a handyman caretaker employed by the Cathedral School, Wells, Somerset, England, decided to investigate the contents of a chest which had long bothered him in the unlighted cellar room of The Cedars, the ancestral home of the Tudways of Wells which had been sold to the School in 1967.

What bothered Jack Webster, the handyman, was that the chest was in the way of students' trunks and other paraphernalia stored there. The school term was over, and Webster was cleaning out the various belongings. The chest had intrigued him, strap-bound as it was in its cellar niche, but it also bothered him, as it was in the way of much-needed storage space for the expanding school's needs.

Breaking open the seals, Webster found a mass of early letters and documents relating to Tudway holdings, not only in the surrounding Wells countryside, but to dealings with respect to plantations held by the Tudways from early settlement days in Antigua in the West Indies. Webster was not knowledgeable about these things, but he knew that E. Neil Mitchell, one of the school's housemasters, was. At ten o'clock that night Webster showed Mitchell what he had discovered. With only flashlights to guide them, they found that the cellar room was not a suitable place for examination of the papers, so Mitchell scooped up "all I could carry."

The following day was Sports Day at the school, and Mitchell reported his findings to David Tudway-Quilter, a Trustee of the school and a nephew of the last male member of the Tudway line, an uncle who had risen to high rank in the British Navy.

Subsequently, in December, 1971, the "find" was turned over to the Somerset County Record Office, of which one John Hamer was the Accessions Officer.

Early the following year, philatelically valuable Tudway papers began to appear on the public market through reliable dealers in Bristol and in London, and these early letters continued to appear in auctions up to 1976.

The source of this material was John Hamer, who reputedly told the Bristol and London dealers that he came into possession through persons who had found the letters during renovation of quarters formerly occupied by solicitors who had handled Tudway affairs, and who knew of Hamer's interest in such matters.

The Tudway material dispersed by Hamer found its way from the dealers in question by private treaty in some cases, through auctions in others.

Questions began to arise as to Tudway and the Tudway family. A search began which was ultimately to lead to the conviction of John Hamer for theft as a result of a trial held in Bristol Crown Court on 31 March 1977.

Hamer's indictment and trial resulted from a study of the Tudway material in the Record Office in Taunton, a study which made readily apparent the fact that the Record Office files had been stripped of postal history specimens of substantial value.

As to the Tudway material itself, it rivals and outdistances "The Codrington Correspondence" in volume and in detail, and adds materially to collector knowledge of early Antigua postal

history. It includes the earliest Antigua handstamp known, and many handstamps not known to Codrington. Over a thousand pre-adhesive Antigua handstamps comprise the Tudway collection, and these are being cataloged. The work will take several years.

As the result of the Hamer conviction, unsold Tudway material was recovered by David Tudway-Quilter, and is subsequently being made available for indexing, cataloging, and study.

The correspondence is unique, insofar as it covers three generations of the Tudway family during the period 1760 to 1854, a period which includes the rise and fall of the sugar economy of the West Indies, the influence of the Industrial Revolution on sugar making, and the periods covering the abolition of the slave trade, the events leading to Emancipation, the period of Emancipation itself, and the post-Emancipation period.

Plantation records, kept in detail, afford the scholar with an opportunity which, according to Professor John Ward, Department of Economic History at Edinburgh University, is unexcelled.

Available for study to the British historian are volumes of London receiving marks, as well as Ship Letter cancellations.

Had it not been for the investigative work carried out in 1976 and again in 1977 by this writer and his wife, the scope of the Tudway collection would not have been drawn to the Hamer theft, the release of letters by Mr. Tudway-Quilter for further study, or the collection in the Taunton Record Office.

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ST. VINCENT VILLAGE CANCELS

by Reuben A. Ramkissoon

The St. Vincent Philatelic Bureau initiated a service in 1976 whereby collectors could order complete sets of first day covers bearing all of the 40 St. Vincent village post office cancellations. At that time, the bureau explained that much of the charm and rarity of rural cancellations lies in the fact that their standard of accuracy falls below that of the head post office even though every endeavor is made to achieve 100% accuracy.

Following is a list of the 40 St. Vincent village post office cancellations taken from a set of official first day covers of the National Trust commemorative issue of 16 December 1976. The CDS' are all similar in design, being single-ring circular markings 23 mm in diameter.



Arnos Vale
Calder
Campden Park
Diamond Village

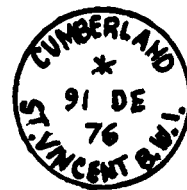
Gomea
Greggs
Lodge

Mesopotamia
O'Brien's Valley
Owia

Park Hill
Richland Park
Rilland Hill

Rose Bank
Sandy Bay
South Rivers
Spring Village

NAME around top/ST. VINCENT W.I. around bottom
Asterisk/16 DE/76 (unless otherwise illustrated) in center



Barrouallie
Buccament
Byera Hill

Calliaqua
Chateaubelair
Colonarie

Cumberland
Edinboro
Evesham

Georgetown
Layou
Lowmans Hill

Lowmans Windward
New Ground
Prospect
Questelles

NAME around top/ST. VINCENT B.W.I. around bottom
Asterisk/16 DE/76 (unless otherwise illustrated) in center



Sion Hill

Orange Hill

Rose Hall

Diabou ST. VINCENT

ST. VINCENT B.W.I.

ST. VINCENT, W.I.

B.W.I.

No Asterisk

No Asterisk

Asterisk



Stubbs
ST. VINCENT T.W.I.
Asterisk



Troumaca
ST. VINCENT, WEST INDIES
Asterisk



Belmont ST. VINCENT
WEST INDIES
Asterisk

Although these postmarks were taken from philatelic covers, it is still important that they be recorded for future St. Vincent postal historians for commercial mail does emanate from these offices.

INAGUA, THE ENIGMA

by "Sam Ahab"

Great Inagua is a low, flat island barely awash of tropical seas whose highest point, 130 foot Southeast Hill, overlooks a 13,000 foot abyss of water. It lies approximately 80 miles equidistant from the Turks and Caicos Islands, Haiti, and Cuba, athwart the Old Bahama Channel. The only settlement on the island, Matthewtown, is surrounded by approximately 400 square miles of wild, desolate land containing a 12 square mile lake and a colony of pink flamingos. Sea salt was the commodity instrumental in the settlement of Matthewtown and, as a commercial enterprise, required postal facilities.

"The Bahama Islands," the fine study by Ludington and Raymond on Bahamian postal markings, lists all Inagua postmarks as 'A,' or common. Yet, it has taken most of a century to find sufficient postal history material to give an inkling of Inagua's philatelic history.

The major breakthrough was revealed in the April 1972 issue of the BCPJournal in an article by Ludington, "Bahamas' Earliest Out Islands Postmarks?" Illustrated were postmarks B4a and Inagua Type 1 and the obliterator K3a. Figure 1 is a photocopy of a portion of one cover shown with the K3a obliterator tying a stamp to a registered cover with the Inagua Type 1 postmark on the front.

Since the article was written, another pair of covers have come to light with the K3a obliterator used on postal stationery (Figures 2 and 4). Two additional covers with the Type 1 postmark used as obliterator and postmark are also shown (Figures 3 and 5). Figures 2 and 5 are courtesy of Gale Raymond.

A resume of these early Inagua markings follows:

- Fig. 1 Dated 21 SP 98, Type K3a oblit and Type 1 postmark.
- Fig. 2 Dated 21 JU 99, Type K3a oblit and Type 1 postmark.
- Fig. 3 Dated 11 NO 01, Type 1 postmark used as oblit only.
- Fig. 4 Dated 11 DE 01, Type K3a oblit and Type 1 postmark.
- Fig. 5 Dated 29 JU 04, Type 1 postmark used as oblit only.

Route markings and receiving marks made on the reverse of the covers have been photocopied and superimposed on the appropriate fronts for their philatelic interest.



REGISTERED LETTER.
THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE TO BE REGISTERED AND A RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.

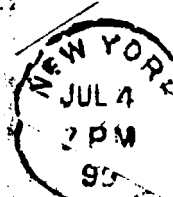
FIG. 1

REGISTERED LETTER.

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE TO BE REGISTERED AND A RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.



FIG. 2

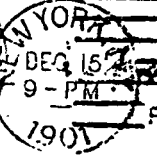
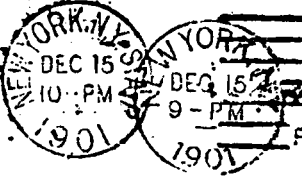


A. V. Temple Esq.

FIG. 3



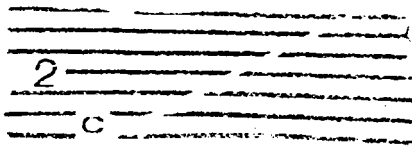
FIG. 4



curadeure,

ANY.

FIG. 5



1904

Mr. Cohen & Co.
103 Front Street
New York City

THOSE MYSTERIOUS TOBAGO NUMERAL CANCELS

by Edward Addiss

In "The Philatelic History of Trinidad to 1862," published by the British West Indies Study Circle in 1963, John Marriott describes, lists, and identifies the early numeral cancellations of Trinidad which run from 1 to 36. Collectors of Tobago may be aware of similar obliterations used on that island numbered 14, 15, and 16. Where, when, and why were they used? No one seems to know. Published information is practically nonexistent.

The Tobago numerals are similar to, but definitely different from, their Trinidad counterparts. Figures 1, 2, and 3 show the Tobago obliterations, while Figures 4, 5, and 6 are the Trinidad types (Note: cancellations shown are tracings and may not be exact). All are Marriott Type 0.4 except Trinidad number 16, which is Type 0.2. Number 16 of Type 0.4 is unknown on Trinidad stamps. It was apparently sent to Tobago for use there.

TOBAGO TYPES



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

TRINIDAD TYPES



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

The main differences are in the height of the numerals. Other differences exist in the shape of the numerals themselves.

<u>Numeral</u>	<u>Tobago</u>	<u>Trinidad</u>
14	approx. 7.5 mm high	approx. 6.5 mm high
15	" 7.5 mm "	" 6.5 mm "
16	" 6.5 mm "	" 7.5 mm "

The Tobago numerals are found on the Crown CA issue, Scott #'s 15, 17, and 18. They were evidently used from the late 1880's to the early 1890's and perhaps later. One copy is known with an additional Tobago CDS dated 1893.

Where and why they were used remain mysteries. It is generally thought that Scarborough, the capital, Roxborough, or as it was sometimes spelled, Roxboro, and Speyside had post offices at that time. It is known that Scarborough used the A14 obliterator during this period. Could Scarborough have used both A14 and 14 at the same time? Not likely, but then stranger things have come to light in BWI postal history studies. Quite obviously, "proving covers" are required before definite conclusions can be drawn.

The Tobago numeral cancellations appear to be quite scarce, although any one number is not more difficult to find than the other two. This, again, is curious, if one surmises that the amount of mail processed should vary from one office to another, depending on their relative importance.

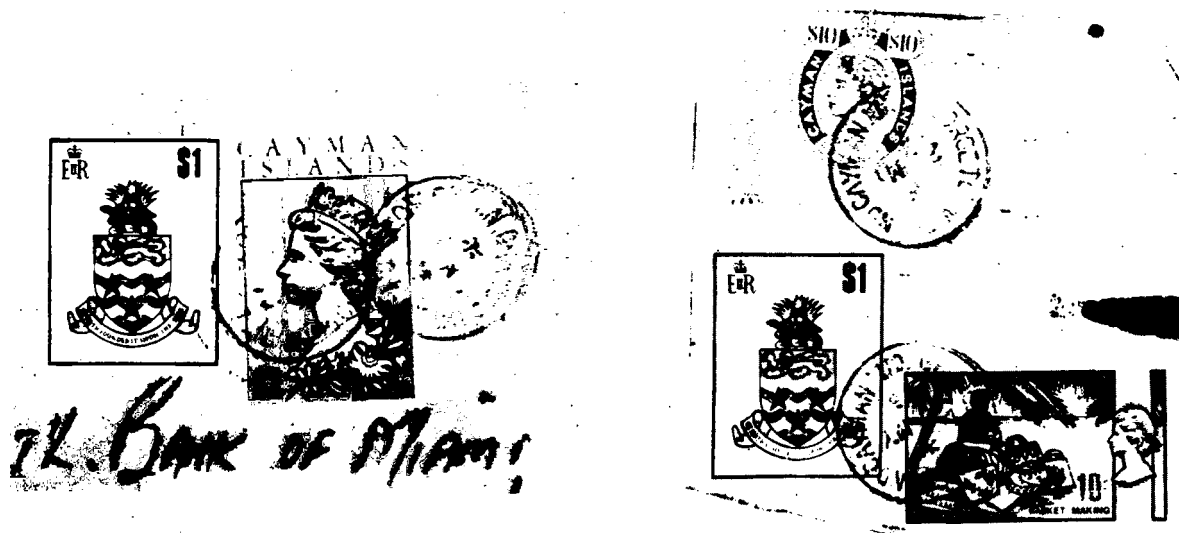
The writer would be pleased and grateful to hear from fellow collectors who may have additional information to offer.

