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GRANTS PEN, JAMAICA, A POSTAL SUB AGENCY ONCE DESCRIBED BY THE LATE TOM FOSTER AS "THE LOWEST FORM OF LIFE IN THE JAMAICAN POSTAL ESTABLISHMENT," IS SHOWN IN A 1974 PHOTOGRAPH.

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We now have a replacement for Elaine. I am happy to report that member Daniel C. Warren has been confirmed by your trustees as the next editor of the BCPJournal.

Dan is one of our charter members and has had some previous editorial experience. A more comprehensive introduction will appear on page 186 of this issue. Welcome aboard, Dan.

During our CAPEX '78 meeting it was proposed that we create an award to be given annually for the best Journal article. The Stan Durnin Memorial Award is now on its way to becoming a reality.

Gale Raymond has made a generous donation in the name of our founding editor, Al Johnson, to assist with funding this award. Furthermore, Gale challenges the membership to match any part of his contribution.

I have decided to meet a portion of Gale's challenge and I hope some of you will too. Thanks, Gale, for getting it started.

Annual dues (subscription) notices will be out soon. Please remember to reply promptly. Payment is due BEFORE Jan. 1, 1979, to qualify for the regular rate; the price goes up one dollar with the new year.

A trustee ballot will again be incorporated with the dues notice. Background notes are provided in this Journal on the six candidates for trustee. Remember to vote for your choices.

PAUL

Early Dominica Manuscript Cancels

by Charles E. Cwiakala

One of the more interesting aspects of British Caribbean postal history is the manuscript town and village cancellations of Dominica. When found on the adhesives of the Victorian era, they are more often than not interpreted as denoting fiscal usage while, in fact, they represent genuine postal usage during a difficult period of Dominica's postal service development.

When offered at auction or private treaty, these manuscript cancels command hefty prices, but, suffice to say at this time, the adhesive MUST include the town or village name in the manuscript. Otherwise, the adhesive MAY denote the more familiar fiscal usage and, as such, have relatively little value to the postal historian or country specialist.

DOMINICA'S EARLY POSTMARKS

British postage stamps were introduced into Dominica in May 1858 and were withdrawn in May 1860. Discounting the pre-adhesive handstamps, the first postmark used in Dominica was the very familiar flat, oval A07 obliterator.

This obliterator was issued to the General Post Office at Roseau somewhat prior to the introduction of the Great Britain postage stamps and was used pretty generally until 1884 and, perhaps, later ((1)). When found used on the stamps of Great Britain, the cancel represents the well-known and very scarce "Used Abroad" postal history items.

From 1860 to 1874, postage requirements in Dominica were prepaid in cash. Dominica's first issues were placed on sale on 4 May 1874 and were withdrawn on 31 October 1890 when the general issue Leeward Islands adhesives were introduced. Dominica's stamps were reintroduced in 1903 and were used concurrently with the issues of the Leeward Islands.

In about 1879, a new type of obliterator was introduced. This obliterator was used concurrently with the foregoing obliterator for a time and then almost exclusively during and after the 1884 period. This postmark was the familiar upright, oval A07 obliterator with the A07 being of a larger type than the first described canceling device ((1)).

A duplex mark, consisting of the heavy "A07" obliterator and a "Dominica" datestamp, was sent from London on 26 September 1893. On 9 April 1894, the London GPO proof books evidence that two circular datestamps inscribed "Dominica," with asterisks instead of code letters above the date, were sent to Roseau; the datestamps differ slightly in size ((2)).

The first "outstation" datestamp was not provided until 1893 when the Portsmouth cancel was dispatched. On 13 July 1900, 13 CDSs were sent from the London GPO to Dominica; all had an asterisk instead of a code letter at the foot.

The following subpost offices now included their own canceling devices: Colihaut, Coulibistrie (closed 30 June 1905), Delices, Dublanc, Grand Bay, La Plaine, Mahaut, Pointe Michel, Rosalie, St. Joseph, Soufriere, Vielle Case and Wesley (closed 31 July 1903) ((2)).

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

THE DEVELOPMENT OF DOMINICA'S INTERNAL POSTS

Dominica's internal posts were first developed in June 1875. Detailed information on these early routes has been published previously (3) and what follows is an extracted capsulization to be used only for reference purposes.

The first route (Route 1) was announced in the local newspaper, "The Official Gazzette," on 13 June 1875 and included travels between the following post offices: Roseau (departure on Tuesdays at 6 a.m.) -- Portsmouth (same day departure at noon) -- Wesley (same day departure at 7 p.m.) -- Rosalie (departure on Wednesdays at 8 a.m.) -- Roseau (arrival at about noon).

An hour later, the Route 2 schedule began from Roseau to Rosalie, then to Wesley, Portsmouth and back to Roseau. On Fridays, a 'special post' left Roseau at 6 a.m. for Portsmouth.

A second and more extensive schedule was dated 11 August 1875. Under this schedule the Monday mails from Roseau went via St. Joseph and Colihaut to Portsmouth and returned via Wesley, Castle Bruce and Rosalie to Roseau on Wednesdays.

The schedule dictated departure on the same day for Rosalie, to complete the reverse trip to Roseau on Saturdays. In addition, a mail left Portsmouth on Tuesdays via Colihaut and St. Joseph to Roseau, returning to Portsmouth on Fridays.

An announcement was made on 16 April 1878 noting that the letterbox at the entrance to Fort Young in Roseau would be cleared on Mondays and Fridays at 8 a.m. and on Wednesdays at noon. The newspaper also announced that postage stamps would now be available for purchase at all country police stations.

A 4 September 1884 announcement stated that as from 30 September, the mail would leave Roseau by boat at 10 a.m. each Tuesday and Friday for Portsmouth, via St. Joseph and Colihaut; the mails arriving at Portsmouth at 7 p.m. and returning to Roseau on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The land route was by Wesley and Rosalie to Roseau.

On Tuesdays, also at 10 a.m., a mail left Roseau for Pointe Michel and Soufriere, via Tete Morne, arrive at Dubuc at 4 p.m. and return on Fridays by the same route. On Wednesdays, the mail left Dubuc via Felicite for Rosalie, returning on Thursdays for Dubuc.

Such were the first internal posts of Dominica and they were difficult to travel. The island is a virtual mountain rising from the sea, clothed with dense rain forests. The road systems were unconnected at the turn of the century, with an east-west crossing of the island being possible, although preferably by horse or mule.

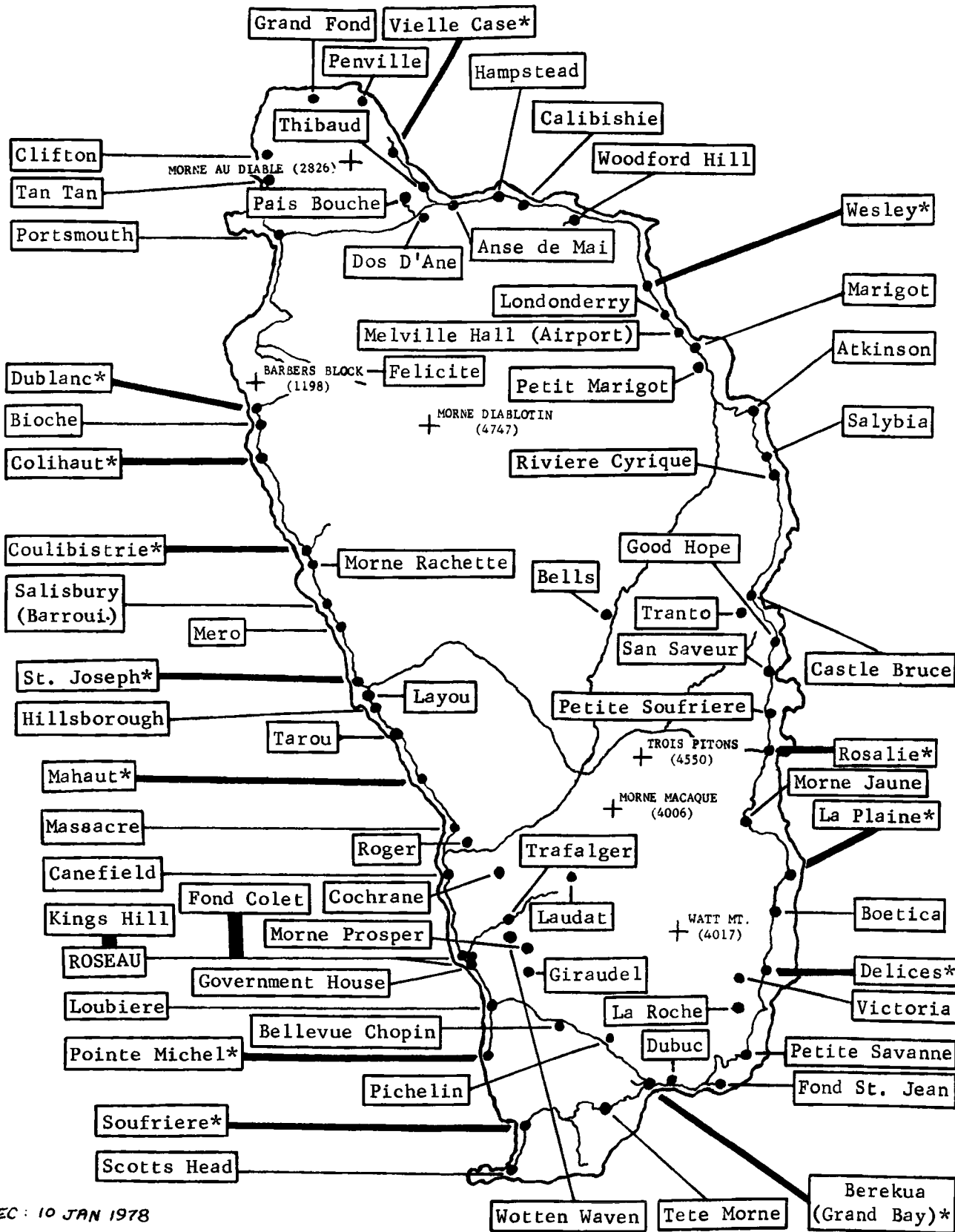
THE MANUSCRIPT TOWN AND VILLAGE CANCELLATIONS

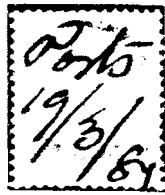
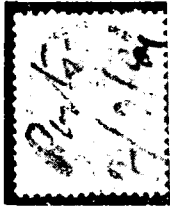
As previously noted, only the Roseau GPO included a canceling device and it was not until 1903 that 13 small village post offices received their own distinctive datestamps. Yet, we note that postage stamps were available at many of the village post offices after May 1874 and that scheduled internal postal routes were established in June 1875.

Effective June 1875, mails were carried along these internal routes for a great number of years. Postage stamps were available at the various villages, but not canceling devices to

An asterisk ("*") denotes a datestamp being forwarded from the London G.P.O. to the village Post Office on 13 July 1900.

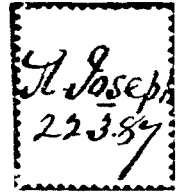
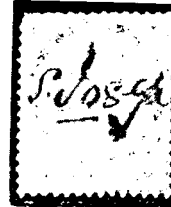
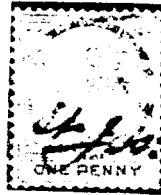
DOMINICA





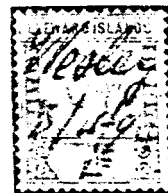
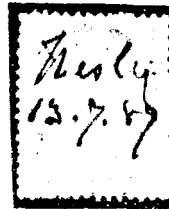
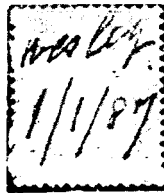
PORTSMOUTH

COLIHAUT

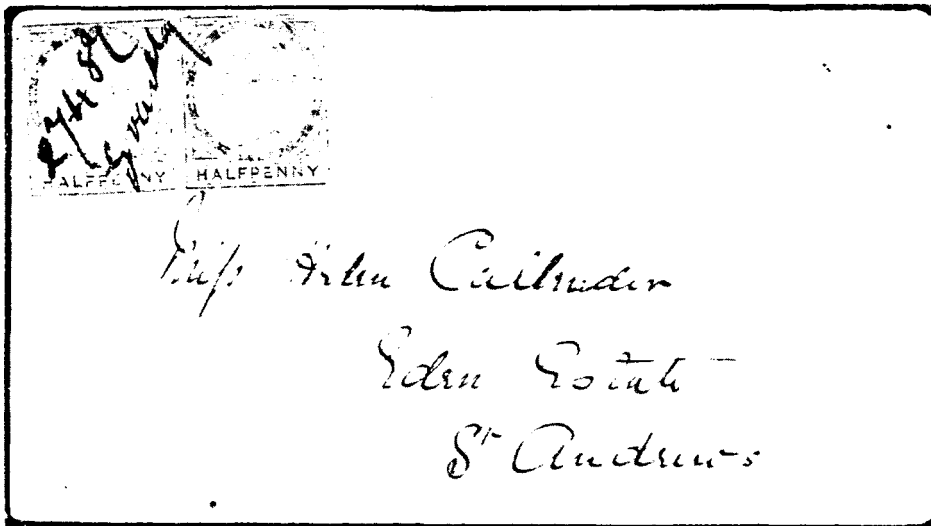


VIELLE CASE

ST. JOSEPH



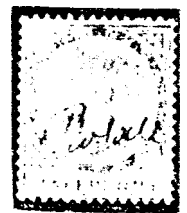
WESLEY



GRAND BAY



ROSEAU (?)



