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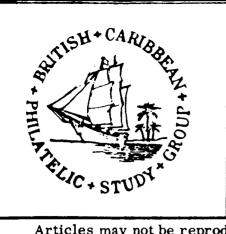
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President's Message

It was a pleasure to hear that our Journal was presented with the Herman Herst, Jr., award for best philatelic periodical in the literature competition in the last American Philatelic Society convention. Congratulations again, Elaine.

Please also remember that our new editor, Dan Warren, needs your articles now. He will be taking over the position as editor with the February 1979 Journal and is in need of articles NOW. Please do not slack off during this transition period, pour on the paper and the words. Whether or not the February Journal appears on schedule will be determined by the magnitude and speed of the membership's response.

We intend to implement the Stan Durnin memorial award for best yearly Journal article during 1979. At this time, we have received a total of \$275 in donations for this award. A \$500 fund would provide sufficient income for a yearly presentation.

It has been suggested that donation of auction lots might be a relatively painless way to provide additional funding (tax deductible for U.S. members). Let Bob Topaz know if you wish to do this with any of your lots in our next auction.

Gale Raymond has again favored us with the initial funding of an award. The Al Johnson memorial award will also be implemented in the months to come. We intend that this award be presented occasionally in recognition of outstanding service to our group. This is to honor the "good guys" while they are still with us. Additional funding is also welcome.

Al Branston has been very busy with the initial planning for our 1980 meeting in London. He will favor us with a progress report in this and future issues. (See page 222)

(Continued on page 234)

GRENADA'S TETE-BECHE STAMPS

by W. Danforth Walker

In 1883 Grenada issued its first postage stamps produced by De La Rue. These stamps were printed tete-beche and the reasons behind what De La Rue had described as a "peculiar method of printing" is a revealing final chapter in a long struggle between the two giant 19th century British Colonial stamp printers, De La Rue and Perkins, Bacon.

The remainder of the story concentrates on a technical analysis of the printing plate and printing method used for these stamps. New information on an interesting flaw found on this stamp leads to conclusions on how this stamp was printed that are quite divergent from those held by philatelists since at least the turn of the century.

The issue of 1883 consisted of seven values: $\frac{1}{2}$ -pence, 1d, $2\frac{1}{2}d$, 4d, 6d, 8d and 1/-.



A block of 15 of the 1-pence of 1887 tete-beche issue. This block shows a white flaw on the top right stamp which will be discussed later in this article.

In 1887 the Grenada revenue and postage accounts were amalgamated and new stamps of the 1d value were issued in the same design, but with the top tablet inscribed GRENADA/POSTAGE & REVENUE. The stamps were typographed, printed on white wove paper, watermarked Crown CA, comb perforated 14 and printed in units of 60 stamps, each in 10 horizontal rows of six.

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The Story Behind the Tete-beche Issue

The reason behind the tete-beche production method centers on De La Rue's aggressive competitive action to eliminate its rival, Perkins, Bacon, from effectively competing in the British Colonial stamp production business.

De La Rue, by offering to produce Grenada's stamps tete-beche, had a scheme to cut its normal price for printing stamps from 2/4 per 1,000 to 1/- per 1,000 without cutting the price of stamps it sold to other colonies.

Although this ploy was not immediately successful, strained relations between Perkins, Bacon, the Crown Agents and the De La Rue scheme resulted in De La Rue securing the printing of Grenada's stamps from Perkins, Bacon.

This event was of major importance in effectively eliminating Perkins, Bacon as an effective competitor to De La Rue in the British Colonial stamp production field ((1)). The struggle between the two giant stamp producing firms had been going on for almost 30 years at the time De La Rue hit on the tete-beche scheme.

The struggle between De La Rue and Perkins, Bacon began around 1853 when De La Rue secured its first printing contract for Great Britain draft and receipt stamps and two years later secured a contract to produce three postage stamps.

Although the reasons for De La Rue securing its first postage stamp contract are not known, it is probable that two factors were of prime importance. De La Rue used the typograph method of producing stamps rather than the line-engraved method of Perkins, Bacon.

The typograph method does not wet the paper before printing, thus allowing the use of special fugitive inks that prevent cleaning cancels off stamps and using the stamps a second time to defraud the post office. Also, the line-engraved printing method used by Perkins, Bacon, since the paper is wet before printing, produces a wide variation of shrinkage between one sheet and another in the same ream of paper and the resultant difficulty of proper registration of sheets in the perforating machines and poorly perforated sheets of stamps ((2)).

The use of fugitive inks and the high quality of perforations were two technical advantages that De La Rue used to great advantage in its struggle with Perkins, Bacon. On Jan. 28, 1862, Perkins, Bacon was forced to give up nine colonial postage stamp plates and thus began the decline of Perkins, Bacon as a printer of British Colonial stamps ((3)).

The struggle for the production of Grenada stamps began on Jan. 5, 1881, when the Crown Agents sent to both De La Rue and Perkins, Bacon a request for three new values of Grenada stamps.

De La Rue proposed using the Leeward Island keyplate with the word GRENADA inserted in the top tablet and would charge $\pounds 24$ for the keyplate and 2/4 per 1,000 stamps. Perkins, Bacon offered to overprint the undenominated Grenada revenue plate in its possession for only 1/- per 1,000 stamps and received the order on Jan. 13, 1881.

Thus Perkins, Bacon printed what proved to be its last Grenada postage stamps, the $\frac{1}{2}d$, $2\frac{1}{2}d$

and 4d, as well as an additional supply of 1d in April 1881. Price was the deciding factor for Perkins, Bacon.

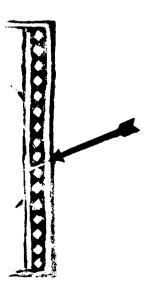
After iosing the first round, De La Rue sent a long proposal to the Crown Agents on Dec. 23, 1881, offering to supply Grenada stamps at the same price as Perkins, Bacon charged. They enclosed a block of 12 stamps, printed tete-beche, with the word GRENADA inserted in the top tablet. In its proposal, De La Rue said that because of the "peculiar method of printing," i.e., the tete-beche method, it would not have to charge for dies and plates and the stamps were priced at 1/- per 1,000 ((4)).

As explained later, De La Rue had to produce a completely new plate of 60 stamps and there were no savings in production costs between its original offer for the Leeward Island keyplate stamps at 2/4 per 1,000 and the tete-beche stamps at 1/- per 1,000.

In essence, De La Rue was willing to take a loss in producing Grenada stamps simply to get the order away from Perkins, Bacon. The "peculiar printing method" simply allowed De La Rue to price cut on Grenada stamps and at the same time not have to offer the discount price to other colonies using the non-tete-beche Leeward Island keyplate stamps. Luckily for De La Rue, neither the Crown Agents or individual colonies asked for the same deal Grenada got.

On Oct. 12, 1882, the Crown Agents notified De La Rue that Grenada had accepted the proposal to produce its postage stamps at 1/- per 1,000 ((5)). De La Rue had achieved its objective of securing Grenada's postage stamp production from Perkins, Bacon and had done it with a ploy that produced the 1883 Grenada tete-beche issue. At the same time De La Rue had effectively eliminated Perkins, Bacon as an effective competitor in the British Colonial stamp printing business.

New Information on the White Diagonal Flaw.



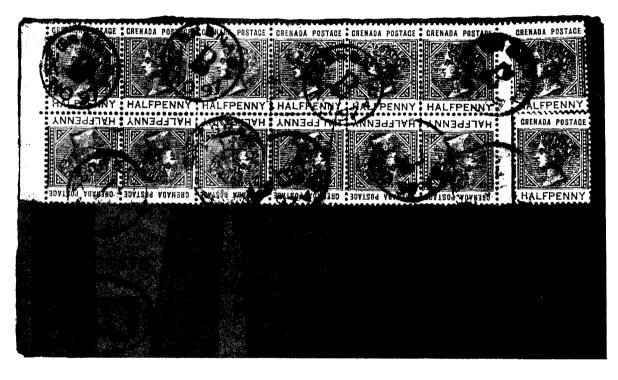
In 1955 Alfred Charlton makes the first reference to a white diagonal flaw found on the tete-beche stamps in the right border between the ninth and tenth border diamonds ((6)).

Charlton describes this flaw by stating the sheet consists of 240 stamps, divided into four panes of 60 stamps, each in 10 horizontal rows of six. The flaw is on stamp number 31 of the bottom left-hand pane, showing a white diagonal line below the ninth diamond in the right border and the flaw is found on all values ((7)). The reason why the flaw can be found on more than one value will be explained later when the plate production and printing methods are discussed.

The author can confirm that the flaw is found on stamp number 31. On the other hand, the author does not believe the flaw is found on all values and does not believe that the sheet consists of 240 stamps. It is the author's opinion that the flaw results from an imperfection in the printing plate that occurred late in the life of the plate and thus the flaw only occurs on values that were reprinted in the 1890s, probably only values reprinted in the mid-1890s.

Also, the author has a pane of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d value where the flaw appears on the bottom right-hand pane, rather than the bottom left-hand pane. This finding raises questions in the author's mind on the validity of the contention that this stamp was produced in sheets of 240 stamps, divided into four panes of 60.