Cayman Fiscals used Postally

by Elkin M. Adelson and Edgar P. Jennings

In the late 1960's and early 1970's, over 25 banks in the Bahamas went broke when the economic boom collapsed there. Many Bahamians lost a great deal of money in these institutions as a result of the banking laws having been written to favor the banks at the expense of the depositors and investors.

A new country was chosen -- the Cayman Islands. Here, another boom was on the way; however, the Cayman Islanders, after seeing the debacle with the Bahamas banking laws, wrote theirs to protect the natives against the losses that happened in the Bahamas. American, British, and Canadian banks opened international branches in the islands for the moving of international funds throughout the world.



Inter-bank reports were voluminous and required a great amount of postage. The highest Cayman postage stamp value is \$2. In May, 1973, Barclays Bank in Georgetown, Grand Cayman, sent several large reports to an unnamed Miami bank using revenue stamps along with postage stamps. The values of the fiscal stamps used for postage were \$4, \$10, and \$20.

To the best of the writers' knowledge, there exist only four examples with stamps on piece and one single \$20 off piece. The postmarks are postal, not fiscal.

Anyone having further knowledge of this extremely rare use of these stamps, please communicate with the authors.

Antigua Official-Paid Datestamps

by William G. Cornell

A Group correspondence has been taking place concerning Antigua Official Paid datestamps. On the basis of the results of this correspondence, it has been concluded that there are at least two versions known -- possibly three, subject to further research.

This finding is new, since it has been generally felt in the past that only one Official Paid mark existed for Antigua; however, in "Antigua Addenda" in the February 1968 BCPJournal, p. 14, this writer suggested that there might be two marks, chronologically 1904 and earlier and 1906 and later. At this point, it is evident that an early, smaller diameter datestamp preceded a later, larger diameter datestamp. There may even have been two versions of the earlier type.



TYPE 1
1891-1904



TYPE 2
1908-1932

The first type has a diameter of 22-22.5 mm and a letter height of 2.5-3 mm, with an asterisk over the two-line date and with OFFICIAL-PAID (with hyphen between the two words) above and ANTIGUA below.

There are five reported strikes of the first type between 3 June 1891 (E. V. Toeg) and 19 July 1904 (S. C. Durnin). The early two are reported without asterisk, while the later three have asterisks. There is a similar disparity in the reports on the hyphen between OFFICIAL and PAID. One of the earlier two has a hyphen and one of the later three has a hyphen. Of course, indices and hyphens do not always register as well as the outer circle and the letter inscriptions. However, it is possible that there were two sub-types with date ranges of 3 June 1891 (E. V. Toeg) to 6 April 1892 (E. B. Proud) and of 8 March 1904 (M. V. Swetland) to 19 July 1904 (S. C. Durnin).

In regard to the second type, Peter Jaffe reports in the September/October 1953 issue of the "West End Philatelist" a proof strike in the GPO-London records of an OFFICIAL-PAID/ANTIGUA mark dated AP 27 06. Unfortunately, no detailed description of the mark is given. However, it seems clear that this must be the second type which has a diameter of 24-24.5 mm and letter height of 3.5 mm, with both asterisk and hyphen.

There are a dozen or more reported strikes (plus the proof strike noted above) dated between 21 January 1908 (Alex Thomson) and 10 August 1932 (S. C. Durnin). Again, the imprint of the hyphen is not always clear (sometimes a dot, or non-existent), although the asterisk is nearly always present.

This writer is indebted to George Bowman, Stan Durnin, Simon Goldblatt, Fred Seifert, Mark Swetland, and Alex Thomson for this information. The research continues, and readers are urged to send comments, along with full descriptions of any OFFICIAL-PAID/ANTIGUA marks to the writer (230 Hillcrest Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45215). The final results will appear in the Journal as Section 19 of the Antigua Monograph of the BCPSG.

Montserrat WWI Cinderella

by Charles E. Cwiakala

Gaston Fontanille was born in Valence, France, at some time in the 1880's/1890's. The son of a magistrate, he was able to form an extensive collection of French "Cahiers de la Guerre" (War Stamps). He sold this collection at the age of 31 under the pseudonym of "DeLandre."

Well-funded from the sale of his collection and some personal monies, DeLandre founded the "Societe La Propaganda Francaise" (The French Propaganda Society) headquartered at 14-16 rue des Petits-Hotels, Paris X. He acquired a staff of experienced artists and military experts who completed a vast array of multicolored patriotic and propaganda seals of his own design. These included hundreds of issues for individual French regiments. The sales of these patriotic seals were brisk, and the presses at the DeLandre Printing House were in constant use.

Being an entrepreneur, DeLandre realized that further profits would be made if he could only integrate his cinderella creations with the then-current world-wide Red Cross drives for funds. He obtained permission from a great number of Red Cross Committees to print and sell seals with the war theme. The seals all bear the name of the issuing Red Cross Committee, and these committees were to share in the profits derived from the sale of the seals.

Seals were issued for committees in more than 50 French cities, as well as for those in Johannesburg, Petrograd, Dakar (Senegal), New York, Chicago, Havana, Papeete (Tahiti), Montreal, Winnipeg, Caracas, Tokyo, Sydney, Melbourne, Cayenne (French Guiana), St. Denis (Reunion), and many, many more. The only British Caribbean area Red Cross Committee apparently ensnared in his scheme was that of Montserrat's "French Red Cross Society."

DeLandre's issue for Montserrat was a multi-colored seal with dimensions of 18x40 mm for the design. As could well be expected, the cinderella was available as both imperforate and perforate (rough and clean perf. 11) varieties. The central theme (black) was adapted from Montserrat's Public Seal of the Presidency which shows the Figure of Faith embracing the Cross with her right hand and holding a harp with her left. This vignette is printed on a muted yellowish background and is framed in gold. The "FRENCH RED CROSS Sy." is in white, while "MONTSEERRAT" and "1d (red cross) 1d" are in red on muted yellowish. The background of the seal is a violet-grey and the entire design is framed in gold.



The three perforation varieties of Montserrat's WWI cinderella: clean cut perf. 11, rough perf. 11, imperforate.

I have been able to record five copies of this cinderella, two of them being the imperforate variety. Undoubtedly a greater number exist, but it is conjectured that they repose in Seal and Charity Stamp collections rather than in British Caribbean postal history collections. Based on fundamental research with the little literature available on the subject, I would place the date of the issue at some time during 1916-17. I have not been able to record a copy of the seal used on a Montserrat cover during the WWI years.

The issuance of seals for the Red Cross Committees was successful from the standpoint of

DeLandre's personal gains, so successful that he then embarked on a venture of creating bogus governmental semi-postal Red Cross issues! One of his ventures was to create a set of four bogus semi-postal stamps for Montenegro. The true nature of these issues was revealed in the philatelic press ("Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers," September, 1917, p. 129). The final paragraph in Griebert's expose includes the following information on this most interesting gentleman:

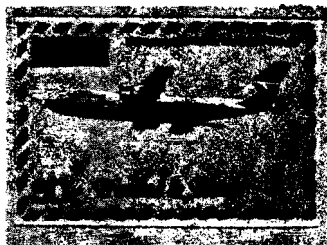
"It appears that this man DeLandre, alias Gaston Fontanille, also pretended to have invented a wonderful periscope with which he would be able to discover submarines, and in order to work this invention he obtained a partner to the tune of 12,000 fr. !

"After having duped various people, obtaining money from all quarters, he eventually over-reached himself, ingenious as he was, and returned to prison which he had only quitted in July, 1914, after having been convicted already seventimes, and Philately may rejoice at having got rid of such an energetic, but dangerous, man!"

DeLandre was arrested on 20 June 1917 for his illegal dealings with Italian military stamps, and for his unfulfilled agreements for the sharing of the profits from the sale of the DeLandre Printing House Red Cross seals. This writer has not been able to source further documentation as to DeLandre's ultimate fate, but we can thank this scoundrel for adding one more item to the area of British Caribbean collectables, even though it must be considered a peripheral cinderella.

A Tip on T&T!

Mike Romano sends a clipping from the September 1977 issue of "Stamp Magazine" in which the status of the 50¢ value of Trinidad and Tobago's 50 Years of Airmail commemorative is clarified.



It seems that the 50¢ value pictures a Boeing 747 in the colors of British Airways! BWIA, Trinidad's national airlines, made an official complaint concerning this, and the denomination was withdrawn locally soon after issue. Also withdrawn was the souvenir sheet which contained the 50¢ value.

The Crown Agents kept the stamps on sale, so it should not be difficult to obtain the 50¢ value and souvenir sheet mint; however, be alerted to try to obtain the set and sheet in used condition. The best bet would be on a First Day Cover. Mike was lucky enough to get a copy with a clear Cunupia strike on cover, as well as a Port-of-Spain FDC.

Trinidad is Spanish meaning Trinity and is pronounced locally in Spanish fashion with the stress softly on the last syllable -- Trinidad.

Nevis is NEEVIS; Barbados is BARBAYDOS; St. Lucia is ST. LOOSHA; Grenada is GREYAYDA; in the Grenadines, Bequia is pronounced BECKWEE, Tobago is TOBAYGO. However, when we come to the word Caribbean we come to a problem. According to Webster's dictionary, either Cari-bé'an or Car-rib'i-an is correct with the former holding first place.

A Philatelic Visit to Bermuda

by Russell V. Skavaril

Bermuda is one of my special philatelic interests. My wife has no interest in philately whatsoever (apart from when she needs a stamp for a letter); however, I am indeed fortunate in having an understanding wife who tolerates my hobby. While I have no great rarities in my Bermuda collection, I do have a few philatelic items which hold great sentimental value for me. When my wife and I began considering taking a cruise to Bermuda, there was, in the back of my mind, the possibility that I would, perhaps, be able to visit all of the post offices on the islands and obtain canceled covers from them. My wife agreed that obtaining these covers would afford us an excellent chance to see much of Bermuda, and she agreed to help me with my quest.

We set sail for Bermuda on the S.S. "Doric," leaving New York on 3 September 1977, our first cruise. The facilities, services, and entertainment on the ship were fantastic; however, the most exciting moment for me was on 5 September when our ship arrived in Hamilton Harbor and Bermuda appeared before us as a fairyland of buildings and houses painted in pastels of pink, blue, yellow, and green. Almost the first thing the visitor to Bermuda notices is the overwhelming cleanliness of this island paradise, particularly when one recalls the city of New York from which we had sailed.

Before we had left home, I had addressed the covers which I intended to have canceled in Bermuda. Our first trip ashore was to the main post office in Hamilton (Scott #210-13, 359) to purchase stamps for my covers. Along the way to the main post office, which is an easy three block walk from where the cruise ships dock, one passes the Session House (#191) where Bermuda's Parliament meets.



Hamilton G. P. O.



House of Assembly

The main post office itself is a large, modern building on the corner of Church and Parliament Streets, having been opened in 1967. Inside, on the ground floor, against the west wall of the main lobby, is a row of approximately half a dozen postal clerk stations for the usual post office business. The Philatelic Bureau occupies the southeast corner of the main lobby. In addition to the philatelic sales area, there is an interesting display of some of the recent Bermuda issues.

On this particular day, there were two postal clerks on duty in the Philatelic Bureau, and I found it quite a thrill to be able to step up to the counter and ask for the items which I wanted. The clerks were extremely courteous and helpful. No matter what one asks for, there was never an instance of having to buy more than what was wanted -- this, in itself, made quite an impression on me, I suppose this is because I have grown accustomed to having to purchase a strip of 20 stamps in the U.S. in order to obtain the plate number block of four. Do you want gutter pairs? Plate number blocks? No problem whatsoever at the Bermuda Philatelic Bureau. These items are all produced on request and placed in glassine envelopes by the

clerk on duty. First day covers? Certainly. Would it be possible to book an order for the Piloting issue to be released later that month? Of course. I couldn't get over it.

After concluding my business at the Philatelic Bureau, it was time to step across the lobby and purchase the stamps which I intended to affix to my covers and cards. There was a short line, but I didn't mind standing in it at all since I was so fascinated at watching those ahead of me purchase stamps and affix these to their letters, cards, and packages. When it came my turn to be waited on by the clerk, she informed me that she didn't have the 41 15¢ U. P. U. Centenary values which I wanted in her stock, but she handed me a sheet of 50 of the 15¢ definitive and asked me to exchange that sheet for her at the Philatelic Bureau. Can you imagine this happening at a U.S. post office?