ROSALIE

obliterate the adhesive and to denote the origins of the mails. Thus came into being the town and village cancellations of Dominica.

The adhesive on the posted letter was manuscript canceled in ink with the name of the village or town, or an abbreviation thereof, and the date; the date being written in the British style (date-month-year). Single or multiple adhesives with ONLY a manuscript date cancellation should be considered as being fiscally used, although the possibility exists that they may represent postage usage evidencing only the omission of the town or village name.

Examples of Dominica's town and village manuscript cancellations are rated on a scale of very scarce to rare. One must remember that at the turn of the century Dominica's population was only approximately 30,000 (reckoned to be 27,000 in 1875), with good numbers of the citizens residing in Roseau (c. 8,000) or Portsmouth (c. 3,500) ((1, 3)). A good portion of the inhabitants were illiterate, those that were not being primarily in the two larger towns. Mails from these towns and villages must have been small and surviving examples of the manuscript cancellations on Dominica or Leeward Islands stamps even smaller.

Examples of Dominica village and town manuscript cancellations accompanying this article have been extracted from the auction sale catalogs of Robson Lowe ((4, 5, 6)) and are intended to allow the interested reader to become familiar with these markings.

Specific examples include town and village manuscript cancellations from Colihaut, Grand Bay, Rosalie, possibly Roseau, St. Joseph, Vielle Case and Wesley.

| <u>VILLAGE</u> | <u>NUMBER RECORDED</u> | <u>EARLIEST RECORDED DATE</u> | <u>LATEST RECORDED DATE</u> |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Colihaut | 2 | -- | ? MR 79 |
| Grand Bay | 1 | -- | 27 AP 87 |
| Portsmouth | 5 | 2 JY 84 | 3 JY 86 |
| Rosalie | 1 | -- | ? |
| Roseau | 1 | -- | ? |
| St. Joseph | 4 | -- | 22 MR 87 |
| Vielle Case | 2 | 22 MR 87 | 26 AU 87 |
| Wesley | 8 | 13 JY 89 | 3 MR 94 |

Undoubtedly, examples of other manuscript cancellations may exist for at least a number of villages or towns noted as being on the internal 1800s postal routes, but the writer has been unable to record any of these as of this writing. What may be of interest is the number of occurrences noted for those towns and villages recorded as of date, as indicated in the above table.

The survey, limited as it is, does provide some clues; yet poses some further questions. It is understandable that Portsmouth should evidence a relative multitude of examples, as it was a larger town with some commerce; however, Wesley, a small village on the northeast coast, evidences even a greater number of examples!

The Roseau example is questionable, since only the "eau" is inscribed on the adhesive. Roseau had its own cancelers since the late 1850s and the manuscript cancel may have been applied when a canceler was temporarily misplaced. Conversely, a cynic might ascribe this item as denoting fiscal usage and, although this tenet is possible, it is, in my opinion, not probable.

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Representing a difficult period in the formative years of the island's internal posts, the village and town manuscript cancellations of Dominica reveal an interesting and very scarce-to-rare grouping.

Although difficult to locate, it is supposed that a larger number may exist than have been recorded by the writer, but that these unrecorded items may repose in collections or accumulations of the general collector labeled as 'fiscal' usage -- a potential 'uncollectible.'

Copies in dealers stockbooks or club circuit sales books may have been passed over by the uninformed collector in favor of an adhesive with a clean obliterator or datestamp -- it is hoped that this article will reveal to the reader the true status and value of these town and village manuscript cancellations and that such potential finds will now not go unnoticed.

It would be interesting to determine the relative scarcity of the various town or village manuscript cancellations and to determine whether villages or towns other than the eight recorded in this article exist as manuscript cancellations (e. g., Coulibistrie, Delices, Dublanc, Mahaut, Pointe Michel and Soufriere).

The membership is invited to forward data on any Dominica village or town manuscript cancellations in their collections. If possible, include a photostat of the item(s) so that previously recorded examples are not doubly counted.

A future article dealing with this subject will report on new items recorded by the writer because of this article and will attempt, if possible, to draw up earliest and latest dates of usage and a table of scarcity.

REFERENCES:

1. "Dominica," Bertram W. H. Poole, published by C. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells, England, 1910, pp. 25-26.
2. "Some Notes on the Cancellations Found on the Adhesives of Dominica," Peter Jaffe, "Stamp Collecting," 18 Jan. 1952, p. 581.
3. "Tracing the Early Posts of Dominica," Peter Jaffe, "Philatelic Magazine," Vol. 61, No. 21, 9 Oct. 1953, pp. 799/809.
4. Robson Lowe Sale No. 3114-3116, British West Indies, 10 Dec. 1968, Lot. No. 83.
5. Robson Lowe Sale No. 3357-3359, William Britton Stitt Collection, 12 May 1970, Lot 302.
6. Robson Lowe Sale No. 3947, Dominica, 12 March 1975, Lots 2222-27.

CAYMAN SPECIMENS RECALLED - - - -

The first part of the Cayman Islands' fish definitive stamps was to have been released on 15 August, but was postponed to allow for the reprinting of two values, 15¢ and 20¢, to correct the name of the fish depicted thereon.

The Bureau advises that stocks of the incorrectly captioned 15¢ and 20¢ values will be destroyed.

However, the CA Trade Circular requests, "Recipients of the specimen sets distributed with TC 6/78 are requested to return the 15¢ and 20¢ stamps only which will be replaced with the corrected version in due course."

De La Rue Records: Jamaica

by Michael Vokins

(Editor's Note: This is a continuation of a series of articles on information concerning Jamaica philately gleaned from the De La Rue records.)

2. LINE AND COMB PERFORATION

Perforation varieties in catalogs are usually restricted to variation in gauge and no distinction is made between line perforation (sometimes called guillotine) and comb perforation. A notable exception is the George VI 5/- stamp (S.G. 132, Scott 127) where, from 1975, the line perforation variety has been given the status of a footnote in the Gibbons catalog.

It is remarkable for a George VI variety to have gone unnoticed for so long. Tom Foster publicized the variety in 1972 in his "Jamaica News Letter No. 14" and Dr. W.H. Barker described what he knew in a "GeoSix Bulletin." Apparently, Gibbons was shown a block of four and a single in 1963; however, a footnote appeared only in the 1964 edition of the "Two Reigns" catalog, stating "No. 132 is normally comb perf., but also exists in line."

A block of four and a single, presumably the same stamps, were purchased about 1966 by the Colonial and Foreign Stamp Co., Ltd., and it was their advertisement in 1971 that led, through Barker and Foster, to the general recognition of the variety. The identification of dated copies means that more of the story can now be told.

Line and comb perforation cannot be distinguished with **certainty** in single copies, but in the case of the George VI 5/- the comb perforation is 13.8 x 13.7, while the line perforation is 14.0 x 14.0 when measured precisely.

In line perforation the horizontal rows of perforation holes are made in one stage and the vertical rows are made in another stage. As a consequence, the rows of perforation holes do not coincide where they cross and the appearance at the center of a block of four stamps is usually very irregular (Fig. 1).

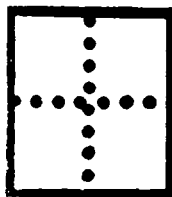


Figure 1

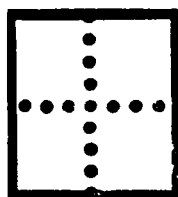


Figure 2



Figure 3

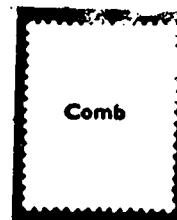


Figure 4

But, in comb perforation the appearance at the center of a block of four stamps is regular (Fig. 2). The old comb perforating machines made a horizontal row of holes across the sheet of stamps and vertical rows to the depth of one stamp in a single operation. Hence, each stamp receives its perforation holes on three sides in a single operation and the holes make a regular pattern at the corners.

Single copies of line perforated stamps sometimes have a characteristic 'whisker' at a corner (Fig. 3), but a chance coincidence of the two sets of perforation holes can produce corners similar to those found on comb perforated stamps (Fig. 4).

The origin of the George VI line perforation 5/- is a matter of speculation, but a plausible

story can be put together from the correspondence books of De La Rue. De La Rue's factories were bombed during the London blitz as they reported in a letter to the Crown Agents, dated 30 December 1940, "our George, Crown and Star factories were seriously damaged last night" and "108 and 110 Dunhill Row were destroyed by fire."

On 8 January 1941, they wrote again with an assessment of the problems of stamp production and the paragraph on perforation records "As far as perforation is concerned we were fortunate in having removed and erected two perforating machines at our branch at Watford. In addition, we hope to be able to re-erect one or two machines which had been put into store. Nevertheless, our perforating plant is not for the moment capable of fulfilling properly all the orders unless we can arrange, with your permission, for a double shift in this department."

Now, De La Rue had, in the past, used a machine that line perforated at 14.0 exactly and, by fascinating coincidence, it was used in the 1920's for some Jamaican stamps which are again known in both line and comb perforation! It seems probable that this was the machine removed from store and used for perforating the George VI 5/-.



Figure 5

De La Rue received an order for 6,000 copies on 21 March 1941; delivery was promised for the end of June, the printing being in sheets of 30 at 18/6 a thousand. Some portion of this order was likely to have been perforated on the line machine since dated copies have been reported for 8 January 1942 (Fig. 5) and 16 May 1942. The previous order, also for 6,000 copies, had been received on 14 July 1939.

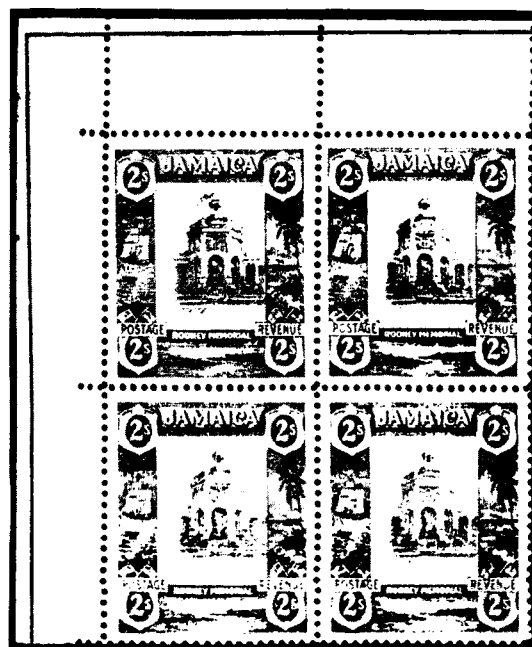
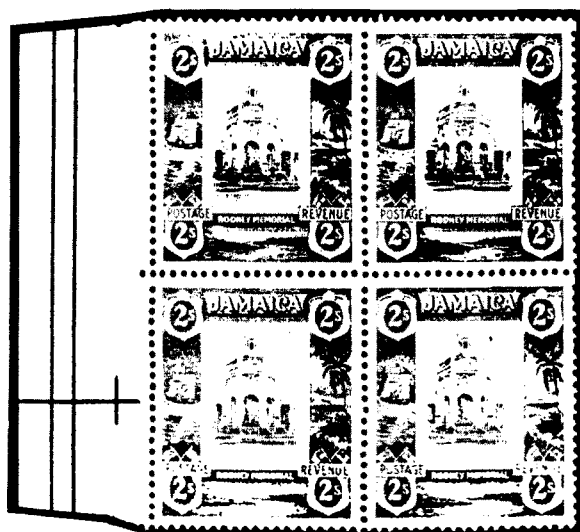


Figure 6

According to Aguilar's Handbook, the 2d, 2½d, 4d, and 1/- of the 1919-21 George V pictorial issue and the 2½d, 4d, 1/-, and 2/- of the 1921-29 issue can be found in both line and comb perforation. In the case of the 2/- stamp (S.G. 100 and Scott 97, Fig. 6) the gauges are identical at 14.0 x 13.8, so individual copies cannot be identified with confidence.