The white diagonal flaw can be documented on only three values of tete-beche stamps, the $\frac{1}{2}d$, $2\frac{1}{2}d$ and 1d Postage and Revenue of 1887 ((8)). Used copies with this flaw are very scarce, the author has two, both of the $\frac{1}{2}d$ value dated 8 OC 97 and 5 NO 97.



This cover dated 25 NO 97 bears a stamp in the upper right corner which evidences the white flaw.

The author would like to hear of all known copies of this flaw, particularly on values other than the three listed above and all used copies with cancel date.

Based on a limited number of late dated used copies, the scarcity of the flaw and the lack of documentation of the flaw's existence on values printed early in the life of the plate, the author feels there is enough evidence to believe the flaw developed from damage to the plate late in the productive life of the plate.

Table 1 gives the date and quantity of stamps that De La Rue dispatched from its plant ((9)). Only the values not recorded with the white diagonal flaw are recorded in Table 1.

Table 1 shows the latest dispatch from De La Rue works of a tete-beche stamp that is not documented as having the white diagonal flaw is Nov. 9, 1892. On this date, a very small printing of 12,000 stamps of the 8d value was dispatched.

Until additional findings are made, the author assumes that the damage to the tete-beche printing plate occurs after the last printing of the 8d value or sometime in 1893 or later.

TABLE 1 Day/Month/Year Quantity Value 61,200 ONE PENNY 12. 1.83 6. 6.84 61,800 (Postage only on top) 12.12.85 30,000 61,080 12. 1.83 FOUR PENCE 17. 9.88 60,960 SIX PENCE 12. 1.83 60,720 12. 1.83 54,240 EIGHT PENCE 9.11.92 12,000 6,000 ONE SHILLING 12. 1.83

Table 2 shows the dispatch dates of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d of 1887 values from 1893 to the last dispatch of a tete-beche stamp on Sept. 17, 1896 ((10)). If the flaw is caused by damage to the tete-beche plate after the Nov. 9, 1892, printing of the 8d value it would occur on some or all the stamps dispatched and listed in Table 2.

Value	Day/Month/Year	Quantity
HALF PENNY	26. 1.94	30,000
	4. 5.95	61,200
	17. 9.96	121,500
ONE PENNY	1. 6.93	122,040
(Unified Postage and Revenue)	26. 1.94	30,000
• •	18.12.94	123,000
	27.11.95	123,600
TWO AND ONE-HALF PENCE	26.11.94	60,000
	18.12.94	18,120

TABLE 2

One possible explanation of the white diagonal flaw is that the printing plate developed a crack in 1893 or 1894. Since the stamps are typographed, a cracked plate would produce a white area without printing, like the white diagonal flaw. There are other potential causes of the white diagonal flaw, but a cracked plate in stamp number 31 below the ninth diamond on the right border is the most likely cause in the author's opinion.

Since early in the 20th century, and possibly prior to this, philatelic literature on Grenada's **tete-beche** stamps have stated that the stamp was printed in sheets of 240 stamps, divided into four panes of 60 ((1)).

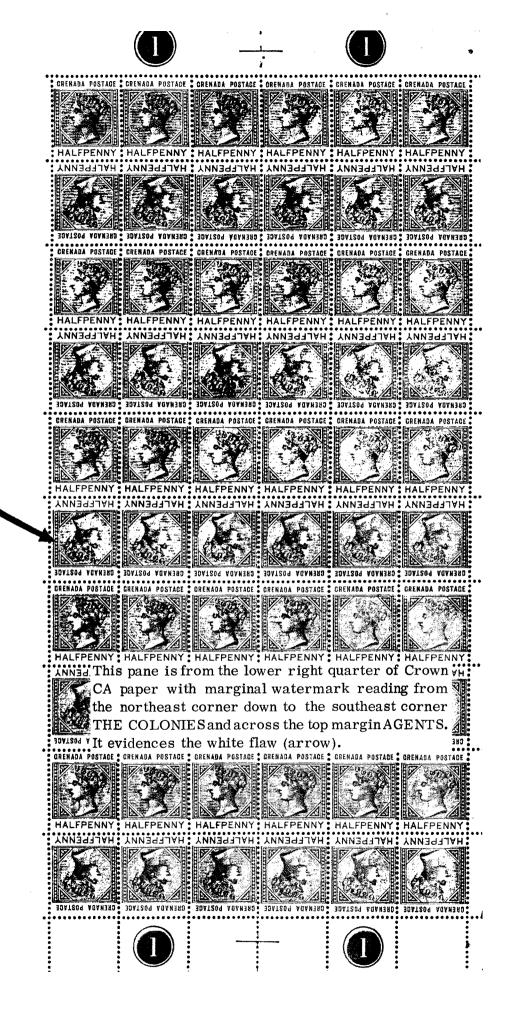
It is well-documented that sheets of Crown CA paper used for the Grenada tete-beche stamps contained 240 watermarks CA and a Crown, divided into four panes with CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES in the side margins and CROWN AGENTS in the center of the sheet ((12)).

Since the left-hand side margins of the paper have CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES starting at the bottom of the sheet and running up and the right-hand side margin has these

words starting at the top of the page and running down, panes or even individual stamps with sufficient side margins can be plated to a particular pane on a sheet of paper. It is also documented that the sheets of paper are $21\frac{1}{4} \times 11$ inches and there are no letters in the margins at the top and bottom of the sheets ((13)).

Charlton says that the white diagonal flaw occurs on stamp number 31 of the bottom left-hand pane ((14)). The author has a pane of $\frac{1}{2}$ d tete-beche stamps from the bottom right-hand pane of paper with stamp number 31 having the white diagonal flaw. A logical explanation for this is that the sheets of paper were cut in quarters before printing and then quartered pieces of paper were printed individually from a plate containing 60 stamps, not 240 stamps as traditionally believed.

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It is known that for each of the eight tete-beche stamps, seven values of 1883 and the 1d of 1887, De La Rue had a "forme of 60 multiples, not invoiced" ((15)). This "forme of 60 multiples" corresponds to the printing plate size used for the Leeward Island keyplate order of May 16, 1879 ((16)).

It can also be argued that the limited number of stamps required by the small island of Grenada made it impractical for De La Rue to produce a Grenada plate four times larger than the original plate they produced. Thus there is evidence that the Grenada tete-beche sheets consists of only 60 stamps, rather than the 240 stamps traditionally believed.

If the white diagonal flaw did result from plate damage in the mid-1890s and the plate consisted of 60 stamps, some degree of the scarcity of this flaw can be given.

For the $\frac{1}{2}$ d of 1883, the total production was 568,990 and if the flaw developed after 1892 there would be 3,545; if the flaw occurred late in 1894 there would be 3,045 flaws in existence.

The 1d of 1887 had a total production of 1,093,560 and if the flaw occurred after 1892 there would be 6,644; if it occurred in late 1894 there would be 4,110 flaws.

Finally, the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d of 1883 had a total production of 394,360 and there would be 1,302 flaws if it existed at the time of the 26.11.94 production; only 302 if the flaw was only on the last printing of 18.12.94 ((17)).

Plate Production and Printing Method

Charlton gives a useful description of the method De La Rue used to produce a plate for this issue. On the other hand, the author believes that one set of 60 central design molds and GRENADA POSTAGE strips were used for all values and the value changed using the keyplate method each time a different value was printed. Charlton states that individual electros, i.e., individual plates, were made for each value ((18)). The author's reasons for believing the tete-beche stamp was printed using the keyplate method are examined in this section.

The main portion of the stamp consists of the Leeward Island Die I keyplate design, with the top and bottom panel cut away. In their place are substituted at the top GRENADA POSTAGE and at the bottom the value in words except for " $2\frac{1}{2}$ PENCE."

As a sidenote, it is stated by John Easton that the reason why the top panel was cut out was that GRENADA POSTAGE was too long to fit in this panel ((19)). While this is undoubtedly true, this might not have been the original reason to cut out the panel. As previously mentioned, when De La Rue sent the Crown Agents a long proposal on Dec. 23, 1881, concerning a 'peculiar method of printing'' Grenada stamps it enclosed a block of 12 tete-beche Grenada 1d stamps.

In the "De La Rue History" there is a picture of this block of 12 and it shows the top and bottom panels cut out, even though only the word GRENADA is in the top panel ((20)). Thus the original reason for cutting out the top and bottom panels appears related to the tete-beche printing method, rather than contemplation of the use of GRENADA POSTAGE.

Before the question of whether electros were made for each plate is discussed, the method of producing the plate was to be examined. First, molds were prepared on which was struck the central portion of the Leeward Islands keyplate design from Die I. Then strips were punched

with GRENADA POSTAGE twice, one on top of the other in a tete-beche position. Similar strips were also made for each value, i.e., EIGHT PENCE was punched twice, one on top of the other in a tete-beche position. The mold and two strips — the central portion of the Lee-ward Islands keyplate design, GRENADA POSTAGE and EIGHT PENCE — were produced in horizontal rows of six, to correspond with the horizontal rows of the sheet of stamps.

The molds and strips were then arranged and locked in a forme. To change the value of the forme, all that was required was to remove from the forme the five strips expressing the value and to replace them with five other strips with the new value ((21)).

The author differs from Charlton in one important area, that is whether electros were made for each value or not. My opinion is that one set of 60 molds was used for all values and one set of GRENADA POSTAGE strips was also used for all values.