I did as she asked and, when I returned to her window after having made the exchange at the Philatelic Bureau, there was a line of about five customers ahead of me again. The clerk saw me standing at the end of this queue and motioned me to step up to the counter where I completed the exchange and obtained my 41 15¢ values of the commemorative. At a U.S. post office, I am sure, I would have been told that they were out of what I wanted and that nothing could be done about it. This certainly was not the case in Bermuda, however. After affixing my stamps on my covers at the counter in the lobby, I then had my first set of covers canceled at the Philatelic Bureau and handed back to me. I then collected my dear wife who had been patiently sitting on a bench in the lobby waiting for me during these transactions.



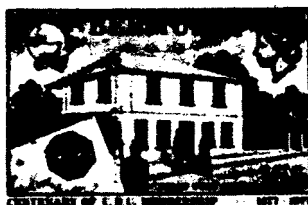
Hamilton Cathedral



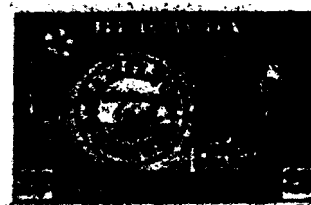
City Hall



Bermuda Library



Perot Post Office



Perot Provisional

We left the main postoffice and walked about three blocks past the Bermuda Cathedral (#178), City Hall (#184, 309), and the Bermuda Library and Historical Society (#182) to the old, historic Perot Post Office (#168, 180, 351) to have my next set of covers canceled and handed back to me.

Inside the Perot Post Office is an interesting display of reproductions of the Postmaster Provisionals of 1848 which have also been featured on the modern stamps of Bermuda (#135-37, 144, 150, 351). The Perot Post Office is the only one in Bermuda to use a red cancellation. However, I believe that the majority of items mailed there are canceled at the main post office, for, although I mailed a batch of post cards to friends at the Perot Post Office, I discovered, upon our return home, that these cards had been canceled at the main post office in Hamilton. I suspect that this may be true of the other branch offices on the islands as well.

The next day, we rented motor scooters and set off to visit the remaining post offices. With our scooters, we took the ferry from Hamilton across the Great Sound to Watford Bridge and the Mangrove Bay Post Office in Somerset. Before coming to Bermuda, I had obtained a map showing the locations of the post offices from a friend who lives in Bermuda and, with that map, we were able to plan a route, starting in Somerset, which would take us to all of the branch post offices.

At each office, our routine was the same: my wife would remain in the parking lot watching over our scooters and my covers and studying the map to memorize the route to the next office, while I would go inside and have my covers canceled. After I completed my business in the post office, we'd be off, heading for the next post office on our route, with my wife leading the way as navigator.

After Mangrove Bay, we visited the post office at Somerset Bridge just across what is claimed to be the world's smallest drawbridge (#310), linking the island of Somerset to the rest of Sandy's Parish, and, after passing Port Royal Golf Course (#285), we arrived at the Southampton office.



Horseshoe Bay



Ocean View Golf Course



Kindley Field



Christ Church

Next, we stopped for a swim and lunch at what must surely be one of the most beautiful places in the world, Horseshoe Bay (#277), with its pink sand and crystal clear water. Then, it was on to the post offices of Warwick, past the Old Christ Church (#183), the oldest Presbyterian church in the western hemisphere, to Paget, Devonshire South, Harrington Sound, Bailey's Bay, past Kindley Field (#302) to St. David's Island, and on to St. George (#186, 357), St. Peter's Church (#176, 309), Crawl, and Flatts. Along the route, we drove by blooming oleander (#257), hibiscus (#260), and Bird of Paradise (#270).

We had intended to stop at the last sub post office, Pembroke North, but, after passing Ocean View Golf Course (#284), we missed our turn off North Shore Road (the only error which my wife made), went past Government House (#177), and wound up at Spanish Point before we discovered our error. By this time, it was past 5:00 p. m., so we had to visit Pembroke North the following day. We would have had ample time to get to Pembroke North had we not stopped at Horseshoe Bay for that swim, but it would have been a shame to have missed that beautiful beach.

In general, the clerks at the various post offices were extremely courteous and canceled my covers and handed them back to me without hesitation. Occasionally, the clerk would even take the trouble to clean the cancellation device before using it on my covers. In particular, I re-

member the postmaster at Paget doing this and exercising great care when he canceled my covers. The postmistress at Bailey's Bay even took the trouble to mail to me at home, under separate cover, one of my covers which I had inadvertently left behind at her post office.

The clerks at two of the subpost offices, Harrington Sound and Flatts, told me that it would be against regulations to cancel my covers and hand them back to me and that it would be necessary for my covers to remain in the post office for at least 24 hours. When I informed these clerks that I had received such service on my covers at the other post offices, they conceded to my request, but only after having placed a call and consulting some official at the main post office in Hamilton. Thus, I was able to obtain covers from all of the post offices in Bermuda; these covers now constitute a prized portion of my Bermuda collection.

While my wife went shopping on her own, I spent the morning of our last day in Bermuda at the shop of Larry Swain, Bermuda Coin and Stamp Company, Ltd., located just across the street from where our ship was docked. Mr. Swain was very hospitable, and he has a genuinely remarkable stock of Bermuda philatelic material. I thoroughly enjoyed going through his extensive stock finding several nice items to add to my collection. That morning, in Swain's shop, I was privileged to be introduced to none other than Morris Ludington, who came into the shop on his way to the archives of the Bermuda Historical Society where he intended to gather some data concerning his latest research on the postal history of Bermuda.



So, we had a wonderful vacation in Bermuda. I was able to combine my philatelic interests with a sight seeing tour of the islands. The stamps of Bermuda mean even more to me now after having seen some of the scenes depicted on them. I came away with wonderful memories of the charming islands and their courteous people, and my canceled covers, a few of which are shown as a final illustration, are treasured philatelic souvenirs of the trip.

(Photos by P. C. Gehlen)

Whole Number 1 of the Journal appeared in May 1961 under the name "West Indies Federation Journal"; the present name, "British Caribbean Philatelic Journal," did not appear until Whole Number 6, March 1962.

Whole #6 also saw the first illustrations in the Journal's history. The illustrations were scratched onto the master copy by a stylus by Editor Al Johnson and accompanied an article by Stan Durnin, "Leeward Islands: Cancellations." The first photos to be used in a Journal appeared in Whole #29, January 1966, and accompanied articles by Gale Raymond and Fred Seifert.

The first Group mail auction was announced in Whole #35, January 1967, under the aegis of Bob Topaz. This means that Bob has handled our annual auction for 11 years now.

GRENADA VARIETY

by Brian E. Thompson

On 22 July 1968, some of the \$2.00 stamps of the Grenada 1966 definitive issue were overprinted "CHILDREN NEED MILK" in three lines with "2 cts.+3 cts." in addition (SG 296) and the \$3.00 stamps were similarly overprinted and surcharged "3 cts.+3 cts." (SG 297). On 19 August 1968, the \$1.00 stamps of the same definitive issue were also similarly overprinted, however in a larger type, and were surcharged "1 c.+3 cts." (SG 298), while more of the \$2.00 stamps were similarly surcharged and overprinted as "2 cts.+3 cts." (SG 299).

This writer has a copy of SG 299 surcharged "2 cts.+3 cts." with the "t" of "2 cts." completely missing. This stamp was offered to me by a dealer in May 1970. Contrary to usual practice, the dealer did not mention a price, but asked me to name a figure. Stating that he had expected an offer in the thousands, he, nonetheless, accepted my price which was about 100% over the catalog value of the normal stamp.

Since that date, I have been endeavoring to locate another example of this stamp with a similar error, but without success. There appears to be some mystery about the issue of the stamps with the second larger overprint. The 1 c.+3 cts. value (SG 298) was placed on sale on 19 August 1968, and, presumably, the issue of the second type of the 2 cts.+3 cts. value (SG 299) appeared on the same day. However, as 40,000 copies of the 2 cts.+3 cts. smaller type (SG 296) had already been on sale in Grenada since July 1968, only 1,650 copies of SG 299 were overprinted and surcharged.

In spite of the small number issued, it seems extraordinary that, if another example of the stamp with the "t" of "2 cts." completely missing does exist, it has not yet come to light.

Articles have been written in both British and American journals which specialize in West Indies philately. The Grenada Postmaster General has been contacted, but was unable to help. The stamp has been examined by numerous experts. The consensus is that the error is perfectly genuine.

The ultimate authority, the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, are more cautious, saying "...appears to be genuine but confirmation is required to establish status." Asked to explain what they mean by "confirmation," they replied "information concerning these modern varieties is constantly coming to hand and upon finding definite confirmation of the status we will get in touch with you again."

The Commonwealth Catalog has added a footnote in their 1977 edition stating that an example of their S75 has been seen with the "t" of "2 cts." missing.

What further steps does one need to take in order to establish the history of such an error?

The following theories concerning this variety have been put forward:

1. The surcharge must have been set by hand from loose type and the "t" was either not set at all or possibly fell out.
2. The letter was set in the wrong type, perhaps too small and failed to print because the type had a surface below that of the rest of the surcharge.

Both theories are perfectly feasible, but in each case, especially the second, there is the inevitable query -- why no more copies?

In the event that the "t" fell out, can one imagine the local printer's employee noticing the letter on the floor, furtively picking it up and replacing it, after only one error and before the boss noticed? Alternatively, could the "t" have dropped out just as the last sheet was being surcharged? In both cases, I am left with a "once-only" freak.

What does one do with such a stamp? Can any member suggest a (printable) answer?

The irony is that I am now no longer greatly interested in the stamps of Grenada, simply because of what appears to be an unsolvable problem. Such is philately!

Unorthodox Montserrat CDS

by Stan Durnin

An unorthodox single-ring CDS from Montserrat, which does not fit into the known patterns of postal markings from the Leeward Islands normally in use during the late 1920's, has been unearthed.



The CDS measures 27.5-28 mm in diameter with the island name of MONT-SERRAT curved in 2.75 mm high letters within the upper portion of the ring and the town name HARRIS curved within the lower portion of the ring. Date data lettering is 3.5 mm in height.

The perplexing aspect of the marking is the fact that the word HARRIS is enclosed within what appears to be parentheses. The parentheses themselves are placed high up on the left side of the leading "H" and similarly on the right side of the final "S." There is no index indicator above the date data which appears in one straight line configuration through the middle of the CDS.

Possessing two examples of this marking, we see that one is dated 27 MAY 2? on the 1923 1d purple KGV issue, while the other appears with the date of 3? MAY 29 on the companion 1½d rose red issue. Notice the full month indicator rather than the orthodox abbreviated designation.

The post office at Harris was established sometime shortly before 11 October 1926, according to the 14 October 1926 edition of the "Leeward Islands Gazette."

L. E. Britnor's "Montserrat" states that the earliest date of usage known of the 25 mm single-ring CDS for HARRIS (around the top), MONT-SERRAT (around the bottom) is 15 SP 32. This type was still in use during our personal visit to the Harris Post Office in 1968.

Could the "(HARRIS)" CDS in topic, not mentioned by Britnor, be a type of TRD in use from opening in 1926 until the steel handstamp was delivered in 1932?

To the chagrin, and oft times outrage, of many a good seaman, Leeward in the Leeward Islands is NOT pronounced Luard, but plain Leeward (as in Robert E. Lee).

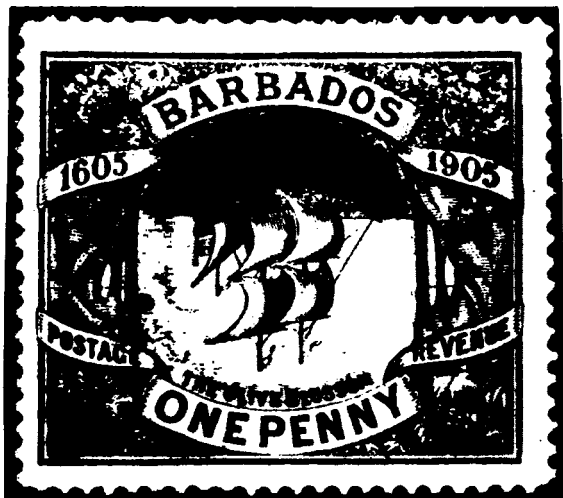
My Favorite Stamp - And Why!

by Warren H. Crain

My favorite stamp is a beautiful one penny green, black, and blue, issued 15 August 1906 by Barbados to commemorate the tercentenary of the first British landing on the island. It is Scott #109 which depicts the sailing ship "Olive Blossom."