The Posts of St. Lucia

Part 9

by Geoffrey G. Ritchie

SECTION 13 MISCELLANEOUS MARKS

Paid Marks

The oldest informative marks for the foreign service were sent out from London on 2 October 1864. These accompanied the currency marks recorded earlier (Section 11) and, on the assumption that the second of the four strikes in the proof book was that of the handstamp sent to St. Lucia, only the second strikes are shown in Fig. 1.

These are standard types which were used in many countries, the initials PP (Port payé) and PD (Paye a destination) being in French, the international postal language. The first means "Postage Paid," not, however, for the complete journey but only to a specific point laid down in the agreement between the two countries concerned, that is, for part of the way. The second means "Paid to Destination"; this was allowed in some agreements and no further charge was to be levied on the recipient. These marks, of course, were required only before St. Lucia joined the UPU in 1881. Today it is normal for any letter between member states to be franked for the whole journey. This is a 'knock-for-knock' arrangement, the sending country taking the whole amount. No example of the use in St. Lucia of these particular stamps is known to the author.



Figure 1



Figure 2

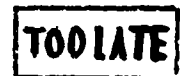


Figure 3

Late Marks

The earliest known mark of this type is a boxed TOO LATE (Fig. 2) on a 12 April 1900 St. Lucia "Gazette," addressed to Vieux Fort Police Station, which also bears a Type C4 CDS for 14 AP 1900. By today's standards, this "Gazette" consisted only of trivia, but it does bring back a whiff of the Imperial past! First of all, it states that "His Excellency Sir Alfred Maloney KCMG, Governor of the Windward Islands, having arrived in the Colony, has this day joined the Administration of the Government." It goes on to say that he would be pleased to see persons on business on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The remaining item indicated that his wife would be "At Home" every alternate Thursday between 4 and 6 p.m.

It is strange that TOO LATE marks are not more common, as one would expect them to be used fairly frequently in the days of shipping. The mark in Fig. 3 was found amongst Col. Reid's notes and was probably struck about 1950. It appears to be no longer in the GPO, but a copy is reported used on 2 MY 32.

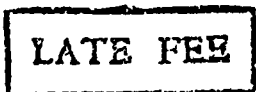


Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

A follow-on from this mark is the Late Fee, which could be paid for a limited period after the

normal acceptance time. Two handstamps (Figs. 4 & 5) were again found in Col. Reid's notes. A report has been seen of a stamp with the same wording as Fig. 5, possibly the same stamp, used on 8 November 1960, but this is the only evidence of use. Today, of course, this mark is unnecessary since there is a dispatch by air each day and, in any case, most post offices are not now interested in explaining delays -- they are more likely to cause them!

SHIP SAILED (Fig. 6) would seem to be an unlikely candidate for this section, but this is in fact an explanatory mark which is supposed to be struck on letters inscribed with the name of a particular ship but which are received too late for dispatch by this vessel. Now that air is the normal means of mail transport from the West Indian islands and, unlike in the past, it is unusual to direct letters to specific ships, this mark is not really necessary. It probably dates from pre-1939, although the oldest strike seen is in Col. Reid's notes; whether it was ever legitimately used is not known. The author has it on a 1974 cover; however, this was a "contrived" usage.

Marks for Various Purposes

Other marks found in Col. Reid's notebook are shown in Fig. 7. With the exception of the last one they are all of the same type, i. e., unseriffed capitals in a rectangular frame. The final Missent mark is in seriffed upper and lower case letters, with the oddity that the small T of Saint is a capital letter. This mark, which obviously existed about 1950, has seen considerable use; the author possesses strikes of 1969 and 1970. Its function is obvious.

The marks in the left-hand part of Fig. 7 can be dismissed fairly quickly as none are known used, although similar wordings to the last three were used in other countries. REBUT can be translated as DEAD LETTER; the meaning of DEFUNCT escapes me, as no doubt it did the postal authorities!

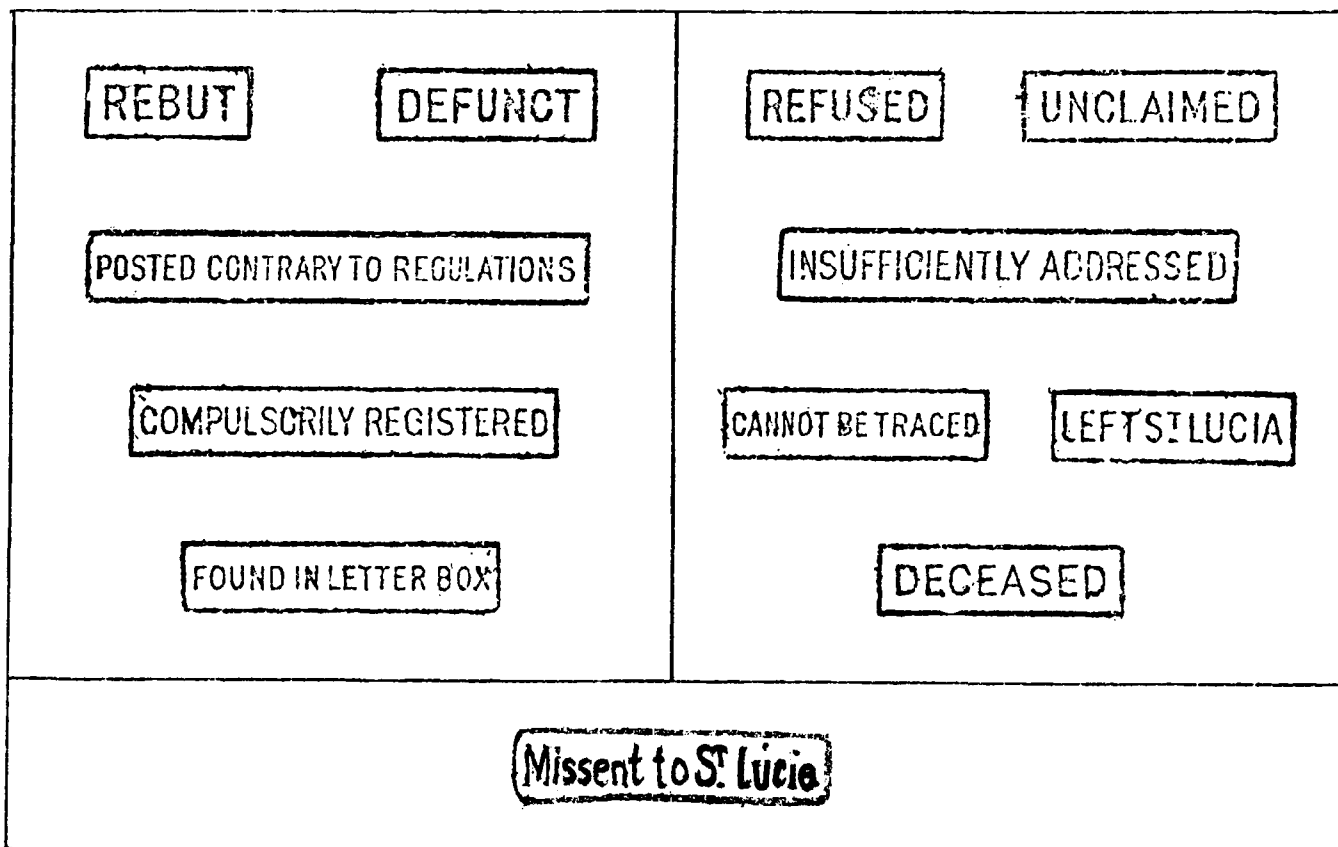


Figure 7

"Undeliverable" and "Damaged" Marks

The right-hand marks in Fig. 7 form a group as all give reasons for the non-delivery of a letter and its return to the sender; some at least should have seen use. It is considered that these were superseded at some time between 1950 and 1970 by the eight step-type marks shown in Fig. 8, all of which were held in the GPO in August 1974. Again, only UNCLAIMED has been seen used, but the others could exist. This series, however, seems overelaborate and it is difficult to imagine any post office anywhere searching for and using the stamp giving the particular nuance of meaning required.

This fact seems to have been recognized by the authorities, presumably in London, and a composite stamp was introduced for undeliverable letters (Fig. 9), the appropriate reason merely needing to be checked. This existed before November 1968 (BCPJ 54,50), and was used until at least January 1973. However, due to the fact that practically all mail in St. Lucia has to be collected from the post office, it would appear that the individual UNCLAIMED remained in use and was used concurrently. The step-type is known used in August 1973, but this was replaced by an unframed stamp (Fig. 10), probably in 1974 as it was in use by October of that year. The step-type stamp must have been lost, as from the 1973 impression it certainly could not have been worn out.

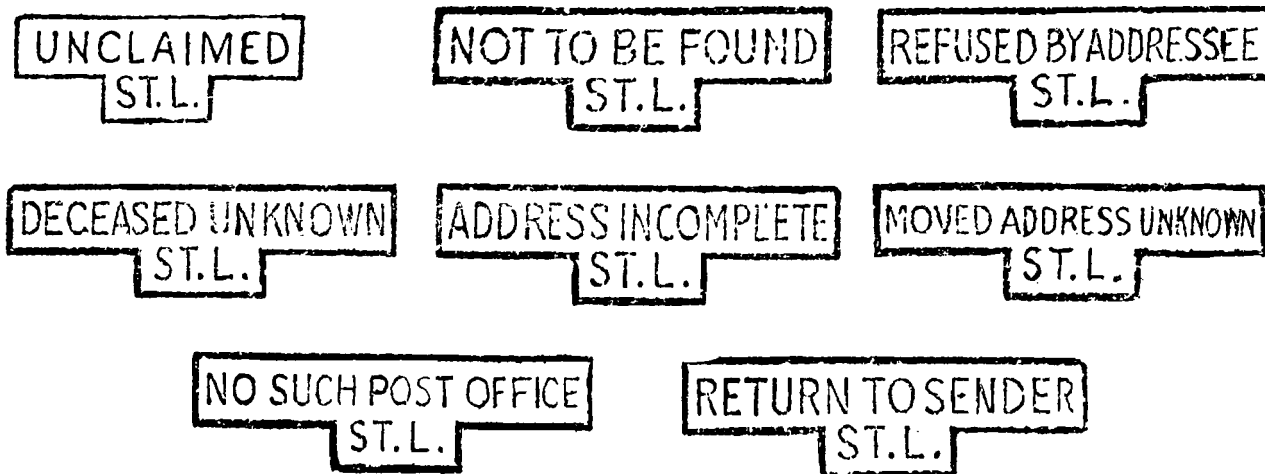


Figure 8

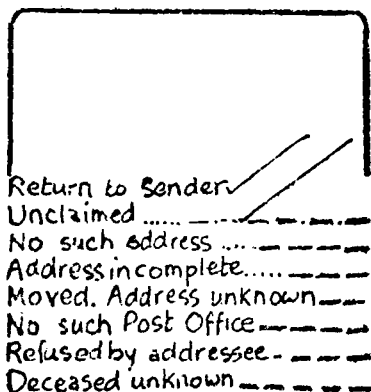


Figure 9

UNCLAIMED

Figure 10

The composite marking itself underwent change (Fig. 11). It altered to seriffed type and impressions 11a and 11b for damaged items existed in August 1974. These were then combined into stamp 11c (March 1975), which was headed G. P. O. ST. LUCIA. All stamps subsequently

had this in their headings, e.g., the more elaborate stamps 11d (February 1976) and 11e, which eventually replaced Fig. 9.

RECEIVED WITH TAPE
 DAMAGED
 OPENED

Figure 11a

RECEIVED IN WET CONDITION

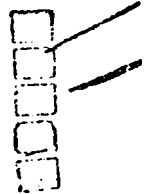
Figure 11b

G.P.O. ST. LUCIA
 RECEIVED:
 WITH TAPE
 DAMAGED
 OPENED
 IN WET CONDITION

Figure 11c

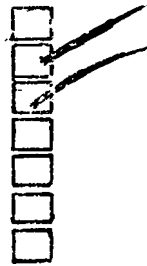
G.P.O. Castries
 G.P.O. ST. LUCIA
 Received:-
 with tape
 damaged
 opened
 in wet condition
 in this condition

Figure 11d



G.P.O. ST. LUCIA
 moved
 unclaimed
 unknown
 refused
 deceased
 no such street
 out of the island

Figure 11e



Other Stamps

The function of Fig. 12 is unknown. Figs. 13 and 14 are for striking on items requiring acknowledgement of receipt, but the author has received two such letters from Castries and neither bore Fig. 14. This and Fig. 12 were in the GPO in August 1974, while Fig. 13 was in Col. Reid's notes.



Figure 12



Figure 13

A. R.

Figure 14

SECTION 14 BOGUS POSTMARKS

Bogus postmarks were never used by the post office, as opposed to forgeries which are imitations of ones which were so used. It is believed that the two shown in Fig. 15 fall into this bogus class. Unaddressed, so-called "official first day covers" exist which are franked, some in very odd amounts, with the overprinted Statehood issue and/or special 15¢ air stamp and with the stamps canceled by one of these postmarks.