A separate set of strips was used for each value and a set of strips **was** also made for the GRENADA/POSTAGE & REVENUE of 1887. Each time a value was printed, the molds and appropriate strips were locked in a forme and the printing was done directly from this forme using the keyplate method. Since the white diagonal flaw was on mold number 31, the flaw would be present on the sheet no matter what value was being printed. Obviously, De La Rue had to maintain the order of the central design molds or else the flaw would be found on different stamps, but this is not unlikely considering De La Rue's quality of production.

There are a number of reasons why the author believes that De La Rue did not make electros for each value. First, at the time this issue was produced the company was pushing its keyplate ideas and the associated savings in cost from not having to make individual plates everytime it printed a stamp ((22)).

Also, De La Rue produced 11 values of bicolored tete-beche Grenada revenue stamps in the same design and would not want to go to the expense of producing 11 additional plates, as well as eight postage plates when they had the less expensive keyplate technique.

In addition, the Grenada tete-beche plate was used for Montserrat revenue stamps, which is another reason why the production of individual plates for each Montserrat revenue value was not practical ((23)).

Finally, the relatively limited needs of the small island of Grenada for postage stamps indicates that it was not practical for De La Rue to produce individual plates with a production capacity at least two times the demand for Grenada postage stamps ((24)).

In conclusion, we now know that the Grenada tete-beche stamps were produced tete-beche simply as a competitive ploy to eliminate Perkins, Bacon as an effective competitor in the British Colonial stamp printing business. This scheme combined with other competitive activities accomplished its objective so that in 1883 when the tete-beche stamps were issued, De La Rue had virtually eliminated Perkins, Bacon as an effective competitor in British Colonial stamp printing.

Then a technical analysis of the tete-beche stamp presents some new and interesting theories on this issue. An interesting white diagonal flaw is found not to appear on all values as traditionally believed, but only found on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d of 1887. This finding aids in developing other theories.

Traditional writings have stated that the tete-beche stamp was printed in sheets of 240 stamps

and that electros were made of the plate for all values. The author concludes that the sheet consists of only 60 stamps and that the keyplate method was used to print the stamp requiring only a set of 60 central design molds and one set of 60 GRENADA POSTAGE strips.

The author is hopeful that, if nothing else, this article stirs up comment and new information on this interesting issue. The theories presented are often radically different from traditional belief, so any information that either supports or tears down the theories will be of great assistance to our fellow philatelists.

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- 2. Easton, ibid., pp. 1-3.
- 3. DeWorms, Percy, Perkins Bacon Records, Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1953, Vol. I, pp. 509-26.
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- 5. Ibid., p. 342.
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- 8. The W. Danforth Walker collection which has two sheets of 60, two large blocks of 58 and 48 and two used copies of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d and one block of 15 of the 1d of 1887. Charlton, ibid., p. 27 illustration, one copy of the 1d of 1887 and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.
- 9. Easton, John, "The De La Rue Printings, Grenada 1883-1899," "London Philatelist," Jan. 1961, pp. 15-16.
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- 20. Easton, "The De La Rue History," op. cit., p. 341-42 and plate 24, number 3.
- 21. Charlton, op. cit., pp. 24-25.
- 22. Easton, "The De La Rue History," op. cit., pp. 331-67.
- 23. Charlton, op. cit., pp. 24-25.
- 24. Easton, "The De La Rue History," op. cit., p. 329-30.



Send all future articles, items for Bits & Pieces, personal mention, etc., to our new editor, Lt. Col. Daniel C. Warren, P.O. Drawer E, Aberdeen, Md. 21001.

LOST IN THE U.S.A.

(The Story of Al in America) by Alfred J. Branston

(Editor's Note: BCPSG international director Al Branston visited the United States for the first time for a few weeks in September-October. This is his story — if we had not received it we would have written one entitled "Hurricane Branston Hits the U.S." Many of us had a bit of trouble keeping up with this 73-year old whirlwind.)

Now, right at the start you may not suppose that I got lost in America. No, indeed, because the Group members are far too kind and considerate for that to happen to me. In fact, all that went astray over the whole of the 8,500-mile trip was — one odd sock!

From the very beginning, everything went right and, happily, it stayed that way. I reached Dan Walker's apartment in Arlington, Va., at the exact same moment as he arrived home in his car. What could be better? Nice timing, Dan.

I certainly did a lot of interesting things in Washington, D.C., but that's another story. Arlington had a severe thunderstorm, but that did not prevent Dan and me discussing Grenada, forgeries and how to detect them; the Group welfare in 1980; and many other interesting items, as you may well be sure.

Luckily, the Washington Philatelic Society had a meeting during my stay with Dan (he is now the editor of their newsletter, by the way), so I went along to see how society meetings are held in America. As my first experience of an all-slide, no stamp, show I had a lot of very pleasant surprises.

Here's an important point. Dan "tuned me in" so excellently and easily as to what to do and expect in America that it was impossible for me to go wrong thereafter . . . and it never did. Thank you, Dan.

My next point of call was Dayton, Ohio, and thence to Sidney to meet Elaine and, thanks to her kindly help to consult with Ed Neuce who is the editor of "Linn's Stamp News." This bit of my most pleasant and helpful experiences would fill two complete pages of the Journal with no difficulty whatsoever. So I must be brief.

Elaine and I discussed many matters — Group, topical and general American interest, ranging far and wide. Thank you, Elaine, for this and many other like matters, for the sight of your collections, the circular tour of the countryside, the opportunity to visit the Piqua Philatelic Society and for the opportunity to learn a very great amount about Ohio and America.

It was kindly, too, of Bill and Audrey Cornell to drive to Sidney from Cincinnati to see me and talk collecting from all angles. I did enjoy this so very much.

At Elaine's I had the opportunity for a 'once ever, " in the shape of making a presentation to her from the Group of a nicely stylized desk tray engraved with our best thanks for all the work which she has done as the editor of the Journal. Bought in London, engraved in Chelmsford, the transport approved by the United States Embassy in London -- is its pedigree. We hope that you like it, Elaine! (Editor's Note: Love it, Al, thanks.) Ed Neuce and his staff were most helpful to me without exception. I enjoyed the **privilege** of making a thorough comb of the fine library there for topical titles, saw how a modern paper is produced and received lots of very good advice about my handbook of topical and thematic collecting. America is certainly a great place for enthusiasm.

Indianapolis, Ind., for the American Philatelic Society national convention was the next point of call with such a lot to see and do. But the most valuable thing, next to the exhibits, was undoubtedly the very many people whom I was privileged to meet there. The APS officials greeted me most cordially and well.

Collectors, officials, editors, dealers and Group members all contributed to the most comprehensive picture of the American scene, which I so thoroughly enjoyed. Mind you, I did encounter one Englishman — no, two, I must count the British racing driver, Alain de Cadenet, with whom I was photographed in his car -- but surprise, surprise, at the refreshment buffet was Stephen Braham from London, Hounslow. Well, well, I am quite evidently not the only one to get around and about.

At the Associates Luncheon of the convention, Paul Larsen nicely steered me into a most interesting session and, I must say, that it was good to be one of the Group's representatives.

It was equally exciting to attend the APS Writers Breakfast in the Hilton Hotel and to learn there that Elaine had won the Herman Herst award for having the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal judged the best in the periodicals section of the literature competition held in conjunction with the convention. Congratulations, Elaine, all around!



In the photo above, Al Branston (L) visits with Bill and Audrey Cornell in Sidney, Ohio. The photo on the right shows Elaine Durnin holding the Herman Herst award the Journal received in the APS literature competition and the tray presented her by Al on behalf of the Group.



The next hop gave me the opportunity to meet the Group folks in and around Chicago, Ill., and where I met Joan and Paul Larsen "at home" to discuss Group activities in LONDON 1980 "in depth."

I visualized quite a number of things which the ladies of the Group might well wish to do and you may be very sure that this angle received a lot of attention too. Thank you, Joan and Paul, for much kindly hospitality. Also for making it possible for Lester Winnick to run me around Chicago and to visit the Collectors Club there. Paul and Ben Ramkissoon had set up a very lively supper party for me to meet Chuck Cwiakala and Tom Giraldi and this was also the first meeting between myself and Ben, although we have written back and forth for a very long time. So much was talked about that my memory fails me... or was it the very excellent food? All in all, a most enjoyable and sparkling session.

Staying with Ben and Connie, not forgetting the two junior members of the family, at their delightful home provided yet another pleasure for me. We talked topicals, Group activities and a vast number of aspects of American life and living.



A supper party was held for Al by some of the Chicago group. Shown are (L-R) Tom Giraldi, Al, Chuck Cwiakala, Paul Larsen and Ben Ramkissoon. Seen at the right are Al and Paul looking at some of Paul's collection.

Over and above these, I was treated most royally and I saw the countryside at its best and I must say that I 'liked what I saw." I am more than grateful to Ben for so very kindly driving me right across Chicago to the O'Hare Airport to get me over to Milwaukee, Wis.

Right away, at the airport Howie and Bernice Austin (with David, the very active young son) recognized me without hesitation. I did enjoy the ride along the edge of Lake Michigan, too.