The designer of this delightful stamp was Lady Carter, wife of the governor of Barbados, her design being accepted after a contest was held with her entry being declared the winner. This is one of the very few British Colonial stamps to show even the slightest art nouveau influence. Here the usual lateral framework has been replaced by a realistic mangrove swamp with sinuous twisting trunks of the trees. The three-color printing was quite an unusual accomplishment for the period and the result was a very lovely stamp. The strong, clear lettering adds much to the design.

Even though I think this stamp to be one of the most beautiful ever issued, I have another reason for holding it dear. A cleverly made counterfeit of the "Olive Blossom," with center inverted, was instrumental in the recovery of about 60 percent of my stolen stamp collection!



The recovery of this large portion of the collection is an interesting story. On 1 July 1967, burglars entered our home, stealing all the stamps I had there (others were in the bank), our son's stamps and coins, and my wife's jewelry. On or about 1 September, one of the culprits was caught in another burglary and confessed to our burglary. He had already disposed of the stamps to a "fence" in San Antonio, Texas. The police obtained a search warrant and paid a visit to the home of the "fence," but nothing was found, and, of course, the man denied any involvement in the case.

In October, the police told me they had reliable information that my collection had been taken or sent to a Fort Worth, Texas, man for disposal. I immediately alerted Kelly Shryoc, a past president of the Texas Philatelic Association. Kelly later called me, requesting a number of copies of my stamp inventory which he and Willard Jackson, a prominent dealer in Fort Worth, distributed to collectors and dealers in the Fort Worth-Dallas area.

On 16 January, dealer Willard Jackson received a phone call from a Fort Worth man who said he wished to sell a stamp collection. Jackson made an appointment with him for the next morning and then called me to ask about any unusual items in my collection which would help him identify the collection in case it was mine. One of the items I described was the Barbados "Olive Blossom" invert, which I had obtained from Herman Herst some years ago. The center of an "Olive Blossom" was cut out and placed so cleverly in an inverted position that it looks genuine in all respects.

On 17 January, the Fort Worth man brought in the collection as arranged with Jackson. He was accompanied by another man, who was introduced as "Mr. Miller," an employee of the Fort Worth man. Miller was to stay with the stamps while his boss went to attend some other business. Jackson began to check through some of the British material, and before long he

spotted the "Olive Blossom" invert!

After spotting the counterfeit invert, Jackson told the agent that the collection was a stolen one and that he would have to call the police. The man became excited, said he would have to go find his boss — and tried to take the stamps with him. Jackson, bless him, said he would put the stamps in his safe until the police arrived, which he did.

The next morning, Sgt. Bill Weilbacher and Detective Thomas Lauderdale of the San Antonio Police Department, drove with me to Fort Worth. I had no trouble identifying the collection as mine. After several hours, the collection was turned over to me.

The Fort Worth man who had brought the stamps in to Jackson, and who was a well-known business man, was interrogated quite extensively. He claimed he had won the stamps in a poker game. It seems that the "fence" in San Antonio and he were friends, although he denied getting the collection from him.

The surprise occurred when Jackson was showed a "mug shot" of the San Antonio "fence" — Jackson recognized him as "Mr. Miller"!

The two "fences" were later booked for receiving and concealing stolen merchandise. The case never came to court, however, as "fencing" is very difficult to prove. It proved costly to the Fort Worth crook, however, as he retained a well-known San Antonio attorney who does not take a case for less than \$10,000.

So, do you blame me for being so fond of the "Olive Blossom," my favorite stamp?

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Kindly note that I will be away in Jamaica from 22 January to 4 March.

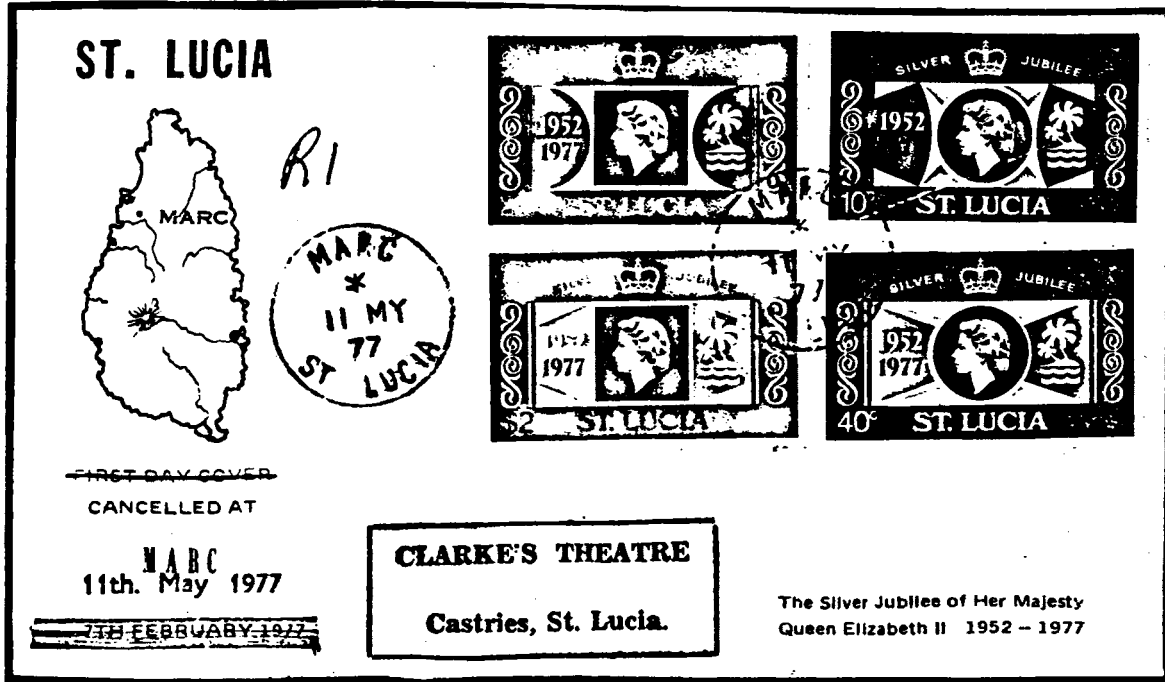
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A St. Lucia Special

by Harry T. Whitin

There are 50 post offices on the island of St. Lucia aside from the main office in Castries, and, for the first time, there now exists a few sets of registered covers from all 50 date-stamped with the same date, 11 May 1977, the start of the Jubilee Celebration in Great Britain. They are indeed unique, for the postmaster has declared that he will never undertake such an exercise again.



It all started when my family and I spent our 1976 winter holiday on the lovely island of St. Lucia, a land of great contrasts -- the relatively arid, flat area in the north and the lush, tropical rain forest of the interior; the opulence of Cunard's La Toc resort and the poverty in Castries outside the hotel gates; the grandeur of the Pitons and the quiet beauty of Marigot Bay. It is, indeed, an intriguing island, with many friendly faces.

An inquiry at the Castries Post Office for people interested in stamps led me to Reginald E. Clarke at his office in Clarke's Theatre. During our first visit, we chatted about our abiding interest in stamps and established a bond with our boyhood enthusiasms for Lindbergh. Clarke recalled the tremendous excitement of seeing Lindbergh during his stay on the island in April, 1929, on FAM 6. At a later time he gave me an FAM 6 registered cover, Castries to Antigua, with seven St. Lucia stamps, which now occupies a special place in my collection.

After my visit, Clarke and I continued to be in touch with one another and he is a most interesting correspondent, involved in many affairs in the island. His brother is the ex-governor, Dr. Sir Frederick Clarke (Scott # 362). A few months ago I asked him for strikes from the different post offices and little did I realize what he could accomplish.

He managed to have five sets of the Jubilee issue, three with the souvenir sheet and two with the four individual stamps, all registered and date stamped 11 May 1977, from each of the 50 post offices. Clarke will donate one set to the Archives Department for display as an historic item, a philatelic first for St. Lucia, and he and I have the remaining sets between us.

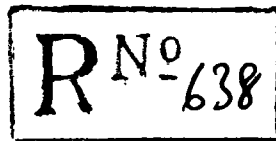
The 50 post offices in St. Lucia, excluding Castries, are as follows:

AMERIC	CICERON	HOSPITAL ROAD	MON REPOS
ANSE LA RAYE	CONWAY	LABORIE	MOREAU
AUGIER	DE BRIEUL	LA CLERY	MORN SION
AUX LYONS	DELAIDE	LA CROIX MINGOT	PATIENCE
BABONNEAU	DENNERY	LA POINTE	ROSEAU
BALATA	DERNIER RIVIERE	LESLIE LAND	SALTIBUS
BANSE	DESRUISSEAU	LONDONDERRY	SOUFRIERE
BEXON	FOND ASSAU	MABOUYA	THE MORNE
BOCAGE	FOND ST. JACQUES	MARC	TI ROCHER
BOGIUS	GARRAND	MARCHAND	VICTORIA
CANARIES	GRACE	MICOUD	VIEUX-FORT
CHAUSEE	GRAND RIVIERE	MILLET	
CHOISEUL	GROS ISLET	MONCHY	

Most of the offices are in rural areas, very small indeed, some without registry labels or even registry handstamps. Below are a few examples of various methods of registration on these covers.



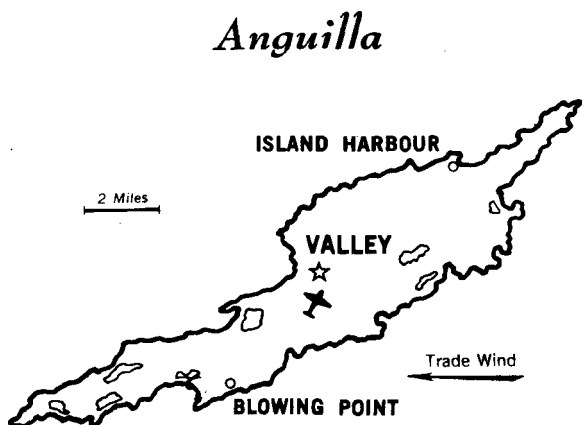
R1



Regn No. 0194.

Although a few of the covers have been handled with soiled hands, in general the strikes are fair, with pen and ink registry where labels or handstamps were not available (note the illustration of the manuscript "R 1"!). It has been an exciting accomplishment and I am very proud to have these unique covers.

On 28 November 1977, the Antigua Christmas issue was overprinted BARBUDA according to the Barbuda Post Office.



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Current BVI Cancellations

by Dr. Peter P. McCann

As a result of the Tortopex meeting, held 22-25 October 1976, on Tortola, British Virgin Islands, I was able to obtain copies of all the current cancellations and registration markings in everyday use in the islands. (For a detailed description of our BCPSPG trip to the BVI see the December 1976 BCPJ).

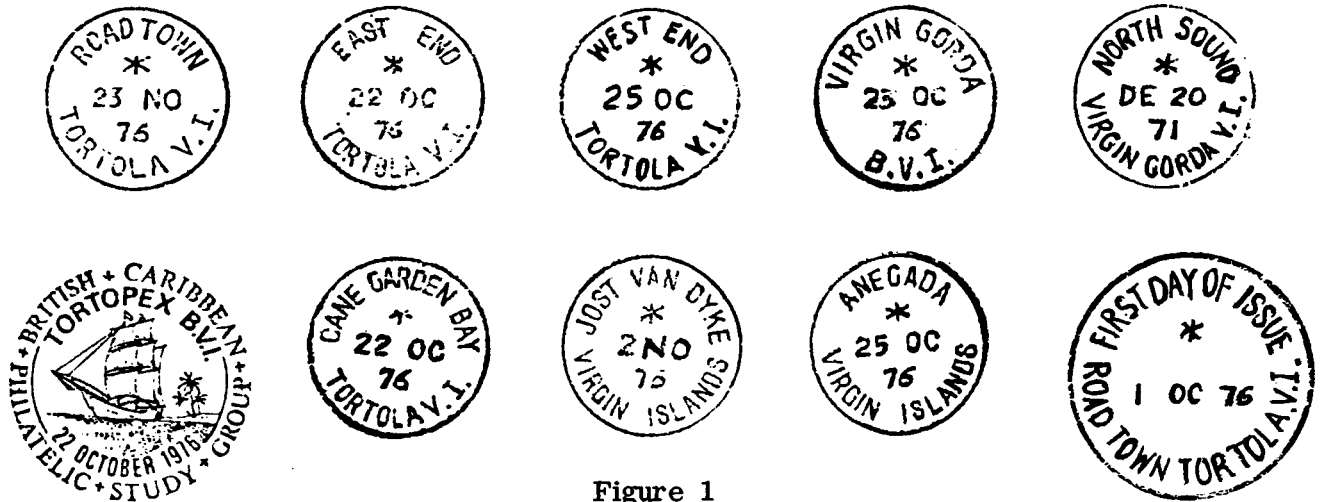


Figure 1

Figure 1 illustrates the single-ring datestamps which are in use at all the islands' branch and sub post offices. The special datestamp, shown bottom left, was made especially for our meeting and was used only on 22 October. If you have a commercial cover or card with this cancel, hold on to it. It is a scarce marking. Other similar commemorative cancellations have been made for first day of issue cancellations, but the standard First Day of Issue mark, bottom right, is most often used.