Obviously, none of these covers could have gone through the normal postal channels and, as

far as is known, these postmarks were never used by the post office on commercial mail. They were used only on bogus covers for collectors.

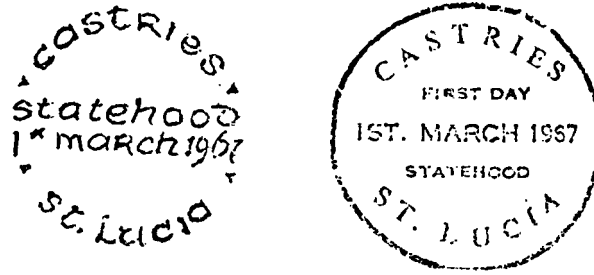


Figure 15

SECTION 15 MAIL BAG SEALS

Although never used as postal markings, impressions of the brass stamps used on the wax sealing the mail bags, when they were transported between offices, were found in Col. Reid's notes (Fig. 16).

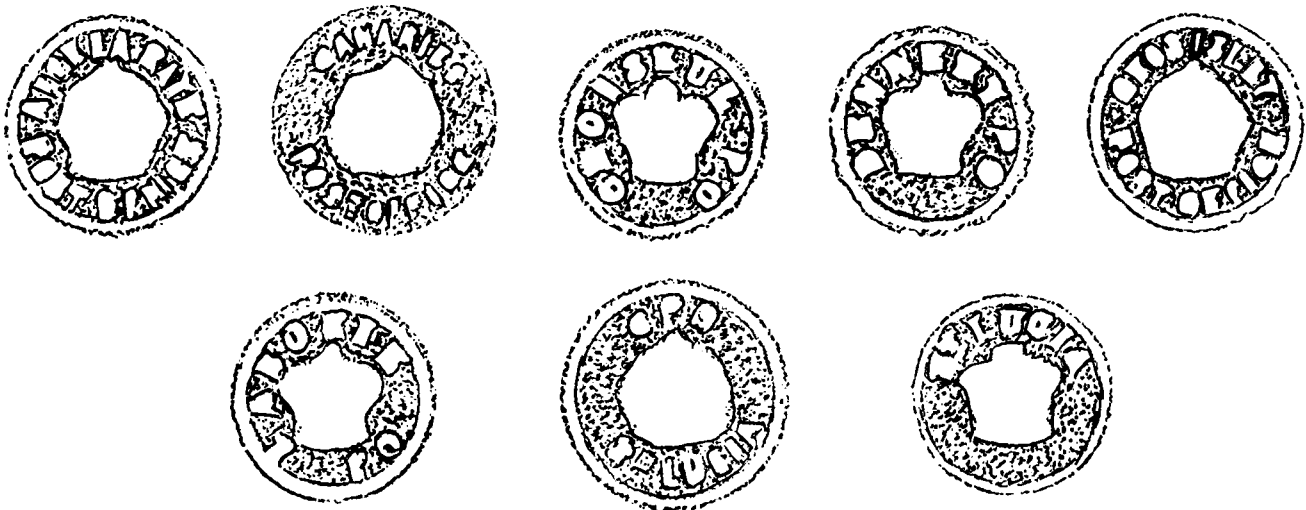


Figure 16

These seals consisted of a central crown surrounded by the name of the owning post office, namely, Anse la Raye, Canaries, Choiseul, Dennery, Gros Islet, and Laborie. Together with "G. P. O. St. Lucia" and one inscribed only "St. Lucia," these were annotated in manuscript "in use up to 1944." The second last was still in the possession of the GPO in August 1974.

CONCLUSION

This brings to an end this outline of the postal markings of St. Lucia, but the author would ask members to keep advising him of all new facts which may come their way, as there are many points still to be cleared up.

CROWN AGENTS ANNOUNCEMENT --

The Crown Agents Philatelic Bureau has announced that all future Bermuda commemorative issues will be on sale for a period of 12 months.

Antigua Monograph

The following section, prepared by Bill Cornell, contains an introduction, including an outline, for the lengthy section which is planned on the St. John's GPO and postmarks. The various sub-sections will be published in random order as they become available. Sub-section 18.1.5 on early double-ring postmarks is presently being drafted by Bill Cornell; Sub-section 18.1.7 on handstruck slogan/postmarks is being drafted by Alex Thomson; Sub-section 18.1.8 on canceling machine postmarks was drafted by George Bowman and published in the Journal in December 1975.

18.1 ST. JOHN'S GENERAL POST OFFICE AND POSTMARKS

This section is structured according to the following outline:

- 18.1.1 St. John's General Post Office
- 18.1.2 Obliterators and Associated Datestamps, 1858-1890
- 18.1.3 Early Single-Ring Postmarks, 1890-1903
- 18.1.4 Later Single-Ring Postmarks, 1903-1934
- 18.1.5 Early Double-Ring Postmarks, 1932-1954
- 18.1.6 Later Double-Ring Postmarks, 1950-1977
- 18.1.7 Handstruck Slogans/Postmarks, 1928-1946
- 18.1.8 Canceling Machine Postmarks
- 18.1.9 Miscellaneous Postmarks and Cancels

Sub-section 18.1.1 covers the Antigua post as centralized in 1860; Sub-section 18.1.2 addresses the horizontal and vertical obliterators and their associated datestamps; Sub-section 18.1.3 covers the ANTIGUA/cruciform ornament datestamps of ca. 1890-1903, and the small ANTI-GUA datestamp of ca. 1902-03; Sub-section 18.1.4 discusses the many single-ring ST. JOHN'S/ANTIGUA, B.W.I. datestamps of ca. 1903-34; Sub-section 18.1.5 covers the early double-ring datestamps of ca. 1932-54 (the 1932 Tercentenary "dots" CDS, the unornamented CDS of ca. 1933-52, and the "thick-arc" or "Birmingham" type CDS of ca. 1935-54); Sub-section 18.1.6 addresses the later double-ring datestamps ("line-arc" CDS marks) of ca. 1950-77; Sub-section 18.1.7 covers the handstruck slogans/postmarks of 1928-46, addressed to tourism and/or the 1932 Tercentenary Year; Sub-section 18.1.8 discusses the canceling machine postmarks (drafted by G.W. Bowman and published in 1975. See Ref. 1); Sub-section 18.1.9 covers miscellaneous postmarks and cancels from Victorian times to date.

Earlier treatments of most of these postmarks were made by S. C. Durnin ((2)), J. R. McFarlane ((3)), and W. G. Cornell ((4)). Durnin's series of articles covers the 1879-1963 era, including also village postmarks and other Antigua postal markings, illustrations being provided. McFarlane's study covers the 1860-1968 period, including sub-types of many postmarks, with illustrations of typical postmarks. The present section updates the earlier treatments to 1977, including more recently developed information.

REFERENCES

1. Cornell, W. G., Antigua Monograph, Section 18.1.8, Canceling Machine Postmarks, BCPJ, Whole Number 87, December 1975, pp. 175-182.
2. Durnin, S. C., Leeward Islands: Cancellations. 1. Antigua; BCPJ, Whole Number 6, March 1962, pp. 18-20; W. N. 7, May 1962, pp. 35-36; W. N. 9, September 1962, pp. 67-69; W. N. 11, January 1963, pp. 12-14; W. N. 13, May 1963, pp. 47-48.
3. Cornell, W. G., Antigua Addenda, BCPJ, W. N. 43, June 1968, pp. 85-89.
4. Cornell, W. G., St. John's Antigua Postmarks 1858-1968, "Western Stamp Collector," W. N. 3647, 4 February 1969, pp. 13-14.

CANDIDATES FOR TRUSTEE

It is again time to elect three members of the group to serve on the Board of Trustees of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. The trustee ballot will be sent to members directly via first class mail with the annual dues renewal notice.

A profile of the six candidates for BCPSG trustee for the period 1979-1983 inclusive follows:

EDWARD F. ADDISS is currently Director of Regulatory Affairs for Warner Cable Corporation in New York City, where he was born. He received a B.A. from Yale University and served as a LTJG in the U.S. Navy. Ed lists his philatelic interests as the postmarks and postal history of the British West Indies, with emphasis on Trinidad and Tobago and British Honduras. He has been a contributor to the BCPJ and is currently working on a study of the town postmarks of Trinidad and Tobago. In addition, Ed lists memberships in the BWISC, the Trinidad Philatelic Society, War Cover Club, Civil Censorship Study Group, Postal History Society and Philatelic Foundation.

JOHN M. BUCKNER was born in Daytona Beach, Fla., and received his B.S. degree from Tulane University and doctorate from Southern College. He now has his own optometric practice in Gainesville, Fla. His philatelic specialties include 19th and early 20th century issues with emphasis on postal history, postal markings and cancellations. His three primary collections are Hong Kong, Great Britain Used Abroad and Jamaica. He is interested in philatelic judging and is working toward international accreditation. John lists numerous philatelic society affiliations, some of which include the Royal Philatelic Society of London, the Collectors Club of New York, the American Philatelic Congress, Postal History Society, Great Britain Postal History Group, London Postal History Group, etc. He is currently treasurer of the Society of Philatelic Americans.

BARRY FRIEDMAN was born in Scotland and emigrated to the United States in 1947. He graduated from Long Island University and attended the New York University Graduate School of Business. He is now senior account executive with the investment firm of Merrill Lynch in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He collects postmarks and used stamps from the small BWI islands and specializes in St. Vincent. Barry lists membership in the British West Indies Study Circle in addition to the BCPSG.

HAROLD G. GOSNEY, born in Toronto, Ont., Canada, now lives in Richmond Hill, Ont. Until retirement in 1975 he was an accounting supervisor with the City of Toronto. A collector for over 50 years, his British West Indies specialties are the Leeward Islands and the keyplate issues of the other islands. He collects the De La Rue keyplates of the Commonwealth and his articles on these have been published. He is a member and former treasurer of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and belongs to the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada, the Malta Study Circle and has a life membership in the North Toronto Stamp Club. Harold was the organizer of activities for the BCPSG at the June gathering at CAPEX.

CHARLES E. SAWYER, born in Texas, graduated from the University of Houston and currently resides in Houston. He is a registered architect and member of a Houston architectural firm. Charles' special interest is postal history and postal markings on cover, especially Anguilla since independence, Bahamas and Jamaica, as well as Boston postal history and Texas handstamped paid markings. He recently edited and updated several sections in the new edition of the American Stampless Cover Catalog, such as independent and local posts and ocean ship mail. Charles was the designer of the BCPSG seal and the society's medals. Other

than the BCPSG, he lists membership in several postal history societies and has been a contributor to the BCPJ.

ARTHUR H. SPEAR, born in Brooklyn, N. Y., now lives in East Northport on Long Island. While with the Hanover Bank in New York, he was graduated from the American Institute of Banking and is now retired from the Manufacturers Hanover Trust. Art was president of the stamp clubs of both banks. At an early age he became interested in the stamps of the U. S., Canada and BWI, especially Jamaica which has become his major field. He is president of the British Empire Study Group and the Huntington (N. Y.) Stamp Club. Other memberships include the APS, SPA, Collectors Club of New York, United Postal Stationery Society, Canal Zone Study Group and the Jamaica Study Group. His Jamaica postal history collection has won silver awards at SOJEX and INTERPEX (1975) and reserve grand at SCOPEX (1976).

Deadline for receipt of the Trustee ballot is 31 December 1978. Three of the above will join the following current trustees:

1977-1979 -- Joe Chin Aleong, San Fernando, Trinidad
Derek Sutcliffe, Huddersfield, England
Robert Topaz, Waban, Massachusetts
1978-1981 -- C. Kilbourne Bump, Hampden, Massachusetts
Thomas E. Giraldi, Mount Prospect, Illinois
Anthony Shepherd, Halifax, England

Retiring trustees are William G. Bogg, Naples, Florida; Dr. Geoffrey G. Ritchie, Harrogate, England; and Michael Sheppard, Redhill, England.

NEW JOURNAL EDITOR

Lt. Col. Daniel C. Warren, 39, by profession a physician serving with the United States Army, has been approved by the trustees of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group as editor of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal.

Dan's wife, Ricki, and 12-year old son, Chris, share him with his stamp collections, a room full of philatelic literature and three cats, two siamese and a calico.

His philatelic interests are varied, ranging from the pre-adhesive postal history of Trinidad and Tobago through early China, Shanghai, and Confederate States to the postal history of Richmond, Va.

He has served as secretary, general vice president and northern vice president of the Confederate Stamp Alliance, president of the New Mexico Philatelic Association, among other offices.

Dan edited the journal of the Virginia Postal History Society for four years, during which time the publication was awarded the American Philatelic Society's Writer's Unit silver medal.