At Howie's, luck was with us yet again, for I had seen his entry at Indianapolis with Paul telling me of the enthusiasm which Howie has in that area of postal history. Nicely enough, it was back "at home" when I arrived so we were able to get in a really good and absorbing session together over it — spreading all over the table and half the floor. Good for Howie.

I was undoubtedly made absolutely at home with Howie's mother who lives a short distance away. But what did impress me was that when I wished to go to the meeting of the Milwaukee society and to meet Jerome Husak (of American Topical Association fame) Mrs. Austin not only drove me quite a few miles there, attended the meeting in a right lively style, but then drove me back home.

I am quite full of admiration for the extraordinary "motive capability" (you see I tend to use long words sometimes) of the American ladies. In England, especially the big cities, remarkably fewer ladies drive, especially at night. Bernice and Howie took me to eat at a mill stream restaurant. . . I really must have a couple of bucketfuls of thatwonderful fish sent over here, Howie!

Get going, Al. Fine, the next hop over to Boston, Mass., made by going in and out of O'Hare, was most enjoyable. The sight of the lakes and the coloring trees below was wonderful. Right on the dot, Bob Topaz met me. All the baggage was OK, so off for a trip around the city. Then out to his so very comfortable and attractive house in Waban.

It's a matter of fact that, at home not a single travel agent in Chelmsford or London could locate Waban for me. And here it was full and beautiful with color in the start of the fall. I liked Boston and the country around, but then I liked all of the scenes and the people in America.

Bob and I talked auctions, the Group in 1980 and, of course, the postal history of Jamaica. What else would we need to talk about?

Thanks, too, for the run across to the airport, more so because, time and time again I was only able to get about so freely because of the most friendly help of the Group members. No, I still do not think that I will ever learn to drive satisfactorily on the right-hand side of the road. Thanks, all those who filled in this essential motivity.

And so, away to Newark, N.J., to meet Mark Swetland. This airflight is most interesting with the sight of the sea, the terminals, bridges and the countryside so vastly different to the seemingly unending clouds when up at 40,000 feet on the outward flight from England.

Mark and I spent a lot of very absorbing time discussing Group affairs, activities and outlooks. All so much of what I really wanted to know. Better still, he piloted me in and around New York, through Central Park, and, so, I saw the sights after all.

We walked about and by design arrived at the Collectors Club of New York. The membership should know what happened here. Mrs. Duklas, the executive secretary, welcomed us warmly, we browsed through the library and then met Mr. DeWitt, the volunteer librarian. I listened whilst Mark and he discussed the library and the work to be done and then we toured the library.

Out of the blue, DeWitt opened a file cabinet drawer to explain that all society journals are received by the Collectors Club and are filed carefully. Not knowing that we were "of the Group and for the Group," he remarked that there was one example which "he thought was particularly good." Mark and I waited a couple of seconds and then, without hesitation, he selected . . . wait for it . . . OUR JOURNAL!

"This is the one," he said. I nudged Mark to stay quiet for a shake. "Oh, yes, it's a fine piece of work," he continued, "I particularly like it." At that, we had to "spill the beans"... we had enjoyed ourselves with his surprise so we then helped him to an equally nice surprise. Of course, the credit belongs to Elaine, does it not?

Mark and I had a very nice meal in an attractive restaurant. Now I am bound to let myself off the hook at one point at least in this article. Of course there were a very large number of most happy and enjoyable occasions throughout my trip when there was lots of laughter and good fun. Mark surely enjoyed the food. I was far too busy . . . enjoying the "surroundings." Liberal readers should take this as including the attractive waitresses. Those with somewhat different outlooks should please replace the waitresses by the decor. Both were very attractive.

A bit of nice initiative by Mark also gave me a top level thrill. He suggested that I should fly by helicopter from Newark to JFK Airport in New York. Fine. He called the flight desk and they advised, "Yes, why not, and Al can go at half cost." So I duly booked in and then, to be vastly surprised to know that "your flight is free, sir." What trip around America could end so nicely, I ask.

With the Statue of Liberty on one side and all New York's skyscrapers on the other, with my

baggage stuffed full of pictures, papers and documents and the happy thoughts of the 85 Americans whom I had met full and large, I was on top of the world. Thank you, America and the Americans.

notes from the **TUDWAY CORRESPONDENCE**

(Number Two in a Series)

by John M. Willem

In the first of this series (BCPJ, June 1978, page 100), we compared the Tudway find versus that of Codrington as published by Robson Lowe in 1951, and concentrated on the Colonial straight-line type known as "PD" with number thereafter describing the variant types in the chronological order of their use.

Next comes a comparison of Tudway vs. Codrington in the "PF" series, with Codrington at an EKD of March 24, 1799, and an LKD of Aug. 18, 1806 -- 16 specimens in all.

Tudway surpasses Codrington in "PF" examples by a wide margin, having a range from May 22, 1799, to July 8, 1808 -- 62 specimens in all.

Lowe lists at least four sub-varieties in the "PF" series:

- (a) 1800-1805 year in full, viz., "1800"
- (b) 1801 last three figures of year only, "801"
- (c) 1801-1805 mixed sizes for figures
- (d) 1806 no year date

For some unknown reason, Lowe lists the 1799 date as the prototype of the "PF" series. It is not. With possibly only one exception, 1799 is the only year in which is used only the date and the last two digits of the year. Therefore, it should be a sub-variety of the series and not the example. Of Codrington's 16 "PF" specimens, five are listed as simply "PF" and four of the five are of the year 1799. The fifth, which I have not seen, is dated Feb. 17, 1802.

In the Tudway collection there are only two plain "PF" handstamps, and both are of the year 1799.

According to the Tudway record, it would be more fitting if Lowe's "PFa" was the prototype for the series -- 32 of the Tudway "PF" examples showing the year in full, with equal size lettering, and extending from 1800 to 1807.

Lowe's "PFb" should, based on Tudway, be divided into two parts: 1) the last three figures of the year only which are infull and equal size numbers and 2) the last three figures of the year which are of mixed sizes. The Tudway collection has two of the former and nine of the latter, with dates of 1801 and 1802.

As for Lowe's "PFc," it runs in Tudway from 1801 to 1808, three years beyond the Codrington summary. There were only four examples of this type in the Codrington collection, while there are 17 examples in Tudway.

There is no example in Tudway of "PFd," the closest being a unique example, well struck, of March 21, 1808, with only the last 8 of the year showing.

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Clima

Unique to Tudway is a handstamp of 1805 with numbers transposed to read 1085.

The next comparison of Tudway vs. Codrington will examine what Robson Lowe describes as the "PG1" and "PG1a" series, which in Codrington begins in 1809, but in Tudway begins in 1808.

LONDON 1980

by Alfred J. Branston

Whilst the details of the Group meeting in LONDON 1980 are being hammered out, I believe the membership would appreciate being advised of some of the firm details:

The Date. The exhibition will be held at Earls Court, West Central London, May 6-14, 1980.

Where to Get Details. Those concerning the entering of exhibits, accommodations, the London 1980 Club, etc., should be sent to: The Secretary, London 1980, P.O. Box 300, London WC2 1AF, England.

May I take the liberty of stressing a point here? Getting information backwards and forwards across the Atlantic takes what seems to be a great deal of time. And it certainly does. So if you are interested in any way whatsoever do not delay any longer, but write immediately to the aforementioned address for a leaflet and also ask to be put onto the mailing list for all future publications.

The general idea of the London meeting will be to hold a full-scale cooperation exercise aimed at an in depth socialization of all collectors with the same ideas as ours. Right at the moment the preliminary talks with the B.W.I. Study Circle and the Roses are well under way, and we all seem to be talking along the same lines. We are working for a common announcement about the event in the spring of 1979.

Against that date, all and every thought would be most welcome. Members in Great Britain may certainly write me about their ideas and I am sure that our president, Paul Larsen, will be equally happy to have the comments of the Group members in the U.S.

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Kingston Commercial Rooms

by Walton Van Winkle

In Jamaican postal history, the Commercial Rooms of Kingston played an important role. They comprised an association of a number of forwarding agents and merchants who, among other things, underwrote insurance on vessels and cargo. In this, they operated much like Lloyds of London.

This agency not only handled mail brought in by captains of merchant vessels, but also would take letters from local citizens for dispatch on merchant ships. These were handed in to the clerk of the association and received a cachet. From 1818 to 1843 eight different cachets were used. Some of these were extremely rare.

Recently, two letters were acquired which had Commercial Rooms cachets that differ in detail from those described in the late Thomas Foster's monograph on the postal history of Jamaica. These handstamps are clearly related to known handstamps and thus are classified as subtypes.

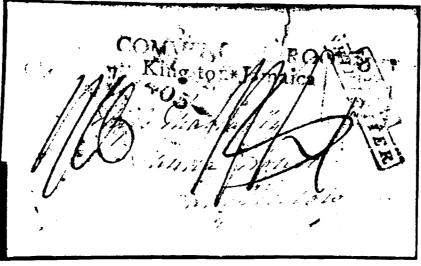


Figure 1 - Type CR1A

Subtype CR1A comprises Type CR1 with a second line reading "Kingston*Jamaica." A very similar handstamp is known in conjunction with Type CR2, but this differs in many respects from the recently discovered handstamp. The new handstamp is 52 mm long and the letters are 4 mm (capitals) and 3 mm (lower case) high.