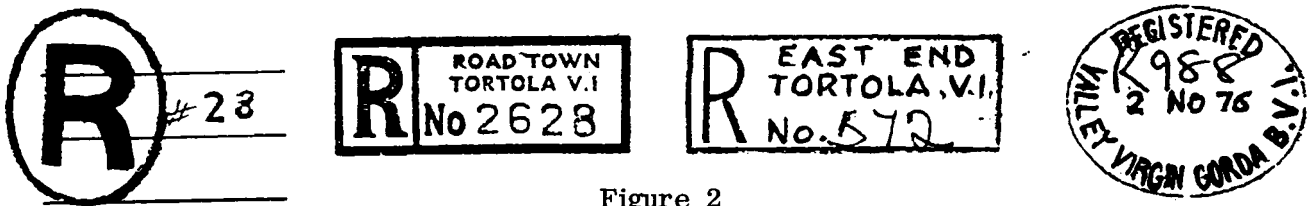


Figure 2

Figure 2 shows the registration markings and type of label in current use. The GPO uses labels, while the other branch offices on Tortola use rubber handstamps.

East End uses a rubber rectangle with the branch office name included, but the number is inserted in manuscript. West End uses a large rubber R and adds the number either with a straight-line datestamp or by hand.

Cane Garden Bay is a subpost office, so, while registered mail can be posted there, the registration is done when the letter arrives at the Road Town GPO. Thus, while the stamps will be postmarked at Cane Garden Bay, the covers will bear a Road Town registration label and will also be backstamped there. This procedure holds true for sending registered mail at the sub post offices on Jost Van Dyke and Anegada.

The branch office on Virgin Gorda at the Valley P.O. registers mail with an oval mark with

the number written in by hand. The subpost office at North Sound on Virgin Gorda transships its registered mail to the Valley P.O. (in a situation analogous to Cane Garden Bay, Jost Van Dyke, and Anegada sending to Road Town) and thus receives the same oval registration mark.

Sub-Post Office
JOST VAN DYKE I.
Br. Virgin Islands

Figure 3

Sub-Post Office
CANE GARDEN BAY
Tortola, Br. V. Is.

Figure 3 illustrates two cachets found at the sub post offices of Cane Garden Bay and Jost Van Dyke on our visit there last year. These cachets were used to mark mail before these two offices received their own cancelers. However, the postmaster of Jost Van Dyke still likes his cachet so much that if you write him and ask for a Jost Van Dyke cancel you will invariably get this cachet on your letter (plus a Road Town cancel applied afterwards) instead of the Jost Van Dyke circular datestamp.

The best bet for getting the Jost Van Dyke CDS is to write to Andy Lettsome, the Philatelic Officer at the GPO, and ask him to forward your cover to the Jost Van Dyke Postmaster. Put enough postage on the letter for registration and you will wind up with several very nice BVI markings. The BVI uses the US dollar as their currency, so there is no problem about sending money for buying stamps, etc.

In the "New Issues" column of the August 1977 BCP Journal, a four value set picturing Guyana's 1763 Cuffy Monument issued in honor of their national hero, was announced with the release date stated as being 1 August. In a later issue of the Journal the release date was changed to 22 August. In the December BCPJ, it is noted that the Crown Agents advise that the release date for the Cuffy Monument issue has had to be postponed because of "transportation difficulties" between the United Kingdom and Guyana.

An item, sent us by Mike Romano, which appeared in the 22 September issue of the "Trinidad Guardian" explains exactly what these "transportation difficulties" were. The news item reads as follows:

"A special issue of stamps stolen from an airlines bond in London in transit to Guyana will have to be kept under cover by the thieves because their exposure to the public may give a clue to the identity of the persons who stole them, the Guyana "Chronical" said today.

"The stamps were ordered by Guyana to mark the unveiling of the 1763 monument in Georgetown.

"Following their disappearance, the Guyana postal authorities canceled the issue thus negating their philatelic value."

However, in the November 1977 Jamaica Philatelic Society Bulletin, it is reported that the stamps have been located with the help of Scotland Yard. The stamps were found intact under other cargo at the British Airways bond in London and were to be issued approximately 7 December.

As for the Cayman Islands, the word cayman with a small "c" and meaning alligator is pronounced cayman, but for the islands it's Caymón.

Jamaica Coronation Stamps

by Hugh James

King George V died at the Royal family home at Sandringham on 20 January 1936 in the twenty-sixth year of his reign. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Edward Albert Christian George Andrew Patrick David, the Prince of Wales, who was proclaimed King Edward VIII on 21 January 1936.

The Crown Agents sent Requisition 9334/1 to Messrs. De La Rue & Co. (DLR) for supplies of stamps for the Jamaica King Edward VIII Coronation issue. The details in the Crown Agents' Requisition Book were as follows:

1d value (red) -- 30,000 sheets of 120 stamps, totaling 3,600,000 stamps, of which 100,000 were to be allocated to dealers.

1½d (grey) -- 3,000 sheets of 120 stamps, totaling 360,000 stamps, of which 60,000 were to be allocated to dealers.

2½d (blue) -- 2,500 sheets of 120 stamps for a total of 300,000, of which 60,000 were to be allocated to dealers.

Designated to be GPO specimens were 416 stamps of each value.

However, the uncrowned King Edward VIII abdicated on 11 December 1936 and the requisition was canceled. There is no trace of any plates having been issued; therefore, no stamps can have been printed.

King Edward VIII was succeeded by his younger brother, Prince Albert Victor George, Duke of York, who was proclaimed King George VI on 12 December 1936 and was crowned at Westminster Abbey on 12 May 1937. The Crown Agents sent Requisition 9334/2 to De La Rue for supplies of Jamaica Coronation stamps as follows:

1st PRINTING

1d (scarlet) -- order quantity was $103,666\frac{40}{60}$ sheets of 60 stamps, totaling 6,220,000. Quantity dispatched was 103,525 sheets, or 6,211,500 stamps of which the Requisition Book records that 220,000 were allocated for dealers; the DLR archives give the figure as 220,020.

1½d (grey-black) -- order quantity was 13,500 sheets of 60 stamps, totaling 810,000. Quantity dispatched was $14,638\frac{40}{60}$ sheets, or 878,320 stamps of which 190,000 were for dealers.

2½d (bright blue) -- order quantity was $9,666\frac{40}{60}$ sheets of 60 stamps, totaling 580,000. Quantity dispatched was 9,947 sheets, or 596,820 stamps of which the Requisition Book records that 180,000 were allocated for dealers; the DLR archives give the figure as 196,800.

All three values were dispatched between 17 March 1937 and 2 July 1937 and were released on 12 May 1937. GPO specimens of each value were perforated SPECIMEN by machine by De La Rue, in a 65-hole arc measuring 17.75 mm x 4.5 mm, horizontally across the stamp. DLR archives record the number of specimens as 416 of each value.

The Crown Agents' Plate Issue Register records that the 1d value was printed in sheets of 120 stamps and the other values in sheets of 60. Dates of issue and return of plates were:

1d value: Plates 1A and 1B	Issued 17.2.37	Returned 15.3.37
1½d " : Plate 1	" 19.2.37	" 1.3.37
2½d " : Plate 1	" 22.2.37	" 1.3.37

The printing was on white paper watermarked Multiple Crown & Script CA. The perforation was 14.

2nd PRINTING

The popularity of the issue was assured by the volume of dealers' orders and a second printing, marked in the Requisition Book as "Dealers Only," was made under Requisition 9334/3. Details were:

1d value -- order quantity 3,000 sheets, totaling 180,000 stamps. Quantity dispatched was 180,000 stamps.

1½d -- order quantity 1,666⁴⁰/₆₀ sheets, totaling 100,000 stamps. The CA Requisition Book records the quantity dispatched as 100,000 stamps, but the DLR archives give the figure as 105,600.

2½d -- order quantity 2,000 sheets containing 120,000 stamps, which is the quantity recorded in the Requisition Book as dispatched; the DLR archives record the quantity dispatched as 124,020.

The same plates were used and printer's and post office sheet sizes were the same as for the first printing. Dates of issue and return of plates were:

1d value:	Issued 17.4.37	Returned 25.5.37
1½d " :	" 29.4.37	" 13.5.37
2½d " :	> "	"

3rd PRINTING

A third printing for the colony became necessary and Requisition 9334/4 was placed. Details were:

1d value -- order quantity 15,600 sheets, totaling 936,000 stamps. Quantity dispatched was 17,035 sheets containing 1,022,100 stamps.

1½d -- order quantity 2,616⁴⁰/₆₀ sheets, totaling 157,000 stamps. Quantity dispatched was 2,877 sheets, or 172,620 stamps.

2½d -- order quantity 1,700 sheets, totaling 102,000 stamps. Quantity dispatched was 1,868 sheets containing 112,080 stamps.

The same plates and sheet settings were used as for the first printing. Dates of issue and return of plates were:

1d value:	Issued 10.8.37	Returned 18.8.37
1½d " :	" 11.8.37	" 19.8.37
2½d " :	" 11.8.37	" 17.8.37

The date of dispatch of this consignment was 27 August 1937.

Varieties -- These are few and are known only on the 1d value, Plate 1A:

- a. a tear drop flaw recorded in Row 5, Stamp 5
- b. a line down the King's face into the lower stamp, Row 9, Stamp 3

It has also been reported, but not confirmed, that the 1d exists in an aniline shade of carmine, the 1½d exists with muddy impression, and the 2½d is known on thin paper.

King George VI died at Sandringham on 6 February 1952 and was succeeded by his eldest daughter, Princess Elizabeth Alexandria Mary. Princess Elizabeth was in Kenya, at Sagama Lodge, when news reached her of the sudden death of the King. She flew back to Britain and was proclaimed Queen Elizabeth II on 8 February 1952. She was crowned at Westminster Abbey on 2 June 1953.

Crown Agents' Requisition G9/389/2/31 was sent to De La Rue for 140,334 sheets of 60 stamps of a single 2d value, totaling 8,420,040 stamps. Between 9 March 1953 and 19 August 1953, 140,405 sheets were dispatched containing 8,424,300 stamps, of which 420,000 were for the Bureau (dealers).

The plates were designed and engraved by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. and were recess-printed by De La Rue in printer's sheets of 120 and cut to post office sheets of 60.

The Crown Agents' Plate Issue Register records that the stamps were printed from a single border plate and three (sic) vignette (key) plates:

Border:	Plates 1A and B	Issued	20.	1.53
Vignette:	" 2A and B	"	19.12.	52
"	" 3A and B	"	19.12.	52
"	" 5A and B	"	26.	1.53

Use of Plates 6A and B is known, but, strangely, is not recorded in the Plate Issue Register. The following plate combinations have been recorded: 1A2A, 1A3A, 1A5A, 1A6A, 1B2B, 1B3A, 1B3B, 1B5B, 1B6A, 1B6B.

The printing was on white paper watermarked Script CA and was comb perforated 13½ x 13. No varieties have been recorded.

The number of specimens sent out were: to GPO, 378; Crown Agents, 1; Chief Inspector, 1; Colonial Office, 2; De La Rue, 1; and British Museum, 1. The number of stamps sent to the Queen was 32, probably eight blocks of four, which tends to indicate that only the first eight plate combinations listed above were planned.



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TRINIDAD

by William H. Matthews

Trinidad, the most southerly of the West Indian Islands, is situated approximately 12° North of the Equator, 81° West, and sits just off the northeast tip of South America, close to Venezuela.

It is a lush tropical island with a northern range rising to 3,000 feet above sea level, a low-lying central plain, and lesser central and southern ranges. Total land area is 1,864 square miles.

Trinidad was discovered by Christopher Columbus on 31 July 1498 while on his third voyage to the West Indies. Columbus did not land on the island, but named it "La Trinite."

The Spanish made two unsuccessful attempts to colonize the island in 1530 and 1577, but succeeded in 1592 founding the town of "San Jose de Oruna" (St. Joseph). Unfortunately for the Spaniards, Sir Walter Raleigh arrived in Trinidad in the early years of this colonization, sacked the capital, and took the Governor captive.

Trinidad, however, continued under Spanish rule and, in 1783, by the Cedula of Population, allowed foreigners to take up land grants. With the start of the French Revolution in 1792, many Royalists in the French islands took advantage of this concession and emigrated to Trinidad, bringing their slaves with them.