He is an avid sports fan, animal lover and "southern gentleman." We are certain Dan's sense of humor will become quite apparent as members get to know him through our BCP Journal.

We are fortunate that Dan Warren is willing to share his talents and time with the Group.

Trinidad Used in Ciudad Bolivar

by Walton Van Winkle

Before the establishment of the Universal Postal Union, several countries with widespread commercial interests maintained post offices abroad. Great Britain, France and Germany had numerous post offices in countries with whom they had extensive trade relations.

In the case of the British Postal Service, these offices abroad were housed in the embassy or in consulates in outlying towns. Mail could be handed in at these offices destined for Great Britain or a British possession, and was handled in much the same manner as mail originating in one of the colonies.

British stamps were supplied to these offices, as well as canceling devices and datestamps. Most offices abroad used obliterators with a letter and number that was unique for that office.

Ciudad Bolivar, the capital of Bolivar Province in Venezuela, lies about 150 miles inland from Puerto La Cruz, the nearest seaport. A British post office was established in the consulate in Ciudad Bolivar sometime in the middle 19th century. It served consular officials and merchants and British subjects who had personal or business dealings with Britain or its colonies. In some instance, persons used this service when British packet ships out of Trinidad, the nearest port of call for the packet boats, would provide quick service to the United States.

Differing from other British post offices abroad, Ciudad Bolivar did not use British stamps on mail, but was supplied with the current issues of Trinidad. They were uniformly canceled with the D22 obliterator. A datestamp was supplied by the General Post Office in London.

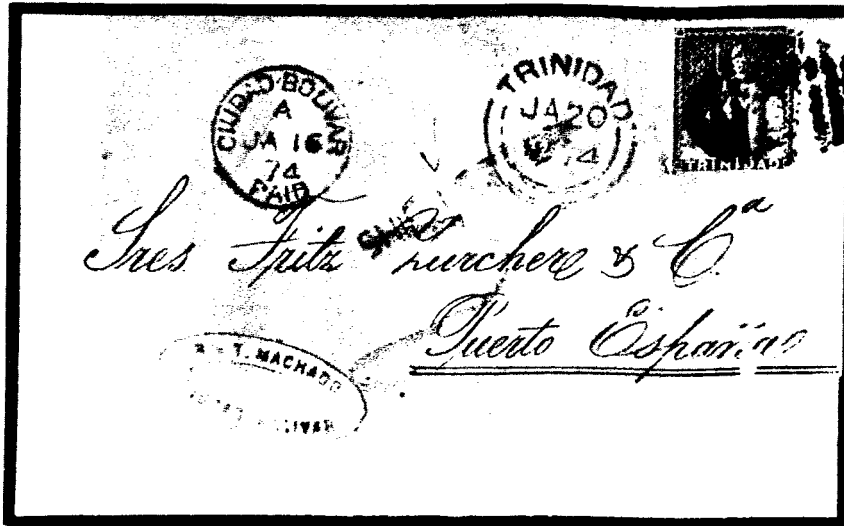
Trinidad stamps, canceled with the D22 obliterator, while not common, can occasionally be found; however, covers are quite rare. The stamps known to be used in Ciudad Bolivar are:

- 1863 Watermark Crown CC, Perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ -- (1d), 6d
- 1872 Watermark Crown CC, Perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ -- 4d
- 1876 Watermark Crown CC, Perf. 14 -- (1d)

John B. Marriott, the recognized authority on Trinidad postal history, in searching for examples of covers from Ciudad Bolivar listed the known examples as follows:

1. Red Ciudad Bolivar Paid CDS dated 1 SP 69; destination Philadelphia. Marked 4d in manuscript and backstamped St Thomas 14 SE 69.
2. Red Ciudad Bolivar Paid CDS dated 15 JU 73; destination Trinidad. Single-line SHIP LETTER in red; Trinidad CDS dated 18 JY 73.
3. Red Ciudad Bolivar Paid CDS dated 12 SP 73; destination Trinidad. Single-line SHIP LETTER in red; Trinidad CDS dated 15 SP 73; manuscript 2 in blue.
4. Red Ciudad Bolivar Paid CDS dated 12 OC 73; destination Trinidad. Single-line SHIP LETTER in red; manuscript 2 in blue; Trinidad CDS dated 15 OC 73.
5. Red Ciudad Bolivar Paid CDS dated 27 DE 73; destination Trinidad. Single-line SHIP LETTER in red; manuscript 2 in blue; Trinidad CDS dated 30 DE 73.
6. Red Ciudad Bolivar Paid CDS dated 16 JA 74; destination Trinidad. Single-line SHIP LETTER in red; manuscript 2 in blue; Trinidad CDS dated 20 JA 74.
7. Red Ciudad Bolivar Paid CDS dated 20 FE 75; destination Trinidad. Manuscript 2 in blue; Trinidad CDS dated 23 FE 75.

All are franked with the 1863 (1d) Trinidad stamp, except No. 4 which has a pair of these.



The illustration shows No. 6 in this listing. In the lower left hand corner is an oval handstamp in blue of R y T Machado. This is not a Forwarding Agents mark, but merely the private handstamp of the sender. Such handstamps were quite common among business houses.

The exact route of these letters is not known. However, since none of them took over four days to reach Trinidad, the route had to be fairly short and direct. Ciudad Bolivar is located on the edge of a plain that extends to the east and at the head of a valley that leads to the Caribbean coast, due north.

It seems likely that the mail was taken by courier to the nearest port, which would be **Puerta Santa Cruz** or **Barcelona**. Since no packets called at these ports, the letters had to be transmitted by merchant ships. This accounts for the **SHIP LETTER** handstamps appearing on most of them. The distance between these ports and Port of Spain, Trinidad, is approximately 250 miles, which could be covered by the existing coastal vessels in a day or so. Service must have been fairly regular and at least once a month, judging from the surviving letters.

The main interest, however, in this British Post Office abroad is the use of Trinidad stamps, rather than those of Great Britain. Also, it was one of the few, because of its location, that could not avail itself of the British packet boats, but had to depend on merchant shipping, at least until a port was reached where such service existed, i. e., Port of Spain or **St. Thomas**.

INTERESTING JAMAICA POST CARD ----

Reg Lant has an interesting undelivered QV 1877 ½d Jamaican post card which has three miscellaneous handstamps plus assorted datestamps that show its postal history. Originally mailed at **Savanna-La-Mar** on 22 August 1890, the addressee in Kingston was not known at the indicated address, which is noted in two manuscript entries dated 23 and 25 August. It was then



"Advertised," i. e., listed on the P.O. notice board, for several weeks, after which time it was stamped "UNCLAIMED" and turned over to the Returned Letter Branch after being date-stamped on 15 September. A week later, the Returned Letter Branch returned it to the originating post office.

From the Editor's Desk - - -

Elsewhere in this issue members will find an introduction to Dan Warren, our new editor. We are pleased that someone of Dan's experience, talent and BWI expertise has stepped forward and volunteered for this very time-consuming, but self-rewarding, task.

It is with a sense of relief to know that our responsibility to the BCPJournal is soon to be in the past, but it is also with a great feeling of regret that we must hand over the editorial reins. We have thoroughly enjoyed our four-year association with the journal and the friendships made through it. However, this is not goodbye for we shall remain a member of the Group and can now take up the collecting of the British Caribbean area, continuing on with the Leeward Islands and the cancellations of the islands included in that area.

We cannot relinquish our duties without thanking the officers of the Group, who are TERRIFIC -- each and every one of them, and all the members who gave their help, encouragement and much needed support, especially in these past 10 months.

We pledge our help and assistance to the Journal and the Group whenever it is needed. Along this line, all of you can help too, help to make Dan's job a little easier. It will be difficult at first for him to get things settled and into a set routine as many decisions have to be made and little things learned that take a great deal of time.

One of Dan's first questions to us was "Do the members give you enough material for the Journal?" This was his major concern in considering the job -- and we might add that this is the area where most society publications break down in production.

We assured Dan that our group members have never failed to supply us with a good reserve of material, so that when one issue is put out, the editor already knows he has sufficient material for the next issue. This gives an editor some breathing space so that he can work on articles at a more leisurely pace and give more thought to them and the contents of each issue.

Also, it has proven extremely important to have enough material ahead for the next issue in case an emergency arises, such as we were faced with last December. Because of our members' support with articles, we were able to put the journals out on time. This would not have been possible if we had not had articles typed up previously.

SO, we did not hesitate to assure Dan that there was no problem along that line. HOWEVER, the problem is arising. We do not have sufficient articles for the December issue, deadline Nov. 15. Ever since our resignation as editor was announced, the flow of articles has stopped. One or two articles have trickled in in the past months, but just not enough to feed our continuing issues. Thirty-six pages eats up a lot of copy!!

We announced this situation at the CAPEX meeting in June and we asked for articles in the August issue. Two members have heard our pleas. Our very generous flow of material from England has mysteriously stopped completely . . . why? We can only assume that members are waiting for the name and address of the new editor to send articles to him. Whatever the reason -- we need articles.

Please help us keep our word to Dan. INUNDATE him with articles!! His address is:

Lt. Col. Daniel C. Warren
P. O. Drawer E
Aberdeen, MD 21001

It is uncertain at press time whether Dan will be taking over the Journal with the December 1978 or February 1979 issue.

From time to time we receive reports from several members of rumors of things brewing in the Caribbean in relation to the misuse of stamp funds in the various islands . . . of stamp monies not going to the island's post office coffers, but rather to the government leaders and the like. We have maintained a policy of not publishing "rumors" and asked for proven facts, which, of course, are difficult to obtain.

However, for those members, we feel they might like to know that Sir Albert Henry, political leader of the Cook Islands, was ousted from power several months ago for misuse of stamp funds. Perhaps, someday, the facts about the Caribbean situation will be able to be published.

Sayanora, everyone. It's been fun!

ELAINE

Barbados Forwarding Agents

by Colin H. Bayley

In the October 1977 BCPJ, Charles Cwiakala ((1)) brings up to date his earlier listings of British Caribbean forwarding agents for Barbados, Trinidad and Turks Islands, together with details of their markings.

In the case of Barbados, the names and markings of seven FAs are given. However, there is no mention of the firm or mark of John Jeffray as listed in Rowe's publication on the forwarding agents ((2)). I have the cover, showing the John Jeffray mark, which gave rise to the latter's listing and I understand that it is the only example of this mark so far reported.

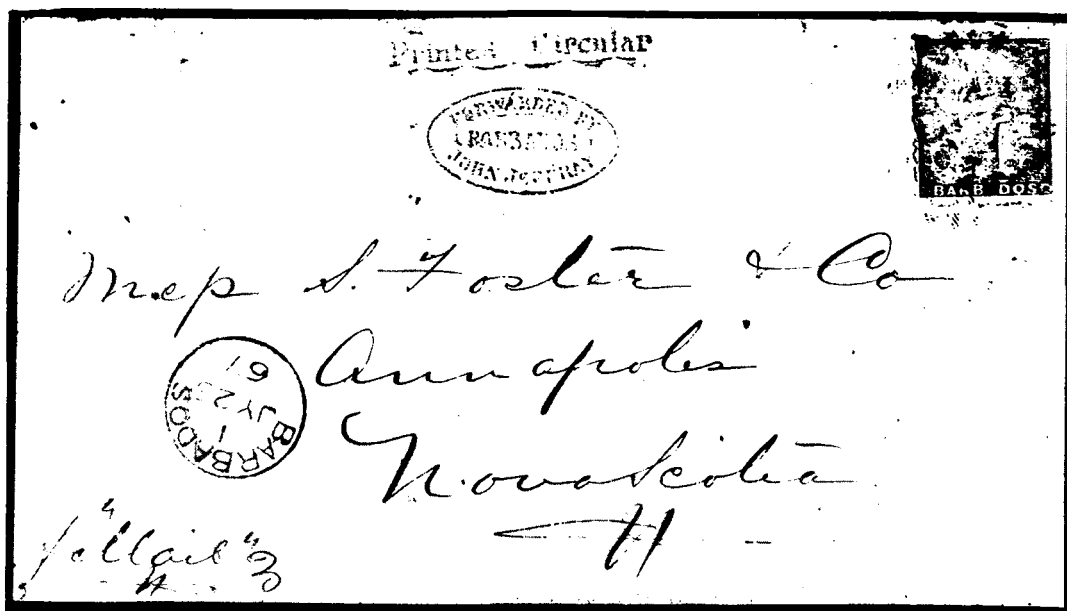


Figure 1

This cover is illustrated in figure 1. The cachet consists of two concentric ovals, the outer measuring 26 x 14 mm, and the inner 18 x 8 mm. Between them are the words "Forwarded

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

By" in 2 mm high letters curved around the top and "John Jeffray" in 1.5 mm letters curved around the bottom. Across the center of the mark is the word "Barbados" in 2 mm letters. All letters have serifs.