These dimensions differ from the "A" handstamp of CR2, which is 50 mm long and the letter heights are 4.5 and 2.5 mm. In the CR1A handstamp, the "J" extends below the line, and in CR2A the "J" is in line with the other letters. The "m" is wide in CR1A and narrow in CR2A, and finally, there is a comma between Kingston and Jamaica in CR2A and an * in CR1A.

The example shown in Figure 1 is one of two known copies. The letter originated in Kingston 20 MR 1818 and its destination was Scotland. Since it did not go through the Jamaica postal service, but was carried by merchant ship, it bears no Jamaica postal marking. It has, how-ever, plenty of other markings all piled on top of one another.

The first marking it received was the Commercial Rooms CR1A cachet. Arriving in Deal, it was handed in at the local post office where the boxed $"\frac{1}{2}"$ was applied (to indicate the Scottish

toll tax) and on top of that the stepped DEAL/SHIP LETTER mark was affixed.

Arriving in London on 18 May 1818, it was decided that the face of the letter already had enough marking, so the postal authorities turned it over and put their red datestamp on the Commercial Rooms handstamp with the Glasgow datestamp. Fortunately, the ink pad was nearly dry, so the Glasgow mark is quite faint.

The cachet shown in Figure 2 is very similar to CR8 and may have been anticipated by Foster. In his monograph he states, "An example of CR8 is known dated 30th August 1842 which had a period after the word BUILDINGS and a very small distinct 'dot diamond.' This item may prove to be a further type."



The present example has the small dot diamond. Because of overinking it cannot be determined if there is a period after BUILDING. However, the most distinctive difference between this marking and CR8 is the height of the "K" and "J" in "Kingston Jamaica."

Figure 2 — Type CR8A

In CR8 these letters are distinctly taller than the other letters in the words. In this example, both the "K" and the "J" are exactly the same height as the other letters. Otherwise, all dimensions and format are identical to CR8.

This cachet may have been a replacement for the original CR8. The last known date of use of CR8 was 14 June 1843. This mark shows a date of 13 July 1843. It certainly is not the item that Foster saw which was dated 11 months earlier. He would have noticed the "J" and "K" differences and commented on them.

The letter on which this cachet appears originated in Kingston and was written on 12 July 1843. It is addressed to Bermuda where it was received on 22 July. It bears no postal markings, but is inscribed "P.H.M. Ss 'Avon' " on the face.

Presumably, the letter was handed in at the Commercial Rooms. The agent gave it to the captain of the "Avon" who, instead of depositing it in the Bermuda Post Office, gave it to the addressee. Such practices were not uncommon.

OUR SECRETARY REPORTS

NEW MEMBERS:

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

NEW APPLICANTS:

CRESPO, Maria E., 16261 Woodruff Ave. No. 48, Bellflower, CA 90706. Homemaker. Collects Cayman Islands, Cuba and the United States. By Thomas E. Giraldi

SAYLOR, John S. Jr., 31 Overhill Road, Wyomissing Hills, PA 19609. Businessman. Great Britain, its cancellations and postal history; G.B. used abroad. By Thomas E. Giraldi DECEASED:

It is our very sad duty to report the deaths of Alfred N. Johnson and Elkin M. Adelson.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

ELLIOTT, Richard M., 6749 Eastridge Road, No. 2031, Dallas, Tex. 75231.

GRAZEBROOK, Alvery, Palais Cap de Croix, Pl. du Cdt. Jerome, 06100 Nice (Cimiez), France.

KERNOCHAN, Lansing B., 426 E. 81st St. No. B, New York, N.Y. 10028.

KIEFFER, Lincoln E., 74A Amherst Lane, Jamesburg, N.J. 08831.

MEAD, Michael, 335 S. Huntington Ave., Apt. 12, Jamaica Plains, MA 02130.

WEST, Neil D., Box 77393, Atlanta, GA 30357.

WILSON, Chester E., 2220 Lafayette St., Durham, N.C. 27707.

WILSON, Michael, Del Mehari, 15 Mayflower Drive, Yateley, Camberley, Surrey GU17 7RR, United Kingdom

WONG, Ronald, 33 Drake Way, Toms River, N.J. 08753.

THE GRAY CORRESPONDENCE

by Clinton von Pohle

"In the year 1808 Charles Gordon Gray of Somersetshire, England, sent his son of the same name to Jamaica to manage his sugar plantation, Virgin Valley, near Montego Bay. For at least 10 years they wrote each other by the monthly Falmouth packets. Many of the son's letters to his father survive."

So started Winton Patnode's article on the Gray correspondence in the February 1968 issue of the BCPJournal, in which he also studied the time it took for a letter to reach England from the Island of Jamaica. A later study by the same author dealt with the postage rates between the two places.

Unfortunately, Patnode does not live to complete his study, which was intended to provide the background for an understanding of many facets of plantation life in the early 19th century. Young Charles, in addition to operating out of Virgin Valley, was very much involved in the plantations of Fairfield and Motor Park, also near Montego Bay.

Patnode had access to copies of some 39 of these letters. Through the cooperation of a number of people I now have copies of 65, from January 1809 to April 1819. But there are still some serious gaps, which I would very much like to fill.

So, I make an appeal. Will each of you please check through your stampless material, looking for letters addressed to Charles Gordon Gray, Stratton House near Old Down, Somersetshire, England. They will usually have a Type T3 Montego Bay handstamp; sometimes they will carry that of Savanna la Mar.

If you find you have one or more of these letters, I would appreciate your letting me know the dates. Do not send me the letter -- I may later ask for a photocopy. There are some periods, such as the years 1813-15, which are almost now complete. Yet, for the year 1818 I do not now have a single letter.

I would indeed appreciate any cooperation in filling in these missing years that can be extended to me. Write to Clinton von Pohle, Box 567, Mountain View, Calif. 94042.

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IN MEMORIAM



Alfred N. Johnson

Once again we have the sad duty of reporting the passing of a dear friend and fellow member of our BCPSG. Alfred N. Johnson, "Al" to all of us, died at the age of 77 on Thursday, Sept. 7, in a Baytown, Tex., hospital. Some three weeks earlier, Al had suffered a severe stroke from which he never regained consciousness.

As first editor of our Journal, Al played a major role in getting our Group organized and well on the way to its present success. He continued in that position for six years, until mid-1967, and after his retirement served as BCPSG membership chairman for a number of years. Al received an honorary life membership in the Group.

As Journal editor, Al wrote much of the material in each issue, but still found time to write articles for other publications, including the "American Philatelist," "Linn's Stamp News," "Western Stamp Collector," and the "West End Philatelist" (London). His series of articles on Jamaica postal history and postmarks appeared in the "American Philatelist," and was later published as a handbook by the American Philatelic Society.

Until ill health prevented him from traveling, Al attended all of our annual meetings. He and wife Joan were always delighted to entertain members of our Group who visited the Houston-Baytown area. We recall many happy moments in Al's stamp den looking through his many volumes of stamps, covers and postmark material. Our own collections contain many nice items that Al gave us outright and in swaps.

Al's many contributions to BWI philately assure him a niche in our Hall of Fame. Friendship with Al and Joan has made our life a more pleasant one. Whenever we look through our files of the BCPJournal and see Al's early issues, we will recall the many good times we shared.

IN MEMORIAM



Elkin (Eddie) M. Adelson

It is with a heavy heart that we must report the death of another dear friend and fellow Group member. Elkin (Eddie) M. Adelson died Oct. 3 in a Miami, Fla., hospital at the age of 70. Shortly after his return from the CAPEX activities in Toronto in June, which he and his wife Dorothy attended, Eddie suffered a series of heart attacks, his last being fatal.

Eddie was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., 7 Feb. 1908. He moved to Miami in the early 1930s and became a Floridian by adoption. He was a successful salesman for the Salvatori Corporation and he retired from that company in 1972.

Virtually a lifetime stamp collector who graduated into postal history, Eddie was especially fond of the Bahama Islands stamps and postal history and from which he received the nickname "Bahamas Bum."

Eddie also had an especial interest in the British Caribbean area and he was a charter member of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group and later became a life member. He supported this group with his time and talent. To support the Journal he reserved the full back page for his major advertising for Bahamas Stamps.

Eddie and Dorothy attended most of the regional and national meetings of the BCPSG and was a familiar and loved personality to many of us. He is survived by his wife Dorothy; two daughters, Geraldine and Pamela; and four grandchildren, to whom we extend the sympathy of the society.

"Bahamas Bum" we will miss you!

JAG

Antigua Censored Cover

by George W. Bowman

In the June 1978 BCPJournal, I described an Antigua OHMS cover which carried a manuscript "B2590" in blue pencil, and I asked if any reader could verify whether this mark -- because of its code letter "B" — was part of the normal civil censorship system of notation used in Antigua at the time.

The cover was addressed to Montreal and was postmarked at St. John's, Antigua, 30 December 1942. I also pointed out the existence of three numbers on the reverse of the cover, one of which was a handstamped "5265."