In 1797, England, being at war with Spain, sent an expedition to take Trinidad. The Spaniards set fire to their fleet in Chaguaramas Bay, destroying it, and the island capitulated after token resistance. Trinidad was finally ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Amiens in 1802. In 1889, the British Colony of Tobago was amalgamated with Trinidad under a Commissioner, becoming a Ward of Trinidad in 1899.

Trinidad and Tobago was granted Independence in 1962 and became a Republic within the Commonwealth in 1976.

Trinidad's main exports were tropical produce -- sugar, citrus, cocoa, coffee and coconut products, but, in the 20th century, these have been out-valued by major crude oil producing and refining, petrochemicals, and, recently, light and medium industrial enterprises, which altogether have ensured an extremely viable economy. It should be mentioned, however, that agriculture remains a major source of employment.

The population of approximately one million people, due to the island's checkered history, is extremely mixed, being mostly descendants of liberated slaves and East Indians who came to Trinidad as indentured labor. However, many nationalities are represented.

Trinidad's strategic and geographic location caused it to be known as the "Crossroads of the Caribbean" and resulted in its becoming a major trading center in the last century. The capital, Port of Spain, is the main trans-shipment port for the area. As a result of this, Trinidad has an interesting postal history.

The earliest Trinidad postmark recorded is dated May 30, 1806, and many covers with various fleuron marks exist dated over the following 45 years.

The Lady McLeod stamp was issued on 24 April 1847 by David Bryce, owner of the vessel "Lady McLeod," for the purpose of the payment of postage for mail carried on his vessel between Port of Spain and San Fernando. This not only opened the era of postage stamps for Trinidad, but for the British Commonwealth, as a mere seven years had passed since the first stamp was issued by Great Britain in 1840. While the Lady McLeod was not an "official" issue, but a "private" one, it is recognized in the stamp catalogs as a genuine postage stamp and is undoubtedly the most famous of the "private" issues.

This stamp was followed four years later by the first official issue of the Britannias on 14 August 1851. Due to this early issuing of its own stamps, Trinidad is one of the few ex-British colonies that did not, for a period, use British stamps and British cancelers.

Due to supply problems, stocks of stamps became exhausted on several occasions between 1852 and 1860, and, to bridge these gaps, local lithographs of the Britannias, prepared by Charles Petit, were used as necessary. These were issued in more than one color and became an interesting study for the specialist.

The early stamps were all imperforate, but during the period 1859 to 1876 the Britannias were supplied with various types of perforations as a result of experiments being conducted at that time. A few of these are extremely rare.

Trinidad cancelers of the early years are another interesting study. During this period, mail was either carried by boats going round the island or by police on horseback. Consequently, many of the early post offices were police stations. The "post offices" were issued with cancelers carrying a number to denote the office. Several different types of cancelers were used during the period and some are quite difficult to obtain. Towards the end of the 19th century, "town marks" were introduced in place of the numbered cancelers.

A further item of interest was the use of Trinidad stamps in Ciudad Bolivar (Angostura), Venezuela. These can be identified by the D22 canceler issued for use in Ciudad Bolivar by the British postal authorities. Several covers with these stamps are known, although the reason and authority for the use of Trinidad stamps is not. At that time, with no overland communications in that part of Venezuela, most of the trade in the Ciudad Bolivar area was conducted through Trinidad and strong business ties existed between the two areas.

In 1898, the first commemorative stamp was issued for the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the island by Columbus.

From the year 1896, following the withdrawal of Tobago stamps, Trinidad stamps were used in Tobago until the issue of Trinidad and Tobago stamps in 1913.

During the period 1913 to 1953, Trinidad and Tobago stamps followed the normal colonial pattern of very few issues of either definitives or commemoratives, except for the extensive use of War Tax stamps during the First World War. This use resulted in several different overprints and some errors.

In common with most other countries, the late 1960's saw a pattern of increased use of commemorative stamps for publicity purposes. This policy has been kept well under control by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the objective of restricting these issues to four sets of not more than six stamps per year has been rarely exceeded. Many of these stamps are very attractive and cover interesting subjects. Consequently, it is difficult to understand the lack of enthusiasm for Trinidad and Tobago stamps. Some collectors feel this partially

results from the appointment of an agent for USA sales, but now that this contract has been canceled, it is to be hoped that the interest of collectors will return to the stamps of Trinidad and Tobago.

Collecting the "Family Tree"

by Charles Ricksecker

In May, 1978, the British Virgin Islands will issue a quartet of stamps and a souvenir sheet depicting local flowering trees. Of special interest to me is the subject matter of the 40¢ denomination which portrays the dog almond tree, otherwise known by its biological name, *Cordia rickseckeri*.



Leonora Ricksecker, St. Croix botanist and wife to Joseph John Ricksecker, the Moravian minister in Christiansted during the 1890's, was the first person to scientifically collect specimens of all the various flora on St. Croix. In total, she amassed some 6000 plants, some of which must have been duplicates. Eventually, her collection was shipped to the Field Museum in Chicago where one particular specimen was noted as being unclassified. As a result, in 1897 that species was named *Cordia rickseckeri* in recognition of her achievement.

The flowering tree, *Cordia rickseckeri*, is a rather rare species, with a natural range which is limited strictly to the Virgin Islands. Very few plants of any description have such a limited range, yet the *Cordia rickseckeri* is not a common tree even in the Virgin Islands. It prefers the most dry, desolate corners of the islands and can be seen to best advantage on the far eastern tip of St. Croix. A few have been noted on the east end of Tortola as well.

The more common species, *Cordia sebestena*, is native to all the Leeward Islands and has already been featured on stamps of Anguilla, Antigua, and Montserrat. The blossom of the *Cordia sebestena* is supposed to be orange, despite the fact that both Anguilla and Montserrat chose to portray the blossom as being red. The distinguishing feature of the rare *Cordia rickseckeri* is that, indeed, its blossom is red.

This series of flowering trees stamps from the BVI came about as a result of BCPSG's 1977 meeting in Tortola and should be viewed as a retrospective tribute to that meeting. It was at that time that the various facts, as presented above, were drawn together and deemed to be of sufficient philatelic interest to warrant a special stamp issue.

BCPSG member Frank Wadsworth provided the scientific information, while member Jay Fredrick made the formal presentation of the suggestion to the Postmaster, Theodore Fahie. In turn, the postmaster secured the approval of the BVI Stamp Advisory Committee, with the proviso that the other three denominations, all portraying common flowering trees of the Virgin Islands, be added so as to make a series conforming to the BVI's normal stamp-issuing policy. The stamps were subsequently designed and printed in England by Waddington.

Thus, I will soon have a "Family Tree" in my philatelic collection!

Webster's dictionary says it is proper to pronounce Antigua the way it looks, but don't let the Antiguans hear you call it anything other than Anteega!

CURRENT DOMINICA CANCELS

By William B. Ashley

I have been receiving shipments of non-philatelic local covers from Dominica since the summer of 1975. This material, all addressed to Roseau, shows a wide variety of post office and postal agency marks.

It occurs to me that a listing of quantities of covers received from each location could serve as a rudimentary scarcity chart. This listing, which can be found below, also includes those towns which I believe possess functioning postal facilities, but from which I have not yet received any covers. There are no figures for GPO Dominica or Roseau postmarks as I did not request that these be sent. All marks are in black.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Postmark Description</u>	<u>Number of Covers</u>
Anse-de-Mai (ADM)	Single-ring with *	13
Atkinson	As ADM	6
Bellevue Chopin (BC)	Double-ring with spacer lines and *	0
Bioche	As ADM	7
Boetica	As BC	3
Calibishie	As BC	41
Castle Bruce (CB)	Double-ring with spacer bars and *	15
Clifton	As ADM	3
Cochrane	As BC	0
Colihaut	As ADM	41
Coulibistrie	As CB	14
Delices (D)	Double-ring but no spacers nor *	0
Dos D'Ane	As ADM	11
Dublanc	As CB	1
Fond St. Jean	As BC	4
Giraudel	As BC, but with or without *	0
Good Hope	As ADM	0
Government House*	As ADM	0
Grand Bay	As CB	7
Grand Fond	As ADM	6
Kings Hill	As ADM	0
La Plaine	As CB	19
La Roche	As ADM	0
Laudat	As BC	2
Loubiere	As BC	4
Lower Penville	As ADM	3
Mahaut	As CB	55
Marigot	As ADM	98
Massacre	As BC	0
Melville Hall	As BC	2
Mero	As ADM	0
Morne Jaune	As ADM	2
Morne Prosper	As BC	0
Morne Ratchette	As ADM	3
Pais Bouche	As ADM, but may have no *	1
Penville	As ADM	2
Petite Savanne	As D, but with *	2

Petite Soufriere	As ADM	2
Pichelin	As BC	1
Pointe Michel	As CB	1
Portsmouth	{As CB, but often no * } {As ADM, but no * }	127**
Riviere Cyrique	As BC	10
Roger	As ADM	5
St. Joseph	As ADM	35
Salisbury	As CB	32
Salybia	As D	9
San Sauveur	As CB	18
Scotts Head	As BC	29
Soufriere	As CB	10
Tan Tan	As ADM	0
Tete Morne	As ADM	0
Thibaud	As BC	11
Trafalgar	As BC	0
Tranto	As ADM, but no *	11
Vieille Case	As CB	63
Wesley	As ADM, but with :: for *	53
Woodford Hill	As ADM	15
Wotten Waven	As ADM	0
		<hr/> 797

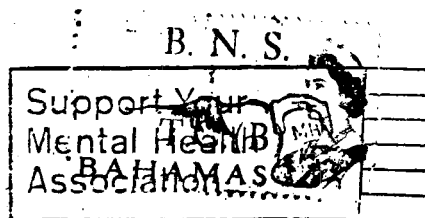
* Newly-opened office

** The single-ring mark is slightly less common than the other current Portsmouth postmark. It is also known to exist in purple.

The spellings of the town names are those which appear in the postmarks, except possibly in the case of Cochrane, where I do not possess a complete postmark.

BITS & PIECES from HERE & THERE

BAHAMAS - Bruce Hurley would like to know if anyone can identify and explain the overprint B. N. S./T.C. (B) as shown on Bahamas #208 below.



BELIZE - Eric W. King reports four new sub-post offices, all opening in December 1976: Forest Home (Toledo District); San Joaquin (Corozal District); Georgeville (Cayo District); and Bullet Tree Falls (Cayo District).

TURKS & CAICOS - Peter McCann advises that Mike Wilson's comment in the October 1977 BCPJ (page 161) that 20 June 77 was the first day of use for the Kew postmark is not correct. Peter has a FDC of the Silver Jubilee issue dated 7 February 1977 canceled with the Kew mark. Peter does not know if this date is the first day of use, but suspects that it may be.

Hobby of Kings ... or Fools?

by Byron R. Cameron

We constantly read about philately being the Hobby of Kings. We also know that the fields for specialization are unlimited, that no one writes the rules for us, and that we can learn countless and varying subjects as a result of our endeavors.

Have you ever heard it said or seen it published that philately is also the Hobby of Fools? This would border on being criminal so far as governments, new-issue services, and stamp publications are concerned; so let's examine the facts.

We frequently read and hear about persons who complain bitterly that postage stamps are being printed in such vast quantities, that they are compelled to quit buying blocks and must settle for a single copy, possibly even only a used copy if they can find it.

Our U.S. Postal Service can take the blame for a lot of these problems as they have done a bang-up job of advertising stamp collecting in every post office in the country with attractive displays. Then they followed up by taking advantage of these new collectors through their countless unneeded and unnecessary publication of millions of stamps that they know will never see postal service. These stamps are a direct obligation of the government which they know they will never have to pay back, nor even pay interest, as with a bond.

I took a motor trip from Florida to California and return. I stopped in many of the smaller post offices looking for interesting items. Many of these offices did not even have one commemorative for sale. They told me that the local collectors had grabbed them all up within a few days of their receipt.

We who live in the larger cities are usually unaware that this condition exists because our post offices receive much larger quantities of these stamps, and many even have special windows for their sale. Let's not be too tough on our spend-thrift, make-work government, but, instead, look at what other governments are doing along this line.

It's amazing. They are even worse. They have whole new issues coming out nearly every month in every type of souvenir sheet and other variety known, and for only one purpose. That being to separate the stamp nuts from their dollars in a perfectly legal manner for their own financial purposes. Many of these pea-sized independencies have even set up their own sales departments, and some have hired stamp dealers to help in designing, producing, and merchandizing. Even the first day covers are made up and canceled elsewhere. Only enough of the stamps even get to the country to obtain stamp catalog recognition. Is it then any wonder why multitudes of unneeded, short, high denomination issues and freak material of every nature is appearing?

A deceased neighbor of mine, Ernest Jarvis, was a millionaire who collected mint singles of the world. He could afford to. Yet, he quit our hobby in disgust because it was going to be necessary to hire a curator to catalog and file what he called "wallpaper." His collection brought over two million dollars at auction, so he must have known what he was talking about as he was undoubtedly one of the largest collectors in his field. Surely there is a lesson to be learned here, if we only wish to confront it.