The cover is addressed to Messrs. S. Foster & Co., Annapolis, Nova Scotia, and postmarked at Bridgetown ((3)) ("1" above date) on 26 July 1867 with the St. Thomas (DWI) transit mark of 29 July on reverse. There is no arrival mark. For the purpose of this article and in line with Cwiakala's chronological listing, I have given the mark on this cover the designation 5A.

I would now like to raise a point in connection with the use of the term "Forwarded By" as used on covers originating at Barbados, for I have reasons to believe that this term, as used in cachets on later 19th century covers (for example, numbers 6 and 7 in Cwiakala's above mentioned article), carries a meaning very different from that usually attributed to it.

There is no doubt that by the 1880s, insofar as Barbados is concerned, the term "Forwarded By" was used in cases to mean the same as "sent by," and by that time there was but slight possibility of it relating in any way to special handling by a forwarding agent who facilitated the delivery of letters entrusted to him and collected a fee for so doing.

Indeed, by the 1890s the term is used on envelopes as a preamble to a firm's name as usually printed on the upper left corner, in the nature of what collectors call "corner cards." This is illustrated very well by the Clairmonte Man & Co. (No. 7) referred to by Cwiakala and shown here on cover in Figure 2. In other cases, where printed envelopes were not used by the firm, the term together with firm's name was often applied as a handstamp (No. 6).

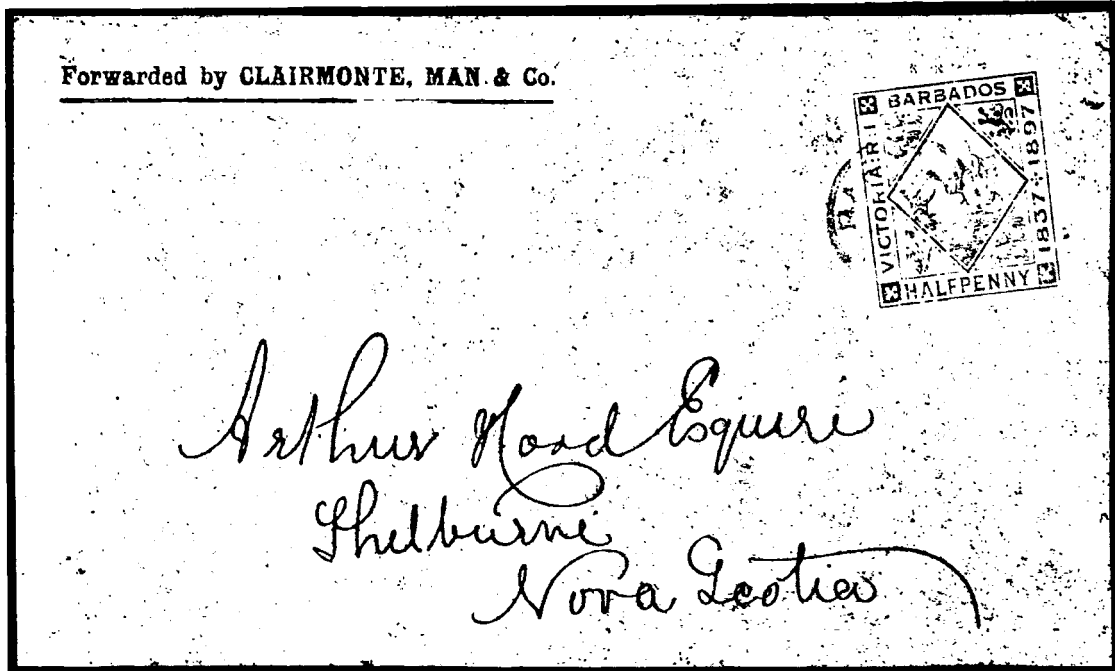


Figure 2

The Michael Cavan cachet (No. 5) is dated 1864 and it is quite possible that it was a true forwarded letter. It is unfortunate that we do not know whether it was on an envelope, a folded letter, or wrapper. This firm was one of the large firms of importers and ship brokers which flourished in Barbados in the latter half of the 19th century. Clairmonte Man & Co. and Da Costa were others, as were Laurie & Co.; Musson, Son & Co.; Thos. Garraway & Co.; W. L. Johnson & Co.; and James A. Lynch & Co.

It is, of course, quite probable that any of the above firms, in their earlier years, may have forwarded letters for private individuals, for a fee. However, in view of the excellence of the shipping services which developed in Barbados during the latter half of the 19th century, together with the fact that the fullest use was made of these services by the Barbados Post Office, there was really little or no need for the continuing services of forwarding agents.

Moreover, information on the arrival and departure of mail ships to and from the island, together with the closing times of the mails to the various countries, was a matter of record in the daily newspapers and, hence, the general public could easily find out as much about the movement of mail out of the island as could the shipping companies.

Regarding the DaCosta & Co. mark (No. 6), this is listed by Cwiakala as being used in 1885-1886. I have two covers showing the mark. The first is dated 8 Jan. 1885 and carries a 4-penny grey stamp of the Victoria issue plus the additional notation "Per Quebec S. S. Co's Steamer," this source of sending mail being, of course, also open to the general public.

The second cover is dated 20 May 1890 and carries a 4-penny brown stamp of the same issue (Figure 3).

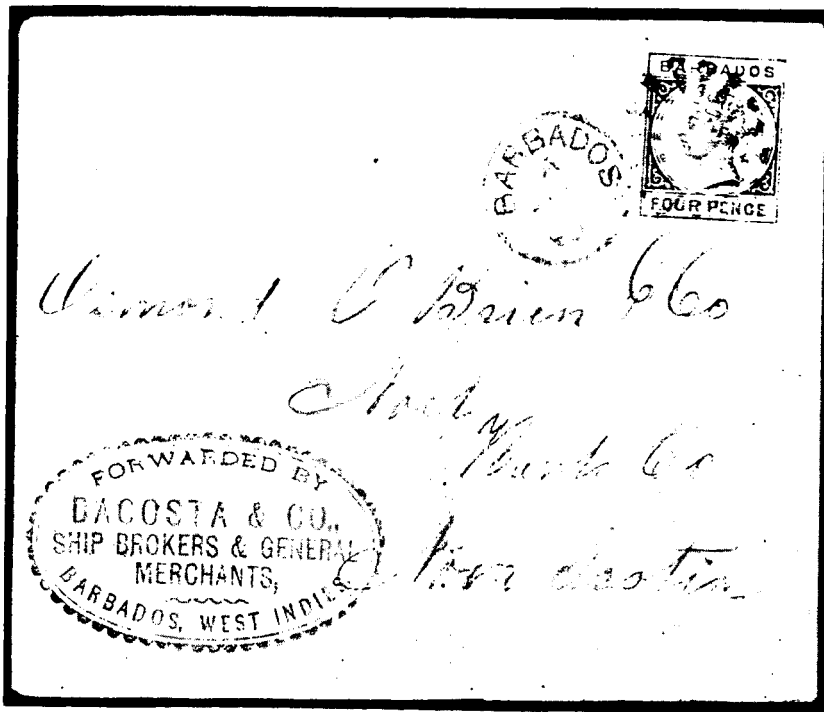


Figure 3

It is, of course, possible that handstamps such as No. 6, carrying the words "Forwarded By," had formerly been used for marking "true" forwarded covers and when no longer required for this purpose were used to mark the firm's name on its envelopes.

But, perhaps, the most convincing proof of the change in meaning of the term "forwarded by" over the years is provided by the use of these two words having, obviously, their final meaning of "sent by," as used in the title of a 28 March 1872 market report of F.A. Clairmonte & Co. (Figure 4).

The unique geographical situation of Barbados, viz., the most easterly of the islands of the

Per Northern Mail.

MARKET REPORT

PREPARED AND FORWARDED BY

F. A. CLAIRMONTE & CO.

Barbados March 28th, 1872.

Figure 4

Caribbean, has served it well in many ways, not the least being the extent to which it has promoted the commercial interests of the island as a shipping center.

A glance at a map will indicate its strategic location with respect to the shipping routes from Europe to Central and South America, as well as from South to North America.

REFERENCES

1. Cwiakala, Charles E., BCPJ, Vol. 17, No. 5, (Oct. 1977, p. 142).
2. Rowe, Kenneth, "The Forwarding Agents II," published 1974, Harry Hayes, Batley, Yorks. England. Reference "57 Barbados."
3. Benwell, Basil B. and Britnor, L.E., "The Postal Markings of Barbados," published 1961 by the British West Indies Study Circle, London, England, p. 13.

Jamaica Found in Mallorca

by Brian E. Thompson

As some members of the BCPSG will possibly be taking holidays in Mallorca sometime in the future, they may be interested to learn that there is a dealer in Palma de Mallorca who specializes in postal history.

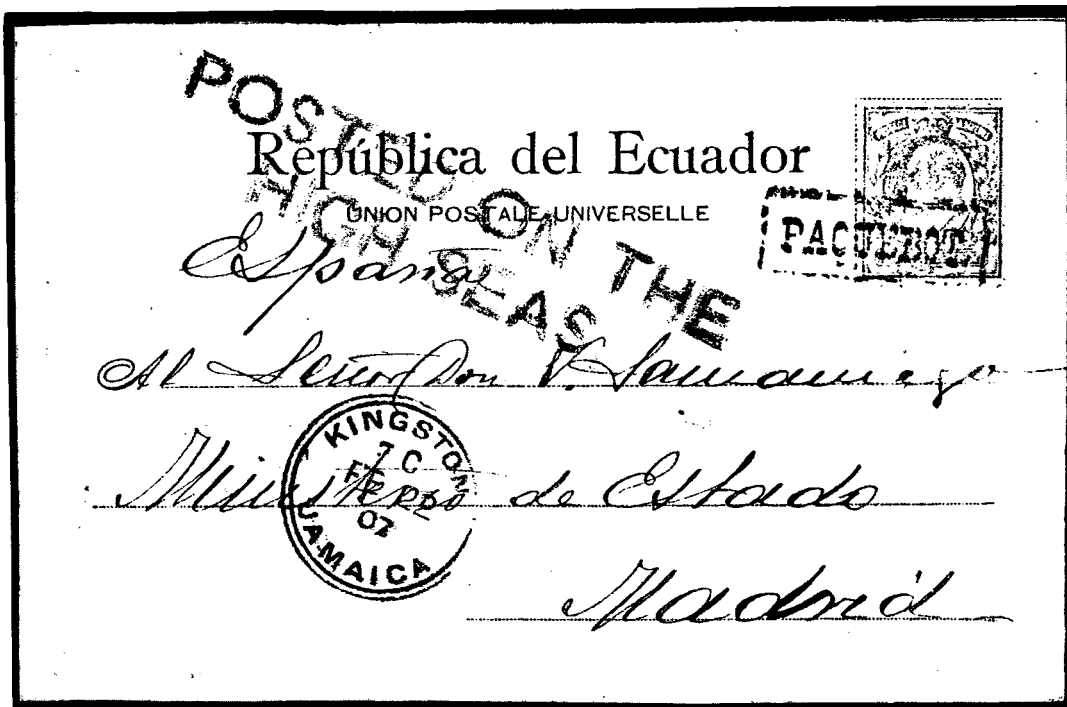
Having an hour or two to spare while in Palma some time ago, I wandered around the narrow back streets and was surprised to see a frame of stamps hung up outside a dark doorway. Following the instructions to climb to the first floor, I found myself amid a wonderful stock of philatelic material.

Asking my usual question, "Have you anything from Jamaica?" I expected the reply received from dealers in Madrid and Barcelona, "Sorry we only deal in European stamps, mostly Spanish."

I was surprised when I was asked in what class of Jamaican material I was interested. Explaining that I was interested in postal history, postal stationery or any varieties on stamps issued prior to 1968, the dealer, Sr. Gregorio-Lazaro Zuskis, thought for a moment and then produced tray after tray of items for my inspection. I spent a most enjoyable 90 minutes looking through some of his stock and noticed covers and post cards from many of the West Indian islands.

One item which I purchased was a post card showing on one side a statue of Olmedo in Guayaquil, Ecuador, and underneath in manuscript, "Kingston - 21-2-90 7, de Perera."

The address side has printed across the top REPUBLICA DEL ECUADOR and underneath it has UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE. The card is addressed to a gentleman in the Ministerio de Estado, Madrid, and bears a 1-penny British stamp of Edward VII (S.G. 219) canceled by the word PAQUEBOT in black contained in a single-line oblong 30 x 10 mm.



Across the face in purple ink in sans-serif capitals 7 mm high are the words POSTED ON THE HIGH SEAS. There is also a perfect impression of a double-ring Kingston, Jamaica, date-stamp (Nicholson KII), dated FE 22 07.