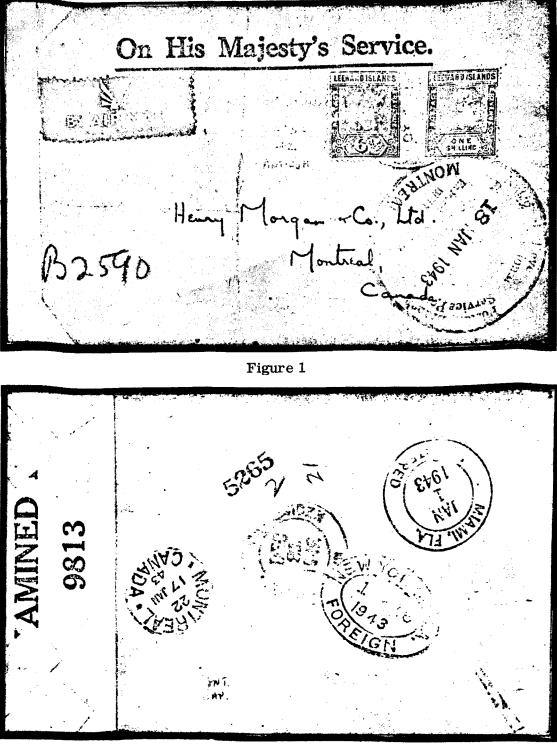


Figure 2

The front and back of the cover are shown in Figures 1 and 2, respectively. (I had refrained from submitting these photocopies to our editor previously, as I had feared that they were too faint to be reproduced clearly.)

I have subsequently acquired from Paul Larsen a photocopy of a second cover (parts of which are shown in Figures 3 and 4), postmarked at St. John's on 29 December 1942 and addressed to New York City. Notice that both covers are addressed in the same handwriting that a manuscript "B2573" appears on the Larsen cover in apparently the same handwriting as the "B2590" on the first cover and that the number "5265" also shows on the reverse of the Larsen cover

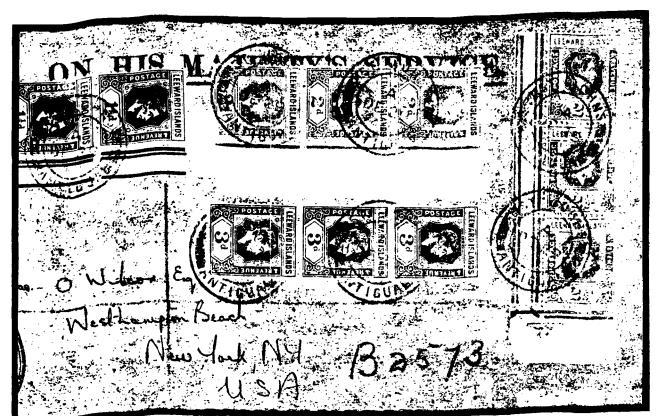


Figure 3

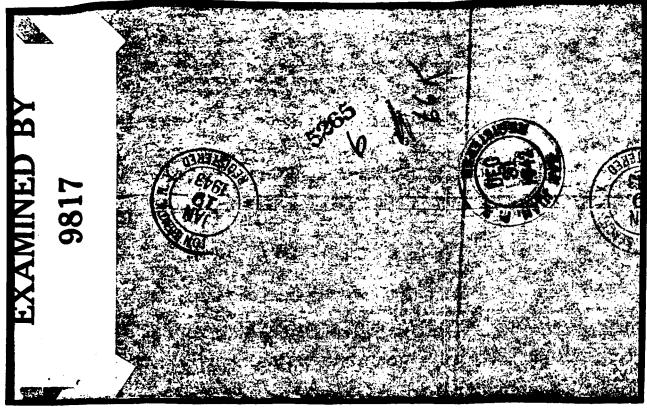


Figure 4

Since the second cover was postmarked a day earlier than the first, it is logical that the "B2573" would be a lower number than the 'B2590." It is also now apparent that the '5265" was not applied at Montreal, as I had supposed in the June Journal, but at either St. Johns, San Juan, Miami or New York City.

The Larsen item is struck with an Antigua GPO oval classified as Type 4 in my study of such ovals appearing the April and August 1972 Journals. Other features of this cover are a U.S. type censor label EXAMINED BY/9817 and postal markings of San Juan, 31 Dec. 1942 • Miamí, 1 Jan. 1943; New York (foreign) oval, ? Jan. 1943; and Westhampton Beach, N.Y., 19 Jan. 1943. Two other manuscript numbers, a "6" and what **looks** like "66K," appear on the cover near the "5265."

If the "B2565" and "B2590" are, indeed, Antigua civil censorship devices, then the following possibilities are suggested:

- 1. The numbers may have been personal examiner numbers, indicating that each cover was opened and inspected by a different person. This to me is the least likely solution, due to the noted handwriting similarity.
- 2. The numbers may have been individually assigned by an examiner to pieces of mail in sequence of processing. In other words, "B2573" may have indicated the 2,573rd item examined after a certain date (now unknown). It then follows that during the one day from 29 Dec. to 30 Dec. 1942 at least 17 items of mail (2,590 minus 2,573) were examined. (Obviously, many more than 17 items must have been handled during this or any one-day period, but so far these are the only two covers we have found to look at.)
- 3. The use of these numbers in the first place, of course, is based on the assumption that the standard P.C.90 labels, used during the entire war and throughout the colonies, were for some reason unavailable at St. John's during the last week of 1942.

Does any reader have further thoughts to share on this matter? Such ideas will be most welcome and appreciated.

TRINIDAD SLQGAN UPDATE

by Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon

(Editor's Note: Part one of this article appeared in the August BCPJ, page 153, and covered Trinidad slogans. The following tables report on meter slogans, rubber stamp slogans, San Fernando slogans, and includes the references to both parts of the article.)

Before listing the slogans known to the writer, we must make a few notes on the various sections:

A number of meter slogans have been found, the counterpart of the MS-1 and MS-2 not being seen in the regular slogan types. The Port-of-Spain number 23 has been seen as late as June 1973.

A few rubber stamp (RS) slogans have been found in the 1974-76 period. The only examples known are Couva, Port-of-Spain and El Socorro.

Only the one type of CDS continues to be used in San Fernando. Like Port-of-Spain, there have been a number of new varieties recorded, new slogans used and an additional wavy line type.

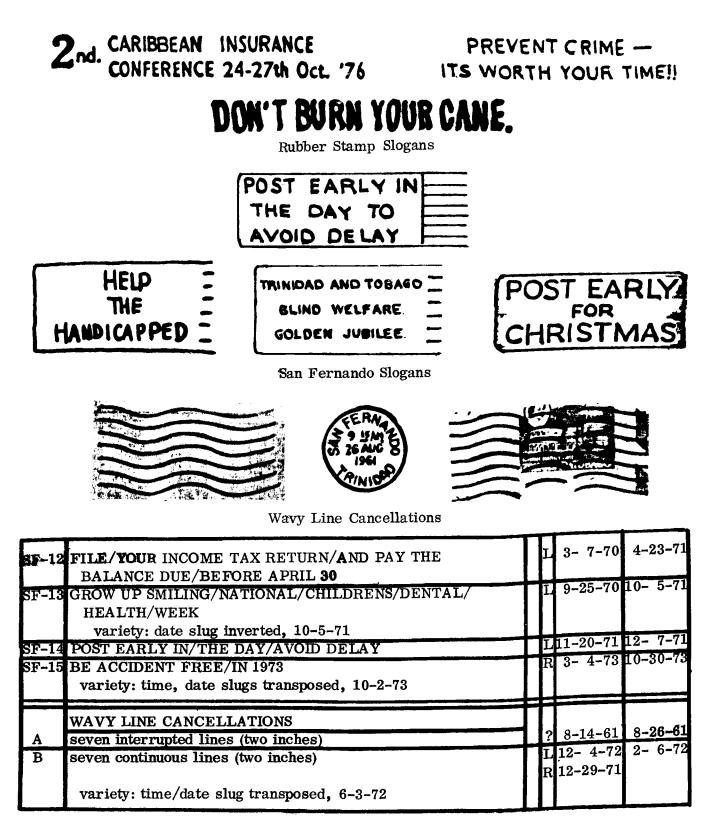
Most of the slogan cancellations are similar to those used in Port-of-Spain. The three new slogans are listed under numbers 3, 8 and 14.