In 1940, Scott only needed one catalog to cover the world. Now, for 1978, it requires four volumes, and you must have a good bank account just to purchase the annual supplements for

the specialized series of albums.

What is the solution to this problem? How can we prevent being ripped off by these money-hungry stamp-issuing countries, many whose largest industry is bilking the stamp collectors? The simplest answer would appear to be to quit buying their wallpaper. However, this would not appeal to the specialists or the topicalists. But, if they will confine their interests to a narrow zone and only select a couple of countries or topics, then they will have extra funds to purchase better grade material instead of junk.

Have you ever watched a dealer evaluate a collection? He carefully examines the 19th century material, moves along a bit faster on the 20th century material, but when he comes to those beautiful multicolored ships, butterflies, birds, animals, etc., he just counts pages. Here, again, is a fast education that only takes a bit of looking.

Of course, if you relish this wallpaper and have oodles of money to throw away casually, then continue as you are. You will find that there are an unlimited number of countries who will wave their "Hello Sucker" banner for you and are perfectly willing to ease you out of all the cash you can possibly get your hands on.

Another good way to fight this problem is to collect only to a given year. A very knowledgeable collector, whom I met recently, collects nothing after 1940. He feels that everything issued after that date is organized garbage.

Narrowing our field of discussion a bit, we all know that the former British West Indian islands are nearly all now just stamp-issuing countries. Each month sees the situation get worse. If many had to use up the stamps they print in just one month, it would take 50 years to do so.

Formerly, these colonies were provided with usually more than enough stamps to serve their purpose. Often the quantity was only five or ten thousand which still left plenty for the collectors and dealers. Even then, it was impossible to dispose of them postally, due to the large population of illiterate persons. Witness St. Christopher Scott #15 with only two postally used copies known. Often, the balances were sold as remainders and had no further postal value.

For myself, I specialized in Jamaica, including the stampless markings as well as many of the early covers. When Jamaica became a commonwealth country in 1962, I lost interest. Then began all the wild varieties and irregular items which just seemed to appear "by accident." These freaks are becoming countless and will probably continue into the future. The dealers are peddling them for very good prices, but most usually go begging at the public auctions.

I have since disposed of my Jamaica collection, but still continue to keep my interest going by collecting BWI both unused and used through to the UNESCO issue of 1966. I realize that some wallpaper is here, but I did draw the line somewhere to avoid exploitation.

Another field which I enjoy is U. S. Civil War revenues. They just ain't printing them anymore and it is doubtful if they will in the future.

Now, what are you going to do?

"A commemorative issue of stamps means that history is repeating itself -- quite unnecessarily."
Al Johnson, BCPJ Whole #6

Three Interesting Bermuda Covers

by Dr. C. Kilbourne Bump

In 1868, the Bermuda Government was given permission from England to contract for regular steamship service to New York. The on-and-off history of service previous to that time, a faster and more reliable service to England possible via New York, the increase in agricultural products exported from Bermuda to New York, and a budding North American tourist trade combined to make a fast, reliable service desirable.

The first contract was with the firm of Harvey and Gardner of New York. It was in force from September 1868 to July 1870, and was serviced by the S.S. "Fah-Kee" which made 32 round trips.

A second contract was negotiated with William H. Webb of New York. The S.S. "San Francisco" was used under this agreement, but twice had to be replaced, temporarily, by other steamers while she was withdrawn for repairs. In addition, supplementary steamers were used in 1872 to handle the heavy export of spring crops. When the "San Francisco" was withdrawn at the end of 1872 for three months and no substitute offered in its place, the Bermuda Government canceled the contract.

In early February 1873, several companies competed for the Bermuda contract. Among them was the Old Dominion Steamship Company which sent the S.S. "Rapidan" to be inspected. The company was successful and was awarded this third contract. The "Rapidan" was one of four sister ships, the others being the "Albemarle," the "Hatteras," and the "Raleigh." On 3 April 1873 the "Albemarle" first sailed from Bermuda under the new contract. She made 10 round trips and during the busy spring season was supplemented by five trips of the "Hatteras." The last trip of the "Albemarle" left Hamilton on 28 August 1873. By that time, the company had concluded that the service was not profitable and canceled the contract.

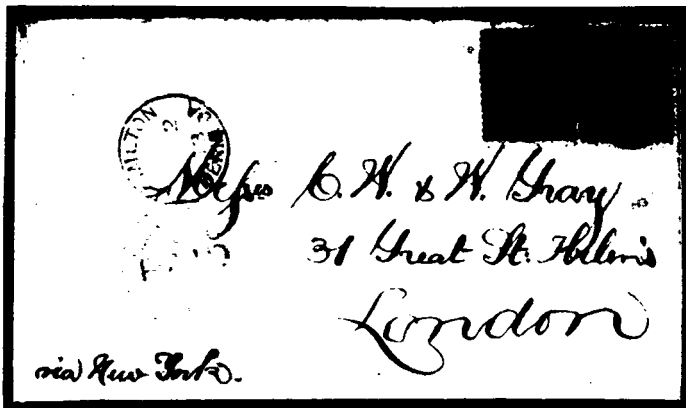


Figure 1

This is a cover carried by the S.S. "Albemarle" on the first trip from Bermuda under the Old Dominion contract. The "Albemarle" left Hamilton on 3 April 1873, the day after the letter was post-marked. The packet rate to London via New York at this date was seven pence, of which one penny went to the New York Post Office for transferring the mail to ships going to England. This was a triple rate letter, but appears to have been underpaid three pence with the postage due not collected in Bermuda, London, or New York. It took 19 days to make the trip.

Figure 2 shows a cover carried by the S.S. "Hatteras," sister ship of the "Albemarle," serving as the supplementary ship under the Old Dominion contract. Although the postmark does not show the day in June 1873 very clearly, it can be shown from the London receiving date-stamp of 7 July that the letter left Bermuda on 23 June 1873. This was the last of the five trips of the "Hatteras" as a supplementary ship under the contract. The connections in New York were good and the total trip took the very short time of 15 days. The rate of seven pence was proper for a letter not over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.

Figure 3 shows a cover that was also carried by the "Albemarle." This one was on its last trip under the Old Dominion Steamship Company contract. It left Hamilton on 28 August 1873 and arrived in London 15 September 1873, being 17 days en route. It is also a triple rated letter weighing between 1 and 1½ ounces and was franked correctly with three times seven pence in stamps.



Figure 2

Figure 3



Following the cancellation of Bermuda's third contract, the mails via New York were irregular until the end of January 1874. By that time the Canadian firm, Quebec and Gulf Ports Steamship Company had secured the contract. The S.S. "Canima" was the first ship assigned to this run. It made more than 130 round trips to Bermuda. Several other ships were used as supplementary ships or larger and faster replacements under the Quebec and Gulf Ports Steamship Company contracts. They served the colony regularly and faithfully for many years and only the interruption of World War I ended this long and useful relationship.

The first commercial advertisements appeared in Whole #44, August 1968. The advertisers were New England Stamp Co., H.R. Harmer, Inc., HJMR Co., "Out Island Otto," W.E. Lea Philatelists, and Robson Lowe Ltd. It might be mentioned here that both Robson Lowe Ltd. and H.R. Harmer, Inc. have advertised in every Journal since Whole #44. Their support is appreciated.

Whole #46, December 1968, saw our present cover format introduced. And, now, Whole #100 appears with color for the first time.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
(Continued from Page 2)

tion. Our constitution provides that the Trustees review the basis for a challenge; therefore, some pertinent information must be supplied regarding the reason for challenge.

My compliments to the winner of the competition for best article prepared for the 100th issue. Chairman of the Judging Committee, Mark Cassidy, advises that the judges were faced with 27 first-class articles and the choosing of one to be named winner was no easy task.

PAUL

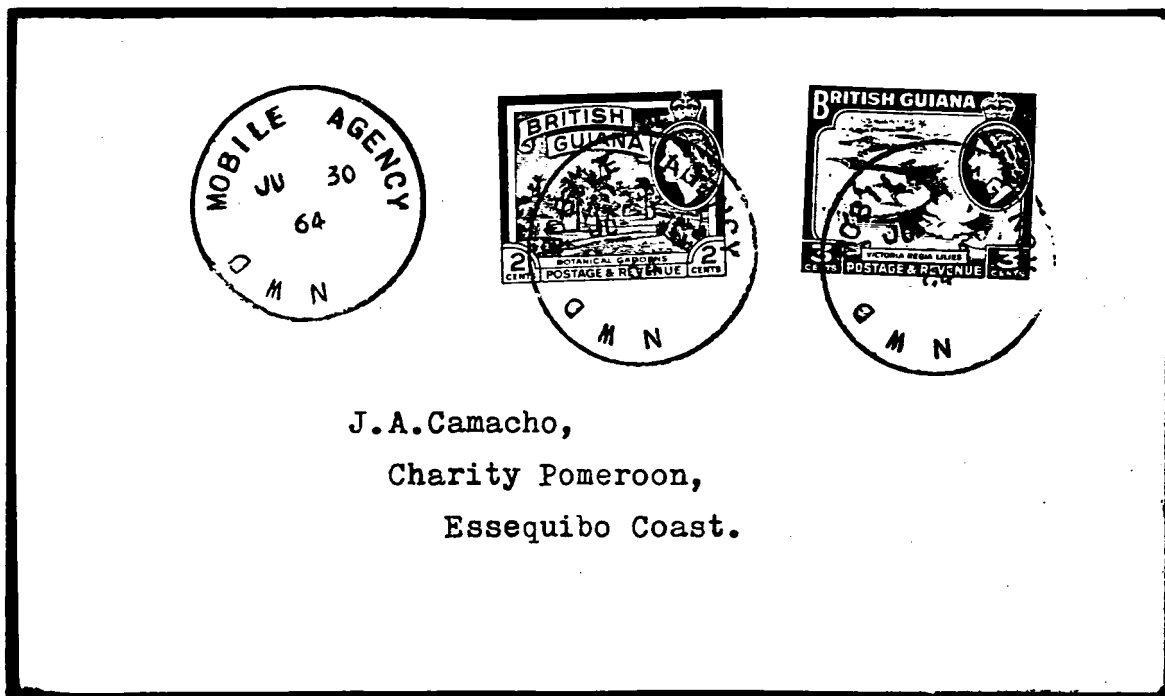
British Guiana's NWD Mobile Agency

by Col. Fred F. Seifert

For administrative purposes, the northwest part of Essequibo in British Guiana is called the North West District (NWD). Sometimes called "the forgotten province" because of long years of neglect by the Colonial Government, it is populated mainly by Amerindians and those who have come in to work at the mines of the District. Much of the North West District is covered with thick virgin forest, with access only by river or creek.

Mails reach the NWD by coastal steamer from Georgetown to Morawhanna and Mabaruma, the latter place being the Government Headquarters for the NWD. Some airmail services are also available, both by scheduled flights and by flights of opportunity. In remote places, any departing flight willingly transports mail.

In 1949, the Government appointed a Medical Dispenser to take badly needed medical supplies to remote and scattered Amerindian settlements throughout the NWD. The Dispenser made his rounds on the Mobile Medical launch "Relief." He had four different routes on a number of rivers and creeks, covering one route each week, and, thus, each settlement was visited once every four weeks. In 1951, a Traveling Postal Agency was established on the "Relief," and the Dispenser was appointed Postal Agent as an additional duty.



J. A. Camacho,
Charity Pomeroun,
Essequibo Coast.

The Dispenser/Postal Agent used a skeleton postmark device. Between 1952 and 1965 three settings of the Agency name were used. The cover shown here has the third of these settings. The other two differ mainly in the positioning of NWD. The illustrated setting was used between 1961 and 1965, and is listed as "Rare" in the Townsend and Howe book, "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana."

We have used the past tense in writing of this TPA, since we are reporting on its activity prior to Independence in 1966. As far as we can tell, it has continued to operate under the Guyana Government. Our friends in Guyana have moved from that country, one to Australia and the other to Canada, so our sources of information are gone.

For those wishing more information on the NWD MOBILE AGENCY, a copy of the Townsend and Howe BG book is available for loan from our BCPSG Library. The address of our librarian will be found on the inner front cover of this Journal.

OUR SECRETARY REPORTS

NEW MEMBERS:

All applicants listed in the December 1977 Journal have been admitted into membership.