One can but suppose that Sn. Perera was traveling back by sea from Ecuador to Europe. There is no message on the card, but in order to indicate his progress, he wrote a post card on 21 February 1907 while the ship was in or near Kingston. This card was posted on the ship and delivered from the ship to the post office in Kingston, Jamaica, the next day.

It is always satisfactory to discover unusual items and to make such a find in Palma gave me a special thrill as I had expected to be out of luck.

May I suggest that should any members find themselves in Palma de Mallorca with time to spare, for example while the wife is shopping, they might endeavour to discover Filatelia PAMPA at Santo Domingo 6. It is difficult to find, but could well be worth the effort.

***** PAY YOUR DUES EARLY *****

BERMUPEX '79

BERMUPEX '79 will be held at the Castle Harbour Hotel, Tucker's Town, Bermuda, Feb. 17-18, 1979. A Robson Lowe International stamp auction will precede the exhibition on Feb. 15-16. Jack Arnell will again serve as exhibition chairman.

ANTIGUA OFFICIAL OVALS

by George W. Bowman

In the April and August 1972 Journals I discussed and described nine basic types of Antigua GPO official markings, or 'ovals,' known to me at that time. One such oval, Type 3, was further categorized into Subtypes 3a and 3b, making a total of 11 varieties altogether.

BCPSGer Joe ChinAleong recently sent me data concerning still more of these elusive ellipses, which I have classified as Types 10 and 11. Because of Joe's input I now think it appropriate to republish, in this single article, summarized data of those 1972 Journal pages, together with new information including that which Joe has so kindly made available.

The basic configurations and measurements of the varieties listed in the 1972 articles are shown below. In some cases, EDKs and LDKs have been modified to agree with information received since 1972. Data differing from that of the earlier writeups are indicated by asterisks. Due to reproduction difficulties and the ever present spectre of ink spread, the drawings should not be considered to scale.

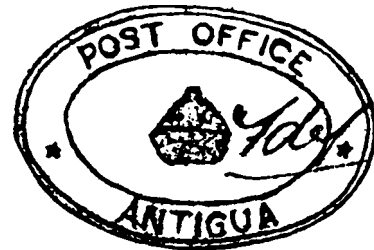


Type 1

43 (major axis) x 27 (minor axis) mm,
letters 3 mm high.

Single oval.

EDK: 15 January 1903 (Bowman)

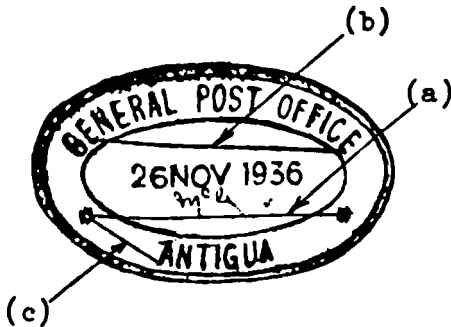


Type 2

51 x 34.5 mm, letters 3.5 mm high
Outer oval double.

EDK: 8 April 1927 (Pearse)*

LDK: 24 September 1929 (Cornell)



Type 3

50 x 31 mm, letters 3.5 mm high

Stars have more than five points
(resemble asterisks)

Outer oval double.

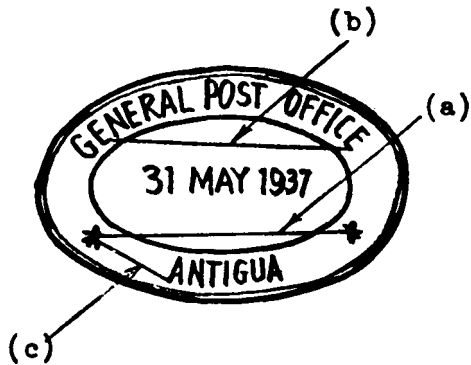
Dimension (a) (distance between centers of stars), 36 mm

Dimension (b) (distance between right end of lower horizontal stroke of first E and identical part of third E), 34.5 mm

Dimension (c) (distance between center of left star and bottom of left leg of first A), 12 mm.

EDK: 10 January 1936 (Boggs)*

LDK: 12 August 1946 (Bowman)



Type 3a

49-49.5 x 31 mm, letters 3.5 mm high.

Stars have more than five points (resemble asterisks).

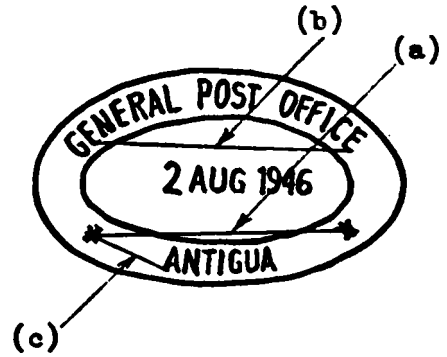
Outer oval double.

Dimension (a), 34 mm.

(b), 33 mm.

(c), 11-11.5 mm.

EDK: 31 May 1937 (Bowman)



Type 3b

50 x 30-31 mm, letters 3.5 mm high.

Stars have more than five points (resemble asterisks).

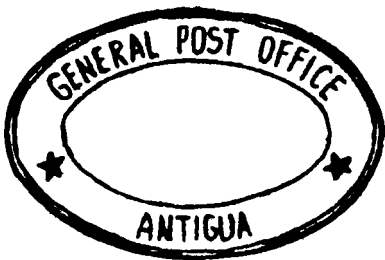
Outer oval single.

Dimension (a), 35 mm.

(b), 34 mm.

(c), 11.5 mm.

EDK: 2 August 1946 (Bowman)



Type 4

49.5 x 33 mm, letters 3.5 mm high.

Stars have five points.

Outer oval double.

EDK: 15 September 1942 (Cornell)

LDK: 3 November 1943 (Bowman)*



Type 5

37 x 24.5 mm, letters 2.25 mm high.

Single oval.

EDK: 13 April 1949 (Bowman).



Type 6

37.5 x 24 mm, letters of GPO 2mm high, letters of ANTIGUA 2.5 mm high.

Single oval.

EDK: 18 May 1956 (Cornell).



Type 7

36.5-37 x 22.5 mm, letters 2mm high.

Double oval.

EDK: 18 November 1959 (Bowman)

LDK: February 1968 (Cornell)



Type 8

37 x 23.5 mm, letters of GPO 1.5-2 mm high,
letters of ANTIGUA 2.5 mm high.

Single oval.

EDK: 15 November 1963 (Cornell)

LDK: 2 January 1964 (Cornell)



Type 9

39.5 x 21.5 mm, letters of GPO 2.5-3 mm high,
letters of ANTIGUA 1.5 mm high.

Single oval.

Height of Crown, 11.5 mm.

EDK: 17 February 1970 (Bowman)

LDK: 10 February 1976 (Chin Aleong)*

Joe's two ovals are shown below. The EDKs and LDKs of each type are from his records. It is interesting to note that the crowns of Types 9 and 10 are identical, suggesting that these types were of metal construction allowing crown interchangeability. Note also the irregularity of the phrase GENERAL POST OFFICE in Type 11. The ERAL of GENERAL is closer to the oval than the rest of the letters.



Type 10

46-46.5 mm x 13.5-33 mm, letters of GPO 2.5 mm high,
letters of ANTIGUA 2-2.25 mm high.

Double oval, with both ovals quite close to each other.
Outer oval thickened.

Stars have five points.

Height of crown, 11.5 mm.

EDK: 3 January 1974 (Chin Aleong)

LDK: 31 May 1976 (Chin Aleong)



Type 11

43 x 27.5 mm, letters of GPO 2 mm high,
letters of ANTIGUA 2.5 mm high.

Double oval (outer oval thickened).

Height of Crown, 15 mm (along vertical centerline).

EDK: 13 September 1974 (Chin Aleong)

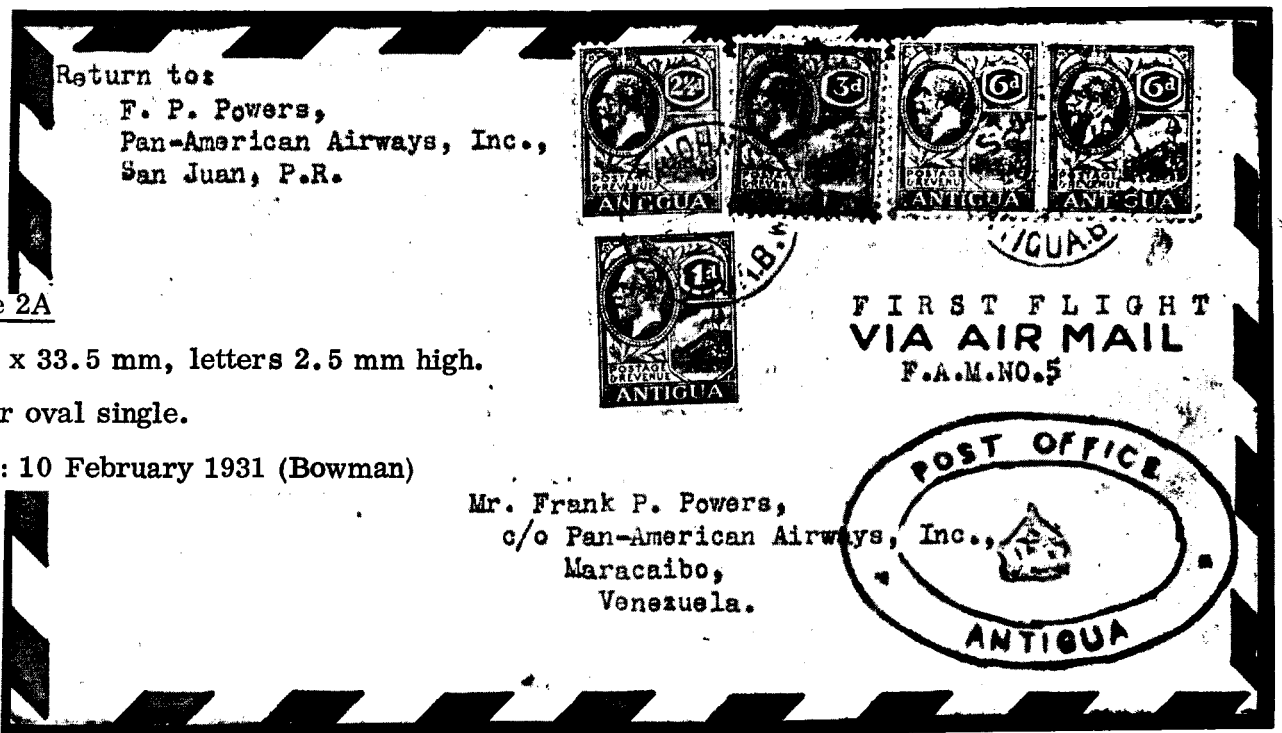
LDK: 12 November 1976 (Chin Aleong)

£

The cover in Joe's collection which bears Type 11 is postmarked at St. John's on 13 September 1974 and also contains the very strange-looking one-line ON POSTAL SERVICE handstamp shown here. The initial letters of each word of this mark, measuring 49.5 mm in length, are of a much wider type style than the remaining letters, giving the handstamp, in my opinion, a somewhat displeasing appearance.

ON POSTAL SERVICE

Subsequent to 1972 I acquired an airmail cover (AAMC No. F6-80a), bearing an Antigua CDS of 10 February 1931 and a GPO oval which I have classified Type 2A (see Figure 1). This mark is similar to Type 2, except that the outer oval on Type 2A is single, whereas it is doubled on Type 2. Furthermore, Type 2A measures 51.5 by 33.5 mm, with letters 2.5 mm in height.



Type 2A

51.5 x 33.5 mm, letters 2.5 mm high.

Outer oval single.

EDK: 10 February 1931 (Bowman)

Mr. Frank P. Powers,
c/o Pan-American Airways, Inc.,
Maracaibo,
Venezuela.

In summary, it now appears that there are at least 14 different identifiable configurations of these ovals that have been used from 1903 to the present. I'd be interested in hearing reports of others.

BITS & PIECES from HERE & THERE

BAHAMAS - Ed Krohn, Perrine, Fla., recently spent some time at Treasure Cay, Abaco, in the Bahamas. While there he obtained samples of all the rubber stamp markings the postmistress had in the small post office. The markings are illustrated. The largest one is very blurred, but seems to read "Treasure Cay" around the top and "Abaco Bahamas" around the bottom.