-		_			
Figure	METER SLOGANS	CDS TVD6	Tocation	EKD	LKD
MS-1	POSTAGE PAID/2 CENTS (red)		L	10-26-62	
	variety: date/time transposed, 10-26-62	ł			
MS-2	POSTAGE PAID/3 CENTS (red)	Г	Г	5-29-72	3-25-74
MS-3	Port-of-Spain, Number 23, PB 001, red	Γ	Т	6-24-68	6-20-73
MS-4	Port-of-Spain, Number 16a, but from San Fernando, (red)	t	L	4-2-76	9-26-77
		ſ	T		
	RUBBER STAMP SLOGANS				
RS-1	Port-of-Spain: 2nd CARIBBEAN INSURANCE/CONFERENCE 24-27th Oct. 76				1- 8-76
R S-1	Couva: DON'T BURN YOUR CANE				3-25-74
RS-1	El Socorro: PREVENT CRIME-/ITS WORTH YOUR TIME!!				8- 8-76
	SAN FERNANDO SLOGANS				
SF-1	POST EARLY/FOR/CHRISTMAS	Γ	Г		
	a. Type A (Port-of-Spain, Type 11a)	L		11-27-57	12-12-66
		R		12- 4-72	1- 2-75
1	variety: Year slug inverted 12-3-69				
	b. Type B (Port-of-Spain, Type 11b)	L R		12- 7-57 12- 8-69	
SF-2	DO NOT DELAY/POST TODAY	L		2- 7-62	5-23-70
	HELP/THE/HANDICAPPED	L		5-12-62	
SF-4	YOUR SAFEST INVESTMENT/AN ACCOUNT IN THE POST/				
	OFFICE SAVINGS BANK	R		1-30-63	2 -15-6 8
	variety: CDS (R) inverted, 1968				
	": time slug omitted, 12-5-67				
		R		2- 6-63	5-17-63
SF-6	BACK THE ATTACK/ON/TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS		R L	3- 5-63 6- 8-68	6 - 3 -63
SF-7	SAVE PRECIOUS WATER		R	4-16-63	7-17-75
	variety: CDS inverted, 5-?-74, 5-20-74				
	CDS inveryed, 6-9-77				
	slogan with skeleton CDS, 5-12-77				
			\mathbf{L}	6- 6-69	9- 7-71
SF-8	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO/BLIND WELFARE/GOLDEN	7			
	JUBILEE		R	9- 5-63	10-27-64
			\mathbf{L}	8-12-71	
_	DENTAL/HEALTH WEEK		\mathbf{L}	?-? -69	
The survey of the local division of the loca	YOU/CAN PREVENT/FOREST FIRES		L	3- 4-69	5- 9-69
SF-11	TRINIDAD JAYCEES/HOST TO/J.C.I. XXIV/WORLD CONGRESS/2nd-8th NOVEMBER 1969	T	L	11- 3-69	

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Meter Slogan



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ANTIGUA FLAW DATA

by William G. Cornell

Following on to the discussion in the June Journal (pages 118-19) of the headplate flaw discovered by E.K. Thompson on the Victorian keyplate issues of Antigua, Nevis, Montserrat and the Virgin Islands, Harold Gosney points out that both Turks Islands and St. Lucia also used the general colonial keyplate and reports the flaw on a copy of the Turks Islands, S.G. $65, 2\frac{1}{2}$ -pence ultramarine of 1893.

Charles Freeland likewise notes Turks Islands and St. Lucia and also points out the similarity of the Grenada keyplate stamps to those discussed above. Freeland reports the Thompson flaw on the Antigua S.G.19, $2\frac{1}{2}d$ red brown of 1879 used, and confirms the flaw plating as NOT present at stamp 15, left pane on the Virgin Islands, S.G. 28, $\frac{1}{2}d$ blue green of 1883.

W. J. Redgrave reports the flaw on the Nevis, S. G. 27, 1d carmine of 1884. One further piece of information, in the June Journal article I made an error when I said that I had "verified E.K. Thompson's plating on the RIGHT pane of Antigua S.G. 28." This should have read "LEFT pane," meaning that I confirm no flaw at Stamp 15, left pane. Charles Freeland called the error to my attention.

Whence, the hunt so far has turned up examples of the flaw on nine different stamps of Antigua, Nevis, Montserrat and Turks Islands. Further, the Turks Islands and St. Lucia collectors are now warned that examples of the flaw must exist on their keyplate issues, and are asked to report on these.

The flaw must also exist on the Cyprus and Natal keyplate stamps, since a total of eight colonies used the general colonial keyplate, according to John Easton in the "De La Rue History of British and Foreign Postage Stamps." I shall alert the Cyprus Study Circle to the Thompson flaw. We now know that both keyplate Die I (all four Leeward Islands colonies stamps) and Die II (Gosney's Turks Islands example) contain the flaw. Further, both Antigua Plate 1 (S.G. 19-23) and Plate 2 (S.G. 27-30) have the flaw, according to the headplate numbers reported in Section 5.3 of the Antigua Monograph in the October 1973 Journal (page 142).

Redgrave reports that the shape of the flaw is somewhat variable, but that the sketch of Mark Swetland in the June Journal is generically accurate. For example, Redgrave's copy of Nevis S.G. 31, 4d gray lacks the thread of color connecting the horizontal frameline to the triangle.

As Swetland has pointed out, we will need enlarged photographs of examples for the final monograph documentation of the Thompson flaw.

The case of the Grenada "modified keyplates" requires special consideration and it is requested that our Grenada specialists furnish help. Thus, the Grenada stamps used the general colonial keyplate, but with the name and value tablets and enclosing outer framelines dropped off. The cropped portions leave blank spaces which were filled by the new name and value inscriptions.

In addition, the stamps appear tete-beche in the panes of 10 horizontal rows of six stamps. Thus, alternate rows are "upside down" and vertical tete-beche pairs are cataloged by Gibbons.

Easton conjectures, since pertinent De La Rue records were destroyed, that the panes were printed in single operations with strips of six of three kinds of imprint locked up in a "printing chase." The kinds of imprint would be 10 strips of head and frame, six double strips of name (top and bottom imprint wasted in margins), and five double strips of value.

Easton further conjectures that the 10 head strips were separate (rather than duplicates from a master strip), and were left in one position for all duties, as were the six double strips of name. With all this in view, it is possible that the Thompson flaw may occur on the Grenada stamps. The only clue so far is that Charles Freeland reports a pane of one of the Grenada stamps with no apparent flaw. Help!!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued from page 206)

The past two years have certainly been one of change for our group. I am pleased to have finished my tour with all indications that we are still the friendly, vigorous group which our founding members began.

As I reflect on the activities and occasional crisis of the past two years, it is quite evident that it takes many hands to run an organization such as ours. My thanks to vice president George Bowman, treasurer BenRamkissoon, secretaries Dan Walker and Howie Austin, membership chairmen Fred Seifert and Tom Giraldi, international director Al Branston, auction manager Bob Topaz, advertising manager and auctioneer Bill Bogg, publicity chairman Chuck Cwiakala, Tom Olsen for his legal advice and assistance, editor Elaine Durnin and editorelect Dan Warren, the Trustees and to all other members who pitched in when help was needed.

My personal wishes for a Happy Holiday season for each and every one.

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BITS & PIECES from HERE & THERE

<u>BERMUDA</u> - Richard Heap reports having received a lot of information lately on Bermuda censor marks in World War II and has prepared a second supplement to his listing. If any members are interested in the listing he will gladly send it. Send your requests to Heap, 20 Charlestown Road West, Davenport, Stockport SK3 8TW, England.

<u>CAYMAN ISLANDS</u> - Tom Giraldi reports the official release date for the 10¢ and 15¢ airletter sheets was 23 January 1978.

He also reports a new machine cancel in use at Georgetown, Grand Cayman. Earliest date seen is Aug. 22. The latest date of usage he has thus far recorded for the "Cayman Islands for Unspoilt Holiday" slogan is August 11.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO - Ben Ramkissoon reports a new "R" marking, ased at Chaguanas as of 4 August 1978.

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<u>TURKS & CAICOS</u> - Peter McCann reports owning a cover Malcolm Watts feels is unique in the terms of his experience in studying Turks and Caicos censor markings. Watts is quoted as saying the cachet on the cover is "almost certainly a Military Marking used by a unit based in the island" and goes on to say it is the only one he has ever seen.

The cancel on the cover is Wilson Type 6 dated Dec. 3, 1944. At the bottom of the cover are the figures "se 18" (he believes) which are in blue pencil. The cachet is in purple ink and is the Type M-AC5 of the two described by the late Tom Foster as being used in Jamaica by the HQ Jamaica Garrison. The Type M-AC5 described by Tom Foster were used with Jamaica stamps, however.

The two used in Jamaica were numbers "15162" and "15176" which were also in purple and used in 1944 (page 41 of the second Roses Handbook). The censoring officer is J.H. Cooke on the McCann cover and there are no markings on the back of the cover.

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NEW ISSUES



ANTIGUA

- NO CHRISTMAS 1978. Set of three values and souvenir sheet featuring paintings by Peter Paul Rubens: 8¢ "St. Ildefonso Receiving the Chansable From the Virgin"; 25¢ - the "Flight of St. Barbara"; \$2 - "The Holy Family"; and souvenir sheet - \$4 - showing "The Annunciation," Designed by B.G. Studios and printed by House of Questa on sheets of 50 stamps in lithograph process. (IGPC)
- OC FLOWERS OF ANTIGUA. Set of four values and souvenir sheet: 25¢ Petrea; 50¢ Sunflower; 90¢ Frangipani;
 \$2 Passion Flower; and souvenir sheet \$2.50 Red Hibiscus. Designed by Gordon Drummond and lithographed by House of Questa in sheets of 50. (IGPC)

BAHAMAS

NO CHRISTMAS 1978. Set of two stamps and a souvenir sheet: 5¢ - coat of arms of the Bahamas surrounded by a Christmas wreath and sailing ships; 21¢ - an island scene with palm trees and three Christmas angels; souvenir sheet - unites the two values. Designed by Jennifer Toombs and lithographed by Questa Color Security in sheets of 50. (IGPC)

BARBADOS

7 NO INDUSTRIES OF BARBADOS. Set of four values: 12¢ - Garment industry; 28¢ - a cooper; 45¢ - blacksmith; and 50¢ - the wrought iron industry. Designed by Walsall Studio and lithographed by Harrison & Sons. (CA)

BARBUDA

12 SP WORLD FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP OVERPRINT. The 10¢, 15¢, and \$3 Antigua football issue values were overprinted BARBUDA. (BPO)

BELIZE

16 OC CHRISTMAS 1978. Six values showing wild flowers and ferns: 10¢ - Russelia sarmentosa Jacq.; 15¢ - Lygodium polymorphum Kunth; 35¢ - Heliconia aurantiaca Ghiesbr.; 45¢ - Adiantum tetraphyllum Willd.; 50¢ - Angelonia ciliaris C B Robinson; and \$1 - Thelypteris obliterata C Presle. This is the first in a series of four Christmas issues of the same theme. Designed by John Cooter and lithographed by House of Questa in two panes of 25 on CA paper. (CA)

BERMUDA

ANTIQUE MAPS. Announced in October BCPJ. Release date now changed to May 14, 1979.