NEW APPLICANTS:

- ALEVIZOS, George, PO Box 5159, Santa Monica, CA 90405. Stamp Dealer. Collects Postal History, Proofs, and Essays. By Thomas E. Giraldi
- ANDERSON, Thomas A., 1965 Rosemary Hills Dr. #3, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Education Consultant. Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Nevis, St. Christopher, Barbados, British Guiana, and Dominica. By American Philatelic Society
- ASHTON, Philip T., 39 Daffodil Lane, Meriden, CT 06450. Manager, Northeast Utilities. Bermuda and BWI. By C. Kilbourne Bump
- CLARKE, Arthur H., 72 Pondview Drive, Springfield, MA 01118. Insurance. British America. By C. Kilbourne Bump
- COLLECTORS CLUB OF CHICAGO, 1029 North Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610. Support of specialty group publications. By Paul A. Larsen
- FERNANDEZ, Vicenio, Granaderos 285, 1406 Buenos Aires, Argentina. Exc. Per., Purchasing Dept. BWI (modern only). By Thomas E. Giraldi
- GREWCOCK, Dayman, 95 Rosemead Dr., Oadby, Leicester, England. Computer Customer Engineer. Leewards Group, KGV. By Charles E. Cwiakala
- HINKLEY, Robert E., Jr., 11170 SW 131 St. Terrace, Miami, FL 33176. Professor of Anatomy and Anesthesia. Antigua, QV mint; BWI. By Fred F. Seifert
- LEHBAUER, John M., #103 - 5262 48 Ave., Delta, B.C., V4K 1W5, Canada. Shop Technician BC Research Council. St. Vincent and BWI. By Fred F. Seifert
- MANDEL, Gerald I., 26 Moorecraig Rd., Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 6V7, Canada. Public Employee. Bermuda and Holyland. By Thomas E. Giraldi
- MATASAR, Harry, 1405 Magnolia Lane, Munster, IN 46321. Accountant and Stamp Dealer. Latin America, British Honduras, Belize, British Guiana, Guyana, BWI. By Tom Giraldi
- MATHESON, Ian A., Greyfriars Cottage, Greyfriars Garden, St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland, Great Britain. Research Chemist. British Honduras, Belize. By O.N.D. Phillips
- McGREGOR, Chris, 6312 Carnarvon St., Vancouver, B.C., V6N 1K3, Canada. Consulting Electrical Engineer. St. Vincent, British Colonies in Leeward Islands. By Fred F. Seifert
- McNAIR, William J., Jr., 2506 23rd Road North, Arlington, VA 22207. Retired - DOT, FAA, and USN. British Caribbean, British Empire, worldwide. By Fred F. Seifert
- RAE Philatelic Society, DW3 Q134 Bldg., RAE, Farnborough, Hants, GU14 6TD, England. By Charles E. Cwiakala

RAND, Robert F., 27 Walnut Ave., S. Farmingdale, NY 11735. Salesman. British Caribbean and Falkland Islands. By American Philatelic Society

ROBERTS, Ernest E., 5 Corsa St., Dix Hills, NY 11746. Design Engineer. Bermuda, Dominica, Grenada stamps, Censored Mail and Boer War. By American Philatelic Society

ROWAN, Hugh, c/o Rowan, Temple & Hill, Suite 1409, 4 King St. West, Toronto, M5H 1B6, Canada. Lawyer. Bermuda. By W. Danforth Walker

SHILOH, Earl E., Jr., 200 Deep Dale Dr., Lutherville-Timonium, MD 21093. Executive. British Commonwealth. By Thomas E. Gibaldi

YOUNIE, G. Roger, PO Box 1094, Hamilton 5, Bermuda. Accountant. Bermuda. By Thomas E. Gibaldi

APPLICATION RETURNED:

The application for membership (October 1977 BCPJ) for Dr. I.D. Steinman has been returned per vote of Board of Trustees.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

CROSS, M.J., 5 Winterbourne Ave., Orpington, Kent BR6 9RH, U.K.

GORDON, James, 1561 Carroll St., Clearwater, FL 33515

REGO, Michael, 24 Wentworth Dr., Crofton, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire, U.K.

SMITH, Victor W., 2540 Parkwood Drive S.E., Port Orchard, WA 98366

THOMPSON, Brian E., Villa Torrente, Ca'n Singala 65, Puerto de Pollensa, Mallorca, Spain

ADDRESS CORRECTION:

LEWARN, A.W., change post code to W12

DECEASED:

DURNIN, Stanley C.

NEW LIFE MEMBER:

WOODWARD, Ian C.

RESIGNATIONS:

ETTER, Elwood R.; HUBER, Paul; JADWIN, Robert C.; LEE, Geoffrey W.; MICCHELLI, Richard J.; PLAYFOOT, John A.; WERTH, Richard T.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1977

Members at End of 1976 490

Less: Members Resigned	24	Plus: New Members	58
Dropped for Non-Payment of Dues	30	Reinstated	7
Deceased	4		
Unaccepted Applications	1		
	59		65

Membership at End of 1977 496

Plus, during the year 1977 three new societies were added to our membership.

Personal Mention

BRIAN THOMPSON recently moved from England to Mallorca, Spain, and advises that he would be delighted to welcome any BCPSGer visiting the island on vacation.

Another member issuing an invitation to fellow members is JIM GORDON who has moved to Clearwater, Florida, and says he has a guest room!

DR. ROBERT TOWERS acted as a judge at the November Irish National Exhibition (Stampa 77). Also, a part of his Grenada collection was exhibited in the Court of Honor at the show.

ROBERT DANZER has been elected President of the Postal History Society for 1978.

MORRIS LUDINGTON spent much of September in Bermuda collecting data in the Bermuda Library Reference Room on the dates of arrival, etc. on various contract steamers.

TOM and BESS CHARA enjoyed a sojourn in the Caribbean in Nov.; their 10th in 10 years.

ANTIGUA—BARBUDA

	U.S. \$	
	Mint	Used
ANTIGUA		
'70 Ship 3¢ Reversed Wmk.	1.00	1.00
'70 Cricket 5¢ Inverted Wmk.	1.15	1.15
'74 Earthquake	4.30	4.30
BARBUDA		
'73 Royal Wedding Opt.	8.20	9.30
'73 Mil. Unif. 20¢ Local Opt. (SG123a)	5.15	5.15
'73 Christmas Opt. S.S.	12.30	12.30
'73 Honeymoon Visit Opt. S.S.	5.45	5.45
'74 Ship Opt. \$2.50 Upr. Wmk. (SG120)	6.55	6.55
'74 UPU Opts. (14)	8.20	8.75
'74 Churchill Opt. S.S.	7.65	7.65
'75 Apollo-Soyuz pair	6.05	6.05
'75 Bird \$5 perf 14x14½ (SG197a)	10.90	10.90
'76 Christmas Opt. set pairs-Δ for A	5.00	-
'77 Silver Jubilee Opts. (6)	7.05	7.05

Cash with Order. Postage extra (20¢/½ oz. air, 15¢ Regt.) Want Lists for BWI welcomed.

Standing orders for new issues accepted.

Commission 25%.

**G.N. HOLMES, P.O. Box 312,
ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA, W.I.**

ROBSON LOWE AUCTIONS

MARCH Postal History is being offered in Bournemouth and includes a valuable collection of Royal Letters, Henry VIII, Charles II, and the first part of a valuable study of Great Britain, and part of a find of missionary letters.

APRIL Five auctions in Basle. EUROPE strong in Austria, Italy, Liechtenstein, Spain, Switzerland; FRANCE & COLONIES; MIDDLE EAST - Egypt, Palestine, Israel; BRITISH EMPIRE imperforate classics strong in G.B., Cape of Good Hope, India, N.S.W., New Zealand, and Canada; BRITISH EUROPE - Cyprus, Gibraltar, and Malta.

MAY German States, Europe, and British North America in Geneva.

JUNE British Africa in Johannesburg.

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Suitable property can always be accepted for inclusion in one of our international sales. Our brochure "Selling Your Stamps" with details of our services and fees is available upon request from the address below.

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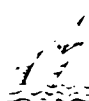
50 PALL MALL, LONDON SW1Y 5JZ, ENGLAND

Cables: "Stamps London SW1"; Telex: 915 410; V.A.T. No. 239/4486/31



POSTAL HISTORY ON STAMPS

<u>ANGUILLA</u> - Forest on St. Kitts, 1933	\$100.00
<u>ANTIGUA</u> - G.B. used in Antigua, S.G. #Z 553	175.00
G.B. used in Antigua, S.G. #Z 553, corner perf. off	75.00
<u>BAHAMAS</u> - Sc. #44, postmarked Inagua	10.00
<u>BARBADOS</u> - Sc. #41, Type O2 bootheel with number 3	25.00
<u>BERMUDA</u> - Sc. #19, used gutter strip of four	15.00
Paget East postmark #10	20.00
Harrington Sound postmark #12	50.00
Crawl postmark #15	12.50
<u>BRITISH HONDURAS</u> - P.A.A. TRD	35.00
Sc. #28, mint gutter block of six	40.00
<u>CAYMAN ISLANDS</u> - Sc. #21, East End Rural Post on piece	75.00
Sc. #21, Rural Post Grand Cayman	65.00
Sc. #22 (x2), East End Rural Post, on pair	85.00
<u>DOMINICA</u> - S.G. #R2, R3, and R6, postally used.	R2 5.25; R3 15.00; R6 16.00
Unofficial privately made overprint "Internal Self Government 1 March 1967" on	
Sc. #s 164-165-197. Mint Set	20.00
Same as above, on cover that went through the mails	150.00
<u>GRENADA</u> - Sc. #20, Letter E St. Davids	32.50
<u>JAMAICA</u> - Sc. #10, unlisted Kingston mail bag seal used as postmark	125.00
S.G. #O1F, double overprint	20.00
Sc. #31, bisect used on piece of newspaper	150.00
Linstead Rail Road cancel.....\$40.00 Same, Spanish Town.....	17.50
<u>LEEWARD ISLANDS</u> - Sc. #45, Wide A variety	Mint 75.00 Used 65.00
<u>NEVIS</u> - Forgeries	Each 5.00
<u>ST. KITTS & NEVIS</u> - Sc. #3, postmarked Nevis	10.00
<u>ST. KITTS, NEVIS & ANGUILLA</u> - 1967 TRD	15.00
<u>ST. LUCIA</u> - S.G. #F1, F4, F17 -- all postally used	F1 \$20; F4 \$75; F17 75.00
S.G. #Z 598, seven perfs trimmed	60.00
<u>ST. VINCENT</u> - Sc. #26, with K postmark	10.00
Sc. #56, postmarked Barbados	10.00
<u>TRINIDAD</u> - Sc. #1a (x2), horizontal pair, postmarked Labrea	100.00
<u>TURKS ISLAND</u> - Great Britain S.G. #26 (pl. 14), postmarked T I	100.00
<u>VIRGIN ISLANDS</u> - Sc. #s 19-21-22-23-24-25-26-27, canceled A91	100.00
Bulls eye killers on many BWI stamps used in V.I.	From 10.00



BAHAMAS STAMPS

B W I Cancellation Specialists
BOX 333. ULETA. FLA 33164

POSTAL HISTORY COVERS

ANTIGUA —	Higgins & Gage #E1, St. Johns to New Jersey		\$ 30.00
	H&G #E3, St. Johns to New Jersey, 1927		37.50
	Scott #MR1, to Washington, D. C.	17.50	17.50
	H&G #W1, Wrapper to London		12.50
	H&G #W2, Wrapper to New Jersey		12.50
	1843 Fleuron, VF strike, to Great Britain		110.00
	H&G #1, postcard, 1886 to G.B.		35.00
	H&G #6, postcard, 1904 to Germany		25.00
	Antigua Sc. #43 (10) plus Leeward Islands 1931 to Detroit		16.50
	Sc. #L7, Panton postage due cover with Cayman #73		37.50

BAHAMAS—	Sc. #37, 1903 cover to Canada		35.00
	Sc. #B2 (5), registered cover to New York		12.50
	H&G #1, 1881 postcard to G.B.		87.50
	H&G #6, 1941 envelope to U.S.		40.00
	H&G #2 plus Sc. #34, registered envelope to Boston, 1903		95.00
	Careers Week TRD		17.50
	Cat Cay TRD Marlin strike to N.Y.		125.00
	H&G #E5 plus Sc. #28 (2), 28a (2), on registered 1899 cover to NY		100.00
	H&G #C1, 1899 registered cover to San Francisco		125.00
	H&G #E7a, 1905 cover to Ohio		175.00
	Sc. #s 178-9, FDC to Jamaica		3.50
	Sc. #s 185-200, on three covers, V.S.		75.00
	Sc. #s 178-9, complete collection of these stamps used on piece in every operating post office, plus 30 out island covers		500.00

JAMAICA NUMERAL OBLITS

50% off our regular prices based on BCPSG chart

WANT LISTS ONLY

2,000 plus in stock



BAHAMAS STAMPS

B W I Cancellation Specialists
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