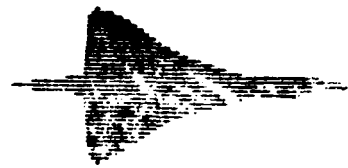
RETURN TO SENDER

SPECIAL DELIVERY

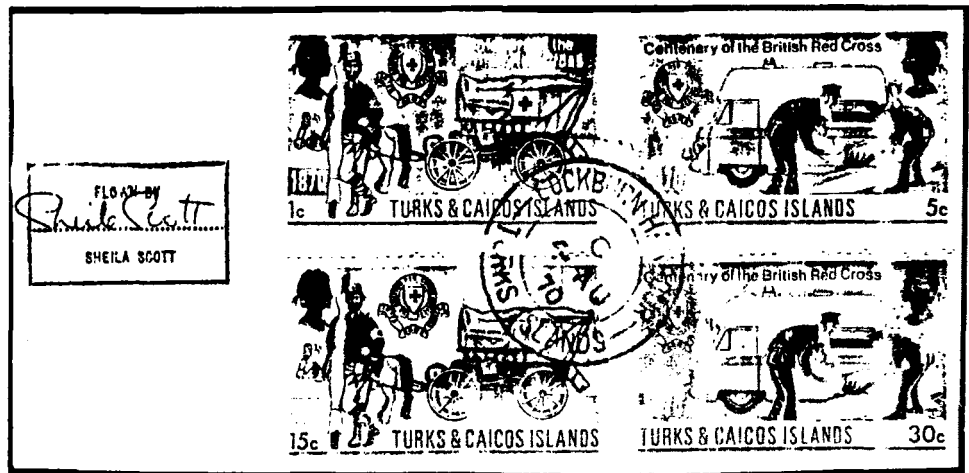


BARBADOS - Reuben A. Ramkissoon advises us of two 1977 cancels used in Barbados in connection with Queen Elizabeth's visit. The first is a first day of issue cancel used in conjunction with the Oct. 31 release of the Barbados emissions for that occasion. The second is a commemorative postmark used 2 November 1977 for "H. M. the Queen's Flight."

H.M. THE QUEENS' FLIGHT



BARBADOS 2 NOV 1977



ST. VINCENT - The manager of the St. Vincent Philatelic Services philatelic bureau in Kingstown has written in answer to Howard Lewis' query concerning whether or not the Port Elizabeth, Bequia, cancel has ever seen the Port Elizabeth, Bequia, post office (Bits & Pieces, August, page 164):

"A full range of Grenadine island postmarks were furnished to post offices of the islands, excluding Paget Farm, Bequia, but including the post office of Prune Island/Palm Island, which functions under the authority of Union Island.

"This action was taken by the St. Vincent Postmaster prior to the introduction of the first Grenadine stamps in 1973 and were probably the first used on the issue date of the Grenadines of St. Vincent, Royal Wedding of the Princess Anne issue.

"The newly introduced 'Port Elizabeth, Bequia' postmark remained in Bequia until the end of 1974, when it was noted that it was getting as badly damaged as the concurrent 'Bequia, St. Vincent' postmark. It was then agreed that the newer postmark should be returned to St. Vincent in order to ensure that customers of St. Vincent Philatelic Services would receive a 'decent strike' of this postmark if they required it.

"The use of this postmark is now restricted and it is hoped that it can soon be returned to its rightful owner, and that, with sufficient experience, the Postmistress and her staff at Port Elizabeth, Bequia, will be able to produce the results required by a demanding stamp collecting public."

TURKS & CAICOS - In the June Bits & Pieces, page 104, Mike Wilson mentions 20 covers carried from South Caicos to London on a 4 Aug. 1970 flight by Sheila Scott. The covers carried, according to Peter McCann, were 20 FDCs of the 4 Aug. Turks & Caicos Red Cross Centenary stamps. A marking was applied by Scott to these covers and is shown in the illustration provided by McCann.

OUR SECRETARY REPORTS

NEW MEMBERS:

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

NEW APPLICANTS:

DORRANCE, James F., Jr., 911 N. Main St., Rice Lake, Wis. 54868. Newspaper Advertising Manager. Collects U.S. plate blocks, U.S., Canada, British Caribbean and Australia.

By Thomas E. Giraldi

DURHAM, Richard F., 35325 Drakeshire, Apt. 103, Farmington, Mich., 48024. Auction describer. British colonies to 1936, Cayman Is., Leeward Is. & Antigua.

By Tom Giraldi

KEREN, Daniel, 824 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11213. Student. British Commonwealth and Israel.

By Thomas E. Giraldi

MacCOY, Alan H., Box 197, Warwick, Bermuda. Insurance Partner. Jamaica pre-adhesive, Bermuda postal stationery.

By Thomas E. Giraldi

MILES, Raymond J., 4015 Hamilton Park Drive, San Jose, Calif. 95130. Engineer. British Caribbean Postal History.

By Thomas E. Giraldi

SIMPSON, William L., Box 728, Chatham, Ont. N7M 5L1, Canada. Automobile Dealer. Jamaica -- covers, prestamp, G.B. used in Jamaica and early Jamaica issues with town numeral cancellations. Canada.

By W. Danforth Walker

WERNER, Dietrich, Box S, Rosendale, N. Y. 12472. Artist. Stamps and postal history of British Honduras and Belize.

By Howard Austin

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

AMAN, Dr. Paul M., Route 2, Box 882A, Summerland Key, Fla. 33042.

FASHINGBAUER, Robert, 4128 Bristol Court, Northbrook, Ill. 60062.

GUTHRIE, Roger, Route 1 Box 137J, Rosenberg, Tex. 77471.

HARRIS, C. Gordon, 306 Continental Lane, Paoli, Pa. 19301.

SAVILLE, Peter H., c/o the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests, Box 358, Suva, Fiji.

STERN, James F., 2114 W. Norfolk Court, 102N, Mequon, Wis. 53092.

TAYLOR, James R., 7033 S. Indianapolis Ave., Tulsa, Okla. 74136.

WARREN, Lt. Col. Daniel C. Warren, P.O. E, Aberdeen, Md. 21001.

WEINBERGER, Dr. Gerald, 4811 Starling Drive, Lincoln, Neb. 68516.



NEW ISSUES



ANGULLA

14 AU OVERPRINTS. Six overprinted stamps in values of 22¢, 35¢, 50¢, \$1, \$1.20 and \$1.50 issued for two local anniversaries, the 25th anniversary of the Valley Secondary School and the centenary of the Road Methodist Church. Due to the method of printing, the overprint also occurred on the blank stamp which makes up the gutter pair. (JL)

ANTIGUA

JU DEFINITIVE REPRINT. The following definitives have been reprinted and inscribed with "1978" at the bottom: ½¢, 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 4¢, 5¢, 6¢, 10¢, 15¢, 20¢, 25¢, 35¢, 50¢, 75¢, \$1, \$2.50, \$5, \$10. (IG)

AU WORLD FOOTBALL CUP. Three stamps issued in sheetlets of five and a souvenir sheet: 10¢ - the dribbler; 15¢ - action at the goal; and \$3 - referee calls the shot; souvenir sheet - 25¢, 30¢, 50¢ and \$2. Designed by B & G Studio and lithographed by Format International. (IG)

BAHAMAS

JU DEFINITIVE REPRINT. The following definitives were reprinted on unwatermarked paper: 1¢, 5¢, 16¢, 50¢, \$1, \$2, \$3. (IG)

BARBUDA

2 JU CORONATION ANNIVERSARY. Three values issued in sheetlets of four stamps and two labels plus souvenir sheet: 75¢ - St. Edward's Crown and Imperial State Crown; \$1.50 - Queen Mary's Crown and Queen Mother's Crown; \$2.50 - Queen Consort's Crown and Queen Victoria's Crown. (BPP)

BERMUDA

AU CORONATION ANNIVERSARY. Announced in June issue, details now complete. Values now to be 8¢, 50¢ and \$1. Designed by BG Studio and lithographed by House of Questa on CA watermarked paper. Date to be confirmed. (CA)

11 SE ANTIQUE MAPS. Five values: 8¢ - map by Sir George Somers, 1609; 15¢ - John Seller map, 1685; 20¢ - H. Moll map, 1729-1740; 25¢ - Desbruslins map, 1740; 50¢ - Speed map, 1626. Designed by John Cooter and lithographed by House of Questa. (CA)

GRENADA

AU WORLD FOOTBALL CUP. Four values and souvenir sheet: 40¢, 60¢, 90¢, \$2, souvenir sheet - \$2.50 value. Designed by Mark Rubin and litho. by Format International. (IG)

JY WRIGHT BROTHERS 75th ANNIVERSARY. Seven values and souvenir sheet: 5¢, 15¢, 18¢, 22¢, 50¢, 75¢, \$3, souvenir sheet - \$2 value. Designed by G. L. Vasarhelyi and litho. by House of Questa. (IG)

GUYANA

4 SE NATIONAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL. Four values: 10¢ - eradication of malaria pioneer scientist Dr. George Giglioli; 30¢ - Institute of Applied Science and Technology to be erected on the University of Guyana campus; 50¢ - NSRC emblem; 60¢ - Commonwealth Science Council's emblem. Designed by John Waddington and lithographed by Harrison and Sons on Lotus Blossom Bud watermarked paper in two panes of 25 stamps each. (CA)

JAMAICA

25 SE 24th COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE. Four values: 10¢ - statue of Norman Manley; 20¢ - statue of Sir Alexander Bustamante; 25¢ - City of Kingston crest; 40¢ - Gordon House Chamber House of Representatives. Designed by John Waddingtons Studio and litho. by Waddingtons of Kirkstall on Jamaica Pineapple watermarked paper in panes of 25. (CA)

ST. KITTS - NEVIS

NEW DEFINITIVE SERIES. Set of 15 values: 1¢, 2¢, 5¢, 10¢, 12¢, 15¢, 25¢, 30¢, 40¢, 45¢, 50¢, 55¢, \$1, \$5, \$10. Designed by BG Studio and lithographed by Thomas De La Rue on CA Spiral watermarked paper in panes of 50. (CA)

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

NEW PRINTING. The 5¢ value has been reprinted on CA Spiral Upright watermarked paper. (CA)

TURKS & CAICOS

3 AU COMMONWEALTH GAMES. Four stamps and souvenir sheet: 6¢, jumping; 20¢, weightlifting; 55¢, boxing; \$2, cycling; souvenir sheet, \$1, runners. Designed by J. Waddington and litho. by Format. (IG)

Information in the foregoing listing has been provided by the CROWN AGENTS STAMP BUREAU, STAN-GIB LTD., the INTER-GOVERNMENTAL PHILATELIC CORP., BARBUDA PHILATELIC BUREAU, and JOHN LISTER.

Personal Mention

DEBBIE GIRALDI was in a horrific automobile accident in August and spent some time in intensive care with head injuries. Debbie is now home, reports Tom, and is regaining her memory and on the mend. Our most heartfelt wishes for a fast and complete recovery, Debbie.



HOWARD LEWIS is shown in his formal attire (he explains one gets formal and dons a shirt to go to town) in front of the post office boxes at Port Elizabeth, largest village on Bequia, in the St. Vincent Grenadines. Port Elizabeth is at the foot of Admiralty Bay on the Caribbean side, explains Howard. He looks like he's enjoying his visit, doesn't he?

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JOAN LARSEN got PAUL up in the air in early September, via a balloon, that is. Joan has been an admirer of hot air ballooning for a while now and we're happy to hear that she finally has realized one of her dreams to go up in one. Paul's only comment was, "And they say stamp collectors are nuts!"

GALE RAYMOND sends news that AL JOHNSON has been hospitalized with a stroke. Our thoughts are with you, Al and Joan.

At the time of this Journal going to press, various members of the Group in different parts of the country are looking forward to a visit from AL BRANSTON coming to the U. S. for research on a forthcoming book on topical collecting which Al is writing. A report on the various get togethers should be included in the December Journal.

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IN MEMORIAM

Thomas Foster, BCPSG member and a leading authority on the postal history of Jamaica, died 28 May 1978 at the age of 54, after a prolonged illness.

Tom was well known to many of our members and to collectors of the West Indies the world over. His book, "The Postal History of Jamaica, 1662-1860," for which he was awarded the Francis Webb memorial trophy at the British Philatelic Exhibition in 1969, is the recognized modern handbook on this period of Jamaican postal history.

He will be remembered and missed by the collectors of Jamaica and the British West Indies and by the BCPSG.

Our belated sympathies are extended to his family.

A. P. D. S.

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- 11 (Geneva, a. m.) The Rosemarie collection of GIBRALTAR and MALTA with fine early covers, mint block of No. 1 on blued paper, the 1919 10/-, etc.
- 11 (Geneva, p. m.) The third part of the Gold Medal collection of AIRMAILS including Ethiopia and the U. S. S. R.
- 21 (London) BRITISH AFRICA with valuable Cape covers, Somaliland, S. Africa, South West Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Swaziland, etc.
- 22 (London) W. AFRICA: Ascension, Gambia, Gold Coast, the Nigerias and St. Helena.
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|--|-----------------------------|------------|
| <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 |
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| <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 |
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