- 15 NO NEW DEFINITIVE SERIES PART I. Five values showing birds: 3¢ White-tailed Tropic Bird; 4¢ White-eyed Vireo; 5¢ – Eastern Bluebird; 8¢ – Cardinal; \$5 – Bermuda Petrel. Designed by Gordon Drummond and photogravure printed by Harrison and Sons in two panes of 25 on CA Spiral watermarked paper. (BPB)
- 29 JA 79 DEFINITIVE SERIES PART II. Six values showing amphibians and crustaceans: 7¢ Whistling (Tree) Frog;
 10¢ Spiny Lobster; 12¢ Land Crab; 15¢ Rock Lizard; 30¢ Monarch Butterfly; \$3 Green Turtle. Printing details as for Part I. (BPB)
- 12 MR 79 DEFINITIVE SERIES PART III. Six values showing fish and marine life: 20¢ Four-eyed Butterfly Fish; 25¢ - Red Hind; 40¢ - Rock Beauty; 50¢ - Banded Butterfly Fish; \$1 - Blue Angel Fish; \$2 - Hump-back Whale. Printing details as for Part I. (BPB)

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

4 DE BUTTERFLIES. Four values and a sheetlet: 5¢ - Eurema lisa; 22¢ - Dione vanillae; 30¢ - Heliconius charitonius; 75¢ - Hemiargus hanno; sheetlet - two rows of three 5¢ stamps separated by one row of three 22¢ stamps. Designed by Glyn Hutchins and lithographed by House of Questa in two panes of 25 on CA Spiral watermarked paper. (CA, IGPC)

DOMINICA

OC CHRISTMAS 1978. Five values and souvenir sheet showing paintings by Peter Paul Rubens: 20¢ - "Two Apostles"; 45¢ - "The Descent From the Cross"; 50¢ - "St. Ildefonso Receiving the Chasuble"; \$3 - "The Assumption of the Virgin"; souvenir sheet - \$2 - "Holy Family." Designed by BG Studios and lithographed by House of Questa in sheets of 50. (IGPC)

GRENADA GRENADINES

10 AU 75th ANNIV. OF POWERED FLIGHT. Seven values and souvenir sheet showing the Wright Brothers and their vari-

ous aircraft: 5¢, 15¢, 18¢, 25¢, 35¢, 75¢, \$3 and souvenir sheet with \$2 value. Designed by B.G. Studios and lithographed by Questa Security Printers. (IGPC)

SP WORLD CUP FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS. Four values and souvenir sheet: 15¢, 35¢, 50¢, \$3 and sheet with \$2 value. Designed by G.L. Vasarhelyi and lithographed by House of Questa in sheets of 50. (IGPC)

GUYANA

2 OC NEW DEFINITIVE SERIES. Eleven values featuring butterflies: 5¢ - Prepona pheridamas; 10¢ - Archonias Bellona; 15¢ - Eryphanis polyxena; 20¢ - Helicopis cupido; 25¢ - Nessaea batesii; 35¢ - Siderone galanthis; 40¢ - Morpho rhetenor; 50¢ - Hamadryas amphinone; \$1 - Agrias claudina; \$2 - Morpho rhetenor; and \$5 - Morpho keidamia. Designed by John Cooter and lithographed by Waddingtons in two panes of 25 on Lotus Blossum Bud paper. (CA)

JAMAICA

- 4 DE CHRISTMAS 1978. Four values honoring the Salvation Army centenary: 10¢, 20¢, 25¢ and 50¢. Designed by Vic Whiteley and lithographed by John Waddington in panes of 25 on Jamaica Pineapple watermarked paper. (CA)
- 11 DE ANTI-APARTHEID YEAR. A 10¢ value showing "Negro Aroused," a sculpture by Edna Manley. Designed by Glyn Hutchins and lithographed by Waddington in two panes of 25 on Jamaica Pineapple paper. (CA)



ST. KITTS-NEVIS

- 9 OC SCOUTING GOLDEN JUBILEE. Announced in the August BCPJ. New release date.
- 8 SP NEW DEFINITIVE SERIES. Announced in October BCPJ. New release date.
- 16 NO CHRISTMAS 1978. Four values: 5¢, 15¢, 30¢ and \$2.25. The three lowest values depict stylized drawings of the Three Wise Men and the top value shows the Three Wise Men paying homage to Infant Jesus. Designed by Jennifer Toombs and lithographed by Walsall Security Printers on CA Spiral watermarked paper in two panes of 25. (CA)

ST. VINCENT

2 NO CHRISTMAS 1978. Five values and souvenir sheet showing scenes depicting the Christmas carol, "We Three Kings of Orient Are": 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢, \$2 and souvenir sheet with all five values. Designed by Jennifer Toombs and lithographed by House of Questa. (SVPS)

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

7 NO WILDLIFE. Four values and souvenir sheet: 15¢ - tayra; 25¢ - ocelot; 40¢ - porcupine; and 70¢ - yellow tamandua. Designed by Gordon Drummond and lithographed by Walsall Security in sheets of 50. (CA)

WITHDRAWALS: Barbados, Bridge Tournament, 5 Sept.; Barbados, Guiding Jubilee, 31 Oct.; Belize, Bird Series II, 30 Oct.; and Trinidad and Tobago, Miss Universe 1977, 1 Nov.

The foregoing information has been provided by the CROWN AGENTS STAMP BUREAU, STAN-GIB LTD., INTER-GOV-ERNMENTAL PHILATELIC CORPORATION, BARBUDA POST OFFICE, BERMUDA PHILATELIC BUREAU, and ST. VIN-CENT PHILATELIC SERVICES.

From the Editor's Desk ---

No, no more goodbyes! Just want to take this opportunity to thank my parents, Emil and Magdalene Frank, for all the assistance this past year in 'getting the Journal out." They did the inspecting of the Journals to be sure you received clean copies, the stuffing of envelopes, sealing of envelopes, affixing of address labels, affixing the stamps, bundling, and carting off to the post office. Thanks, Mom and Dad. Now, it's your turn, Ricki and Chris Warren!!



And, thanks to Trixie for letting those mountains of envelopes encroach on her area from time to time!



Personal Mention

ARTHUR SPEAR took a silver award at the recently held NOJEX exhibition.

DAN WARREN took a silver award at the international PRAGA 1978 held in Czechoslovakia. He exhibited "Postal History of Richmond 1783-1865."

Winner of the Johnson Space Center Stamp Club silver medallion and a second place awardwent to BENRAMKISSOONatAEROPEX '78 in California Sept. 23-24. He exhibited 'Kennedy Space Center, Spaceport, U.S.A."

GEORGE BOWMAN took a silver award at SE-PAD in Philadelphia at the end of September. The report doesn't state what was exhibited.

GEORGE also took a small silver in the APS literature competition with 'West Indian Aerial Express' entered in the handbooks and special studies section.

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In the open competition at the APS show in Indianapolis GEORGE TURNER was presented the grand award and U.S. Classics Society award for "U.S. Classic Covers to 1890." And HOWIE AUSTIN won a silver-bronze for "Jamaica Oblits, 1859-1900."

Already mentioned in the Journal is the fact that the BCPJ took the Herman Herst award in the periodicals section of the APS literature competition.

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PAUL LARSEN won the German Philatelic Society grand award and Chicago Philatelic Society gold medal for his "German Togo" exhibit at the CPS exhibition Oct. 5-7. Paul has exhibited seven times this year and we believe he's won an award each time.

Also at the CPS exhibit, BEN RAMKISSOON took a silver medal for "Trinidad Victoria Issues."

GALE RAYMOND writes he was planning a stamp session at his home in September for an expected visit from CHARLES I. BALL.

Greeting each other at the October American Stamp Dealers' Association Dallas, Tex., show were PHOEBE MacGILLIVARY, LARRY MARTIN, CHARLES SAWYER, ANDY HALE, and ELAINE DURNIN.

BCPSG medals will be available at the following shows (please plan to exhibit some Caribboan material):

MILCOPEX '79, to be held at the Ramada Inn (Airport), 6401 S. 13th St., Milwaukee, Wis., March 2-4. Interested exhibitors should contact Karl Keldenich, MILCOPEX '79, Box 1980, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201.

FILATELIC FIESTA, to be held at the San Jose Convention Center, San Jose, Calif., Feb. 10-11. Contact Richard E. Clever, Box 1607, San Jose, Calif. 95109.

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